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Ethics Syllabus

- ❖ Ethics and Human Values: Lessons from lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators. Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.
- ❖ Ethical concepts- Rit and Rin, concept of Duty, concept of Good and Virtue. Inspiration from Karmavada
- ❖ Ethics in private and public relationships- Behaviour, Moral and Political attitudes of administrators, Philosophical basis of Integrity. impartiality and non-partisanship.
- ❖ Liberal Society: Transparency, media and bureaucracy
- ❖ Ethics of Bhagavad Geeta and its role in administration.
- ❖ Gandhian Ethics.
- ❖ Contribution of Moral Thinkers and Philosophers from India & World.
- ❖ Ethical concerns, dilemmas and challenges in administration. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Versus Conscience in administrative decision making
- ❖ Ethical decision-making and contributing factors; social justice, humanitarian concerns, accountability in governance and code of ethics. Instrumental rationality versus value rationality
- ❖ Non-factual Case Studies on above mentioned topics.

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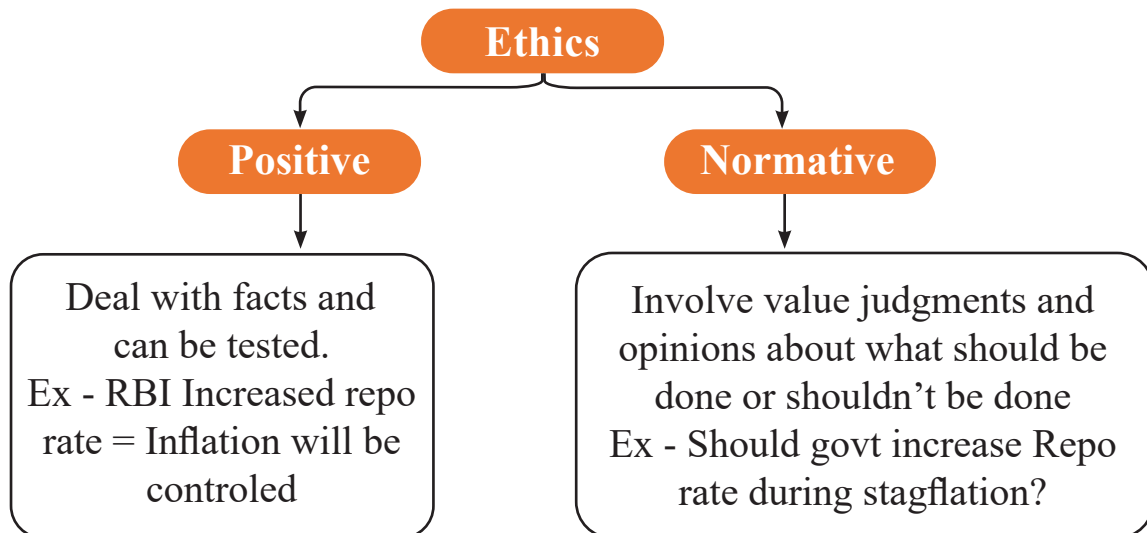
Ethics and Human Values

PYQs

2013	Ethics is a phenomenon with divergent dimensions. Comment.	5 M
2013	Define impartiality. What are its basic ingredients ?	2 M
2013	In your view, what should be the key moral values in public administration?	2 M
2016	What is the meaning of 'Freedom of will' ?	2 M
2018	What are the main values of the Civil Services ?	2 M
2023	State the distinctive features of human values.	5 M
2024	Explain 'Moral determinism' .	2 M
2024	Does administrative objectivity necessarily presuppose administrative integrity?	5 M
2024	"There can be no high Civility without a deep Morality ,though it may not call itself by that name ."R.W. Emerson Discuss.	5 M

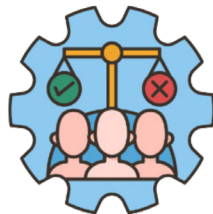
What is Ethics?

- » Ethics is a normative science and a branch of philosophy, which determines what a sentient creature ought to do to differentiate the act as good or bad, right or wrong, and appropriate or inappropriate.
- » The word Ethics is derived from the Greek word 'Ethikos', which means character. Hence, Ethics contains a set of principles that help us determine what is right or wrong.
- » **According to McKenzie**, "Ethics examines the principles behind human habits and analyzes the reasons for their goodness or badness."
- » According to Shukraneeti Niti, "Ethics is the product of all the scriptures and the administrator of the social order. Therefore, it is the provider of these four efforts – Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha"



What is Morality?

