

Q1. Define aspirations, happiness, and prosperity. What are the basic requirements to full-fill human aspirations. Indicate their correct priority.

The basic human aspiration is to be in a state of continuous happiness and prosperity. It is something we want to be and continue to be, without any break. For fulfilment of human aspiration, three things are necessary: right understanding in the Self, fulfilment in relationship with human being and physical facility with rest of nature, in that order of priority

Happiness is something definite; it can be defined and understood. To be in a state / situation in which there is harmony / synergy, that state / situation is naturally acceptable to me. To be in a state of harmony / synergy is happiness.

Prosperity is the feeling of having or producing more than required physical facility. To have a feeling of prosperity, two things are required: Right assessment of physical needs, along with their required quantity. Ensuring the availability / production of more than required physical facility A prosperous person thinks of right utilisation and nurturing the other, while a deprived person thinks of accumulation and exploiting the other.

Q2. Discuss the role of physical facilities in achieving prosperity. How should one approach the accumulation and utilization of these facilities.

Physical facilities, such as food, shelter, and clothing, are essential for survival and well-being. Prosperity arises when we have more than enough of these resources. It's not just about having physical things, but about feeling that our needs are met and that we have abundance. To achieve prosperity, we must first assess our true needs and the required quantity of resources. Without understanding how much is truly needed, we can't feel prosperous, regardless of how much we accumulate.

Once we assess our needs, the next step is ensuring the availability of more than required. This can be achieved through efficient production, skills, and technology. Prosperity comes from having access to resources beyond what is necessary, leading to a feeling of abundance and security.

To approach accumulation, it's important to define our needs clearly. This helps avoid excess and overconsumption. We should focus on using resources efficiently and sustainably, rather than endlessly chasing more. Over-accumulation often leads to exploitation and waste, which hinders true prosperity.

Today, most of the wealth (money) in the world is owned by a very tiny percentage of people. Many such people are seen exploiting others, and exploiting the Earth, in an effort to accumulate even more. Without clarity about how much is required, the effort is for an unlimited quantity of physical facility, and by almost any means.

Finally, prosperity involves not just material wealth, but emotional and social well-being. When we feel prosperous, we naturally seek to enrich others, contributing to a more prosperous society. The focus should be on having enough and sharing with others, creating a balanced and fulfilling life.

Q3. Comment on the statement:

“Physical facilities are necessary and complete for animals, while they are necessary but not complete for humans.”

Physical facility is necessary for animals as well as for human beings. For animals, it is necessary as well as adequate (which means that animals can be satisfied with physical facility alone). But when it comes to human beings, that is not the case – physical facility is a necessity, but physical facility alone is not going to suffice for the fulfilment of human being.

To take an example, when an animal has lack of physical facility, it becomes uncomfortable. When it has the physical facility, it becomes comfortable. When a cow gets a stomach full of grass, it become comfortable, sits and chews the cud. With enough grass to fill the stomach, the cow is comfortable. But, what about a human being?

When a human being has lack of physical facility, (s)he becomes uncomfortable and unhappy. Once (s)he gets the physical facility, (s)he forgets about it and starts thinking about many other things.

If you do not have a house of your own, it occupies your thought much of the time. But once you have a house of your own, you simply forget about it and start thinking about so many other things, like furniture in the house, your career, your social connections, etc. And if they are not up to your expectations, you start feeling anxious. Seldom you feel happy that you have a house of your own. Can you see that?

So, we can conclude that physical facility is necessary for animals; it is necessary for human beings also; However:

- For animals, physical facility is necessary as well as adequate.
- For human beings, physical facility is necessary but physical facility alone is not adequate.

