

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY ARANYAK SAIKIA

RANK - 287

GS MAINS ETHICS





ETHICS TEST SERIES

TEST - 01

ETHICS, INTEGRITY AND APTITUDE

| ime All | owed: 3 hrs. | Max. Marks: 250 | | |
|------------|--------------|---|--|--|
| Q. | Marks | Instructions to Candidate | | |
| 1. | | | | |
| 2. | | There are 17 questions. | | |
| 3. | | All questions are compulsory | | |
| 5 | | The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. | | |
| 9. 10. | | Content of the answer is more important than its length. | | |
| 1. | | Answers must be written in the space provided. | | |
| 13. 14. | | Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question- | | |
| 15. | | cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. | | |
| 16. | | | | |

| | Name ARANYAK SAIKIA |
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SECTION - A

11. Why does cultural relativism supposedly make us more tolerant of other cultures and, critically examine the view that moral values are relative? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Cultural relativismice) argues that there is no universal set of moral values.

Teather the set of moral values varies according to culture.

This makes we

Us we so become more willing to a ceept diversity. Whatever is 'wrong' in my culture, might be 'sright' in someone else's culture. It does not mean that the the other culture is immoral.

ag. directus do not eat beef. But Muslims do.
According to CR, both moral standards are equally acceptable. This makes it possible for Hindus and Muslims to live together and respect each others the cultures.

Thus, according to CR,, moral values are selative.

Benefits of CR

Leads to acceptance of most diversity and tolerance

Problems

ch can justify immoral practices like Sati, dowry cute extern, as these are acceptable to certain cultures in India.

Hence, there is a need for some universal moral values she that transcend all cultures, whe love, buth, non-violence, furtice, etc.

Q2. What is the relation between conviction, integrity and courage? Illustrate. What is the need and importance of conviction in leading a society or a group or an organization to achieve the goals of change and progress? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Conviction: A strong feeling or belief about al particular thing or person.

Integrity: Quality of being honest and upholding lighest moral principles.

Courage: Victure of being brave to take rusks.

Relation between the three

De Conviction + Integrity = courage

It is only when a person has conviction over integrity can be he she act with cowage in response to a wrong-doing.

eg- A person who strongly believes (conviction) in being honest and upholding perofessional ethics (integrity) will not heritate to speak up against his senior who indulges in corruption (display cowrage).

Conviction enables a society or group to fight for an ideal with cowage and determination. It is this that derives progress and change.

ey- Di Own has leaders had the conviction to fight for independence. They fought for it, irrespective of all the hurdles they faced from the British Raj, or with courage and integrity. This led to-the nations feredom.

Q3. Explain role of epistemology in administrative decisions through an example? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Epistemology is the branch of philosophy dealing with knowledge.

It is bor deals with questions around buth, basis, judgements, opinions.

Role in administration

- (1) Administrators supposed to quation every of claim or assertion to assess objective buth.
- (2) They need to be skeptical when claims are made.
- (3) But They also need to be objective in their decision making.
- (4) Focus should be on outcomes after empirical verifications of facts and figures

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| Remarks | | |

Do you think that the best civil servant is one who acts as a whistle blower or one who tries to find the possible solution from within the system? Give reasons and cite examples. What are the challenges in finding a solution from within the system?

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

The best civil sewant is one who first, tries to find possible solutions from within the system and then, as the last nesort, mer acts as a whistle blower when all other so options have been exhausted.

- Keason: (1) Whiteleblowing can being bad reputation to the gos department and crode people's trust in the dept.
- (2) There are contain internal procedures for voicing grievances and pointing ovegularities. These should be used
- (3) Sometimes, There are usually people who are willing to work and change, if pointed out.
 - (a) At the same time, it inturnal systems

are exhausted, but there has been no change, then not whistleblowing will amount to develiation of duty, violation of public trust, lack of accountability and violation of professional vilequity.

