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SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

SECURE SYNOPSIS

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IAS SELF STUDY GUIDE

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NOTE: Please remember that following '*answers*' are **NOT** '*model answers*'. They are NOT synopsis too if we go by definition of the term. What we are providing is content that both meets demand of the question and at the same time gives you extra points in the form of background information.

GENERAL STUDIES - IV

Topic: Values

Q1) Why egalitarianism, equality, equity and efficiency are considered as social virtues? Explain. (150 Words)

[Livemint](#)

Answer:-

- The modern world is witnessing many incidents of violence, discrimination against minority communities, equating money for social status etc. This brings into light the importance of social virtues like egalitarianism, equality, equity and efficiency.
- **Social virtue**, makes reference to the active roll of all members within society, in the adhering to the principle of moral fairness in relation with all matters of the economy, such as commerce and trade.
- Egalitarian doctrines tend to rest on a background idea that all human persons are equal in fundamental worth or moral status. In modern democratic societies, the term “egalitarian” is often used to refer to a position that favours a greater degree of equality of income and wealth across persons than currently exists. The quality of treating someone of lower social status as equal to oneself is becoming rare in the current societal context so egalitarian approach thrives to put forward that all are equal.
- Equality is an ideal focussed in an egalitarian society where people are treated with respect and without any undue favour. It is because of the virtue of equality that humans are respecting each other irrespective of their economic, social and political status. The initiatives like right to education, right to life with dignity make for an egalitarian as well as egalitarian society.
- Equity is a concept in which positive discrimination is allowed to keep people of different levels on an equal footing. In India based on the concept of equity, socio-economic backward communities are given reservation and to provide them social mobility. Schemes like Public distribution system, Janani suraksha yojana are also brought in based on this concept itself.
- Efficiency is ability to accomplish something with the least waste of time and effort. This shows the competency in performance. To achieve the other social virtues mentioned above efficiency is very necessary. The initiatives like e-governance, implementation of programmes effectively at the ground level will ensure that other social virtues are established successfully.

Topic: Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.

Q1) Is obsequiousness, either in public or private, good for individuals and institutions? Justify. (150 Words)

[The Hindu](#)

Obsequiousness:-

- Being obsequious is when one you are criticizing them because they are too eager to help or agree with someone more important than them.
- It is a nature of being obedient or attentive in an ingratiating or servile manner.

Content:-

- In India generally people are taught the mantra of obedience since childhood. This happens across caste, class, religion and ethnicity.
- **Public sphere (good and bad):-**
 - In public sphere, especially in administration political neutrality is very necessary so an administrator need to be able to put forward ideas in public interest and not just comply with the elected representative.
 - For instance some of the civil servants have been jailed in India because of the nexus between bureaucracy and politicians. Being just obsequious violates the code of ethics followed by the civil servants.

- However when citizen needs to abide by law, adhere to the tenets of the constitution, discipline in military obsequious nature is required.
- **Private sphere (good and bad):-**
 - Even in private sphere a person has to uphold his/her self-respect by standing up for himself. Being just servile violates one's fundamental right of living life with dignity.
 - Thousands of Dalits in the country had been obsequious to dominant castes in the society due to patriarchal and caste discrimination. Same goes with women, LGBT communities etc.
 - Being obsequious also shows people's belief in repressive traditions, superstitions to the extent which harm the community as well.
 - In personal sphere being obsequious to parents as sort of respect is appreciable and shows a sense of respect and responsibility of the person.
- However there is a sea of change happening in India when activists, people and society as a whole are fighting for their rights, anti-corruption and putting forward ideas to make India a better society.

Topic: Ethics in human actions

Q1) Selectiveness in recruiting subjects for clinical trials leads not only to human rights violations but also to bad science. Discuss the ethical issues involved in clinical trials. (150 Words)

The Hindu

Background:-

- The goal of clinical research is to develop generalizable knowledge that improves human health or increases understanding of human biology.
- Using these sources (Nuremberg Code (1947), Declaration of Helsinki (2000), Belmont Report (1979), CIOMS (2002), U.S. Common Rule (1991)) of guidance and others, seven main principles have been described as guiding the conduct of ethical research:
 - Social and clinical value
 - Scientific validity
 - Fair subject selection
 - Favourable risk-benefit ratio
 - Independent review
 - Informed consent
 - Respect for potential and enrolled subjects
- Clinical trials involving human subjects have long been a flashpoint between bioethicists and clinical research organisations (CROs) in India.
- In the last decade, on account of all clinical trials conducted by various pharmaceutical companies, nearly 2,800 patients are said to have died between 2005 and 2012 in India.

Ethical issues involved in clinical trials:

- **Lack of informed consent:**
 - In 2009, an international NGO had launched a \$3.6 million human papillomavirus (HPV) trial in India and tested two vaccines on 16,000 tribal girls in Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat, apparently without informed consent from the girls' parents.
- **Principle of Utilitarian approach** where more emphasis on maximum good to more number of people at the cost of individual rights is followed.
- **Corruption:-**
 - Clinical trials in India have been accompanied by **large-scale criminality** as doctors, officials and pharmaceutical companies understand that India is a **cesspool of corruption** where clearances can be had with influence.
- **Lack of adequate representation:-**
 - There is a over-representation of low-income groups among trial subjects.

- **Lack of volunteer honesty:-**

- Some volunteers lie about one's medical history or enroll in multiple trials to maximise one's income. Unsafe drugs can make their way into the market as a result, or safe drugs can get rejected.

- **Lack of transparency :-**

- Trials done earlier where the drug has not been found to be effective are sometimes not publicized

- Numerous challenges associated with monitoring such as overlapping responsibilities, communication gaps, and lack of standards are also some concerns

What needs to be done/Way forward:-

- Landmark amendments to the Drugs and Cosmetics Act in 2013 led to better protection of vulnerable groups such as illiterate people, **but more regulation is needed to ensure truly ethical research.**
- **A National registry of trial volunteers** which will alert a CRO when someone signs up for two studies simultaneously is necessary without violating volunteer privacy.
- **Ethics committees** are the front line regulators for clinical trials. If they were functional, they would be a major factor in preventing unethical trials
- Encourage a wider cross-section of society to participate in research on human subjects.

Q2) Incidents like acid attacks on women reveal moral bankruptcy of the Indian society and government. Comment. (150 Words)

[The Hindu](#)

Background:

- Despite Women being respected since ancient Indian culture, governments taking measures for women empowerment women abuse and women safety are a distant dream in India.
- The statistical data showing **India** has the highest number of **acid attacks** in the world and 300 acid attacks in 2016 highlights the dismal state of affair.

These attacks highlight the moral bankruptcy because:-

- The victim faces social stigma in the society and is often blamed for the incident and doesn't let an acid survivor lead a normal life after the attack. Her social life is cut down as she cannot face people.
- Patriarchal authority gives boys freedom to do anything and get over with anything
 - In the old order, women were docile and obedient. In the burgeoning order, women are independent. If they wish to end a relationship, they just do. These are things people accustomed to a sense of male entitlement cannot take. In their world view, a woman should be grateful for any interest a man shows in her.
 - As per the Avon Global Centre for Women and Justice, 35% acid attacks are because of a rejection of a proposal. Especially in rural areas there is lack of communication among the opposite sex.
 - It is often seen as a male thing to chase a woman. And sadly, that is what Bollywood too portrays most of the time. Eve teasing, stalking a love object is an accepted behaviour in Indian society, and jilted love is a major reason for many acid attacks in our country.
 - Men resort to violent attacks as women assert themselves by challenging men's authority and expectations.
 - When a man throws acid on a woman, his intention is to subjugate her and show her who is in charge.
 - Societal preference for son over daughter – Geeta Mohar's husband poured acid on her for giving him a daughter and not a son.
- Acid is easily available in any town or village or a city. Supreme court passed an order regarding acid sale but governments have not taken enough action.
- West Bengal has the highest attacks in India yet the conviction rate is very low which perpetuates this crime further.

