

**ETHICS, INTEGRITY AND APTITUDE**

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Q.	Marks	Instructions to Candidate
1.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are 18 questions.• All questions are compulsory• The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.• Content of the answer is more important than its length.• Answers must be written in the space provided. <p>Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.</p>
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Name Pooja RanawatRoll No. 1733Mobile No. [REDACTED]Date 29/08/17Signature P. Ranawat

SECTION - A

Q1. The crisis of ethics in public life is more because of attitudinal problem of public servants rather than organizational ineffectiveness. Critically analyze. (150 words) (10 Marks)

A1. A crisis of ethics usually occurs when there is a conflict between our actions and the personal value systems. It is a state of compromising the right action according to ethics for some personal greed satisfaction or motivation.

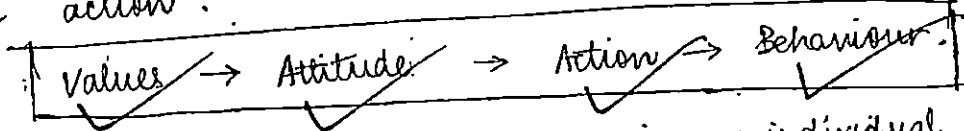
In case of civil servants, this crisis of ethics manifests as corruption, cheating, bribery, red tapism, bureaucratic apathy and so on. While the roots of such crisis of ethics seems behavioural and structural, the roots lie much deeper in the 'attitude' of the civil servants itself.

An individual's approach and attitude to the organisation determines his behaviour. Therefore, a civil servant with a pessimistic attitude will never work for innovation in service delivery.

The organisational ineffectiveness also contributes to a negative work culture, lack of social conscience and inadequate team building.

Remarks

However, the attitude or approach is most important. It underscores the underlying values that the individual follows. These values shape action.



Thus, along with work ethic, & individual ethics also play an important role in contributing to a fair and ethical ecosystem of services. The crisis of conscience needs to be replaced by call of conscience. 4½

Remarks

Q2. Explain the importance of following attributes with respect to the civil services.

- (a) Adaptability 5m
- (b) Activism 5m
- (c) Innovation 5m
- (d) Courage 5m

(250 Words) (5×4=20 Marks)

A2a)

Adaptability

It is the trait of adjusting to the changed environment or new conditions. It requires attitudinal change as also behavioural change.

In civil service, a civil servant gets posted in different areas with different language, culture, region etc. Here, his/her adaptability will help him/her to work efficiently without complaint. Else, work will be comprised and mistrust will begin to fester.

b) Activism

It is the art or the quality of being able to raise your voice against injustice, stand up for what you feel is right or quality of leading a team for change.

A civil servant must be activist for new projects, for social initiatives, else the work

Reclaim?

Remarks

will remain limited & narrow in scope.

(1)

e) Innovation

It is the quality of creating something new, novel or improve upon the existing to improve efficiency.

A civil servant must know how to innovate and create new plans, tweak existing plans to increase their reach or innovate them for wider acceptance. Innovation leads to progress.

(1)

d) Courage

It is defined as the quality of being brave and able to stand up for your conviction. It is showing fortitude and perseverance in behaviour and action.

A civil servant must be courageous to expose the injustice or wrongdoing without any fear. He/she must be brave to face challenges, threats and warnings by external elements on the call of duty. Courage should be in thought while raising a concern or exposing a scam as also in action - leading the team from the front without being scared of the consequences.

Remarks

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Remarks

Q3. In order to enter politics and become an effective participant in transforming society, one has to win an election, but to win an election he must sully his hands. In this way, his genuinely noble objective get tainted much before he has an opportunity to realize it. Why establishing ethical framework in politics has become a distinct dream?

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Ans. The classic theory of deontology talks about how sincere motives may sometimes end up as tainted consequences. In case of a participant aspiring to enter politics, the current scenario threatens to pollute his / his ideals.

⇒ Politics today has gone far away from spiritualisation as suggested by Gandhi to criminalisation. The ministers have tainted backgrounds, changes of corruption, nepotism, use illegal means & money to garner votes.

