

GENERAL STUDIES – 4
SECURE
COMPILATIONS

FROM OCTOBER 2013 TO AUGUST 2014

<http://insightsonindia.com>

INSIGHTS

VKGB

Table of Contents

Ethics and Human Interface (essence, determinants, consequences of ethics in human actions)5

Question - Do you think India is a sporting nation? Comment on the evolving nature of sports as part of Indian culture. (think could come in Indian culture also as well as ethical question as to whether our preference for 1 game is making other games lag behind)5

Critically examine and comment on ethical issues involved in the recent Wikileaks revelations.5

Dimensions of ethics.....5

Q. What are the ethical concerns expressed regarding stem cell research and therapy? Are the justified? Comment.5

Ethics in public & private relationships.....6

Question - "Begging is a social problem and has multifarious ramifications." Comment in the light of increasing numbers of beggars on Indian streets (this question also comes in social problems i.e. paper 2 and ethical dimension is also there. Since, we have less questions in ethics, so I've put it here)6

Human values (lessons from great leaders, reformers & administrators)6

Question - Which part of Gandhi's philosophy is most relevant today and why? Comment. (200 Words)6

Q-What do you understand by human values? Discuss few human values that you value most.7

Role of family, society, educational institutions in inculcating values7

Attitude (content, structure, function, influence & relation with thought & behaviour)8

Q. What is aptitude? What are the foundational values for civil servants? Explain any three of them8

Q. Examine and comment on various contentious issues concerning clinical trials in India.8

Moral and Political Attitudes9

Question - What were the reasons behind launching Operation Blue Star? What effects it had on the polity of India? (200 Words) (This question also comes in paper 2 topic - internal security challenges. This question has another side which is of moral and political attitude and what to do in case when religious sentiments of a particular community are involved)9

Social Influence and Persuasion10

Question - "In the olden days, khap panchayats were more inclusive and Sarvkhaps comprised people of all castes and communities. Today, they have become undemocratic, oppressive and in conflict with the law." Critically comment. (200 Words) (Question has a lot of dimensions, can't be put under one heading) 10

Civil Service aptitude & foundational values (integrity, impartiality, non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance & compassion towards weaker sections10

In your opinion, what qualities are required in a Bureaucrat and how those qualities should be tested in the entrance exam to civil services? Elucidate..... 10

Bring out the relation between ethical conduct of a public servant and the concept of Dharma. 11

Public service values & Ethics in Public Administration (status & problems)12

Question - What are the important recommendations of the High Level Committee on the Status of Women in India headed by Pam Rajput? Do you think providing high percentage of reservation in decision making bodies would bring more safety to women? Comment..... 12

What are the codes of ethics a bureaucrat should follow in his discharge of duty?(..... 12

What are the codes of ethics a bureaucrat should follow in his discharge of duty12

Q. . What is corruption? Do you agree with the view that corruption is a non -issue for voters while casting their votes in elections? Substantiate.....12

Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government & private institutions.....13

Question - Does a strong army pose threat to India's democracy? Critically comment on the nature of relationship between the army and the political-bureaucratic class in India. (200 Words) (This question is again more ethical in nature, than real as this has very rare chance of happening in India. But our neighbors are struggling with this phenomena)13

Question - Is self-determination by the Kashmiri people a right solution to the Kashmir problem? Substantiate. (200 Words).....14

Question - What is 'one rank, one pension' system for armed forces? Why was it demanded by the ex- servicemen? Explain.....14

Critically examine the ethical Issues which came up during review of Ebola.....15

Should Indian press, both print and electronic, be regulated by the government? Analyze the merits and demerits of such a measure. Suggest alternative measures to bring ethics and objectivity in media coverage of events.....15

Laws, rules, regulations, conscience as sources of ethical Guidance16

Question - Do you support use of military or unmanned aerial vehicles in dealing with Naxals? Substantiate.....16

If you were put in charge of rehabilitation and resettlement of the cyclone-affected fishermen in an a particular severely affected coastal region, what would be your priorities? Explain. (200 Words).....17

Accountability & ethical governance17

Question - "India is exceptional among democracies in having no legal framework for its intelligence services, nor a system of

oversight and accountability for covert operations." Comment. (200 Words).....17

Question - What do you understand by ethics in governance? Explain how ethics is important for clean governance. (200 Words18

Strengthening of ethical & moral values in governance19

Question - What are the highlights of the draft Grievance Redressal Bill (the Right of Citizens to Time-bound Delivery of Goods and Services and Redressal of their Grievances Bill) and the Whistleblowers Protection Bill ? Why is there a demand for their early enactment? Comment. (200 Words).....19

Ethical issues in international relations and funding19

Question. What were the effects of Fukushima nuclear accident on the world nuclear commerce and nuclear policies around the world? Do you support ban on nuclear reactors for generating power? Substantiate.19

Corporate Governance20

Question - "The governance has been re-emerging as a major factor behind success or failure of economies in many emerging nations." Comment in the context of recent crises around the world involving emerging economies.....20

Question - In the light of recent events highlight the importance of choosing quality regulators in both tradeable and non-tradeable sectors in India.20

Question - " It was time Indian journalism was liberated from corporate stenography. " Critically comment.21

Question - Discuss the present scenario of representation of women on company boards in India.....21

Question - Comment on the recently notified new rules for the new 'corporate social responsibility' (CSR) regime.....22

Probity in Governance (concept of public service).....22

Question - "Economic governance cannot be disassociated from political governance." Critically comment in the context of India. (200 Words)22

"Much of the deterioration of the standards of probity and accountability with the civil servants is due to the political influence of persons purporting to represent those who are in authority." Critically comment. (200 Words)23

Philosophical basis of governance and probity23

Question -"Some Indians in the U.S., unlike in India, can succeed thanks to the meritocracy that is the corner-stone of the American system." Do you agree with this assessment? Comment.....23

RTI24

"As elements constituting a multiparty system which is an inherent part of the basic structure of the Indian Constitution, political parties cannot get away from the duty of transparency as easily as other NGOs." Comment on the statement in the light of recent order of CIC bringing them under the purview of RTI.24

Examine the important provisions of RTI act. Explain how to file an RTI application to get information from UPSC.24

What are the fundamental causes of corruption in India. Do you think the Lokpal institution would be able to address these causes? Critically comment.....24

Do you think recent changes introduced by UPSC in Civil Services Examination pattern were necessary? Critically comment.25

Practical Ethics.....25

Do you agree with the view that Drone strikes are unethical and are in violation of human rights? Substantiate. (150 Words)25

Ethics theory- Just war theory (may be not related to question but helpful).....26

Work Culture27

Question - "Despite more cars and more roads, the issue of road safety is largely missing in the

public discourse and, therefore, public policy." Comment. (200 Words) (here work culture is not questioned only of transport department, but also of common citizens who break laws for temporary gains).....27

Question - Critically comment on the functioning of the Indian Parliament in last two decades. (200 Words)..... 27

Question . "The ultimate aim of any anti-corruption mechanism is to contribute towards improvement of the processes of governance and delivery of services. This can happen only when we encourage bold and innovative decision-making." Comment. (200 Words)..... 27

Question - "Facilitation and regulation, not supervision, should be the bureaucracy's mantra for handling the country's economy."Elaborate the statement in the context of India. (200 Words) 28

Quality of Service Delivery28

Question - "India urgently needs to build and strengthen intermediary institutions to forge linkages between formal and informal institutional structures." Why? Examine. (200 Words) 28

Challenges of Corruption29

Question - "The basis of corruption in India is the growing black economy propelled by widespread illegality in a variety of economic activities and the disruption of the democratic institutions." Elaborate. (200 Words) 29

Question - "Bribe-giving, an implicit offence in the Prevention of Corruption Act, should be made an explicit offence." Critically comment. (200 Words)..... 29

Question - Does India need to enact a substantive law making all forms of manipulation of sports, corruption and malpractices of sports a criminal offence? Substantiate. (200 Words) 30

Question . What are the challenges of corruption? How does it impact society? Comment. (200 Words) 30

Question - Critically analyze the recently passed Whistleblowers' Protection Bill and its necessity in India.....31

Challenges of Corruption31

Q--With an example, explain how the recent verdict by the Supreme Court that prior sanction is not mandatory for the CBI to conduct probe against a senior official will have implications on corruption and good governance.31

Q--Critically comment on the important provisions of the Lokpal act which became operational in 2013.....32

Critically examine the contours of India's relationship with Israel vis a vis Palestine issue.32

Q---Critically discuss how the Indian society has behaved and changed in response to inefficient governance and corruption in public life during the post economic reforms years...32

Q--Critically analyse various ethical issues involved in recent Sahara case involving the Chairman of Sahara group, investors and the Supreme Court33

Ethics and Human Interface (essence, determinants, consequences of ethics in human actions)

Question - Do you think India is a sporting nation? Comment on the evolving nature of sports as part of Indian culture. (think could come in Indian culture also as well as ethical question as to whether our preference for 1 game is making other games lag behind)

Answer - India's contribution and achievements are countable in contemporary times. This is squarely shown in number of medals in Olympics and the contrast it shows with India's huge population.

Small countries such as Japan, South Korea etc. have won more medals and are more active in sports than us. In past India was world champion in Hockey, and many individual players were produced by India, who were champions in their respective fields such as Major Dhyanchand (hockey), Milkha Singh & P.T. Usha (athletics), Vishwanathan Anand (chess) etc.

But, why these numbers are low, and countable. The reason is lack of infrastructure, and incentive from government and lack of sports culture in India. People here are biased towards cricket. Parents want their children to study and do some job, but very few of them agree to foster the sporting talent in their wards.

Sports bring so many things such as hard work, unity, team play, gentleman ship, truth, accepting defeat etc. Indian culture also has similar sporting components such as respect of elders, truth, combined family, hard work which are synonymous to sports. But, conditions in India and lack of employment, job security and livelihood opportunities in sports made it not a viable option for many.

This condition should change, with more emphasis, on sports culture, which will not only win us more games, but will increase the

general health, well-being, and most of all prestige of nation in international forums.

Critically examine and comment on ethical issues involved in the recent Wikileaks revelations.

Dimensions of ethics

Q. What are the ethical concerns expressed regarding stem cell research and therapy? Are the justified? Comment.

Answer-

- A wide range of ethical issues arose in the stem cells therapy. These issues have chiefly related to the means of procuring stem cells, especially techniques involving the destruction of human embryos.
- Stem cells can be obtained only be two methods till now- from adults or from embryos. Stem cells obtained from adults are not always good. So researcher uses 3 to 5 days old embryos for this purpose. It is unethical to derive human embryo stem (hES) cells because doing so involves the destruction of embryos. Those who believe that life starts at the moment of conception think that harvesting hES cells is equal to murder.
- Other ethical problems have included the possibility of human cloning and .Therapy may also lead to commoditization of human tissues and cell; there is an inherent risk of exploitation of individuals, particularly the underprivileged.
- There is concern about the breach of principle of essentiality of voluntariness, informed consent and community agreement. Also Privacy and confidentiality, precaution and risk minimization along with professional competence and accountability and transparency should be maintained.