What needs to be done?

- **Bangladesh example:**

- The laws not only instituted a complete ban on over-the-counter sale of acid but also mandated the setting up of tribunals to deal with acid attacks, and the creation of a National Acid Control Council.
- Bangladesh has made it mandatory that investigation in these cases should be completed within 30 days.
- Tough penalties need to be imposed on state governments that fail to curb the sale of acid by a certain date.

- Family plays a very important role in balancing the attitudes of children and the children need to be taught about respecting each other irrespective of the gender.

Conclusion:-

- While the Supreme Court's effort to stop acid attacks is commendable, society also needs to be more compassionate.

Q3) You have graduated from a top IIT with excellent academic record. You are offered a dream job in Google. However, you always wanted to be an IAS officer. Your parents are extremely poor and you have completed your education solely on scholarships and donations. Your parents do not understand what's IAS or Google. All they want is better life. Your friends and professors advice you to join Google. They argue that IAS is corrupt and there is little you can do here with your talent. They tell you that with a good experience in Google, you can come back to India and build something like Google. They argue that spending 2-3 years preparing for IAS is wastage of your talent. Moreover, they tell you that your parents have to continue to live in poverty till you clear this exam.

You are in a dilemma now.

- (a) Do you think there is merit in arguments made by your friends and professors? Justify.
- (b) In case you still want to pursue IAS, give compelling arguments why you want to pursue it. (250 Words)

Background:-

The ethical dilemmas from the given case study are:-

- Conflict of conscience.
- Responsibility towards parents vs following one's aspirations.
- Poverty suppressing dreams of the dreamer etc.

(a) Based on the arguments put forward by my friends and professors, the following can be concluded.

▪ **Merits:-**

- Additional burden on my parents if i don't take up the job is a substantiate argument.
- The job is very good and it would provide me and my parents not only financial mobility but also social mobility
- IAS exam needs time to prepare so not considering the job in the present circumstances is not logical.
- There is lateral entry in Indian government jobs as seen by the appointment of Mr. Raghuram Rajan as RBI governor. With good experience in Google I can come back to India and make some difference to the people.
- Also i can establish a company in India with sufficient expertise in Google providing jobs to youth .
- I can work at Google and in the free time I can always prepare for IAS .But taking the Google job is a priority now.
- Being IAS is not an end but just a means to carry out public service so that can be done even by being in private sector as is visible by the work of Ratan Tata , Medha Patkar, Kailash Satyarthi etc.

▪ **Demerits:-**

- My dream job is IAS so i will never be satisfied with what i do at Google.
- I can arrange for the financial security of my parents till i clear this exam.

(b) **Arguments why i want to pursue IAS:-**

- IAS gives me an opportunity to work and make a difference at the ground level by lifting many families from poverty, ensuring quality education is provided , face health contingencies , inculcate values in the youth etc.
- As an IAS i can work in multiple fields and gain expertise regarding the compelling issues plaguing the society.
- Due to poverty , I can better understand the plight of millions of poor and do effective programmes for the public.

- I can use technology effectively in the implementation of various government initiatives leading to good governance.
- It gives me an opportunity to project to the society that being a civil servant with integrity, efficiency, good decision making is very important and increase people trust in district machinery especially when corruption is huge.

Q4) You are traveling in a government bus to your native place from Bangalore. It's a night journey. The bus is full. You notice that there is only one female in the bus, about 20 years old. She is visibly uncomfortable and seems nervous. She is standing despite there being one seat vacant next to bus conductor's seat. The conductor is in his mid twenties too. When conductor asks her to sit next to her, she says she can stand for the rest of the journey. On insisting, she tells him bluntly that she is not comfortable sitting next to any male during night journey due to certain bad experiences in the past. At the same time you notice that nobody is offering her a seat. You are sitting in a two seater seat next to a middle aged person who is now in deep sleep.

- (a) Will you ignore her and sleep for the rest of the journey? Justify.
- (b) What issues does the case highlight. How can these issues be solved? Examine. (250 Words)

Approach:

A) As a responsible and empathetic citizen first I would try to talk to the lady and offer her my seat and in the meanwhile I will also request the conductor to arrange a seat for her as there should be reserved seats for female in a government bus.

B) Issues case is highlighting:-

1. Sexual exploitation fear of the woman.
2. Sense of insecurity
3. Women safety issue
4. Lack of security measures for women in public transport
5. Lack of awareness about reservation of seats in the bus if they are then lack of implementation
6. Lack of empathy among the fellow passengers.

How to resolve such issues:-

1. Gender sensitivity needs to be inculcated in the men from childhood itself.
2. Families need to treat both girls and boys alike and segregation of roles based on gender needs restructuring.
3. The government needs to ensure public transport is safe for women by having technological initiatives like GPS location tracking of the bus, having cameras onboard etc .
 - Kerala police introduced 'Pink Beat' patrol for enhancing the safety for women and children in public places. The Pink Beat includes specially trained women police personnel.
 - An app launched by the Delhi police called Himmat, or "courage" in Hindi, sends out the user's location to the police control room etc.
4. Women need to believe that the offenders will be punished seriously.
5. Women need to be prepared for their self defence.

Q5) Why is ethics difficult to practice but easy to preach? Comment. (150 Words)

General

- Mahatma Gandhi once stated "Practice what you preach". Gandhi wasn't able to tell the woman's son to give up sugar a week ago because then he dint give it up sugar himself. After he did it himself, he was able to tell the boy with more conviction and power. **His message had a 'backbone' to it. So the closer you are to mirroring whatever the message is that your communicating, the more powerful the message will come across.**
- Ethics is difficult to practice because:

- Upholding high moral principles is not easy
- Strength of **Character is tested**
- **Avoiding Temptations diverting towards an easy solution**
- **Stick to** Integrity, Self-control. Discipline etc.
- Practicing ethics is being able to solve the ethical dilemmas, acting in a emotional intelligent way, facing adversities for larger interest etc.
- Practice shows the suffering undergone by the person itself so they have experience. However preaching is just saying what you know without actually experiencing it.
- In a society, everyone knows corruption is bad and affects society as a whole but when it comes to their own situation people defend being corrupt saying it is part of the society.
- Similarly, untouchability is a crime .people speak one should respect anyone irrespective of ascriptive criteria however when their own child wants to marry a scheduled caste person, relatives and parents oppose.
- In the digital world there are thousands of blogs out there that teach personal development, yet only a select few that actually give sound advice. The reason behind that is that it's simple to read information and rewrite it but putting oneself in one's shoes is difficult.

Topic: Attitude: content, structure, function; Political Attitude

One of your friends thinks that ethics is overrated and it has no place in actual world where people are often moved into action by selfishness and self-interests. He believes that ethics has no place in politics as practice of ethics in politics has lost its ability to win votes. He tells you that even the public who expects politics to be free of corruption and unethical practises, seldom raise their voice against lack of ethics among politicians. He is of the opinion that it's a futile exercise to clean politics as co-existence of good and bad is rule of nature and we should not try to alter this balance.

