

UPSC CSE (Main) 2020

General Studies Paper-IV

SECTION A

- Q1. (a)** Discuss the role of ethics and values in enhancing the following three major components of Comprehensive National Power (CNP) viz. human capital, soft power (culture and policies), and social harmony.

(150 words) [10]

Approach to question:

Role of ethics and values in enhancing Comprehensive National Power (CNP):

1. Human Capital
2. Soft Power (Culture and Policies)
3. Social Harmony

Overall, ethics and values play a crucial role in shaping human capital, soft power, and social harmony, ultimately enhancing a nation's Comprehensive National Power.

Answer:

Role of ethics and values in enhancing Comprehensive National Power (CNP):

Human Capital:

1. **Ethical Education and Training:** Promoting ethics and values in education and training programs can help shape the behaviour and mindset of individuals, fostering a strong ethical foundation.
2. **Fair and Inclusive Policies:** Implementing fair and inclusive policies ensures equal opportunities for all citizens, regardless of their background.
3. **Employee Welfare and Well-being:** Emphasizing ethics and values within organizations promotes a healthy work environment, encourages employee well-being, and enhances productivity.

Soft Power (Culture and Policies):

1. **Cultural Exchange and Collaboration:** Emphasizing ethical values in cultural exchanges and collaborations enhances soft power.
2. **Transparent and Accountable Governance:** Ethical governance practices, characterized by transparency, accountability, and integrity, enhance a nation's soft power.
3. **Promotion of Human Rights:** Upholding ethical principles of human rights and dignity enhances a nation's soft power.

Social Harmony:

1. **Social Cohesion and Inclusivity:** Ethical values of respect, empathy, and inclusivity play a vital role in fostering social harmony.

2. **Ethical Leadership:** Ethical leadership sets an example for society and promotes values-based decision-making.
3. **Ethical Conflict Resolution:** Emphasizing ethics in conflict resolution promotes peaceful and harmonious societies.

In conclusion, ethics and values play a crucial role in enhancing Comprehensive National Power (CNP).

- Q1. (b)** "Education is not an injunction, it is an effective and pervasive tool for all-round development of an individual and social transformation". Examine the New Education Policy, 2020 (NEP, 2020) in light of the above statement.

(150 words) [10]

Approach to question:

1. The New Education Policy, 2020 (NEP, 2020) recognizes the transformative power of education in fostering holistic development and societal change.
2. It emphasizes the need for a flexible, multidisciplinary, and skill-oriented education system.
3. The NEP, 2020 promotes the integration of vocational training, practical knowledge, and critical thinking into the curriculum.
4. It aims to nurture creativity, innovation, and problem-solving abilities among students.

Answer:

The New Education Policy, 2020 (NEP, 2020) aligns with the statement by recognizing education as a transformative tool for holistic development of individuals and society.

1. NEP, 2020, emphasizes the importance of providing a well-rounded education that goes beyond mere academic knowledge.
2. The policy aims to nurture critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills among students, enabling them to contribute effectively to societal transformation.
3. NEP, 2020, introduces a flexible and multidisciplinary approach, allowing students to choose from a wide range of subjects and pursue their interests.
4. This encourages students to develop a diverse skill set and explore their passions, fostering all-round development.
5. The policy also emphasizes the integration of vocational education and practical learning,

ensuring students acquire skills that are relevant to the current job market.

6. NEP, 2020, recognizes the significance of early childhood education and the foundational years in a child's development.

Overall, the New Education Policy, 2020, reflects the understanding that education is not just a mandate but a transformative force that empowers individuals and drives social change. It aims to reshape the education system to foster all-round development and enable individuals to contribute meaningfully to society's progress.

- Q2. (a) 'Hatred is destructive of a person's wisdom and conscience that can poison a nation's spirit'. Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer.**

(150 words) [10]

Approach to question:

1. Yes, I agree with this view that hatred is destructive to a person's wisdom and conscience, and it can poison a nation's spirit.
2. Hatred blinds individuals and prevents them from making rational and wise decisions. It clouds their judgment and impairs their ability to think critically and objectively.
3. Hatred undermines one's conscience by fueling negative emotions and fostering a disregard for moral values. It can lead to unethical behaviour and the erosion of one's sense of right and wrong.

Answer:

View on Hatred's Impact on Wisdom and Conscience:

1. **Agreement with the View:** I agree with the view that hatred is destructive to a person's wisdom and conscience, and it can also poison a nation's spirit. Hatred is a negative and toxic emotion that clouds judgment, hampers rational thinking, and erodes moral values.
2. **Impaired Wisdom:** Hatred narrows an individual's perspective and distorts their ability to think objectively. When consumed by hatred, individuals become driven by emotions rather than rationality.
3. **Erosion of Conscience:** Hatred can corrode an individual's conscience, leading them to act against their moral compass.
4. **Polarization and Conflict:** When hatred permeates a society, it fosters division, animosity, and polarization among its members. This hinders constructive dialogue, cooperation, and compromise, which are essential for societal progress.

In conclusion, hatred indeed has a destructive impact on an individual's wisdom and conscience. It impairs rational thinking, erodes moral values, promotes polarization and conflict, and hinders societal progress. To build a harmonious and prosperous society, it is crucial to foster love, empathy, and understanding while actively combating and rejecting hatred.

- Q2. (b) What are the main components of emotional intelligence (EI)? Can they be learned? Discuss. (150 words) [10]**

Approach to question:

1. The main components of emotional intelligence (EI) are self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills.
2. These components involve understanding and managing one's own emotions, staying motivated and resilient, empathizing with others, and effectively interacting with them.
3. While some aspects of EI may be innate, research suggests that these components can be learned and developed through self-reflection, practice, and training.
4. Various techniques, such as mindfulness exercises and emotional regulation strategies, can enhance EI skills.
5. Therefore, with effort and dedication, individuals can cultivate and improve their emotional intelligence over time.