This loss of ethics in the political sphere is widespread. Thus, to win an election he/she must use such practices of lack of ethics to ensure a guaranteed seat.

⇒ Framework of politics :

Politics has seen a transformation from being seen as a service to as a profession.

Remarks

→ The ministers have become more salary focused than the service ethic they are supposed to follow.

⇒ The criminalisation has also resulted due to loss of personal and work ethics in politics where integrity, impartiality, transparency have taken a backseat.

Thus, an ethical framework remains elusive due to the lack of ethics in attitudinal structure towards politics.

In conclusion, there needs to be a focus on the purpose of politics, the ethical principles like impartiality, loyalty, service to the nation, patriotism and cohesive leadership which characterise politics.

Keeps focus on
way forward in

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Remarks

Q4. 'Collusive corruption differs from other type of corruptions because its unethical affects demoralizes the entire fabric of the society, which is doomed in poverty, illiteracy and backwardness'. Illustrate.
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Ans 4.

Corruption as a cancerous phenomenon has pervaded all sections of society. This corruption is of two kinds.

- personal gains with personal interfaces.
- public servant colluding with others.

The second form - collusive corruption is much more dangerous and harmful for the fabric of the society.

Collusive corruption involves connivance of officials and the people - thus becoming partners in corruption.

This partnership is a mirror to the ethics of the larger society. It indicates the moral compromises of a larger number of people, lack of ethics in their action and acceptance of a life based on immorality.

The Second ARC report too points to out the dangers of accepting the inevitability of corruption by the society.

This reflects a general tolerance to injustice, compromise on integrity and character and contentment with unequal society.

Remarks

This is a greater malady as the acts of corruption develop into a culture of corruption. This leads to no development and a situation of stagnancy where people remain backward in poverty and ill-health.

On a deeper level, this is acceptance of unethical practice of society and thus needs to be changed. There must be an emphasis on awakening the individual conscience, to lead to a moral awakening of the society.

Instead of winning
 a bad. corruption, keep
 focus on officers &
 illustrate accordingly

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Remarks

Q5. Given below are the two quotations of moral thinkers/philosophers. What they mean to you and why they are still relevant?

(a) 'Those who do ill shall suffer more if they are not caught than those that are'. (Boethius)

(b) 'The king should surrender his individuality in the interest of his duty'. (Kautilya)
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

A5. a)

This statement highlights the role of conscience in an individual's life.

A person who does a wrong deed is bound to suffer more if not caught than if he is made to pay for it through punishment.

A person who is penalised feels that he has a chance to pay back through repentance at least. Thus, the punishment absolves his/her own inner guilt.

But an act which is immoral if gone unnoticed continues to prick the conscience of the vill - doer and makes him/her guilty.

The feeling of being responsible for the immoral act lingers due to no recognition and chance for re-correcting it.

Man is a conscious animal with a deep seated conscience. This does not leave

Remarks

him / her without a reasonable justification.

b)

The above statement reflects the discourse of sovereignty and leadership as seen in the Indian political thought.

The king is said to be the protector of 'Dharma' (duty) according to the Rta (cosmic law). However, unlike the Western thought, he has no divine rights.

There is no divine theory of kingship. His / her actions must conform to dharma else he / she shall be punished.

The individuality of the king must be superseded by the welfare of his / her subjects. He has been assigned the larger duty of seeking happiness in the welfare of his subjects. The King is seen as a Father and the citizens his children.

Thus, duty or dharma of welfare of subjects is given prime importance above his own individual / personal interests.

"In the welfare of his subjects, his welfare in their happiness, his happiness."

Remarks

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Q6. What could be the influence of a civil servant's private life on his/her public life? How would you prepare yourself to separate the two? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

A6. An individual usually lives two different lives - private and public but the ethics of both remain the same. A civil servant's public life requires him/her to perform duties impartially, neutral towards political programmes, act courageously without fear, be honest and transparent in all dealings etc.

His personal life however may involve different roles which are influenced by different needs, desires, motivations.

