



# Ethics in Public Governance

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**Ethics**

**Integrity**

**Excellence**

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# “When you meet anyone, remember it is a holy encounter. As you see him you will see yourself. As you treat him you will treat yourself. As you think of him you will think of yourself. Never forget this, for in him you will find yourself or lose yourself. Whenever two Sons of God meet, they are given another chance at salvation. Do not leave anyone without giving salvation to him and receiving it yourself. For I am always there with you, in remembrance of you

# Time is a belief of the ego. Eternity is an idea of God. The only aspect of time that is eternal is ‘now’, the ‘present moment’.

# Where as Values are activating, beliefs are restraining and, principles are reconciling” - ACIM.

## **ICCFG HAPPENINGS**

A second 3-day module of our joint programme developed in coordination with DMRC titled “Towards an Ethical Work Culture” was successfully run for an enthusiastic group of corporate managers from eleven PSUs and another four PSBs.

The latest issue of Journal of Governance (Volume 23) has gone to the publishers and will be released on time during July 2021 despite the pandemic.

During the month the sixth Webinar of Community of Ethics was also conducted with the intention to build a template for serving civil servants and corporate managers to give a push towards building an environment of ethical work culture in government and public institutions involved in delivery of public services to the common man.

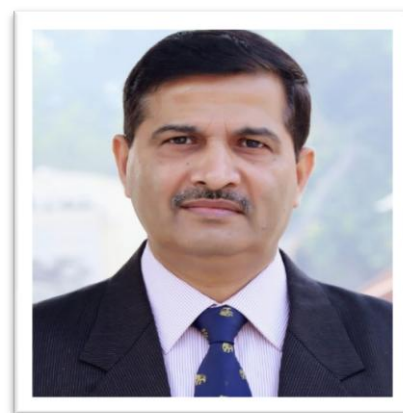
The Community of Ethics is now available on Facebook you can join it by clicking the link below

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/communityofethics.in>

## BEST PRACTICES

1. **Satyanishtha: The Mission for Truth & Ethics. Ashwani Lohani, IRS, 1980.** As the Chairman, Railway Board, in 2018 he started the innovative and path-breaking 'Mission Satyanishtha' in collaboration with the IC Centre for Governance.

Under this Mission, attempt was made to sensitise not only the senior management of the Railways but also 50,000 senior Inspectors deployed at the cutting edge in the relevance of 'Ethics in Public Service' for providing efficient customer-focused and corruption-free rail services to the Indian citizen. Two modules of 'Training of Trainer' programmes were conducted to internalise the philosophy behind 'Satyanishtha'.



This Mission has been considered to be one of a kind and worthy of emulation by other government departments. Many of the participants who attended the programmes under the Mission said that this was a most unique programme that will definitely help them in ethical conduct at the work place, and that such a training should be given at all stages and all levels of the Railway hierarchy.

2. **Tenacity to take on the Top Brass,** First woman IPS officer of Karnataka Cadre, 2000 batch. As the DIG (Prisons), Karnataka, she submitted a report exposing corruption in the prison system in Bengaluru, relating to special treatment to high-profile jail inmates & AIADMK Chief VK Sasikala. Her track



*Roopa Divakar Moudgil*

record also includes the arrest of Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Uma Bharti on 2004, removal of orderlies and escort vehicles used by former Karnataka CM B S Yeddyurappa and taking on local politicians and even her own superiors. She has been transferred 41 times in her 18-year career, upto 2018. She stands tall in the male-dominated police force. She has been awarded the President's Medal twice, in 2016 and 2017, for exemplary work.

3. **The Road to Better Health**, IAS, 2009 batch, Manipur-Tripura cadre. The first IAS officer from Zeme-naga tribe, he knew all along what it means to be without any road link between Manipur - Nagaland and Assam, despite the sanction for the same by the Centre in 1982 as the project never took off. People were fed up with false government promises.

The last straw came when there was an outbreak of tropical diseases like typhoid and malaria and villagers with patients on makeshift bamboo stretchers could not reach the doctors in time resulting in many casualties, including that of Pame's

uncle. It took two days in Tousem to reach the nearest Pame, while travelling tour over 30 villages students then realized urgent it was to build road between and Haflong in Assam Barak River – Azuram Tousem – Phoklong – River – Hereilua –



*Armstrong Pame*

for villagers of Tamenglong district, hospital on foot. Shri on foot for 21 days to with a group of how important and this road link. He his way and build the Tamenglong district via Tamenglong – – Makhu River – Katang Nam -Chari Laisong – Mohur by involving the local community without any government funds. He first turned to his family and well-wishers for donations and began the “Tamenglong Haflong Road”. More than 150 volunteers armed with shovels, bulldozer and diggers donated by supporters started carving a road out of the hillside. As things stand the road is nearly complete and links Manipur with Nagaland and Assam.

