

Q1(a)

What is meant by public interest? What are the principles and procedures to be followed by civil servants in public interest? (10M, 150W)

Public interest refers to looking at the common concerns and aspirations for welfare of people at large. It means not limiting service for parochial gain of few but an intent of reach the last ^{to} mile.

Principles to be followed by civil servants

Several committees like Nolan's Committee, UK, Second ARC India etc. have outlined principles to be followed in public interest :-

(i) Honesty → Truthfulness in conduct without any deceit. (e.g.) Lal Bahadur Shastri's reputation for being extremely honest and never misappropriating government resources.

(ii) Impartiality → Treating everyone equally without any difference (eg) SI in Delhi arrested his son in Delhi riots.

(iii) Dedication to Public Service → Thinking about service of people beyond self, even at cost of self. (eg) IAS Saumya Pandey, cancelled her leave immediately after pregnancy during covid.

(iv) Compassion combined with aptitude → understanding the emotions of others and using innate skills and quick thinking in search of solution (eg) 'Operation sulaimani' during Kerala floods for food provision by IAS Ramant NAR.

Procedures to be followed

- Rule of Law - Law kept in highest regard and not to be violated, all equal before law (eg) TN selvan's tough stance on election.
- Transparency - open working with clear accountability. (eg) IAS U Sugayam declared his assets on govt website.
- Courageously following right path (eg) IES Satyendra Derby
- Inclusivity - ie. extending benefits to maximum people + utilitarianism (eg) IAS in Nandur District, Maharashtra set up oxygen plants for COVID-19 crisis.

Thus, a civil servant must remember Vivekananda's words of 'devotion of duty is the highest form of worship while working in public interest'.

Q1 (b) In looking for people to hire you look for 3 qualities - integrity, intelligence and energy. And if they don't have first, other two will kill you? Warren Buffet what you understand by this stm in present day scenario? Explain.

Warren Buffet, a celebrated businessman makes a crucial point ~~with~~ which resonates with - ~~compassion~~ without competence is useless while ^{integrity} competence without ~~compassion~~ ^{integrity} is tyranny.

Integrity means adhering to highest moral principles when no one is looking. Intelligence means innate ability and skill to learn and excel and look at creative solutions. Energy, means the internal burning desire and enthusiasm towards and endeavours.

Integrity, along with other two, can bring a drastic change in one's style of work, organizational competence. For eg.: Under, Sundar Pichai's leadership, Google not only topped the market, it also retained highest level of integrity in its conduct with employees and customers. Similarly, the Congress led by Mahatma Gandhi's ideals remained a force to reckon with even several

years after independence. Not only zealous and intelligent, its leaders like Nehru, Shastri - despite different in approach had integrity of character.

In cases of lack of integrity, even the right action will soon fall prey to vices of greed, corruption. (eg) Sahara's chit fund scheme designed with intelligence and energy, succumbed to wills of treachery and fraud.

Lack of integrity destroys inner voice of conscience. While people might be able to escape court of law, ~~their~~ justice evades them in court of justice

(eg) IAS couple Rinku Dugga and Sanjeev Khirwar despite being trained and capable officers asked trainee at national stadium to train early, so to walk their dog there. These instances reflect that lack of respect for law and more importantly, ethics can even jeopardise initiatives with brilliant minds.

Q2(a) What do you understand by the term 'public servant'? Reflect on expected role of a public servant. [10]

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A public servant is a person who is a part of government machinery and is employed to provide services to the people following highest level of ethics, integrity and abiding by rule of law. This role emanates from rule of law social contract between people and govt.

Expected Role of a public servant



(1) INCLUSIVE APPROACH

- (a) No discrimination in provision of service to anyone i.e. No one left behind
- (b) Tolerance - allowing everyone to have opinion, respect for diversity
- (c) Compassion i.e. understanding emotion of one distressed and taking action for it.
- (d) (Eg): IAS Ira singhal, appointed 2 trans-women to her office showing highest standards of inclusivity.