Thus, it is necessary that there needs to be a consistent ethics so that there is no discrepancy in behaviour.

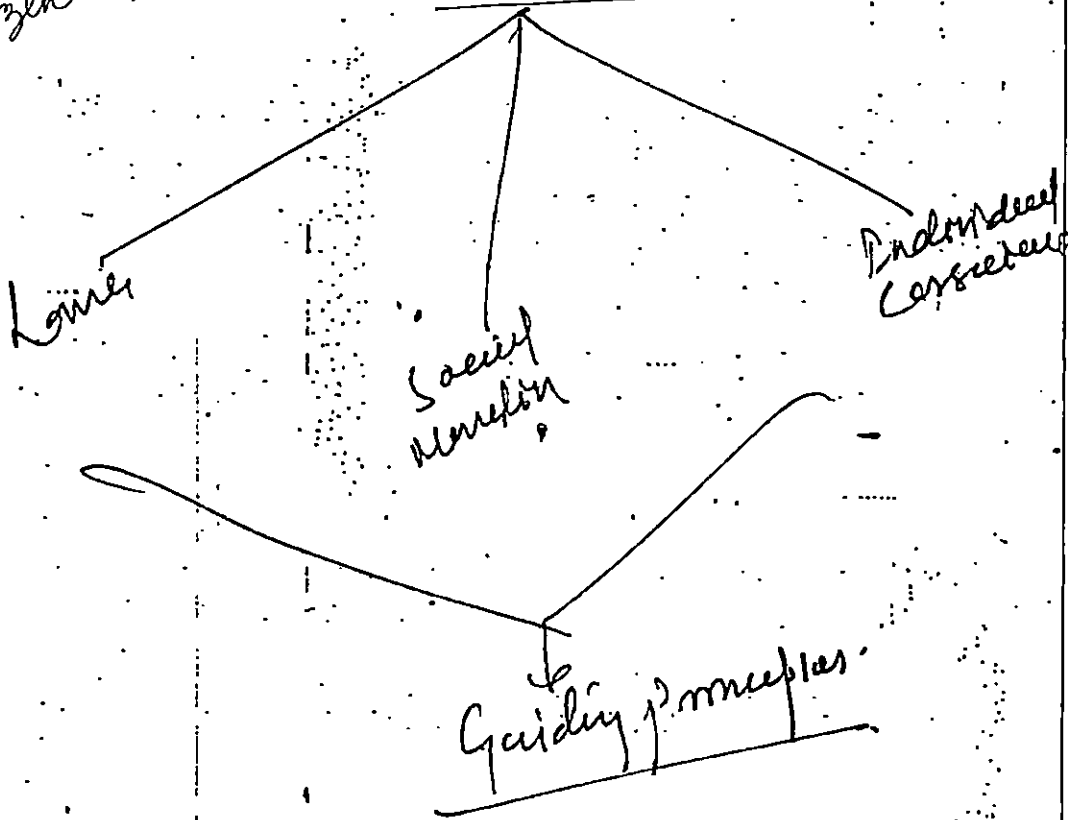
"Ethics cannot be twisted or tweaked to suit our own requirements?"

In my attempt to establish a fair behaviour towards public and private life, I would follow the universal moral principles at all times - like honesty, compassion, humility etc.

Remarks

My actions would further be shaped by my private values; personal belief systems as also conscience.

Rather than attempting to separate the two, I would try to merge the two and create a transparent and fair, ethical value system. This helps me to become not only a proficient citizen and public servant but a competent and ethical individual.



3

Remarks

Q7. All the discourse of ethics ultimately is another facet of bureaucratic incompetence.
Analyze. (150 Words) (10 Marks)

A7.

Ethics do not operate in a vacuum but are shaped and influenced by the structural environment.

The discourse of ethics mainly emphasizes the values, determinants, belief systems expected of an ethical ecosystem. These include objectivity, transparency, rationality, impartiality, efficiency and so on.

While analysing bureaucratic structures, similar principles or the lack of it are cited as deficiencies — red tapism due to lack of proactive decision making, apathy due to insensitivity, ignorance, biased and cumbersome due to lack of transparency.