- Various religious and other institutions sharply raised the voice against it as it would raise the number of paid abortions which is unethical and equivalent to murder..
- But this should not be a valid argument to stop this very important research process which would give hope to the millions of different patients which are suffering from various disabilities. In many countries abortions are legal, so why not scientists should use the destroyed embryo as research purpose. In vitro fertilization is the other way where a lot of generated embryos happen to be unused and latterly destroyed, which can be used as scientific research.
- Alternatives like development of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC) from adult somatic cells also offers potential for medical health therapy. The alternatives may involve more time and investment but it will help us make an ethical decision.

Ethics in public & private relationships

Question - "Begging is a social problem and has multifarious ramifications." Comment in the light of increasing numbers of beggars on Indian streets (this question also comes in social problems i.e. paper 2 and ethical dimension is also there. Since, we have less questions in ethics, so I've put it here)

Answer - Beggary is a social problem and has multifarious ramifications. It is the outcome of society's failure in providing a better alternative to the individual for his subsistence.

A person may resort to beggary as a consequence of a number of reasons like dire-poverty, unemployment, social and employment exclusion after release from jail or even illness rendering him unproductive

to deliver work. Thus a person who could actually be an asset is converted to being a liability on the society. Offering alms to beggars, knowingly or unknowingly, has also encouraged people to develop it into a full-fledged profession and crime, which forces innocent children barring them right of free education, food and fundamental rights. Beggary has serious consequences on the individual and the society too. Such a society is prone to crimes like trafficking, drug-peddling, increasing cases of violence. It creates a vicious cycle wound around poverty, helplessness and dependency and adds to spread of diseases due to malnutrition.

Societal help in collaboration with the government in the form of rehabilitation centers, opportunities for work as per their capabilities, ending rampant discrimination or attempts to integrate them into the mainstream.

Human values (lessons from great leaders, reformers & administrators)

Question - Which part of Gandhi's philosophy is most relevant today and why? Comment. (200 Words)

Answer - Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was the first to combine a variety of tactics in a campaign of explicitly non-violent action toward long-term goals. Gandhi's Practical tool in implementing his idea of Non-violence was Satyagraha. He adapted theory of non-violence from the Bhagavad Gita.

There are many different kinds of both public and personal violence, and Gandhi's message of nonviolence and satyagraha plays an important role in all of them. At global level: Due to unprecedented changes in social, political, economic and cultural spheres, today most of the countries are facing various kinds of internal and external crisis. Non-violent protest plays vital role in convincing authorities and makes them to listen to people who cry for justice and ultimately

gives social power through discussion, negotiation and settlement. Arab Spring of Egypt, Tunisia; Iran's nuclear deal are some examples. The same Arab Spring in Syria combined with violence, bearing negative impact.

At national level: Non-violence is very much important in solving conflict resolution like naxalism and interstate disputes in India, where people of all races, religions, occupations live together. Three main forms of non-violent action: protest and persuasion, non-cooperation, intervention when combined with institutionalised political methods (voting, verbal expression) and other activities such as speech-making, petitions, street theatre, marches can have a powerful impact and bring faster success. We have witnessed it from Anna Hazare's IAC movement.

At individual level:

Obstacles to the good life came from violence and the unmanageable state of the passions. The elements of Gandhi's non-violence: self-improvement, constructive programme, has become yardstick to judge human action and improve personality. Practice of non-violence makes an individual to prepare himself to Sacrifice his lust and make him to lead peaceful life with others.

Gandhi is the most influential and remarkable person of 20th century, and his message is a beacon for those who have nowhere to turn to. Thus in all three levels the non-violence and satyagraha is relevant today.

Q-What do you understand by human values? Discuss few human values that you value most.

Human values are commonly perceived as the belief system of an individual which can be basis for all his actions and behaviour in the society. The belief system is built in a long period which he/she have spent with his/her family, friends, and surroundings. The

human values are very important traits of an individual because it guides him/her her future path which he/she takes to rises further in his/her life.

Some of the human values include respect, honesty, accountability, gratitude, loyalty, compassion, and fairness etc and they collectively form the character of an individual which in turn decides his present and future course of action.

A few human values which I as an individual and a member of the society would prefer to possess and exhibit are humanity towards people especially those who are below in the social ladder, honesty towards the employer and the work, accountability towards the work and most important of them, feeling of forgiveness to those who have been particularly hostile towards me and/or my approach of work and personal conduct.

Human values are what make us distinct from all other creators of the world and as human beings we must possess certain minimum values in order to make this world a better place to live with certain dignity, and respect.

Role of family, society, educational institutions in inculcating values

Question. What measures should government adopt to bring mutual cordial relations between the people of North East India and the rest of India? In your opinion what are the reasons behind recent attacks on students from North East India in some parts of the country? Comment. (200 Words) (This question has ethical dimension, I've put it here, because educational institutes have failed to recognize and legitimize the diversity that India is. Question could also be related to culture, internal security etc.) Answer - Government needs to ensure the establishment of a sense of unity and fraternity amongst the people of North East India vis-a-vis the rest of India. The various measures which government can adopt be categorised into development, protective and welfare measures. The developmental measures such as

promoting North eastern festivals through fairs, street shows in other parts of country, establishing museum depicting souvenirs and freedom fighters from North eastern states and undertaking developmental projects in the 7 sisters which lead to a fluidic flow of people and business into North east such that people realize their significance gradually. Secondly, protective measures like making racial attack cognizable and non-bailable as deterrent and finally welfare measures such as securing identity and culture of North east through measures like Inner line permit (ILP). In essence, the thrust should be such that in their bid to integrate to mainstream they do not feel alienated and lose their diversity which adds to richness of Indian culture.

The recent attacks on North east students sprout from the insensitiveness, apathy and ignorance among the people. The insensitiveness is evident from the fact their facial features and dressing style are considered a ground for discrimination is indicative of a 'hate crime' and misplaced xenophobia. The ignorance stems from the fact that people mistook the resemblance of their Mongoloid features to be citizens of Nepal, Bhutan, China etc. The apathy is primarily because of insufficient knowledge of Indian culture or worse misconceptions and beliefs on stereotyping the people from North east.

The Government can, however, play a limited facilitator role in resurrecting their pride and mitigating the prejudices. The thrust is on people themselves to become more tolerant and appreciative of the diversities that make India. This can be achieved by value based education in school, media campaign through celebrities to raise awareness and fairs promoting North east food, festival and culture throughout India.

Attitude (content, structure, function, influence & relation with thought & behaviour)

Q. What is aptitude? What are the foundational values for civil servants? Explain any three of them.

Answer-

- Aptitude is the natural ability to acquire knowledge and skills.
- Aptitude can be physical and mental. Mental Aptitude alone can be useless without certain fundamental values which acts as lifeline to civil servants.
- Devotion to service, focus & mission, fearlessness & courage, honesty & integrity, sacrifice & spirit of service are the fundamental values of civil services.
- Civil servants are expected to exhibit utmost Devotion to service." nishkam karma" should be their basis of working. The lines from bhagavadgita - karmanyevadhikaraste ma phaleshu kadachana - should inspire their style of functioning.
- Along with Devotion to work they are supposed to have focus and mission .that means they should plan their task to achieve the set target. For instance this is the key for the success of indian space mission.
- Fearlessness & courage are necessary given the complexity and challenges in the job. one should not fear the political domination or the difficulties that arise during the execution of a job. civil servant should be courageous enough to take bold decisions.
- Now a days, erosion of fundamental values of civil servants is leading to the poor performance of bureaucracy. So, fundamental values are the key to maintain credibility of civil service.

Q. Examine and comment on various contentious issues concerning clinical trials in India.

Answer-

- India is engrossed with huge disease burden, and thus

development of new drugs and clinical experiments to fight them becomes necessary. But, loose regulations, corruption and rent seeking has led to exploitation of poor people, thus resulting in various contentious issues regarding clinical trials in India.

- Clinical trials have resulted in a lot of deaths. Thus, two issues arise, one of ethical and informed consent of person on whom trials are performed, and second the post experiment security benefits, and compensation and care in case of loss of life or damage to health. These, issues have not been properly taken care of. Poor people are generally lured into these trials due to their needs and easy money availability which is low according to international standards, but is huge for them. Then they are generally not able to understand the complicated jargons of medical science, and are thus exposed to post trial harms easily. Also, the compensation paid is low, and in most cases, no compensation is paid to the victims of such trials.
- Good and transparent trials are need of the hour. Full information of harmful effects to be told to person on whom trial is done and consent to be received after that. Community engagement, need based trials, good clinical practices to be adopted.
- Recent Supreme Court judgement made it mandatory for pharmaceutical companies to disclose benefits of trial, need of trial in country i.e. drugs available and also to use safest method available and also

compensation to be provided to victims. This will certainly make clinical trials more efficient and need based and protect the rights of citizens. Video recording consent

- Recognizing this, the SC has listed provisions for the the companies to justify the requirement of the innovation in drugs, prove the unmet needs of the drugs, and efficacy as compared to safer methods available for conducting the clinical trials. The provision of the special approval from the Director of Drugs association and the recording of the informed consent would help in countering the threats due to clinical trials.

Moral and Political Attitudes

Question - What were the reasons behind launching Operation Blue Star? What effects it had on the polity of India? (200 Words) (This question also comes in paper 2 topic - internal security challenges. This question has another side which is of moral and political attitude and what to do in case when religious sentiments of a particular community are involved)

Answer - Operation Blue Star was an army lead operation to evacuate Jarnail Singh Bhindrewala and his others members of his radical group from Harmandir Sahib, Amritsar. Jarnail Singh Bhindrewala, armed with arsenals, had taken hostage inside the temple. The operation was carried out in June, 1984 by the orders of then PM of India Indira Gandhi.

Jarnail Singh Bhindrewala, though an ally of Indira Gandhi in his initial years in politics, turned out of favour later. He was also accused of killing a Nirnakari Baba in

Amritsar. It is alleged that he was planning attacks in Punjab with external support. He was supposedly supported by Pakistan to bring political unrest in the country. Radical and fundamentalist in his idealism, he was starting to build armed group of followers and ultimately took hostage in Golden temple. Witnessing the gravity of situation, PM had to resort to military action.

