



Ethics Full Length Test_TS - 2 (APSC Mains 2023)

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(Please fill your details correctly)

Medium:

English ☒

Assamese ☐

INDEX NUMBER			INSTRUCTIONS
Q.NO.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained.	Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting the questions: - There are NINETEENTH questions divided in TWO SECTIONS and printed in ENGLISH. - All questions are compulsory. - The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. - The answers must not exceed 150 words for 10 marks and 250 words for 20 marks. - Content is more important than the number of words. - Answers must be written in the medium authorised in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorised one. - Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off
Section A			
1	10		
2	10		
3	10		
4	10		
5	10		
6	10		
7	10		
8	10		
9	10		
10	10		
11	10		
12	10		
13	10		
Section B			
14	20		
15	20		
16	20		
17	20		
18	20		
19	20		
TOTAL:	250		
			Remarks: Signature of the Student:



SPM IAS ACADEMY
SHAPING BRILLIANCE

Brief report of Performance Evaluation of student in the paper

	Poor	Average	Good	Very good	Excellent
Understanding the context and demand of the questions					
Relevancy of the content					
Structure and flow of the answer					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Body					
(c) Conclusion					
Subject knowledge					
Language of the answer					
Presentation					
(a) Underline to the keywords					
(b) Use of flowcharts or diagrams					
(c) Paragraph limits and overall					
Understanding of directives					
Factual correctness					
Overall performance					

Detail Feedback

SECTION A

Q1. Probity in governance is an essential requirement for good governance and socio economic development. Discuss. Also mention ways to enhance probity in governance. [150 words]

Probity in Governance means working for the welfare of the people with righteousness, honesty and truthfulness.

Probity in Governance is essential requirement for good governance and socio-economic development because :-

- (1) The main objective is to perform for the people and there leaves no gap of self-interest which can create discrepancies.
- (2) People are more willing to communicate when there is trust and probity in governance provide for that opportunity.

The ways to enhance probity in

Governance are :-

- Increasing Transparency and accountability in public servant and becoming more open about their conduct
- Social Audit by the people enhances the trust of people and people can rely more on government services.
- Integrity of public official should be there so that people can approach the official.

Thus, probity in Governance is important for proper functioning and economic development of a society as it delivers amenities to the right people in due bound manner.

Q2. What is the difference between happiness and pleasure? Explain with suitable examples. [150 words]

Happiness and Pleasure are both subjective views and differ from person to person. For eg:- A child might get happy when he/she receives a chocolate. On the other hand adult might get happy when he/she achieve their set goals.

Happiness for an individual:-

- Doing social work can bring happiness among few people. For eg a altruist person cleaning the road all by himself.
- Achievement can bring high value of happiness like doing well in examination. For eg child getting straight A+.

Pleasure for an individual :-

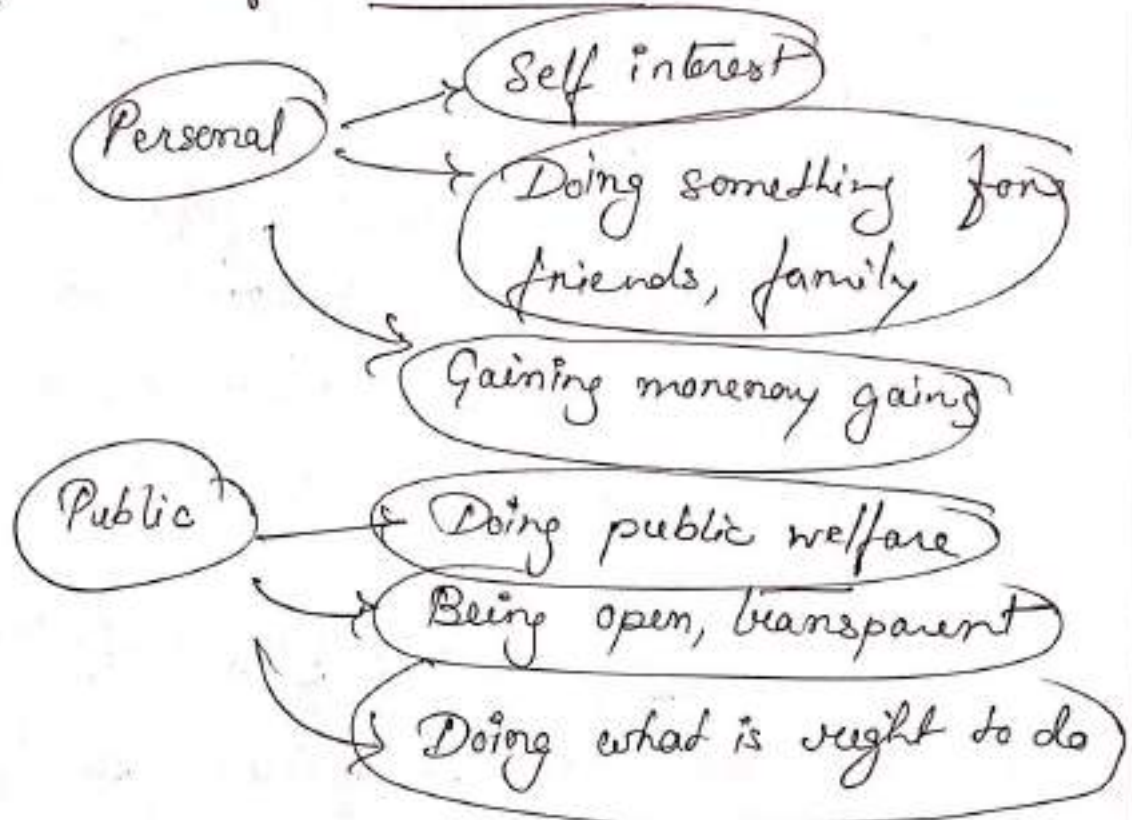
→ Pleasure is more inherent feeling and is more related to gaining something. For eg :- After hard-work having a pleasant time under night sky.

→ Pleasure can also mean phy physical pleasure where individual are engaged in sexual conduct, or drug abuse.

Thus, happiness and Pleasure are both subjective but both are positive feeling which human beings like to have and aspire to have in their life.

Q3. There is almost a dichotomous relation between values for a civil servant in personal and public life. Yet a civil servant must balance the two set values to discharge their duties in a sincere manner. Discuss. [150 words]

Dichotomous relation between values for a civil servant in personal and public life. These are :-



Balancing of these two values to discharge their duties in a sincere manner :-

→ When there is conflict between the two values he/she always sort the problem and acting

without any self interest.

→ Public values are important when the public servant is performing duty as an officer and there must be no other values.

→ Personal Interest should be always outside the office and officers brilliantly perform such condition
(For eg) :- Not discussing office related work in family gathering.

Thus, It is ~~are~~ expected of a civil servant to act in accordance to code of conduct and he/she should balance any diff. that might occur is doing so.

Q4. Discuss the concept of integrity pact and its significance in Indian administration.
[150 words]

Integrity Pact talks about the value that are required for performing public duties. These are :—

- Transparency
- R. Honesty
- Responsibility
- Selfishlessness
- Open
- Accountable
- Trust.