Thus, all these deficiencies reflect the lack of ethical framework/environment. They reflect the lack of an ethical work culture.

On a deeper level, it reflects the absence of ethical approach by also the individuals who make up the systems.

Remarks

A structure, is ultimately the sum of its parts. And hence, the bureaucratic ineffectiveness is not only about operational principles but also about the unethical attitude persisting in the system.

Therefore, ethics reflects not only value systems of individuals but also the organisation. The ethical discourse is a larger discourse of organisational incompetence. 3/2

Remarks

Q8. Why is obedience important in an administrative hierarchy? Is it always important to obey the superiors? Mention some conditions in which obedience act as virtue and others in which it becomes a vice.
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Ans 8

Obedience is the central important pillar for the working in an administrative hierarchy.

Without obedience, tasks would remain unfulfilled, processes would be delayed and the notion of legitimacy or authority would be undermined.

An administrative hierarchy needs obedience for decisions to filter down to the last level. It is certainly important to obey seniors.

But there is a difference between rational and blind obedience to authority.

Although it is important to obey seniors, it does not mean to sacrifice all values, principles and interests of the nation at the altar of mere obedience. In case of crisis, written orders must be asked for and actions taken by applying conscience, rationality & constitutional binty.

Remarks

Instances where an officer might direct his/her subordinate to guide a villager about the details of a procedure, to implement a certain order within time, to carry out some developmental tasks despite opposition due to merits of the case - such cases highlight the obedience as a 'virtue' for the organisation.

There might be cases where a senior might direct his subordinate to shoot a local criminal for public good, to arrest certain miscreants for false charges due to petty rivalry - at such times blind obedience under the garb of pleasing the senior amounts to a 'vice'. Rational and Just principles must not be sacrificed under the tenet of obedience.

Remarks

Q9. Citizen Charters are more moral, than legal. Critically analyze.

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Ans 9. ~~Have 14~~ ~~Ans is~~ ~~Struc.~~ ~~Standem~~ ~~of~~ ~~Gubhu~~
 A citizen charter enlists the designation of the authority, the roles, responsibilities, towards the citizens, the type of task and the limit and grievance redressal mechanisms.

Thus, citizen charters enlist the duties and responsibilities they must provide to the citizens and expect from them.

They are legal instruments but without any penal force behind them.

They are therefore bound by a moral force of commitment and public duty.

These charters being bound by a moral force reflect the ethics of the organisation in case of conflict or delay.

These charters reflect the organisational and work ethic of commitment to public service, honesty, impartiality and compassion towards weaker sections.

In case of violation of the charter there would be no legal accounting but point to the moral basis.

Remarks

Citizen charters are therefore more bound by commitment to ethical principles of service to humanity, impartiality and integrity.

They are not bound by legal provisions or penal procedures of enforcement.

They thus mirror the ethical ecosystem of the organisation which forms the core of the organisation.

Remarks

Q10. What does success mean to a civil servant? What are the obstacles faced by them in achieving success in their career. What steps can be taken to win such obstacles?

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

A10

A civil servant enters public service to serve the needy, create an efficient and able environment and help individuals realise their create potential.

Success could mean many different things to a civil servant. Notwithstanding the subjectivity, every civil servant aspires to be a able model, complete his tasks in the best possible manner, create efficient service delivery and create innovations to enhance the quality of life of citizens. Success is thus the ability to fulfil all tasks in an exemplary manner.

The example of Armstrong Paine, a civil servant is pertinent here to the story of success. The obstacles faced may include bureaucratic rigidity of procedure, lack of funds, resources, lack of public support at initial stages and so on.

These obstacles are challenges which can be addressed through sheer will power and

Remarks

the passion to innovate.

Armstrong same used crowdfunding, other servants use social media platforms, help of NAO's etc to elicit support and resource.

Steps taken include: Perseverant endeavour without being bogged down by failure, create stake-holders while implementation; innovate and use creative approaches to win arguments.

Thus, success in the field of public service can be as easy as signing the pension sanction of an old man to formulating a new scheme.