- » An individual set of principles that guide one's beliefs, thoughts, attitudes, behavior, and action. [BTABA]
- » Morality defines personal character.



Ethics

VS



Morality

Difference between Ethics and Morality

Factors	Ethics	Morality
Definition	Code that society or a group as a whole adheres to	An individual set of commitments
Impact	Define social norms	Define Personal character
Locus	External	Internal
Subjectivity	Less	High
In practice	More theoretical	More practical

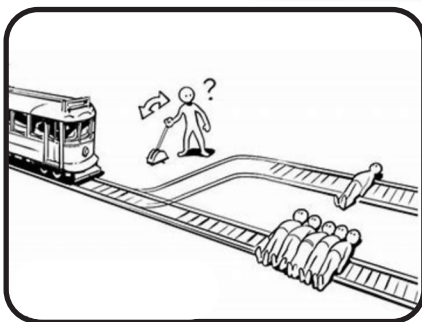
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Ethics concern, dilemmas and ethical decision making

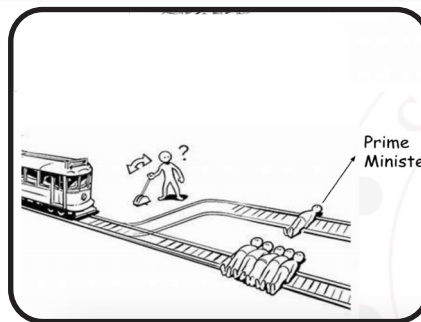
Previous Year Questions

2021	Explain the factors essential in “Ethical Decision “ making. In case of decisions being against administrative decisions, how will you harmonize them ? Explain with examples.	10 M
2021	What do you understand about ethical dilemmas?	2 M
2021	What are generally considered to be the minimum basic needs of an individual to lead a healthy and productive life? What is the administrators responsibility in ensuring these minimums?	5 M
2023	What do you mean by moral dilemma? Should personal ethics take precedence over professional ethics in a situation of moral conflict?	10 M

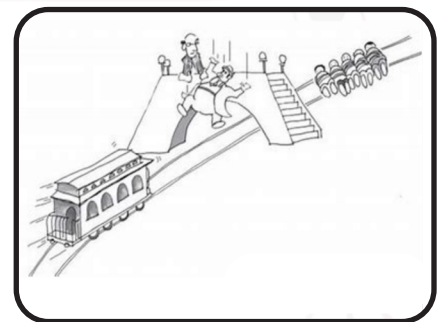
Understand ethical dilemma by A case study



(1)



(2)



(3)

Above three images are related to a case study.

Image 1 -

- ❖ A train is coming and you are there on your duty. You observe that on one of the tracks, a single person is tied and on another track five people are tied. You have to pull the lever to give way to train on any particular track. What decision will you take ?

Image 2 -

- ❖ One side you find that the person is the prime minister of India and on the other track five common people are tied. Now what will be your decision ?