Significance of these values in Indian Administration :—

- It is important to be transparent and doing job in a truthful manner. Pen eg :— Opening up for one's duty action.
- Honesty :— It is the necessary

tool required to conduct tasks for the welfare of the public in general.

→ Responsibilities : Responsibilities of the vulnerable, people of minorities etc, are of public servant and he/she should perform with Compassion.

→ Selflessness : having no self ~~interest~~ interest in any project

→ Open — Being available public in general

→ Accountable for the work done eg distribution of service to people.

→ Trust : — Trust deficit should be reduced

Thus, Integrity Pact is important for Indian administration and will help to defined target effectively.

Q5. Citizen charter will naturally lead to empowerment of citizens. In this regard discuss benefits and issues associated with Citizen charter. [150 words]

Citizen charter is generally the service and the available procedure and grievances one can access of a organization for a product / service

[Empowerment of citizens] :-

→ Citizen charter list out the details of the service and makes people aware of the things that are available to them. For eg Indian Railways Charter.

→ Governance gets improve as people can gets their grievances redress in a time bound manner and the orgina organization tries to improve their service / product.

The Benefits and Issues associated with Citizen Charter :-

- It helps to define service of the organization as well as the obligation of the people.
- People / organization trust ↑ increases

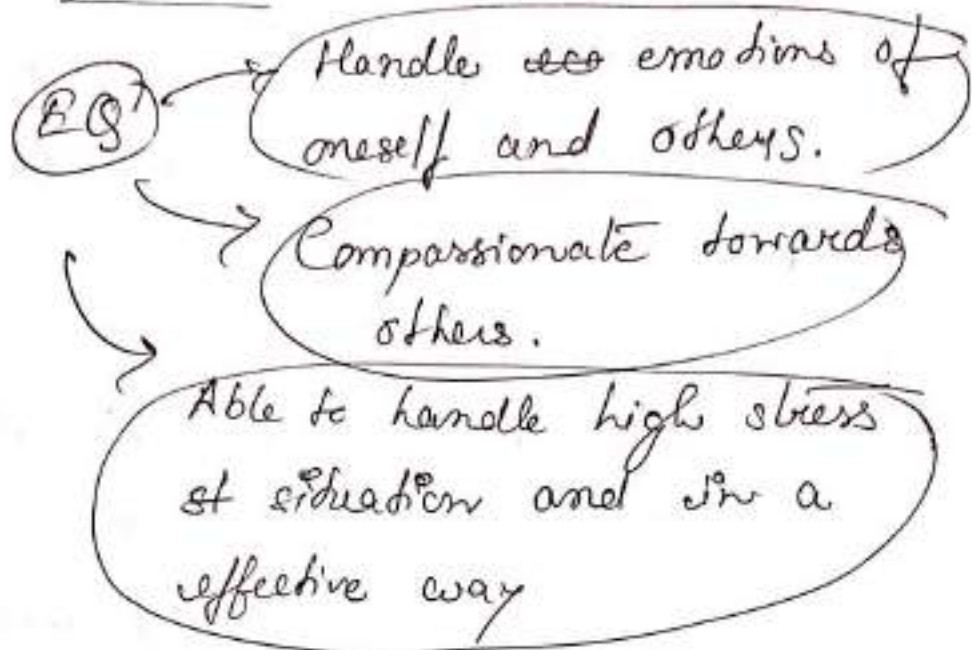
Issues

- Not legally enforceable thus, organization can just not take action against any complaint.

Thus, citizen charter is Important and it should be duty of each organization that it provide the minimum information to all.

Q6. Emotional Intelligence is an important trait to imbibe in a highly competitive and achievement oriented environment. Elucidate. [150 words]

Emotional Intelligence is important trait to imbibe in a highly competitive and achievement oriented environment



It is often said that EQ is more important in handle situation than IQ because :-

→ EQ helps to understand the problem and address it through cooperation whereas IQ only looks for the problem as a

single consequence and need to address it alone.

→ EQ is also related to controlling emotion and regulating emotion when required. Public Servant/Manager needs it to handle pressure situation.

→ Controlling a tense situation through effective management of subordinates is also related to EQ.

Thus, EQ is supreme when handling situation is concerned and EQ are same of concerned individual. EQ should be inculcated through training among top official.

Q7. Differentiate between Integrity and Honesty by giving suitable examples to distinguish between the two at the workplace. [150 words]

Integrity refers to being honest, right, having of doing good to others and also doing good when no one is watching

Honesty is a subset of Integrity and both are required to perform a task with commitment.

For eg

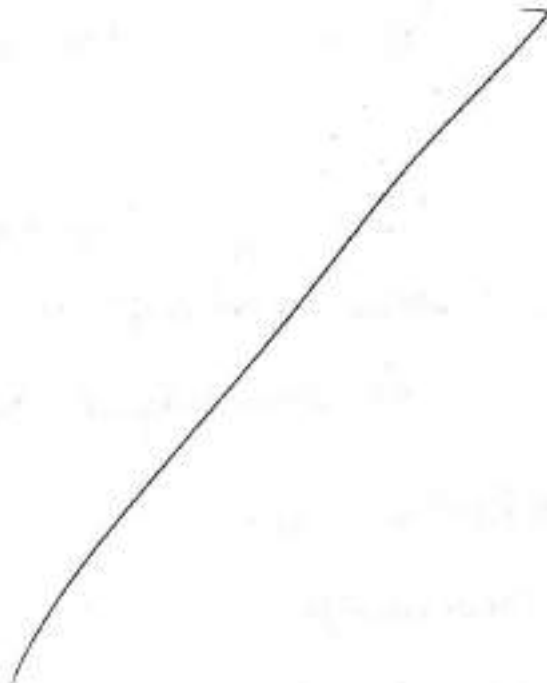
Integrity of a person can be seen for eg A person does what is right without concerning of the outcome.

Helping a vulnerable person to avail the required service through guidance is a integrity attribute

Whereas a honest person is one for eg A person does every work on time and do his duty in a time

berend manner. Reflecting his commitment to duty.

