



1.(a) Discuss the role of ethics and values in enhancing the following three major components of Comprehensive National Power (CNP) viz. human capital, soft power (culture and policies) and social harmony. (150 words, 10 marks)

ANS-

Approach

- Start the answer by briefly mentioning the importance of ethics and values.
- Separately discuss the role of ethics and values in enhancing human capital, soft power and social harmony.
- Conclude with some way forward.

Answer –

Ethics is a system of principles that helps us to distinguish right from wrong, good from the bad. Ethical values (like honesty, trustworthiness, responsibility) can help to make rational decisions, whether at the individual, societal or national level.

Role of Ethics & Values in Enhancing Human Capital:

- Ethics is all about the choices that an individual makes. People always face many dilemmas and choices that affect the quality of their lives.
- Ethics & values make an individual aware that their choices have consequences, both for themselves and others.
- Thus, ethics & values build credibility, improves decision making, and provides long term gains.

Role of Ethics & Values in Enhancing Social Harmony:

- Ethics & values are about character; the sum of qualities that defines a person. The same principle applies to society.
- Ethics & values develop norms of behaviour that everyone should follow in society. If every person acts with a selfish motive, society might fall into chaos & anarchy.
- There is nothing wrong with pursuing one's interests. However, an ethical person must be willing – at least sometimes – to place others' interests ahead of self-interest because of our responsibility to society.
- Moreover, often ethics succeeds law in safeguarding society. The law machinery is often found acting as a mute spectator, unable to save the society and the environment.

Role of Ethics & Values in Enhancing Soft Power:

- International relations are largely driven by the ideology of realism, which propagates national interest precedes every action of a nation.



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- However, pursuance of national interest must not always be fulfilled with Hard' power (Military power, economic power). The soft power (a country's image due to its culture & values) also secures national interest without compromising others' interest.
- In this regard, ethics & the country's ancient values (for example, Idea of Vasudeva kutumbakam in India) revive national pride and project a country's peaceful image.

As stated by India's current president, 'Nations are not built by governments alone, each citizen is a nation-builder', there is an immense role of ethics and values in enhancing the comprehensive national power of a country.

(b) "Education is not an injunction; it is an effective and pervasive tool for all round development of an individual and social transformation". Examine the New Education Policy, 2020 (NEP, 2020) in light of the above statement. (150 words, 10 marks)

ANS-Approach

- Start the answer by briefly mentioning the objectives of the National Education Policy.
- Explain how National Education Policy can help in the furtherance of Individual & Social Transformation
- Conclude suitably.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has been recently announced by the Government of India. NEP 2020 is novel in many ways that can help develop an individual and social transformation.

It recognizes the importance of formative years; it envisages making education more inclusive and aimed at transforming the Indian education system to meet the needs of the 21st Century.

NEP's Vision of Individual & Social Transformation

- **Recognizing the Importance of Formative years:** In adopting a 5+3+3+4 model for school education starting at age 3, the policy acknowledges the formative years' primacy from ages 3 to 8 in shaping the child's future.
- **Encouraging Vulnerable Sections of Society:** Another laudable aspect of the scheme is vocational courses with an internship. This may encourage the vulnerable sections of society to send their children to school.
- **Making Education More Inclusive:** The NEP proposes extending the Right to Education (RTE) to all children up to the age of 18.
- It emphasizes making the mother tongue, the local language, or the regional language the medium of instruction at least till Grade 5, which is considered the best medium of



teaching. This will integrate culture, language, and traditions with the learning so that children can assimilate it in an integrative manner.

- **Departure from Silos Mentality:** Another key aspect of school education in the new policy is the breaking of the strict division of arts, commerce, and science streams in high school. This can lay the foundation for a multi-disciplinary approach in high education.
- **Education & Social Justice:** NEP recognizes education as the most effective way for social justice. Thus, the NEP calls for an investment of about six percent of GDP jointly by the Center and the States.

The new National Education Policy 2020 is novel. It aims to make the education system holistic, flexible, multidisciplinary, aligned to the needs of the 21st century and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

2. (a) "Hatred is destructive of a person's wisdom and conscience that can poison a nation's spirit." Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer. (150 words, 10 marks)

ANS-Religious violence, communal polarization, hatres and intolerance have increased in contemporary world and it is a continuous obstacle in the progress and growth of a country, as observed many times even in India, which is reputed for its diverse ethnicity, community, religion, language and culture, which few nations can boast of.

Hatred among persons hampers the growth and progress of the nation in the following ways:

- **Destruction of Social harmony:** Due to the communal intimidation and hatred being spread, the very fabric of a society is being diminished in the larger sense, rendering a weak and divided social strength. For ex– Assimilation with accommodation, stable patterns of pluralism, inequality and integration etc. constitute the basic fabric of Indian society, which when tainted with communal intolerance get divided and internally threatened.
- **Economy:** Disturbances caused due to communal intolerance largely impact the local economy due to the disruptive activities like strikes, riots, destruction of public property etc against each other, and also disturb the macro-economic outlook of countries on the global sphere as a result of the apprehensions of investors or economic giants of a good work environment. **For ex–** Many global indices consider all round social parameters and societal tolerance to rank countries which in turn are considered for economic reports, positive indicators etc.



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- **Political instability:** At times massive communal clashes result in political blame game, interference and unnecessary measures, projecting an unstable political atmosphere. Welfare of the nation is mainly side-lined and the representatives are caught in inconsequential issues. **For ex–** as seen in Sri Lanka, communal clashes and violence often divide the nation and the common masses bringing in a total instability.
- **Deprivation of amenities:** Victims of intolerance are found to be deprived of facilities and opportunities, thus excluding them from contributing to the overall development of the society and subsequently lose out on self-development too. **For ex–** Minorities of a certain place not being allowed to work, settle down, and reside in places where they are a minority or not accepted well.
- **Curbing of individual freedom:** Any form of illogical intolerance often leads to taking away of individual freedom and rights. Constructive criticism and debates over various aspects are absent and dominance of one ideology takes over. Any society plagued by this halts the overall growth and progress of the collective.