Challenges in finding a solution from within

- (1) Indifferent attitude of civil servants fourards a citizen-centure administration
 - (e) Lack of accountability and transparency
 - (3) Unwillingness of officers to point out the wrongdoing of Reniors.
 - (4) Complex and cumbersome internal procedures.
 - (5) Possible conflict between professional integrity and need to maintain ones career.
- (6) Absence of legal, constitutional safeguards.
- In recent times, steps like RTI, 2-governance, CPGRAMS and pressure from media, itizens have brought changes within the system.

- Q5. Explain and elaborate the following statements:
 - (a) Never stop your heart from desiring and always surround yourself with people who will inspire you to push the envelope.
 - (b) Success is not the result of spontaneous combustion. You must set yourself on fire.
 - (c) Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently.
 - (d) To walk safely through the maze of human life, one needs the light of wisdom and the guidance of virtue.
 - (e) There was never a night or a problem that could defeat sunrise or hope. (50 Words Each) (5 \times 4 = 20 Marks)
 - (a) One should an always strive to improve and achieve excellence.

 To do so, it is important to have people around us who can motivate us, instal confidence and the make us learn from our mistakes.

 Learn from our mistakes.

 Leg- Teachers play an important gode like this.
 - (b) Success does not happen overnight. It grequires hard work, dedication and Sacrifice. eg. Abdul Kalam's dedication to work is inspiring.

(c) In Courage is the most important virtue (good habit set or positive quality of a person).

Courage enables es to practise other virtues

(1) Touth

- (2) Non-violence
- (3) Compassion
 - (4) Justice.

Del (1)-(4) virtues can see lead to difficulties in life. 1g-lyandhiji peractised non-violent Satyagraha against the violent and powerful British Raj.

But he was able to do so because he had the courage to face pain and difficulties.

bractice the other virtues consistently, he would not be ready to face the as difficulties from these bractions there

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(d) Wisdom wise is the quality of having being wise. It person is wise is he has the knowledge.

A virtue is a positive quality of a person wrising from a good habit.

eg. Honesty.

To be successful, a person needs both wisdom and virtue. A person who has only wisdom will stend his lenowledge on negative actions.

Leg - Bis Laden had the wisdom but not the virtue to protect innocent civilians.

So, we cannot say That bis laden was successful, although he got so much of international attention.

(e) Just as survive is bound to happen (see it is eternal), but it is hope' that drives the human spirit.

It is the hope for a better future that enables people to face difficulties and grief, and & move on.

| Q | 6. What is doctrine of double effect? Does 'Principle of Permissible Harm' stand the test of moral laws? (150 Words) (10 Marks) | |
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What is excellence? What are the main obstacles in the pursuit of excellence? How does continuous pursuit of excellence help an ordinary person or a leader in betterment of the life and society? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

excellence is the quality of trying to achieve the best standards in any action or work.

Main obstacles in its pursuit

- (1) Indifferent attitude
- (2) Unwillingness to work hard
 - (3) Tendency to procastinate
 - (4) Lack of skills

continuous pursuit of excellence and helps in betterment of society on by -

- (1) Better and newer technology is invented make people's lives easier.
- (2) Leaders come find newer o ways to connect to the public.
- (3) New thoughts on jurtice, fairners, liberalism, etc emerge.

(4) Early attitude of competition.

But, excessive pursuit of excellence can lead people to achieve excellence at any cost, say by destroying the environment or test paying bribes.

Hence, we also need some ethical limitations on this pursuit.

Q8. Is innocence a positive or negative attribute? Can you say that the death of innocence is more intelligent and practical we become, there are more chance of death of innocence?

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

narks

Q9. Can 'goodness' be learnt? Discuss the eightfold path suggested by Buddha in this regard and explain its relevance in contemporary times for ordinary citizens, leaders and administrators? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Goodness is both learners and inherited.

Dur genetic makeup affects our psychology. So, things like peropenity to violence can be affe inherited.

Dut our society, parents and education play an important rule in inculcating goodhess eg-toducation teaches us to respect women, so parents teach as hygiene and so from society, we learn about quespecting others and not to take bribes.