(2) Efficiency and greatest good

- (a) should utilize resources in best manner without any wastage (eg) DBT in subsidies
- (b) Innovative methods like e-governance for passport seva.
- (c) Utilitarian approach to passing regulations and service delivery (e.g.) building parks, cleanliness drive
- (d) (eg) IAS Abhishek Bhargava in Navi Mumbai converted dumpyard into a green garden by planting 6000 trees.

(3) Justice in service :-

- (a) Being emotionally intelligent (eg) Delhi police's impartial investigation in Nirbhaya case
- (b) Adhering to highest standard of service (eg) IAS Shashanka Shrivastava sending kid to Anganwadi for ensuring no distinction in quality

(4) Adhering to highest standards

- (a) Never giving up ethics even in face of pressure - (eg) IAS Satyendra Dubey in exposing NHAI scam
- (b) Remaining objective, honest, transparent and accountable (eg) IAS Ashok Khemka remained honest even after 50 transfers.

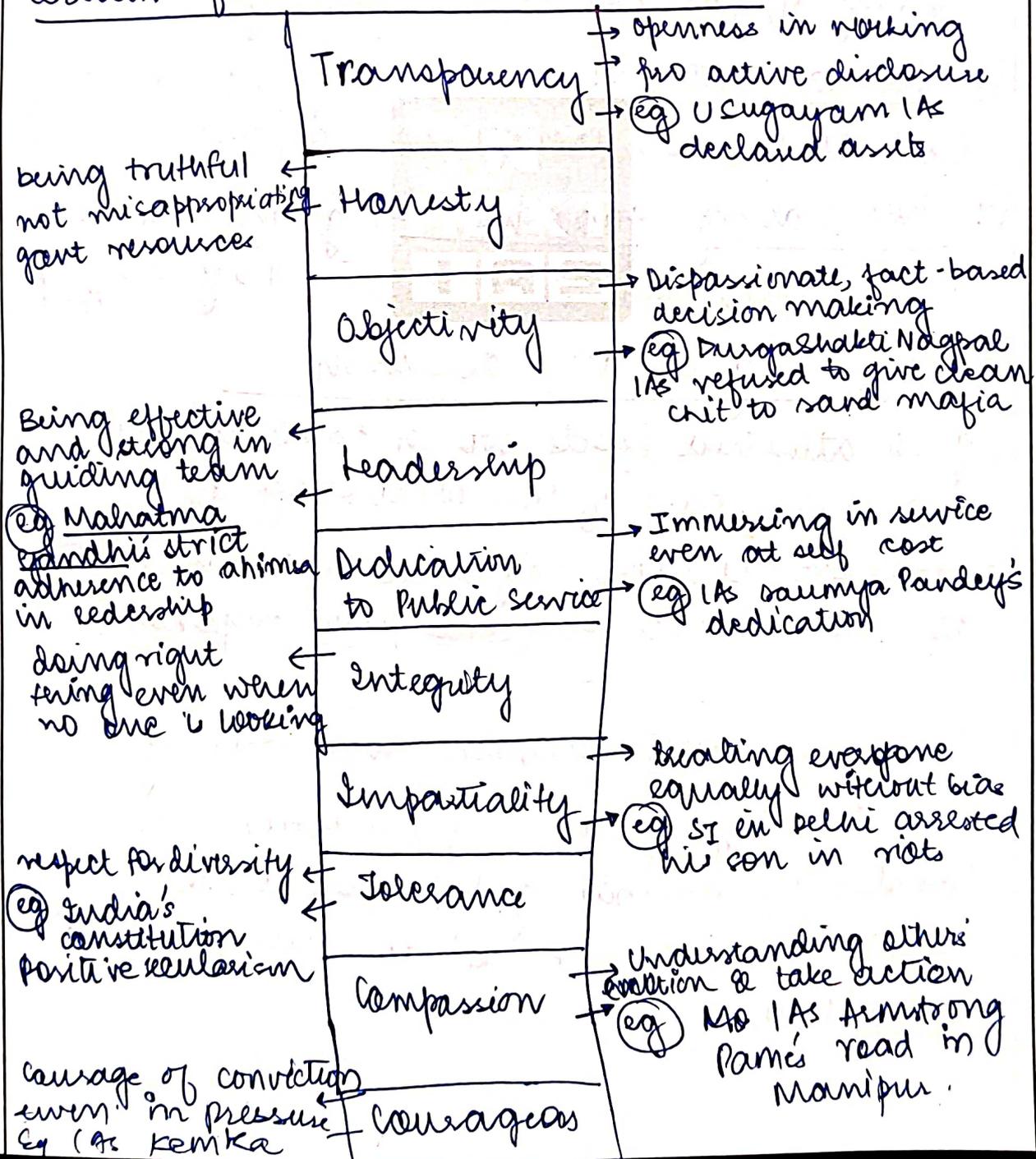
Thus, public servant must always do the right thing even when he has the right to do otherwise.

