

**IAS BABA**



**TLP 2022**

**Phase 2 - Compilation**

**Part 1/2**

**GS 4**



**1. The first step in the evolution of ethics is a sense of solidarity with other human beings. What do you understand by this statement? Explain.**

### **Approach**

A simple straightforward question, where candidate can start with a brief relation of ethics and solidarity. Then candidate needs to explain the importance of solidarity in the evolution of ethics.

### **Introduction-**

Solidarity is a feeling of unity between people who have the same interests, goals, etc. that includes binding individuals into a cohesive collectively on the basis of normative obligations. It is also an authentic moral virtue, not a “feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far.

### **Body:**

#### **Solidarity and community development**

- Solidarity is the association of various individuals, different groups, and even institutions working together for the well-being of our civil society. It's a concept that embodies a moral obligation both to those who're close to us and to people who are of a different race, ethnicity, or society than we are.
- Solidarity can be built in many ways, and the more mechanical solidarity we develop with each other as a human family, the more united we fight for justice and peace.
- The principle of solidarity is a socio-ethical and political concept which states that it is fair and just that benefits and obligations are justly shared between members of the society.

#### **Importance of solidarity**

- Ethics is a group concept: Presence of a sense of solidarity is needed to form a societal group which is a basic requirement for ethics to exist. Example- when religious riots take place, absence of solidarity causes more destruction.
- Formation of ethical values: The formation of the value system of the society is due to the contribution by members of society. Example- in a multicultural society, persons from different background contribute to evolution of society. Example- bhakti movement created solidarity among different groups.
- Changing ethical values: Act of disobedience with the prevalent values can lead to change in such values as done by socio-religious reform movements in the 19th century.

- Enforcing ethical conduct: A person resists to violate the ethical values due to the fear of getting expelled from society. This fear arises due to the fact that humans feel a sense of bond with others. Solidarity acts as solid foundation of our social being.
- Accountability and responsibility: Solidarity in human beings leads to their sensitization towards others. Such changes make them more and more accountable and responsible for their actions. Accountability and responsibility, when coming from inside of an individual, can transform the face of the society. Example- Jyoti singh, nirbhaya rape victim suffered because of lack of solidarity, both victims cried for help for hours, only to get help after it was too late.

We feel an obligation to consider not only our own personal well-being but also that of others and of human society as a whole, and it is in the extension of this notion of solidarity with others that the first evolution of ethics is to be seen. Solidarity forms the basis of the evolution of ethics in society in the following ways:

- Evolution of ethics, therefore, starts with a feeling of solidarity towards each other and then individual ethics transforms into ethics of the society and eventually of the nation.
- Presence of a sense of solidarity is needed to form a societal group which is a basic requirement for ethics to exist.
- The main motivation in the present times comes from the increasing realization that adversity anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere. Solidarity and reciprocity thus take the form of enlightened self-interest.
- The formation of the value system of the society is due to the contribution by members of society.
- It is a matter of the greatest practical, as well as ethical urgency, to prevent the split between the two worlds from widening, and to restore a sense of solidarity among people.
- We uphold humanitarianism as a framework for recognizing dilemmas and a formula for resolving them. Once human welfare has been placed firmly at the center of individual and collective concerns, however, there are still a host of questions to be resolved in any specific set of circumstances. The humanitarian perspective includes an ethical orientation that equips us to approach these difficult questions: an ethic of human solidarity.

### **Conclusion**

The task of building a consensus around an ethic of human solidarity is a long-term proposition. The key is to engage individuals in collective action at all levels: to bring the needy to see themselves as individuals whose primary purpose is self-sufficiency; and to bring to those in a position to help, the understanding that true self-realization involves the alleviation of others' suffering. An ethical nation is stronger



because every citizen is aware of his/her actions and its consequences. As Swami Vivekananda has said -"If faith in ourselves had been more extensively taught and practiced, I am sure a very large portion of the evils and miseries would have vanished."

## **2. Do you think ethics are more important than laws? Substantiate your views with the help of suitable arguments.**

### **Approach**

Candidates are expected to write what is ethics and law first and then simply explain why there is primacy or importance to the ethics than laws. Candidates need to substantiate with suitable arguments and also try to give some examples.

### **Introduction-**

Laws are rules of conduct that government creates and requires people to obey whereas ethics refers to human conduct based on a set of established standards. Law and Ethics are considered to be the two tools for controlling human conduct so as to make it conducive for civilized social existence.

### **Body:**

Ethical conduct as compared to laws in human society is considered paramount as it is based on critical thinking and reason:

- Based on society's beliefs, laws are created and enforced by governments to mediate in our relationships with each other.
- Laws must be followed by all, including private citizens, groups and companies as well as public figures, organizations and institutions. Laws set out standards, procedures and principles that must be followed.
- While laws carry with them a punishment for violations, ethics does not. In ethics everything depends on the person's conscience and self worth.
- For example, driving carefully and within the speed limit because a person not wanting to hurt someone is ethical, but if one drives slowly because he/she see's a police car behind, this suggests fear of breaking the law and being punished for it.
- Ethics comes from within a person's moral sense and desire to preserve his self respect. It is not as strict as laws. Laws are codifications of certain ethical values meant to help regulate society, and punishments for breaking them can be harsh and sometimes even break ethical standards.
- For example, take the case of the death penalty. Everyone knows that killing someone is wrong, yet the law punishes people who break the law with death.
- Furthermore, laws play role as a punitive tool towards ensuring ethical conduct in humans in a civilised society. Child labour acts in statute books

around the world are a case in point where ethical behavior of not employing child labours is ensured through legislations for the same.

- An illegal act may be deemed more ethical than when following law to the book. For example, the act of whistleblowing to bring out information important for the society can be seen as illegal but many consider it an ethical conduct. The case of Edward Snowden and Julian Assange clearly demonstrates this phenomenon.
- Rigid implementation of laws also cannot serve the purpose of ethical conduct as is evident from the recent Supreme Court judgement with respect to Forest Rights Act for tribals in India. Here, many tribals have been ordered to vacate their traditional dwelling places owing to SC's interpretation of archaic laws.

Where there are laws but still society lacks morality:

- We have well-defined tax laws, but there are less compliance and tax avoidance by using loopholes in tax laws, which is immoral.
- There are harsh punishments for rape by laws, but every minute a girl is being raped in the world.
- Similarly, we have laws for theft but it is happening every now and then.
- In spite of constitutional provisions, we still see cases of untouchability as the full moral conscience of the people has not been aroused in favour of such laws.

### **Conclusion:**

Thus, it can be seen that laws can ensure ethical conduct provided that the law making procedure is guided by ethical thinking while also realising that ethical conduct of an individual has many inspirations where internal human conscience is the most important one driving the ethical behavior of humans.

### **3. With the help of suitable examples, explain the significance of ethics for the legal profession.**

#### **Introduction-**

Ethics are beliefs and principles that, in conjunction with norms of conduct and legislation, govern a profession, such as law. The main goal of legal ethics is to protect the legal profession's honour and dignity by fostering a spirit of cordial cooperation, mutual and fair dealing between counsel and clients, and assuring lawyers' societal duties.

#### **Body-**

The Ethical Paradox a legal professional faces are-

- Legal Rules vs Ethical codes.

- Professional competence vs Empathy towards victim of injustice.
- Legal professionalism vs Quick resolution of disputes.
- Hefty Rewards vs Satisfaction when innocent is acquitted.

#### **Significance of Ethics for Legal Profession-**

- **Upholding the Rule of Law and Access to Justice:**

As upholders of the rule of law and protectors of individual rights against power abuses, the legal profession bears a significant role in society. If lawyers do not uphold and promote values of justice, fairness, and equity, the law will be tarnished, and public trust in the legal system will be eroded, obstructing access to justice.

For Example-Soli Sorabjee, an eminent lawyer concluded that a person must not be ethically denied to fight in hand case for the reason new client offers hefty fees to fight his case immediately. Hence access to justice of everyone is fundamentally based on ethical competence of lawyer.

- **Maintaining the Reputation of the Legal Profession-**

The reputation of the legal profession is linked to how the public views the administration of justice

For Example-Seema Kushwaha, the lawyer in Nirbhaya case proved that when Rape victim is afforded justice by good legal assistance, it gives a message to society that justice is alive and everyone has a right to access justice.

- **Accountability-**

If there are ethical standards in place that clearly define the duties of lawyers, they can be held accountable if they fall short of them. The legal profession should also implement robust disciplinary procedures to ensure that ethics are enforced.

For Instance, If a lawyer try to blame a client about misinformation when they lose a case even if the information was not required in first place. This defies his accountability towards his clients. SC lawyer Shanti Bhushan pressed for both prejudicial and post judicial accountability.

- **Confidentiality-**

Lawyers have an obligation to keep their clients' affairs private, and the conditions under which they are permitted to reveal client information are highly limited.

Example: Revealing private information of client except in certain circumstances to outside individual may affect the dignity and self- respect of the client and can put him in additional trauma.

- **Avoiding a Conflict of Interest-**

The conflict of interest that may arise can be in personal or professional capacity. It is expected from the attorney to inform the client and keep transparency in his conduct. Recusal, Disclosure or Removal by resigning from position are to be looked up as an option to deal with conflict of interest.

Example: Former CJI Ranjan Gogoi were criticized for Conflict of Interest in a case hearing where he was present in the bench to decide verdict in his own case.

- **Duty to protect Human Rights-**

Striving to defend the client's interests includes working to protect fundamental rights. Human rights principles also influence ethical rules.

For Instance- Menaka Guruswamy as a professional Human Rights Lawyer has been instrumental in defending a provision in the Right to Education Act mandating that all private schools admit disadvantaged children



**Mechanisms for Ensuring Ethics-**

- **Raising Awareness amongst Lawyers:** The Legal profession has a duty to raise awareness of ethical duties and to ensure that lawyers receive training and education on ethical standards.
- **Raising Awareness amongst the Public:** Ethics rules and principles must be clearly documented and easily available to the general public. Information about ethics or a copy of an ultimate code of conduct could be made available in public venues such as libraries, courts, hospitals, universities, mosques, or other information sites once it has been developed.
- **Enforcing Ethics through Disciplinary Procedures:** It is necessary for ethical standards or a code of conduct to be enforceable in order for them to be effective. Disciplinary actions are essential for ensuring that ethical principles are followed.
- **Using Technology in Law administration:** By analysing the efficiencies and experience of judge or lawyers in a particular role based on record using artificial intelligence and data analytics can guide in allotment of cases.

**Conclusion-**

It is said that the most valuable asset of a profession is its collective reputation and the trust that it inspires. The legal profession, in particular, must have the community's trust, and young professionals are the future roots of success.

**4. What are your views on the Agnipath scheme? Discuss its pros and cons.****Approach**

Candidate is expected to elaborately discuss the scheme while giving out the factual details. In the second part, pros and cons can be discussed along with the way forward and conclusion.

**Introduction**

The Union Cabinet on 14 June had approved a recruitment scheme for Indian youth to serve in the Armed Forces. The scheme is called AGNEEPATH and the youth selected under this scheme will be known as Agniveers. Under the new scheme, around 45,000 to 50,000 soldiers will be recruited annually, and most will leave the service in just four years. Of the total annual recruits, only 25 per cent will be allowed to continue for another 15 years under permanent commission.