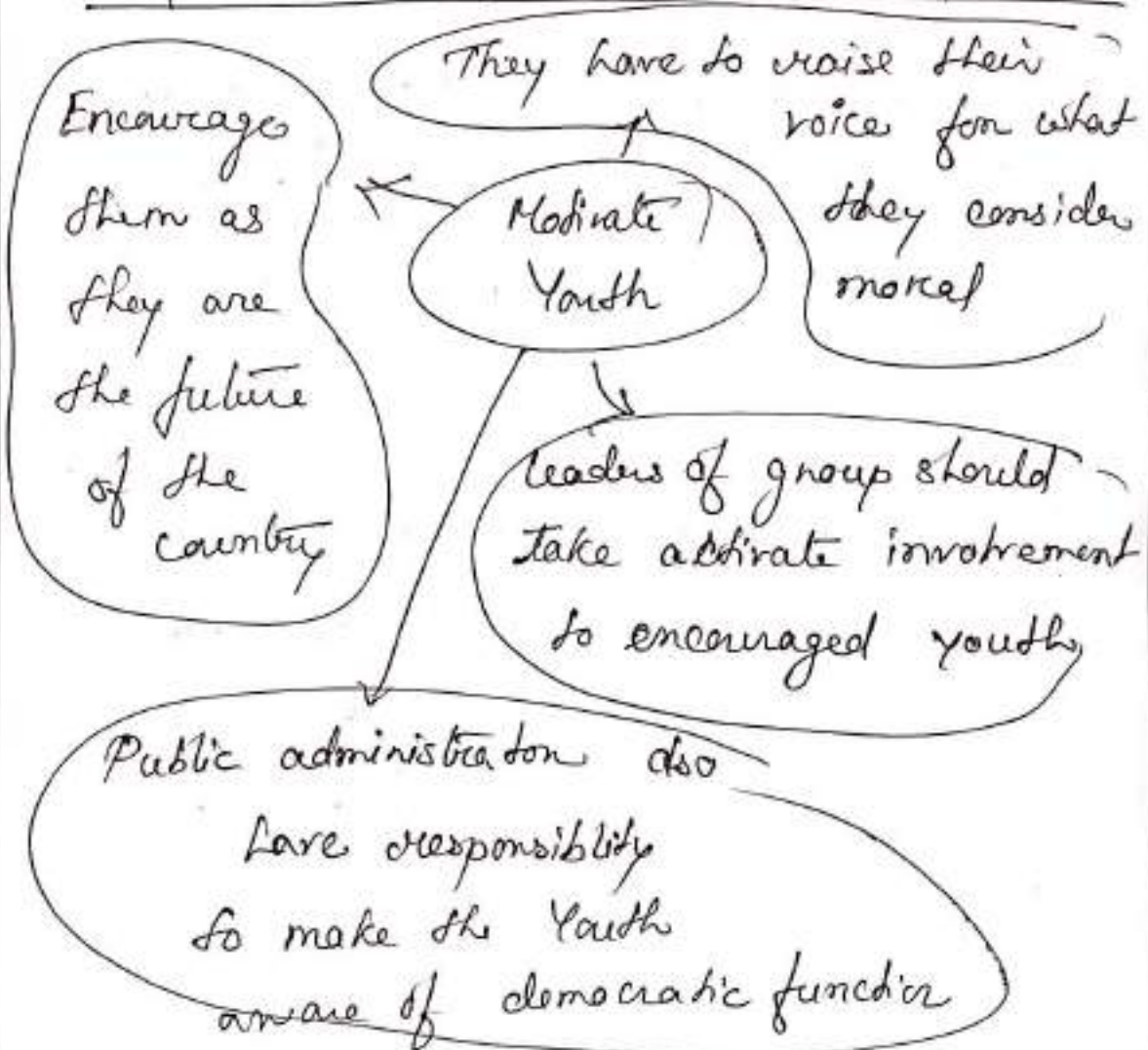
Thus, a good administration/Manager must have both integrity and honesty while performing a duty. Both are needed to one another and help achieve the desired in effective way.



Q8. Explains why youth are unwilling to join politics. Suggest steps to motivate them to come forward. Also highlight the ethical concerns of youth joining politics.
[150 words]

Youth are unwilling to join politics because they think politics is corrupted and the political leaders assume power to gain monetary benefits.

Steps to motivate Youth to come forward:



Ethical concerns of youth joining politics

→ It can create problem of lobbying youth to serve the purpose of the political leaders (For eg) :-
Youth are used to create law & order problem.

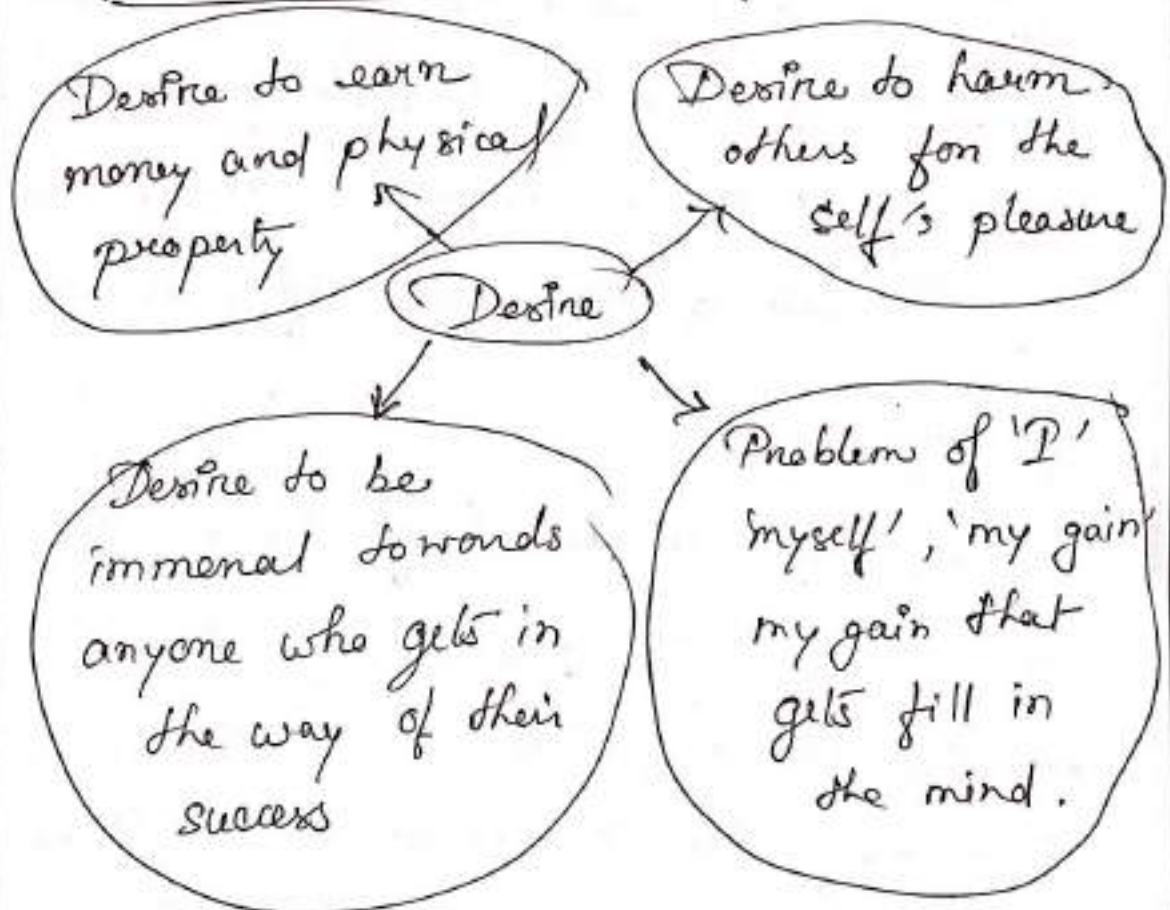
→ Politics is very dynamic and value develops which leads to development of ideology. These ideology can create a new group of anti-national.