Success is filtered through lens of value systems.

Points raised have been arranged in better way.

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Remarks

Q11. How the innate qualities of people of a country affect ethical values and the effectiveness of its institutions? Which matters more for progress and growth of the nation - people or institutions - and why? Which of the two is more important for good governance? Give reasons.

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Ans 11.

An institution is a social structure made up of people as constituent units. They share an organic relationship of interdependence and cohesion.

The innate qualities of a people in the country for example humility, peace oriented, constructive, ~~but~~ humble and honest - contribute to the shaping of the institution alike.

The effectiveness of institutions - depends upon how well all the people in that organisations also practise those ethical values.

While considering the growth and progress of nations, people and institutions combine to propel the nation towards growth.

People are the flesh while institutions form the body. They together become an instrument for growth. One cannot prosper without the other.

In the context of good governance, it

Remarks

is difficult to cite one as important over the other. The Government creates the instrument of governance which must be ethical to reach the people - who are the beneficiaries.

Therefore, good governance needs collaboration of people and the governance institution to understand the needs of one and capabilities of the other. The people influence the governance framework through their collective ethics. The role of people is thus significant for an ethical society.

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Q12. Concept of accountability is inherent to the Weberian hierarchy. Critically analyze.
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Ans 12. Max Weber has given his theory of Hierarchy in politico-administrative structures. He emphasizes the trait of accountability that comes affixed with each level in an hierarchy.

Accountability is understood as answerability. It is being able to take responsibility for an action without pushing the blame on others.

In an hierarchy, this principle is important as it leads to the creation of responsible structures. Accountability to the upper rung of officers makes one committed and diligent towards the task.

The seriousness of the work is maintained due to fear of being held accountable. Thus, hierarchy is maintained with not only clear cut division of authority but responsibility for the task under that authority.

Remarks

Accountability leads to a responsible work ethic, sincerity and completion of the task with dedication and interest.

It not only enhances efficiency but leads to transparency of procedures in an organisation and an organised work environment.

But what is the
purpose of
webcam classmate

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Remarks

SECTION - B

In the following questions carefully study the cases presented and then answer the question that follows:

Q13. Although India is amongst the fastest growing economies in the world, it still has one third of the world's illiterates. India is now confronting the perils of its failure to educate its citizens, notably the poor. India, being a mixed economy, needs government intervention in the area of education because education driven by profit motive cannot benefit the masses. But the condition of government schools in India is pathetic. Except for two or three states, all the Indian states have poor educational statistics. More Indian children are in school than ever before, but the quality of government schools has sunk to spectacularly low levels. The children in these schools come from the poorest of families - those who cannot afford to send away their young to private schools elsewhere, as do most Indian families who have the means. India has had a legacy of weak schooling for its young, even as it has promoted high-quality government-financed universities. If in the past, a largely poor and agrarian nation could afford to leave millions of its people illiterate, that is no longer the case. Not only has the high growth ensured that we have a shortage of skilled labor, the nation's many new roads, phones and television-sets have also fueled new ambitions for economic advancement among its people - and new expectations for schools to help them achieve it. In the light of the grim picture of public schooling in India suppose you are a District Collector, and a group of poor people approach to make you aware about the pathetic conditions of public schools in their areas. They handed you a letter that contains five problems regarding dismal states of schools i.e.

- (a) Lack of hygienic toilet facility especially for girls as there are common toilets only,
- (b) Non availability of clean drinking water,
- (c) Lack of proper security,
- (d) Absentee teachers and
- (e) Rude behavior of teachers and staff with the students.

Because of such problem often parents are not sending their children. Dropout rate is also high. Your education minister also expects something concrete from you, as he has to answer local public and media about this issue. With respect to such problems how will you go about providing solutions so that your action may become example for others to learn?

(250 Words). (20 Marks)

The above case study reflects the state of government apathy of institutions and the

Remarks

critical role that a public servant can play in this scenario.

⇒ The stakeholders in this scenario are the villagers, the school staff and teachers as also the students who have been dropping out.