Operation Blue Star is marked as black spot in the history of modern India. The subsequent incidents were more unfortunate. Operations lead to the assassination of PM Indira Gandhi by her two sikh bodyguards, who were aggrieved by attack on Harmandir Sahib. The killing resulted in nationwide anti-sikh riots, one of the most dreaded communal riots in the country. Critics term operation blue star as an act of Human Rights violation and attack on the religious and ethnic fabric of the nation. The aftermath was equally regretted as there were reports of government sponsored riots at certain places.

Social Influence and Persuasion

Question - "In the olden days, khap panchayats were more inclusive and Sarvkhaps comprised people of all castes and communities. Today, they have become undemocratic, oppressive and in conflict with the law." Critically comment. (200 Words) (Question has a lot of dimensions, can't be put under one heading)

Answer - In the recent past, the verdict given by khap panchayats with respect to honour killing and showing gender biasness is against the principles of equality and justice-social, economic and political for all as enshrined in our constitution. They have been around since 7th century and were inclusive in the ancient times. They are said to have coronated King Harshvardhan, known for helping Raziya Sultan and the Marathas. They came up as a dispute resolving, village based bodies, dispensing cheap and quick justice in matters related to

debts, contracts, inheritance of property and many more. Their decisions were taken as "voice of God". To say they serve a 'cultural purpose' is debatable in the modern democratic country. The act did by them like approving honour killing and mounted a campaign against Hindu Succession(amendment) act 2005 drawn adverse national attention on them. What was dying a decade ago, has been revived due to political patronage and vote bank politics and enable it to emerge in a retrograde avatar. When it comes to substantial issues of women's right or supporting the oppressed women against her relatives, Khaps almost always take the patriarchal view. Last year, it banned girls from using mobile phones and wearing jeans and said it will prevent young girls from interaction with boys and end honour killing. This view is ridiculous in this 21st century world where man is doing every possible efforts to explore the universe. Activists in Haryana have for long been saying that the opposition to the same gotra or inter caste marriage is against economic empowerment of women. Mere passing of resolutions against social evils will not make a difference. Khap should fight anti-social elements in the society rather imposing restrictions. It is high time when women should be given equal status, rights and respect in society as it will certainly be the first step in fight against the misogynistic diktats.

Civil Service aptitude & foundational values (integrity, impartiality, non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance & compassion towards weaker sections

In your opinion, what qualities are required in a Bureaucrat and how those qualities should be tested in the entrance exam to civil services? Elucidate

A civil servant has to be intelligent – intellectually and emotionally. He should have clarity of thought and should have presence of mind and be a natural leader. He needs to be an extrovert and bold and have good communication skills. He should know 'Bazaari Angrezi'(Y K Alagh). He should have sympathy. He should have a wide range of knowledge, a veritable 'jack of all trades'. He should be flexible and trainable. Most importantly, he should have unshakeable ethics and integrity.

IQ and EQ should form the screening process. The short listed candidates should be assessed by three papers that test their knowledge objectively – that is by MCQs. Skills in written expression should be assessed through short essays. Personal integrity should be assessed by objective questions, as is done world over(ex: Most Police forces in USA).

As many Candidates as the notified vacancies should be short-listed by taking the aggregate marks of all exams yet, including the screening. Then they should be called for an interview modeled on SSB. Where SSB tests for Officer Like Qualities(OLQ), this interview should test for "Administrator Like Qualities", that have not been tested yet. Extroversion, Presence of mind, Leadership, Sympathy, Flexibility, Trainability and Oral communication should be tested at this stage through, group activities, task oriented training, Psychological testing, Group discussions and informal observation during 'off-test time'. Integrity should be rigorously tested by tests modeled on those used by UK Judicial Appointments Commission. Final ranking should be based on the aggregate marks with atleast 33% weightage to interview.

This process should produce an exemplary bureaucrat

Bring out the relation between ethical conduct of a public servant and the concept of Dharma.

Prior sanction from a competent authority is mandatory for a magistrate to take cognisance of a private complaint for ordering a probe or taking cognisance of a charge sheet against a public servant under the Prevention of Corruption Act." What is the justification behind this judgement? Do you think this will serve its purpose? Analyze.

The constitution provided certain safeguards for the civil services to shield them from undue political interference and enable them to carry out functions assigned to them in an independent impartial manner. So the recent supreme court judgment of obtaining a mandatory sanction is in line with this constitutional provision.

A public servant has to take decisions in good faith while carrying out his duties. At times in hindsight the decision turns out to be having certain defects. So it is proper to provide him/her with safeguards to shield from frivolous complaints as it affects the moral of the officer and may result in future inactivity/delay on the part of the officer in taking decisions in fear of complaints. So honest mistakes should not be punished.

But this provision can be misused if there exists a nexus between the hierarchy of public servants and politicians as this will be used to shield officers' wrongdoings from judicial intervention.

So while prior sanction from a competent authority is necessary, a fixed time frame should be provided to approve such sanction and also to give reasons in case of non-approval of sanction. Then judiciary will be able to satisfy itself if the reasons given for non-approval is justifiable or not. This will go a long way in protecting in honest officers and weed out the corrupt ones. So a provision with certain checks and balances might be able to serve the purpose our founding fathers of constitution envisaged

Public service values & Ethics in Public Administration (status & problems)

Question - What are the important recommendations of the High Level Committee on the Status of Women in India headed by Pam Rajput? Do you think providing high percentage of reservation in decision making bodies would bring more safety to women? Comment. (200 Words) (this topic relates to status of women in society, and could be also part of Paper 2)

Answer - High level Committee was setup by GOI on the status of women in India in 2012. It was headed by Pam Rajput. The major recommendations of the committee are as follows

- 1) 50% reservation for women in all decision making bodies.
- 2) Separate panel to study the status on Muslim women in the country.
- 3) Upgrading the Min. of Women and Child Development to cabinet rank.
- 4) Increase in resource for women & child development.
- 5) Gender implications of all the legislation be examined.
- 6) National Commission for Women must be proactive with regard to policy, laws and budgetary matters.
- 7) Overhaul of criminal justice system

One of the major recommendations by the committee was to give 50% reservation to women in decision making bodies to bring more pro-women policies for safeguard of women. But this can be a necessary condition for safety not sufficient one. Also devising policies alone does not guarantee the implementation at ground level. Instead of increasing the number of decision makers to 50%, steps should be taken to strengthen and sensitize the established public institutions regarding gender related issues. In fact, recruitment of more women in law enforcement agencies like judiciary and police will be more effective.

What are the codes of ethics a bureaucrat should follow in his discharge of duty?(150 Words)

Answer:

Indian administration is based on the principle of Ministerial Responsibility and Civil Servant Anonymity. A civil servant should practice the relation of loyalty towards his duty. His duty is advice the political master, the ideas which are according to the law. A bureaucrat should follow neutrality, impartiality, non political workmanship.

A bureaucrat if finds an arbitrary order imposed on him by his commanding officers or politicians, he should not shy away from mentioning the same in written process of file noting. Openness should present in his working. A bureaucrat should function honestly, selflessly, objectively. He should uphold integrity and be accountable for his actions.

A bureaucrat bears the title of civil servant. This brings him respect, power but most importantly responsibility to work in the best interests of the people. He should not work under any political pressure or fear of transfer or lack of benefits. Hence, a bureaucrat needs to follow the above code of ethics objectively

What are the codes of ethics a bureaucrat should follow in his discharge of duty? (150 Words)

Link

Q. . What is corruption? Do you agree with the view that corruption is a non - issue for voters while casting their votes in elections? Substantiate.

Answer-

- Corruption means perversion of morality, integrity, character or duty in lieu of mercenary benefits. This is

without regard to honour, right or justice. In public life, a corrupt person is one who bestows undue favours on someone with whom he has monetary or other interests (e.g. nepotism, favoritism). This leads to deprivation of their rights of those who genuinely deserve these benefits.

- Real Inflation + media exposure + debate on corruption = deadly awareness
- It is only recently that corruption has become rampant and caught public attention. The genesis of widespread protest against corruption in India can be traced only to Anna Hazare movement in 2011. The view that corruption is a non-issue for voters seem to be partially true in context of India at least till recent elections. However Delhi assembly election results challenge this view at the same time.
- In India, the high rate of poverty, illiteracy leads people to struggle for the basic needs of life. They get satisfied with whatever goodies they get from the government. The lofty claims and big promises of the political parties coupled with the caste and community equations thus shape election results which most people think is in their interest. Middle class is also not immune to this. The protest against corruption predominantly by the middle class started only when the economies faltered and benefits of the corruption stopped trickling down to them. They were party to it and turned a blind eye as long as they were getting employment, good packages and other benefits.
- The result of 2014 general elections will only give a clear picture about the voting pattern of Indians as they are far more aware about corruption now. The mainstream media and the social media campaign might lead issue of corruption in shaping the final outcome of this election to an extent. However the rampant corruption and scams by the politicians might still get

overshadowed and be dominated by the lofty promises, caste and community equations thus changing overall results.

- lack of transparency in the functioning of the government due to which the citizens had accepted corruption to be a part of daily life. However this 'chalta hai' attitude has changed in the recent past. The emergence of scams such as 2G, coalgate, commonwealth games, which involve huge money has shook the collective conscience of the society.
- And today corruption has become a major issue in the elections. Moreover after the Anna Hazare movement we have witnessed a much enlightened citizen who now demand strict action against corrupt officials. The movement had led to emergence of a political party formed solely on the issue of corruption.
- With decentralization (73rd and 74th Amendment) citizen participation in governance has increased and moreover with globalization the international institutions are also forcing us to ensure good governance.

Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government & private institutions

Question - Does a strong army pose threat to India's democracy? Critically comment on the nature of relationship between the army and the political-bureaucratic class in India. (200 Words) (This question is again more ethical in nature, than real as this has very rare chance of happening in India. But our neighbors are struggling with this phenomena)

Answer - A strong army rather than being a threat to democracy is in fact the biggest guarantor of a democratic India. It is the most effective institution to stave off extremist threats to India like insurgency, Maoism and

external aggression. The relationship between army and political-bureaucratic class is unfortunately fraught with deep distrust. The politico-bureaucratic class' insecurity fosters their less than adequate concerns for the needs of Indian armed forces. The delay in a decision about a 5 star or a 4 star tri services chief is symptomatic of this neglect.

Insufficient budgeting, unaddressed grievances like one rank one pay, lack of a perceptible appreciation of critical role of armed forces, fosters much discontent. The cavalier manner in which the political leadership has approached sensitive issues like POWs in Pakistan jails, lack of quality equipment, and recent beheadings of Indian soldiers on LOC present a really sorry state of affairs.