Answer:

Emotional Intelligence (EI) refers to the ability to recognize, understand, and manage one's own emotions as well as the emotions of others. The main components of emotional intelligence are as follows:

1. **Self-awareness:** It involves recognizing and understanding one's own emotions, strengths, weaknesses, and values.
2. **Self-regulation:** This component involves managing and controlling one's emotions, impulses, and reactions.
3. **Motivation:** This component relates to the ability to channel emotions towards personal and professional goals.
4. **Empathy:** Empathy involves understanding and sharing the emotions of others. Empathetic individuals are sensitive to others' feelings, perspectives, and needs.
5. **Social skills:** This component encompasses the ability to build and maintain relationships, communicate effectively, and influence others positively.

Regarding the learnability of emotional intelligence, research suggests that while some aspects may have a biological basis, emotional intelligence can be developed and improved through learning and practice. Emotional intelligence training programs and coaching can provide effective frameworks and techniques to enhance one's emotional intelligence. Ultimately, with dedication and perseverance, individuals can learn and strengthen the main components of emotional intelligence, leading to personal growth and improved interpersonal relationships.

- Q3. (a) What teachings of Buddha are most relevant today and why? Discuss.**

(150 words) [10]

Approach to question:

Teachings of Buddha relevant today:

1. **Four Noble Truths:** Buddha's teachings on the nature of suffering, its causes, and the path to its cessation remain relevant in today's world of increasing stress and mental health issues.

2. **Mindfulness and Meditation:** The practice of mindfulness and meditation taught by Buddha helps individuals cultivate present-moment awareness, reduce stress, and develop a deeper understanding of their thoughts and emotions.
3. **Nonviolence and Compassion:** Buddha emphasized nonviolence and compassion towards all living beings. These teachings are particularly relevant today in promoting peace, harmony, and empathy in a world plagued by conflicts and social divisions.
4. **Impermanence and Change:** Buddha's teachings on impermanence remind us that change is inevitable and encourage us to embrace uncertainty, adaptability, and resilience in our personal and professional lives.

Answer:**Teachings of Buddha relevant today:**

1. **Impermanence:** Buddha's teaching on impermanence reminds us of the ever-changing nature of life.
2. **Mindfulness:** Buddha emphasized the practice of mindfulness, which involves being fully present in the moment and observing our thoughts, feelings, and sensations without judgment.
3. **Compassion:** Buddha's teachings on compassion urge us to cultivate empathy and kindness towards all beings.
4. **Non-attachment:** Buddha taught the importance of non-attachment, emphasizing that attachment and craving lead to suffering.
5. **Right Speech:** Buddha emphasized the importance of using our words wisely and with kindness.
6. **Wisdom:** Buddha's teachings on wisdom and understanding the nature of reality remain relevant today.

These teachings of Buddha hold relevance today as they offer practical guidance to navigate the challenges of modern life, foster inner peace, and cultivate harmonious relationships. By embracing these teachings, individuals can lead more balanced, compassionate, and meaningful lives, contributing to a more harmonious and compassionate society.

- Q3. (b) "The will to power exists, but it can be tamed and be guided by rationality and principles of moral duty". Examine this statement in the context of international relations.**

(150 words) [10]

Approach to question:

1. The concept of the will to power suggests that states possess inherent desires for dominance and influence in international relations.
2. However, this will to power can be tempered and directed by rationality and moral principles.
3. Rationality enables states to assess the consequences of their actions and make informed decisions that prioritize long-term stability and cooperation.

4. Principles of moral duty guide states to consider ethical implications, human rights, and the well-being of other nations.
5. By combining rationality and moral duty, the will to power can be channeled towards constructive and cooperative behaviour, fostering peace and mutual understanding in international relations.

Answer:

The statement suggests that while the will to power exists in international relations, it can be controlled and directed through rationality and adherence to moral duty.

1. In international relations, the will to power refers to the pursuit of national interests and the desire for dominance and influence on the global stage.
2. This pursuit of power often leads to conflicts and power struggles between nations.
3. However, rationality and moral duty can serve as guiding principles to mitigate the negative consequences of the will to power.
4. Rationality allows states to assess the costs and benefits of their actions, considering long-term implications and potential consequences.
5. By employing rational decision-making processes, states can avoid impulsive and reckless actions that may harm international stability and cooperation.
6. Furthermore, moral duty plays a crucial role in restraining the will to power in international relations.
7. States are bound by international norms, treaties, and ethical principles that promote cooperation, human rights, and peaceful resolutions of disputes.

Therefore, maintaining a delicate balance between the will to power and the principles of rationality and moral duty is crucial for fostering a more harmonious and equitable international order.

- Q4. (a) Distinguish between laws and rules. Discuss the role of ethics in formulating them. (150 words) [10]**

Approach to question:**Distinguishing between laws and rules:**

1. **Laws:** Legally binding regulations established by governing bodies.
2. **Rules:** Guidelines or instructions set by authorities or organizations.

Role of ethics in formulating laws and rules:

1. **Ethical Considerations:** Ethics involves moral principles and values that guide human behaviour.
2. **Moral Justification:** Ethical perspectives provide a moral justification for the formulation of laws and rules.

In conclusion, while laws are legally binding regulations enforced by governing bodies, rules are guidelines set by authorities or organizations.

Answer:

Distinguishing between laws and rules and discussing the role of ethics in formulating them:

Laws:

1. Laws are formal rules enacted by a governing authority, such as the legislature, with the power of enforcement.
2. Laws are legally binding and carry legal consequences when violated.