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Q2(b) Identify 10 essential values that are needed to be an effective public servant. Describe ways & means to prevent non-ethical behaviour in public servants.

Values in public service are those essential guidelines which set the moral contours of an action of civil servant and tests it on anvil of right or wrong.

Certain fundamental values are:-



Way and means to prevent non ethical behaviours in civil service

① mid career training

→ (eg) Mission Karmayogi for training civil servants & making them tech savvy and ethical

② 360 degree appraisal of work and retiring early if found unsatisfactory.

③ Lateral entry of experts at joint secretary level to promote competition & expertise

④ Rewarding good work :- (eg) PM awarded 13 bureaucrats on Civil Service Day on 21st April.

⑤ Punishing on any dereliction

(eg) ED attached assets worth Rs 80 crore in corruption case of IAS Pooja Singhal

- remove certain rigidities of Article 311 to make civil servants more responsive.

Thus, in civil service maintaining highest integrity comes from training, constantly reminding of purpose and using 'carrot & stick' to nudge positive behaviours.

3(a)

Russia and Ukraine War has been going on for the past 7 months. Different countries have taken independent stands & action keeping in view their national interests. War has its impact on diff aspects of society, including human tragedy. What are those ethical issues that are crucial to be considered while launching the war and its continuation so far? Illustrate with justification the ethical issues involved in given state of affairs.

Over ages, wars have remained critical in international politics for assertion of power and protection of interests of citizens. Yet, the moral disposition on war makes them hard to justify especially with many lives on line.

ETHICAL ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED WHILE LAUNCHING WAR AND CONTINUATION

- ① Just ad bellum [How and when to start a war]
 - (a) Right reasons - i.e. should not be an aggressor and only when necessary.
 - (b) Respect for human life and dignity
 - (c) Protection of national interests and not of a few government members.
 - (d) Care for lives of non-combatants of other countries.
 - (e) Loss of peace in starting a war goes against international morality.

② In this case, issues involve

- sovereignty of Ukraine v/s right of Russia to protect its own people
- Loss of lives and peace in Ukraine
- Diversion of resources of world from important social needs
- Threat to security worldwide including food.
- Large scale violation of human right.

③ Just in bello [During war]

(a) Proportionate means of weapons

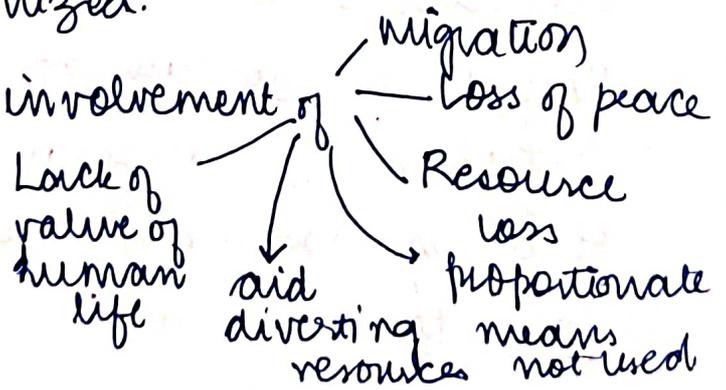
- ↳ absolutely necessary
- ↳ minimum possible harm
- ↳ no other alternative.