Global Thinkers and Philosophers

Previous Year Questions

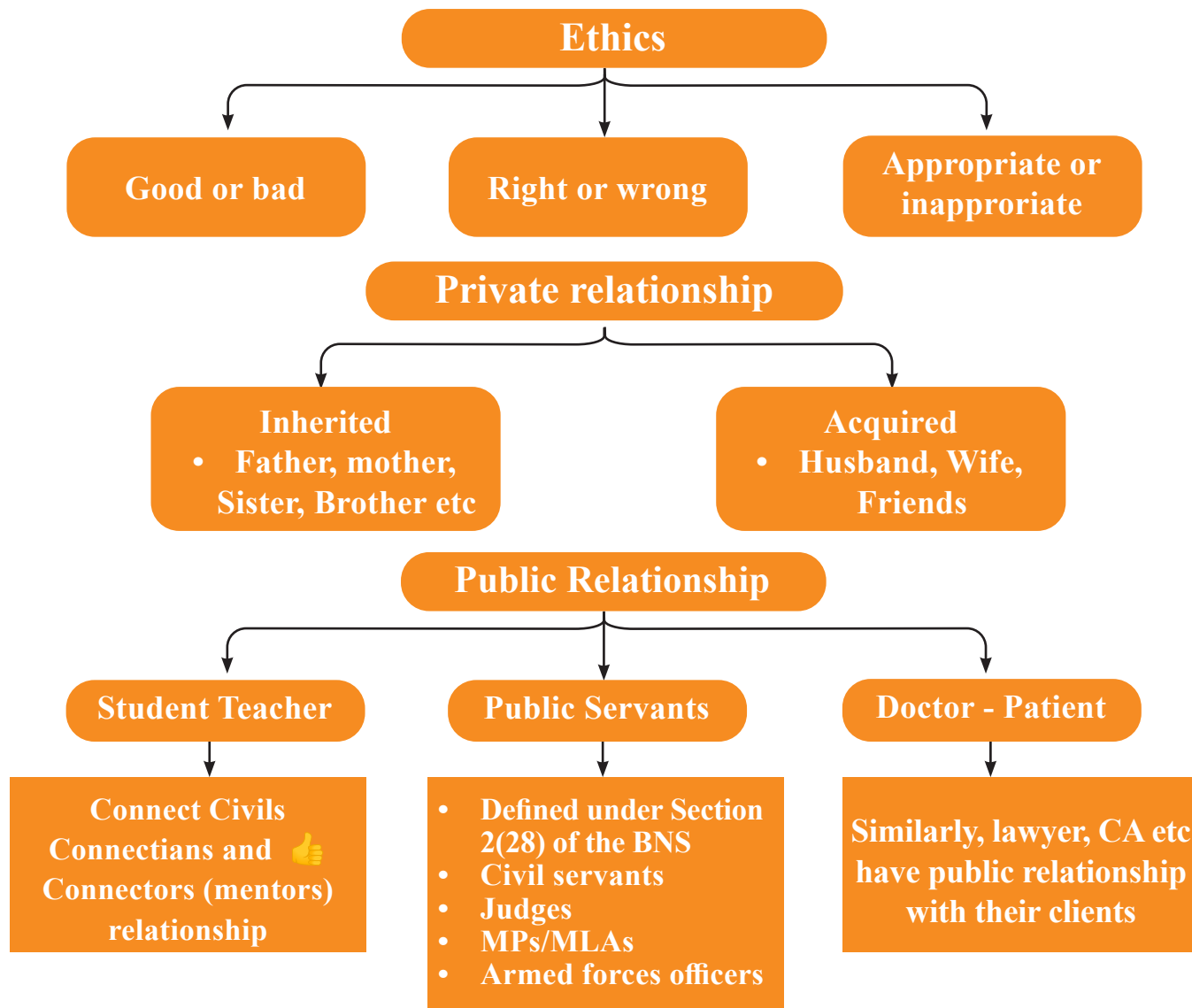
2016	Write the names of ‘ Cardinal Virtues ’ of Plato.	2 M
2016	What is the meaning of ‘Utilitarianism’ according to J. S Mill ?	2 M
2016	Explain the meaning of ‘Categorical Imperatives’ according to Kant.	2 M
2016	Explain the postulates of morality according to Kant.	5 M
2016	Define ‘Virtue’ according to Socrates.	2 M
2016	What is the concept of 'Naturalistic Fallacy' ?	2 M
2018	Define justice according to Plato.	2 M
2018	Plato’s theory of justice includes courage and temperance. Are they still needed in modern society and administration ?	10 M
2021	What teachings of Buddha are most relevant today and why ?	2 M
2021	Teachings of leaders and reformers never grow old. Bring out their significance in the modern context.	10 M
2023	What is Goodwill according to Kant?	2 M
2023	What are cardinal virtues according to Plato ?	2 M
2023	State the features of Deontology and Consequentialism. Which one of the two approaches is more suitable for an administrator? Why ?	10 M
2024	Explain ‘My station and its duties ’ ?	2 M
2024	How can Hedonism be Paradoxical? Discuss.	5 M
2024	How is the idea of ‘Human Resources ’ consistent With the idea of ‘Humanity as an End’ ? Analyse in the perspective Of welfare state .	10 M

Philosophers	Theories
❖ Socrates ❖ Platow ❖ Aristotle ❖ Kant ❖ David Hume ❖ Moore ❖ John Rawls	❖ Hedonism ❖ Epicureanism ❖ Stoicism ❖ Evolutionist

Ethics in Private and Public Relationship

Previous Year Questions

2018	Explain the role of society in inculcating human values.	5M
2021	Men's moral advancement depends upon complete advancement of society. Discuss.	5M
2021	Family is the most important institution for the moral development of a man. Evaluate this statement.	5M
2024	Formal education or social inculcation: Which of the above two is more important in creation of a good administration?	5 M