Rules:

1. Rules are specific instructions or guidelines that govern behavior within a particular context or organization.
2. Rules can be created by both governmental and non-governmental entities, such as administrative agencies, professional associations, or private institutions.

Role of Ethics in Formulating Laws and Rules:

1. Ethics play a crucial role in formulating laws and rules as they provide the moral foundation and principles on which these regulations are based.
2. Ethical considerations help ensure that laws and rules are fair, just, and aligned with societal values and norms.
3. Ethics guide decision-making processes and help strike a balance between competing interests and values when formulating regulations.

In summary, laws are formal, legally binding regulations enacted by a governing authority, while rules are specific instructions governing behaviour within a particular context.

- Q4. (b) A positive attitude is considered to be an essential characteristic of a civil servant who is often required to function under extreme stress. What contributes to a positive attitude in a person? (150 words) [10]**

Approach to question:

1. Several factors contribute to a positive attitude in a person, particularly in the context of a civil servant working under extreme stress.
2. Self-awareness plays a crucial role in developing a positive attitude by recognizing and managing one's emotions and reactions effectively.
3. Cultivating resilience and optimism helps individuals maintain a positive outlook, even in challenging situations.
4. Building a support system of colleagues, mentors, and friends provides emotional encouragement and boosts morale.
5. Continuous learning and growth mindset enable civil servants to adapt to changing circumstances and view challenges as opportunities for development.
6. Finally, maintaining a healthy work-life balance and practicing self-care activities contribute to a positive attitude by reducing stress and promoting overall well-being.

Answer:

A positive attitude is indeed crucial for civil servants who often operate in high-stress environments. Several factors

contribute to the development of a positive attitude in individuals. The following points highlight some of the key contributors:

1. **Self-awareness:** Having a clear understanding of one's strengths, weaknesses, and values enables individuals to approach challenges with a positive mindset.
2. **Resilience:** Resilience refers to the ability to bounce back from setbacks and adversities.
3. **Emotional intelligence:** Emotional intelligence involves recognizing and managing one's emotions and understanding the emotions of others.
4. **Optimism:** Optimism is the belief that positive outcomes are possible and that challenges can be overcome.
5. **Support system:** A strong support system comprising colleagues, mentors, and friends plays a vital role in fostering a positive attitude.
6. **Work-life balance:** Maintaining a healthy work-life balance is crucial for cultivating a positive attitude.
7. **Continuous learning and growth:** A growth mindset, characterized by a willingness to learn, adapt, and improve, is essential for maintaining a positive attitude.

In conclusion, a positive attitude in civil servants is nurtured through self-awareness, resilience, emotional intelligence, optimism, a strong support system, work-life balance, and a commitment to continuous learning.

- Q5. (a) What are the main factors responsible for gender inequality in India? Discuss the contribution of Savitribai Phule in this regard. (150 words) [10]**

Approach to question:

1. The rapid expansion of the internet has introduced new cultural values that often clash with traditional values.
2. Internet usage promotes individualism, instant gratification, and global connectivity.
3. Traditional values, on the other hand, emphasize community, patience, and local identity.
4. This clash leads to conflicts regarding issues like privacy, online behaviour, and cultural appropriation.
5. Society must find ways to navigate this tension, respecting both traditional values and the opportunities presented by the internet.

Answer:

Gender inequality in India is a complex issue with multiple contributing factors.

Factors responsible for gender inequality in India:

1. **Patriarchal Social Norms:** Traditional gender roles and patriarchal social norms reinforce the idea of male dominance and female subordination.
2. **Limited Access to Education:** Gender disparities in access to education contribute to gender inequality.
3. **Economic Disparities:** Women in India often face economic disparities, including lower wages,

limited job opportunities, and lack of access to financial resources.

4. **Violence and Discrimination:** Women in India are vulnerable to various forms of violence and discrimination, including domestic violence, sexual harassment, dowry-related abuse, and gender-based violence.

Contribution of Savitribai Phule in addressing gender inequality:

1. **Education for Women:** Savitribai Phule played a significant role in promoting education for women in India.
2. **Empowering Women through Education:** Through her efforts, Savitribai Phule empowered women by providing them with the tools to challenge social norms and inequalities.
3. **Fought Against Caste and Gender Discrimination:** Savitribai Phule fought against both caste and gender-based discrimination.

Savitribai Phule's contributions in the field of education and women's empowerment have been instrumental in challenging gender inequality in India. Her pioneering work serves as an inspiration for ongoing efforts to achieve gender equality and social justice in the country.

- Q5. (b) "The current internet expansion has instilled a different set of cultural values which are often in conflict with traditional values". Discuss. (150 words) [10]**

Approach to question:

1. The expansion of the internet has brought about a new set of cultural values that sometimes clash with traditional values.
2. Online platforms provide a space for individuals to express diverse opinions, beliefs, and lifestyles.
3. This can lead to conflicts between traditional norms and new ideas, challenging societal norms and values.
4. The anonymity and accessibility of the internet can also lead to the spread of misinformation and hate speech.
5. However, the internet also fosters cultural exchange and provides a platform for marginalized voices.
6. Balancing the benefits and challenges of the internet expansion is crucial in addressing conflicts between traditional and emerging cultural values.

Answer:

The current expansion of the internet has indeed brought about a different set of cultural values, which often clash with traditional values. This transformation has had significant implications for society, and it is crucial to examine the conflicts that arise due to this cultural shift. Here is a discussion on this topic in a point-wise format:

1. **Global Connectivity:** The internet has connected people worldwide, breaking down geographical barriers and fostering a global community.