(b) Harm principle - not to harm any civilian, his property, national heritage, thus, cosmopolitan respect for all

(c) Migration crisis - forcing people to leave their lands and issue of refuge, thus, ethic of international cooperation

(d) Harm to environment and resources to be minimized.

④ In this case, involvement of issues like -

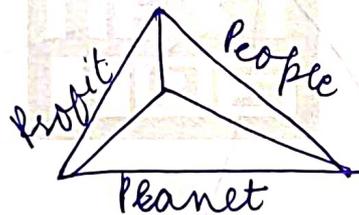


Resolving such crisis is crucial for respect of life, dignity & world peace.

Q 3(b)

In contemporary world, corp sectors' contribution to generally wealth & employment is increasing. In doing so, they are bringing in unprecedented onslaught on climate, environmental sustainability & living condns of human being. In this bg, is CSR efficient and sufficient enough to fulfill social roles and responsibilities needed in the corporate work mandated? Critically examine. [10]

Corporate social responsibility refers to integration of economic development with social, environmental and human concerns. It helps business to engage in philanthropy to fulfill duty as corporate citizen.



Triple Bottom Line

CSR - sufficient and efficient to fulfill social role and Responsibility

(1) labour welfare - adhering to fair standards, helping trade unions grow
(eg) Nike and Apple joined Fair Labour Association.

(2) Respecting employee choices and giving them share in profit

(eg) Netflix and tata treat employees

a) family.

(3) Overcoming resource scarcity

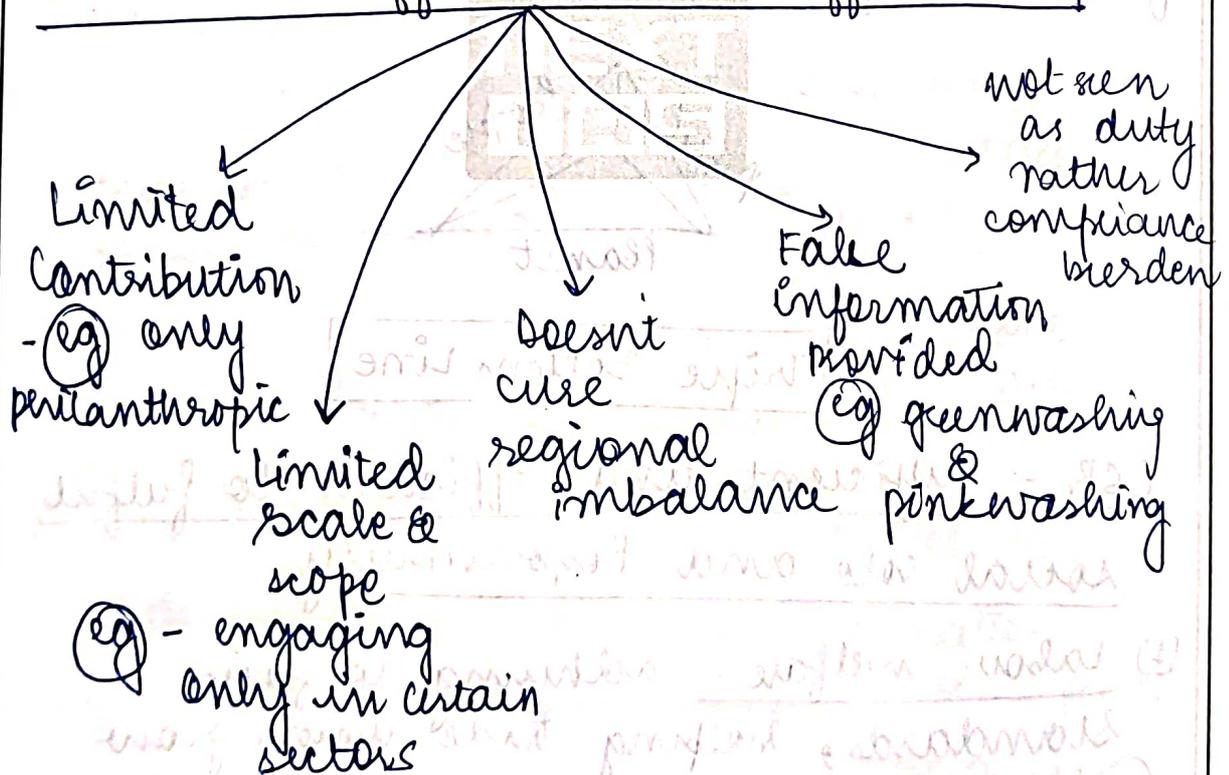
(eg) : Coca Cola? - 'Replenish Africa Initiative' for treating water scarcity