**Body****What is the Agnipath scheme?**

- The government unveiled its new Agnipath scheme for recruiting soldiers across the three services (Army, Navy, and Air force). Agnipath scheme

changes the recruitment policy of non-officer personnel to the armed forces is being termed as a radical shift.

- **Eligibility-** The new system is only for personnel below officer ranks (those who do not join the forces as commissioned officers). Aspirants between the ages of 17.5 years and 21 years will be eligible to apply. The recruitment standards will remain the same, and recruitment will be done twice a year through rallies.
- **After recruitment-** The four-year tenure under the new scheme will include a training period of around two-and-a-half months to six months.
- **Salary-** The monthly salary of an "Agniveer" in the first year of employment would be ₹30,000 and the in-hand amount would be ₹21,000 as ₹9,000 would go to a corpus with an equal contribution from the government. Subsequently, the monthly salary in the second, third and fourth years will be ₹33,000, ₹36,500, and ₹40,000. Each "Agniveer" will get an amount of ₹11.71 lakh as the "Seva Nidhi Package" and it will be exempted from income tax.
- **Insurance-** They will get a INR 48 lakh life insurance cover for the four years. In case of death, the payout will be over INR 1 crore, including pay for the unserved tenure. There shall be no entitlement to gratuity and pensionary benefits.

#### Post service

- Post the recruitment for four years, the Agniveers will be infused into the civil society where they can contribute immensely towards the nation building process.
- The skills gained by each Agniveer will be recognised in a certificate to form part of his unique resume.
- Agniveers, on completion of the four-year tenure in the prime of their youth, will be mature and self-disciplined with the realisation to become better version of himself/herself both professionally as also personally.

#### Pros of the scheme

- It will create "future-ready" soldiers with more agility and modern day skills required to face modern day challenges.
- The move will make the permanent force levels much leaner for the over 13-lakh strong armed forces in the country. The average age in the forces is 32 years today. It is expected to go down to 26 in 6 to 7 years with the implementation of the scheme. Today, the number of sepoy has fallen below 40%, in 1978 it was 72%.
- Benefits to jawan after service- The skills and experience acquired during the 4-year service will allow the soldiers to get employment in various fields. This will also lead to availability of a higher-skilled workforce to the economy.
- Less burden on exchequer- A leaner force and reduced benefits will considerably decrease the defence bill. This year's Budget estimate on defense pension is INR 1,33,826 Crore which is 4.4% of total expenditure



(0.6% of the GDP). Pensions made up 28.4% of this year's defense budget. Further, the saved money can be utilized to buy state-of-art technology and equipment which are the backbone of modern warfare.

- Buffer force- The ex-agniveers could act as an adhoc buffer force who may be called to serve again for boosting national security in times of external/internal threats.
- Modern day challenges- All major militaries in the world are undergoing reform. There is a trend towards reduction in the number of personnel and emphasis on increasing capital expenditure on modern weapons and equipment. In modern armed forces around the world, the service period ranges from 2 to 8 years with options for active and reservist service, similar thing is being tried in India.

### Cons of the scheme

- Employment uncertainty- Agniveers may have to face hardships in getting employment after 4 years of service. Especially when meaningful employment opportunities in significant or adequate numbers still elude an ever-increasing number of graduates. Further, 'trained-to-kill' soldiers being demobilized every year could prove dangerous if they remain jobless and frustrated.
- Training and morale of the force- experts believe that shorter duration service could compromise on training, morale and commitment in comparison to the permanent recruits. Agniveers may turn out of to be risk-averse with the bulk looking to secure an alternate career.
- Current vacancies- There are more than one lakh vacancies in the Indian Army alone since the last two years, but under the new policy government hopes to hire only 46,000 "agniveer" this year. Age limit issue may have been addressed for now but limitations being put to long term employment option in the armed forces is demoralising for a large number of youth.

### What can be done?

- Many countries like the U.S.A. follow the voluntary tour of duty model where the deployment is based on the needs of the military and branch of service.
- While there are countries like Israel, Norway, North Korea, Sweden, which have mandatory tour called conscription.
- Indian armed force with its new move is trying to balance the approach towards the employment in armed forces.
- The absence of a pension can act as a spoiler. The Government should help rehabilitate soldiers who leave the services after four years. They can be provided with skill certificates and bridge courses that will help them in finding gainful employment.

### Conclusion

Indian armed forces are in need of much awaited reforms from recruitment to modern warfare adaptability. Agniveer scheme, seen as a bold step is not sitting well with the aspiring students. Dialogue, deliberation and consensus can be the way forward.

### 5. In startup parlance, what do you understand by unicorns? Explain? Why are they important for the economy? Discuss.

#### Approach

Candidates need to highlight and define what is unicorn company in the startup world. And then straightaway write about the importance of the unicorn startups to the economic growth and how it is leading Indian economic growth.

#### Introduction

A unicorn is any privately owned firm with a market capitalization of more than USD 1 billion. It denotes new entities dedicated to offering creative solutions and new business models, among other things. There are several categories like fintech, Edtechs, B2B (Business-to-Business) companies, etc.

#### Body

Common features of unicorns

- Disruptive innovation: Almost all unicorns have caused a disruption in their respective fields; for example, Uber revolutionised commuting.
- Technology-driven: The company's business plan is based on the most recent technical advancements and trends.
- Consumer-focused: Their goal is to make things easier for customers and to become a part of their daily lives.
- Software-based: According to a recent survey, 87 percent of unicorn products are software, 7% are hardware, and the other 6% are various products and services.

Unicorns in India:

- After the United States and China, India has become the world's third-largest start-up ecosystem. From 733 in 2016-17, the number of newly recognised start-ups climbed to over 14000 in 2021-22.

- In 2022, India's startup ecosystem surpassed the milestone of 100 unicorns, each worth more than \$300 billion.
- In 2021, 44 Indian start-ups became unicorns, bringing the total number of unicorns to 83, the majority of which are in the services sector.

Unicorn importance for the economy:

- The pandemic accelerated the adoption of digital services by consumers helping start-ups and new-age ventures build tech-focused businesses for customers.
- Many Indians moved to online services exploring a host of services ranging from food delivery and Edu-tech to e-grocery.
- The Work-from-home culture helped increase the number of start-ups' user base and expedited their business expansion plans and attracting investors.
- Many startups become unicorns as a result of buyouts from major public corporations that prefer to focus on acquisitions to grow their business rather than investing in internal growth.
- Many of these unicorns, which have cumulatively raised more than 9 billion dollars till date, have also seen a surge in valuations.
- Many Indians who had traditionally been subscribers of brick-and-mortar businesses moved online and explored a host of services ranging from food delivery and edu-tech to e-grocery.
- The pandemic accelerated adoption of digital services by consumers helping start-ups and new-age ventures that typically build tech-focused businesses delivering an array of offerings to customers.

### Conclusion

The word 'unicorn' has come a long way from just being a mythological creature to a regular feature in business and finance discussions. Innovation and economic growth depend on being able to produce excellent individuals with the right skills and attitudes to be entrepreneurial in their professional lives.

**6. We come nearest to the great when we are great in humility. What do you understand by this statement? Contextualise.**

### Approach

Candidate can explain the principle behind humility. In the body part, humility as a virtue can be explained while highlighting the psychological angle of self-image. In the end, egalitarian view of humility can be underlined with a conclusion.

### Introduction



The above quote by Maharshi Debendranath Tagore, underlines the importance of staying humble. Humility is the ability to view oneself accurately as an individual with talents as well as flaws while being void of arrogance and low self-esteem. Humility is not always acknowledged as a relevant trait to possess, but it is in fact a remarkable character strength.

### Body

#### What is humility?

- As the revolutionary Nelson Mandela once said “The first thing is to be honest with yourself. You can never have an impact on society if you have not changed yourself... Great peacemakers are all people of integrity, of honesty, but humility.”
- The definition of humility is the feeling or attitude that you have no special importance that makes you better than others or having a lack of pride. At first glance, humility seems like a negative quality, almost like a sign of weakness rather than a strength.
- It is in fact the opposite, humility is having the self-esteem to understand that even though you are doing well, you do not have to brag or gloat about it.
- It is important to stay humble because having humility not only helps you develop a more kind approach to interacting with others but it also influences how you perceive yourself and the world around you.

#### Why humility is a great virtue?

##### Broadens Perspective of Self

- Humility can produce more happiness, positive emotions, and well-being because a person has a clearer understanding of the self.
- Humility also helps in the development of self-growth and self-awareness, because it allows one to rationally acknowledge ways in which a person can improve the self.

##### Humility Strengthens connection with others

- Humility helps one extend more compassion and empathy to others. Those who practice humility are more likely to consider others beliefs and opinions.
- This is most likely because humility offers the opportunity to become less self-involved and more attuned with the feelings of others.
- If one is able to be happy for others and their accomplishments and not be consumed by jealousy or self-pity, this can help develop more positive relationships.

##### Humility broadens perspective of the world

- Humility can help develop a more profound and evolved outlook of the world and what is going on in it.
- Humility allows one to consciously be aware that you bring worth to this world but that there are many others in the world who also have a purpose.

Humility strengthens connection between spirituality & well-Being

- Humility is a religious virtue. There is a correlation between humility, positive well-being, religion, and spirituality.
- Researchers discovered that for those with a moderate amount of humility acts as a moderator that helps facilitate positive psychological functioning.

Egalitarian view of humility

- Humility offers an individual complete freedom from the desire to impress, be right, or get ahead. Frustrations and losses have less impact on a humble ego and a humble person confidently receives opportunity to grow, improve, and reject society's labels. A humble life results in contentment, patience, forgiveness, and compassion.
- Individually, we comprehend only a small, unique fraction of the world. But together, we arrive at a far-grander view of the Universe. Humble people realize their understanding is limited and embrace it. As a result, they wisely look for answers outside of themselves.

### **Conclusion**

All human life carries an inherent value. Our souls hold no more value or importance than the person sitting next to us, no matter where we may be sitting. A humble person appreciates the fact that the world does not revolve around him or her. Humility makes an individual invincible soul which cannot be broken, moulded or defeated. The strength humility offers in return is nothing short of greatness.

### **7. Who is your ideal as an administrator? What inspires you about him? Discuss.**

#### **Approach**

Candidates are expected to write about one of a upright inspiring administrator. Write about there methods and there principles how they have created the impact on Indian social milieus or in general administrator how all there work inspires you.

#### **Introduction-**

Change is hard. Lasting, systemic change is even harder. Lasting change, in one of the world's most complex socio-cultural milieus, with a population of over 1.3 billion, is even tough to fathom, let alone execute.

**Body:**

Parameswaran Iyer IAS officer who also belongs to the cult of Indian super bureaucrats like T.N. Seshan, Amitabh Kant and K.J. Alphons. All of them are mission-mode stars of a slothful bureaucracy.

