



GS Crash Course & Mains Test Series 2023

Test 12

Time Allowed: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Max Marks: 100

Name: AAKRITI

Test Submission Date: 23/7/23

Email Address: _____

Mobile: _____

Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. Question 1-7 10 marks each & Word Limit 150.
3. Question 8-10 15 marks each & Word Limit 250.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the booklet in the space provided.
5. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
7. All parts of the question should be written at one place itself.
8. Filling in all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.

Q. No.	Marks	Q. No.	Marks
1.a		b	
b		4.a	
2.a		b	
b		5.a	
3.a		b	
Total Marks:		Evaluator Code:	

For any issue related to GS Test Series, write only at gs@shubhrranjan.com

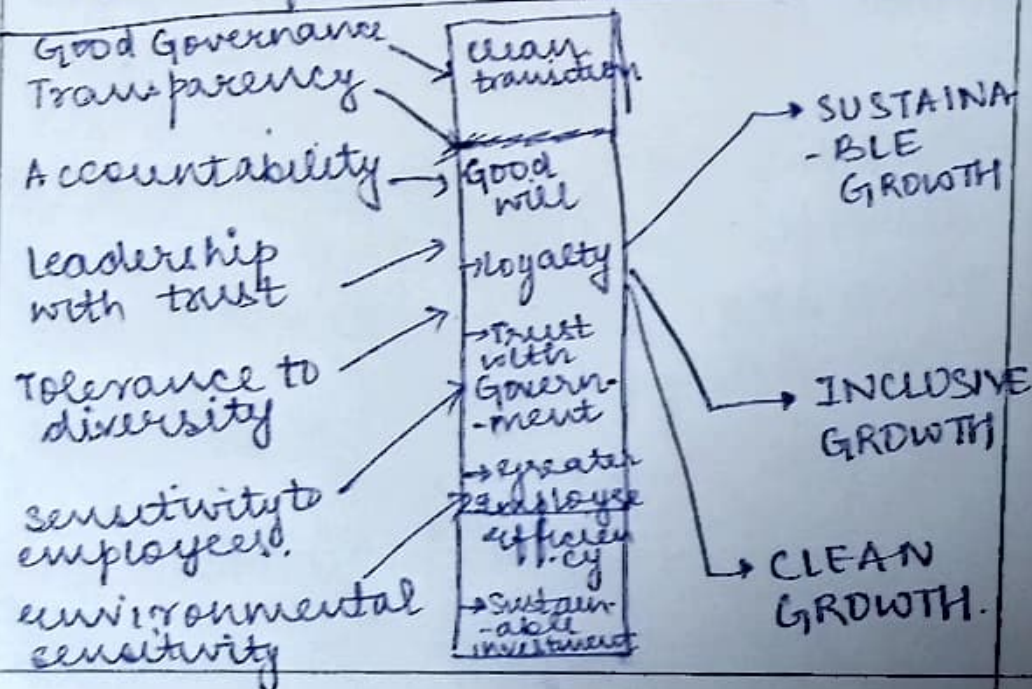


Que.1

- a) An ethical work culture is a prerequisite for sustainable growth of an organization. Discuss and suggest some measures to build an ethical work culture in an organization. (10 marks 150 words)

Work culture is a collective term for the beliefs, rituals & rules of an organization. ethicality of work culture adds a value dimension whereby the aspects of work culture are directed to promote good governance, inclusivity, sustainability and business ethics.

Ethical work culture as a prerequisite for sustainable growth





measures to build an ethical work culture:

- ① clearly defined rules & responsibility is the first step to an ethical work culture
 - ② cultivate a strong organizational identity → raises employee loyalty → ensure ethical work paradigm as a mark of loyalty.
 - ③ Incentivize transparent operations e.g. employee awards.
 - ④ Give autonomy in functioning which raises responsibility of actions e.g. TATA group promote leadership with trust
 - ⑤ strict monitoring of corporate social responsibility
- Thus, an ethical work culture forms basis of sustainable growth

Que.1

(b) Probity in governance is an essential and vital requirement for an efficient and effective system of governance and for socio-economic development. Discuss. Also, state ways to enhance probity in governance. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

Probity is "ethice maxima". It is about uncompromising adherence to the highest standards of morality in every situation.