(4) Skill development and student welfare

(eg) Aditya Birla scholarships for colleges, Google 'Catch them Young' for training. Infosys

(5) Environmental case - (eg) Eco Label by H&M

CSR - Not sufficient and Efficient



Nelson Mandela says as long as there is poverty & gross injustice in world, none of us can truly rest. Thus initiative by corporates is must to fight inequality.

Q4(a)

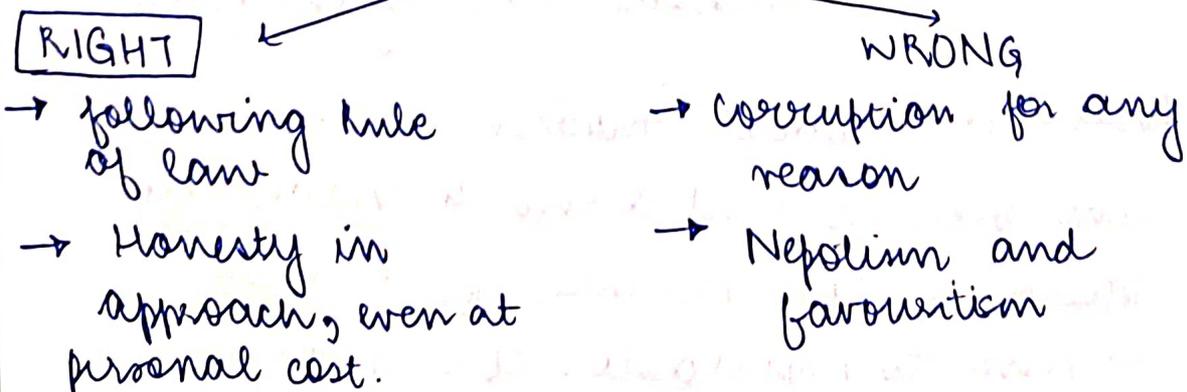
The true end in determining to embrace, or reject anything is not whether it has evil in it; but whether it has more evil than good. There are few things wholly evil or wholly good. Almost everything, especially of govt policy, is an inseparable compound of the two; so our best judgement of preponderance b/w them is continually demanded - Lincoln.

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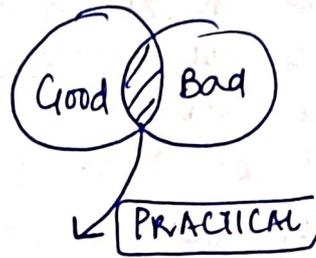
Abraham Lincoln, former US President, was a man of ethics and values that he learnt from his childhood experiences as a cobbler. Excellence in work ethic has been his hall mark.