Thus, Youth involvement in politics is important for the country but radical view which might create problem of law & order needs to be minimised.

Q9. "I count him as a braver who overcomes his desires than he who overcomes his enemies."—Aristotle. [150 words]

It is often said that desire creates greed and greed leads to problem of corrupt individual. Therefore, Aristotle quote tells us about the problem and who overcomes it are braver.

Q. Desires leads to the following :—

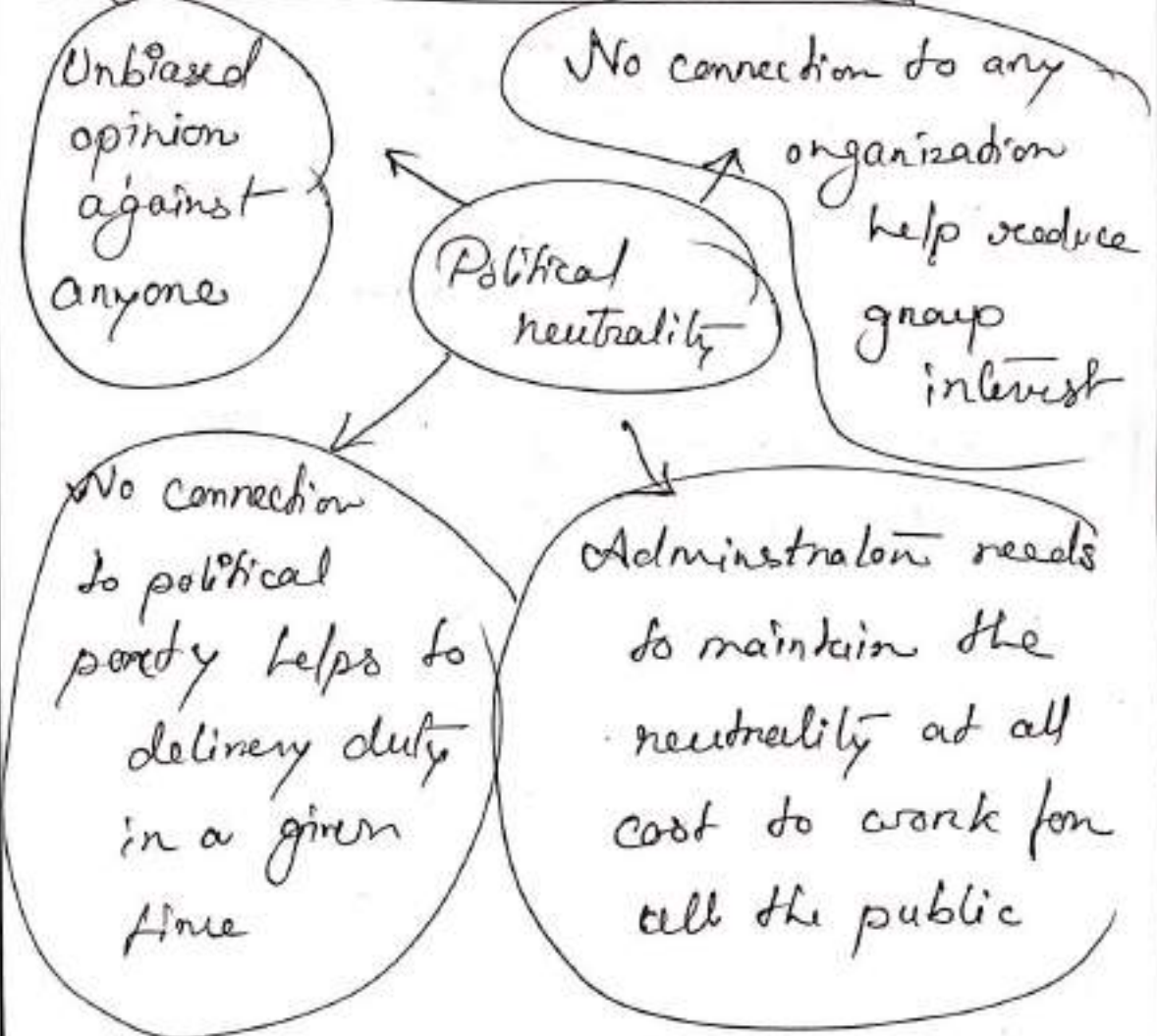


Those who are more concerned about how their action change their life and the surrounding are able to regulate the emotion and one who can regulate emotion is far braver because mind is the enemy which cannot be defeated through swords, guns, but only through control over self.

Q10. Explaining the concept of political neutrality, discuss its significance in administration. Also highlight how Civil Services Code of Conduct rules seek to ensure political neutrality in civil services. [150 words]

Political neutrality means having no connection to any political organization and working only on the basis of merit and unbiased opinion.

Significance in administration :-



Civil Services Code of Conduct & rules seeks to ensure political neutrality in civil service :-

→ To maintain a effective public servant who works not for self interest but for the general public.

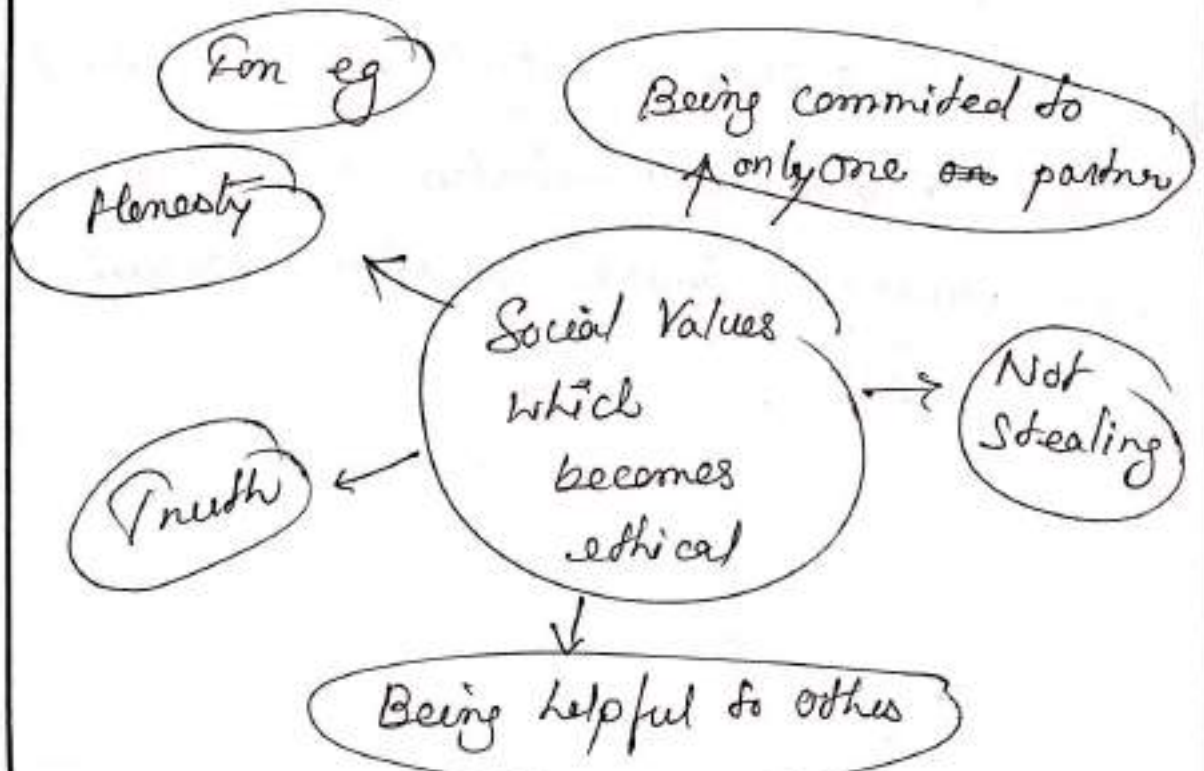
→ To act in accordance of code of conduct and follow such guide lines where one is suffering from conflict of interest.