Administrator who can inspire to bring social reform for welfare:

- Parameswaran Iyer has built 11 crore toilets all over India in 60 months, creating an army of six lakh swachhgrahis to carry forward the Swachh Bharat idea, and inspired over 600 skilled young professionals (Zila Swachh Bharat Preraks) who are financed by Tata Trusts.
- It was this kind of a transformative endeavor of mammoth proportions that former Secretary to the Government of India Parameswaran Iyer led, making the Swachh Bharat Mission the world's largest sanitation revolution.
- Just like T.N. Seshan changed the way the Election Commission was run and reinforced confidence in its independence, and Amitabh Kant showed us how to market India as a destination through his Incredible India campaign.
- Param Iyer, as he is called, will forever be associated with the people's movement Swachh Bharat has become this will inspires the most of aspiring candidates.
- Iyer inspires much loyalty among his largely young staff. But he also inspires admiration among his peers and seniors.
- He is extremely inspirational and motivational. He sets ambitious targets, drives aggressively from the front, builds a cohesive team, believes in community participation and behavioural change.
- He is constantly on the move, travelling to remote areas, monitoring, evaluating, strategising delivery on the ground.
- He is a rare officer who can deliver challenging projects of immense size and scale like the Swachh Bharat Mission. In 2014, when the Prime Minister talked about toilets from the Red Fort, 61 per cent Indians were still defecating in the open.
- The Swachh Bharat revolution has been able to bring 55 crore people out of open defecation. The use of toilets has gone up by 90 per cent.
- Swachh Bharat Mission under Iyer was compared to the previous sanitation programmes was that the government was attempting to change behaviour at an unprecedented scale, and in record time.
- As Iyer remarks in community-driven programme when the triggering takes place, everyone in the community is there. And when they understand why it is important, they start doing it cleaning the toilets themselves this sort of template can be used to bring social revolution in India and target different social evils.
- His attitude to bring change which has far more major implications than the big infrastructure projects inspires the most kind India needs many more of.



- He's an out and out team man who knows how to get things moving. He believes in going out into the field to gauge the state of affairs and motivate field workers.

**Conclusion:**

Moving the needle on social issues often proves challenging and elusive. But if young changemakers follow the courage of their convictions just like such Indian administrators they can literally change the world.

**8. Do you think educational institutions have ceased to inculcate values, What are its implications for society? Examine.****Approach**

In this question candidates need to write about their opinion on Values, And is education institutions have ceased to inculcate values. In second part of question write about its implications on the society at large ? Examine.

**Introduction**

“The aim of education is the knowledge, not facts but of values.” –William Ralph. Schools and colleges play an eminent role in cultivating these values in the young minds. Discipline, accountability, integrity, team work, compassion, trust and honesty are the most important values which are introduced in the schools.

**Body**

- Teacher should act as a role model to inculcate the above values in the students. However, due to commercialization of education teaching has become a pure profession rather than a passion.
- Success of a student is being measured only in terms of ranks and grades which is resulting loss of values such as integrity and discipline. Students are encouraged to adopt any means-moral or immoral to achieve good grades. For example, Bihar board examinations where mass copying was done.
- It has also caused increased stress in the minds of students which has resulted in unfortunate events like ending the life of another student just to avoid an exam i.e. Gurugram school incident and Mumbai incident where twelve year student kills teacher.
- In order to reduce the expenditure, several schools have outsourced transport and house-keeping to third party which lead to unauthenticated staff entering the premises. This has resulted in sexual assaults and rape of innocent children, especially in national capital and other major cities. Trust in the educational institutions is lost.

- Moral vacuum created in the schools and colleges have lead to incidents such as drug abuse and intolerance towards fellow classmates. Schools and colleges have been far from successful in preventing such events.
- Increased use of social media and internet has distanced the hearts of human beings. Team work and compassion have been lost. Students have become insensitive to the problems of self and society at large thus falling prey to games like Blue-Whale challenge.
- Role of the education institution is limited upto a certain extent in shaping up the values. It largely also depends upon the upbringing of the child by his/her family. The conduct of the parents becomes utmost important which we as children observe and learn from them.
- The prime concern of education is to evolve the good, the true and the divine in man so as to establish a moral life in the world. It should essentially make a man pious, perfect and truthful.
- The welfare of humanity lies neither in scientific or technological advancements nor in acquisition of material comforts. The main function of education is to enrich the character. What we need today more than anything else is moral leadership founded on courage, intellectual integrity and a sense of values.
- Since education is a powerful instrument of social change and human progress, it is also a powerful tool to cultivate values in an individual. Therefore all the educational institutes have greater responsibility to impart learning and cultivation of values through education.

**Implications on Society:**

- Implications on Self: Loss of self-worth and confidence. Bad attributes like greed, jealousy, revenge, violence are cultivated as a result. Though one can be a successful lawyer, engineer or a doctor but one will remain as ethical dwarf without values.
- School is a building with four walls with a brighter tomorrow inside. If schools fail to inculcate values then future generation may be influenced by societal evils. Increase in intolerance, radicalization, gender discrimination and crime may be seen.
- As education is antidote to many social evils its almost inevitable to inculcate the good value in students otherwise as a society no matter how much progress we make in science and technology we may be eventually doomed.

**Conclusion:**

Schools and colleges must ensure that strong value system is in place right from the childhood through timely ethical education. Value education is the first step for a peaceful and happy society. Assimilating this value through education will invigorate an individual's physical, mental, enthusiastic prosperity. It builds youngster's character, perspectives, propensity, development, and so forth.

**9. Examine the geopolitical significance of BRICS. Do you think BRICS can reach its potential in the light of evolving world affairs?**

**Approach**

Student can elaborate on the formation on the BRICS and the objectives behind. While highlighting the significance of BRICS, challenges in evolving world affairs can be given with a way forward.

**Introduction**

BRICS is an acronym for Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill coined the term BRIC (without South Africa) in 2001, claiming that by 2050 the four BRIC economies would come to dominate the global economy by 2050. South Africa was added to the list in 2010.

**Body**

**Objectives of BRICS**

- BRICS accounts for about 40% of the world's population and about 30% of the GDP (Gross Domestic Product), making it a critical economic engine. It's an emerging investment market and global power bloc.
- The BRICS seeks to deepen, broaden and intensify cooperation within the grouping and among the individual countries for more sustainable, equitable and mutually beneficial development.
- BRICS takes into consideration each member's growth, development and poverty objectives to ensure relations are built on the respective country's economic strengths and to avoid competition where possible.
- BRICS is emerging as a new and promising political-diplomatic entity with diverse objectives, far beyond the original objective of reforming global financial institutions.

**Significance of BRICS**

- The main reason for co-operation to start among the BRICs nation was the financial crises of 2008. The crises raised doubts over sustainability of the dollar-dominated monetary system.
- The BRICS called for the "the reform of multilateral institutions in order that they reflect the structural changes in the world economy and the increasingly central role that emerging markets now play".
- The world today witnesses increasing factors of instability, uncertainty and insecurity. It is of great significance for the BRICS nations to reach consensus and outcomes on multiple important issues concerning global security and development.



- A stronger BRICS will strengthen solidarity and cooperation in the face of challenges with firm conviction, and take real actions to promote peace and development, and uphold fairness and justice. BRICS will inject more strength into global development.
- BRICS managed to push for institutional reform which led to International Monetary Fund (IMF) quota reform in 2010. Thus the financial crises had momentarily reduced western legitimacy and briefly let the BRICS countries become “agenda setters” in multilateral institutions.

### **BRICS and challenges in evolving world affairs**

- BRICS members don't discuss bilateral issues, but issues like the India-China border dispute and PLA transgressions over the LAC are bound to have an impact on BRICS solidarity in the long run.
- Contrasting Approaches On terrorism: The recent blocking by China of an attempt by India to sanction the LeT terrorist, Abdul Rehman Makki, at the UNSC sanctions committee, served as a reminder of contrasting approaches.
- Ukraine issue- On Ukraine, the bloc affirmed a commitment to respect sovereignty, despite Russia's actions, and stopped short of condemning NATO, as Russia and China have done, reflecting different views within BRICS.
- Relationship with West- While China and Russia have come closer with the announcement of a no-limits partnership, the rest have all made outreaches to the US and Europe.
- Russia-China Axis: Ties between countries such as Russia and China are growing at a much strong pace than the group's own cohesion
- On UN Reforms: India and Brazil have made common cause on pushing for an expanded UN Security Council, yet China has suggested it is not in favour of a permanent seat for India.
- Little in Common: Started as an alternate grouping of emerging economies that could challenge the post-War world order, it has been criticised as a rag-tag band of disparate countries across four continents with little in common.
- BRICS countries never kept the promise of developing economies- and still only make up about a quarter of the global GDP. Russia, Brazil, South Africa economies have frequently been on the verge of collapse while the Indian economy has been disappointing, particularly in the past decade.

### **Way ahead**

- BRICS need to shed the centrality from China and create a better internal balance, reinforced by the urgent need for diversification.
- For BRICS to remain relevant over the next decades, each of its members must make a realistic assessment of the opportunities and inherent limitations.
- BRICS countries should be builders of universal security. Seeking one's own security at the expense of others' will only create new tensions and risks.

- It is important to respect and guarantee the security of every country, replace confrontation with dialogue and partnership, and promote the building of a balanced, effective and sustainable regional security architecture.

### Conclusion

While navigating through turbulent world affairs, BRICS need to safeguard the international system while ensuring that international affairs have participation by all, international rules are formulated by all, and development outcomes are shared by all.

### 10. What do you understand by decentralised globalisation? Explain with the help of suitable examples.

#### Approach

Candidates are expected to define and explain what is decentralized globalisation while comparing it with globalisation. With the help of suitable example explain how the decentralized globalization is new phenomenon and how its evolving with globalisation.

#### Introduction

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday said that India and Africa must strive together for “decentralised globalisation” to enhance capacities and overcome challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Body

- By the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with the advent of centralized globalization, the integration of countries and regions had reached such a degree that an economic “earthquake” on one continent became impossible without significant “aftershocks” around the globe.
- The crises the so-called “dot-com bubble” of 2000 and the Global Financial Crisis of 2007-2008 and COVID 19 have turned to be forerunners of tectonic shifts in the global economy and it felt direct need of decentralized globalization.

Globalization:

- Globalisation envisages a borderless world or seeks the world as a global village. It may be attributed by the accelerated flow of goods, people, capital,

information, and energy across borders, often enabled by technological developments.

Decentralized globalisation:

- Decentralized globalization should be perceived and viewed as a localized process aimed at expanding the possibilities of human self-realization by means of advanced technologies.
- This process will help people transition to new information environment that encourages cooperation and requires a new understanding of the world.