* For efficient & effective governance

① Probity not only prevents corruption but ensures optimal utilization of public funds

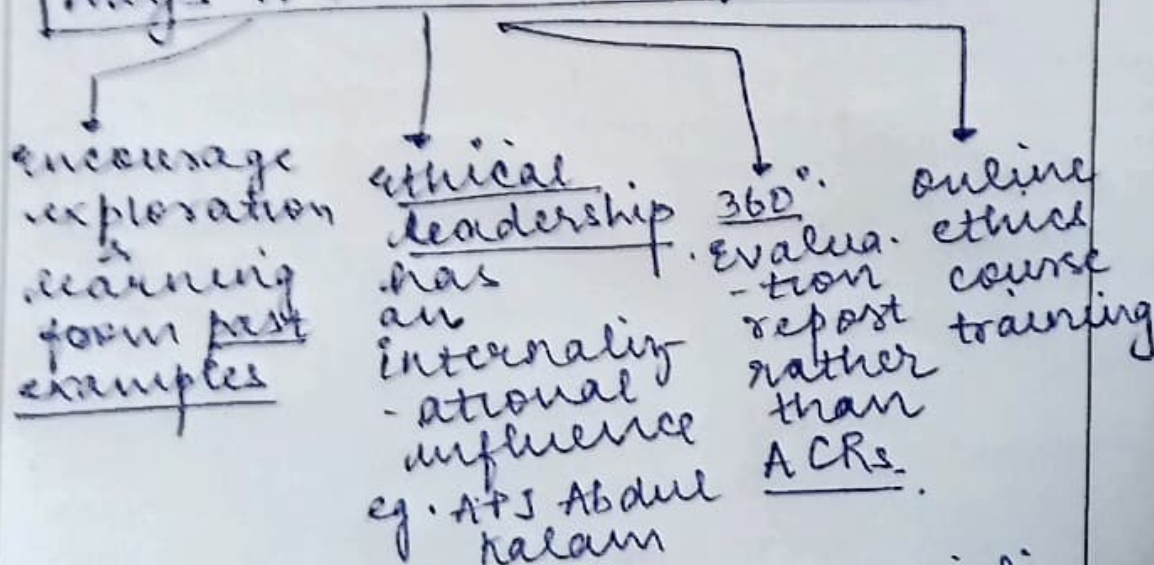
② It forms basis of conscientiousness: a sense of duty & commitment eg. T N Seshan overcame political pressure to fulfil duty; E. Sreedharan-

③ 'Metro Man' is another example. socio-economic development

① Probity forms basis of initiative taking to facilitate socio-economic development eg. operation choo lo Aasman → changed reduction landscape of Bistar.

② It encourages creative solution finding eg. trust money came → crowd funded road.

Ways to enhance probity



Most importantly, it's the socialization practices at home & school that need to develop probity in character of students today, who will lead future government

Que. 2

(a) Highlighting the importance of whistle-blowing in an organisation, discuss the (systemic) factors that determine whether a person would become a whistle-blower. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

whistle-blowing is the practice of unveiling an act of abuse of power or corruption.

This has immense importance for promoting an ethical governance.

Importance

- ① It ensures accountability
- ② It sets a favorable precedence of showing courage & toughness
- ③ It ensures optimal utilization of funds
- ④ It promotes public trust in ethical operations of an organisation
- ⑤ It creates an ethical work culture
- ⑥ It facilitates participation in keeping systems clean