In above mentioned words, Lincoln means that in public policy clear decisions of ~~the~~ right and wrong are very limited and most often the cases are penumbral i.e. taking a right decision is a gray area, dependant on situation.

(CLEAR SITUATIONS OF RIGHT AND WRONG)



Yet, inseparable whole



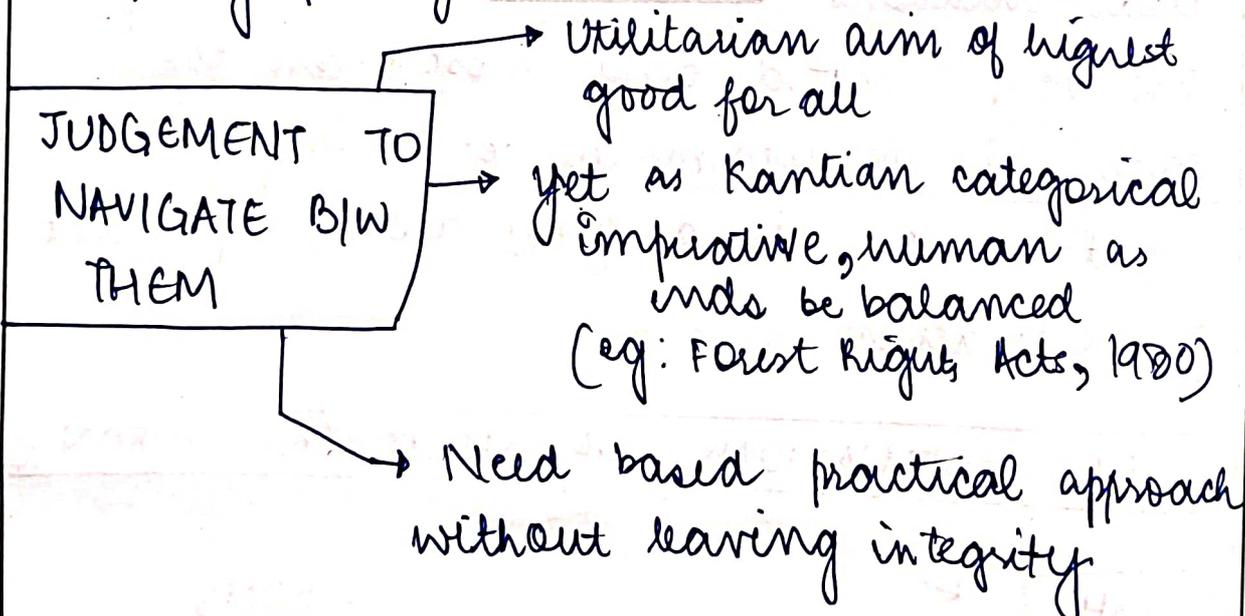
(1) Freedom of speech

- even though natural and fundamental right, yet hate speech an evil aspect

(2) Environment → right thing to conserve it, yet often dilemma with development.

(3) Transparency in govt operations as citizen's right to know yet opacity in state secrets.

(4) Effective oversight for governance necessary but can't be intrusive otherwise policy paralysis.



Thus, in today's modern world the line between good & evil is modifiable based on circumstances, yet it must conform to inviolable core of ethics.

Q4(b)

Life doesn't make any sense without interdependence. We need each other, and sooner we learn that it is better for all of us. - Erik Erikson.

As per Aristotle, man is a social animal - which indicates his existence without his peers, family and social institutions cannot be conceived of.

As per Erik Erikson, one must not shy away from accepting the need of community. It makes us not only more efficient but humble, making us realize that we are only cog in a wheel.

As an individual, child depends on friends, family, school teachers for learning values and developing identity.

