

QUESTION 08

सरकारी अधिकारियों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली नैतिक दुविधाओं की प्रकृति की तुलना निजी निगमों के पेशेवरों द्वारा अनुभव की जाने वाली दुविधाओं से कीजिए। जनहित बनाम लाभ अधिकतमीकरण जैसे भिन्न अधिदेश इन नैतिक चुनौतियों को कैसे आकार देते हैं?

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Compare and contrast the nature of ethical dilemmas faced by public officials with those experienced by professionals in private corporations. How do differing mandates, such as public interest versus profit maximization, shape these moral challenges?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Thought Process (Pre-Writing Work)

- Parts of the question with expected marks criteria
- Directive Word(s)
- Topic Word(s)
- Limiting Words
- Writing Presentation
- Writing Interpretation

This section will be discussed in the Answer Discussion Class.

Content for Answer

Public officials and private professionals both face ethical dilemmas, but the nature and context of these dilemmas differ due to their core mandates. Public officials are guided by the principle of serving the public interest, while private professionals often operate under the goal of profit maximization.

Comparison of ethical dilemmas:

Ethical dimension	Public officials	Private professionals
Core mandate	Serve the public interest, which includes upholding public trust, justice, and the common good	Maximize profits and shareholder returns within legal and regulatory boundaries
Accountability	Accountable to the public and political process, with strict, often legally defined, rules for conduct. Accountability is measured not only by outcomes but also by adherence to process	Primarily accountable to shareholders, but also to customers, employees, and suppliers. Accountability is measured by results, such as meeting financial targets and deliverables
Transparency	Higher standard of public transparency is required, often mandated by law (e.g., Right to Information acts). Transparency builds public trust and holds officials accountable	Transparency requirements are primarily for publicly traded companies, who must disclose financial information to shareholders and the SEC. Private companies have fewer disclosure obligations
Rule of law vs. compassion	Public officials are bound by the rule of law, but the strict application of rules can sometimes conflict with compassionate and humane treatment. A bureaucrat may face a dilemma over evicting a vulnerable family for following the letter of the law	This type of dilemma is less common, as corporations operate under rules and policies aimed at business goals rather than societal governance. The closest analogy would be enforcing a company policy that has a negative, but legal, impact on an employee

How mandates shape moral challenges:

The moral dilemmas of public servants often involve balancing competing public needs, ensuring fair distribution of resources, or resisting political pressure. For example, allocating limited oxygen supplies during the COVID-19 crisis required prioritizing public welfare over any personal or political interest.

In contrast, private sector professionals operate under profit-driven goals, which can create ethical tensions between maximizing shareholder returns and upholding social or environmental responsibilities. For instance, a company may face pressure to cut costs by reducing safety standards, putting workers at risk.

While both require ethical judgment, the public service emphasizes long-term societal impact, whereas the private corporations often prioritizes short-term financial gains.

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Space for Answer Discussion:

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