The irrational fear of the politico-bureaucratic elite of a powerful armed forces chief resorting to coup is baseless. The very structure and history of Indian army along with the strength of our democratic institutions and culture pre-empt any such consideration.

The lack of connect and empathy for our armed forces amongst our decision makers is not only disheartening but also dangerous. It affects the soldiers' morale and efficiency. A strong and content army, involved with decisions affecting itself is the best ally for a political class to authorise and legitimise its own position

Question - Is self-determination by the Kashmiri people a right solution to the Kashmir problem? Substantiate. (200 Words)

Answer - Self-determination by Kashmiri people has been a UN imposed political solution. They assume Kashmir to be an independent nation. They thought that panacea for all Kashmiri problem can be solved by conducting a plebiscite of whether they will remain with India or go to Pakistan or become independent. What the international fora and fundamentalist groups of Pakistan knowing pretend to be unknown

is that the main problem of Kashmir is terrorism and the associated instability.

Even If we accept the UN imposed self-determination then what are the guarantees that the self-determination will be unbiased when we see that bodies like Jamaat-e-Islami, Difa-e-Pakistan Council and Jamaat-ud-Dawa are least interested in development and peace in Kashmir instead they are interest in making Kashmir a Muslim country through their holy war called "jihad".

Ultimately coming back to the problems which the Kashmiri face are like atrocious activities by some part of the armed forces, underdevelopment of the region. These are being continuously being resolved by the Indian government. What they actually are demanding is development in the state, industrialization, growth in tourism, communicational linkage with core of India, political devolution through PRI. And the mainstream Kashmiri people is no way interested in jihad what their so called "liberator" are yelling from across the border.

(ethics answers are your own viewpoint, so you can effectively add your views and improve the answer)

Question - What is 'one rank, one pension' system for armed forces? Why was it demanded by the ex- servicemen? Explain. (200 Words) (ethical question is when same rank then why not same pay)

Answer - The "one rank, one pension" (OROP) scheme proposed by the finance minister in the interim budget for 2014 - 15 was a long fought demand by ex service men of defence forces. It essentially means that retired soldiers of the same rank and length of service will receive the same pension, regardless of when they retire.

The demand for such a scheme came in the light of subsequent pay and pension revisions by the pay commissions, where the army personnels retired before their appointment stood at a disadvantage. The difference was deeply visible after the revision of pay by the 6th pay commission, after which the ex-service men retired before 2006 drew a

pension significantly lesser than their counterparts of same rank or even juniors who retired after 2006 .

This created a sense of distress among the early retired personnels as pensions are a payment for the past services they rendered which remains almost same year after year. And also with the increasing cost of living, a standard pension not catering to the changing economic needs added to the misery. Hence, such a demand rose as the gap between past pensioners and their younger equivalents kept widening with every successive pay commission.

Thus, the decision to implement the scheme concedes to a just demand of a group, who were ready to lay their life to protect their fellow countrymen.

Critically examine the ethical Issues which came up during review of Ebola

1. WHO declared that ZMapp is a drug which is not yet tried and tested with humans can be used for africans in conditions of severity of epidemic Ebola
2. Key ethical issue is unproven drug should not be used
3. Due to severity of Ebola quick spreading, Its mortality rate (55%), No vaccine/drug present
4. Americans are hesitating to administer it as, If it causes unexpected consequences then it would be blamed for trying against africa
It is tried against just 2 americans and not very sure of under what environment these experiments carried out
Not clear on whom should be given priority among different african countries.

Judging the seriousness of outbreak, WHO has declared it as an health emergency of International level. Very few medicines are available to counter

the disease. Recently a new drug "zMapp" has been identified in US, which is supposed to have therapeutic properties against ebola virus. Although its human trial hasn't been completed yet, it has been administered to two health care workers of US.

There was an ethical question in front of WHO, that whether to introduce this medicine in African Countries. Gauging the urgency, WHO has decided to introduce it i african countries, provided detailed explanation and informed consent from the patients to be treated. Although, there are certain apprehensions like capability of African countries to counter the side effects and chances of human fatalities. Given the unprecedented outbreak, WHO has taken a tough decision in wake of an ethical dilemma.

Should Indian press, both print and electronic, be regulated by the government? Analyze the merits and demerits of such a measure. Suggest alternative measures to bring ethics and objectivity in media coverage of events.

A) Press , both print and electronic, has come to play a significant role in our increasingly democratic society. This requires some form of regulation in order to check the frivolous elements of it.

The merits of regulating press include:

- 1) increased sense of duty to do good journalism (in the wake of News of the World scandal)
- 2) control on the idea of cashing on sensitive issues like communal disharmony, security etc.
- 3) increase the standards of the Indian press
- 4) replaces the present self regulation which is not able to curb the bad press

It also has some dangers coming from regulating the press like:

- 1) disrupts the right to freedom of speech and expression

2) not good for a increasingly democratic country

3) brings politics into the sphere of press

4) cannot hear the voices of all concerned

One has to bring consensus among all the stakeholders and emerge on it.

Ethics can be brought by hiring of the rightful candidates for the job, frequent exchange programmes both national and international to understand the implications of their work, etc. It is hightime that the press played a more meaningful role in India

===• Information has emerged as the most potent tool with the emergence of technology and print and electronic media have monopoly over it. While freedom of press is guaranteed under Art.19, the moot questions is whether state should regulate media.

- Media performs a quasi-public function and also has a profit motive. These conflicting objectives can lend color to its analysis. As a commercial enterprise it is interested in profits and has the ability to follow any means necessary. The phone hacking, sting operations, bribing etc have become regular tools in its arsenal. The crass coverage during Kargil and Mumbai attacks clearly shows its unprofessional nature. The breaking news phenomenon has already lost potency due to over-usage.

- However, it is also referred as the fourth estate, besides Montesqueian entities. It keeps a check on the power of executive and legislature and helps in forming public opinion. Mere gagging of media will make it docile and affect its freedom and assertiveness. It helps the citizens as well as the government and commercial units to put their case before the public. The recent discourse on corruption, transparency has wide acceptance due to constant media coverage.

- It is necessary to put media's role in perspective. While state should not directly interfere in its functioning, it can indirectly help in cultivating a professional culture. A newspaper's guild be formed and they should lay down a code of conduct. Press Council of India's functioning should be

extended to electronic media and its adjudication decisions be widely promoted.

- Journalists should be made aware of the ethical and public dimensions of their job and such course should be included in their graduation. Strict norms should be laid down for live coverage and related to privacy of individuals.

- Media vibrancy is conducive to a healthy democracy and it is necessary that it should mature itself about its role in the development process.

Laws, rules, regulations, conscience as sources of ethical Guidance

Question - Do you support use of military or unmanned aerial vehicles in dealing with Naxals? Substantiate.

Answer - Naxal insurgency has been the biggest internal security challenge for India. It is spread across the forested and mineral-rich states like Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha etc. The Government has mobilized large number of paramilitary forces in the region. However, success of the forces have been limited due to hostile terrain and dense forests.

The use of unmanned aerial vehicles(UAVs) can supplement the ground forces through strategic information. As a result of dense forests and inhospitable terrain, even a large mobilization of naxal insurgents goes unnoticed. There is a lack of intelligence network in the area. All these leaves the ground forces vulnerable to ambush. Even the naxalites carry some big operations and quickly disperse in the forests without being caught. Hence, UAVs can be effectively used to gather intelligence, trace and track down the insurgents even in deep jungles.

However, the use of UAVs for air attacks can do much harm than good. The tribal villages interspersed across the forest will be severely affected. The naxals may use them as shields. Their indiscriminate use can result in grave human right violations of the tribal

people. As a result, that section of our country will be further isolated.

The advanced technology like UAVs should be used only to gather intelligence and track their movement and not for aerial attack. The aim of our anti-naxal strategy should be to integrate the affected area with the rest of the country rather than to isolate them.

If you were put in charge of rehabilitation and resettlement of the cyclone-affected fishermen in an a particular severely affected coastal region, what would be your priorities? Explain. (200 Words)

A disaster like cyclone has multifarious after effects ranging from materialistic like loss of livelihood, loss of home to the psychological effects like trauma, pain and the agony of losing beloved. It sweeps away the communities, their farmland, fishing implements leaving a sour impressions on the mind of victims.

Though its very tough to keep a bandage on somebody's wound, but my topmost priority will be their resettlement to their own home after the basic restoration work has completed.

In the meantime, I would ensure that food supplies to their families are in line as they have lost their means of livelihood. Also after a cyclone their are chances of water-logging which may result in an outbreak of an epidemic; so I would lineup a team dedicated to ensure the healthy locality.

Once restoration and resettlement work will be completed, I would embark upon the means of providing them assistance to regain their lost livelihood & the only means of their sustenance. I would request to the Government to provide them some monetary aid or soft loans so that they can again start fishing.

Later on, the other infrastructure including Electricity poles, schools and local markets needs to be resurrected to ensure their proper rehabilitation.

Accountability & ethical governance

Question - "India is exceptional among democracies in having no legal framework for its intelligence services, nor a system of oversight and accountability for covert operations." Comment. (200 Words)

Answer - Chargesheet against IB special director Rajinder Kumar in Ishrat jahan's extra-judicial execution case has reopened the debate about regulation and accountability of the intelligence agencies in India

The status quo:

1. Most of the intelligence, surveillance and information gathering agencies- NATGRID, CERT, NIIPC, IB, IN, RAW are established by an executive order. There are no parliamentary legislations to define their mandate and performance thereto. It means there is no legal existence and hence no charter of their functions and responsibilities.
2. CAG does not audit their finances although mandated to do so.
3. They are subjected to very limited accountability. Their annual reports of functioning are very skeletal
4. They are exempted from the bounds of RTI act.

Consequences

1. Extra-judicial killing and nexus with the incumbent governments.
2. Threat to privacy through surveillance program and communication monitoring.
3. Brutal behavior as in AFSPA (Very similar to the above problems although not directly related with intelligence agencies).

The murmurs for Reforms

1. L. P. Singh committee to probe alleged misuse of intelligence agencies by Mrs. Indira Gandhi during emergency. It stressed need for a formal charter and came out with a model charter to be adopted. No action was taken.