Secularism with tolerance acts as a special and critical pillar in our democracy, which has been loudly supported by people like Gandhi, Swami Vivekananda and even preamble of our constitution. People of this great nation should be reminded of the value and guiding principles in life that have nurtured compassion, forbearance and tolerant accommodativeness in the people of the subcontinent from time immemorial.

(b) What are the main components of emotional intelligence (EI)? Can they be learned?

Discuss. (150 words, 10 marks)

ANS-

Approach

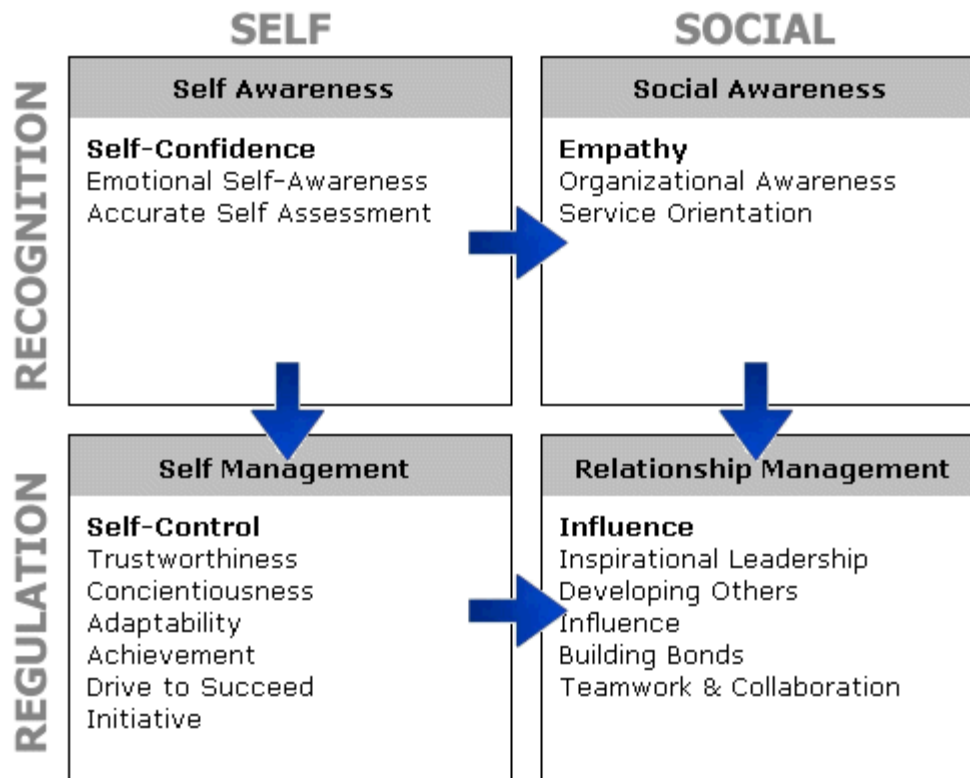
- Define emotional intelligence
- Discuss the components of emotional intelligence
- Discuss how emotional intelligence can be learned
- Conclude suitably.

Emotional intelligence or EI is the ability to understand and manage your own emotions, and those of the people around you. People with a high degree of emotional intelligence know what they're feeling, what their emotions mean, and how these emotions can affect other people.



Components of EI

- Goleman has identified four major characteristics of Emotional intelligence. It is popular as Goleman's model of Emotional intelligence.



- These four components of EI indicate that a person should have these characteristics which are associated with Ethical conduct. These characteristics can be linked to many other activities such as:

Effective administrative leadership, Good work culture, Professionalism, Self-motivation.

Ways to Learn EI

- The most important way is socialization, i.e at the early stage of life whereby family, the school have a critical role in the process of socialization. Since, this early stage is not formal, the role of government and organization becomes important in later phases of life of an individual.
- Incorporating the role of EI in human resource management.
- Aptitude test, Formal training, Democratic work culture, Adequate opportunity for realizing human potential, Effective leadership.
- Government should also try to influence socialization at an early stage through social influence, persuasion, and influencing educational institutions and teaching culture, Brainstorming, Role modeling etc.



emotional intelligence will enhance the social and personal cohesion with management of emotions of an individual for the good of everyone.

3. (a) What teachings of Buddha are most relevant today and why? Discuss. (150 words, 10 marks)

ANS-

Approach

- Start the answer by briefly discussing the main goal of Buddhist philosophy.
- Discuss the conceptual framework of Buddhist thought & its relevance.
- Conclude suitably.

The main goal of Buddhism philosophy is to eliminate suffering and unhappiness. As the world increasingly grows interdependent and is beset by conflicts, Buddha's philosophies will only grow more relevant.

Conceptual Framework of Buddhist Thought & Its Relevance

The essence of Buddha's teaching is contained in the Four Noble Truths. These Four Noble truths set out the path for an individual's enlightenment. These four noble truths are as follows:

- **The truth of dukkha:** According to Buddha all sources of happiness are transient, any feeling of happiness is accompanied by dissatisfaction.
 - Thus, there is a need to look for happiness in external things rather than in our internal feelings and attitudes.
 - This doctrine of Buddhism is relevant in the light of increasing materialism and consumerism in society.
- **The truth of the origin of the dukkha:** The origin of dukkha is traced to craving conditioned by ignorance.
 - Ignorance implies a misunderstanding of the self and reality.
 - This can find relevance in developed countries ignoring climate change and its impact, which will affect whole humankind in the medium to long term.
- **The truth of the cessation of dukkha:** Cessation of dukkha is the objective of Buddhist spiritual practices.