The Buddhe suggested an eight-fold path to gremove of sorrow and achieve calvation. These included doing the right thing, not speaking lies, not larning the right livelihood, etc.

belevance to modern times to ordinary citizens

(1) Kleeps of people decide actions when

- conflicté between legality and conscience
- (2) Helps people choose the right livehichood and derist fecom Home stealing, bearing etc

Pelevance to leaders

- (1) They can choose the gight set of words, not make baseless alligations.
- (2) They also & leaens to be compassionate to peoples needs.

Pelevance to administrators

- (1) Helps them in citizen -centeric administration
- (2) des Avoid coromption, staling of public money, etc.
 - (3) NAD Show compassion to the poor.
 - (4) Act with integrity,

Thus, the citizens, leaders and administrators should follow the 8-fold path of Buddhar.

- (a) Beneficence
- (b) Self-integrity
- (c) Reciprocity
- (d) Serviceability

(50 Words Each) $(4 \times 5 = 20 \text{ Marks})$

- (a) Doing of good -> A civil servant should by to do good to for the citizen, especially the weaker sections.
- (b) A person has self-integraty if he he is true and holds himself to the same cfandards as he holds others.
 - eg- A civil servant & who catches his jurious to taking bribes, but himself is silent when his serior takes bribes does not have self-integrity
- (c) It is the act of acknowledging and geturning in bind to the good work done by someone else.

A civil servant displays reciprocity should not accept reciperately from the citizen get a license / permit (say). He is dutibound to serve the citizen as long as it it is within the purview of law.

(d) Sewiceability is the quality of civil sewants to be willing to provide their sewices for the bellement of cilians.

Q11. 'Only when correct reasoning and right desire come together does truly virtuous action results'. Do you agree? Justify. (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Correct occasing + Right device - Victions

Yes, I fully agree to the above statement.

To achieve a virtuous (morally correct)

action, 2 things are needed-

(1) Correct reasoning - The person must base his decisions on facts, logical reasoning, reationality. He must have the knowledge.

that is why civil servants are brained in sugourously to make decisions Objectively. They are also trained to bith buy taught all the gelwants rules and laws to so that they have the wisdom.

Otherwise, wrong or illegal decisions

(2) light derive > The intent to do good,

provide justice and work with compassion use very important.

People like Harshad Mehta, Nivar Modi and bin Laden used the correct sceasoning, bout they had the wrong intent of harming of or cheating people. So, the end result (scam, Fraud or Terror attack) was not veituous.

Similarly, civil sewants must also have the proget intent in taking their devisions. They should be deriven by the deriver to achieve citizen.

Centric administration.

SECTION - B

Q12. One of your friend, a mid-level bureaucrat, is highly upset because of his job related stress and family problems and often expresses his disenchantment with life. He gave an application for 3 week leave, which was sanctioned by his boss. However, a senior officer (placed higher than his boss), called him during his leave period to office for handling a sudden exigency and this was not the first time when such a thing had happened to him. It happens very often because the officer is very efficient and reliable. The officer has a feeling that those who work honestly are overused while those who work less but keep a personal liaison with seniors work less and get various rewards and privileges. He is disillusioned. He is unable to give reasonable time to his ageing sick mother, his wife who is under depression and children who are going to face their 10th and 12th board examinations. The officer is very upset and broken because of his inability to reconcile his official duties and family responsibilities. He seems to be very disturbed and broken. Despite being an honest and efficient officer he has not been given adequate rewards and recognition and space for looking after his personal needs; he displays signals of suicidal tendencies. What would be your suggestions to (250 Words) (20 Marks) him? Discuss merits and demerits of each option.

The case involves a trueauceat who is facing depression over his inability to provide more time with his family due to work compulsions.

Stakeholders Jamily

His boss

This case involves -(1) A dilemma between his personal and professional ethics.

- (2) Need to ensure that the bureaucret is able to reconcile this conflict.
- My suggestions
- (1) I can ask him to continue as it is.

 Merits (M): There He will not have to sacrifice
 his perofessional ethics and work
 with honesty and efficiency.

Demonity (D): He will sacrifice his family time and might best go into depression. This will have home and his family.

