



Mains Practice Question

Q. Discuss the role of integrity as a cornerstone of ethical governance in public administration. (150 Words)

08 Feb, 2024 GS Paper 4 Theoretical Questions

Approach

- Write a brief introduction about integrity.
- Mention the aspects of integrity which are helpful in ethical governance.
- Write a conclusion.

Introduction

Integrity in public administration refers to honesty, transparency, and moral uprightness in decision-making and behavior. It plays a pivotal role in establishing trust and credibility in government institutions.

Body

In the context of public administration, the role of integrity is multifaceted and extends across various dimensions:

- **Upholding the Public Interest:** Public officials with integrity prioritize the public interest above personal gain or political motives. They ensure that policies and decisions are made for the benefit of the citizens they serve rather than for individual or partisan interests.
- **Promoting Accountability and Credibility:** Integrity fosters accountability by holding public officials responsible for their actions and decisions. Transparent and ethical conduct enhances the credibility of government institutions and reinforces public trust.
- **Ensuring Fairness and Impartiality:** Integrity promotes fairness and impartiality in the administration of public affairs. Public officials treat all individuals and groups equitably, without bias or discrimination, ensuring equal access to resources and services.
- **Combating Corruption and Unethical Conduct:** Integrity serves as a bulwark against corruption and unethical behavior in public administration. Public officials with integrity uphold ethical standards, resist temptations of bribery or favoritism, and work to eradicate corrupt practices.
- **Safeguarding Institutional Integrity:** Maintaining integrity within public administration institutions is essential for preserving their legitimacy and effectiveness. Upholding ethical governance standards ensures that government institutions operate with integrity and serve the public interest effectively.

Conclusion

Integrity is fundamental to ethical governance in public administration, fostering trust, accountability, and fairness. Public officials must prioritize integrity in their actions and decisions to uphold the credibility and legitimacy of government institutions.