Q1) What are your views on your friend's observations and opinions? Analyse. (200 Words)

General

- Ethics is a requirement for human life. It is our means of deciding a course of action. Without it, our actions would be random and aimless. There would be no way to work towards a goal because there would be no way to pick between a limitless number of goals.
- Selfless deeds put people apart from selfish acts . Selflessness is often overlooked as a key to happiness because, on the surface, it appears to run contrary to the very notion.
- Politicians are representatives of common people, hence ethics which are moral values are relevant in politics.
 - Ethics in politics brings in humane feelings of empathy and compassion for different sections of the society, hence establishing a welfare state.
 - It brings in TRANSPARENCY in decision making thus building up trust between public and politicians.
 - When ethical standards are set and followed, the ideals of democracy and constitution are held high.
- With great power comes great responsibility. However with the recent incidents of representatives distributing money for votes, indulging in corruption, centralizing and misusing powers there is considerable decline of ethics in politics but there are many instances where leaders are elected for the development work in their constituencies and not because they used illegal means to win
- There have been many instances like the anti-corruption movement, NOTA, Right to information where people along with whistleblowers have raised voice against such behavior of politicians. There is also Election commission which raises alarm and initiates contempt proceedings against the leaders who misuse election campaigns.
- Clean politics is the necessity for India as the country's development and future depends in the initiatives taken by the leaders. So good has to prevail over the bad.
- There have been instances in the past when some populist measures were taken but at the national level the governments strive for the overall development of the country.
- So it is time people take active part in politics and act on it from inside and along with efforts to make the system transparent and accountable.
- Citizens of the country need to be make conscious decisions in not letting unethical politicians come to power.

Q2) Do you consider protecting environment as a moral cause? Justify. (150 Words)

[NYT](#)

Background:-

- Living in harmony with Nature has been an integral part of Indian culture. This has been abundantly reflected in a variety of traditional practices, religious beliefs, rituals, folklore, arts and crafts, and in the daily lives of the Indian people from time immemorial.

Protecting environment is a moral cause and moral obligation because:-

- **Protecting the environment is not a modern concept. It is an idea enshrined in spiritual beliefs around the world.** Major religious and spiritual movements have historically placed an emphasis on themes that have now been adapted by environmentalists seeking to protect the earth's ecosystem.
 - An American – Indian community, the Sioux Indians, refused to till the soil because they did not want to wound the body of their mother, the Earth.
 - Forest dwellers respect for sacred groves.
- **The principle of morality** suggests that humans don't have the right to destroy environment when they are not the creators .
- **Climate change is intrinsically linked to public health, food and water security, migration, peace and security.** Environmental protection is an issue of social justice, human rights and fundamental ethics. People have a profound responsibility to protect the fragile web of life on this Earth, and to this generation and those that will follow.
- **Climate change affects us all, but not equally.** Those who suffer first and worst are those who did least to cause it: the poor and most vulnerable members of society. So it is in the utilitarian system to act for larger good.
- **Religious communities across the world** routinely view the earth as a divine creation and different faiths are increasingly accepting societal role in the conservation of environment.
- **Environmental action also urges positive actions,** a view of the entire earth as our family, a need to act together, to be generous, compassionate and to see others welfare as part of our responsibility.
- There is a need to respect the air people breathe and the soil people walk upon the same way as the earth is an extension of society and **everything truly is connected.**
- When people cut down forests for agriculture, for example, there are immediate repercussions. Not only do we disturb the habitat for many species, but we also destroy the soil.
 - The sustainable development definition that sustaining environment for future generations is void **impact of climate change are already visible for current generation itself.**
- For development of the country **environmental sustainability is of huge importance** as huge amount of money is spent for post rehabilitation measures of a natural disaster.
- That environmental conservation cannot be isolated from the general issues of development and must be viewed as an integral part of it, and an essential prerequisite for sustainable development, is being increasingly understood today.

Conclusion:

- Conscious efforts are now being made to integrate environmental concerns into policies and programmes relating to economic development.
- There have been instances like Chipko movement where people actively protected environment that vigour is needed in the present with more force.

Q3) Your brother, who is a school drop-out, is very active in politics these days. He is part of a local gang that is fighting to preserve Hindu culture. His gang is in news for various reasons – for hitting couples for publicly displaying affection to beating people who are transporting cows. You are well educated. For past two years you are preparing for the civil services exam with an aim to become an IPS officer. Though your brother is part of such a gang, he is well behaved in your home with you and your parents. He is also very caring when it comes to you. Though your parents are unhappy with his activities, because of his attitude inside the house he is not told to mend his ways in public. However you are concerned with his activities and want to do something about this.

(a) Why are you concerned with his activities outside home?

(b) Will you try to change his political ideology or his behaviour outside home? Justify. (250 Words)

Answer:-

A) The case study highlights the importance of education in imbibing values and morals in a society. As a school dropout, my brother lacks the judgement to decide what is right and what is wrong and got influenced by the gang. **Even though my brother is being a responsible citizen at home, his activities outside home are :-**

- Against the tenets of the constitution of as fundamental rights of equality, right to life are violated.
- Incitement of violence by taking law into his hands
- Intolerant attitude
- Violation of rule of law
- Violation of individual privacy
- Against Indian democracy which celebrates diversity.

B) Trying to change my brother's political ideology is against his fundamental right of freedom of expression .He is free to express his ideology within the boundaries of the law of the land. I would definitely try to mend his behaviour by

- Resorting to logic and reasoning showing that human life is important irrespective of the community, religion or the caste one belongs to.
- Reason with him that empathy and compassion are necessary for mental peace. Having hate towards other communities would only instill violence and create chaos and panic in the society.
- Also explain to him how his behaviour in public and private are different.
- Also show him the instances like communal riots, ISIS which resorted to violence and what the result is to enlighten him that violence gives nothing.
- Remembering the return of the Kashmiri footballer back from militancy due to his mother's request, I would also request my parents to appeal to him to follow a righteous approach.
- I would try to get him formal education so that he understands the issue himself and rectify it.

Q4) What the comparative analysis of the Gandhian thought reveals to us is that unlike many contemporary liberal political thinkers, who put rights before duties, empathy and cross-cultural understanding are the 'hallmarks of the Gandhian view of everyday politics. Discuss. (150 Words)

[The Hindu](#)

[Reference](#)

Answer :-

- Gandhi's relevance to contemporary debates becomes even more pertinent by analysing his philosophical and political contributions in a comparative perspective. Moreover, it reveals the multidimensional aspect of Gandhian thought while providing a sharp contrast between his approach to ethics, pluralism and autonomy and many challenges of contemporary world, including lack of empathy, legitimised violence and exclusion.

- The heart of Gandhi's ethics of empathy is to **look within oneself, change oneself and then change the world. For Gandhi, cultures and nations are not isolated entities, because they all play a special role in the making of human history.**
- **His goal for every culture is the same as his goal for every individual: to experiment with Truth.** This is a way to open up the world to a harmonic exchange and a transformative dialogue among cultures.
- **At a more philosophical level, in Gandhi's view, every culture should learn from others.** As a result, politics for Gandhi is a matter of **non-violent organisation of society with the aim of becoming more mature and more truthful.**
- At the same time, Gandhi is always **concerned with cooperation among nations in terms of mutual understanding, empathic friendship and non-violent partnership.** He had been influenced by Jainism, Buddhism and western philosophies in his path of following fast, principle of non-violence and the concept dignity of labour.
- Even though civil disobedience was a western concept he adapted it successfully to the Indian context. He believed in the western values of liberty and equality however he did not want these rights to uproot the local culture.
- Capacity to engage constructively with conflicting values is an essential component of practical wisdom and **empathic pluralism of Gandhian non-violence.** Gandhian **non-violent approach to plurality is a way of bridging differences and developing inter cultural awareness and understanding among individuals and nations.** As a result, Gandhi suggests a view of civilisation deeply rooted in an ethics of non-violence.
- For Gandhi, one's sense of freedom is never a matter of simple self- introspection. Rather, **understanding oneself as an autonomous self-consciousness** requires the recognition of the otherness of the other.