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- Buddhism lays down special emphasis on meditation, which is an activity of training the mind and helping to develop more beneficial attitudes toward life.
 - Meditation can help people to deal with increasing mental disorders in the age of smartphones and lead to moral and mental self-improvement.
- **The truth of the path leading to the cessation of dukkha:** The fourth noble path is the way to end dukkha. It is called the eightfold path.
- It consists of: Right Understanding; Right Thought; Right Speech; Right Action; Right Livelihood; Right Effort; Right mindfulness; and right concentration.
 - Right Speech envisages abstaining from telling lies and speaking deceitfully. This can be applied to tackle increasing hate speech and growing intolerance in society.
 - Right livelihood implies that one should follow righteous means of earning wealth. This finds relevance in growing inequalities and corruption in the economic sphere.
 - Right effort can lead to self-discipline, honesty, altruism, and compassion, which can tackle ongoing social decay.

The relevance to Buddhism can be traced from the words of Dalai Lama who stated that the 20th century was a century of war and violence, it was the work of humanity to ensure the 21st century goes on the way of peace and dialogue,

(b) “The will to power exists, but it can be tamed and be guided by rationality and principles of moral duty.’ Examine this statement in the context of international relations. (150 words, 10 marks)

ANS-

International ethics are moral values and guidelines that help in formulating relationship between two countries. International ethics has gained significance for its ability to influence global politics.

International relations ethics deal with social justice, human rights, caring for the environment across national borders, social responsibility and accountability, and interdependence gained through encompassing a worldview.

Rationality based moral principles– It cannot be whimsical or arbitrary in use rather power needs to be exercised based on sound cognition and empirical evidence. For example, in international relations, there are conventions, treaties, and customary rules which guide the actions of a nation and these principles are based on rationality. Thus a nation does not just



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explode a nuclear bomb based on irrationality or subjective disposition but rather is guided by the overall rationality of the action.

Similar lines, collaboration with all nations in dealing with global pandemics and economic recession will be rational choice for all the stakeholders and global powers too.

Moral duty – The exercise of power needs to attain the basic ethical principles of equality, integrity, empathy, and compassion. For example, there are conventions like the Geneva Convention for avoiding bombing of cities during war or, a nation cannot exit a treaty whenever it wants. Like when the USA exited the Paris climate treaty it came into force a year later to make it accountable and answerable to people.

Eg Common But Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR) principle in Paris CLimate Deal towards fighting climate change is the result of ethics in international affairs.

International Aids during natural disasters (eg: India's support during Nepal Earthquake) and Development Aid via IMF and World Bank is also guided by ethical principles.

Globalisation, the world has become more interconnected, and unethical behaviour by one country affects the whole world, so ethical behaviour in international diplomacy is needed to address the common problems like terrorism, climate change and removal of poverty and inequality and establish peace among world countries.

4. (a) Distinguish between laws and rules. Discuss the role of ethics in formulating them. (150 words, 10 marks)

ANS-

Approach

- Introduce the terms.
- Give the differences between rules and laws. Role of Ethics in shaping these terms.
- Conclude with some way forward.

Laws and rules may seem like overlapping terms, but there are some differences on which distinction can be made between the two.

Rules are codes of conduct that are designed for specific situations, similar to customs but have immense importance because there is usually a punishment related with them. Laws are similar to the legal form of rules. Law is defined as a rule (for want of a better word) that has been legally made to apply to everyone.



Difference between Law & Rules

Law

- Laws seek to increase public good and serve the public interests.
- Laws have a political connotation. They can be enacted only by those who exercise sovereignty or the lawfully constituted government.
- The laws of a nation operate within its territorial boundaries.
- Citizens when abroad are not governed for most purposes by their national laws.
- Laws are inflexible and carry stiff penalties including imprisonment, and in some cases, death.

Rules-

- Rules generally focus on or relate to individual good.
- Rules can have both administrative and social connotations.
- They can be set by individuals, or by organizations, or by the head of a family.
- Rules prescribed, for example, in official codes apply to government servants even when they are abroad.
- Similarly, rules which people accept as part of their religious order, apply to them even outside the country.
- Rules are more flexible and have lighter consequences when broken.

Role of Ethics in Formulating Laws & Rules

- Ethics serves as a general rule of right living; especially such a rule or group of rules conceived as universal and unchanging. In this context, ethics form the basis of both laws and rules.
- Rules and laws must be followed by code of ethics and law of conscience.
- The scope of the law and rules is limited, but ethical action may go beyond that scope. This is because laws and rules can't incorporate intangible human aspects and values that are very subjective.

In modern societies, the systems of law and rules are closely related to ethics in that they determine and enforce definite rights and duties. However, Laws and rules can be neutral or they can be used to endorse ethics.

(b) A positive attitude is considered to be an essential characteristic of a civil servant who is often required to function under extreme stress. What contributes to a positive attitude in a person? (150 words, 10 marks)



ANS-

Approach

- Introduce the concept of attitude and its type.
- Explain the advantages of positive attitude for civil servants.
- Conclude with development of positive attitude.

Attitude is a predisposition or a tendency to respond positively or negatively towards a certain idea, object, person, or situation. Attitude influences an individual's choice of action, and responses to challenges, incentives, and rewards.

Positive attitude is a mental attitude reflecting a belief or hope that the outcome of some specific Endeavour or outcomes in general, will be positive, favorable, and desirable.

