

1. DISCUSS THE ETHICAL DILEMMAS FACED BY PUBLIC SERVANTS IN THEIR PROFESSIONAL LIVES.**Answer:**

Ethical dilemmas are situations where public servants must choose between two or more conflicting ethical principles, values, or responsibilities. These dilemmas are common in public administration due to the dynamic nature of governance and competing expectations from different stakeholders.

Ethical dilemmas faced by public servants can arise from several scenarios:

1. **Conflict of Interest:** Public servants may encounter situations where their personal interests clash with their official responsibilities. For example, awarding government contracts to relatives or friends violates the principle of impartiality.
2. **Balancing Transparency and Confidentiality:** Public servants often need to decide how much information to disclose. While transparency promotes accountability, certain information (e.g., national security details) must remain confidential to protect public interest.
3. **Resource Allocation:** Scarce resources must be allocated equitably. A public servant may face ethical dilemmas when choosing between developmental projects, such as funding education over healthcare in a resource-limited region.
4. **Pressure from Superiors or Politicians:** Public servants may face undue pressure to act contrary to the law or ethical standards, such as favoring particular individuals or groups in policy implementation.
5. **Balancing Equity and Efficiency:** Public servants must address the needs of marginalized groups while maintaining administrative efficiency. For instance, implementing reservations in education or employment may conflict with the merit principle.
6. **Environmental vs. Developmental Concerns:** Decisions involving large-scale industrial projects often present a dilemma between promoting economic development and protecting the environment.
7. **Whistleblowing:** Reporting corruption or unethical practices within the system can lead to personal and professional risks, presenting a moral dilemma between loyalty to the organization and adherence to ethical values.

To resolve such dilemmas, public servants can follow these approaches:

1. **Adherence to Ethical Frameworks:** Referring to codes of conduct, legal guidelines, and constitutional principles helps in making ethical decisions.
2. **Consultation and Deliberation:** Seeking advice from seniors, colleagues, or ethics committees can provide clarity in resolving complex situations.
3. **Prioritizing Public Interest:** Decisions must prioritize the greater good, ensuring justice and welfare for society.
4. **Training and Awareness:** Regular ethics training programs can help public servants develop the ability to navigate moral conflicts effectively.

Conclusion

Ethical dilemmas test the moral character of public servants and their commitment to constitutional values. Resolving them with integrity and transparency ensures trust in governance and the delivery of justice to all stakeholders. Public servants must always uphold accountability, impartiality, and fairness while navigating these challenges. Let me know if I should proceed with the next question.