Gandhian Ethics



दे दी हमें आजादी बिना खडग बिना ढाल,
साबरमती के संत तूने कर दिया कमाल ।

Previous Year Questions

2018	Why are 'Non Violence' or 'Ahimsa' core values of Gandhian Ethics ?	2 M
2018	'Labour is capital and the living capital is inexhaustible. I want to establish an equitable relationship between capital and labor. I do not wish for the supremacy of one over the other'. Discuss in the context of Mahatma Gandhi.	5 M
2021	The aim of good governance and morality in civil services can be achieved through following Gandhi's seven social sins concept. Analyse.	10 M
2021	Necessarily related, means cannot be separated from ends. Therefore, both must be auspicious for real and lasting success. Explain the above comment in context of Gandhian Ethics.	10 M
2023	What according to Gandhi is the ideal of 'Swaraj' ?	5 M

Features of Gandhian ethics

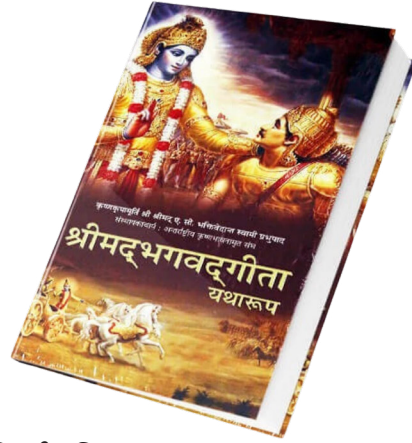
❖ Gandhi is not an academic thinker, he is a mass leader.

His philosophy is an outcome of:

❖ His inner religious convictions

6

Ethics of Bhagavad Gita



यदा यदा हि धर्मस्य ग्लानिर्भवति भारत ।
अभ्युत्थानमधर्मस्य तदात्मानं सृजाम्यहम् ॥

Previous Year Questions

Previous Year Questions		
2016	Explain 'Paradharma' according to Geeta.	2M
2016	Explain the concept of 'Loka Sangraha' of Geeta.	5M
2016	Define 'Swadharma' according to Geeta.	2M
2016	Describe the notion of 'Nishkama Karma Yoga' according to Geeta.	5M
2018	The aim of administration is public welfare. Which principle of Geeta upholds this Intention ?	2M
2018	How does Bhagavad Gita resolve the dilemma of Arjun in the face of crisis ? As an administrator how will you apply the tenets of Geeta when confronted with an administrative dilemma ?	10M
2021	Explain the role of the concept of 'sthit pragya' in the discharge of administrative responsibility.	2M
2021	What way is the ' detachment theory' of Bhagavad Geeta significant in the life of an administrator ?	2M