Systemic factors

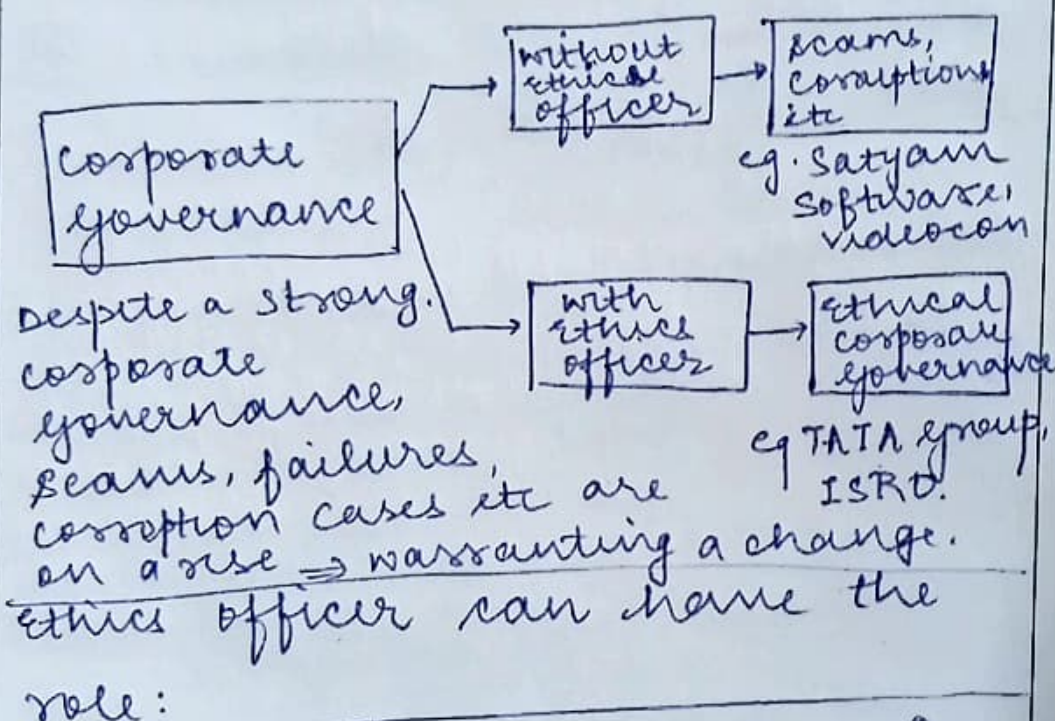
- ① Presence of a strong whistle blowing regime i.e. rules & laws in place to file comp. -saint while preventing victimization.
- ② Knowledge of the presence ~~of~~ (or the lack of it) of rewards.
eg SEBI's recommended rewards under Insider Trading Act
- ③ Availability of an authority responsible to deal with such complaints

But, individual factors of courage, sense of duty, integrity and public-mindedness are also significant mediating factors in the decision of whistle blowing

Que.2

(b) Analyse the significance of appointing ethics officers in the light of strengthening corporate governance in India. (10 marks 150 words)

Corporate governance refers to all the processes and procedures that are used to direct & control an organization (OECD).



- ① Recommend business ethics principles to be integrated in corporate governance
- ② Ensure implementation

of ~~compliance~~ the Corporate governance related rules & procedures.

③ Devise a training module to encourage individual ^{du} adherences to work ethics.

④ Perform an ethical behavior appraisal according to objective criteria.

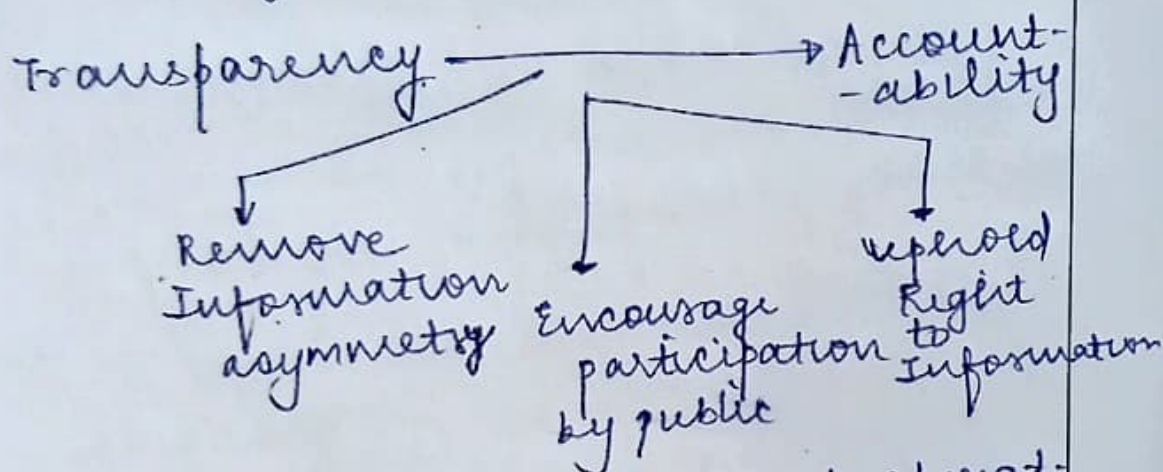
⑤ encourage environmental sustainability of operations via advisory role.