Topic: Emotional intelligence

Q1) Why do you think good temperament and strong emotional intelligence are desired traits that one wants to witness in today's global leaders? Comment. (150 Words)

The Hindu

Background:-

In the current world there are challenges with respect to climate change, water crisis, growing violence, terrorist activities so a leader with good temperament is very necessary

Reasons why these are important are :-

- Traits like personality, how well leaders can communicate, and their ability to empathize, negotiate, and lead are necessary qualities for a great leader. For instance Jack Ma 's inspirational leadership
- Emotionally intelligent people tend to be more authentic and transparent .At the same time, they're also able to keep their feelings in check and make well-informed decisions, are incredibly resilient under pressure and display higher rates of empathy .
- In a study of more than 5000 leaders across multiple industries, researchers discovered that the best leaders were decisive and willing to take risks, but also more self-aware and more thoughtful about how they engaged with family and coworkers.
- They comprehend the needs and motivations of others, and in turn, calmly engage with them under pressure in order to move decisions forward.
- According to Harvard study the most successful leaders are:
 - Able to empathize and manage the emotions of other people
 - Self-aware but not egocentric
 - Able to keep their own emotions in check, while quickly thinking and problem-solving around how their ideas will impact others
- In the present world emotionally intelligent leaders are necessary to avoid conflicts like North Korea Vs US, understand environmental ethics, maintain peace, defend minority rights etc.
- Lack of such attributes especially in global leaders leads to intolerance, sectarian violence, religious persecutions, refugee crisis etc..

You are working as Superintendent of Police in a communally sensitive region which is also a commercial hub. You get a complaint that a holy site belonging to a minority religion is desecrated and it has resulted in violence. You know that if the news spreads, this will result unrest in the region and affect normal life. A group of youth belonging to minority religion comes to you and seek permission to conduct huge rally against people who have desecrated their holy site. At the same time, influential people belonging to majority religion comes to you and seek permission to hold protests and enforce bandh in the region.

Q1) Evaluate the merits and demerits of the options you have in this situation. Justify with valid reasons which course of action you would finally follow. (250 Words)

General

In the given situation the ethical dimensions involved are:-

- Emotional intelligence
- Resolving ethical dilemmas
- Providing peace to the society and see that violence is not taken place.
- Avoid religious conflict leading to riots.

Keeping in mind the above ideas the SP has the following choices:

1. To allow either community to hold rally or allow both groups:

▪ **Merits:-**

- The respect on the police machinery as perpetrators of justice will increase.

▪ **Demerits:**

- It is the duty of the police to investigate who desecrated till then rally need not be allowed even though peaceful.
- The rally even though peaceful can lead to violence leading to riots.
- Majority community might not be happy with permitting minority for the rally and try to influence your job postings.
- Also majority community does not have any grievances so there is no need for permitting bandh organized by them.
- As the place is also a commercial hub bandh and rally would only lead to inconvenience for the society and affect trade and commerce.
- Allowing both groups at the same time can lead to violent clashes and severe law and order problem might be created.

2. To not allow both the communities to hold rally:-

▪ **Merits:**

- Leads to peaceful resolution of the issue.
- Both sides arguments will be heard .
- The trade and commerce will not be affected.
- Public disturbance will not be there.
- Political neutrality is upheld

▪ **Demerits:-**

- Chances of deadlock might arise
- The communities might not be ready to negotiate

Final decision:

As SP I would go with the second alternative as the issue is a very sensitive and effective utility of emotional intelligence is necessary. Also my duty as a SP is to uphold peace and harmony in the society and this possibility is realized only by the second alternative.

Q2) You are the chief of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). A movie on LGBT rights comes to CBFC for certification. This movie's story talks about struggle of two gay boys – one from upper caste and another from lower caste – who are maligned in the society and ostracised. Majority of the members in CBFC are against the movie as it has many explicit scenes. At the same time, there is an outcry from conservative groups seeking banning of the movie. Even few ministers who hold important portfolios in the union government have expressed their dislike for the movie. They think that the movie will endanger India's culture. Whereas the director is of the opinion that the movie tries to highlight not on sexuality related issues, but also about other forms of discriminations faced by lower caste people. You get phone calls from influential people to deny certificate to this movie. The issue has divided media and public into two opposing groups.

In this situation, what is the course of action you want to pursue? Justify with valid reasons.

Options available:-

- Ban the movie considering the sensitivity of the issue and heeding to the demands of conservatives, political representatives etc.
- Clear the certification for the movie with necessary modifications.

The latter option makes sense due to the following reasons:-

- CBFC is an independent body and my duty as a chief is to abide by the rule book and adhere to the tenets of the constitution of India. So the movie has the right to freedom of expression.
- The views of all the CBFC members will be seriously discussed but the ultimate would be to maintain a balance will be maintained in protecting the culture and respecting the fundamental right of equality.
- The movie highlights the modern issue of homosexuality but based on Supreme Court judgement I would oppose it but the historical issue of dalit discrimination needs urgent focus in the current Indian context so I would permit the movie to be released with an adult certificate due to the explicit scenes.
- I will involve all the stakeholders involved and try to bring a peaceful resolution.

(a) Do you think culture is influenced by motion pictures to the extent of endangering it? Critically comment.

Yes, Culture is influenced by movies:-

- Movies which degrade and show Indian culture in a bad light can be banned
- Certain movies can lead to incitement of violence in the society
- The movies which violate the article 19 and the seven grounds of restriction mentioned in the constitution can be banned.

No:-

- By censoring films at the behest of a few, we embolden fringe groups to take the law into their hands, we arm them with the power to take the law in their own hands, and to undermine the rule of law. Thus, it becomes the tyranny of the minority over the rights of the majority.
- While entertaining movies also provides education, develops a national character, and mirrors the society at large
- The ban on a film is legally justifiable only on these seven grounds, and none else.
- The censorship should be based on precise statement of what may not be subject-matter of film making and should allow full liberty to the growth of art and literature.
- The ban on films which highlight issues clearly reveals immaturity in accepting criticism

- Bans on films which raise modern issues such as Gulabi Aaina or Fire should not be banned especially when the question of the rights of the LGBT community is being debated as a constitutional issue, and as part of human rights.
- Most importantly, such prohibitions adversely affect democracy and the rule of law.
- The prohibited films are readily available on the Internet. They can be downloaded and enjoyed. Such bans thus motivate people to break the law and to dilute the rule of law.
- Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan asserts that the Indian civilisation is based on assimilation rather than on extermination. Indeed, the Constitution of India is wedded to the concept of pluralism and inclusiveness. But **extra-constitutional bans restrict the free flow of thoughts, of imagination, of creativity. Such bans are thus against the constitutional philosophy, against the rule of law, against democracy, and against our national interest.**

(b) Why do you think there exists opposition to such movies? Does it bode well for India? Comment. (300 Words)

- **Movies are opposed due to many factors:-**
 - Conservatism and orthodoxy that people are not ready to accept change.
 - It hurts the sentiments of a group
 - That these movies can create divide in the society.
 - Indian culture do not explicitly deal with the sexually oriented issues.
 - Lack of education
 - Status quoism

As far as the movie does not bode with the national integrity of the nation, unity and diversity in India it is good to fight against such movies.