2. **Individual Expression:** The internet provides a platform for individuals to freely express their opinions, beliefs, and identities.
3. **Privacy Concerns:** The internet age has brought forth concerns about privacy and personal boundaries.
4. **Access to Information:** The internet has revolutionized access to information, challenging traditional sources of authority and knowledge.

In conclusion, the internet expansion has ushered in a new set of cultural values that often conflict with traditional values. While the internet has contributed to increased global connectivity, individual expression, and access to information, it has also raised concerns about privacy, changed social interactions, and challenged established cultural norms.

- Q6. (a) "Condemn none: if you can stretch out a helping hand, do so. If not, fold your hands, bless your brothers, and let them go their own way". – Swami Vivekananda. (150 words) [10]**

Approach to question:

1. Swami Vivekananda's quote emphasizes the importance of refraining from condemning others and instead extending a helping hand when possible.
2. It encourages individuals to assist others in need, reflecting compassion and empathy.
3. However, if unable to provide direct assistance, the quote suggests offering blessings and allowing individuals to follow their own paths.
4. This approach promotes tolerance and respect for individual choices and differences.
5. Swami Vivekananda's words inspire a balanced and compassionate approach to dealing with others.

Answer:

The quote by Swami Vivekananda emphasizes the importance of compassion, non-judgment, and helping others in their own unique journeys.

1. Swami Vivekananda suggests refraining from condemning others, as it promotes a non-judgmental attitude and understanding.
2. Instead of criticizing or passing judgment, individuals are encouraged to extend a helping hand whenever possible.
3. The act of offering assistance reflects empathy and a willingness to support others in their challenges and struggles.
4. Swami Vivekananda acknowledges that not everyone may be in a position to provide direct assistance. In such cases, he suggests folding one's hands and offering blessings to those in need.
5. Blessing others is an act of goodwill and positive energy, which can be a source of comfort and encouragement for individuals on their chosen paths.

By embodying Swami Vivekananda's teachings, individuals can foster a culture of empathy, understanding, and support in society, promoting unity and harmony among individuals.

- Q6. (b)** “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others”.
– Mahatma Gandhi. (150 words) [10]

Approach to question:

1. Service to others helps individuals discover their true purpose and identity.
2. By selflessly dedicating oneself to the well-being of others, individuals can gain a deeper understanding of their values and passions.
3. Serving others allows individuals to develop empathy, compassion, and a sense of fulfillment.
4. Through service, individuals can explore their strengths, talents, and skills, leading to personal growth and self-discovery.
5. The act of giving back to society provides a sense of purpose and meaning in life, enabling individuals to find their true selves.

Answer:

The quote by Mahatma Gandhi emphasizes the importance of self-discovery through service to others. Here are the key points explaining the significance of this statement:

1. **Selflessness and Personal Growth:** Engaging in service to others allows individuals to shift their focus from themselves to the needs and well-being of others.
2. **Empathy and Compassion:** Service to others fosters the development of empathy and compassion.
3. **Expanding Perspectives:** Engaging in service broadens one's perspective by exposing them to diverse experiences and realities.
4. **Discovering Strengths and Talents:** Service to others provides individuals with opportunities to explore and discover their unique strengths and talents.

In conclusion, Mahatma Gandhi's quote underscores the transformative power of service to others. By losing themselves in the service of others, individuals can embark on a journey of self-discovery, cultivate empathy and compassion, broaden their perspectives, uncover their strengths, and find meaning and purpose in life. Embracing service as a way of life enables individuals to make a positive difference in the world while experiencing personal growth and fulfillment.

- Q6. (c)** “A system of morality which is based on relative emotional values is a mere illusion, a thoroughly vulgar conception which has nothing sound in it and nothing true”. – Socrates.
(150 words) [10]

Approach to question:

1. Socrates criticized a moral system based on relative emotional values, considering it an illusion and vulgar conception lacking soundness and truth.
2. He argued that morality should be grounded in objective principles and rationality rather than subjective emotions.

3. According to Socrates, a genuine moral system requires a solid foundation that transcends individual feelings and preferences.
4. By rejecting moral relativism, Socrates emphasized the importance of seeking objective truths and principles to guide ethical decision-making.
5. His viewpoint highlights the need for a robust and rational moral framework that goes beyond mere subjective emotions.

Answer:

Socrates argues that a moral system based on relative emotional values is illusory and lacking in substance or truth.

1. He criticizes the notion that morality can be determined solely by subjective emotions, highlighting its inherent flaws.
2. Socrates believes that morality should be based on objective and rational principles rather than individual emotions.
3. By relying on emotions alone, moral judgments become subjective and inconsistent, varying from person to person.
4. Emotional values can be influenced by personal biases, cultural conditioning, or temporary feelings, making them unreliable as a basis for morality.
5. Socrates asserts that true morality should be grounded in objective standards that transcend personal emotions and opinions.
6. These objective standards can be derived from logical reasoning, ethical principles, or universal values that stand the test of time.
7. Socrates emphasizes the need for a solid foundation for morality, one that is not easily swayed by fleeting emotions or situational circumstances.

Ultimately, Socrates' viewpoint highlights the importance of basing morality on rational principles rather than subjective emotions, in order to establish a more enduring and reliable moral framework.

SECTION B

- Q7.** Rajesh Kumar is a senior public servant, with a reputation of honesty and forthrightness, currently posted in the Finance Ministry as Head of the Budget Division. His department is presently busy in organising the budgetary support to the states, four of which are due to go to the polls within the financial year. This year's annual budget had allotted ₹8300 crores for the National Housing Scheme (NHS), a centrally sponsored social housing scheme for the weaker sections of society. ₹775 crores have been drawn for NHS till June. The Ministry of Commerce had long been pursuing a case for setting up a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in a southern state to boost exports. After two years of detailed

discussions between the centre and state, the Union Cabinet approved the project in August. Process was initiated to acquire the necessary land. Eighteen months ago a leading Public Sector Unit (PSU) had projected the need for setting up a large natural gas processing plant in a northern state for the regional gas grid. The required land is already in possession of the PSU. The gas grid is an essential component of the national energy security strategy. After three rounds of global bidding the project was allotted to an MNC, M/s XYZ Hydrocarbons. The first tranche of payment to the MNC is scheduled to be made in December.