Kautilya's Arthashastra ^{also} talks about continuous monitoring and wise advisors to the king for an ethical, efficient and good governance to take effect.

Que.3

- (a) Transparent governance promises an accountable state but a balance has to be achieved between disclosure requirements and administrative privileges for efficient governance. Discuss. (10 marks 150 words)

Transparency is a foundational value that recognises it as a prerequisite for accountability.

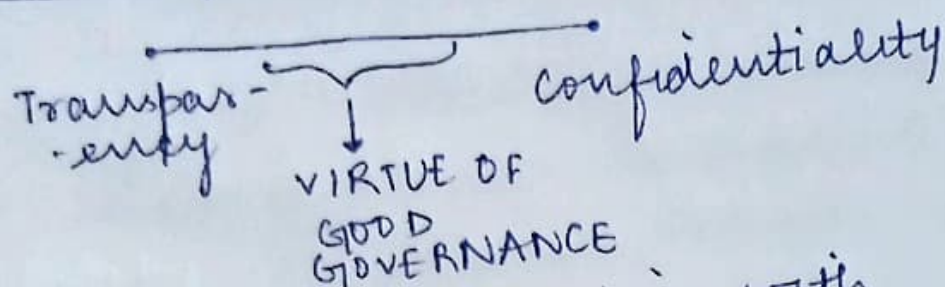


Rightfully so, transparent operations provide informational basis to public to enforce accountability as the fate of Bureaucracy depends on the information with public (Webber). But, a balance has to be.



maintained

- ① Aristotle proposed a Golden rule of means.



- ② certain information with public can do more harm than good, e.g. in hands of terrorists, militants etc.
- ③ official secrets Act prohibits sharing certain information for public safety, national interest & sovereignty.
- ④ sensitive information can be miscontoured & to fulfil political vendettas.

Thus, neither absolute transparency nor secrecy can be beneficial, a sweet spot lies somewhere between.