⇒ Solutions :
 ⇒ The first action would be to formulate issue specific committees to find the issues pertaining to the particular areas of education lack of infrastructure, teacher absenteeism etc.

The next step would be to institute and formulate a "code of conduct" for Teachers.

Organisations and institutions could be contacted for public funding of infrastructure. It is also important to account for the previous funds allocated by government and why lack of toilets still exists.

A Parent, Teacher meeting should be called to discuss issues and the real reasons for dropout.

Remarks

- The next course of action would be issue specific :
 - a) Asking the head in charge in school of the reasons for such toilet conditions. Issuing a 1 week deadline for immediate construction of at least 1 toilet for girls till funds are available.
 - b) Issues of non-availability of drinking water could be looked into by the office department.
 - c) Arrangement for security could be made by alerting the school authorities.
 - d) The problem of absentee teachers is much to do with remuneration and worse working conditions. These need to be addressed by bringing the notice of school authorities.

In sum, there needs to be an institutionalised framework of responsibility and accountability for these tasks.

Remarks

Measures like orientation, school picnics, interactive sessions can be instituted for creating bonhomie among student - teachers.

Use of technology can enhance the work environment. crowd funding and public funding innovative proposals can be prepared to rectify a part of the infrastructure.

This, by creating a stakeholder model, inviting public suggestions and leading the team to institute a fair structural can bring laurels to civil servant.

- ① A/m is about base info & aspect. artificial
- ② A/m is for measure of not rougher.

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Remarks

Q14. For thousands of years, man has exploited the earth in the name of development. In return, instead of replenishing it, we humans defile it and pollute the environment. Be it forests, natural resources, water, soil, rain, mountains, winds, flora or fauna, we have ravaged it in the name of our use and needs. By making concrete jungles out of green belts, we have destroyed the ecology in the garb of growth. After exploiting the earth for hundreds and thousands of years, the planet is now taking its revenge. Can we grudge this, for this is our own doing and we cannot escape the penalty? But then is it too late to correct our mistakes? Well, pause for a moment and think. For the time immemorial most of the people have initially been concerned with the goals to achieve and then pragmatically considered means available to them. In other words end mattered first, means were chosen according to their compatibility with desired ends.

In the premise of this paradigm evaluate the following thoughts.

- What is the relation between means and ends?
- What was the idea of Gandhi in this regard?
- Illustrate the relevancy of the whole concept in context of modern world.

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

A14: a) The relation between means and ends is very complex. The previous approach considered means to be a subsidiary factor and thus man exploited nature for the end of a good luxurious life. Nature was not treated as an end in itself but rather a means to achieve raw material for creating a satisfying life.

Thus, man compromised the means to reach the end without due consideration to the sustainability and importance of means i.e. Nature.

Remarks

b) Gandhiji has famously propounded that you cannot expect a rose flower to emerge from sowing babul seeds.

He emphasized on the purity of means. For him, means justify the end in themselves. The end however good or righteous does not justify immoral means.

He was therefore against the western notion of modernisation and gave importance to nature which would not result in concrete jungles.

c) In the context of modern world, Nature has been sidelined in the pursuit of Human Happiness. The consumerist greed has led to deforestation, clearing of forests, climate change, global warming, threats and pollution. Thus, in the pursuit of end, the means of rampant destruction and neglect have cost a lot in the long run.

Remarks

Nature's revenge through these climate threats makes us contemplate. However, this contemplation is itself a way of finding a means to plug the destructions end.

There is thus no place for a feeling of grudge or revenge. Rather the approach must be guided by resolution of this crisis of conscience through just and ethical treatments.

Nature must no more be used as a tool but with a feeling of gratitude to its immense bounty and pursue the end of a good life with goal of Balance. There must be no contradiction between means & ends.