The benefit of Positive attitude

- **Brings positive opportunities:** Positive people are easily approachable and more likeable than someone who is constantly looking at the negative side of things.
- **More open mindedness:** Look at the positive side of things; search and find the positive spin on things, look for the good in people instead of just focusing on the negative.
- **Perspective changes:** People with a positive outlook, view life, challenges, and the situations they go through, with confidence and are sure they can deal with them.
- **Subconscious mind:** Subconscious mind responds to your new attitude by helping you improve your life. It will guide you to positive situations and people that will help you create the life you want.
- **Eliminate negative thoughts:** Focus on the positive -attract more positive situations. Feed your subconscious mind positive messages; create empowering beliefs that will launch you to success and happiness.
- **Self satisfaction:** irrespective of the results and consequences we try to give our inputs in the process of work
- **More focus on goal:** Positive attitude channelizes all thoughts, energy and process towards the goal



Examples:

- Nelson Mandela: He spent 27 years in prison. This show how the freedom fighter who would become South Africa’s first black president with positive attitude and hoping the best to happen.
- Gandhi: Gandhi fought for independence with lot of struggle for decades with optimistic values.
- Abraham Lincoln: He was extremely poor in childhood and bankrupt once in later life, he repeatedly failed to secure the political posts he wanted, most of his children died, as did a fiancée, and he had depression troubles. Still, he was the man we know he was.
- DhirubhaiAmbani: A gas station attendant who didn’t let his circumstances dictate his destiny. Today, his name is amongst India’s most famous sons and one of world’s greatest entrepreneurs.
- At personal level positive belief gives us strength to learn from the defeat, stand up and fight again. Walt Disney was criticized for not being creative, he continued his work diligently, and later he became genius in cartoon designing.
- At professional level rewards and appreciation towards his employees enhances the positive attitude to work more.

It is rightly said, Watch your thoughts, they become action.

Finding success through a positive mental attitude is all about acceptance of failures and growth. Through optimism, you can find the strength to walk forward, find yourself, and accomplish great things.

5. (a) What are the main factors responsible for gender inequality in India? Discuss the contribution of SavitribaiPhule in this regard.(150 words, 10 marks)

ANS-

Approach

- Define gender inequality.
- Write main factors responsible for it and contribution of SavitribaiPhule.
- Conclude with the way forward.



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Gender inequality is the social process by which men and women are not treated as equals. The treatment may arise from distinctions regarding biology, psychology, or cultural norms. Some of these distinctions are empirically-grounded while others appear to be socially constructed.

Factors responsible for gender inequality in India are-

1) Poverty – This is the root cause of gender discrimination in the patriarchal Indian society as the economic dependence on the male counterpart is itself a cause of gender disparity. A total of 30 percent people live below the poverty line and out of this 70 percent are women.

2) Illiteracy – Gender discrimination In India had led to educational backwardness for girls. It's a sad reality that despite educational reforms in the country girls in India are still denied a chance at learning. The mindset needs to be changed and people need to understand the benefits of educating girls. An educated, well-read woman ensures that other members especially the children of the house get quality education.

3) Patriarchal setup in our Indian society – Men dominate societal and family life in India, this has been the case in the past ages and still continues to be practiced in majority of the households. Though this mindset is changing with urbanization and education, still there is long way to go for a permanent change in the scenario.

NGOs like Save the Children are doing what it takes to uplift the status of the girl child in the society through a number of programmes across India. If you care to bring hope in the lives of thousands of girls in India by ensuring the right environment and opportunities for them, then support an NGO like Save the Children.

Savitribai played an important role in improving women's rights in India during British rule. She worked for the upliftment of women in terms of education.

Contribution of SavitribaiPhule to bridge the gender gap-

1)SavitribaiPhulerecognized that education was one of the central planks through which women and the depressed classes could become empowered.

3) Savitribai was a crusader for women empowerment as she broke all stereotypes and spent her life promoting the noble cause of women's education

3) The first indigenously-run school for girls in Pune.



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4) She also started the MahilaSeva Mandal with the objective of creating awareness among women regarding their rights, dignity and other social issues. Jyotirao and Savitribai also started a care center called 'BalhatyaPratibandhakGriha,'.

Gender inequality will lead to violation of rights, sexual violence. This problem can be addressed by empowering women, educating them, government taking specific policies in favor of balancing the genders.

5. (b) **“The current internet expansion has instilled a different set of cultural values which are often in conflict with traditional values.” Discuss. (150 words, 10 marks)**

ANS-

Approach

- Introduce the current phenomenon of internet expansion in our society.
- Explain the issues involved and conflict with our moral and cultural values.
- Conclude with possible remedies to solve the issues.

The Internet is the decisive technology of the Information Age, and with the explosion of wireless communication in the early twenty-first century, we can say that humankind is now almost entirely connected, albeit with great levels of inequality in bandwidth, efficiency, and price

The Impact of the Internet on traditional Values

1) Digital platforms have promoted the abusive videos through movies.

2) Social media has had a tremendous impact on personal and professional relationships, allowing for larger social networks amongst individuals and deeper engagement between individuals in the network, both of which encourage virtual interpersonal and not the actual form of communication.

3) The hatred and exhaustion from the social media and digital platforms have reduce the physical interaction and social cohesion.



4) Inappropriate content on Internet has caused the decay in moral values of societies. Ex-Blue whale challenge.

5) Commodification of women and traditions have led to decrease the moral values.

Henceforth, there is a need of cyber ethics for the rational use of Internet with the cultural ethos in mind by proper regulation and liberty of expression for full human development.

6. (a) “Condemn none: if you can stretch out a helping hand, do so. If not, fold your hands, bless your brothers, and let them go their own way.” – Swami Vivekanand (150 words)10

ANS-

This quote explains no person, no one or nothing should be criticized strongly for moral or other reasons. Who we are to express complete disapproval of something! We can't force someone to accept something which a person doesn't want to. We can't advocate punishing someone. It is undesirable to put the blame for something on someone. What best we can do is to give an offer of help. A helping hand with the potential to better the course and the conclusion of an event is the most valuable move.

- Criticism doesn't help anyone. Rather, it makes a person less eager to work. It spreads negativity. Eg if someone is donating or giving money to bagger, other person should not tell that this won't help them in any way. Condemning covid warriors for spreading pandemic.
- On the other hand, helping someone or for something gives support, confidence, and hope to a person to work harder. Eg philanthropy by people for a NGO.

Thus, thinking can form a chain of help, whereas criticism results in loss of hope. If we are not in a position to offer help, a respectful greeting and asking for God's help and protection for someone or something is the best we can do. Either God would look favourably on them if they deserve it, or they would take care of themselves after learning from their mistakes.