- (2) I can ask him to be develop close relations with his genion.
- M! He will have to work luss. Devote more time to family.
- D! He will face cognitive dissonance, as it violates his professional ethics of being honest and showing intiguity.
- (3) I can ask him to work less efficiently.

 M! As he will be called less the can again
 devote more family time.
- D! He will be dishonest in his work and

goes against intégrilly. This violates his dedication to prublic service and professional illus.

(4) I will per use my emotional intelligence to persuade him to continue working with Same efficiency and honerty as before. I will quote the little which advocates working without thinking about rewards.

(Nichkama Karma).

Also, I will ask him to talk to his seniors to and explain his situation them. If needed, he can ask for a transfer.

In the meanwhile, I will he should seek counselling to get rid of this his suicidal tendencies.

M: His perfersional ethics not violated.

His psychological stress is relieved.

If censors agree, then he can get more family time.

D: He weeds to If seniors do not agree to his situation, he wight continue to face the same problem.

- Q13. As a District Magistrate in a tribal area, you have found that there are many superstitious practices which inhibit the welfare of the people such as believing in super natural powers responsible for droughts, famines, natural disasters and diseases, witch hunting, fatalism (surrendered to fate rather than making efforts to change). While aspiring to act as an agent of change and development in the region, you find that there is opposition by people to modern ideas and practices. Answer the following questions:
 - (a) How will you proceed to remove superstition in tribal area and instill rationality
 - (b) Do change and progress needed to dismantle the local traditions in the tribal
 - (c) How a civil servant can win the trust of the people in a tribal area?
 - (d) How to ensure people's participation in any measure which you have suggested?
 (250 Words) (20 Marks)

The case involves altempts by the DM to chan end superstitions practices among the bribals.

(takeholders -> Tribals and DM (State administration)

- (a) Steps I can take
 - (1) Use my emotional intelligence to persude the people away from superstitions.
 - (2) Organize meetings with local MPs, MLAS and tribal leaders in the region.
- (3) Use the help of NGOs to spread awareness about science.
- (4) Ensure electricity, Sanitation and clean water supply to reduce diseases and enable students to study.

- (5) Bring in local scientists and doctors or engineers from this region, who are currently working outside.
- (8) Conduct pe plays, workshops or using local drums-men to stread awareness like lema Rajeshwari, SP of Telangena.
- (7) In the long tun, bild Primary Health Centres (PHCs), so schools and twoods,
 So that fewils of development reach the tribals.
- (b) Yes, change and progress are needed to dismande superstitutions in Tribal areas. Who They lead to—
 - (1) Changes in attitude and behaviorier (2) Help & identify what is wrong
 - (3) Her Leads to logical reasonnée
 - (4) Seeing other communities also help
- (c) How a curl servant can bin tribals trust

 (1) Ensure protection of tribal land rights,

 protection of tribal land rights,

 protection of forests by

 enforcing forest Rights Act, PESA, etc.

- (e) Strengthen Local gram sabhas in décurior
- (3) Have regular meetings with tribal leaders, local MPs, MLAs.
- (4) Use NGOS to as a beingge between the people and administration,
- 15) Undertake dwelopmental work like PHCs, schools, goods, etc.

(d) Ensweing peoples participation

- (1) First, build trust with beople wring ways mentioned above.
- (2) Bringing bocal leaders, MPs, MLAS, NOIDS our students.
- (3) He Providing Them incentives, like free meals, free check-ups in PHCs.
 Opening up Jan Aushadhi centres to provide free medicines.
- (ii) Explain to the people about the benefits of being to rational and shurring suferstitions, by giving examples.

Remarks these for practices which heads to Their overall development.