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Remarks

Q15. The Civil Services Exam is one of the toughest and the longest exam system in the country. With the limited number of attempts and nearly five to six lakh applicants appearing each year, of which only 1,000 or less get selected, there is a huge pressure on the candidates to crack the exam and it may lead to the bouts of depression, anxiety and mental stress. Civil Services candidate faces many issues during the course of the preparation. Many candidates leave their homes and move to metro cities for coaching and preparation. They take up accommodation that gives them little comfort. Most of the aspirants do not know how to cook, and some in order to save time eat at the roadside stalls or depend on "Dubbawalas." Having improper food and uncomfortable living, many aspirants end up having health issues. Besides, the coaching institutes in order to produce good results put pressure on the candidates to increase the hours of studies. Loss of sleep impacts the body and the aspirants get totally exhausted. Overall level of stress is very high. For an exam like UPSC, where there is cut-throat competition, the only goal of aspirants is to somehow clear the exam and they ignore the insurmountable pressure on them. You are also one among them. After repeated attempts you failed to qualify this exam and you are in stress as you have lost most valuable time where you could have easily opted for alternate career. One of your best friends has met the same fate and he is in depression. His mother calls you and asks you to take care of her only child. She requests you to motivate him to something big in life, one examination does not make or break everything in life. In the given scenario, how will you motivate yourself and your friend? And, how will you cope with your stress? (250 Words) (20 Marks)

A15. This is a case of approach to life goals and their achievement as also the role of peer group in an individual's life.

The stakeholders people involved here are the mother of my friend, my friend himself and me.

Options:

1) I would go and talk to my friend at length, not about his/her stress but about the underlying issues which

Remarks

concern him and manifest as stress.

2) secondly I would provide him any and every material / physical help which he needs.

Ways to cope with stress:

a) At the individual level:

It is necessary to identify the root triggers of stress - inability to study, distraction, personal issues or anxiety about the exam.

There needs to be a change in attitude by looking at the exam in binaries rather than a larger than life emotional issue.

One needs to develop the attitude to attach happiness to feelings not events, careers or objects.

I would analyse the necessary changes needed in thought and inculcate behavioural discipline to cope with stress.

Remarks

b) Towards the exam :

What study is required needs to be done without excuses.

One should cultivate the positive, optimistic approach to competitive exams.

Also, the Gita principle of 'Nishkam karma' can help in not only exam but also life. "Do the deeds" without expectation of reward.

c) Towards life, struggle and success

One should learn to achieve a balance in life by not hovering on extremes. While study is important, health and mental health is equally important.

One must learn to have a pragmatic and realist approach to life and its exams.

One cannot tag happiness and success to one exam. Neither can inter-personal relations be overlooked in this process.

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for
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A's not ahead
UPSC rank
how to handle
Setbacks
?

Q16. Public utilities and spaces in India are in a bad shape. Roads, water supply, street lighting, market cleanliness, railway stations, parks, community centres, public toilets, rivers and ponds are considered as the sole responsibility of the government to maintain without charging anything. People consider that they have rights to better public utilities and public spaces solely on the basis of government's ability to provide them. However, there is an anomaly in the society. People when travel in local trains do not follow the rules related to hygiene and sanitation but when the same people travel in Metro trains they follow all the rules. Similarly, when people roam in local markets their behaviour is different as comparison to that in Shopping Malls.

Based on the above case, answer the following questions:

- (a) What should be the ideal way to manage the quality of public utilities and public spaces in a populous country like India?
- (b) Identify limitations of each competing options.
- (c) What is the role of peer pressure in this context? (250 Words) (20 Marks)

A16.

a) Awareness and creation of civic virtue are the two key drivers to manage the misuse of public utility services in India.

Along with enforcement of strict regulations with higher penalties, awareness camps must be conducted on a continuous basis. Technology platforms can be used for disseminating information as also monitoring - clicking a picture of garbage dump and uploading on website to tracking traffic or lane violations through RFID scanners etc.

Remarks

b) The creation of awareness is important but not sufficient. People must pro-actively participate and continue those behaviours in the long term.

The use of technology is limited due to the digital literacy divide in the country.

Further there are other concerns of misuse.

c) Peer pressure plays an important role in creating conformity. It works by social persuasion as people conform to the behaviours which make them liked by others around. Thus, if such an environment of neat and responsible use is created on local stations, people would easily adopt due to the social pressure.