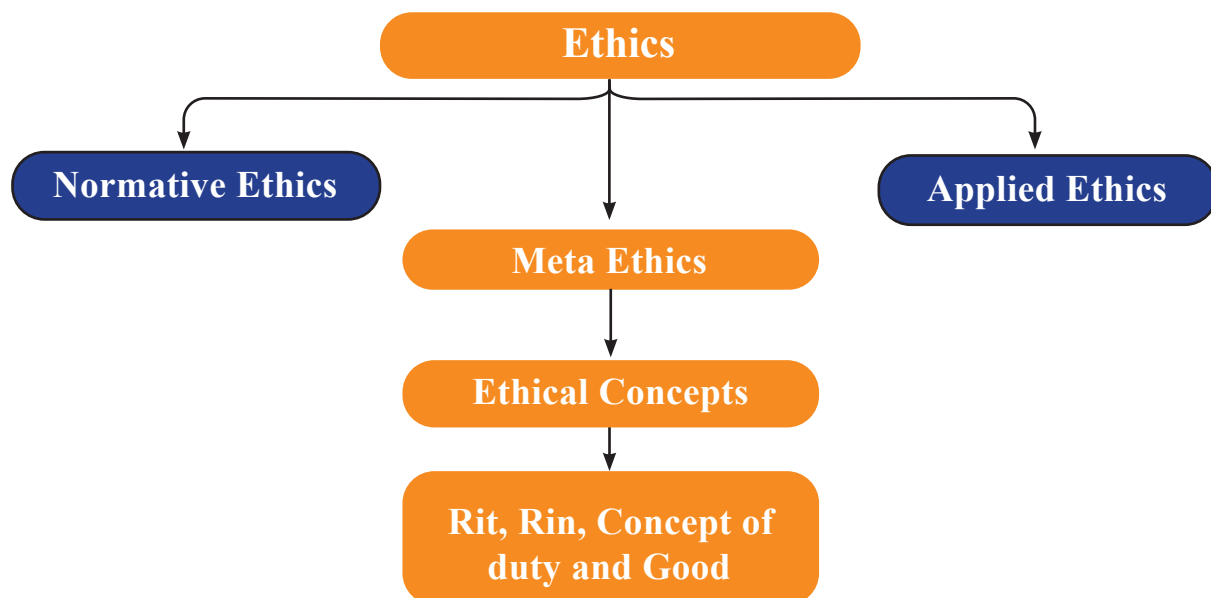
Rit, Rin and Concept of Duty

Previous Year Questions

2013	Throw light on the concept of "Rina" in Indian tradition.	5M
2018	How does the concept of "RIT" enhance administrative excellence ?	2M
2021	Explain the relevance of the ethical idea of 'Rina' in administrative life.	2M
2023	How can contemporary society benefit from the Vedic idea of 'Rna'?	5 M

Ethical Concepts

- ❖ Principles which discuss the origin of ethics and rightly guide human being's belief, thoughts, attitude, behavior and action by putting reasonable restrictions on them.
- ❖ This is part of Meta ethics as the origin of ethical principles is discussed.
- ❖ Eg. - Rit, Rin, Concept of Duty, Good etc



Concept of Good and Virtue, Good Governance

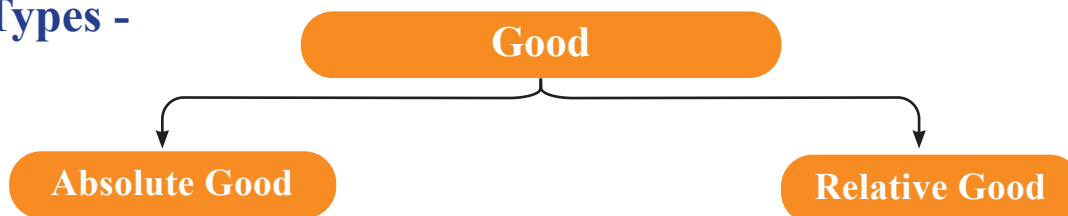
Previous Year Questions

2016	Write the view of Kant on 'Good will'.	5 M
2016	Discuss the increasing role of civil society in governance.	10 M
2021	Explain Kant's ultimate good on the basis of relative and categorical imperative.	5 M
2024	Explain Virtue as a mean.	2 M
2024	What is the meaning of 'Good'? How shall your idea of Good help Structure a good administration?	10 M

Concept of Good

- ❖ The word 'Good' is derived from the German word 'Gut' which means anything valuable or useful.
- ❖ In ethics the word 'good' is used to express moral qualities.

Two Types -



- ❖ **Relative good** - It is a kind of good as a means i.e it is not desired for itself but for the sake of a higher end or good.
- ❖ **Absolute good** - It is desired for its own sake and is not subordinate to any superior good. It is the ultimate end of human activity.
 - Eg. - Relative good - Good nutrition, exercise etc. Absolute good - Good health
 - Eg. - Relative good - Disciplined self study. Absolute good - Getting selected in exam
 - Eg. - Relative good - Dharm, Artha and kaam. Absolute good - Moksha [Hindu Dharma]

Moral attitude and code of ethics

Previous Year Questions		
Accountability in Governance		
2013	What are the characteristic features of 'good governance'?	5 M
2013	What has been the progress in the realm of Citizen's Charters in India ? Discuss the positive impact and Limitations ?	5 M
2021	Each other's success teaches a lesson for better governance. Analyse this statement with examples.	10 M
Code of conduct & Code of Ethics		
2013	If you were asked to prepare a 'Code of Ethics' for the civil servants of India, which five important principles will you prioritize ?	5M
Social justice and humanitarian concerns		
2013	Give three suggestions to make civil servants more compassionate towards the weaker sections of society.	5 M
2018	Extremism is dangerous. How can we avoid it ?	5 M
2023	Discuss the role of administration in bringing about social reform.	10 M
Behaviour, Moral and Political attitudes of administrators		
2018	Political neutrality brings better administration. Discuss.	5M
2024	Do you think that Administrative Decisions are free of political bias?	5 M
Philosophical basis of Integrity		
2016	What do you understand about Integrity in Civil Service ?	5M
2018	Explain the measures taken to enhance the integrity of administration in India.	10M