Decentralized globalization for better penetration of globalization:

- Decentralization globalization will become an effective tool for protecting vital values, like freedom and social equality, self-determination and social security.
- For example In order to achieve the most effective model of sustainable development, it is necessary to put personal data back into the hands of its owners and help people regain control over their identities, so they could form a genuine public opinion to be able to influence the decisions of global importance.
- Blockchain technology will play a crucial role in establishing consensus between individuals and will ensure the balanced development of society and nature.
- In the decentralized world there is no central point of power, it belongs to each and every one individually. Self-organized people collaborate and complement each other in the decentralized global network.
- For example Living in Africa, a person will be able to get an education at universities located in Europe and North America, while any resident of China will be able to get a consultation at a medical centre located in Israel. Finding business partners or even a life partner on the other end of the world will not present a big problem either.
- Multinational corporations (MNCs) are accused of social injustice, unfair working conditions (including slave labour wages, living and working conditions), as well as lack of concern for the environment, mismanagement of natural resources, and ecological damage.
- Human rights and equality of participation in solving both local and global problems will be guaranteed by technologies that cannot be bribed, deceived or incapacitated. This will allow people to achieve higher results of collective and individual activity.
- For instance McDonald's serves kosher food in Israel and closes its outlets during Jewish and Sabbath holidays. In India, they have opened meat-free outlets as most of the Indian population do not consume beef and pork.
- With Amazon, you can easily purchase products from business and individuals located on different continents.



- Netflix operates in over 190 countries and offers different content in different regions.
- Airbnb features a universal symbol as its logo – the Belo – which symbolizes 'belonging', no matter where you are in the world.
- Decentralized globalization can help people regain control over their own future, create opportunities for self-improvement without borders, as well as fundamentally change the economic landscape of the world.
- The boundaries of national economies are no longer essential and together form the global digital economy a new vector of cooperative development, enabled by innovative technologies and agreed rules of international relations and trade.

**Conclusion:**

Decentralized society is not a social utopia, but a real project of the future of globalization. Globalization and individualization are not opposing processes, but the basis of coevolution and prosperity of humanity.

**11. For an aspiring civil servant, what should be the ideal attitude towards success and failure? Explain your views.****Approach**

Introduce by explaining in brief the meaning of attitude. Discuss how positive attitude is equally important towards both success and failure. What should be ideal attitude of a UPSC aspirant in failure and success.

**Introduction**

Attitude can be defined as learned tendency to evaluate things in a certain way. This can include evaluations of people, issues, objects, or events. It also involves a set of emotions, beliefs, and behaviours toward a particular object, person, thing, or event. It depends on aspirants attitudes how he she deals react behave in the situation of failure or success.

**Body**

Attitude of aspirant towards failure:

- In our day to day life, our attitude determines our behaviour towards people, situations, events etc. Which in turn shapes candidates larger social interaction in societies.

- Most of the times when we fail at different stages of exam we tend to get depressed by the thought of losing something so much desired for so long, or by the very thought of not getting it again; sometimes, it is just the perception that it was the best thing that we lost, or failed to attain which makes us very sad.
- Most of the times we let an event which we perceive as failure, to depress us, to make us sad.
- Instead of thinking about failure which snatches happiness away from you, it is better to look at the other windows of opportunity that have opened for you.
- Al Gore did not slip into depression after losing the Presidential race in 2000. Instead he built his career on his failure.
- The world is full of opportunities so called better things we just need to open our eyes to them.
- As per one estimate, out of the lakhs who apply for the civil service examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) every year, barely 0.2 per cent are finally selected rest has to choose another career path.
- Every dark cloud has a silver lining. We need to identify that silver lining. For everyone, it is something different.
- A positive attitude towards failure can for example enhance the willingness to learn from a failure situation and help gaining insights and changing mindsets so that mistakes are not repeated.
- Writing an attitude affirmation card can be a total game changer for you when you're rewiring and reprogramming your thinking. Simply take out an index card and describe the exact type of attitude you want to possess.
- Don't let a poor attitude be the reason why you stay in a mediocre state forever and why you never fulfill your potential.

Attitude towards success for an civil servant aspirant:

- We all know becoming successful in UPSC is not easy. It takes courage, persistence, determination and a lot of hard work. When we go through all of this and achieve well-deserved success, we often get too carried away with results and forget our true purpose.
- Remember failures, both to humble you and excite you. Success can feel natural when it comes, and it's important to savor it, to feel grateful and aware.
- Do not let momentum trick you into assuming your success is permanent or ineffable. Don't change your behavior with the persons who have always been with you in your bad days.
- Being generous with praising people, this can be hard when we are striving to work hard at being faithful to others. Saying thank you is right attitude it's a key to maintaining integrity.
- When things are going well, after rank in exam and posting the natural tendency is to expect more of the same, and the sooner the better. When the

next success doesn't happen as quick as we planned, patience and calm attitude will help pull through.

### **Conclusion**

Attitude is a Little thing that makes a big difference. It plays a vital role in Shaping Mindset and Personality of an Individual in success or failure. Life will always happen to one as it happens to everybody but one's attitude will determine how far one gets in life.

**12. Do you think our attitudes are shaped by our upbringing? Do attitudes change with time? If yes, why? Explain with the help of suitable examples.**

### **Approach**

Candidates are expected to write about the attitude in introduction then simply explain how upbringing shapes the attitude at tender age and at adolescent age. Also explain how formative stage opinions, world view which is component of attitude get modified throughout life time due to various social interaction with examples.

### **Introduction**

Attitude is the feelings and beliefs that determine the behavior of the person. They provide the framework for responding in a particular fashion. Attitude is subjective individual interpretation of objective outside world.

### **Body**

Upbringing at family level shapes the attitude of an individual:

- Particularly in the early years of life, parents and other family members play a significant role in shaping attitude formation.
- Process of socialisation and persuasion by family are the important factor for formation of attitude.
- Later, the school environment becomes an important background for attitude formation. Learning of attitudes within the family and school usually takes place by association, through rewards and punishments, and through modelling.
- The social interaction within a family shapes the attitude of an individual. For example Abdul Kalam says, his father was holding discussions with all the religion's people in his home. This shaped Kalam's attitude towards secularism.
- In some cases where the family is patriarchal, the child may develop an attitude of stereotyping the role of men and women.

Upbringing at societal level:



- The social approval/disapproval transforms an individual attitude. For example social disapproval of open defecation changing the attitude of individuals towards it.
- Unfortunately, in some cases, it can be negative. Social approval on Bribery develops an attitude as if it is okay in a government official.

Learning attitudes through Cultural Norms:

- Very often we learn attitudes through norms of our culture. Norms are unwritten rules about behaviour that everyone supposed to be show under specific circumstances. Over time, these norms may become part of our social cognition, in the form of attitudes.
- Thus, they reflect learning of attitudes through group or cultural norms. Attitudes towards various topics, such as political, religious and social groups, occupations, national and other issues are often developed through reference groups.
- Their influence is noticeable especially during the beginning of adolescence, at which time it is important for the individual to feel that s/he belongs to a group.
- Example: Offering coconut and fruits and flowers to the god part of some religious behaviour which is approved by society.

Attitude also shaped modified in later part of life:

- Many attitudes are formed, not in the family environment or through reference groups, but through direct personal experiences which bring about a drastic change in our attitude towards people and our own life.
- Technological advances in recent times have made audio-visual media and the Internet very powerful sources of information that lead to attitude formation and change. In addition, school level textbooks also influence attitude formation.
- These sources first strengthen the cognitive and affective components of attitudes, and subsequently may also affect the behavioural component.
- The media can exert both good and bad influences on attitudes. On one hand, the media and Internet make people better informed than other modes of communication.

During the process of attitude formation, and also after this process, attitudes may be changed and modified through various influences:

- From a practical point of view, bringing about a change in people's attitudes is of interest to community leaders, politicians, producers of consumer goods, advertisers, and others.
- For Example if a person reading about women empowerment after seeing successful women his positive attitude towards women become more positive or his positive attitude may become negative fearful of in future women may become more powerful and dominate men and ignores family responsibilities.

## Conclusion

Thus, attitude of an individual or a group is built, shaped or transformed by various social interaction it goes through intentionally or unintentionally. Our attitude is what influences all our actions. Attitude can be understood as the factor that shapes our goals. It also corresponds to how to perceive, view and approach the different aspects of life.

## 13. Is there a correlation between attitude and conduct ? Examine .

### Approach -

A simple straightforward question where candidates are expected to write about what is attitude and what is conduct. and in second part of answer write about is there any correlations between them. Give some examples to support their arguments .

### Introduction -

Attitude is the feelings and beliefs that determine the behavior of the person. They provide the framework for responding in a particular fashion.

### Body -

Attitude is the psychological belief( favorable or unfavorable) of continuously evaluating thoughts of a particular object to impart capability or willingness to discharge expected services.

Attitude is formed by -

- **Cognitive** - based on belief, thoughts and the logic. It helps to form opinion or judgment based on available formation and it enables decision making.
- **Affective** - based on feeling and emotion; affects persuasion, social influence and decision making.
- **Behavior** - It's tendency or predisposition based on cognitive and Affective components to act in certain manner. Example - My boss is corrupt(cognitive) he should resign. Here the resignation is behavior component of attitude.
- Life experiences personal as well as professional. Circumstances through which a person has been and difficulties and road blocks in life and how he has overcome such situations shapes a man's attitude.
- An attitude of a person is the application of his beliefs and knowledge to the problems of the real world . Attitude is the only thing which defines the success and failure in a situation. Positive attitude will always leads to a better life and enhances experience level in every field. Various factors shapes the attitude of an individual.

- **social factors**- Living in a society will enable a person to understand the right and wrongs in the society and it creates a positive attitude to fight the evils of the society.
- **spiritual factors**-Knowing oneself and by being emotionally stable we can know what stops us from becoming our true self and it will create and urge to free ourselves from these inner evils.
- **Technological factors**- Need is the mother of inventions -The solutions of the technological problems before the nation can be addressed only with a positive attitude is the current need of every developing nation.
- **Economic factors**- poverty and malnutrition is the current fronts which a developing economy needs to address if it wants to grow further. It can only be done by a positive attitude of the government in implementing the welfare schemes.

### Behaviour

Behaviour is an individual's reaction to a particular action, person or environment. It is the manner of acting or controlling oneself towards other people

- Behaviour implies the actions and conduct of an individual or group towards other persons.
- The behaviour of a person is based on the situation and circumstances
- Behaviour is more social
- Attitudes, character traits, biological factors like endocrine and nervous responses influence our behaviour.
- Behaviour is visible through consequences and result.
- Behaviour is an expression of person's attitude
- Behaviour is ruled by social norms.
- Behaviour reflects one's attitude as actions are the reflection of our thoughts.

How attitude guides an individual's behaviour?

- Attitude is one of the main factors that trigger emotions, decision-making, thinking and behaviour in an individual. Following are some examples of how attitude influence the behaviour:
- A positive attitude can will lead to a positive behaviour. E.g A person who has positive attitudes towards work and co-workers (such as contentment, friendliness, etc.) can positively influence those around them.
- Similarly negative attitude lead to negative behaviour. E.g, if a person have a negative attitude towards women, he will discriminate women in all fronts of life.
- A selfish attitude will guide individual's action in same manner. E.g A cricketer who put his self interest and profit above the nation, will take money to loose the game.
- Logic or rational attitudes develop a rational behaviour. E.g a rational person will not act superstitiously and will always try to find rational behind any act.