6. (b) “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” – Mahatma Gandhi (150 words) 10

ANS-



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This quote explains the need of Empathy, which is, awareness of the feelings and emotions of other people. It is a key element of Emotional Intelligence, the link between self and others, because it is how we as individuals understand what others are experiencing as if we were feeling it ourselves.

Empathy involves essentially putting yourself in someone else's position and feeling what they must be feeling. When you see another person suffering, you might be able to instantly envision yourself in the other person's place and feel sympathy for what they are going through.

Empathetic people care about others and show interest in and concern for them. It is the ability to non-judgmentally put into words your understanding of the other person's perspective on the world, even if you do not agree with it, or even if you find that perspective ridiculous.

Empathy facilitates prosocial or helping behaviours that come from within, rather than being forced, so that people behave in a more compassionate manner.

Empathy stands in contrast to sympathy which is the ability to cognitively understand a person's point of view or experience, without the emotional overlay. It should also be distinguished from compassion, even though the terms are often used interchangeably. Compassion is an empathic understanding of a person's feelings plus a desire to act on that person's behalf.

There are a number of benefits of being able to experience empathy.

Empathy allows people to build social connections with others. By understanding what people are thinking and feeling, people are able to respond appropriately in social situations.

Empathizing with others helps you learn to regulate your own emotions. Emotional regulation is important in that it allows you to manage what you are feeling, even in times of great stress, without becoming overwhelmed.

Empathy promotes helping behaviours. Not only are you more likely to engage in helpful behaviours when you feel empathy for other people; other people are also more likely to help you when they experience empathy.

Empathy has many fold role in Civil services such as impartiality, compassion, and objectivity. Empathy also deals with emotional intelligence which is essential for quality of decision making.



While empathy might fail sometimes, most people are able to empathize with others in a variety of situations. This ability to see things from another person's perspective and sympathize with another's emotions plays an important role in our social lives. Empathy allows us to understand others and, quite often, compels us to take action to relieve another person's suffering.

6. (c) "A system of morality which is based on relative emotional values is a mere illusion, a thoroughly vulgar conception which has nothing sound in it and nothing true." – Socrates (150 words) 10

ANS-

Emotions are common to all individuals however, they vary in extent. They are dependent upon thoughts and feelings, physiological changes, expressive behaviours, and inclinations to act.

Irrational/ Impartial actions/decisions are based on the well knowledge of their consequences. In this irrational and impartial decision making emotions play a pivotal role. Derailed emotions can lead to irrational and sometimes pathological consequences.

However, emotions as such are not necessarily irrational. Aristotle, for example, saw anger as a reasonable response to an insult.

Importance of emotions in making decisions cannot be emphasized more. Human has developed Artificial intelligence by using its mind. The AI can sure replicate the logical process of the brain but logic alone cannot take the correct decisions involving humans, which clearly indicates the wisdom of emotions.

The basic emotions of anger, fear, and sadness made successful leaders from Nelson Mandela to Martin Luther King and many others.

It was Mahatma Gandhi's mastery over emotions of the masses, which gave a climax to the Indian National Movement ultimately lead to independence.



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Emotions with the evolutionary wisdom have played a prominent role in the great struggles of human kind. For instance, French revolution, which gave the world values of justice equality and fraternity.

However, the emotions of more human minds together has put some generations of masses in to the jeopardy. For instance, emotion of anger in to the mob over religious issues has put some of the marginalised communities in to jeopardy in India.

Hence, it can be said that, emotions which comes from the masses has made more harm than good. However, the evolutionary wisdom have made the world more beautiful than it was earlier.

7. Rajesh Kumar is a senior public servant, with a reputation of honesty and forthrightness, currently posted in the Finance Ministry as Head of the Budget Division. His department is presently busy in organizing the budgetary support to the states, four of which are due to go to the polls within the financial year.

This year's annual budget had allotted 78300 crores for National Housing Scheme (NHS), a centrally sponsored social housing scheme for the weaker sections of society. 775 crores have been drawn for NHS till June.

The Ministry of Commerce had long been pursuing a case for setting up a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in a southern state to boost exports. After two years of detailed discussions between the centre and state, the Union Cabinet approved the project in August. Process was initiated to acquire the necessary land.

Eighteen months ago, a leading Public Sector Unit (PSU) had projected the need for setting up a large natural gas processing plant in a northern state for the regional gas grid. The required land is already in possession of the PSU. The gas grid is an essential component of the national energy security strategy. After three rounds of global bidding the project was allotted to an MNC, M/s XYZ Hydrocarbons. The first tranche of payment to the MNC is scheduled to be made in December.

Finance Ministry was asked for a timely allocation of an additional 6000 crores for these two developmental projects. It was decided to recommend re-appropriation of this entire amount from the NHS allocation. The file was forwarded to Budget Department for their comments and further processing. On studying the case file, Rajesh Kumar realized that this re-appropriation may cause inordinate delay in the execution of NHS, a project much publicized in the rallies of senior politicians. Correspondingly, non-availability of finances would cause



financial loss in the SEZ and national embarrassment due to delayed payment in an international project.

Rajesh Kumar discussed the matter with his seniors. He was conveyed that this politically sensitive situation needs to be processed immediately. Rajesh Kumar realized that diversion of funds from NHS could raise difficult questions for the government in the Parliament.

Discuss the following with reference to this case:

1. Ethical issues involved in re-appropriation of funds from a welfare project to the developmental projects.
2. Given the need for proper utilization of public funds, discuss the options available to Rajesh Kumar. Is resigning a worthy option? (250 words, 20 marks)

ANS-

Ethical issues involved in re-appropriation of funds

▪ **Economic Development vs. Social Justice:**

As setting up a Special Economic Zone and natural gas processing plant, economic development would help in the region's economic growth and eventually lead to the overall development of society & people.

- Further, finances' non-availability would cause a financial loss in the SEZ and national embarrassment due to delayed payment in an international project.

- Social justice, as re-appropriation may cause inordinate delay in the execution of the National Housing Scheme and may hamper the welfare of vulnerable sections of the society.