2. G. C. Saxena task force by the Vajpayee government.

3. Kargil Review committee: It brought to notice the multiplicity of agencies reporting to different heads. There is a virtual monopoly of RAW in respect of external intelligence

Global Trends

- Globally , executive is primarily responsible for oversight and regulation be it presidential or parliamentary form of government

- In US, the responsibility is shared between Congress and the executive through Senate Intelligence oversight Committee. It examines funding and suitability of bosses of such agencies

- In UK, the PM plays the leadership role in ensuring accountability of the intelligence agencies. He decides the ground rules for joint exercise of oversight by legislature and executive. PM's primacy is not questioned by political parties

Challenges in India

- Multiplicity of agencies makes it difficult to fix the responsibility

- There is no bipartisan culture in India. Multiple political parties involved in coalition government pose a threat to secrecy to clandestine operations

The Way out

- Give a legal framework to security agencies by passing suitable parliamentary acts. It should in-built provisions for monitoring and accountability

- Efforts to integrate such agencies for better coordination and easy oversight

Though Based Conclusions

- The social contract theory (please, read about it) says that it is the foremost responsibility of the state to protect life and liberty of its subjects. Otherwise it can become a failed state

- The principle of Separation of Power and their Check and Balance (Propounded by Montesquieu – reading is optional) is at the heart of the democratic governance. In that

sense, the intelligence agencies should not go scot-free otherwise it may lead to collapse of the state.

Question - What do you understand by ethics in governance? Explain how ethics is important for clean governance. (200 Words)

Answer - The great Chinese philosopher Confucius once said, 'Righteousness is the foundation of good governance and peace'. Ethics in governance is a set of standards that helps to guide the behavior of an official while discharging his official duties. Ethics help guide his behavior, choices and actions towards a specific task assigned to him.

Governance is a function of the government assigned to its bureaucrats and politicians who are responsible for its efficient and effective execution through design and implementation of public policies. These policies and decisions taken are very vital due to the degree of implications they have on the society. Most of the times they are extremely critical as they affect a large number of people and institutions. Therefore, observing the right set of ethics in framing and implementing public policies and decision making is extremely important.

Eg; the permission given to Vedanta for mining in the Niyamgiri hills area of Orissa leading to largescale displacement of tribals of that area. A decision favouring interests of a insignificant company impacted the lives of many. There is a big question of ethical conduct of the policymakers. Therefore, there is a strong need of transformation needed in the entire pattern of governance, right from behavioural changes in the policy makers for the sustainable and inclusive progress of our country.

Strengthening of ethical & moral values in governance

Question - What are the highlights of the draft Grievance Redressal Bill (the Right of Citizens to Time-bound Delivery of Goods and Services and Redressal of their Grievances Bill) and the Whistleblowers Protection Bill ? Why is there a demand for their early enactment? Comment. (200 Words)

Answer - Highlights of Whistleblowers Protection bill:

- 1) The bill protects whistleblower - a person who makes public interest disclosure related to act of corruption, act of misuse of power or criminal offense against public servant.
- 2) Any public servant or any person including NGO can make such disclosure to CVC or state vigilance commission.
- 3) Every complain has to include the name of the complainant.
- 4) The vigilance commission shall not disclose the name of complainant to any one other than head of the department, if it deems essential. The bill penalizes any one who discloses the identity of the complainant.
- 5) The bill penalizes for making knowingly false complain.

This bill aims to strike a balance between victimization of public servant and protecting the whistleblowers. It is very important to protect the whistleblowers to show courage and conviction to fight against corruption, risking their life. This will help fight corruption and make the public system transparent.

Highlights of Grievance Redressal Bill:

- 1) Mechanism for timely delivery of goods and services.
- 2) Every public authority has to publish a citizens charter within six months of the passage of bills. The charter details the goods and services to be provided and timeliness of it.

3) Any citizen can file complain regarding any grievances related to 1) Citizens charter 2) Functioning of Public authority 3) violation of law, policy and schemes.

4) The bill requires public authority to appoint officers for grievance redressal. It should be done within 30 days. It also provides for establishment of central and state public grievances redressal commission.

5) A penalty of Rs. 50000 on the officer if failed to discharge the duty.

The bill is very important to bring accountability in public system of delivery of goods and services. The timeliness of delivery of public good and services is one of the major issues for beneficiaries. The bill will address this aspect.

Ethical issues in international relations and funding

Question. What were the effects of Fukushima nuclear accident on the world nuclear commerce and nuclear policies around the world? Do you support ban on nuclear reactors for generating power? Substantiate. (200 Words) (nuclear energy issue is ethical as well as security - both energy and strategic. Also, there is ethical dimension of funding of nuclear reactors by foreign nations while they themselves are phasing out nuclear energy from their home countries)

Answer - Fukushima nuclear disaster was a worst of its kind, giving policy maker an opportunity to explore future alternative and strengthen existing nuclear power installation.

The effect of the above mentioned events are both short term/long term on commerce and policies can be analysed as follows.

As accident was caused due to technical failure(coolant) thus post event IAEA has issued stringent guidelines,carried out detailed inspection and supporting countries with know how on future preparedness in such unlikely events.

Although due to lack of capital, knowledge, political will, viable alternative and growing demand of energy ,any sharp decline in nuclear trade/policies in coming year is not visible.Although countries like Germany,Switzerland are shutting down but China ,India,Canada ,UK are expanding the Nuclear power plant sector.

Issues which are hindrance to this technology are safety, Security,proliferation,land acquisition and rehabilitation,nuclear waste and environmental concern but I don't reject it out rightly ,keeping the advantages like no GHG release,cheaper in longer run ,sustainable nature and near renewable status(reprocessing of waste) thus making it integral to energy security of developing countries like India,china,etc.

By Mapping Geology,public awareness ,upgrading Technology,R&D in renewable energy ,strengthening international cooperation (NSG,IAEA) Environment/social impact assesment with region specific approach can solve energy problem.

Corporate Governance

Question - "The governance has been re-emerging as a major factor behind success or failure of economies in many emerging nations." Comment in the context of recent crises around the world involving emerging economies. (200 Words) (question not specifically talks about corporate governance only, but also public governance)

Answer - As the economic scenario in US, EU is improving emerging economies are facing economic threats. The cure for these lies not

in mere economic policies, but improvement across governance.

The US Fed decision to taper the bond buying programme created havoc with emerging economies like India, Brazil, Turkey. The currency was depreciated due to capital flight. CAD has increased to unsustainable levels, brought down by fire fighting measures. The entire episode revealed the vulnerabilities in the external sector.

Even though, these are economic problems, the cure for these lies in improving governance. For instance, India needs to reforms in tax laws, labour policies, environmental clearances to infrastructures projects, service delivery, fiscal deficit. These measures superficially look economic , but they impact large populatoin and hence calls for cooperation in polity.

The emerging economies have been nation states since 6 decades. The governance model followed by them till now is losing its impact, in the aftermath of global financial crisis. To keep their grwoth rates high, thse economies requiries a fundamental shift in their governance to increase productivity.

The crisis and aftermath is a waekup call for these nation, to take a holistic view towards their policy and governance delivery model.

Question - In the light of recent events highlight the importance of choosing quality regulators in both tradeable and non-tradeable sectors in India. (200 Words) (regulation will come in governance)

Answer - The recent issues of international scrutiny in tradabale as well as non tradable sectors have highlighted the importance of a quality regulator to ensure that the developments in such sector adhere to best practices.

In the Aviation sector, the US FAA degraded Indian air safety ranking which will have spiraling impact on the impending mergers or code share agreements. IN this respect the DGCA observations relating to lack of suffcient and qualified human resources is the biggest challenge in the sector due to which airlines are used to interchange FIO

(Flight inspection officers) and other constraints which do not give much elbow room to give thrust to safety.

Similarly the USA FDA ban on a plant of a major pharma player on grounds of inadequate safeguards in manufacturing practices is poised to blow a major setback for the generic exports which constitute a major revenue stream. Here also the DCGI has lamented that benchmark constraints lead to compromise on robust safety mechanism.

On the other hand in non tradables such public transport i.e. road or railways, the rising number of accidents with no single authority assuming charge of responsibility or in education sector where falling rankings of Indian institutions are attributed to lack of will to initiate innovative R&D and political appointments at highest grant authorities.

The dire situation calls for instituting quality regulator which co-ordinates the sector, ensures adherence to international best practices, assumes responsibility for facilitating turnaround and address grievances. The recent SC judgement with directives for a comprehensive environment regulator can provide a path for similar institutions in these sectors.

Question - " It was time Indian journalism was liberated from corporate stenography. " Critically comment. (200 Words)

Answer - Independent media is quintessential for thriving democracy, but corporatisation of media has not made it stake holder in problems we face today. This calls for introspection to rebuilt our "watch dog".

Post liberalization, Media sector have been funded by various business groups which in good way have increased access by creating "n" news channel, but the quality and depth of news is pathetic.

Increased competition in this era of internet where a small news goes viral, corporate sector have managed to earn profit by picking/creating news as "sensation" which

not only misguide viewers but at times confuses and irritate him/her.

Investment houses are least bothered by problems of common man in urban areas ,poverty in rural India(farmer suicide),rising left wing extremism,environmental problems and many more ,at the same time private sector fails to project positive steps done by NGO's, Innovation in rural area and cultural harmony existing in tribal areas for simple reason because its not profitable.

Hence the time has come to de-link it corporate roots, increase transparency in funding, setting up of independent regulator body with grievance redressal mechanism and quality assurance. Funding in creating human capital rich in moral and ethical journalism will go long way in building stronger democracy.

Question - Discuss the present scenario of representation of women on company boards in India. (200 Words)

Answer - The representation of women in the company's boards in India is negligible. Among the top 500 companies listed in Mumbai Stock Exchange, 300 companies do not have women in their boards. The situation is beginning to change , as can be seen from the appointment of Kiran Mazumdar Shaw as the chairman of board of governors at IIM Bangalore and an independent board member at Infosys. The SEBI has also asked all the listed companies to comply with the rule of having atleast one women director in their board by the deadline of October 1. The representation of the women in the company boards is an abysmal low at six percent.

One reason could be that women not getting enough opportunities to rise to higher levels in the organization. The other reason for low representation is that there is a limited pool of the women who could be considered for appointment as the company board members. This results into a situation of too many board positions with fewer women. Though the provision mandated by SEBI requires for the women in the company

boards, it does not require them to be independent board member. Such loopholes could result into the company owners finding out ways to appoint their own relatives which may not result in achieving the objective of gender diversity.

Question - Comment on the recently notified new rules for the new 'corporate social responsibility' (CSR) regime.

Answer - Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) enables the creation and distribution of wealth for the betterment of its stakeholders. The revised CSR rules form a part of the new Companies Act, 2013. Companies including foreign entities, with at least Rs 5 crore net profit, or Rs.1,000 crore turnover or Rs.500 crore net worth will need to spend 2% of their three year average annual net profit on CSR activities. The funds given to political parties and the money spent for the own benefit of the company will not count as CSR.

