Ethics & Morality · GS - IV

Without commonly shared and widely entrenched moral values and obligations, neither the law, nor democratic government, nor even the market economy will function properly.

What do you understand by this statement? Explain with illustration in the contemporary times.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2017	GS - IV	Ethics & Morality

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Shared moral values; rule of law; democratic responsibility; public trust; market ethics; voluntary compliance; accountability; contemporary illustrations

Model Answer

Introduction

Laws, democratic institutions and markets depend not only on formal rules but also on shared values such as honesty, fairness and responsibility.

Importance of Moral Values

- **Law:** Respect for rules and impartiality among officials strengthen justice. Corruption and selective enforcement undermine the rule of law.
- **Democracy:** Tolerance, truthful debate and respect for constitutional procedures sustain democratic legitimacy. Misinformation and abuse of power weaken public trust.

- **Market economy:** Trust between buyers, sellers and investors enables fair transactions. Fraud, false advertising and insider trading distort markets.

Contemporary Illustration

A company that honestly discloses product defects protects consumers and preserves trust. Similarly, impartial election administration and honest campaigning strengthen democracy. Conversely, bribery in public procurement wastes public money and disadvantages honest businesses.

Way Forward

Ethical education, accountable leadership, transparent institutions and effective law enforcement should reinforce shared moral obligations.

Conclusion

Formal rules establish standards, while moral values encourage voluntary compliance even without supervision. Both are essential for justice, democratic governance and sustainable economic activity.

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