• **Empathy vs. Professional Duty:**

As a senior public servant, Rajesh Kumar's responsibility is to exhibit empathy and compassion for society's downtrodden section's upliftment and welfare.

- Moreover, as the situation is politically sensitive, the diversion of funds from the NHS could raise difficult questions for the government in the Parliament.

- Further, Rajesh Kumar is the head of the Budget Division in the Finance Ministry. Thus, his primary responsibility is to act with an objective analysis of demand without getting influenced by the political situation.

Possible Actions are-



Diversion of Entire Amount for Re-appropriation

Merits

- It will help in boosting exports and help increase clean energy accessibility.
- It will aid the government's objective of focusing on economic development and eventually lead to a trickle-down of benefits to society.

Demerits

- It may cause inordinate delay in the execution of the NHS and may have tremendous implications for the poorer sections of the society.
- The opposition may disrupt the parliament and launch an agitation.
- Diversion of Funds from welfare schemes to economic projects may become a regular practice.

Reject the proposal for the re-appropriation of funds.

Merits-

- It will uphold the principle of social justice and the government's commitment to helping the poorer section of society.
- It will also save Rajesh Kumar from the wrath of the political masters, as populist demands majorly influence their decisions.

Demerits-

- Non-availability of finances would cause a financial loss in the SEZ and may bring national embarrassment due to delayed payment in an international project.
- As the gas grid is an essential component of the national energy security strategy, it would have implications on energy availability and subsequent employment generation that the project would have provided.

Partial re-appropriation of Funds

Merits-

- It will help in balancing the twin goals of economic development and social justice.

Demerits



- Partial re-appropriation of funds will require time for calculating the modalities and how much funds are to be transferred.
- On the contrary, due to the politically sensitive situation, funds' re-appropriation needs to be processed immediately.

The Final Course of Action

- Rs. 78300 crores are sanctioned for the National Housing Scheme (NHS), out of which only Rs 775 crores are spent. This means, almost the entire amount is unutilized. Even if 6000 crores (what is asked) for these two developments is re-appropriated, it will leave nearly 90% of the amount sanctioned for NHS.
- However, diversion of funds may become a slippery slope for the government to divert welfare scheme funds under the guise of economic development.
- Thus, given the long-term implications of SEZ and the associated issue of national embarrassment (if delayed), Rajesh Kumar should recommend re-appropriating funds for SEZ projects only as an exceptional measure.
- Further, he should recommend that the gas project mobilize funds from the market, which may form bonds.
- Lastly, the consideration of resigning as an option is not at all a good idea. Resigning may reflect the escapist mindset and may set a bad example for other fellow civil servants.

Being a public servant, it is natural to such issues. It is also both the duty and moral responsibility to act in public service, following objective standards and without being influenced by vindictive politics.

8)The Chairman of Bharat Missiles Ltd (BML) was watching a program on TV wherein the Prime Minister was addressing the nation on the necessity of developing a self-reliant India. He subconsciously nodded in agreement and smiled to himself as he mentally reviewed BML's journey in the past two decades. BML had admirably progressed from producing first generation anti-tank guided missiles (ATGMS) to designing and producing state of the art ATGM weapon systems that would be the envy of any army. He sighed in reconciliation with his assumptions that the government would probably not alter the status quo of a ban on export of military weaponry.

To his surprise, the very next day he got a telephone call from the Director General, Ministry of Defence, asking him to discuss the modalities of increasing BML production of ATGMS as there is a possibility of exporting the same to a friendly foreign country. The Director General wanted the Chairman to discuss the details with his staff at Delhi next week.



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Two days later, at a press conference, the Defence Minister stated that he aims to double the current weapons export levels within five years. This would give an impetus to financing the development and manufacture of indigenous weapons in the country. He also stated that all indigenous arms manufacturing nations have a very good record of international arms trade. As Chairman of BML, what are your views on the following points?

1. As an arms exporter of a responsible nation like India, what are the ethical issues involved in arms trade?

2. List five ethical factors that would influence the decision to sell arms to foreign governments. (250 words)20

Answer

This case study highlights the selling of arms and moral issue arrived from it. As Arms exporter, India can face following issues-

- Violence versus peace- India's weapon can be used to incite the violence by the entity for their personal interest.
- Selling arms to democratic vs non democratic rogue Nation.
- Concern regarding the use of weapons on innocent or Rebellion people.
- Debate between armament and disarmament- This can also generate unstoppable race for arms trade and no one will be ready for disarmament.
- Strategic Power versus Responsibility- Though India can achieve strategic advantages but it may question the responsibility of India if their weapons are used in illegal activities.
- Economic gains with profit vs trade must be quantified.

In general, sales of arms will generate many issues for the global communities-

- Deterrence for the production of Arms by hostile nations for world's armament race.
- unequal treatment between veto and non-vote regarding the nuclear armament in the UN.
- Responsibility of arms exporters if the weapons are used in killing civilians. Ex Yemen and Syria.
- Supply of weapons to destabilise other nation's government and creating civil war.

Therefore, there must be a consensus to sell the armaments as per international convention and sanctions if violations. Adherence to no first use policies, condition of not using it on its own public, and condition of using it as a last resort can also be a viable solution for the moral use of arms trade.



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However it is better to conclude, by arguing in favour of world peace and tranquility – “Peace cannot be kept by force, it can only be achieved by understanding” Albert Einstein.

9. Rampura, a remote district inhabited by a tribal population, is marked by extreme backwardness and abject poverty. Agriculture is the mainstay of the local population, though it is primarily subsistence due to the very small land holdings. There is insignificant industrial or mining activity. Even the targeted welfare programs have inadequately benefited the tribal population. In this restrictive scenario, the youth has begun to migrate to other states to supplement the family income. Plight of minor girls is that their parents are persuaded by labour contractors to send them to work in the Bt Cotton farms of a nearby state. The soft fingers of the minor girls are well suited for plucking the cotton. The inadequate living and working conditions in these farms have caused serious health issues for the minor girls. NGOs in the districts of domicile and the cotton farms appear to be compromised and have not effectively espoused the twin issues of child labour and development of the area.