Livelihood enhancement projects and rural development projects, promoting preventive health care, sanitation and safe drinking water have been brought under the CSR ambit. CSR policy of a company also specifies that surplus arising out of the CSR activities shall not form part of the business profit of a company.

In the previous guidelines, regardless of their size and profitability, each CPSE was required to submit details of 10 projects- 5 each for CSR and Sustainable Development. In the revised guidelines, emphasis is placed on the scalability of the projects, in terms of their size and impact. The unutilised budget for CSR activities planned for a year will not lapse and it can be carry forward to the next year. But, CPSEs will have to disclose the reasons for this. This unspent budget will have to be spent within the next two financial years; otherwise this money is transferred to a 'Sustainability Fund'.

Corporates have excelled in the last two decades in generating much wealth and prosperity. Ironically, much of this growth has been skewed in favour of a few. The new rules of CSR embody the essence of the

development sector and active involvement of corporate India in nation building.

Probity in Governance (concept of public service)

Question - "Economic governance cannot be disassociated from political governance." Critically comment in the context of India. (200 Words)

Answer - Economic governance can't be viewed in isolation with political governance and even more so in the case of India.

Ever since the economic reforms were undertaken in India in 1991, delays and reverses in some areas due to the interplay of democratic politics, coalition governments, and pressure groups with vested interests were not uncommon. Each of the five successive governments run economy in its own way irrespective of calculating its best consequences upon the citizens.

Twenty years after "liberalization" the extent of state participation in the economy remains stubbornly large leaving less room for private players to participate in the same, than it should. The state manages economy in its own interest, for its own sake and in its own manner that overall proves to be detrimental for the robust growth of the country as a whole.

An effective regulator must be independent and autonomous. But in an economy where the state itself competes with the private sector, the independence of regulator is a thing, hard to ensure and due to this, the pressures of coalition politics have always contributed to greater populism in economic policy-making.

Whether it is laying down of Union/Rail budget, the allocation of resources towards various welfare programmes, or giving to states the "special status", the economic and political disassociation is a thing which is hard to imagine in case of India.

“Much of the deterioration of the standards of probity and accountability with the civil servants is due to the political influence of persons purporting to represent those who are in authority.”
Critically comment. (200 Words)

Political executive's excessive involvement in day to day functioning of Bureaucracy, interference in independent functioning leads to policy paralysis, neo-despotism.

Politician-corporate- bureaucracy nexus = favouritism, anarchy and degrades the quality of governance.

Transparency and accountability and people participation = seems to be distant dream then.

For example -- The practice of giving oral directions/instructions by the administrative superiors, political executive etc defeats the object and purpose of RTI Act and would give room for favouritism and corruption.”

Democracy requires an informed citizenry and transparency of information.

Oral and verbal instructions, if not recorded, could not be provided [to citizens].By acting on oral directions, not recording the same, the rights guaranteed to the citizens under the RTI Act could be defeated

There must be some records to demonstrate how the civil servant has acted, if the decision is not his, but if he is acting on oral directions, instructions, he should record such directions in the file.

If the civil servant is acting on oral directions or dictation of anybody, he will be taking a risk, because he cannot later take the stand the decision was in fact not his own. Recording of instructions, directions is, therefore, necessary for fixing responsibility and ensuring accountability in the functioning of civil servants and to uphold institutional integrity.

The Santhanam Committee on Prevention of Corruption, 1962 has recommended that there should be a system of keeping some sort of records in such situations. Rule 3(3) (iii) of the All India Service Rules specifically requires that all orders from superior officers shall ordinarily be in writing.

Weak governance = poor service delivery, excessive regulation, whimsical interventions for personal benefit, wasteful public expenditure, inadequate transparency and lack of accountability. It reduces effectiveness of government policies and impinged on development.

Lack of good governance affects the quality of life and violates the guarantees provided under Article 21 (right to life and liberty) of the Constitution.

Philosophical basis of governance and probity

Question -“Some Indians in the U.S., unlike in India, can succeed thanks to the meritocracy that is the corner-stone of the American system.” Do you agree with this assessment? Comment. (200 Words) (Again question has more ethical dimension. It also contains hot topics like reservation, protection of vulnerable groups in Paper 2)

Answer - Needless to say India has produced some superior brains in the world. The recent development at Microsoft is another testimony to the fact. The news would have pleasantly surprised many, and many have felt proud. But it is the time of introspection, rather than indulging in the act of self-back patting. Excellence can only be achieved when one dwells upon victory as well defeat. One more thing which goes unnoticed that Nadella did not go to best ranked colleges in the country i.e. IITs/NITs, a contradiction to the notion that best professionals are produced in those esteemed institutions only. Indian education and Job market runs on cliched principles. The education system does not encourage innovation and research. It is reflected in government spending on R&D activities in education. A view endorsed by Bharat Ratna Dr. CNR Rao.

The professional path to excellence and achievements in India has relies on many other factors, apart from merit. Insensitive authorities, lack of funding and

infrastructure, no governmental support etc. hinders growth.

The harsh truth is that all Indian Nobel laureates whose work demanded extensive funding and infrastructural support had to explore foreign land to succeed.

Government should take notice of the fact that Indians do not lack potential, what we lack is support and encouragement.

RTI

“As elements constituting a multiparty system which is an inherent part of the basic structure of the Indian Constitution, political parties cannot get away from the duty of transparency as easily as other NGOs.” Comment on the statement in the light of recent order of CIC bringing them under the purview of RTI. (200 Words)

[Link](#)

Examine the important provisions of RTI act. Explain how to file an RTI application to get information from UPSC.

Right to Information Act 2005 is an initiative taken by Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions to enable citizens to request information from public authority.

Important provisions of the act are :

-Each authority covered by the RTI Act must appoint their Public Information Officer (PIO). Any person may submit a written request to the PIO for information.

-If any citizen is not satisfied with the content of any information or the information is not provided within a prescribed time limit of 30 days than an appeal can be filled before 1st level Appellate Authority (i.e. the Joint Secretary of the respective department) and against the adjudication of 1st level Appellate

Authority the appeal can be filed before the 2nd Appellate Authority (i.e. CIC- Central Information Committee & SIC- State Information Committee).’

-RTI Act also determines some exceptions under which the public authorities have no obligation to give any official information to any citizen for eg Information related to integrity, security, sovereignty of the country cannot be revealed.

In order to get information from UPSC through RTI , user has to write an application specifying the particulars of the information sought and fill up the RTI application form. court fee stamp or Indian Postal Order of worth Rs 10 with the application has to be attached, The application can be posted or handed personally to the PIO of UPSC

The application can be submitted online also by filling the form and making payment on internet. The online service doesn't cover state governments or ministries however

What are the fundamental causes of corruption in India. Do you think the Lokpal institution would be able to address these causes? Critically comment.

The issue of corruption in a society can be analysed at two levels - individual and societal. At individual level the cause of corruption can be attributed to the nature of socialization in the family, peer group and educational institutions. These institutions play a vital role in transferring the commonly held values from one generation to other. Corruption is nothing but deviation from the commonly held value of uprightness, integrity and probity. A sense of inadequacy also breeds corruption many a times. On the other hand on societal level a high level of corruption can be attributed to asymmetry of access and availability of resources among different members of society.

Corruption is just a symptom of a deeper malaise in our country. Corruption today has become a norm but the society's growing tolerance if not acceptability is disturbing.

This degradation can be traced to the changing meaning/perception of success in our society (greater value to wealth/power). However, this degradation of values cannot be limited to India, it is a global phenomenon. Yet, some countries have been successful in curbing corruption. Thus, its prevalence can be attributed to a combination of degradation of moral values and systemic flaws in the politico-administrative setup.

Poor governance structures breed embezzlers. Complex and archaic laws, rules and regulations in our day to day lives provide fertile ground for corruption. These laws have clogged the wheels of governance and need to be oiled for faster response, in some cases benefiting both parties involved. Complex laws when coupled with excessive discretionary and other powers make the bureaucracy-political class even more dangerous. The human element in our interaction with government on a daily basis expands the scope for corruption at the lower levels (common man level). It is this discretionary power and absence of transparency in decision making that provides the opportunity for the corporate sector to collude with the political/bureaucracy for illegal transactions undue gains at the higher levels (2G/coal scam). In addition to poor transparency, the gulf between the decision makers and stakeholders makes it impossible for the latter to hold the former accountable for any wrongdoing.

Lokpal is a body with investigative and prosecution powers. Punitive measures play a very crucial role in creating deterrence against any kind of crime in a society. So an effective Lokpal will be instrumental in curbing corruption. But, a number of investigative bodies have had limited success because of a variety of reasons such as political interference, limited mandate and role. At the end of the day these bodies are run by humans. In addition, even an effective Lokpal can only attack the visibly corrupt, leaving other illegal transactions which happen behind opaque doors or at lower levels on a day-to-day basis.

Thus, Lokpal does not address the fundamental drivers of corruption in our society. However, it can play an effective in curbing corruption when other governance reforms to address these causes happen.

Do you think recent changes introduced by UPSC in Civil Services Examination pattern were necessary? Critically comment.

UPSC introduced changes in the pattern as well as the syllabus of the civil services examination. It could be argued that the current has system has created more level playing field in the mains examination but a certain section of candidates feel that UPSC is biased against them in the preliminary examination.

The paper II of the preliminary examination includes passages which are considered of very high difficulty level by non-english background students. Though the paper II judges the aspirants on right skills required for the civil services, it has somehow created favourable conditions for one particular group.

The changes brought in mains examination are praiseworthy. First, it has broadened the syllabus of general studies paper more in line with the demand of the civil service. Paper IV (ethics) is the need of the hour to inculcate ethical values among aspirants.

Increase in the number of attempts could have been for temporary period in background of changed syllabus. Infact, attempts and age could be reduced in long-term as more and more attempts result into wastage of valuable human resources of the country.

Practical Ethics

Do you agree with the view that Drone strikes are unethical and are in violation of human rights? Substantiate. (150 Words)

Against Drone

-- The Obama administration claims its use of lethal force, including with drones, is "legal", "ethical", and "wise". But Amnesty International is gravely concerned that the administration is killing people outside the bounds of human rights and the law.

International law permits the use of lethal force in very restricted circumstances. But from the little information made available to the public, U.S. drone strike policy appears to allow extrajudicial executions in violation of the right to life, virtually anywhere in the world.

Public outcry over the killer drone program is growing, leading to President Obama and Congress addressing the issue. Despite all the talk that new laws, rules or a "kill court" are needed, the solution is simple: the Obama administration must follow the law. Congress and the courts must hold them to it.