**A smile to treasure** As an Election Observer in the Lunglei district of Mizoram, Pame met Lalrindika, an 11-year-old boy born with a cleft palate, who hailed from the remote village of Zehtat with a family that was not very well off and could not afford his surgery.

Not only did Pame pay for the surgery, when he found out that the family could not afford to travel all the way to Imphal, where the surgery would take place, he took care of the travel expenses till Lunglei, where he was stationed. From there, the father and son travelled in the district collector's vehicle. He also ensured that his team received the duo at Imphal and accompanied them to the hospital. The surgery was a success.

## Problems of Education system; besides their abject failure to define and produce Karma-yogis

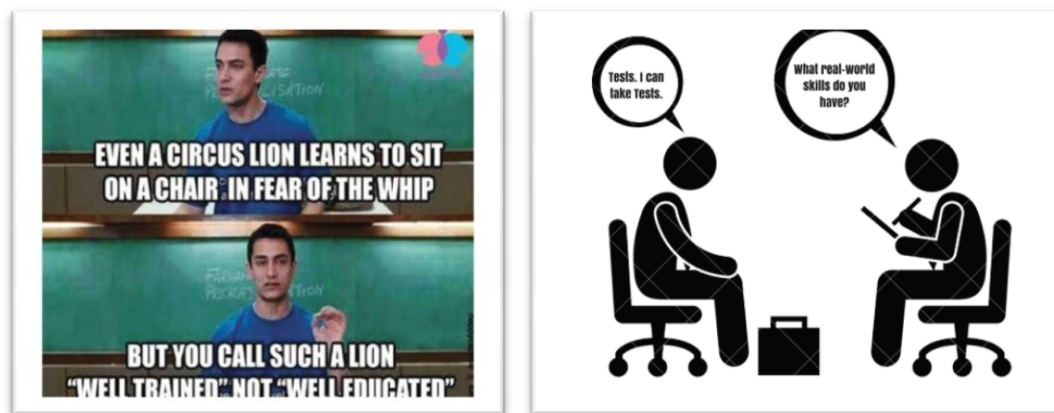
# India's education system needs to be far better than it is today - Bill Gates.

# Indian education teaches to study, study, work hard, get your MBA & someday you will have a Mercedes but where is the creativity? Steve Wozniak, Apple Co-founder.

# Education in India lacks creativity - Sundar Pichai.

# Studying is not passion in India. It's a race. A race for marks, race for getting into good colleges, race for getting a job. Our education system basically promotes rat race among our children. They have to read and mug-up the entire textbook without any understanding of it. So, a student who scores 90 out of 100 and comes first actually remains a rat. In fact, parents also play an important in promoting rat race.

# Indian Education System is all about rote learning, students are emphasized to remember contents of the book or documentation rather than developing their logic, thinking, and intuition. Memorization has become the key to top the exams. Even several coaching centers believe in teaching the tricks to solve entrance test questions rather than concept.



**Subjects taught are Irrelevant to personal growth or Job-Market:** After completing graduation in any discipline students are not fit for any jobs. It is simply because skills that are required in a job market are not present in a fresh graduate. As per a recent survey, one out of five graduates ever had vocational training & only 10% of manufacturers in India offer in-service training to their employees compared with over 90% in China.

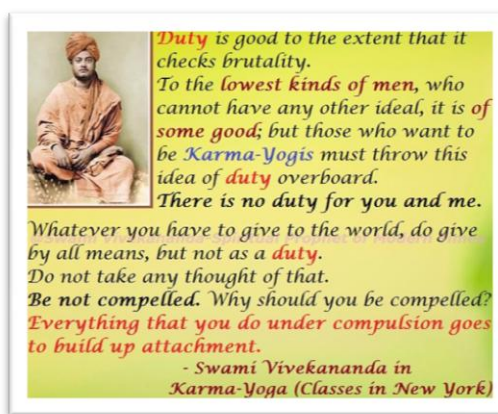
## Jibes

# Two policemen are walking down the street ...when they spot a guy standing next to the local Party Headquarters holding a paintbrush. On the wall, he's just written "The government is run by idiots!". The first policeman pulls out a pair of handcuffs and asks the second, "Shall we arrest him for vandalizing public property, or for divulging state secrets?"