It does not bode well for India:-

- **Extra-constitutional bans restrict the free flow of thoughts, of imagination, of creativity. Such bans are thus against the constitutional philosophy, against the rule of law, against democracy, and against our national interest.**
- Right to life and right to dignity need to be respected.

Q3) Adultery or divorce should have only civil consequences and not be treated as criminal act. Comment. (150 Words)

[The Hindu](#)

Background:-

- The decision of whether or not to criminalise adultery is a conflict between societal morality (saturated with the patriarchal ideas of subordination of women and resultant inequality) and the constitutional morality of liberty, personal autonomy, freedom and privacy.

Reasons why adultery should be decriminalised?

- **The adultery law in India is a throwback to the times when women were considered as property of their husbands.**
- In India, the law states that only a man can file a case of adultery and that too against a man with whom his wife has allegedly slept with. So, in essence, a woman can neither file a case of adultery, nor can she be prosecuted on the ground of adultery. **This cuts gender discrimination both ways, that is, it discriminates against men and women.**
- The legal system supports giving a short term and psychological outlet to the parties in a marriage to **blame a third person for the breakdown of a marriage.**
- **Adultery is no more a criminal offence in most European countries but** it may still have legal consequences, especially in divorce proceedings. In the U.S., adultery is generally punished in some states only if committed habitually or with public notoriety.
- With **individual autonomy and choices being recognised** as an integral part of the right to privacy, there is no justification in retaining a dated adultery law.

There is support for criminalisation of adultery:-

- Due to adultery the trust imbibed by the partner on the other is broken leading to vast psychological pain and deep distress for the person who got betrayed.
- Supreme court held that breaking a matrimonial home is no less serious a crime than breaking into a house and refused to strike down Section 497 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), under which men can be prosecuted for adultery.
- The Justice Malimath Committee (2003) too strongly favoured preservation of matrimonial sanctity and thus justified retention of a gender neutral adultery law.
- Countries governed by the Islamic law, including Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Somalia, strictly prohibit “zina”, or “fornication outside marriage”. Prosecutions are common and punishment can include fines, arbitrary detention, imprisonment, flogging and in extreme cases, the death penalty.

Divorce should not be criminalised:-

- Recently the law made a Muslim man using triple talaq criminal and will be jailed but however his marriage is still intact with his wife. This only leads to further complications
 - Regarding the mental torture for the wife
 - Allowance has to be paid to the family when the husband is in jail
 - Rips apart the family .
 - So the triple talaq can be removed but divorce is largely a civil proceeding.

Conclusion:-

- Sexual decisions and divorce of an individual fall under that realm of personal liberty which commands no State interference.
- The Supreme Court’s decision to re-examine the constitutional validity of Section 497 of the IPC is a welcome step, and provides it with an opportunity to strike down this offensive provision as being inconsistent with constitutional principles and morality

Q4) You are studying in a reputed IIT. Your father works in a big IT company in Bangalore. Nearly two hours is spent in commuting from his home to workplace every day. It is mainly because of huge traffic on roads. He keeps telling you that he is not happy with his work due to nearly four hours spent on roads without productive time away from family and friends. He is also worried about pollution which he believes is taking toll on his health. He has told you many times to move to the US for higher studies and settle there as Indian cities are choking with pollution and quality of life is degrading here. But you are a highly motivated, innovative person who wants to solve problems. You have never said no to your father, but lately you are realising that his words actually make sense.

(a) Would you move to foreign country and work there? Justify.

(b) What are the ethical issues that needs to be addressed in this case? How will you address them?

General

- When the cities are urbanised there is a high chances of witnessing pollution like Beijing city pollution so just by going to a foreign country there is no guarantee of a pure environment.
- Abandoning my parents in this country and moving is irresponsible and selfish on my part.
- Also the pain of living away from my parents and the pain they feel would cause mental distress.

Ethical issues involved are :-

- Lack of responsibility
- Lack of respect for environment
- Conflict of interest where I think about myself Vs my duty and responsibility towards society.
- Ethical dilemma whether to go according to my opinion or heed to father’s advice.

How to address them?

- Try to use my knowledge and innovate products for daily use to reduce the harmful effects of pollution.
- Encourage my father and other family members to wear air filter masks to avoid the impact.
- Work with civil society and other NGO 's to create awareness about the importance of environment
- Encourage people to use public transport and use electric vehicle.

Q5) How does public cynicism affect quality and outcome of public administration? Illustrate with examples. (150 Words)

[EPW](#)

Public cynicism:-

- An attitude of scornful or jaded negativity, especially a general distrust of the integrity or professed motives of others for example the **public cynicism** which got aroused by governmental scandals.
- This is palpable in the growing protests and the appearance of non-sectarian mass movements in different parts of the country. Farmer protests have broken out in several States; Dalits are a disenchanted lot and have taken to active protests, from Una to Saharanpur and ongoing student protests in universities

Effect:-

Positives:-

- Administration becomes efficient.
- Transparency and accountability increases.
 - Due to the efforts of civil society RTI came into existence this made administration even more transparent.
- Freedom of expression and its concomitant, the concept of dissent, are essential for democracy. It is a concept that contains within it the democratic right to object, oppose, protest and even resist.

Negatives:-

- The absence of any real and active involvement of the masses has significantly diluted public discourse over the years, undermining the quality of our much-vaunted democratic institutions.
- **Sometimes public cynicism leads to impractical demands:-**
 - In the ongoing rape riots, too, the public has been condemned for its unrealistic demands for vigilante justice.
 - The protesters today are making absurd demands to invoke the death penalty or eliminate due process.
- Administration becomes more inefficient as it has dead ears towards the protests.
- To rectify their mistakes the administration just takes initiatives to just reduce people's cries but not for good governance. For example after fire accidents in India all the authorities have similar approach.
- Even when administration is ready to make amends people do not favour it .For instance getting a fire certificate for the residential buildings people themselves are not interested.
- Any good effort by the administration is looked with distrust.
- It makes people not respect laws and rules seriously and emboldens public to act however they like.

Therefore there is a need for protests in the country which question the administration but the symbiotic relationship enhanced with trust between the public and administration should not be lost.

Q6) Recently, the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court held a press conference and raised a banner of revolt against the Chief Justice of India (CJI). What are the ethical issues involved in this episode, which is termed as 'darkest hour' in the Indian judiciary? Analyse. (250 Words)

[The Hindu](#)

Ethical issues :-

- **With chief justice :-**
 - Lack of transparency and accountability with the CJI.
 - Lack of emotional intelligent leadership making his colleagues lose faith in him.
 - Preferential allocation of cases harms the integrity of the supreme court as guardian of justice in India.

▪ **Issues with judges:-**

- Lack of trust in the institution and solving issues through amicability.
- Convention is that judges will never approach the media for redressal of their grievances, which is an internal matter.
- Acted according to the conscience as they felt they discharged the debt to the nation.
- Insufficient grievance redressal system in the top court
- They feel that the image and reputation of the judiciary has been tarnished, and the confidence of the people in the judiciary shaken.
- The common man, who had absolute faith in the institution and in the impartiality of judges, is now let to suspect that court decisions may not be purely based on merit.
- Judges meeting politicians and media after this incident shows their lack of emotional Intelligence, rationality, sense of responsibility.

▪ **Issues with other parties :-**

- Politicians and parties took this as an opportunity to criticise the institution without analysing how their actions would impact the institution as a whole.
- Lack of proper work ethics of media as it mostly concentrated on fighting about sensationalism this issue rather than considering it as a judicial issue .

