

GS Mains Daily Answer Writing

Week 8 Day 1

Model Structures

1. A nation's rise is assured by values of probity, integrity and accountability of its citizens, public servants and business people. In this context, how the following promotes such ethical culture: a. Civic sense, b. Social influence and c. Constitution **10**

Model Structure

Introduction

- State is as good as its dwellers—J S Mill. Ethics Is a moral compass of a community which needs to be adhered to reach the destination of collective good.

Main Body

- Civic sense ensures that people pay taxes, protect the environment and are responsible to the larger community. High civic sense in the citizens holds the state and its agencies accountable to the public. When people follow the civic norms like maintaining public hygiene, respect law of land, discuss and debate laws then national well-being is ensured.
- Societies having strong values reinforce those strong values by social influence. As social influence compels one to engage in **socially acceptable** behaviour, business leaders can leverage their high social influence to work towards: effective CSR spending, giving back to the community, upskilling of the workforce, sponsoring budding sportspersons and contributing to “sabka saath, sabka vikas”.
- The Constitution acts as a guide for people in all walks of life, be it private citizens, businesspersons or public servants. The Constitution acts as a guide to promote respect and equality of all. It helps in promoting a sense of fraternity, and justice among all.
- However, when the society itself promotes inadequate behaviour (frequent mob lynchings) or state misusing laws to exercise arbitrary power, and people lacking basic public morality and behaving as mob, then the nation will decay, losing its secular, democratic and just nature.
- When the whole society goes against morals it creates havoc as in Hitlers Germany or like bloody partition days in Punjab. Here, the Constitution plays a major role to guide

the three arms of government: ethical executive, active judiciary and noble legislature can reform all evils and underpin an effective ethical culture like Gandhi's Ram Rajya.

Current Examples

- Tata Free COVID Checkups
 - Government free vaccine drive, etc.
-

2. “Let justice be done though heavens may fall.” What does this quotation imply and is it relevant for Civil Services? 10

Model Structure

Introduction

- The quotation was given by Immanuel Kant who's the proponent of deontological ethics.

Main Body

- According to Kant, as humans we have some duties, in which we cannot fail. Also, regardless of losses created by these duties we have to do them.
- Humans tend to evade duties fearing inconveniences. But the quote implies that we have responsibility to do certain acts. These duties are codified as ethics e.g. media should promote truth about a criminal even if horrified, this is media ethics.
- This also implies there can't be excuses to do the right thing, Martin Luther King said, time is always right to do the right thing. This also goes against moral hypocrisy, which involves cherry picking morals as per our conveniences. Above all it questions moral indifference in which people are silent against injustice.
- Kant said we should behave as if our action can become a universal law (going by the golden rule: do unto others what you would want done to yourself).

Relevance to civil services:

- Civil service is purely a profession of duty enunciated in the form of code of ethics and conduct. Public service demands one to suffer many losses and do only the right things.

Officers face political pressure, interference and allurements from businesses for immoral acts like ignoring crime, compromising on environment or labour regulation.

- Here, there should be commitment to right values and propriety, this is called integrity that is doing only what is right, it is a foundational value.
- Also, there may be fear of loss of life or promotion, here courage of conviction should be shown. Civil servants have a duty to the public to be impartial and without bias, no matter the consequences. (Can be connected to Dharma philosophy)

Conclusion

- So civil servants are ought to tread the paths of dilemma. Practical life involves choosing one over other, but it is an art of compassionate bureaucracy to bring win-win and ensure basic welfare of all with the help of tools like **Gandhian Talisman**.

UPSCPREP.COM

Simplify your UPSC Journey