- An egoistic attitude will result in a negative attitude and behaviour. E.g elder individuals control their younger siblings even if they are wrong to satisfy their ego of being elder.
- An attitude based on values and beliefs will act according to the values. E.g in India touching feet of elders is guided by attitude of giving respect to them.

**Conclusion-**

Attitude is everything in life, it is the one which decides whether a person is successful or failure. Positive attitude in life will change failure also to success but negative attitude will change even an opportunity into threat or trouble. And it is said that attitude guides one behaviour. Therefore a person's attitude will define his/her actions and course of life .

**14. Do you think the proposed expansion of BRICS resonates with India's economic and strategic interests? Critically analyse.****Approach**

Candidates are expected to start with explaining what is BRICS and how it evolved. And present the background of expansion of BRICS. As question demands critically analyse the expansion of BRICS with Indian perspective of Indian economic and strategic interest.

**Introduction**

In 2001, the British Economist Jim O'Neill coined the term BRIC to describe the four emerging economies of Brazil, Russia, India, and China. The grouping was formalized during the first meeting of BRIC Foreign Ministers in 2006. South Africa was invited to join BRIC in December 2010, after which the group adopted the acronym BRICS.

**Body**

Background of expansion proposal:

- Russia and China have decided that this is an opportune time to expand BRICS and challenge the domain of the G7 by including members from the G20.
- The convulsions in the international order, heightened by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the hardening of Western positions, are leading to the making of competitive plurilateral fora.
- The New Development Bank associated with BRICS, expanded membership in 2021, admitting Bangladesh, the UAE, Uruguay and Egypt.
- A virtual meeting of BRICS+ foreign ministers was held on May 20 in which the ministers of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) were

joined by representatives from Argentina, Egypt, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, and Thailand.

Expansion viable for Indian strategic and economic interest:

- India and other emerging economies and developing countries, can promote the establishment of broader partnerships, and facilitate common development and prosperity on a larger scale.
- Under the rotating presidency, India can take its geopolitical advantage by strengthening institutional links with its sub-regions and enhancing South-South dialogue.
- It is also important to note that not only Argentina and Indonesia, but also Egypt, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates have shown interest in joining India can have strong relationship with these countries and increase its outreach.
- The UAE and Saudi Arabia are two countries with whom India has rapidly enhanced its engagement and are good contributors to development.
- On the trade front, there is consensus on the need to strengthen intra-BRICS supply chains, for example, fertilizers this sort of trade will give India more economic avenues.

Expansion of BRICS can shrink Indian interests:

- Considering China's wider global strategy, India's concern is that the expansion would boost China's influence while potentially eroding that of the other members.
- These same countries are also aware that the expansion of the BRICS could be an antidote to the fractious India-China relations and Russia's isolation in the world.
- China, backed by Russia, is creating cleavages to choose its friends from among the G20 and beyond.
- The push for setting criteria is actually a battle to choose partners who are more amenable to the individual members of the current BRICS.
- All existing countries in the BRICS grouping trade with China more than each other, therefore it is blamed that as a expansion of platform to promote China's interest.
- Moscow and Beijing sees the BRICS expansion as a way of creating political leverage against the United States and the West. This could diminish the Indian relationship with the West and Indian interest in Western world.
- Beijing saw it as an instrument to expand China's own global economic influence. Delhi is already trying and now struggling to come to terms with China-led globalisation with expansion it will be hard.

### **Conclusion**

China, backed by Russia, is hastening the process of expansion of BRICS as part of its strategic challenge to the international order and to collect middle powers around them. India needs to ensure that expansion is not on Chinese terms and that the countries admitted are equally receptive to India.

### **15. The West Asian Quad holds immense strategic and economic potential for India.**

**Do you agree? Substantiate your views.**

### **Approach**

Candidate can explain what west Asian quad is, while giving a brief background. In the next part, economic and strategic potential of west Asian quad for India can be investigated. In the end, challenges ahead can be shown with the conclusion.

### **Introduction**

The Abrahamic accord in Trump administration eased the relations between Israel and UAE. With the proposed Quadrilateral Alliance of India-USA-UAE-Israel, India would now enter into the high stakes game of the Middle East. Recently, the Foreign Ministers of India, the U.S., Israel and the UAE met virtually to discuss on exploring areas of cooperation.

### **Body**

#### **What is west Asian quad?**

- The idea of an Indo-Abrahamic Accord between India, the UAE and Israel was first suggested by Mohammed Soliman, an Egyptian scholar based in Washington.
- The idea was India taking full advantage of the normalisation of relations between Israel and the Arabs under the so-called Abraham Accords unveiled in Washington during September 2020.
- Abraham Accords are a joint statement made between Israel, the United States and the United Arab Emirates on August 13, 2020. It also refers to the agreement reached between Israel, Bahrain and the UAE to normalise relations between them.
- India's relations with the UAE and Israel have gained momentum. This growing convergence of interest between India, UAE and Israel can be formalized under an official coalition i.e. an Indo-Abrahamic accord.



**West Asian quad- economic potential for India**

- According to the International Federation of Indo-Israeli Chambers of Commerce, India's scale with Israeli innovation and Emirati capital could produce immense benefits to all three countries.
- There is a lot of potential for India, UAE and Israel to collaborate on many areas — from semiconductor design and fabrication to space technology.
- India already built its soft power image in the Middle East. It has around 8 million diaspora present there. With the new alliance, India can use this platform to harness various opportunities like Big data, AI, Quantum computing, export its products in their market etc.
- The quad group will help to focus on non-military issues like trade, energy, and environment and on promoting public goods.

**Strategic potential for India**

- The platform will help India to pursue wide-ranging minilateral partnerships in the region. With major powers like France, Russia, China is drawn to this region, the alliance will help India to shape its position in changing the geopolitics of this region.
- One of the gains of India's foreign policy has been non-ideological engagement with middle-east. India's close engagement with the USA over the last few years has also allowed alignment with the USA in the Middle East.
- The new minilateral consultation involving India-Israel-UAE-USA further cements India's position in the Middle East. India knows that the USA is downsizing its forces in the Middle East. Therefore, this serves as a perfect opportunity for India.
- The new government in Israel is working towards resolving the conflict with Palestine. There is also an increase in economic and technological cooperation between Israel and the UAE.
- There is also a regime change in the USA. This all can help India to deepen its ties in the Middle East, as India can simultaneously build relations with the Middle Eastern countries.

**Challenges ahead**

- The U.S. is clearly seeking to lessen its footprint here as part of its pivot to East Asia to tackle China's rise, which is redrawing West Asia's traditional equations. India should be careful not to get sucked into the many conflicts of West Asia
- While the Abraham Accords made it easier for India to find common ground with the Israelis and UAE, the contradiction between this Israel and Iran remains as intense as ever. India should be mindful of this.
- With US withdrawing from Afghanistan, India will have to work closely with countries such as Iran to deal with the challenges emanating from a reduced American presence in the region.

- India should also maintain its strong relations with Iran to keep a check on the Afghan Taliban. India needs a careful balancing act in the Middle East to secure its long-term strategic interests.

### **Conclusion**

The new “Quad” in the Middle East is unlikely to be India’s only new coalition in the region. India should explore more new minilateral partnerships in the region. New quad explores new opportunities, but at the same time India should be mindful of other sentimentalities while exploring new possibilities. Energy security primarily drives India’s west asia policies, but that should not be the only criteria to engage with the regional players.

### **16. Are morality and politics practically incompatible? Critically analyse.**

#### **Approach**

Candidates are expected to write what is morality and politics and as question direct analyse how they are inconsistent with each other explain with inherent characteristics of politicians. And also give different side of argument with ideal political and public morality features.

#### **Introduction**

Morality is often defined as the doctrine of actions, right or wrong it is synonymous with ethics. And we can define politics as the art or science of government, but also as the discipline that inquires what is right and wrong within a society, politics as a science makes explicit the practical social implication of moral principles.

#### **Body**

Generally, principles and convictions are in conflict with expediency; but what is expedient is not moral, and what is moral is almost always inexpedient”. Thus arises the conflict and a confrontation between morality and politics:

- Politician achieve goals set by the them through unethical means. Therefore both morality and politics are incompatible this sets a bad precedent for others to follow and this acts a justification for other immoral acts.
- For example disruption of parliament by successive opposition parties. Thus, this can hurt the long term interests of the organization either through dwindling credibility or pervading corruption.
- Moralists are selfless and preach justice in every sphere of life; injustice is anathema to them, since it is against their grain. But, politicians are generally

selfish, self seeking and are out to make hay while the sun shines it shows how both morality and politics are separate and inconsistent.

- For example politicians leave huge scope of discretion for their self interest and benefits in future like, the governor while selecting the CM in case of hung assembly or the speaker while deciding over money bill.
- Truth is just another facet of morality, and truth and politics are poles apart, being basically incompatible. A truthful and honest politician has almost become a contradiction in terms. For example fake promises and election propagandas.
- Politics is considered a state of continuous struggle for power and thus the politicians cannot be bound by some abstract ethical principles that would constrain this pursuit.
- For example South Indian movie “Jana Gana Mana” has clearly highlighted this issue of how politicians gain power by separating from ethics and playing with public sentiments.

#### Political Morality;

- Political morality is guided by a commitment to justice, to impartiality.
- Those who wield political power must realise that what they do has enduring consequences affecting the lives of an incalculably large number of people.
- This brings with it enormous public responsibility which derives in no small part from the fact that they have at least temporary legitimacy to use force against ordinary citizens.

Morality is integral to politics, Indian constitution is a prime example of how morality is integral to politics:

- This country has seen leaders like Lal Bahadur Shastri who always adhered to political morality and its values even in adverse circumstance such as Tashkent agreement, Food crisis, War with Pakistan etc.
- Leaders like Sardar Patel, Abul Kalam Azad, Jai Prakash Narayan, Atal Bihari Vajpayee have set a very high political morality standards for politicians.
- Gandhian moral principles of Ahimsa, Sarvodaya, Swarajya and so on is being promoted through DPSPs, local self-government and so on displays his political morality.
- Gandhiji's view of morality was not a denial of politics. On the contrary, Gandhi's moral idealism was completed by a political realism, which sought the construction of a democratic society.
- Moreover, the role of all of us, the people, to establish public morality and ethics in public life is most important as we are the makers of our own kings of democracy. We elect our own representative.

#### Conclusion

Moral principles that govern a person's behaviour or the conducting of an activity play a major role in as they have to face many conflicts of interests during policy



advocacy, decision making and promoting idea. Thus, it must be ensured that governance is based on morality, ethics and a sound emotional intelligence for promoting an efficient growth of society as a whole.

**17. How can a civil servant who is also a thinking intellectual maintain political neutrality? Explain your views.**

**Approach**

Candidate can elaborately write about how civil servant can maintain political neutrality while explaining the concept. While citing various provisions of civil services conduct rules, importance of political neutrality can be underlined.

**Introduction**

Civil Service Neutrality refers to political impartiality. Impartiality is not being biased to any ideology or in providing any facts, feedback, opinions, etc. to the political executive or diligently carrying out tasks ordered by the government, irrespective of which political party's government is in power.