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Q14. You are CEO of a company, which is involved in manufacturing of large-scale copper products. It has created good employment opportunity for the locals. But the local residents are not happy with the management of the company and big group of local residents are protesting continuously. They are demanding closer of the plant as factory

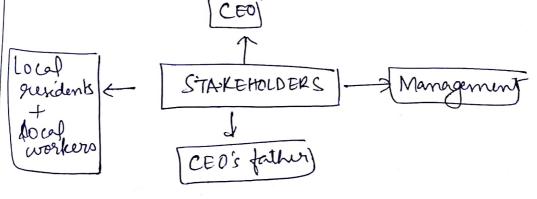
Your father is a senior IAS officer placed in the concerned Ministry. He is influential and very well networked. Company's management is pushing you to manage the situation and local authority through your father, as putting high quality production facility in plant will increase the cost of production, and company may loose market share in terms of sales if cost goes high. Based on the above situation answer the following questions:

- (a) What are the options available to you?
- (b) Discuss merits & demerits of each option.
- (c) What will be your final call? Justify.

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

The case involves a company's CEO (me)

The case is about a company which faces closure due to protests by Locals, and attempt by CEO to prevent that.



My objects Ethical insues involved

(1) Corporate governance issues

(2) Protecting the livelihood of workers.

(3) Protesting local environment
(4) conflict between personal-professional ethics.

Options wailable to me

(1) Do nothing

Merits (M): Status que continues. The market share is preserved. So Workers do not lose jobs

Demerits (D): Harms company's long-term interest. can lead to further local profests. goes against my professional

(2) Dek my father to manage the local authority.

Merits (M): De company's market share is intact, protests are controlled. Local workers been their jobs

D: De Leads to a conflict of interest, violates my perofessional & is thics. Also, in the long run, local protests will gesume

13) seconged strategy -> Set up a Committee of locals and company officials to inspect the production faility and confamination of areas.

- Jobs benefit the locals.
- From procure were the high quality peroduction facility, and explain to the management how it benefits the board company's long term interest as costs of literation, anvoionment compensations, etc. are reduced.
- M: Ensures local participation in company; decision making, perotects environment, Saves jobs and gives long-term rehvers -> Triple Bottomline Approach
- D! Can increase short-term costs to the company, loss of market share.
 Protests by weals can still continue.
- (c) Given that the final option avoids of the conflicts of interests with my father and all the merits written above, I will go with this option.

- Q15. You are head of a charitable trust that takes care of education, clothing, food & other basic needs of children from marginal community. Your organization also offers health services to the members of weaker section. You find it difficult to serve qualitatively because of the <u>crunch of funds</u>. Trust runs on donations and contributions from donors only. There is a regular fall in contribution from several imminent persons who were prime donors previously. Now you have decided to go for small advertisement to get donation for the good cause. Response is not very encouraging, however, a prominent local politician with a criminal record offers a hefty donation. The options available are:
 - (a) Take donation from that politician.
 - (b) Reject offer of that politician as his track record is poor.
 - (c) Ask him to directly assist to those who are in need.
 - (d) Reduce your operational scale to affordable level, so that you can sustain charitable work.

Analyse each option with its consequences.

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

The case deals with the various oftions available to the trust to increase its farances.

Politicearie STAKEHOLDERS -> Toust, beneficiaries grecord J g-children Denors

Ethical issues moolved

- (i) Compassion towards weaker sections
 (2) Upholding perofessional an integrity.
 (3) Enswing quality care to the needy.
 (4) Ensuring the trust continues to functions

- (a) -> The bust will contine
 - I duality care to the children can be

- -) can being a bad name to the trust
 - Forom a deontological perspective this unettical.
- (b) -> can affect the busts finances
 - Duality care to the children cannot be offered,
 - Although it does not violate my integrity, yet I will not be able to do justice to the trust's cause with the may poor quality of case.
- (c) -> The bount will continue to face the same issues of finance and quality.
 - -> Will help the needy and serve the bousts cause indirectly.
 - -> No violation of my perofessional inlighty
 - Is the politician will not will end, it will send a wrong message to society. Will affects people's attitude forwards crummalization of politics.

- (d) > This enables the trust to provide quality care to the needy children
 - The politician and does not benefit and cannot send a wrong message.
 (torough the trust.
 - -> Will not violate my professional ethics.

londunin bossible is affected. From a ultituism perspective, this is not good.