Conclusion:-

- The judiciary is very much respected by the citizen and that image should not be tarnished so transparency and accountability of the working of the higher echelons of court is needed and see that such incidents are avoided in the future

Q7) Ranganath Bharadwaj is working for a TV news channel as its senior editor. Earlier he worked as journalist for a newspaper and later he joins another TV news channel as news anchor. He was given an opportunity as news anchor after much pleading with its boss. Due to his unique style, he becomes popular and he becomes instrumental in increasing TRP of the news channel. Due to rise in his popularity, he starts demanding huge remuneration – which is denied by his boss. Hence he moves to rival new channel where he is now its senior editor and hosts a prime time debate program which has very high TRP. The news channel is known for its series of sting operations targeting politicians, celebrities and businessmen and then holding a debate on these sting operations where the victims of sting operation are prosecuted and persecuted by a panel headed by Ranganath. Some of the ‘victims’ were asked to pay huge amount of bribe to stop airing these videos of sting operations and debates. One day Ranganath receives a call by his previous boss. Ranganath is told that they have footage of Ranganath harassing, threatening and receiving bribe from a celebrity actress and they would air the program unless he resigns and joins back their channel as news anchor again. The airing of this footage is certain to end Ranganath’s career.

- (a) In this situation, what Ranganath should do? Evaluate merits and demerits of his options.
- (b) Examine the ethical issues involved in this case and comment on them.
- (c) Do you think Ranganath deserves punishment in the form of airing of footage where he is involved in criminal activity? Justify.

General

(a) **Options before him are :-**

1. **First verify whether the previous boss has the footage**

- **Merits:-**
 - If the footage is with the previous boss, he can resign and go join the previous channel so his career will not be affected
- **Demerits :-**
 - He is succumbing to the pressure by the previous news channel boss.
 - Even if he works in the previous news channel he can be emotionally blackmailed again and again and be at the mercy of the boss.
 - Public are still unaware of the unethical journalism taking place behind curtains when media is respected as the fourth pillar of democracy.
 - Value deterioration is visible in the attitude of the journalist as he is being selfish in saving his career.

2. **Decline the offer and stay with the current employer explaining the situation with him/her**

- **Merits:**
 - The present boss might negotiate with the previous employer and his job might be saved.
- **Demerits:-**
 - Lack of accountability leading to Ranganath still holding the job despite committing a crime

3. **He can come out in open of all his acts and face punishment for the crimes done by him.**

- **Merits:-**
 - It will give me peace that he did the right thing .
 - People will be aware of the sting operations and the reality behind it and will atleast appreciate his honesty in accepting the mistakes.
 - To avoid such incidents in future a proper accountability mechanism and checks and balances will be framed.
- **Demerits:**
 - He will lose his job and his career will be affected.
 - People might lose trust on the media as a whole.

(b) **Ethical issues:-**

- Unethical journalism
- Corruption
- Lack of Integrity and honesty
- Blackmail
- Decline of moral values
- Lack of responsibility towards the society
- Violating right to privacy even when there is no larger public interest.
- Violation of human dignity treating human beings as means to an end

(c) Ranganath deserves punishment but airing the footage is against media ethics as the previous employer is resorting to blackmail and committing crime as well. The public functionaries through police and judiciary will take action against him and punish him accordingly for the crimes committed.

Q8) Most of the comments about the press conference held by four senior judges of the Supreme Court has been about the propriety of their action rather than what they revealed or, at least, alleged. What is propriety? Was it ethical for four judges to crossing the lines of judicial propriety? Justify. (150 Words)

[The Hindu](http://www.insightsonindia.com)

▪ **Propriety:-**

- In general propriety is conformity to established/conventionally accepted standards of behaviour or morals.

- Recently the four supreme court judges held a press conference .This is considered as violation of judicial propriety. The move by the judges is considered unethical because:-
 - In Judiciary it is generally against the convention for the judges to hold a press conference .
 - It raises questions of ethical functioning of Supreme court and questions the integrity of Chief Justice of India.
 - Differences among the judges is brought into the open tarnishing the image of judiciary in the public.
- **However this action has been taken after exhaustion of steps like internal resolution as well.**
- Why the act took place does not justify the violation as in this case to have kept silent would be tantamount to keeping the people of India ignorant which is not acceptable in a democracy.
- The necessity for the judges to break the protocol shows that the grave nature of the crisis. Some things are too important to be kept hidden in the belief that in-house mechanisms are the best way of resolving deep disputes.
- Not to have done so could have imperilled the apex court, the concept of justice and democracy.

Q9) What do you understand by equanimity? Examine its importance in governance. (150 Words)

[The Hindu](#)

Equanimity:-

- It is a state of psychological stability and composure which is undisturbed by experience of or exposure to emotions, pain, or other phenomena that may cause others to lose the balance of their mind.
- Equanimity allows us to keep our balance and sanity in difficult times and enables us to be with courage.

Importance in governance :-

- As a civil servant there might be many external pressures to act against public interest but having equanimity and passion towards the societal interest is necessary for effective implementation of programmes.
- As part of government machinery there are many challenges faced everyday be it protecting law and order, implementing a scheme effectively etc. but equanimity provides the administrator calmness and composure needed to handle any situation.
- Elected representatives with equanimity will be more inclined towards their duty towards public and focus will be on how to improve their life .So policy formulation would be apt and practical at the same time.
- Similarly the judicial proceedings would result in impartial and rational decisions, upholding the principle of natural justice.
- Equanimity provides the administrators and governance machineries to have emotional intelligence capable of resolving ethical dilemmas effectively and also including multiple stakeholders in governance leading to good governance in the democracy.
- Another aspect of Equanimity is accepting the possibility that things may not work out the way we hope they will. This ability to let go of attachment to outcome is an important aspect of Equanimity. **But letting go also includes not holding onto our notions of what we think will happen.**
- Accepting the possibility that things might not work out the way we would like does not deter us from doing what's right. So fight for justice is never ending.

Conclusion:-

- The Buddha said that when we know our actions are in alignment with what's wholesome, we experience a deep sense of well-being and can appropriately respond to the situation. So to have effective and efficient governance equanimous attitude is necessary.

Q10) Do you believe that possessing impeccable integrity is an asset considering how Indian polity works? Justify. (150 Words)

[General](#)

Background:-

- Integrity is one of the fundamental values highlighted in the constitution as it imbibes values of justice, equality, liberty, unity etc.

Why integrity is necessary in the current scenario of Indian polity:-

- There is an increase use of muscle power and money power in politics leading to marred elected representatives .It is necessary that integrity is primary for the leaders to act in public interest.
- There have been incidents of growing intolerance towards other communities, hate speeches even by public servants. Leaders with integrity would respect the tenets of the constitution and uphold fundamental rights of the citizens.
- Black money, corruption and nepotism are on rise .People who demonstrate integrity draw others to them because they are trustworthy and dependable. They are principled and can be counted on to behave in honourable ways .
- There is a nexus between criminals and politicians with bureaucracy. Integrity reminds bureaucrats to be politically neutral, be accountable and work for the needs of the public.
- Working with integrity creates a positive work environment by building trust among co-workers and doing away with insecurities and the need for micromanagement.
- The recent press conference by the Supreme court judges regarding the behaviour of Chief justice of India brings to the forefront the issue of failure of integrity, impartiality which needs revamping.

What is needed to ensure integrity in the system?

- An educated and vigilant public and openness in government
- Ombudsmen, independent police forces and neutral civil servants are vital needs.
- Inculcation of values from childhood by family, formal education etc.

Conclusion:-

- Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan sounded the alarm bells when he warned that when ambition and power outstrip a country's abilities and sense of values, catastrophe is the surest end. Accountability is the essence of a democratic structure.