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Q17. Mr. 'X' had applied under RTI Act to the District Planning Officer who was also PIO, asking information about unspent balance of the last five years on account of MPLAD funds. The name of a particular MP was mentioned in the RTI application. The PIO knew applicant to be a political opponent of the particular M.P. The PIO came to know informally about the applicant's plan to discredit the sitting M.P. in the forthcoming General Elections, by bringing these information in the knowledge of the voters.

The following are some suggested options for PIO. Evaluate the merits and demerits of the options.

- PIO should ask M.P. whether he should provide these information to the applicant because MP is third party in the case. According to the act, third party consent is mandatory.
- PIO should refuse to provide information because the applicant might use these information against the local M.P. to discredit him.
- PIO should provide all the information as has been requested whether local M.P. likes or not.
- PIO should seek the guidance of District Collector Cum District Election Officer because information sought is related to his jurisdiction and is political in nature.

Also please indicate (without necessarily restricting to the above options) what PIO should do in future in order to avoid such controversies? (250 Words) (20 Marks)

Ans. a) The PIO asking the MP whether he should provide information to the applicant would be within the contours of law. However, this would alert the MP about some investigation and may try to hide accounts. He is not from party. 95% push he against his MP money.

b) By completely refusing to provide information, the PIO would avert

Remarks

any violation of third party consent clause. However, the applicant has a right to know details if they pertain to the official work and are in public interest. Outright denial would amount to injustice and taking sides on behalf of the MP.

c) This would in turn harm the confidentiality and trust of the MP. Further this information may unnecessarily be misused by the applicant for personal vendetta.

d) This seems to be the most reasonable option. After consulting District Election officer and DC, she would understand the precedents and the application in case of a political minister. The decision would thus not be imp. partial or biased but keeping with law.

Remarks

The PIO should find out clear cut guidelines relating to any political office or party for such conflicts in future.

Circulars about the new guidelines can be sent to the ministers to make them aware too.

3 2

Remarks

Q18. One small area of a district headquarter town is in the grip of encroachment. As a result, people face lots of problems due to the congestion of roads and the most affected lot are senior citizens, who face difficulty in crossing the congested and crowded roads. This is creating a problem around two roundabouts and two parks of that area. Besides, area is also very dirty and there is no arrangement of cleanliness. Senior citizens of that area have appealed to the state government to appoint a young but disciplined and energetic officer in the town to take care of the problems and grievances of the people. Executive officer of the local civic body said they were doing their best to clear the encroachments in the town from time to time. However, once the encroachments were removed, the same people find other sites in the same area to be encroached upon. Residents desire that there should be some attempts to beautify these places as are done in many other cities of the country. They also want beautification of parks so that even children can play. Local MLA is also ready to fund. You are Municipal Commissioner of the city and when a delegation of eminent people has come to meet you with a request to do something for the purpose, you checked up with your finance and accounts department, which expressed its reluctance to provide with resources.

What are the issues before you in this case & how you will execute options effectively?
(250 Words) (20 Marks)

Ans 18. The issues involved are :

- a) plight of senior citizens due to decongestion ✓
- b) pollution and dirt on roads. ✓
- c) inability of local civic body to take concrete action. ✓
- d) problem of encroachers, ✓
- e) lack of resources and funds. ✓

The following steps can be taken :

- 1) Institute a committee to identify the exact nature and extent of issues.

Remarks

- 2) Convey and assure eminent people of some concrete steps ~~to~~ but would need their co-operation.
- 3) Use mediums like social media platform to collect funds, raise awareness about the issue and if possible try crowdfunding of the project.
- 4) Call in civic engineers to submit plans for balanced construction of a new road coupled with aesthetification.
- 5) Institute a call for clearing of encroachments and give the settlers a time bound notice for evacuation. Arrangements can be made in nearby slum rehabilitation projects.
- 6) This project needs leadership and team building efforts along with people's co-operations to decongest the roads and create a comfortable living for the residents.

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Remarks

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Remarks