--they rule out even the smallest chance of capture or surrender.

--They kill people who, at the time of their execution, pose no threat. They exclude, simply, the prospect of criminal justice.

--That might be acceptable in war – but it is not in fighting insurgencies against citizens. There are alternatives, among them better-trained Special Forces, a robust intelligence apparatus, and criminal justice system that delivers.

For Drone:

--Drones – more accurately, armed UAVs – have come to represent all we most loathe about modern warfare. They make killing antiseptic, distancing combatants from the bloody reality of war. Human Rights Watch recently warned that drones were just part of a larger movement towards automated weapons. There are already gun systems which can use algorithms to open fire on targets.

--In principle, though, UAVs don't do anything fundamentally different from every weapon that human beings – and our primate ancestors – ever invented: allow a fighter to strike from a distance from where his or her adversary cannot strike back. The spear and the catapult did exactly what the UAV does – as did the medieval crossbow,

famously, if ineffectually, banned by Pope Urban II in 1096 for use against Christians because the technology levelled skilled knights of armour and peasant armies.

For better understanding on Drone use and Ethical dimension click on the link below
<http://blog.practicaethics.ox.ac.uk/2011/10/killing-with-drones-proportionality-and-trolley-problems/>

Argument for using Drones against Naxalites can be derived from

<http://blog.practicaethics.ox.ac.uk/2013/02/the-double-standard-of-objections-to-drone-strikes-against-us-citizens/>

(Note- India already has an Israeli-made Heron UAV fleet)

Ethics theory- Just war theory (may be not related to question but helpful)

Just war theory is the most obvious starting point. It is the most comprehensive attempt to establish ethical guidelines for armed conflict, and it has had a vast impact on the development of international law. The theory establishes rules for when a war is justified (*jus ad bellum*), as well as what justified conduct in war is (*jus in bello*). One would think that this should be able to tell us something about the conflict in question.

Jus ad bellum: According to the theory we are justified to start a war if: (i) the cause is just; (ii) the intention is right; (iii) it is properly announced and the decision made by the appropriate authorities; (iv) if all plausible, peaceful alternatives are exhausted; (v) the war is probable to succeed; (vi) the amount of violence is proportionate to the expected universal good that can be achieved.

Jus in bello: The following principles establish acceptable conduct in war: (i) international law on weapons prohibitions must be obeyed; (ii) only those engaged in harm should be targeted; (iii) the force used must be proportional to the end; (iv) prisoners of war must be treated benevolently; (v) soldiers are not allowed to use weapons and methods that are evil in themselves (e.g. mass rape, genocide); (vi)

reprisals against violations of jus in bello by the other part are not allowed.

Work Culture

Question - "Despite more cars and more roads, the issue of road safety is largely missing in the public discourse and, therefore, public policy." Comment. (200 Words) (here work culture is not questioned only of transport department, but also of common citizens who break laws for temporary gains)

Answer - Road safety is much neglected aspect of policy making and deep rooted in our attitude and apathy to traffic etiquette. No amount of technological safety advancement can eliminate it, so it calls for introspection.

First there is need to analyse fact, like 85% of death in road accidents are of poor cycle rider and pedestrians and two wheeler driver which may be because of less space, more congestion, rash driving, drunk driving by four wheeler, red light jumping, non adherence to zebra crossing and general rule breaking.

This gives a gloomy picture as people killed in such accidents exceed death caused by combined chronic diseases like AIDS, TB, malaria.

Although safety measure in vehicle are increasing but the greater role need to be played by policy maker, civil society, mass media and family members,

This calls for bottom up approach, including chapter on road safety in schools, dealing with corruption in driving license system, breeding immature drivers, better training, testing and quality check at district level. Promoting youth to adhere to safety helmet culture, improving footpath zebra making. Traffic police be given modern technology like automatic speed/alcohol testing and fine collection machine with moderate rate for more compliance and reducing corruption which will act as deterrence and at state and center level

debate and media campaign like Delhi's drunk drive campaign.

All this will go long way not only in saving precious human life but promoting cycling as a healthy exercise and reduce GHG.

Question - Critically comment on the functioning of the Indian Parliament in last two decades. (200 Words)

Answer - Parliament, which derives its power from the Constitution is the apex body of law making for the country. An overview of the past parliament performance is necessary to evaluate the performance of it and to suggest any measures.

The last two decades has seen some of the historic acts like RTI, Food security Act, Lokpal Act, RTE Act etc. It is applauded to say that parliament had passed these bills, but at the same time we have to see the other side of the coin, being the pending bills and the lapsed one. The number of pending and lapsed bills are increasing year by year and the number of bills to be passed is decreasing. The reasons may be i) disruptions in session (question hour), ii) adjournments, iii) no consensus between the members. To effectively tackle these issues, stringent disciplinary actions have to be taken against the members disrupting and the environment have to be created to arrive at a mutual consensus.

The bills which have the mutual consensus have to be passed first to ensure a smooth business at the start of session. Though any suggestions given it was the members of session who have to abide by consensus to make parliamentary business not only qualitative but also quantitative.

Question . "The ultimate aim of any anti-corruption mechanism is to contribute towards improvement of the processes of governance and delivery of services. This can happen only when we encourage bold and innovative decision-making." Comment. (200 Words)

Answer - The main purpose of the anti-corruption measures, taken either by Executive, Judiciary or Legislator, is to improve efficiency in the governance of the system and as such they are directed in a manner that the intended beneficiaries actually get benefited.

In a democratic country like India, the services must reach to the citizens who exercises their voting right to elect government. But, in recent days, in many of the cases it's not so, which make the pillars of governance to intervene by taking bold, newer and innovative decisions so that the same be ensured.

Unless and until, strong decisions are taken to curb this menace, it will continue to be a major obstacle in the development of the country.

Bolder decisions, like the recent one by the Supreme Court, to set up Civil Services Boards (CSBs) by union/state governments for monitoring issues related to civil servants' transfer, promotions, etc as also that once posted, they would remain for minimum two years at same posts and yet another ones might act as deterrent whose final aim surely is to curb corruption and thus improving delivery of services.

The granting of autonomy to Country's Premier investigating agency, CBI, which is very much debated now a days, would be one such act of bold decision making

Many more such type of innovative decisions are needed to be taken, for improving governance process and services delivery which are marred in the present days by rising level of corruption. inefficient bureaucracy and the prevailing red-tapism.

Question - "Facilitation and regulation, not supervision, should be the bureaucracy's mantra for handling the country's economy." Elaborate the statement in the context of India. (200 Words)

Answer - The larger aim of the bureaucracy should be such an administration which brings more good in the society. Considering

the requirement of a high economic growth and at the same time people's participation in decision making in India, a facilitating and a regulating ,not supervising, role would be more suitable to it.

Since we started the economic reform process in 1991, we have not been very successful in changing the paradigm of state engagement with the private sector. The little difference made is that earlier there used to be a direct command and control of the government over economy, and now it is indirect by the means of supervising i.e. policy making and implementation. It does not allow market to grow on its own terms and thus hinders the growth. Instead of this, the bureaucracy should only regulate the market policies against any malice, and moreover facilitate with a market friendly environment.

Secondly, due to the supervising nature of bureaucracy, people remain deprived of decision making for their own. Like the people living in protected forest areas don't get any rights over the natural resources there. The PESA Act and the Forest Right Act provides a good example of facilitation and regulation on this front.

Also, the more powers with the few would give rise to the authoritarianism which may lead to red-tapism and corruption, and can undermine our democracy. Hence it's better to have more people's participation in the functioning of the system and its decision making.

There is an old saying in economics that "market itself sets it right". Thereby, instead of being the guide to the traffic, the bureaucracy should be that traffic signal operator which facilitate and regulate it.

Quality of Service Delivery

Question - "India urgently needs to build and strengthen intermediary institutions to forge linkages between formal and informal institutional structures." Why? Examine. (200 Words)

Answer - India needs an institutional architecture to transform the knowledge of

restructuring of formal universities into a tool to increase productivity of SME industries

The Indian work force distribution is very asymmetric with 90% in informal sector. They constitute small scale industries and have very low productivity and absence of innovation. The R&D for industrial needs is carried out by formal institutions like CSIR, TFIR and other universities. They aren't accessible to the small scale industry.

Similarly, many grass roots initiatives flourish in India in small scale. For instance, producing electricity from pine leaves, energy efficient chullah are few examples. Absence of investment

makes the economies of scale unachievable, which if reversed, helps in eradicating poverty.

Angel investors, venture capitalists aren't attracted to these readily, due to informal nature.

As seen above, if we can create backward and forward linkages between the informal and formal institutions – productivity can be improved; poverty can be reduced.

IIF, Indian Inclusive innovation fund; Innovation clusters for SME – started by National Innovation Council in this direction. However, these can't cater to the vast needs, thus the government needs to expand these as a separate policy initiative.

Challenges of Corruption

Question - "The basis of corruption in India is the growing black economy propelled by widespread illegality in a variety of economic activities and the disruption of the democratic institutions." Elaborate. (200 Words)

Answer - The corruption in its simplest form is following unethical and illegal means to amass wealth at the cost of people's money and services.

Black money on the hand refers to that earning on which taxes have largely been

evaded and hence it might get used for laundering purposes which in turn would be used to fund illegal activities such as terrorism and drug and human trafficking

The root cause of the corruption may be found in the growing black economy in which the industries with the help of political leaders and bureaucrats illegally amass wealth and then invest it in other sectors such as housing, spectrum, infrastructure etc. which is bound to increase their prices hence affecting the growth and development.

The rising prices at home increase the fiscal deficit which prompts the government to finance it through loans. The loan with its heavy interest becomes the main cause of non-plan expenditure and raises further prices.

The democratic institutions under the influence of crony capitalism are prone to make policies which ultimately favour the industrialists. The limited regulations if available are enforced by the bureaucrats to make it even more non-effective and hence the vicious cycle continues.

Question - "Bribe-giving, an implicit offence in the Prevention of Corruption Act, should be made an explicit offence." Critically comment. (200 Words)

Answer - Law alone cannot be solution to all problem but making it objective, broad based and stricter is first step to problem like corruption.

Recent bill drafted as Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013 has included some crucial provision like making bribe giving explicitly as an offence, this is major step towards reforming and cleansing public institutions as it will address the argument mostly raised by bribe giver as he/she was compelled to bribe under given circumstances.

Making it an offence will deter people from earlier practices where they use to take advantages of corrupt system to meet personal gain and still get away with it.

This step will promote more and more people to come and complain freely since earlier

moral force will be backed by legal force now, but this provision can be abused by authority.

Such provision can also give rise to false complaints and also reduction in reporting of crime as poor common man always try to avoid legal complication.