Finance Ministry was asked for a timely allocation of an additional ₹6000 crores for these two developmental projects. It was decided to recommend re-appropriation of this entire amount from the NHS allocation. The file was forwarded to Budget Department for their comments and further processing. On studying the case file, Rajesh Kumar realized that this re-appropriation may cause inordinate delay in the execution of NHS, a project much publicized in the rallies of senior politicians. Correspondingly, non-availability of finances would cause financial loss in the SEZ and national embarrassment due to delayed payment in an international project.

Rajesh Kumar discussed the matter with his seniors. He was con politically sensitive situation needs to be processed immediately. Rajesh Kumar realized that diversion of funds from NHS could raise difficult questions for the government in the Parliament. Discuss the following with reference to this case : (a) Ethical issues involved in re-appropriation of funds from a welfare project to the developmental projects. (b) Given the need for proper utilization of public funds, discuss the options available to Rajesh Kumar. Is resigning a worthy option? (250 words) [20]

Approach to question:

Ethical issues involved in re-appropriation of funds from a welfare project to the developmental projects:

Prioritization of Welfare Projects: Re-appropriating funds from a welfare project like the National Housing Scheme (NHS) to developmental projects raises ethical concerns regarding the prioritization of social welfare.

Options available to Rajesh Kumar in ensuring proper utilization of public funds:

Seeking Alternate Funding Sources: Rajesh Kumar can explore the possibility of obtaining additional funds for

the developmental projects from alternative sources, such as government reserves, international funding agencies, or reallocation of funds from other non-welfare sectors.

Answer:

Ethical issues involved in re-appropriation of funds from a welfare project to developmental projects:

1. **Allocation Priorities:** Re-appropriating funds from a welfare project to developmental projects raises ethical concerns regarding the priorities of the government.
2. **Public Expectations:** The government has publicized the NHS in political rallies, creating expectations among the public.
3. **Equity and Social Justice:** Welfare projects like the NHS aim to address social inequalities and provide support to marginalized sections of society.
4. **Transparency and Accountability:** The re-appropriation of funds should be based on transparent and accountable decision-making processes.

Options available to Rajesh Kumar considering the need for proper utilization of public funds:

1. **Seeking Alternative Funding:** Rajesh Kumar can explore options for securing additional funding for the developmental projects without diverting funds from the NHS.
2. **Advocating for Incremental Budget Allocation:** Rajesh Kumar can propose a gradual increase in budgetary allocations for the developmental projects over multiple financial years, rather than a significant re-appropriation from the NHS.
3. **Engaging Stakeholders:** Rajesh Kumar can initiate discussions with key stakeholders, including senior politicians, to explain the consequences of re-appropriating funds from the NHS.
4. **Resignation as a Worthy Option:** Resignation can be considered as a last resort if all other options have been exhausted, and Rajesh Kumar strongly believes that re-appropriating funds would be unethical and detrimental to the public interest.

It is important for Rajesh Kumar to carefully assess the feasibility and impact of each option, considering the broader consequences, legal implications, and the potential for alternative funding sources. Engaging in open dialogue, advocating for transparent decision-making, and exploring alternative solutions can help address the ethical dilemmas and uphold the proper utilization of public funds.

Q8. The Chairman of Bharat Missiles Ltd (BML) was watching a program on TV wherein the Prime Minister was addressing the nation on the necessity of developing a self-reliant India. He subconsciously nodded in agreement and smiled to himself as he mentally reviewed BML's journey in the past two decades. BML had admirably progressed from producing first generation anti-tank guided missiles (ATGMs) to designing and

producing state of the art ATGM weapon systems that would be the envy of any army. He sighed in reconciliation with his assumptions that the government would probably not alter the status quo of a ban on export of military weaponry. To his surprise, the very next day he got a telephone call from the Director General, Ministry of Defence, asking him to discuss the modalities of increasing BML production of ATGMs as there is a possibility of exporting the same to a friendly foreign country. The Director General wanted the Chairman to discuss the details with his staff at Delhi next week.

Two days later, at a press conference, the Defence Minister stated that he aims to double the current weapons export levels within five years. This would give an impetus to financing the development and manufacture of indigenous weapons in the country. He also stated that all indigenous arms manufacturing nations have a very good record of international arms trade. As Chairman of BML, what are your views on the following points?

- (a) As an arms exporter of a responsible nation like India, what are the ethical issues involved in arms trade?
- (b) List five ethical factors that would influence the decision to sell arms to foreign governments. (250 words) [20]

Approach to question:

Ethical issues involved in arms trade as an arms exporter of a responsible nation like India:

1. Arms trade raises concerns about contributing to conflicts and exacerbating violence in recipient countries.
2. There is a risk of weapons falling into the wrong hands or being used against civilian populations, violating human rights.
3. Arms sales may undermine peace-building efforts and diplomatic relationships between countries.
4. The potential for fueling arms races and destabilizing regions should be considered.
5. The impact on national security and strategic interests must be weighed, as exporting arms may compromise domestic defense capabilities.

Five ethical factors influencing the decision to sell arms to foreign governments:

1. The recipient country's human rights record and commitment to international law and humanitarian principles.
2. The potential for the arms to be used in offensive actions or against civilian populations.