You are appointed as the District Collector of Rampura. Identify the ethical issues involved. Which specific steps will you initiate to ameliorate the conditions of minor girls of your district and to improve the overall economic scenario in the district (250 words).

ANS-

Ethical Issues Involved

- The given case can be described as an ethical dilemma in which two basic necessities of minor girls are in conflict i.e. their socio-economic rights of getting an education and good health vs. survival, and the livelihood of their families.
- Moreover, the case study highlights the issue of minor girls employed in Bt Cotton farms which is a violation of the Child Labour (prevention) Act, 2016 and the Right to Education Act, 2009. This warrants punishing the parents and owner of the Bt cotton farm.
 - However, this step will amount to the blind observance of law ignoring the circumstances in which crime has happened.
- Further, the case study highlights the lack of development, and failure of governance to provide welfare services to the remotest corners of the country.

Steps to Ameliorate the Conditions of Minor Girls

- Apart from contraction to Child Labor law and Right to Education Act, working in Bt. cotton farms is hazardous as they might inhale micro cotton fibers and develop respiratory ailments.



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- Therefore, direct supervision of the District Collector is needed to immediately stop the employment of minor girls in Bt. Cotton farms.
- The available funds should be directed to provide nutritional needs and education to children.
- Further, the local communities and civil society need to be involved to increase citizen participation, avoid a manpower crunch in welfare initiatives.

Steps to Improve the Overall Economic Scenario in the District

- The respective governments – state and center should be intimidated about the gravity of the situation for their immediate support.
- In order to discourage the migration of youth, there is a need to generate employment opportunities in the region.
 - For example, with proper training youth to work in Bt.cotton farms can be equipped with proper skills. This provides a livelihood to families without engaging people in child labor.
- Local people can be persuaded to collect minor forest produce with an assured MSP,

Adherence to the provisions of the Panchayati Raj Act of 1992 and the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act of 1996 in planning and implementation of various welfare schemes should be ensured in letter and spirit.

10. You are a municipal commissioner of a large city, having the reputation of a very honest and upright officer. A huge multipurpose mall is under construction in your city in which a large number of daily wage earners are employed. One night, during monsoons, a big chunk of the roof collapsed causing instant death of four labourers including two minors. Many more were seriously injured requiring immediate medical attention. The mishap resulted in a big hue and cry, forcing the government to institute an enquiry.

Your preliminary enquiry has revealed a series of anomalies. The material used for the construction was of poor quality. Despite the approved building plans permitting only one basement, an additional basement has been constructed. This was overlooked during the periodic inspections by the building inspector of the municipal corporation. In your enquiry, you noticed that the construction of the mall was given the green signal despite encroaching on areas earmarked for a green belt and a slip road in the Zonal Master Plan of the city. The permission to construct the mall was accorded by the previous Municipal Commissioner who is not only your senior and well known to you professionally, but also a good friend.

Prima facie, the case appears to be of a widespread nexus between officials of the Municipal Corporation and the builders. Your colleagues are putting pressure on you



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to go slow in the enquiry. The builder, who is rich and influential, happens to be a close relative of a powerful minister in the state cabinet. The builder is persuading you to hush up the matter, promising you a fortune to do so. He also hinted that this matter is not resolved at the earliest in his favour there is somebody in his office who is waiting to file a case against you under the POSH Act.

Discuss the ethical issues involved in the case. What are the options available to you in this situation? Explain your selected course of action. (250 words)20

ANS-

Ethical Issues involved are:

- Corruption in the working of public department.
- Public Trust in bureaucracy.
- Institutional Morality
- Courage and Fortitude to handle the pressure
- Probity and Incorruptibility of the public servants.
- Misuse of POSH Act to threatening a honest civil servant.

Cooperate with builder

Accepting the fortunes offered by builder is ethically wrong and practically dangerous (sooner or later your wrong actions will be caught). It will also impact my honesty and probity towards the public service as per deontological view.

About threatening with POSH Act– Maybe it is an empty threat. Also since I already have a reputation of being an honest and upright officer, nobody in the office would believe such fake cases. Even if the case is filed, I would not worry about such accusations and will fight it in Court of Law as per procedure and rule of law.

My selected course of actions

Inform the higher-ups about the situation as it allegedly involves political leaders. I will use emotional intelligence to pursue them about the wrong acts.

Give the previous Municipal Commissioner, a benefit of the doubt and talk to him. If he has committed the mistake deliberately, then he will cease to be a friend and appropriate action will be taken by the authorities. Complete the inquiry through higher authorities take the decision in consultation with me.



11. Parmal is a small but underdeveloped district. It has rocky terrain that is not suitable for agriculture, though some subsistence agriculture is being done on small plots of land. The area receives adequate rainfall and has an irrigation canal flowing through it. Amria, its administrative centre, is a medium sized town. It houses a large district hospital, an Industrial Training Institute and some privately owned skill training centres. It has all the facilities of a district headquarters. A trunk railway line passes approximately 50 kilometres from Amria. Its poor connectivity is a major reason for the absence of any major industry therein. The state government offers a 10 years tax holiday as an incentive to new industry.

In 2010 Anil, an industrialist, decided to take benefits to set up Amria Plastic Works (APW) in Noora village, about 20 km from Amria. While the factory was being built, Anil hired the required key labour and got them trained at the skill training centres at Amria. This act of his made the key personnel very loyal to APW.

APW started production in 2011 with the labour drawn fully from Noora village. The villagers were very happy to get employment near their homes and were motivated by the key personnel to meet the production targets with high quality. APW started making large profits, a sizeable portion of which was used to improve the quality of life in Noora. By 2016, Noora could boast of a greener village and a renovated village temple. Anil liaised with the local MLA to increase the frequency of the bus services to Amria. The government also opened a primary health care centre and primary school at Noora in buildings constructed by APW. APW used its CSR funds to set up women's self-help groups, subsidize primary education to the village children and procure an ambulance for use by its employees and the needy.