As an organization, different experts in sales, marketing, production, execution etc. are necessary for sending a product from farm/factory to home. In a government, different institutions - legislature, executive, judiciary depend on each other for power, authority & legitimacy to run the nation smoothly. Finally,

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the nations are interdependent on each other for goods & services for achieving sufficiency & exploiting competitive advantage for world progress.

An understanding on no man is an island, allows one to be tolerant, patient and learn from others. (eg) cultural exchange at G20 summit.

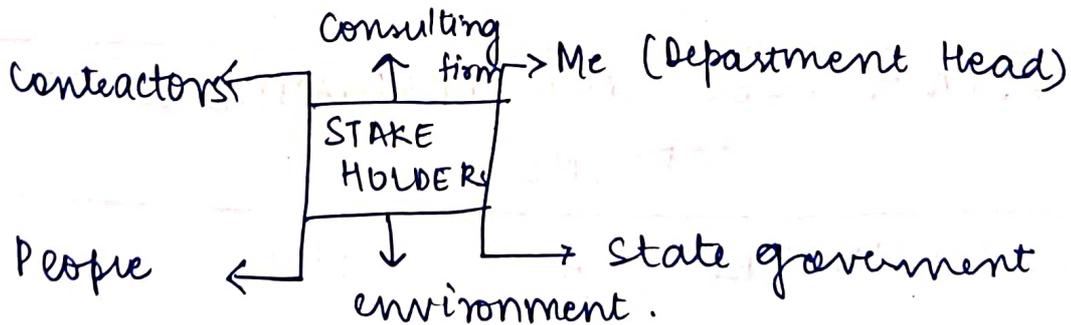
Interdependence is not only vis-à-vis human but also on nature. All production begins from nature and any disturbance in this balance can lead to catastrophe (eg) - floods in Yamuna plains.

In the day and age of automation, future might seem bleak for many yet it is important to keep in sight the value of human labour, dignity & insights to help develop each other. Any loss of this ecosystem of interdependence, is loss of our civilization.

- Q5) Case study on mining lease
- (a) What are the issue and value violations that you notice in above case?
- (b) What are the options available to you?
- (c) Discuss advantages & disadvantages of option chosen and your chosen course of action.
- (d) Do you think environmental considerations are sometimes overrated at cost of development?

Rising capitalist aspirations have manifested themselves in indiscriminate attack on natural resources. Illegal mining activities destroys natural environment, threatens sustainable development and is in acute disregard of human dignity.

Ans (a) In this case, the following stakeholders are involved who violated several values:



- (a) Violation of rule of Law by Contractors & Consulting firm
- (b) Issue of rampant corruption in ministry
- (c) ~~and~~ violation of professional integrity.

- (d) Personal ethics v/s departmental pressure for targets.
- (e) Lack of respect for environment.
- (f) Lack of respect for human rights - at the verge of violation due to impending disaster.
- (g) Lack of values in departmental culture and only concerned with short term aims.

Ans: (b)

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

- (1) keep my head down, focus on targets and let the work continue till complaint.
- (2) Take up the matter with higher authorities, explaining urgency.
- (3) Blowing the whistle by approaching media & internet.

Ans (c)

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF OPTIONS

(1) CONTINUING STATUS QUO

Advantage

Disadvantage

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① no personal repercussion ② Achieving revenue target ③ economic gain + employment gain. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① large scale environment destruction ② Lack of rule of law ③ Crisis of conscience ④ Degradation of work culture. |
|--|--|

(2) TAKING UP MATTER TO HIGHER AUTHORITY

Advantage

- (1) save community + env. from destruction
- (2) Legal action for violation
- (3) Long term preservation of reputation of department
- (4) Overhauling work culture of department.

Disadvantage

- (1) Revenue loss
- (2) Lack of relations with bosses
- (3) May hinder future prospects.