3. The stability and security of the region where the recipient country is located.
4. The risk of proliferation, where the exported arms may be further sold or transferred to unauthorized entities.
5. The transparency and accountability of the recipient country's defense procurement and usage practices.

Answer:

As the Chairman of Bharat Missiles Ltd (BML), the scenario presents a unique opportunity to discuss the ethical issues involved in arms trade and the factors that influence the decision to sell arms to foreign governments. Here are the views on the following points:

Ethical issues involved in arms trade as an arms exporter of a responsible nation like India:

1. **Human rights violations:** Arms trade raises concerns about the potential misuse of weapons by foreign governments, leading to human rights abuses and civilian casualties.
2. **Destabilization of regions:** Selling weapons to countries engaged in conflicts or with a history of aggression can contribute to regional instability and escalate violence.

Five ethical factors influencing the decision to sell arms to foreign governments:

1. **Human rights record:** Consideration should be given to the recipient country's human rights record and its commitment to upholding international humanitarian law. Selling arms to countries with a history of human rights abuses raises ethical concerns.
2. **Regional stability:** Assess the impact of arms sales on regional stability and potential risks of exacerbating conflicts. Ethical decisions should prioritize promoting peace and stability in the region.
3. **End-use monitoring:** Implement robust mechanisms to ensure that the sold weapons are used solely for the intended purpose and do not end up in the wrong hands or contribute to human rights violations.

It is important for the Chairman to consider these ethical factors and engage in a comprehensive discussion with their staff and the Ministry of Defence to make an informed decision. They must balance economic interests, national security, and ethical considerations while ensuring that the arms trade aligns with India's commitment to responsible international engagement and upholding humanitarian values.

Q9. Rampura, a remote district inhabited by a tribal population, is marked by extreme backwardness and abject poverty. Agriculture is the mainstay of the local population, though it is primarily subsistence due to the very small land holdings. There is insignificant industrial or mining activity. Even the targeted welfare programs have inadequately benefited the tribal population. In this restrictive scenario, the youth has begun to migrate to other states

to supplement the family income. Plight of minor girls is that their parents are persuaded by labour contractors to send them to work in the Bt Cotton farms of a nearby state. The soft fingers of the minor girls are well suited for plucking the cotton. The inadequate living and working conditions in these farms have caused serious health issues for the minor girls. NGOs in the districts of domicile and the cotton farms appear to be compromised and have not effectively espoused the twin issues of child labour and development of the area.

You are appointed as the District Collector of Rampura. Identify the ethical issues involved. Which specific steps will you initiate to ameliorate the conditions of minor girls of your district and to improve the overall economic scenario in the district?

(250 words) [20]

Approach to question:

Ethical issues involved:

1. **Exploitation of minor girls:** The persuasion of parents by labor contractors to send minor girls to work in cotton farms constitutes child labor and exploitation, compromising their education, health, and overall well-being.
2. **Lack of effective advocacy:** The compromised state of NGOs in both the domicile district and cotton farms highlights the ethical issue of a failure to advocate for the rights and development of the tribal population, particularly the minor girls.

Specific steps to ameliorate the conditions of minor girls and improve the economic scenario:

1. **Awareness and Education:** Launch awareness campaigns to educate parents, communities, and labor contractors about the detrimental effects of child labor and the importance of education. Emphasize the rights and well-being of minor girls.
2. **Strengthen Child Protection Mechanisms:** Establish a robust child protection system in collaboration with local authorities, NGOs, and community leaders to prevent the exploitation of minor girls. Provide training to officials to identify and address cases of child labor.
3. **Promote Skill Development and Livelihood Opportunities:** Implement skill development programs tailored to the local context, focusing on sectors with potential growth. Encourage entrepreneurship among the tribal population to enhance economic prospects.

Answer:

Ethical issues involved in the given scenario:

1. **Exploitation of Minor Girls:** The practice of persuading and employing minor girls in

hazardous work on Bt Cotton farms constitutes a violation of their rights and exposes them to physical and mental health risks.

2. **Compromised NGOs:** The NGOs operating in the district and the cotton farms appear to be compromised, as they have failed to address the issues of child labor and the overall development of the area effectively.

Specific steps to ameliorate the conditions of minor girls and improve the overall economic scenario in the district:

1. **Strengthen Law Enforcement:** Collaborate with law enforcement agencies to strictly enforce laws against child labor and exploitation. Conduct regular inspections of cotton farms to identify and rescue minor girls engaged in hazardous work. Take legal action against labor contractors involved in the recruitment and exploitation of minors.
2. **Sensitize and Educate Communities:** Conduct awareness campaigns and sensitization programs to educate parents, community members, and stakeholders about the importance of protecting the rights of minor girls and the risks associated with child labor. Emphasize the need for education and skill development to break the cycle of poverty.
3. **Establish Rehabilitation Programs:** Set up rehabilitation programs for rescued minor girls, providing them with access to education, healthcare, counseling, and vocational training. Collaborate with relevant government departments, NGOs, and educational institutions to ensure their holistic development and reintegration into society.
4. **Empower Tribal Communities:** Implement targeted programs to empower tribal communities economically.

By implementing these specific steps, the District Collector can address the ethical issues involved, protect the rights of minor girls, and work towards improving the overall economic scenario in Rampura district. These measures will foster inclusive development, empower the tribal population, and create a sustainable future for the community.