Que.3

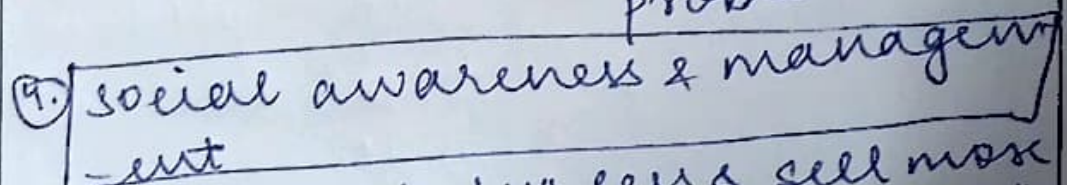
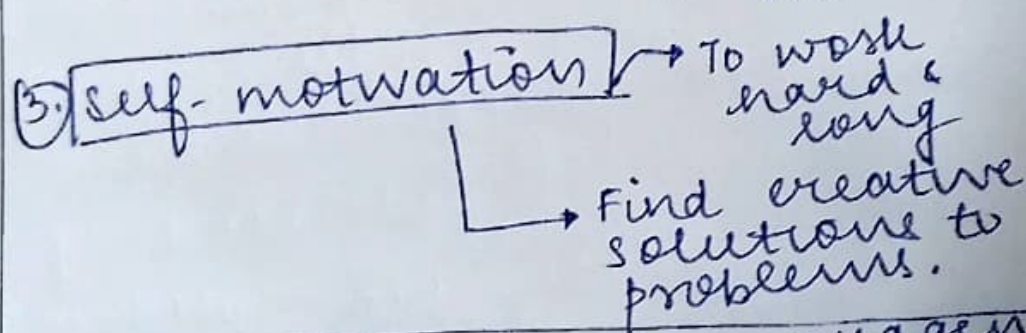
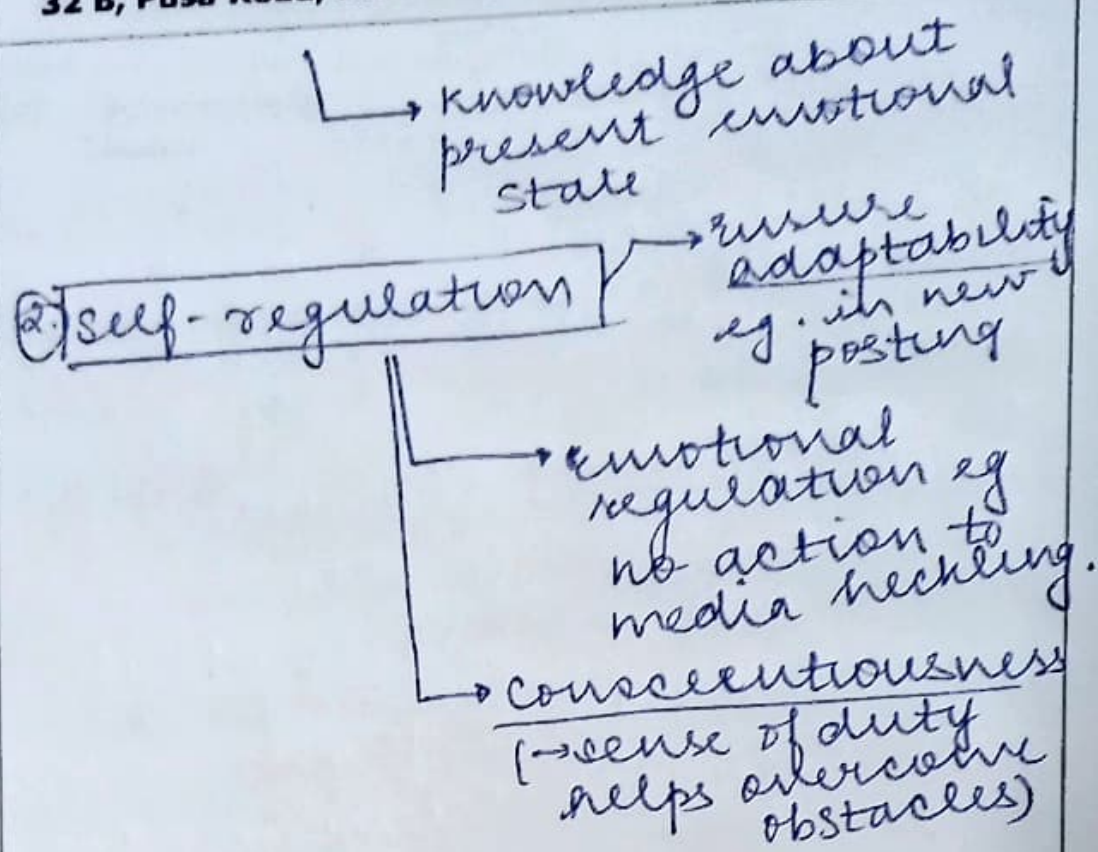
(b) Emotional Intelligence is an important trait to imbibe in a highly competitive and Achievement-oriented environment. Elucidate. (10 marks 150 words)

Emotional Intelligence refers to the cognitive and emotional ^(EI) ability to process information of emotional nature & use it to navigate through social situations.

In a highly competitive & Achievement-oriented environment, EI can ensure mental stability and raise probability of success. Socrates rightly said, government is best run by those with knowledge and ability ($\Rightarrow$ EI).

Importance of this trait

- ① Self-awareness
 - Realistic goal setting
eg project deadline
 - Ability to sustain efforts



- Ability to buy less & sell more
 - convince others of the credibility of one's idea.
 - expand social network.
- Thus, EI can sweep up one's ship to navigate through the rough seas.

Ques 4

What do each of the following quotations mean to you?

- (a) "Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value." - Albert Einstein

The given quote by Einstein recommends a direction for one's effort: strive to be of value rather than successful.

Success is primarily characterized by monetary riches e.g. Billionaires like Adani, Elon Musk, even Marya at some point was successful.

But, it ^{has} no surety or sustainability as long as it's not backed by value, which only comes with effort.

Relevance of Value over success

① Value accounts for one's worth or competency in a field.



- ① It insures self satisfaction by fulfilment of human's. highest duty: acquire knowledge & rationality (Socrates).
- ② It benefits the society at large eg. Einstein's theory of Relativity was an outcome of his value even as he remained unsuccessful, conventionally).
- ③ It ~~is~~ forms the basis of exceptional creativity eg. David the Thinker, Mona Lisa etc result of value. (Aesthetic relevance).
- ④ To be of value also raises the probability of success eg. Arjuna was of value in Archery, not successful but if he was better than Arjuna then, striving to be of value can be seen as the Summa Bonum of human life.