Q11) What's the distinction between free expression and journalism? What are the elements of ethical journalism? Comment why India needs ethical journalism more than ever. (150 Words)

The Hindu

Background:

- In India, freedom of the press has been treated as part of the freedom of speech and expression guaranteed by Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution, However, as mentioned in Article 19(2), reasonable restrictions can be placed on this right, in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the state, public order, decency or morality, or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence. **Hence, freedom of the media is not an absolute freedom.**

Free expression and journalism difference :-

- The difference between the rights of the individual to expression and the rights of journalists as members of the press and media are different.
- The individual right of expression versus the institutional right of freedom of the press have a different relationship to the democratic process.
- Journalism is not free expression, it is a constrained expression as you can't just say whatever you want to say

Elements of ethical journalism :-

- **Truth and Accuracy**
 - Journalists cannot always guarantee 'truth', but getting the facts right is the cardinal principle of journalism.
- **Independence**
 - Journalists must be independent voices. They should not act, formally or informally, on behalf of special interests whether political, corporate or cultural.
- **Fairness and Impartiality**
 - Most stories have at least two sides. While there is no obligation to present every side in every piece, **stories should be balanced and add context. Impartial reporting builds trust and confidence.**

- **Humanity**
 - Journalists should do no harm. What they publish or broadcast may be hurtful, but they should be aware of the impact of their words and images on the lives of others.
- **Accountability**
 - A sure sign of professionalism and responsible journalism is the ability to hold themselves accountable.

Why India needs ethical journalism now ?

- The growth in its scale, reach and influence, however, **has not been matched by corresponding sensitivity towards non-commercial and non-market dimensions.**
- The media have a **great responsibility to fight backward ideas such as casteism and communalism**, and help the people in their struggle against poverty and other social evils.
- Convergence between news media, entertainment and telecom has meant that the **demarcation between journalism, public relations, advertising and entertainment has been eroded.**
- Media outlets assume importance not only for marketing and advertisement but also for the **'soft power'** aspects of businesses, organisations, and even nations.
- **Paid news:-**
 - With market forces at play and public investment in private companies, journalists found it sometimes lucrative to write only partially true stories of companies waiting to list on the stock exchanges.
- **Blatant blackmail**
 - In 2012 senior editors of the television channel Zee News were arrested for allegedly demanding Rs 100 crore from Jindal Power and Steel Ltd. In return for this pay-off they offered to dilute their network's campaign against the company in the coal scam.
- **Widening legal regulatory gap as PCI cannot impose punishment**

Way ahead:-

- Gandhi cautioned that "an uncontrolled pen serves but to destroy." **So** media should remain being the fourth estate in a democracy by playing a major role in informing the public and thereby shaping perceptions .

Q12) The government announced that citizens whose passports carry the stamp 'Emigration Check Required' (ECR) will hold orange passports, while those who don't require emigration checks will carry dark blue passports. Discuss the ethical issues involved in this issue. (150 Words)

The Hindu

Background:-

- Recently the Indian government announced that a person with ECR status will be given orange passport .This action raises many ethical issues .

Ethical issues:

- **Discrimination**
 - Indian constitution treats all Indian citizens equally irrespective of caste, creed, sex etc so dividing people on the basis of education is discrimination and violates the principle of equity and equality in the constitution.
- This action separates and **stigmatises a set of citizens for their poverty**. Data from the Protectorate General of Emigrants shows that a majority are likely to belong to a minority or marginalised community from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. This is discrimination based on region as well.
- India's migrant workers will be treated like **second class citizens**
- **Earlier instances of segregation** on like Big Red J in Germany and Dompas during Apartheid only created **division and insecurity among the people**.
- People carrying orange passport are forced to be ashamed about their educational **backwardness impacting their human dignity**
- The moment an orange colour passport holder lands in a foreign country, he/she will be treated with disdain and it will have **a telling impact on such people's character and individuality**.

However the government supports this move as :

- It protects people who are vulnerable from exploitation.
- Easy identification and necessary staff can assist them as they lack necessary skills.

Way forward:-

- Before the government tries to implement this there is a need to look into all viable options like use of technological advancements and better scientific temper like bar codes to identify these people and then come to a rational decision

Q13) You are the Municipal Commissioner. A foreign celebrity, who happens to be the daughter of the US President, is on an unofficial trip to your city to participate in a women's conference. The conference seeks to motivate women – poor or rich – across the world to enhance their entrepreneurship skills and participate more in businesses. You are asked by the Chief Minister to evacuate all hawkers, vendors and beggars – most of them are women – in and around the conference venue, especially on a busy road through which this lady celebrity will be passing through. You are a person who has come up in life through lots of struggles. The state is asking you to evacuate these street vendors and beggars permanently without any rehabilitation plan.

- (a) In this situation, what options you have? Evaluate their merits and demerits. Finally justify on valid grounds what course of action you would follow.
- (b) Examine the ethical issues and value conflicts that this case presents. (250 Words)

General

Answer:-

The case study deals with the protection for the poor vs. security for a dignitary and it instigates an ethical dilemma whether to follow one's personal morals of empathy or follow the government's order.

The following are the stakeholders involved:-

- Government
- Administration including me
- Street vendors, hawkers, beggars
- US President daughter

A. Options available to me are:-

1. Listen to the CM's order and evacuate the street vendors, hawkers and beggars.

Merits:

This would make the premises look sophisticated and the foreign dignitary might be impressed. This would make dignitary reaching the venue faster.

Demerits:

The actual problem of rehabilitation to these who are affected is not looked into. The people affected are losing their employment and right to life. When the dignitary is coming to attend the conference to motivate women entrepreneurship clearing women street vendors and hawkers is unethical and is against the stated objective of the conference. The state is trying to paint a false picture when the actual issue is not catered to which is empowering these people and providing a rehabilitation plan to them.

Conclusion:-

I would not do this as this is against my personal ethos

2. Try to take leave and escape from the situation itself

Merits:

I need not worry about what would happen as my job would be safe and the meeting will go as planned.

Demerits:

Escapism is against my personal morals of upholding responsibility, acting in public interest. Also even I step aside from this responsibility the vendors evacuation is not being stopped at the same time my lack of responsibility will be considered as incompetency and inefficiency for future work as well.

Conclusion:

I would not take this step and face the situation head on.

3. Refuse the CM orders and do according to my values

Merits:

This would resolve my crisis of conscience and uphold my emotionally intelligent qualities of empathy, putting the life in other's shoes and understanding their situation etc. The act of not evacuating the people would show that I am sensitive towards public needs.

Demerits:

My career might be jeopardized as my act might lead to suspension as well. At the same time the people involved would anyways be removed from this place according to will of the state. So my action is not providing any effective mechanism to balance the needs of the people involved (state vs. vendors, hawkers ,beggars)

Conclusion:

I would not do this as this is not providing any viable solution for the rehabilitation of the poor.

4. In the short term civil society like (NGO's and Corporate social responsibility) can be involved to make these people get rehabilitated. As a rehabilitation plan is feasible for long term as well I would propose my plan with seniors and actively convince them to move the people to Haats like places where they can be promoted to sell for larger sections of people.

Merits:

This would solve the rehabilitation issue along with clearing roads and not clogging transport as well. Beggars can be provided avenues of employment based on their skills and also provide skill management to them to live with dignity.

Demerits:

The plan might fail to impress the senior civil servants and also chief minister might reject it.

Conclusion:-

I would follow this option but if my proposal is rejected I would evacuate temporarily and fight for long term rehabilitation of these people.

