Ethics & Morality · GS - IV

“Integrity and probity in governance are essential for controlling corruption and strengthening public trust.” Discuss the measures required to promote ethical conduct in public administration.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 19/10/2026	GS - IV	Ethics & Morality

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Corruption control, integrity, probity in governance, transparency, accountability, Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, vigilance institutions, RTI, citizen charters, code of conduct, ethical leadership, social audit, e-governance, public trust.

Model Answer

Introduction

Integrity means adherence to moral and professional principles, while probity refers to honesty, fairness and ethical conduct in public life. Both are essential for preventing corruption and ensuring citizen-centric governance.

Main Body

Measures to control corruption and promote integrity:

1. Strong legal framework: Effective implementation of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, helps deter bribery and other corruption-related offences.
2. Transparency: The Right to Information Act, 2005, and proactive disclosure enable citizens to scrutinise government decisions.

3. Accountability: Independent vigilance mechanisms, audits and timely departmental action can reduce misuse of official power.
4. Ethical administration: Codes of conduct, ethics training and leadership by example encourage integrity among public servants.
5. Technology: E-procurement, direct benefit transfers and digital service delivery can reduce discretionary delays and opportunities for bribery.
6. Citizen participation: Social audits, grievance redressal and whistleblower protection strengthen public oversight.

Conclusion

Corruption cannot be controlled through laws alone. A combination of ethical leadership, transparent institutions, effective enforcement and citizen participation is necessary to establish probity and restore public trust.

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