**Body**

**How civil servant can maintain political neutrality?**

- Civil servants are Selected impartially and given orientation to be politically neutral with the people, and are expected to evince a spirit of service to the community.
- The power is exercised through elected representatives who hold ministers accountable and in turn, civil servants are accountable to Ministers.
- The restrictions placed on civil servants in relation to politics and political activity are designed to ensure that a civil servant does not do anything that could give rise to a perception that his or her official actions are in any way influenced or capable of being influenced by party political motives.

The Central Civil Services Conduct Rules, 1964 and the All India Services Conduct Rules 1968: They lay down the following provisions to ensure neutrality of public servants:

- Public servants must not take part in politics.
- They must not give election fund/ assistance to any political party
- They can vote. But must not tell his preference to other people.
- They must not display any election symbols on his person, vehicle or home.
- They must not participate in rallies, demonstrations etc., without government permission.

The civil servant should possess a political attitude such as which helps him in the following:

- To uphold constitutional values – like empathy and compassion towards weak, respect for women, protection of environment.
- Practice civil service values – Objectivity – A secretary who has negative attitude towards reservation if asked to prepare a report on the same must be able to do it objectively.
- Responsive – Civil servants are accused of showing resistance to power sharing and decentralization. They must change their attitude to respond to aspirations of people.
- Bureaucracy should be neutral in terms of ideology and politics. So that there will not be an affinity to a particular class or ideology. Even in the post-retirement period, public officials could make significant interventions for more noble purposes underlying the good society even without joining a particular brand of formal politics.

#### **Challenges to neutrality**

- Lack of independent institutions: There is a lack of independent institutions for transferring, posting, and other service conditions. As a result, the civil servants align with one or the other political party to get their favorite postings and other perks.
- Secrecy: Secrecy in official functioning, as a result there develops nexus between the political executive and civil servants to fulfill their illegitimate gratifications.
- In-service and intra-service rivalry: In each government-service, there are various factions based on language, religion, caste and region. To gain promotion and perks for their faction, they'd bend to the wills of politicians.
- Illegitimate Political agendas: Wrong notion of committed bureaucracy, where the civil servants try to fulfill the political agenda of a particular political party.

#### **Why political neutrality is important?**

- Neutrality depicts that public officials are not slaves to either the politicians or any other authority other than the moral authority of the Constitution.
- Without neutrality, there can be a close nexus between bureaucracy and large-scale enterprises which could further lead to crony capitalism.
- The role of civil servant is to effectively implement the policies irrespective of rightist, centrist or leftist government and whether it is NREGA or Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan.
- If he is too vocal about his views, he may not be able to implement the policies of the party he does not favour with the same level of zeal and motivation.

### Conclusion

Civil servants are part of executive organ of the government. Integrity, political neutrality, impartiality are said to be hallmarks of efficient civil service. Considering that people are sovereign, civil servants are duty-bound to obey orders of the political executive. In these circumstances the political beliefs of a civil servant are expected to take a back seat, especially in public. Attitude and emotional intelligence are two very important qualities of a civil servant which helps him to remain neutral in all matters for healthy democracy.

### 18. Why are persuasive skills considered important for civil servant? explain with help of suitable examples ?

#### Approach -

In this question candidates need to write about importance of persuasive skills for civil servant. In second part of answer write some examples to support their arguments.

#### Introduction-

A good relationship starts with a good communication. Lack of communication is often the reason for differences, lack of coordination between 2 entities. Civil servant at the forefront empowered with public resources must be an effective communicator for its effective and efficient utilization and bring transformative change in the society.

#### Body -

Why civil servant has to be a good communicator:

- **Inter-department coordination:** A civil servant usually heads a department which works in coordination with other departments. A positive attitude with effective communication will help achieve timely coordination and thus help attain synergy. Lack of communication leads to inefficiency and grave mistakes. E.g.
- Aspirational district program requires synergy of central, state and district officers' efforts and effective communication is a key.
- Lack of communication and coordination between intelligence agencies led to Mumbai terror attack.
- **Negotiation:** an important role of a civil servant is to negotiate with various stakeholders E.g. Diplomacy by foreign secretary, trade deals with private companies etc., an effective communication builds rapport and helps in achieving the goal. For instance, S. Jaishankar is known for his diplomacy skills, a reflection of his good communication skills.



- **Public persuasion:** a civil servant would only be as successful as the public allow him/her to be. An effective communicator will gain public trust and implement the policies and programmes with effective public participation. A civil servant has to hold awareness campaigns, seminars etc., to bring awareness among public and effective communication is a sine qua non.
- **E.g.** Rohini sindhuri, an IAS officer is known for effective interaction with the public in Mandya district of Karnataka which helped in 100% open defecation free in record time.
- Similarly, Poma Tudo, an IAS officer with her proactive meetings with tribal people of Nuapada district of Odisha has improved tribal trust and participation in administration.
- **Financing:** A civil servant has to secure finance through submission of reports and presentation to the financial department. The resource allocation is only as effective as the persuasive ability of the civil servant which is contingent of effective communication.
- **Intra department relationship:** the morale of the entire department is dependent on the civil servant. An effective communication by the one heading the department would bring clarity, commonality among the workers and hence boost the morale.
- **Persuasion of Public representatives:** A minister/ a elected representative is the ultimate authority in approval of projects and scheme. A good communication would help the civil servant to build rapport and sanctions development projects for his/her department.
- **Handling emergency situations:** For instance, a district collector during a riot/natural disaster/communal clashes, police during a hijacking situation has to be a good communicator to bring the situation under control without much losses. E.g. Ajit Doval in operation black thunder was able to successfully neutralize the threat by his good communication along with wit.
- **Handling media:** a bad communication brings a disaster in a country with vibrant media. A civil servant has to have a high emotional intelligence and be careful in giving statements to the media. Effective communication would help in proper dissemination of information and avoid fake news, also helps in building social capital and trust of public on the government. E.g. A cabinet secretary of India was removed for giving adverse statement on Indian nuclear policy to the media 2 decades back. Miller (1980) suggested that communications exert three different persuasive effects: shaping, reinforcing, and changing responses.
- **Shaping:** Attitudes are “shaped” by associating pleasurable environments with a product, person, or idea.
- **Reinforcing:** Contrary to popular opinion, many persuasive communications are not designed to convert people, but to reinforce a position they already hold.
- **Changing:** This is perhaps the most important persuasive impact and the one that comes most frequently to mind when we think of persuasion. Communications can and do change in attitude.

## Conclusion

Persuasion can bring a lasting change in people's behaviour and is highly effective in implementation of public policies provided the tools are used in a right way. Chanakya in his book Arthashastra has enlisted communication skills as one of the required qualities for a civil servant. According to him, a civil servant should know when to speak, when to stay silent, what to speak, how to listen and so on to be effective in his work. As Stephen Covey observes 'the art of communication is the language of leadership'.

**19. Many political leaders change their party affiliations and even change their ideology for personal gains. Do you think such behaviour erodes the trust of citizens in politics? Critically examine.**

### **Approach**

Candidates are expected to write defections by the politicians and explain in the ethical moral standards perspective try to critically evaluate the action on both the side for ideological and personal gains and also to as a sign of dissent freedom of political affiliation. Explain whether it hurts the citizen trust in political system.

### **Introduction**

A defection can be considered betrayal of the mandate. Any shift in political affiliation would mean the right to represent the mandate is lost. Political morality demands that he resign his seat and seek re-election.

### **Body**

- Parliamentary politics in India revolves around political parties in the main. Candidates in an electoral contest are seen as representatives of political parties, and not as autonomous agents with a voice distinct from the party they represent.
- The party symbol, election manifesto, etc. Embellish his claims to represent a party and an ideology.
- The candidate seeks endorsement from the electorate on behalf of the party, and also for the party.

Changing political affiliation and changing ideology is unethical aimed for personal gains it erodes trust of citizen:

- It takes an instrumentalist reading of the law to justify these defections as a normal political activity. The fact is these are a violation of political and constitutional morality.

- This being the case, a defection of a legislator is a betrayal of the mandate; it is a breach of the trust forged through the election process.
- Political morality demands that he resign his seat and seek re-election. For instance, when V P Singh fell out with the Congress under Rajiv Gandhi, he resigned his Lok Sabha seat and sought re-election.
- The defections recently can be blamed on the leadership's failure of political party to shield its flock presumably by offering cash, office or other incentives.
- With politician being using the money and muscle power for entering into to the public life and wining votes goes through the crime and politics nexus which bring them under central agencies scanner. This political situation make them to shift sides to get relief.
- Whatever be the reason, the legislator is duty-bound to explain his defection to the electorate; the first step towards that is to quit the seat.
- There is also the lust for power to get the ministry in new party, also one is, of course attracted to green pastures, the glamour and visibility attached to political party attract them keeping aside mandate and ideology.
- The "Aaya Ram Gaya Ram" politics of the '80s in India has acquired a whole new meaning these days with rebel lawmakers 'checking-in' to 'cool-off' at luxurious resorts while sending political temperatures soaring outside.
- Also it raises the questions on the speaker and his role in constitutional office to be neutral and impartial on disqualification of defected members.

Changing sides represents conscience dissent and loudest and most powerful forum in a democracy:

- Anti-Defection was an invasion on the free speech guaranteed to legislators because Indian political party lacks internal democracy in parties and two three personalities controlling the system it undermines MP's capacity to be an effective legislator.
- As a legislator, it is an MP's duty to discuss and deliberate on issues of national importance; and participate in law making by debating bills.
- With the issuance of a whip, and controlling whip a member of the legislature is in effect reduced to a mere voting number in House therefore switching sides gives them voice of dissent.
- Switching sides gives provide sufficient incentive for an MP or MLA to examine an issue in depth and think through it to participate in the debate.
- Politics is all about power and individuals tend to shift to the political group which can offer them more power.
- If one tries to solve a political problem using law as a tool for example anti defection law it will always have limited applications because politics has its own ways and means of circumventing things.

Trust of citizens in Indian Politics:



- Indian voters do not have concern about candidates defecting from one political party to another. There is a party-centred approach in voting in India. For example, a large majority of Indian voters vote for the party and not for the candidate.
- Further, such a voting pattern is prevalent amongst both uneducated and educated voters, amongst urban and rural voters and amongst voters with various degrees of media exposure.
- If voters take into consideration the merits and demerits of candidates, then many defectors and candidates with questionable records would fail to make it into Parliament or the Assemblies of different States.

### **Conclusion**

Politicians found loopholes in any law and used it for their own benefit. It is high time that a watchdog should be provided to our Parliament and there is a need for our constitutional pundits to revisit the issue to combat the menace of corruption and defection which has eroded the values of democracy.

### **20. What is the PM Gati Shakti scheme? What are its key provisions and economic significance? Discuss.**

#### **Approach**

Candidate is expected to explain in detail provisions of PM Gati Shakti scheme. Six pillars of Gati Shakti can also be discussed. In the second part of body, economic significance of the scheme can be underlined.

#### **Introduction**

PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan for Multi-modal connectivity, is a digital platform to bring 16 Ministries including Railways and Roadways together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects. The multi-modal connectivity will provide integrated and seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services from one mode of transport to another. It will facilitate the last mile connectivity of infrastructure and also reduce travel time for people.