B. Ethical issues involved are

- Lack of empathy and compassion towards the poor
- Lack of responsibility
- Lack of emotional leadership
- Putting the life of so many people at stake
- Lack of equality as one person life is considered more important than the other.
- Lack of accountability of the government

C. Value conflicts

- **Commitment to duty vs. social justice** – Dilemma in following the executive orders or listening to conscience
- **Humanism vs. professionalism** where human approach of treating people as equal and catering to their needs and at the same time compelled by professional pressure.

Q14) A old couple in Mumbai, aged about 90 years each, wants to die. They don't want to commit suicide, but want courts to give them permission to undergo euthanasia. They don't have any children or relatives. Even though they are fit, they would like to die peacefully. They believe that there are countless old aged men and women who want such deaths. However, in India euthanasia is not allowed and suicide is crime.

- (a) Do you think old aged people who wish to die should be allowed to undergo euthanasia? Justify.
- (b) Discuss the ethical issues involved in administering euthanasia. (250 Words)

[The Hindu](#)

Answer:-

Euthanasia is one of the issues that has been the subject of intense debate over time. It has been a pertinent issue in human rights discourse as it also affects ethical and legal issues pertaining to patients and health care providers.

A. Those in favour of euthanasia argue that a **civilised society should allow people to die in dignity and without pain**, and should allow others to help them do so if they cannot manage it on their own.

- They say that our bodies are our own, and we should be allowed to do what we want with them. So it's wrong to make anyone live longer than they want. **In fact making people go on living when they don't want to violates their personal freedom and human rights**. It's immoral, they say to force people to continue living in suffering and pain.
- **People are against euthanasia because they consider it a murder**. Those who rejected euthanasia fear it may become a means of health care cost containment, and become non voluntary and **against the rights and value of human life**.
- Those people defend their opinions through emphasizing the **respect of human dignity** through searching for solutions for cost containment, not through killing patients because of their suffering, and should identify the reasons that make a patient's request for euthanasia and find solutions to enhance their quality of life
- **If euthanasia is permitted without the necessity to abide by government regulations and laws, people will use it as a means to get out of even simpler troubles**. Other opponents fear that if euthanasia was made legal, the **laws regulating it would be abused, and people would be killed who didn't really want to die**.
- **Even countries where active euthanasia is legal, the requisite is that the patient must have a terminally ill disease**. So the old couple should not be allowed but at the same time the reasons need to be probed behind their apathy for life and be solved.

B. **Euthanasia raises a number of agonising moral dilemmas:-**

- Is it ever right to end the life of a terminally ill patient who is undergoing severe pain and suffering?
- Under what circumstances can euthanasia be justifiable, if at all?
- Is there a moral difference between killing someone and letting them die?
- Can state engage in actively killing someone which is the case in active euthanasia?

Q15) In Delhi, the government is reportedly ready with the budget to install CCTVs in school classrooms. What is the rationale behind this move? What ethical issues does this move gives rise to? Examine. (200 Words)

[The Indian Express](#)

Background :-

- The Delhi government's decision to install close-circuit television (CCTV) cameras in all state government school classrooms has apparently been triggered by some recent incidents of violence against children in school premises in and around Delhi

Rationale of the government :-

- This will make the whole system **transparent and accountable**.
- **Safety aspect appears to have been the deciding factor behind this exercise,**

- The government felt it would improve discipline in schools.
- They promise hard evidence when things are wrong. In an age of daily outrage of one kind or another, they promise truth and justice.
- Advocates of CCTVs feel that they improve the quality of teaching. This hope is based on the premise that you put in greater effort in your work when you know that someone with more authority and power is watching you.

Ethical issues:-

- **Freedom is violated:**
 - Teaching is a professional activity best pursued when there is freedom and trust.
- **Violation of teacher's autonomy**
- **Psychological impact on teachers:-**
 - Constant monitoring can turn teachers into nervous wrecks.
- A real time video tracker in schools will lead to **policing of children not only to prevent crimes but their moral choices and behaviour**. It will condition children into fearful clients not full individuals.
- Violates right to privacy of child.
- This shows lack of trust on teachers and students
- Victimization of teachers would take place.

Q16) Should civil servants extensively use social media to either address public grievances or to vent out their frustration on certain recurring problems, especially those related to sensitive issues such as communalism, casteism and regionalism? Comment. (250 Words)

[The Indian Express](#)

Answer:-

Social media is the boom of the current generation. It has brought governments, civil servants, people into its manifold. Using social media by civil servants has some advantages:

- It makes them reach the people fast
- They become more accountable and transparent
- It provides immediate attention to the issue.
- Social media can be used by them to create awareness about social welfare programmes as the audience are huge.

However civil servants are needed to be politically neutral and impartiality is the corner stone of the service. So Some concerns arise when sensitive issues like communalism , casteist incidents are highlighted in social media because:

- It shows their bias and people would perceive it as the civil servant is favouring one community over the other leading to loss of trust in the administration
- Even the **proposed changes to the rulebook to explicitly treat criticism of government policies on social media as a violation of conduct rules**.
- **It is not the official way to resolve grievances and should be treated as the last resort.**
- **Their comments might lead to further decisions in the society and violence can crop up.**

Being a civil servant should have some characteristics like emotional intelligent leadership, able to effectively resolve ethical dilemmas and act responsibly ,following the code of conduct and not create further disturbances in the society.

Q1) Foreign aid from developed countries in the West has for long been touted as an important tool to help the poorest people in Asia and Africa lead better lives. Examine the ethical issues involved in these foreign aids to poor countries. (150 Words)

[The Hindu](#)

Background:-

- Foreign aid can save the lives of millions of people living in poverty around the world. It addresses issues such as health, education, infrastructure and humanitarian emergencies leading to sustainable growth and development.
- Over the past half-century, aid to developing countries has grown to be big money, financed through taxation and delivered through a plethora of government and philanthropic organizations. Yet its ethical underpinnings have received surprisingly little attention.

Ethical issues:-

- Most of such aid **fails to reach the poorest people who need it the most**. Foreign aid manages only to improve the lives of the richest people in the poorest countries of the world reinforcing social inequities and perpetuates cycles of political abuse
- **Lack of transparency and accountability:**
 - Foreign aid's biggest downside is that no clear, effective system has been put in place to hold aid recipients and their governments accountable for resources illegally taken from public sector coffers.
- **Sovereignty affected:-**
 - Aid dependence results in bad governance, stunting development and makes the recipient countries at the mercy of the developed countries as is the case in the African countries.
 - Foreign Aid are short term interventions lacking lasting sustainable impact. Some of these blame the world economic structure where LDC are put in perpetual dependency.
 - Its volatility and unpredictability makes it difficult for countries to factor it into long term spending plans and include it in budgets
 - Cultural imposition also takes place
- **Lack of compassion and selfish motive :-**
 - Foreign aid is dispatched by bureaucrats and politicians who usually direct the flow of aid into the developing world.
- **Corruption:-**
 - Their decisions are driven mostly by political considerations rather than noble intentions. This naturally leads to various forms of corruption.
- **Rise of fundamentalist tendencies:**
 - Aid from some of the countries increased the extremist tendencies in countries like Pakistan .

Way ahead:-

- Foreign Aid can only yield results when it is consecrated to improve lives of the poor ones through variety of empowerment programs (both for woman, unemployable youth and vulnerable).
- It should help the government generate employment which will increase their living standards and the level of consumption.
- It can have positive impact when it facilitates technology transfer, invest in research and high education, build strong competitive market and freedom of all sorts to create enabling environment for investors.
- The notion of helping others can be effective when the donors provide selfless aid rather than expecting the returns from these underdeveloped countries.