# Governments teach ... don't lie; don't cheat; don't steal; don't sell drugs; don't kill; etc. ... They hate Competition

# A soldier was assigned to advise new recruits about the benefits of taking the insurance cover offered by the government. It wasn't long before it was noticed that he was having a staggeringly high success-rate, selling insurance to nearly 100% of the recruits he advised. Rather than ask about this, the captain stood in the back of the room and listened to his sales pitch: "If you have government Insurance and go into battle and are killed, the government has to pay 5 lakhs to your beneficiaries. If you don't have insurance, and you go into battle and get killed, the government only has to pay only 60,000. Now," he concluded, "which group do you think they are going to send into battle first?"

**Inspiration from within for "Dharma and Mukti" or Motivation from outside for "Artha and Kaama"?** Many years ago, somewhere in GB, the king wanted to go fishing and he asked the royal weather forecaster the forecast for the next few hours and was assured that there was no chance of rain. So, they went fishing but a man with a fishing pole riding on a donkey advised them to return as a huge rain storm was expected. Of course, he didn't listen to the man with a donkey. However, in a short time a torrential rain did come and they were totally soaked.





KARMA IS LIKE A RUBBER BAND. YOU CAN ONLY STRETCH IT SO FAR BEFORE IT COMES BACK AND SMACKS YOU IN THE FACE.



Furious, he fired the officials and offered the man the prestigious position of government forecaster, but the man admitted he was no expert but if I see my donkey's ears drooping, it means with certainty that it will rain. So, the king hired the donkey too.

And thus began the practice of hiring dumb asses and the “carrot and stick” Motivation policy to make people work in influential positions of government.

*Gone are the days when Bharat was not India, when the educated were the men of wisdom, the Mentors, the Shrestha, role models of tyaga and seva, who created administrators, entrepreneurs, result producers, for whom Vocation was for service of God in man, not for profiteering and self-satisfaction! Can India learn from Bharat to produce Karma-yogis as GOI envisions?*

### **Happiness or Fulfillment?**

What is Happiness? Why do we seek to be happy? What is the Cause of Happiness? What is the guarantee of happiness? What is the ‘source’ of Happiness? In and thru’ all our struggles for ‘*artha*’, ‘*kaama*’, earning and enjoyment, what are we looking for? Knowingly or unknowingly, aren’t we all searching for ‘*sukha*’, happiness, without ‘*dukha*’, unhappiness, forgetting that they come together, being opposite sides of one coin?

Are we really seeking happiness or fulfillment? Pleasure or contentment? Happiness as pleasure needs an external object or condition whereas fulfillment, contentment, bliss, peace, i.e., *ananda*, is a ‘subjective’ and internal state, irrespective of externals.

Happiness is caused by ‘contact’ between the mind, sense organs and the objects! When at any time, for whatever reasons, our desires are fulfilled, the mind become a bit calm, and immediately, we experience happiness, pleasure, joy, which actually came from within us; out of the Ananda of our inherent unchanging nature, our *Swaroopa*. We actually seek fulfillment, not happiness that comes and goes; we want freedom from all grief, but have no idea that the source is already within us!

No object always gives happiness, nor does the mind; they cannot be the source of happiness; whereas “I” always want happiness. We all have a deep inner desire for being fully free, peaceful, independent, blissful, and free from all pulls and pressures, ‘*mukti*’, which is the ultimate human goal. Our mistake is that we seek for happiness in this or that object or situation; we don’t know that our own Self is the source of *poorna-ananda*. To remain *perpetually happy* must be my very *Swaroopa*, i.e., *inherent unchanging nature*, so says Vedanta, and goes on to elaborate it.

Study of ourselves will show us that our basic inherent nature being ananda-swaroopa, divine, we can never be really happy, fulfilled or peaceful till we ourselves experience this divine ananda and, oneness with all. And, this realization results in virtuous actions, empathy, compassion, spontaneous feelings of love, care and concern for all, etc.

What is the cause of happiness and fulfillment? Commitment to our respective duties, Swadharma, is the only guarantee of a sustained fulfilled, happy, contented, peaceful, joyful, life. ‘Health and happiness, are concomitant and synonyms not just as our experience but when we analyze the literal meaning of ‘*swastha*’, ‘health’ we will realize the profound and deep connection between health and happiness which therefore leads to the idea of ‘well-being’.

*Swastha (Health) literally means to be established in our own unchanging Self.*

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