#### **Body**

##### **What is PM Gati Shakti scheme?**

- PM Gati Shakti plan envisages a centralised portal to unite the infrastructural initiatives planned and initiated by as many as 16 central ministries and departments.

- Gati Shakti targets to cut logistic costs, increase cargo handling capacity and reduce the turnaround time.
- It is a campaign to lend more speed (Gati) and power (Shakti) to projects by connecting all concerned departments on one platform.
- This way, the infrastructure schemes of various ministries and state governments will be designed and executed with a common vision.
- PM GatiShakti will address the past issues through institutionalizing holistic planning for stakeholders for major infrastructure projects. Instead of planning & designing separately in silos, the projects will be designed and executed with a common vision.
- It will incorporate the infrastructure schemes of various Ministries and State Governments like Bharatmala, Sagarmala, inland waterways, dry/land ports, UDAN etc.
- Economic Zones like textile clusters, pharmaceutical clusters, defence corridors, electronic parks, industrial corridors, fishing clusters, agri zones will be covered to improve connectivity & make Indian businesses more competitive.
- It will also leverage technology extensively including spatial planning tools with ISRO imagery developed by BiSAG-N (Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics).

#### Six pillars of PM Gati Shakti

1. **Comprehensiveness:** It will include all the existing and planned initiatives of various Ministries and Departments with one centralized portal. Each and every Department will now have visibility of each other's activities providing critical data while planning & execution of projects in a comprehensive manner.
2. **Prioritization:** Through this, different Departments will be able to prioritize their projects through cross-sectoral interactions.
3. **Optimization:** The National Master Plan will assist different ministries in planning for projects after identification of critical gaps. For the transportation of the goods from one place to another, the plan will help in selecting the most optimum route in terms of time and cost.
4. **Synchronization:** Individual Ministries and Departments often work in silos. There is lack of coordination in planning and implementation of the project resulting in delays. PM Gati Shakti will help in synchronizing the activities of each department, as well as of different layers of governance, in a holistic manner by ensuring coordination of work between them.
5. **Analytical:** The plan will provide the entire data at one place with GIS based spatial planning and analytical tools having 200+ layers, enabling better visibility to the executing agency.
6. **Dynamic:** All Ministries and Departments will now be able to visualize, review and monitor the progress of cross-sectoral projects, through the GIS platform, as the satellite imagery will give on-ground progress periodically and progress of the projects will be updated on a regular basis on the portal.

It will help in identifying the vital interventions for enhancing and updating the master plan.

### **Economic significance of PM Gati Shakti**

- PM Gati Shakti will provide the public and business community information regarding the upcoming connectivity projects, other business hubs, industrial areas and surrounding environment. This will enable the investors to plan their businesses at suitable locations leading to enhanced synergies.
- It will create multiple employment opportunities and give a boost to the economy. It will improve the global competitiveness of local products by cutting down the logistics costs and improving the supply chains, and also ensure proper linkages for local industry & consumers.
- The Covid-19 Pandemic reduced the GDP growth and resulted in large job loss, depressed wages and consumption. The infrastructure projects will boost jobs and increase the demand for goods and commodities, besides attracting major investments.
- According to a study, the logistical cost in India is about 13%-14% of GDP as against about 7-8% of GDP in developed economies. The plan will help India to cut down its logistics cost.
- Besides cutting logistics costs, the plan is also aimed at increasing cargo handling capacity and reducing the turnaround time at ports to boost trade.
- Currently, a number of economic zones and industrial parks are not able to reach their full productive potential due to inefficient and fragmented multi-modal connectivity. By incorporating infrastructure schemes under various ministries and state governments, the Gati Shakti platform will boost the last-mile connectivity.

### **Conclusion**

To the proper implementation of PM Gati Shakti, India needs to address structural and macroeconomic stability concerns, emanating from high public expenditure. From land acquisition to credit offtake, lot of structural hurdles still hamper infrastructure growth in India. PM Gati Shakti can help India to realise its dream of becoming the “business capital” of the world. But all the structural challenges must be addressed on priority.

### **21. Perfect objectivity is an unrealistic goal; fairness, however, is not. Comment.**

#### **Approach**

Candidate can explain the concept of objectivity and fairness in brief. In body part, limitations of perfect objectivity can be highlighted with appropriate examples. Importance of fairness as a value can be shown with its practicality in real life.



### Introduction

Objectivity is a concept of having reason which is devoid of individual preferences, emotions, and opinions. Objectivity in governance means adherence to rationality, legality and to proven standards, procedures and norms in institutions by the public authorities. Presence of fairness and justice in civil services increases the confidence of the citizens in administration. Fairness also leads to equitable distribution of resources in the society.

### Body

- Objectivity is considered one of the most fundamental values in governance because it helps the public authorities to make correct decisions on the merit of evidence. It complements other values like Integrity, impartiality, non-partisanship, empathy, tolerance and compassion in governance.
- Objectivity in one's daily life helps in taking right decisions in case of ethical moral dilemmas and further helps in enhancing professionalism. It also helps to overcome biases, favouritism and helps in management of conflict of interest.
- Whereas absolute objectivity limit's the flexibility in decision making. In real life it is almost impossible to maintain absolute rationality. Flexibility in decision making is essential in actual life.
- Sometimes such situations and circumstances arise where in the spirit of taking justiciable decisions the objectivity needs to be compromised.
- Due to complexities in the nature of laws in India, it is sometimes impossible to attain hundred percent adherence to a law without breaching a few other laws.
- In such a situation absolute objectivity in decision making is not suggested, a pragmatic approach becomes very necessary when such ethical dilemmas occur.
- Maintaining basic flexibility in objectivity requires allowing exceptions in extraordinary situations. For example, adopting violent methods is against the constitutional spirit of Justice but in extraordinary situations like terrorist attack and riots, sometimes it becomes necessary to issue orders of shoot at sight.
- Indian society being pluralistic, it is necessary to give scope for implementation of laws according to diverse sociocultural and economic needs. Absolute objectivity in governance would eliminate such administrative space for adjustment.
- Further, following absolute objectivity in governance could cause delays, inaction and inability to take policy decisions by the government or its various departments and agencies which run the country and the economy.

Fairness means treating people according to their needs. This does not always mean it will be equal. Equality means treating everyone exactly the same. Understanding

fairness and equality goes hand-in-hand. Fairness is closely related to a number of other moral concepts, such as equality, impartiality, and justice.

- The distinctive focus of fairness is decision-making processes or institutions that apply rules. For instance, in regard to the application of rules, a fair procedure is one that applies them similarly to all cases, unless there are strong reasons for making exceptions in particular cases.
- Presence of fairness and justice in civil services increases the confidence of the citizens in administration. It ensures the people that decisions are being made in an objective manner. Fairness also leads to equitable distribution of resources in the society.
- Fairness is concerned with actions, processes, and consequences that are morally right honourable, and equitable. In essence, the virtue of fairness establishes moral standards for decisions that affect others. Fair decisions are made in an appropriate manner based on appropriate criteria.
- For example, recently due to making linking Aadhaar card mandatory with the ration card an adolescent girl died of hunger in Jharkhand due to not receiving any food ration from the public distribution for several weeks. Fairness in this case rather than objectivity is necessary.
- Due to complexities in the nature of laws in India, it is sometimes impossible to attain hundred percent adherence to a law without breaching a few other laws.
- In such a situation absolute objectivity in decision making is not suggested, a pragmatic flexibility becomes very necessary when such ethical dilemmas occur.

### **Conclusion**

There is always difference between what “ought to be” and “what is”. Perfect objectivity can be ideal but not always practical in all the situations. Fairness can always be realistic goal in our life when dealing with the situations of ethical dilemma. Fairness as a close value to objectivity can be practiced which progressively leads to objectivity.

**22. Empathy begins with understanding life from another person's perspective. Elaborate.**

### **Approach**

Candidate can start the answer with defining what is the empathy and explain it. And then highlight how empathy is all about understanding life from others perspective explain different dimensions to it.

## Introduction

Empathy is the ability to be aware of, understand, and appreciate the feelings and thoughts of others. It is “tuning in” (being sensitive) to what, how, and why people feel and think the way they do. Being empathic means being able to “emotionally read” other people. The ability to empathize is directly dependent on one’s ability to feel one’s own feelings and identify them.

## Body

“Empathy is about finding echoes of another person in yourself”.

The above quote explains empathy as If we are able to understand each other by stepping in the other person’s bubble, by diving into their beliefs, values, by being more welcoming and trying to find echoes of the other person in ourselves:

- This helps in understanding each other’s problems and issues according to their own way of life. Empathizing with others helps us learn to regulate our own emotions. Emotional regulation is important in that it allows us to manage what we are feeling, even in times of great stress, without becoming overwhelmed.
- It allows people to build social connections with others. By understanding what people are thinking and feeling, people are able to respond appropriately in social situations. Not only people are more likely to engage in helpful behaviours when they feel empathy for other people, but other people are also more likely to help you when they experience empathy.
- Mahatma Gandhi lived a simple life because he was empathetic and sensitive. He renounced a luxurious life because he could listen the unheard voices in India which were suffering under the exploitative British rule. On empathy, his advice to anyone who was in doubt if an action was good or not, was to put oneself in the situation of the poorest of the poor in the country and see how a particular policy and programme will impact him or her.
- Empathetic people care about others and show interest in and concern for them. It is the ability to non-judgmentally put into words your understanding of the other person’s perspective on the world, even if you do not agree with it, or even if you find that perspective ridiculous.
- Daily wagers, footpath vendors, migrant labourers have all had their only source of income snuffed out by the lockdown. To help them stay afloat, the city’s army of volunteers has stepped in, doing their bit in multiple ways. e.g., Many of organisations have come together and are helping the people by distributing food packets and other essentials.
- There are individual differences in empathy between individuals, and there are certain conditions in which empathy is blunted or altogether absent. Psychopaths are capable of empathic accuracy, or correctly inferring thoughts and feelings, but they have no experiential referent: a true psychopath does not feel empathy.



- It helps in understanding the depth of the situation which in turn makes delivery fast. Eg. Aruna Sundararajan created sustainable employment prospects for working class women.
- Administrator with empathy can come up with real practical solution to the weaker section. Eg . S .R. Sankaran was the person behind the obliteration of bonded labour, the making of special wage plan for SC/STs.

There are a number of benefits of being able to experience empathy. Some of these include:

- Empathy allows people to build social connections with others. By understanding what people are thinking and feeling, people are able to respond appropriately in social situations.
- Empathizing with others helps you learn to regulate your own emotions. Emotional regulation is important in that it allows you to manage what you are feeling, even in times of great stress, without becoming overwhelmed.
- Empathy promotes helping behaviors. Not only are you more likely to engage in helpful behaviors when you feel empathy for other people; other people are also more likely to help you when they experience empathy.
- Despite claims that empathy comes naturally, it takes arduous mental effort to get into another person's mind and then to respond with compassion rather than indifference.

A few reasons why people sometimes lack empathy:

- They fall victim to cognitive biases.
- People tend to dehumanize victims.
- People tend to blame victims.

