Ethics & Morality · GS - IV

Discuss the role of ethics and values in enhancing the following three major components of Comprehensive National Power (CNP) viz. human capital, soft power (culture and policies) and social harmony.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2020	GS - IV	Ethics & Morality

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Human capital development, integrity and professionalism, soft power and cultural diplomacy, ethical governance, social trust, tolerance and inclusivity, national unity, sustainable development

Model Answer

Introduction

Comprehensive National Power (CNP) refers to a nation's overall capacity to achieve its strategic objectives through human, economic, political, cultural and social resources. Ethics and values strengthen these resources by promoting trust, competence and cooperation.

1. Human Capital

- **Integrity and accountability:** Ethical institutions reduce corruption and ensure the fair use of public resources in education, healthcare and skill development.
- **Dignity and equality:** Values of justice and inclusivity enable disadvantaged groups to access opportunities.

- **Professional ethics:** Honesty, discipline and responsibility improve productivity and institutional performance.

2. Soft Power

- **Cultural credibility:** Values such as non-violence, tolerance and pluralism enhance India's international appeal.
- **Ethical foreign policy:** Respect for sovereignty, peaceful cooperation and humanitarian assistance builds global trust.
- **Responsible governance:** Policies consistent with constitutional values strengthen India's reputation.

3. Social Harmony

- **Mutual respect:** Tolerance and empathy reduce communal, caste and gender-based conflicts.
- **Social justice:** Fairness and equal treatment strengthen citizens' faith in institutions.
- **Collective responsibility:** Shared civic values promote cooperation during crises.

Conclusion

Ethics and values transform national resources into sustainable national strength. By nurturing capable citizens, credible international engagement and social cohesion, they enhance India's Comprehensive National Power.

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