Que.4

(b) "Facts are many, but the truth is one." - Rabindranath Tagore (10 marks 150 words)

Truth, in philosophical world, is the absolute reality. Rabindranath Tagore in this quote creates a distinction between facts & truth.

Facts are conveyed by people who are subject to their own biases, this can give rise to many facts. But the truth is only one & is largely elusive.

① Nyay Philosophy recommends a methods to find the truth.

Pratyaksh (perception) → Anuman (inference) → Upman (comparison of facts) → Shabdham (testimony) → Truth



② scientific research deploys generation of vast amounts of data (facts) to arrive at "True knowledge" which is also subject to chance error.

③ Mindfulness is (Zinn philosophy) talks about observing one's environment to generate facts, which forms basis of true self-knowledge

Relevance

① People are too quick to hold onto a single fact as true ~~eg.~~ rise to interpersonal & intergroup conflicts eg. during covid-19. single piece of news. caused hysteria & hatred.

② Rising impulsivity in the youth to jump to conclusions thus, to find 'true knowledge' patience & scientific approach required.



Que.5

Party X has a clear majority in the Lok Sabha. However, because of it falling short of majority in the Rajya Sabha, a large number of its bills are getting stalled in the Upper House. Elections of a key state are around the corner and the party desperately needs to win, for it to secure a majority in the Rajya Sabha. As part of its campaign strategy, the social media head of the party suggests an insidious strategy to make electoral gains. A part of the strategy involves sending out questionnaires online and promoting them using ads. The response filled by people to these online questionnaires will help reveal their key personality traits to the social media team of the party. These behavioral science insights would be important in helping candidates tailor their campaign messages according to the recipient's personality traits. However, because the content of the questionnaire is incendiary and polarizing, the social media team decides to use fake accounts to administer data collection on social media platforms to avoid getting penalised. In addition, the strategy also involves sending out provocative content through online ads and fake news reports. This goes against the spirit of free and fair elections and violates the Election Commission guidelines on multiple levels.

As one of the key members of the social media team of the party, you have been entrusted with carrying out this campaign successfully.

(a) What are the key ethical issues involved in this case. (10 marks 150 words)

The given campaign strategy gives rise to a number of ethical concerns that must be addressed if at all the strategy is to be implemented

- ① violation of the rule of law (violates ECI's guidelines).
- ② Impinges on public's political

rule of law.
- free & fair
- rat of referendum
- lack of informed consent
- sleep
- Br of privacy.
- unethical means
- selfish ends.

right to free & fair elections.

③ Absence of informed consent before getting information

④ social responsibility → Ask a party contesting elections for holding power in a democratic nation, such manipulation opposes a sense of social responsibility (polysizing information)

⑤ Breach of privacy by soliciting incidental information for behavioral analysis (personality traits used to profile)

⑥ Deployment of unethical means to achieve selfish ends

⑦ opposes Kant's universality maxim (actions by all parties will be unsustainable)

⑧ concerns over potential misuse post elections for psychological manipulation



- ⑨ Abuse of power by manipulating actions of others, for selfish benefits & to acquire more power.
- ⑩ Raises questions on the kind of ~~the~~ government & associated actions once in power (vicious cycle, potential decline in autonomy, etc).
- ⑪ erosion of public trust in ethicality & credibility of election process

such key ethical issues must be addressed at once to save the sanctity of democracy.

Que.5

- (b) What is the course of action you would take? Give reasons for your response in a situation like this? (10 marks 150 words)

Course of Action

- ① Alternative : I will try to convince the team of an alternative election campaign as what cannot be done clearly cannot be done behind the back (colorable exercise).
eg. raising persuasive power of ad campaigns etc.
- ② Integrating ethical dimension → Questionnaire can contain less polarising & invasive questions while disclosing its purpose (Informed decision making).
- ③ Drop the idea of using any fake accounts at once.
or sending provocative content as its outrightly unethical.



- ④ If the recommendations are not integrated & unethical operation continues → I shall resign as a show of courage and integrity

Reasons

- ① upholding free & fair elections is the responsibility of every political party.
- ② It will avoid cognitive dissonance from such unethical actions
- ③ ends must never take such significance that it justifies the ~~means~~ unethical means.
- ④ Healthy electoral competition is the spirit of democracy.
- ⑤ Adherence to such orders. Once → domino effect for similar requests.