### **Conclusion**

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

**23. True compassion means not only feeling another's pain but also being moved to help relieve it, what do you understand by this statement ? explain with the help of suitable examples .**

### **Approach**

In this question candidates need to write about what is compassion , and how compassion means not only being sympathetic about others pain but also helping

them to relieve their pain .in second part of answer candidates should write some examples to prove their point .

### **Introduction**

Compassion is the ability of a person to feel others pain and an urge to help relieve it ,an important prerequisite for this is empathy Compassion literally means “to suffer together.” Among emotion researchers, it is defined as the feeling that arises when you are confronted with another’s suffering and feel motivated to relieve that suffering.

### **Body**

Compassion: It is an active desire to alleviate another’s suffering’, it involves a sense of empathy however it does not end with it. It invokes sensibilities to understand and even feel the pain of others and motivates one to be truly helpful in overcoming this pain.

- Compassion literally means “to suffer together.” Among emotion researchers, it is defined as the feeling that arises when you are confronted with another’s suffering and feel motivated to relieve that suffering.
- Compassion is not the same as empathy or altruism, though the concepts are related. While empathy refers more generally to our ability to take the perspective of and feel the emotions of another person, compassion is when those feelings and thoughts include the desire to help.
- Altruism, in turn, is the kind, selfless behavior often prompted by feelings of compassion, though one can feel compassion without acting on it, and altruism isn’t always motivated by compassion.

### **Key differences between the three are:**

- Sympathy and empathy are both acts of feeling, but with sympathy, you feel for the person; you are sorry for them or pity them, but you don’t specifically understand what they are feeling.
- However, in empathy, to an extent you are placing yourself in that person's place, have a good sense of what he feels and understand his feelings to a degree.
- Compassion, on the other hand, involves an active desire to alleviate one’s suffering. It is a better indicator of behavior.
- Empathy is often confused with sympathy and compassion, which are merely a recognition of another person’s distress.
- Sympathy typically implies that the suffering person does not “deserve” what has happened to him or her and is powerless to do anything about it.
- Empathy is a skilled response, while sympathy is reactive responses, which is why developing the skill of empathy is a more realistic goal for public services.

- Empathy seems to suggest a response to situations whose features are more subtle, imperceptible and complex which require cognitive skills to perceive, share, understand and put into action.

### **Role of empathy**

- Empathy makes an individual more patient keeping his temper under check. Ex: When an official is on inspection duty, he needs to understand and listen to people's problems before arriving at a conclusion.
- A good leader thinks about the welfare of people. Her/his decisions should be directed towards improving the lives of his people. Thus empathy plays an important role in ensuring a kind and welfare centric approach. Ex: A public official needs to be empathetic towards problems faced by women for collecting drinking water so as to make the necessary arrangements.
- Empathy leads to the acceptability of diverse thoughts: Working across cultures requires leaders to understand people who have very different perspectives and experiences. Empathy generates interest in and appreciation for others, paving the way to more productive working relationships.
- Empathy helps leaders in understanding how someone feels or considers the effects of the decisions on his subordinates and the larger public. Thus it helps in generating a middle ground and allowing time for compassionate reflection and response.
- In a diverse country where many are poverty-stricken empathy would enable public servants to work with dedication.
- Eg: Armstrong Pame an IAS officer raised 40 lakh rupees through social media without government aid because of empathy towards the public who had no road connectivity in their village.

### **Significance of compassion for public servant**

- It urges them to work for marginalized community as they remained untouched in development saga of country .
- Eg - IAS pravar krishna who worked for cause of country .
- Finest examples of compassion is Amte family who dedicated their lives for upliftment for tribals in Gadchiroli .
- They can also help to alleviate social stigma.
- Eg - IAS vaibhav nimbalkar drank tea made by two women who were accused of being witches by villagers in assam .
- It motivate public servant to help extend help to people who were victims of natural disaster.
- Eg - IAS gopi krishnan extended help in kerala floods.
- It motivate public servant to teach childrens from slum in their free time.
- Eg - IAS manish kumar from kodarma jharkhand had worked and still working on educating marginalized students to educate and excel in life.
- Compassion can help in avoiding corruption , promote transparency , responsiveness and accountability.



### Conclusion

Compassion is also an important aspect of emotional intelligence and an important value for a civil servant and common man to possess to do justice to public services.

**24 Dedication can make up for the lack of aptitude. Do you agree? Substantiate your views.**

### Approach

Candidate can describe in short the meaning of dedication. While exploring the etymological roots of word dedication, importance of the same can be described while giving appropriate examples. Conclusion can be given in the end.

### Introduction

Dedication is the quality of being dedicated or committed to a task or purpose, thought or action. Dedication can also be said to be commitment with passion. It has emotion attached with it. Dedication is an important personality characteristic of an individual. In organizational context, dedicated employees work towards achieving the organizational goals.

### Body

Importance of dedication

- The etymological roots of the word dedication can be traced back to the Latin term *dedicare* which means “the giving of oneself to some purpose.”. Thus, it implies that an individual has to be consistently committed towards his aims.
- The primary ingredient of dedication is hard work. As the famous quotation goes, “hard work is the key to success”. A person dedicated towards achieving his goals undertakes lots of perseverance. Hard work requires a right attitude, self-discipline and the ability to focus on one’s life goals and objectives.
- A primary factor behind each successful person is their level of dedication, which signifies their commitment towards achieving objectives and life goals. Learning what it means to be dedicated or committed to achieving a specific goal is a foundational principle for life.
- Unfortunately, in this age of fast food, quick gratification, and creature comforts, concepts such as dedication, commitment, and resolve are not necessarily popular. Nevertheless, dedication is a crucial ingredient in achieving any significant accomplishment.

- Dedication is important because it helps keep you going no matter how difficult the job or the task may be. As long as you are dedicated to what you are doing, you will always find a reason to keep on doing it.
- People will always tell you that one part of success is actually being dedicated to what you are doing regardless of whether is your job, education, or business. They will tell you that you have to be dedicated for you to end up seeing the fruits of your success later on.
- Aptitude can make things easier, with the help of natural talent one can cross a certain level, but without dedication it might not convert into overall success.
- The dictionary definition of dedication is “the quality of being dedicated or committed to a task or purpose.” In that sense, it means that you have to be committed to something or to a certain purpose in life if you want to be dedicated to it.
- Being dedicated and committed to something means that you will stick by it through thick and thin, and overcome any hardships that may arise. Dedication and perseverance will ensure difficulties will be overcome until the goal is achieved, which is ultimately success.
- Success doesn't come overnight like Rome wasn't built in a single day. You have to work hard and do whatever it takes to end up succeeding. Hence dedication is key to success.
- Dedication becomes important because the road to success is long and hard. There will be a lot of different hardships and it may seem they never end. You need to be dedicated to making sure that you get to build your own success without quitting.
- One of The best examples of dedication in any field, is Sergey Bubka. Sergey Bubka is the record holding Ukrainian pole vaulter, whose outdoor record has not been beaten till date. The record was set in 1994.
- The reason that, from 1984 to 1994, Sergey Bubka continuously shattered his own record, time and time again, a total of 17 times. He was a consistent improvement in his own record, and no matter the venue, time or season, he continued to do what he did best. He not only made an effort, he succeeded in remarkably overachieving his own record. Each and Every Time.
- Not once or twice But hundred times, Mr. Edison tried to glow a bulb. Now, now every bulb glows to honor his achievement and his dedication.

### Conclusion

A continuous drop of water can make an impact on a rock. With continuous efforts and dedication, humungous tasks can be achieved. Our space research organisation, ISRO dedicatedly worked for our space programs on limited resources and delivered world class products, their dedication towards making India a global player in space technology has inspired many youngsters. Dedication can overcome any obstacle if the efforts are directed in right direction. We must strive to be dedicated to our task and our goal for successful life.

**26. What are digital banks? What role can they play in financial inclusion? Discuss.****Approach**

Candidate can start with what is digital banking and simply explain its potential role in the financial inclusion. Also highlight some disadvantages or challenges in the end.

**Introduction**

The Digital Banks are banking done through the digital platform, doing away with all the paperwork like cheques, pay-in slips, Demand Drafts, and so on. It means availability of all banking activities online.

**Body**

- Digital banks or DBs are defined in the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- These entities will issue deposits, make loans and offer the full suite of services that the Banking Regulation Act empowers them to.
- They will principally rely not on physical branches but on the internet and other proximate channels to offer their services.
- This includes activities like Money Deposits, Withdrawals, and Transfers, Checking/Saving Account Management, Applying for Financial Products, Loan Management, Bill Pay, Account Services.
- Now, nearly 72% of financial transactions of PSBs are done through digital channels, with doubling of customers active on digital channels from 3.4 crore in FY 2019-20 to 7.6 crore in FY 2020-21.
- The share of financial transactions undertaken through home and mobile channels has increased from 29% in FY 2018-19 to 76% in FY 2020-21.
- UPI recorded over 4.2 billion transactions worth Rs 7.7 trillion in October 2021.

Digital bank's role in financial inclusion:

- Reducing barriers to entry with lower cost digital services: Compared to traditional banking, digital banking services are cheaper to manufacture, distribute and support.
- Removing biases: Systemic biases have contributed to the issues we've faced with financial inclusion for years, but these can be eradicated. Artificial intelligence offers a powerful tool that can be leveraged to remove biases from processes, systems, and decisions.
- Providing bespoke services that are easy to access and easy to use: With digital technology, banks can offer services that mimic cash, immutable payments and intuitive budgeting tools.
- Fighting cybercrime and reducing the risk of theft or loss: Digital services offer a safe and secure alternative to holding cash, particularly for businesses that primarily engage with cash transactions.



- Harnessing the power of data: Leverage data to help educate and advise customers, particularly those with limited experience in financial management.
- Open Banking and New Payments Models: Evolving business models, regulatory policies, open banking, and new payment methods also have implications for financial inclusion.
- Social goals through structural change: This structural feature makes them a potentially effective channel through which policymakers can achieve social goals like empowering the under-banked small businesses, and enhancing trust among retail consumers.
- Partnership with Fintech: Banks and fintech businesses that offer digital banking services rely primarily on digital channels that organically have high-efficiency metrics relative to incumbent commercial banks.
- Reduce credit gap: The credit gap reveals a need for leveraging technology effectively to cater to these needs and bring the underserved further within the formal financial fold.
- For example, Initiation of digital lending has been made contactless through PSBloansin59 minutes.com, using triangulation of credit bureau, income-tax and goods and services tax (GST) data, to provide online in principle approval for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) loans.

#### Disadvantages of Digital Banking:

- It is easy to fall prey to fraudulent transactions by falsifying some cards.
- The professional computer technician can access accounts or copy another person's information, enabling the information to come out of its confidential structure.
- Digital banking forums are also prone to vulnerabilities and hacks such as phishing, pharming, identity theft, and keylogging.
- Increase the gap that arises between the client and the bank.

#### Conclusion

Creating a blueprint for digital banking regulatory framework and policy offers India the opportunity to cement her position as the global leader in Fintech at the same time as solving the several public policy challenges she faces for financial Inclusion.