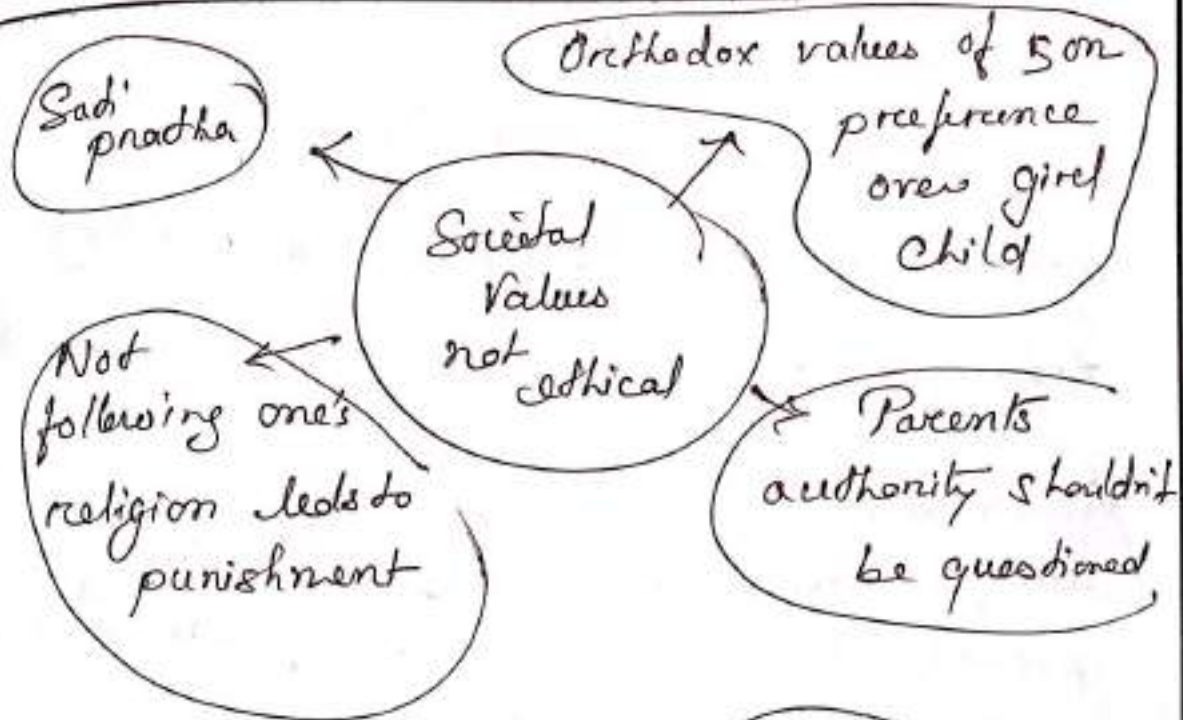
Thus, Political neutrality is important especially for administrators who are the bridge between political executive and public.

Q11. Ethics gets meaning essentially in a social context. But not all social norms can be called ethical. Discuss. [150 words]

The socially accepted values becomes ethics, a society made of individual develops some norms which the society must follow and when these norms are accepted this becomes ethical values.

All social norms do not become ethical because all social values are not moral.