Q10. You are a municipal commissioner of a large city, having the reputation of a very honest and upright officer. A huge multipurpose mall is under construction in your city in which a large number of daily wage earners are employed. One night, during monsoons, a big chunk of the roof collapsed causing instant death of four labourers including two minors. Many more were seriously injured requiring immediate medical attention. The mishap resulted in a big hue and cry, forcing the government to institute an enquiry. Your preliminary enquiry has revealed a series of anomalies. The material used for the construction was of poor quality. Despite the approved building

plans permitting only one basement, an additional basement has been constructed. This was overlooked during the periodic inspections by the building inspector of the municipal corporation. In your enquiry, you noticed that the construction of the mall was given the green signal despite encroaching on areas earmarked for a green belt and a slip road in the Zonal Master Plan of the city. The permission to construct the mall was accorded by the previous Municipal Commissioner who is not only your senior and well known to you professionally, but also a good friend. Prima facie, the case appears to be of a widespread nexus between officials of the Municipal Corporation and the builders. Your colleagues are putting pressure on you to go slow in the enquiry. The builder, who is rich and influential, happens to be a close relative of a powerful minister in the state cabinet. The builder is persuading you to hush up the matter, promising you a fortune to do so. He also hinted that if this matter is not resolved at the earliest in his favour there is somebody in his office who is waiting to file a case against you under the POSH Act.

Discuss the ethical issues involved in the case. What are the options available to you in this situation? Explain your selected course of action. (250 words) [20]

Approach to question:

Ethical issues involved:

1. Loss of life and injury due to negligence in construction.
2. Violation of building regulations and encroachment on designated areas.

Options available:

1. Succumb to pressure, hush up the matter, and accept the builder's bribe.
2. Conduct a fair investigation and take appropriate legal action against the responsible

Selected course of action: Conduct a fair investigation, gather evidence, and uphold ethical principles.

1. Ensure impartiality, despite pressure from colleagues and attempts at bribery.
2. Collaborate with anti-corruption agencies and higher authorities to address the issue.

Answer:

Ethical issues involved in the case:

1. **Compromise of public safety:** The use of poor quality construction materials and unauthorized modifications jeopardized the safety of the workers and the future occupants of the mall.

2. **Violation of regulations:** The construction of the additional basement, encroachment on designated green areas and slip road, and overlooking these violations during inspections, indicate a disregard for established regulations and planning.

Options available to the municipal commissioner:

1. **Uphold transparency and accountability:** The commissioner can prioritize the well-being of the public and act in the best interest of the city by conducting a fair and thorough investigation into the incident and its underlying causes.
2. **Pursue legal action:** The commissioner can initiate legal proceedings against those responsible for the violations, ensuring that the law takes its course and justice is served.

Selected course of action:

The municipal commissioner should prioritize ethical conduct and the public's welfare over personal relationships and external influences. The following steps should be taken:

1. **Continue the impartial enquiry:** Thoroughly investigate the matter, considering all evidence, testimonies, and regulatory violations to determine the exact chain of events and those responsible.
2. **Maintain transparency:** Keep the public informed about the progress of the investigation and any actions taken, fostering trust and accountability.
3. **Seek legal advice:** Consult legal experts to ensure that the investigation adheres to due process and the subsequent actions are in accordance with the law.

By following these actions, the municipal commissioner can demonstrate integrity, uphold ethical standards, and prioritize public welfare, thereby maintaining the reputation as an honest and upright officer while holding those responsible accountable for their actions.

Q11. Parmal is a small but underdeveloped district. It has rocky terrain that is not suitable for agriculture, though some subsistence agriculture is being done on small plots of land. The area receives adequate rainfall and has an irrigation canal flowing through it. Amria, its administrative centre, is a medium sized town. It houses a large district hospital, an Industrial Training Institute and some privately owned skill training centres. It has all the facilities of a district headquarters. A trunk railway line passes approximately 50 kilometres from Amria. Its poor connectivity is a major reason for the absence of any major industry therein. The state government offers a 10 years tax holiday as an incentive to new industry. In 2010 Anil, an industrialist, decided to take benefits to set up Amria Plastic Works (APW) in Noora village, about 20 km from Amria. While the factory was being built, Anil hired the required key labour and got them trained at the skill training centres at Amria. This act of his made the key

personnel very loyal to APW. APW started production in 2011 with the labour drawn fully from Noora village. The villagers were very happy to get employment near their homes and were motivated by the key personnel to meet the production targets with high quality. APW started making large profits, a sizeable portion of which was used to improve the quality of life in Noora. By 2016, Noora could boast of a greener village and a renovated village temple. Anil liaised with the local MLA to increase the frequency of the bus services to Amria. The government also opened a primary health care centre and primary school at Noora in buildings constructed by APW, APW used its CSR funds to set up women's self-help groups, subsidize primary education to the village children and procure an ambulance for use by its employees and the needy. In 2019, there was a minor fire in APW. It was quickly extinguished as fire safety protocols were in place in the factory. Investigations revealed that the factory had been using electricity in excess of its authorized capacity. This was soon rectified the next year, due to a nationwide lockdown, the requirement of production fell for four months. Anil decided that all employees would be paid regularly. He employed them to plant trees and improve the village habitat. APW had developed a reputation of high quality production and a motivated workforce. Critically analyse the story of APW and state the ethical issues involved. Do you consider APW as a role model for development of backward areas? Give reasons.

(250 words) [20]

Approach to question:

The story of APW and the ethical issues involved:

- Hiring and Training:** Anil hired key labor for APW and got them trained at skill training centers in Amria, which created loyalty and motivation among the personnel. This raises ethical questions about whether Anil's actions were fair to other potential employees who may have also been deserving of the opportunity.
- Utilization of Profits:** APW used a portion of its profits to improve the quality of life in Noora village, including greening the village, renovating the temple, and contributing to the development of essential facilities. While this may seem positive, ethical concerns arise regarding the transparency of these actions and whether they were driven by a genuine commitment to community development or as a means to gain social and political support.