About from the above options, I will also see if I can get government funds. eg. Ministry of Women and Child Development a has a portal for - N 610 a Darpan. I can explain to the Ministry Iterough N610 Darpan orbout the dire med of funds.

16. You are a District Collector. A seven-year boy has been killed in a school. Parents are angry and protesting. They have blocked the traffic and want speedy action. Parents are scared as it happened during the school hours. They also want tough action against school administration. Few parents don't want to send their children to same school. They tried admission in different schools' but all of them have been denied admission. Now, few parents seek help from administration for admission of their children at different places. They don't want to send their children to same school where a boy has been killed. It is harming their children's study as examination is approaching. What are the options before you as District Collector to address the concerns of the parents? (250 Words) (20 Marks)

The case involves the collector brying to a child killed in school and projects by parents. School management

State (STAKEHOLDERS) -> Parents in general Parents of the boy

The objectives as the Collector are

(1) for Ensure free flow of traffic and prevent law and order situation.

- (2) Bring speedy justice to the parents
- (3) Help the other students & from getting affected during æ examination.

My course of action

- (1) First, I will talk to the perotesting parents to life the blockade.

 I will assure them that full speedy finitice will be delivered.
- (2) I will persuade them to leave the area, by explaining that this act is fillegel and will not help in getting justice for the for the deceased.
- (3) If profesters refuse to leave, I will have to bring in additional forces or impose section 144 crpc
- (4) In the meanwhile, I will set up a Task-Force to speed up the muestigation. This Task Force will be headed by the SP.
- (5) A preliminary inquiry into the school management's role will be done. It management's role will be done . It was is an act of prima-facile, there is an act of wrong-doing by anyone, he she will be arrusted.

- (E) I will organize a Parents-Teachers
 Meeting (PTM) of the school to generate
 as a trust-building exercise and for
 voicing of grievances.
- (7) I will ask the school management to winnediately appoint a psychologist to deal with the children's stress, and make counselling mandatory.
- (8) I can talk to the management of other schools to persuade about them to admit students from this school.
- (9) At the same time, I will persuade
 the parents to keep their children here.
 I will assure them of security by
 mes deploying 1-2 policemen for a few
 mouths to instal a sense of security.

Long Run

- -> Organize a safety audit of all schools in my district.
 - -) Make it mandatory to have PTMs regularly.

As a young IAS officer, you have been posted as the Sub-Divisional Magistrate in a good conditions. You know that allocated budget is not sufficient and also the whole alternative to do it through public participation. Mention the steps you will follow in this case and justify each step.

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

In this case, my objectives are-

- (1) Ensure schools, roads, etc. one built in good conditions
- (2) Involve participation
 - B) Use Achieve (1) and (2) above using scarce funds. budget constraint.

Steps I will follow

- (1) Fout, I will write to the higher authorities explaining the poor conditions of Schools, ronds, etc and the the urgency of the cituation, and ask them to expedite the fund approval process.
- (2) Ex In Second, I will ask organize a meeting with the public and persuade them to participates in the building of these infracturature.

 I will explain Using my emotional

intelligence, I will appeal to their emotions and explain that these infrastructure Belong to Them and their fecture children. They have a moral obligation (categorical insperative) to ensure its & upperep.

- (2) I will ask local engineers, working in the area, to provide technical usuitance. I will also permade the professionals from who have now uniquated to other accean from this place to give something back to their original home.
 - (3) I can supe in NGOs or other Self-Help Groups who can pool their sawings and provide funds.
- (4) Similarly, I can approach NABARD, SIDBI or other Regional Reval Banks to provide funds to the SHB1s, NGOS or directly to the SDMs office for carrying out the Rocal work.

- (5) I will to ask the MPs, MLAS to contribute from the MPLAD, MLALAD Schemes.
 - (6) I can ask tocal companies in the state to & contribute through CSR activities in my semote area.
- (7) To ensure regular maintenance of the schools, monds, etc., I will constitute the statizen committees, or cooperatives to bring in more decentralized citizen centralized

It is hoped that all these sleps will expedite the process of 10 building schools, roads and other infrastructure