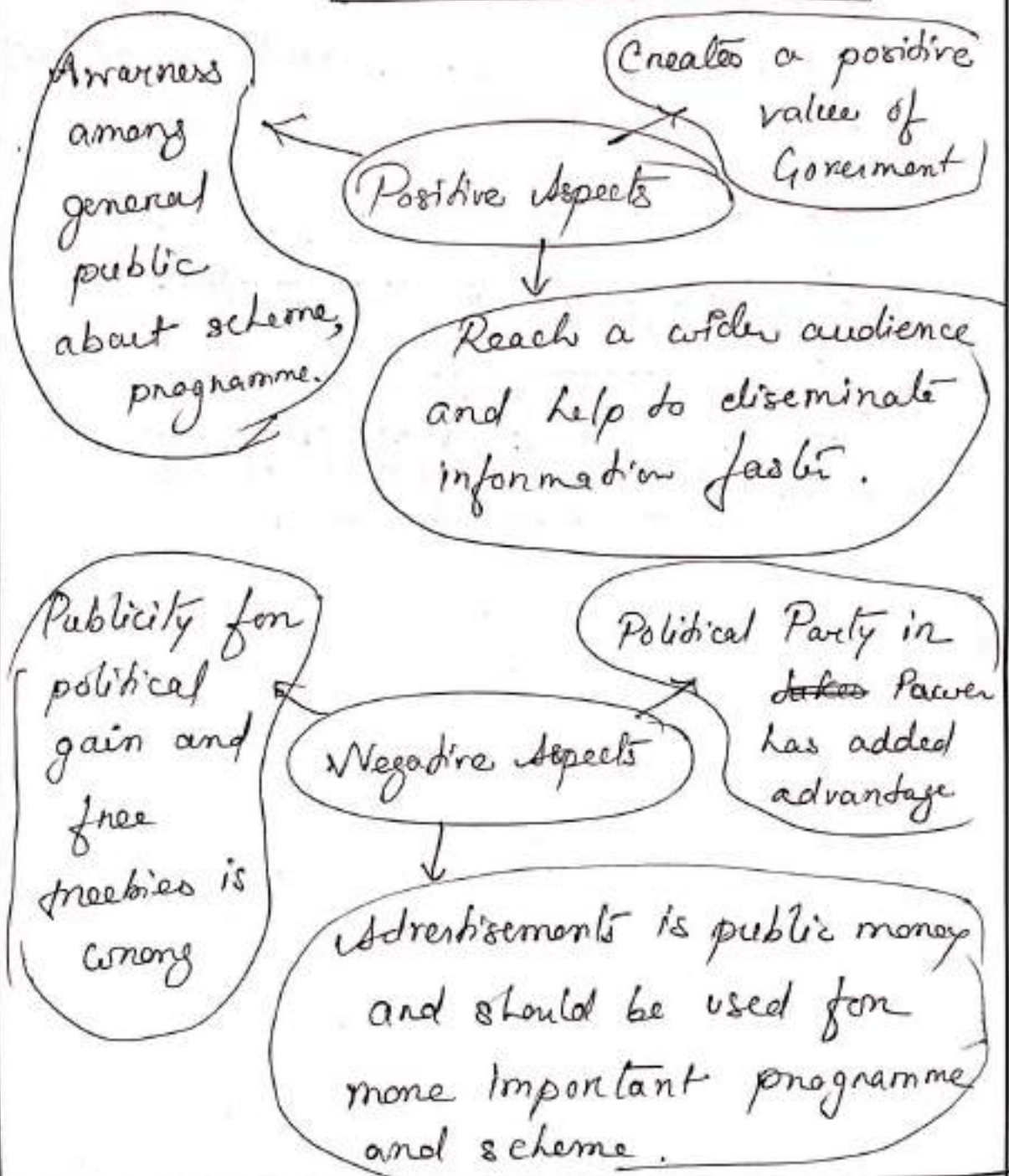




Thus, societal values enforced and help ethics to develop but all do not lead to ethical and moral values.

Q12. Explain the ethical issues involved in spending government funds for advertisements campaigns and publicity. [150 words]

Spending governments funds for advertisements campaigns and publicity
both have positive and negative aspects



Government funds for advertisement and campaigns and publicity should be:-

- To only aware people.
- Should not only be wasted on advertisement as fund is needed for implementation.

Thus, spending Government funds for advertisements campaigns and publicity should be minimat as the recent case of Beti Bacho Beti padho case where advertisement took whole of the fund.

Q13. The phenomenon of "Vaccine Nationalism" presents an ethical conundrum in the Age of Global Pandemic. Analyse. [150 words]

"Vaccine Nationalism" got prominence where the Globe was struck with Covid-19. It generally means giving more preference to national / domestic subject than other people.

The ethical conundrum presents in the age of Global Pandemic :-

→ If all countries follow such vaccine Nationalism then the poor Africa or low developing countries would be severely affected.

→ ~~For~~ The ethical problem of poverty not getting the required material because of (being) in a poor country affects moral value.

- Human values are of International Standard and any discrimination would question the moral values of Institution which set these values.
- Lack of values of compassion among countries would affect the whole world eventually.
- Morality and not thinking of other to save one's own people is flawed as human life is human is all it's existence.

Thus, vaccine Nationalism should not be encouraged and wider target to solve problem by coming together to tackle any menace should be the values of all countries irrespective of developed or developing

SECTION B

Q14. You are a young honest IAS officer who has been recently posed as an SDM in a district of a state in western India. The state has high incidence of agricultural poverty and farmers' suicide. This year has been especially bad for the farmers. The Covid induced lockdown drove down prices of food commodities, reduced purchasing power of people and restricted the supply of many agricultural inputs. During summer months the state witnessed locust attacks. Standing crops of farmers were destroyed. The government launched a loan waiver programme for the affected farmers. Many of the farmers whose crops were destroyed were compensated. After a few months, your district witnessed another agricultural disaster. A sudden hail storm severely affected the standing crops in your district. Given the widespread agricultural distress, the state government again launched a loan relief scheme. The state government laid down certain criteria for eligibility under the scheme. One of the criteria was that farmers can claim loan waiver only once. The process for the loan waiver started and you paid special attention that all eligible farmers get benefited as early as possible. One day, a group of distressed farmers approached you. They told you that due to a hail storm their house collapsed and all the documents were lost. They pleaded that you use your discretion and approve their name for the loan waiver scheme. They told you that if they don't get any help from the state, they have no other options but to commit suicide. You were moved by their plight and approved their name in the beneficiary list for loan waiver on compassionate grounds.

After some days, you saw a headline in your local newspaper mentioning scam and corruption in loan waiver schemes. The report mentioned multiple cases where a farmer was able to secure benefit under both loan waiver schemes: one for the locust attack and other for the hail storm. Many farmers who did not even have standing crops during the hail storm, as it was destroyed in locust attack, got the benefit of the loan waiver under hail storm related scheme. You have been accused of using your discretionary power and benefiting some undeserving farmers. A corruption enquiry has been started against you for your alleged role in this multi crore rupee scam.

- a) The entire episode has come as shock to you, where a decision in good faith has landed you in trouble. What approach will you adopt to handle the situation in hand? Justify.
b) What measures can be taken to ensure that honest civil servants are not punished for bonafide mistakes on their part?

[250 words]

The case involves the discretionary power of a public administrator and how sometimes it might lead to allegation. The farmers' distress caused the public official to act in his discretion and led to problem for the officer.

Public official while performing duties he/she has to follow certain codes

- Code of conduct and follow regulation
- Act only with constitutional morally if discretion has to be used.
- Ends and means conflict means should be more prioritized.

The steps (approach) I would take :-

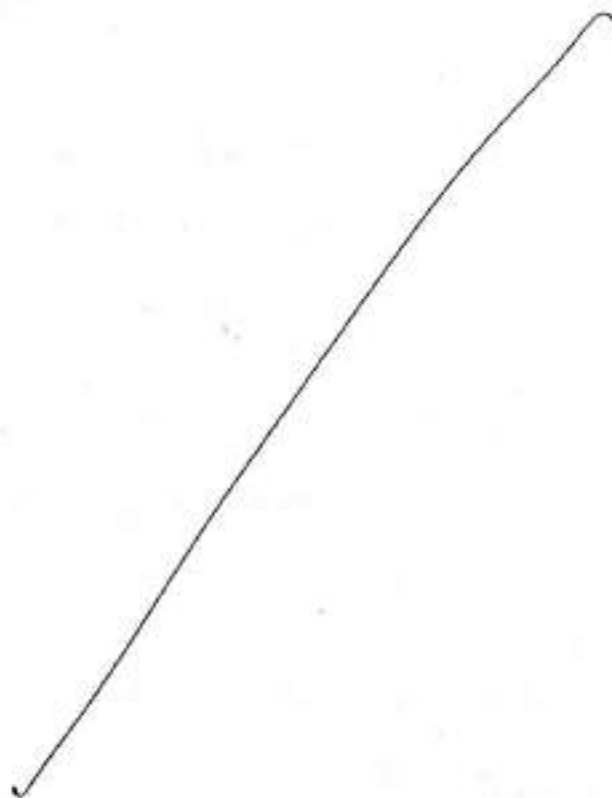
- Would let the enquiry proceed as a public servant, I have a moral duty to be transparent and open about the action I took.
- I would present my case according to the means available for a civil servant.
- I would also take responsibilities for the action I took and if found guilt the necessary action against ~~me~~ one I would accept it.