- Influence on Government:** Anil liaised with the local MLA to increase bus services and facilitate the opening of a healthcare center and school in Noora. This raises ethical questions about the extent of Anil's influence on government decisions and whether these actions were driven by genuine concern for the community or for personal gain.
- Exceeding Authorized Capacity:** Investigations revealed that APW had been using electricity beyond its authorized capacity. This raises ethical concerns about compliance with regulations and whether APW prioritized profit over legal and ethical considerations.

Answer:

Story of APW and Ethical Issues Involved:

- Industrial Development in a Backward Area:** Anil's decision to set up APW in the underdeveloped district of Parmal aimed at bringing industrial development to an area with limited opportunities.
- Skill Training and Local Employment:** Anil hired key labor from Noora village and provided them with skill training, creating employment opportunities for the local community.
- Profit Utilization for Community Welfare:** APW's profitability allowed Anil to invest in improving the quality of life in Noora village. This includes initiatives like greening the village, renovating the village temple, and supporting primary education and healthcare.
- Collaborative Efforts with Local Authorities:** Anil's liaison with the local MLA resulted in improved bus services to Amria, the opening of a primary healthcare center and school in Noora, and infrastructure development.

Is APW a Role Model for Development of Backward Areas?

APW can be considered a role model for the development of backward areas due to the following reasons:

- Employment Generation:** APW's establishment brought employment opportunities to the underdeveloped area, providing a means of livelihood to the local community.
- Skill Development:** The training provided by APW enhanced the skills of the local workforce, contributing to their personal and professional growth.
- Community Welfare:** APW's investment in improving the quality of life in Noora village through infrastructure development, education, healthcare, and environmental initiatives demonstrates a commitment to holistic community welfare.
- Responsible Profit Utilization:** APW's utilization of profits for community development showcases a socially responsible approach, contributing to the overall upliftment of the backward area.

However, it is important to consider the long-term sustainability of APW's initiatives and the potential challenges or limitations in replicating this model in other backward areas. The story of APW serves as an inspiring

example, but it should be adapted to suit the specific context and challenges of different regions.

Q12. Migrant workers have always remained at the socio-economic margins of our society, silently serving as the instrumental labour force of urban economics. The pandemic has brought them into national focus. On announcement of a countrywide lockdown, a very large number of migrant workers decided to move back from their places of employment to their native villages. The non-availability of transport created its own problems. Added to this was the fear of starvation and inconvenience to their families. This caused, the migrant workers to demand wages and transport facilities for returning to their villages. Their mental agony was accentuated by multiple factors such as a sudden loss of livelihood, possibility of lack of food and inability to assist in harvesting their rabi crop due to not being able to reach home in time. Reports of inadequate response of some districts in providing the essential boarding and lodging arrangements along the way multiplied their fears. You have learnt many lessons from this situation when you were tasked to oversee the functioning of the District Disaster Relief Force in your district. In your opinion what ethical issues arose in the current migrant crisis? What do you understand by an ethical care giving state? What assistance can the civil society render to mitigate the sufferings of migrants in similar situations? (250 words) [20]

Approach to question:

The current migrant crisis highlighted several ethical issues, such as:

1. Lack of preparedness and proactive measures to address the needs of migrant workers during a crisis.
2. Inadequate provision of essential facilities like food, shelter, and transportation for migrant workers during their journey back home.
3. Insufficient coordination among different districts in providing assistance and support to migrant workers.
4. Disparity in the treatment of migrant workers, leading to feelings of neglect and marginalization.

An ethical care giving state refers to a government that prioritizes the well-being and dignity of all its citizens, especially those who are most vulnerable. It involves ensuring equal access to essential services, safeguarding human rights, and actively addressing the needs of marginalized groups.

Civil society can play a crucial role in mitigating the sufferings of migrants in similar situations by:

1. Providing immediate relief measures like food, shelter, and medical aid.
2. Advocating for the rights and welfare of migrant workers, raising awareness about their challenges, and pushing for policy reforms.
3. Collaborating with government agencies and NGOs to establish efficient mechanisms for the smooth movement and support of migrants during crises.
4. Creating employment and skill development opportunities for migrant workers to improve their socio-economic conditions.

The lessons learned from this situation underscore the importance of proactive planning, effective coordination, and compassionate governance to address the ethical challenges faced by migrant workers and ensure their well-being in times of crisis.

Answer:

Ethical issues in the current migrant crisis:

1. **Duty towards vulnerable populations:** The crisis highlighted the ethical obligation of the state to protect and support vulnerable sections of society, including migrant workers.
2. **Right to livelihood:** Migrant workers faced a sudden loss of livelihood, which raised questions about the ethical responsibility of the state to ensure access to basic economic opportunities for all.

Understanding an ethical care-giving state:

An ethical care-giving state refers to a government that prioritizes the well-being, dignity, and rights of its citizens, particularly those who are marginalized or vulnerable. It encompasses policies and practices that ensure equitable access to essential services, protection from harm, and support during times of crisis. An ethical care-giving state emphasizes empathy, compassion, and the fulfillment of human rights as foundational principles.

Assistance civil society can provide to mitigate migrant sufferings:

1. **Emergency relief and support:** Civil society organizations can provide immediate assistance such as food, water, shelter, and medical aid to migrants in distress.
2. **Advocacy and awareness:** They can raise awareness about the issues faced by migrants, advocate for their rights, and mobilize public opinion to pressurize authorities for appropriate response and policy changes.

In conclusion, the migrant crisis raised ethical concerns related to the duty of the state towards vulnerable populations, the right to livelihood and dignity, equity and fairness, and potential human rights violations. An ethical care-giving state prioritizes the well-being and rights of citizens. Civil society can assist by providing emergency relief, advocacy, legal aid, skill-building, and policy engagement to mitigate the sufferings of migrants and create a more just and compassionate society.