In 2019, there was a minor fire in APW it was quickly extinguished as fire safety protocols were in place in the factory. Investigations revealed that the factory had been using electricity in excess of its authorized capacity. This was soon rectified. The next year, due to a nationwide lockdown, the requirement of production fell for four months. Anil decided that all employees would be paid regularly. He employed them to plant trees and improves the village habitat. APW had developed a reputation of high-quality production and a motivated workforce.

Critically analyze the story of APW and state the ethical issues involved. Do you consider APW as a role model for development of backward areas? Give reasons. (250 words) 20

ANS-

This story highlights the ideal story of APW and use of Its CSR funds.

Story of APW can be seen in the role model and resolving the ethical Dilemma -



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- Corporate Governance/ Corporate social responsibility: APW is utilizing the CSR in developing primary education, buying ambulances, skill development and funding SHGs in rural areas.
- Sustainable Development: Environmental Concerns is taken care by company through plant trees and improve habitat for green vil
- Local Culture and traditions are taken care of by company through Temple construction.
- Compassion for the Locals: Coordinating with Local authorities to set up Healthcare and Education.
- Improving communication and transportation to the village with the bus services.
- Community driven altruistic development by providing employees job opportunities in lockdown during Pandemic outbreak.
- Emotional Intelligence as even during tough times lockdown.

Some issues-

- Development must be driven by state as well as provided in constitution but not by an individual.
- Plastic waste must be minimum
- Transportation must be improved for connectivity not for only industry.
- Though, Accident is not an ethical issue as fire protocols were in place and was immediately rectified but APW must follow guidelines and Rule of law.

Therefore, APW can be considered as a role model for the development of backward areas. There is nothing wrong both ethically and legally with Industry-led welfare but state must also come forward for decentralized led growth.

12) Migrant workers have always remained at the socio-economic margins of our society, silently serving as the instrumental labour force of urban economics. The pandemic has brought them into national focus.

On announcement of a countrywide lockdown, a very large number of migrant workers decided to move back from their places of employment to their native villages. The non-availability of transport created its own problems. Added to this was the fear of starvation and inconvenience to their families. This caused the migrant workers to demand wages and transport facilities for returning to their villages. Their mental agony was accentuated by multiple factors such as a sudden loss of livelihood, possibility of lack of food and inability to assist in harvesting their rabi crop due to not being able to reach home in time. Reports of inadequate



response of some districts in providing the essential boarding and lodging arrangements along the way multiplied their fears.

You have learnt many lessons from this situation when you were tasked to oversee the functioning of the District Disaster Relief Force in your district. In your opinion what ethical issues arose in the current migrant crisis? What do you understand by an ethical care giving state? What assistance can the civil society render to mitigate the sufferings of migrants in similar situations? (250 words) 20

ANS-

The case brings the topic of migrants crisis in the country during Covid-19 pandemic lockdown.

Ethical Issues Involved in Migrant Crisis

- The Lockdown imposed as a preventive measure to fight Covid-19 resulted into the migrant crisis.
- The given case can be described as an ethical dilemma that can be described as the lives vs livelihood debate.
- Inherent to this crisis there was the trade-off – at least in the short run – between health and human lives, on the one hand, and the economy and livelihoods, on the other hand.
- Lockdown led to the mass exodus of workers who were facing mental agony which accentuated by multiple factors such as:
 - A sudden loss of livelihood
 - Fear of starvation
 - Inability to assist in harvesting their rabi crop due to not being able to reach home in time.
- However, the migrant crisis also posed a risk to lives, as the pace of the spread of a pandemic depends upon network effects; a huge population inherently enables a higher pace of spread.

Ethical Care-Giving State

- The unprecedented crisis triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic makes a strong case for an ethical caregiving state.
- Ethics of care is a feminist philosophical perspective that proposes caring is the foundation of morality.
- As caring is ethically basic to humans, thus caring ethics is freed from the charge of moral relativism and implies a relational and context-bound approach toward morality and decision making, rather than a rule-based approach.
- The Government of India stand in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, exemplifies the ethical caregiving state, which can be reflected in the following examples:



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- The public healthcare system took the major responsibility of providing quarantine facilities, treatment for Covid-19 when private healthcare failed to healthcare services even to the well-off section of the society.
- The government launched Pradhan MantriGareebKalyan Anna Yojana which provided the distribution of free grains to the people.
- Further, in order to sustain the economy, the government provided a fiscal stimulus package of Rs 20 lakh crore under the Atmanirbhar Bharat scheme.

Role of Civil Society

As Covid-19 gripped the world, it put to test our collective resilience to the global pandemic. In such a scenario, solutions were unlikely to come if everybody is working in silos. The fight against Covid-19 showed why NGOs are referred to as major pillars of society.

- NGOs given their deep connection in combating various socio-economic issues have been natural partners in this endeavor.
- Many NGOs and people, referred to as Covid-warriors, volunteered to help people fight Covid-19 and extend the government's help in the remote corners of the country.
 - Covid-warriors exemplified the immortal human spirit of grit and compassion encapsulated by the tireless battle against the pandemic.
- NGOs initiated to create national emergency funds, partnered with one another to channel donations, provided assistance in nursing homes, and other facilities through technical support and medical teams.
 - SonuSood, a Bollywood actor, showed the essence of humanity by helping numerous people to fulfill basic needs and reach their respective homes.
- NGOs created communication and distribution networks across the country's hinterlands.
 - They have also been executing an important task of creating awareness about the virus to prevent its spread as well as educating people on social distancing and its importance.
- The ongoing pandemic put the corporate social responsibility to test.
 - Despite the economic debacle, which affected all sectors of the economy, companies strived to use this crisis as an opportunity to expand their CSR footprint.



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