The measure ~~taken~~ that can be taken for
censuring honest civil servants are not
punished :-

- Civil servants should be trained to handle situation with means / code of
conduct and (act) on discretion only
when he/she thinks it's morally
correct.
- Discretionary power is an extraordinary
power and few defined guidelines
should be mentioned so that
they become guide for the civil
servants.
- False allegation damages a civil servant
reputation, though later he/she
might be free of allegation but the
dent remains with him/her.

Thus, while performing duties a civil
servant must be ~~well~~ able to tackle

situation according the requirement of the problem. But problem shouldn't be solve through only compassionate attribute. Because a Civil servant has more obligation for the society and he/she needs to regulate his/her emotion. and act according to the demand of the situation.



Q15. You are a senior manager in one of a MNC. One day you receive a harassment complaint from one of your female employee against Mr. X, a star performer of the software development unit. Mr. X is leading a major project of the company after which the company will be eligible to bag government contracts. On preliminary investigation you find that Mr. X is liable for the offence. At this juncture, serving a suspension notice to him or setting up a departmental inquiry will have serious repercussions on the project in particular and image of the company in general.

You have the following options.

- Ignore the issue as giving warning or initiating an enquiry will have repercussions on the company's image.
- Giving a warning to Mr. X.
- Assure the female for a stringent action so that she may remain quite till the completion of Project and then initiating an action.
- Initiating an action against Mr. X as the act done by him should have zero tolerance. What will be your stand in the above mentioned scenario? [250 words]

Case involves offence against female employee and sexual harassment. The problem involves organizational growth and moral duty to handle case against sexual offender.

If the case is ignored and Mr. X be allowed to continue with the project, would lead to project fulfillment and organizational growth but the ethical management which is required for a manager to be justice to all will be in jeopardy. This would also lead to problem where

Mr X would continue to do such ~~more~~ problems in future and ~~he~~ he might also encourage other fellow colleagues.

Giving Mr X warning would not solve the problem as he might think he would get away again & if he is caught again. He was get arrogant and would lead to misfunctioning of the organization.

Assuring the female for a stringent action so that she may remain quiet till completion of project and initiation of action, [reflects self interest] putting one's it interest against the interest of others as preliminary investigation shows that Mr X might be liable is enough evidence to initiate initiate action.

[I would prefer] the last option and initiate action against Mr X as act done by him should have zero

tolerance. The organization though a private organization have moral responsibilities for the society and women should feel safe while working in any environment. As a manager it is my responsibility that the employees of my organization perform their duty without any sort of mischief.

Thus, enquiry through a committee where ~~set~~ all accused and victims would be heard and action taken accordingly is the right approach.

Q16. Sunita is a brilliant student with a lot of interest in biology and medical sciences. She wants to seek admission in medical stream in a private college because she missed the cut off to get admission in government run medical colleges. Her father has sufficient wherewithal and he has no objections to pay the heavy fee structure for private medical education. However, Sunita's grandfather as well as mother say that, what is the use of spending so much money on a daughter as eventually she would go to somebody else's family. It is better to keep money for her marriage or for their son's requirements, who will look after the family.

Assess the attitudinal differences between father and daughter on one side and grandfather and mother on the other side and its repercussions on society. How Sunita can persuade her family to allow her to become a doctor? [250 words]

Sunita's father is of modern attributes and realizes that Sunita's brilliance requires his support whereas Sunita's grandfather as well as mother is of orthodox tradition who prefer son's requirement greater than women.

[Attitude of father and daughter]:—

↙
Talent should be seen and the meritorious person should be encouraged

↘
Father's attitude of paying his daughter fee's reflects that he trust his daughter

[Attitude of grandfather and mother]:—

Patriarchal mindset

Think women/girl as burden to the family

Investment of money is seen as wasteful investment

The repercussions on society:

Father's Side →

It will lead to a boost in moral of his daughter and future generation of his daughter would not suffer. Society would be encourage to send their child to higher education irrespective of the gender.

→ Government would be relieve that the campaigns are working and society is moving in progressive direction.

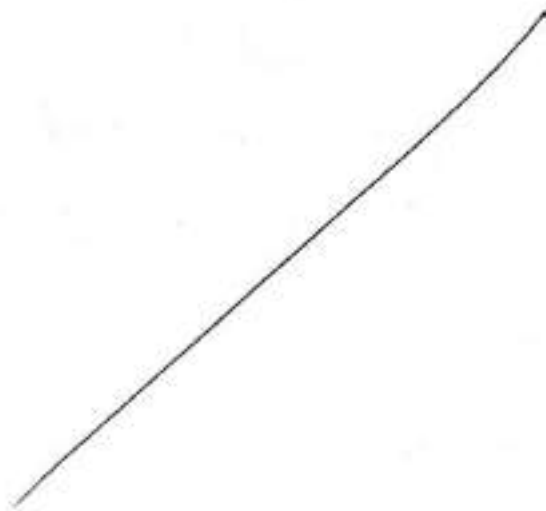
Grandfather's mother's Side

→ Society would discriminate against men and women and the progress

that has been made would be lost.
People get encourage from their
surrounding and this will negatively
affect the society.

→ Society thinking of investing in
women as liability would create
a gender divide among men and
women.

Thus, attitude like Sunita's father should
be encouraged for the betterment of
the society.



Q17. Saraswathi has been recently appointed as a Labor Enforcement Officer (LEO). Saraswathi has always lived with her family in a metropolitan area. Due to her new posting, she has shifted to a suburban area and this is the first time that she is living away from her family. Though Saraswathi is enjoying her work, some cultural difference, especially related to gender discrimination, has come as a rude shock to her. One day, Saraswathi was inspecting a construction site as part of her official duty of protecting the rights of labourers and ensuring a safe work environment. Upon her arrival on the project site, she was greeted by Ajith, the chief contractor of the project. Ajith showed her around the project site and everything appeared sound at first. However, when she was about to leave, she saw an injured woman, Shanti. Saraswathi initially assumed that Shanti was injured in some work-related accident.

She asked Shanti about her injury and what Shanti revealed to Saraswathi shook her. Shanti told Saraswathi that she was a 17-year-old girl belonging to a tribal community and the contractor had brought her to the construction site with a promise of a decent working wage. While the male labourers were paid 25 rupees/day, Ajith paid Shanti just 15 rupees/day for her back breaking manual labour. Shanti approached Ajith and demanded an increase in her daily wage to 20 rupees/day or she would go back to her village. Shanti was accompanied by some other women labourer. Not only Ajith refused to accept her demand but also thrashed her with a steel rod to set an example for the other labourers. Further, Shanti was forced to work on the construction site and not allowed to go back to her village, so that she can serve as a constant reminder of terrible repercussions for defying the contractor.

Saraswathi, who had never witnessed such barbarism in her sheltered urban life, was overwhelmed by emotions. Saraswathi was furious with the contractor Ajith and demanded an explanation on the incident. Ajith brazenly replied that he pays his employees what they deserve implying gender and the caste status of the employees. Saraswathi decided to initiate legal action against Ajith. However, her subordinates advised her against taking any action as Ajith is a local strongman and politically well-connected with the ruling dispensation. Ajith also threatened Saraswathi, who lives all by herself in a small town, of dire consequences for her activism. Considering this case, answer the following questions:

- What explains the widespread gender-based pay gap in jobs across sectors?
- Highlighting ethical issues involved in this case, evaluate different courses of actions available to Saraswathi.
- If you were in Saraswathi's position, what would you have done? Justify.