Jainism, Buddhism and Hinduism

Previous Year Questions

Lessons from lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators

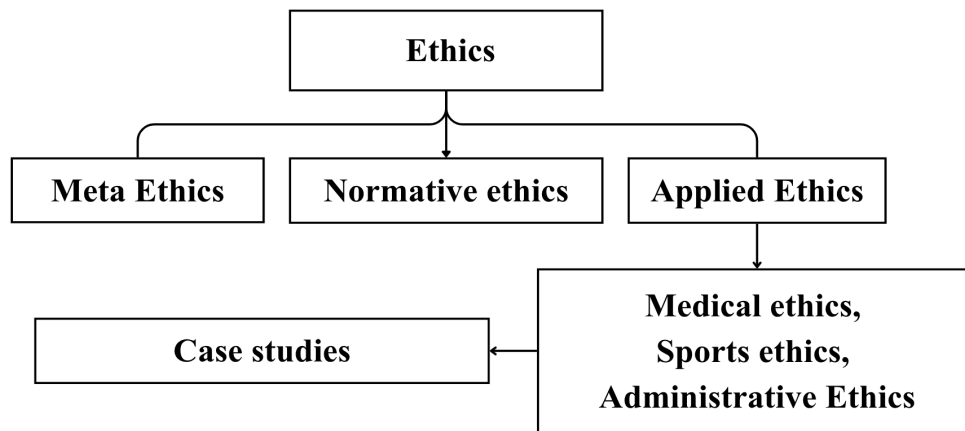
2021	What teachings of Buddha are most relevant today and why ?	2 M
2021	Teachings of leaders and reformers never grow old. Bring out their significance in the modern context .	10 M
2023	State the meaning of the term 'Purushartha'.	2 M
2023	What is meant by 'Ahimsa Parmo Dharma' ?	2 M
2023	What is meant by "Upaya Kaushalya" in Buddhism ?	2 M
2023	What is 'Surplus in man', according to Tagore?	5 M
2023	What does Aurobindo mean by 'Life Divine'?	5 M
2024	Explain 'Samyak charitra' .	2 M
2024	What is 'Dukh - Nirodh -Marga' ?	2 M

Buddhism

Significance of Buddha's Teachings in Administration

4 Noble Truth -

- ❖ The truth of suffering (Dukkha)
 - Life is inherently filled with suffering, including birth, aging, illness, and death. Even worldly pleasures are temporary and ultimately lead to pain and dissatisfaction

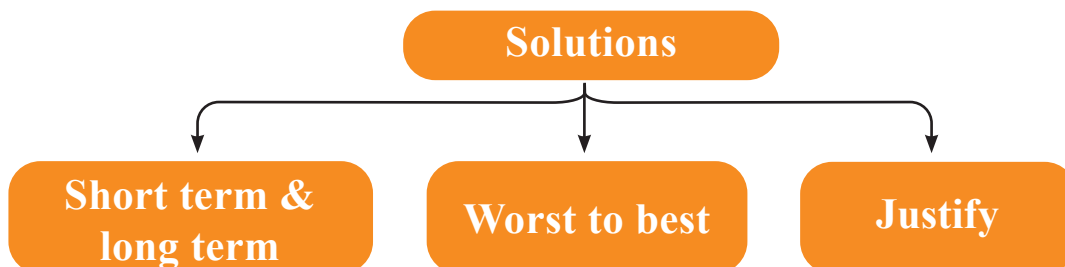


How to solve a case study

- 1. Write the intro or problem statement
- 2. Write all stakeholders
- 3. Write the dilemma involved, Ethical issues - Values violated, philosophies, slogans, legal and constitutional values, etc
- 4. Give solution for all of them, arrange worst to best Arrange in short term and long term
- 5. Justify each solution on ethical principles, legal principles, National interests, philosophies etc
- 6. Out of box solutions - Crowdfunding, CSR, third party audit, professional counselling, compensation to bereaved family

Note - Give equal weightage to each question For example 1 page for 3 questions then 1/3rd page for each question

Note 2 - Try to break solution in short term and long term and justify your solution



Lessons from Great Leaders and Reformers

- ❖ From this topic, RPSC asks random questions like Surplus in men by Tagore and The life divine by Sri Aurobindo - Very poor cost benefit ratio covering these topics
- ❖ **Covering Philosophers -**
 - Swami Vivekananda
 - Ravibdra Nath Tagore
 - Sri Aurobindo
 - Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
 - Amartya Sen
 - Dayanand Saraswati
 - Raja Ram Mohan Roy
 - B.R Ambedkar etc...
- ❖ Giving this content online (Smjh me nhi aaye to bhi jyada load nhi lena)
- ❖ Read it only after you have completed whole mains syllabus at least 2-3 times