(3) BLOW WHISTLE THROUGH MEDIA AND INTERNET

Advantage

- (1) will pressurize govt & contractors
- (2) Ensure accountability
- (3) Preserve rule of law & integrity

Disadvantage

- (1) Might hamper reputation of department
- (2) Personal cost & fear of harm
- (3) Negative image of govt.

My chosen course of action - Will be

second :- ie taking up matter internally first with authorities

- (1) will give them chance to conduct inquiry and settle matter

- (2) collect evidence and expose them to which will stop this wrong doing.
- (3) Can also approach Lokpal and CVC
- (4) Finally, if no solution appears to have worked, I will blow the whistle even at personal cost to insure the integrity and value of public service.

Ans(d):- ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS AT COST OF DEVELOPMENT

- (1) often seen as obstacle to growth hindering successful transition as a developed country → concerns of many developing nations.
- (2) Myopic view - distorts the costs of environmental degradation and do not account for loss of future capacity.
- (3) I do not agree that environmental considerations are overrated because
- (a) Using justice approach, care for environment translated to care for forest dependant communities.

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(b) As per eco centric view, environment have rights in itself and we have no right to destroy it. (eg) legal status given to River Ganga & Yamuna

(c) Even as per Utilitarianism, short term concerns of development should not overshadow long term detriments of destruction, which will mean greater loss for all.



AMBA ACCREDITED

→ not interfering with internal affairs
→ of country
→ the best of interests of the people of the country

Ans:-(6)

International relations prioritise good relations with diaspora - who not only have historic and cultural ties with a nation but are also crucial for economic integration and political pursuits of a nation with other states.

(a) In this case issues are as follows:-

- (i) Issue of racism and intolerance against Indian diaspora.
- (ii) Economic relations with other country vs rights of diaspora.
- (iii) Issue of sovereign rights of other country pertaining to internal matters.
- (iv) Short term economic welfare vs long term relations with diaspora.
- (v) Lack of professional integrity on part of ambassador.

(b)

AMBASSADOR'S POSITION ON ISSUE

- ↳ prioritising larger economic interests of country
- ↳ not interfering with internal matters of country B.

↳ Didn't want to get involve in local politics.

↳ Thinking about larger public interest

JUSTIFYING THE STANCE

- (1) As a realist, this makes his position malleable to suit to national interests
- (2) Utilitarian approach i.e. greatest good of all → providing employment and economic benefits to Indians at large
- (3) Principle of non-interference in local politics and respecting sovereignty.
- (4) Better consequences, in long run from economic point and global position.

AGAINST THE STANCE

Yet, I believe I would not choose the same because :-

- (1) Violation of deontological ethics - not just ~~means~~ ends but means are also equally important to achieve results. Humans are ultimate means,

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can not override their rights.

- (2) Lack of trust within diaspora - would lead to long term effect on remittances
- (3) Decline in global soft power and ripple effect on diaspora in other nation
- (4) unjustified violation of their rights affects human dignity, harmony in society
- (5) Shows dereliction of professional duty on part of ambassador - without providing any alternative help.

Thus, I would have tried to pursue matter with local government - if not directly, then supporting diaspora with legal aid to put across their points - but respecting sovereignty of law of land.

Ans (C)

GUIDE TO INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY

(1) Care ethics :-

- care and concern for our people even living across borders
- also caring for other human beings

by virtue of them being humans.

- (eg) humanitarian aid to Gaza, Turkey.

② Consequentialism

- paying heed to long term and short term consequences of an action
- good consequences justify any means
- (eg) Purchase of Russian oil despite West sanctions for strategic consequences

③ Duty

- duty to think of national interest and towards all human beings because it is the right thing to do.
- (eg) India helping Bangladesh at time of civil war - not only to protect own national interests but as a duty to humanity.

⇒ Indian foreign policy must be guided by a mix of these approaches.

while duty towards universalism is primary

and ethical conduct should drive a nation,

it is important to be mindful of long-term consequences on humanity and

natural resources. Be mindful that

there is no Planet-B.