[250 words]

Gender-based pay gap are often seen in rural area than in metro cities. So, people are generally not aware of such problem which are creating differences between gender as well as caste.

Gender based pay gap exist in jobs across sectors because :-

- Females are thought of as inferior in mechanical work than man which is not the case.
- Caste-based difference is prevalent and vulnerable people are often not afraid to speak out their voice because of fear of retaliation.

Ethical issues involved in the case :-

- A Labour enforcement officer Saravathi duty is to watch over the proper functioning and proper wages that are provided to the workers.
- Political connection of the contractor might create problem for her if she resort to complaint against the contractor.

→ The threat of contractor to Saraswathi is creating conflict and dilemma in her mind to complaint or save herself first.

If I was in Saraswathi position as labour enforcement officer, I would take

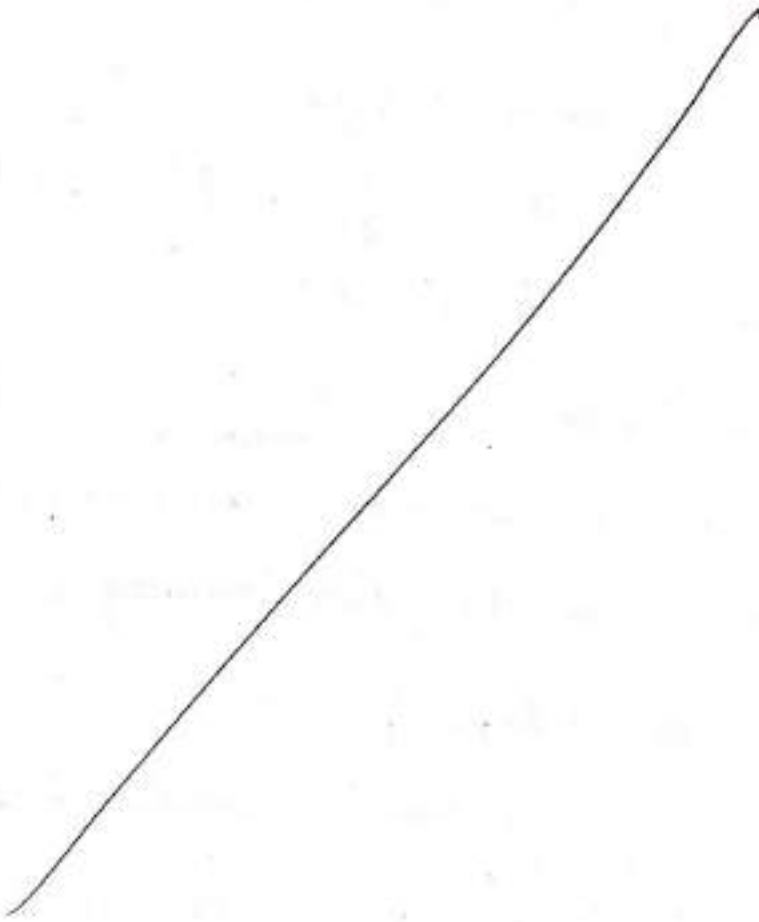
the following steps :-

→ Write about the problem in a official letter and asked for advise from higher superiors.

→ Ask the labourers to tell the police about their complaint problem and tell them I would always support them.

→ NGOs and media might force the politician to act in the interest of the worker as he have to save his image.

Thus, effective evaluation and well-sorted
out plan is required to tackle such
problem as one ~~at~~ step directed
approach might backfire and would
lead to both Shanti's and Saraswati's
life in danger.



Q18. According to some reports, gambling and betting together, while illegal, have evolved into a multi-billion dollar industry in India with one estimate pegging the market at \$60 billion. Added to this is the wide reach of cricket as a sport and the periodic cases of betting in it making to news. It has been suggested by some that making gambling and betting legal would resolve many issues and also contribute to the exchequer.

On the other hand, there remains a strong opinion against doing so.

(a) What is your opinion on the matter?

(b) Also, identify the merits of the arguments in opposition to the stand you have taken. [250 words]

The problem of the matter is that gambling and betting have been regarded as immoral act in Indian society. So, their acceptance required active participation of society and educated think tank.

In my opinion legalizing gambling and betting would have advantages and as well as disadvantages.

Merits (Advantages)

→ legalizing gambling would improve the tax collection of the state and the extra revenue could be used for welfare scheme.

→ The illegal deals and the background mafia would reduce to a certain extent as enforcement could take direct action them.

→ The nexus of mafia and political/ top executives would reduce.

[Merits of not enforcing ~~in~~ or legalizing]

→ The business of gambling and betting provide funds for money laundering and hawala system.
This needs to be stop.

→ Societal value would remain intact and youth would not be encouraged to make material gain through shortcuts.

→ Not legalizing also helps people to fall out of poverty and drug abuse as these are all related to one another.

Thus, gambling and betting should not
be legalized over whole of India but
where the business have become too
huge and affirmative action needs to
be taken to tackle problem of money
laundering. The rest of India where
such values have not reached should
be immune ~~as~~ from it as it produces
materialistic person whose only motive
is profit.

Q19. You are a District Education Officer in the Tribal District of the Country. On a survey of the district you found a need of setting up schools in several zila panchayats as they have only private schools run by zila panchayats members. When you proposed the setting up of new schools to the zila panchayat, they denied the proposal citing land acquisitions concerns as it being a tribal district. But the real motive is that they have their own schools and their business will be hampered. Convincing the gram sabhas for acquiring a village land seems a tough job as many members of gram Sabha are affiliated to zila panchayat.

- a) What options do you have? Explore each option vis-à-vis constraints. [250 words]
b) What will be your course of action?

As District Education Officer, it becomes a moral as well as duty to cater to the needs of children and help them for their bright future.

[Options available] :-

- Direct the attention of the gram sabhas to make them realized the economic potential of their children.
- Take no action as elected members are real representative of the people.
- Go against the Gram sabha and make the necessary requirement to fulfill the duty.

① If attention of Gram Sabha can be made to realized that children are the future of their growth. Education of each tribal children bring respect and prestige. Example of spont person can be used to boost their moral.

Constraints → Gram Sabha might not be in favour of education for all but talented few.

② Not taking any action as the elected representative are not supporting the idea. This only deals with code of conduct but the moral constitutional oblige is missing.

Constraints → Elected representative might create a huge divide between rich and poor children, leading to acute poverty and perpetuation of poverty.

③ Going against the Gram Sabha and following the guidelines would not only hamper ethical duty but also the 73rd Constitutional decentralisation.

Constraints → Executive might be encouraged and follow some method in future.

I would go with the first option, it is duty to put all the values and positive outcome in front of the elected representative and encourage them to take action for their own child.