The provision of the bill to punish habitual offender and include retired civil servants are good moves but such moves needs to be compounded with major reforms in police and judiciary and Citizens charter and lokpal bill with charged civil society to attack corruption from all sides. (think yourself and add more points)

Question - Does India need to enact a substantive law making all forms of manipulation of sports, corruption and malpractices of sports a criminal offence? Substantiate. (200 Words)

Answer - The corruption in sports has been one of the raging issues in last decade and half. The most talked about acts of corruption were from the field of cricket. There were allegations and accusations of match fixing and spot fixing and subsequent punitive action by respective board in the form of bans ranging from few months to life ban.

The corruption in sports has two forms. Malpractice in selection and election of administrative unit of a sports board. The suspension of IOA by IOC due to charges of corruption in election of governing body is one testimonial to this fact. Another form of corruption is where sportsperson representing their country/team purposefully perform below their ability in lieu of money, often called as spot fixing or match fixing.

One of the major hindrance in tackling the cases spot fixing is the illegal status of betting in India. It makes the whole betting industry go underground. Government should take progressive step to legalize it. Once under the legal frame, it will help the law enforcement agency keep an eye on the functioning of it. It will also help players report to these agencies without the apprehensions of being detained and banned.

An stringent law will surely encourage accountability and transparency in the functioning of sports associations in India. But it should be comprehensive and considerate in implementation as the performance of a player on given day is affected by many factors. The law will serve great purpose if applied on the administration aspect of the sports. It is the bottom -up approach that will benefit the sports in India.

Question . What are the challenges of corruption? How does it impact society? Comment. (200 Words)

Answer -Corruption is not new to mankind, but the level and its impact on society varies with time.

Post liberalization, where role of state is redefined and restricted to social welfare and guide private sector, but this has created a nexus between corporate, political class and bureaucrat ,all sharing fruits of corruption. thus making it biggest challenge.

The gap between people and political class is increasing ,as latter enjoys money and muscle power to breed corruption.

The apathy of police and delayed justice from courts act as encouraging factor for corrupt authority.

Legal provision are few to prevent corruption like missing lokpal, protect whistle blower and citizen charter, passing of these pending bills in itself a challenge for our legislature.

The general apathy, poor awareness of rights, poor literacy of people and misguided media make it further hard to reduce corruption.

Impacts on society

Social : It demoralizes its citizen, faith in public institutions is eroded and the whole democratic structure is liable to collapse in longer run.

Quality of services delivered is poor and thus effects critical sector like education, health nutrition ,which in turn promotes poverty ,crime etc.

Economic :It increases Economic disparity, wastage of resources and create a

black economy which is source of funding to criminal activities,terrorism and left wing extremism.

Political :corrupt government losses legitimacy and either makes citizen politically inactive or give chance to authoritarian rule.

Active civil society ,more strict law and stricter implemtation,vigilant media and increased use of ICT will act as panacea to corruption

Question - Critically analyze the recently passed Whistleblowers' Protection Bill and its necessity in India.

Answer - Whistleblowers' Protection Bill seeks to establish a regular mechanism to encourage information disclosure on willful misuse of power or corruption by public servants, including ministers.

It widens the definition of disclosure by covering willful misuse of power. But disclosure of identity to competent authority during public interest disclosure shall obstruct the free flow of information.

It seeks to provide adequate protection to whistleblower which is appreciable. But it also provides punishment for false or frivolous complaint. While this may provide cover to public servants against false allegations, it may also deter people from approaching authority for disclosure.

Also there is no provision for retrospective application of Bill for prior whistleblowing cases. For them government brought a resolution in 2004, empowering Central Vigilance Commission to protect the whistleblowers.

In India Right to Information has become a potent tool to keep a vigil on government functioning. Whistleblower Protection Bill is expected to supplement it in curbing menace of corruption.

Further because of large population, myriad regional issues & scarcity of government officials in India, it is preferable to encourage helping hand from whistleblowers. It shall also ensure transparency & check corruption in India.

Therefore Whistleblower bill may prove as new dawn for India's administrative

functioning, if its proper implementation is ensured by government.

Challenges of Corruption

Q--With an example, explain how the recent verdict by the Supreme Court that prior sanction is not mandatory for the CBI to conduct probe against a senior official will have implications on corruption and good governance.

Supreme Court held that prior sanction is not mandatory for the Central Bureau of Investigation to conduct a probe against senior bureaucrats in corruption cases. It held that Section 6A of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, which granted protection to joint secretary and above officers from facing even a preliminary inquiry by the CBI in corruption cases, was violative of Article 14.

We can see example of custom department, where exporters and importers face many problems due to corrupt officers. Most exporters and importers retain agents to deal and negotiate with these officers.

Where the goods are importable without a license and on payment of full duties, most consignments get through without much hassle. But when some issues arise which could delay the consignments, these importers pay bribes easily understanding the cost of delay. Small importers also pay bribes to avoid the costly litigation.

Custom generally doesn't hold the export consignments by sometimes, when matters like clearance against advance authorizations or issues on eligibility for any benefits or overvaluation tend to delay the consignment, exporters do not mind to fulfill the demand of corrupt officials. For dealing with Directorate General of Foreign Trade offices, most exporters hire consultants and ensure smooth processing of their claims. There is widespread perception that bribes are necessary to get the items.

Complex laws and heavy documentation requirements increase the scope for errors and corruption. These problems will not go away easily unless the laws are clear and easy

to follow. By removing the need to get a sanction for investigation, the Supreme Court has removed a shield for the corrupt. It will help if the senior decision makers let go of their discretion and bring in systemic changes that make it easier for exporters and importers to conduct business.

The official would be under a constant knowledge that if they are caught misusing their power and going against the law book, they would be investigated and prosecuted according to which was earlier not possible because the evidences were lost while waiting for the sanctions and resulting in miscarriage of justice and ultimately an encouragement to corruption.

Q--Critically comment on the important provisions of the Lokpal act which became operational in 2013.

Critically examine the contours of India's relationship with Israel vis a vis Palestine issue.

India's relationship with Israel is shaped by 2 factors. India's support for Palestinian cause and importance of Israel to India's interests.

Historically, India had been a staunch supporter of the Palestinian movement, but also sympathetic to the suffering Jews had to through.

But things are changing and we have loosened our stand on Palestinian liberation.

India Israel relations have improved considerably in the last decade or so. Israel is the second largest supplier of defence equipment. The technologies Israel supplies are unique and there is no alternative to it. India Israel relations have spread out to other areas such as space technologies, agriculture especially because Israel has mastered the technology of arid region agriculture. Trade has been increasing over the years. Israel's supply of defence equipment in a short notice during the Kargil war shows that it is a trustworthy partner.

But, in the Palestinian issue. India has to consider its economic interest with Israel but also make sure it does not antagonise the huge Muslim population in the country. Also, there is a concern that even though India supports Palestinian cause, there will be inclination of Palestinians towards Pakistan.

Keeping in mind the above issues, India has to deal with Israel in a diplomatic and intelligible way by protecting its economic and defence interest and also being critical of human rights violations.

Q--Critically discuss how the Indian society has behaved and changed in response to inefficient governance and corruption in public life during the post economic reforms years.

Indian society has shown a mixed response while tackling with corruption and inefficiency in governance.

Corruption prompted citizens to seek change in Delhi government. Insecurity for women & skyrocketing food prices instigated conflicts between government & public. Ordinance promulgation & strict guidelines for women safety calmed the aggressive public.

Issues like naxalism, extremism & communalism tested patience of society. In some cases like Lokpal bill, people showed aggressive behaviour & pressurised government for quick action. But spontaneous democracy is not always a replacement for mass democracy.

People devised new methods like social media to express their anguish. Pro-active media & civil society made people aware & conscious for their rights. Increased voter turn-outs in recent Lok Sabha as well as State Assembly Elections are signs of maturing society.

But increased corruption & inefficiency also enhanced apathy against government machinery. Increasing admissions in private schools & deteriorating faith in mechanisms like grievance redressal show a widening gap between society & government.

In spite of all these odds, India has marched towards path of development. Achievements like Polio eradication, reduction in poverty & high growth of economy show that welfare steps taken by government are whole heartedly supported by society.

India seems to be finally shunning its "chalta hein!" attitude towards corruption in public life. Its behavior has changed from complacency to activism and there has been an organic social change in response to corruption.

Post reforms, the middle class has grown in power and prominence. It is they who spear head the movement against corruption. Previously corruption used to be accommodated as a fact of life, but not any more.

Emboldened by a judiciary frowning upon despotism and reforms ushering in a measure of transparency in governance the anti-corruption movement has grown and allied with each other, utilizing the increased media penetration and new telecommunication.

But, the anti-corruption movement is still a concern of the urban middle-class and them only. For the vast poor and rural millions of India, corruption is still a non-mazor issue.

The movements are often sporadic in nature, with no recognizable national plat-form for sustained action raising cogent pragmatic demands with clear prioritization. It took them a decade and half, post-reforms, to secure something as basic as Right To Information.

The changes in society has been multifarious. Ill-begotten wealth is now frowned upon. Corrupt individuals face social sanction. Society has come a long way from calling an honest official "idiot" to praising him as "honorable". Society as a collective is beginning to buttress individual struggles for justice.

While all this is welcome change, it retains an elitist and urbane character. But it is heartening to note that the change has begun and has done so in the upper rungs of society, because such change would eventually trickle down.

So, while there has been a positive change in Indian attitudes and constructive change in its response, towards corruption, It is far from maturity both in terms of quantity and quality. We still have 'miles to go' before we sleep.

Q--Critically analyse various ethical issues involved in recent Sahara case involving the Chairman of Sahara group, investors and the Supreme Court

- 1.. Accountability of sahara towards consumers.
2. Honesty lacking in sahara chief.
- 3.consumer satisfaction is not given highest priority
- 4.lack of timeliness in service delivery...not able to pay money on time.
5. Responsibility lacking from sahara side .
- 6.lack of professional attitude
- 7.lack of transparency in Sahara company system

Sahara episode, uncovered by SEBI & presently being prosecuted in Supreme Court, is a saga of violated ethical principles, unfulfilled obligations & infringed rights.

From the very beginning, when Sahara raised billions from small investors through mysterious financial schemes, it has been indulging in deception by manipulating facts & deliberately omitting critical information. Neither is it returning back investor's money. Thus, it has dishonored the principle of fidelity by playing with investors' faith & breaking business & moral commitments.

Even now in its trial, Sahara is continuously flouting court's orders. It is using pressure-tactics to influence the course of judgment.

Other side Judges should also not criminalize one person in place of company....

