



Mains Practice Question

Case Study

A Civil Servant, who was posted at the frontier headquarters in Delhi as Commandant (administration) is accused of engaging in financial irregularities for personal financial gains. It is alleged that he misused his position to influence subordinates to indulge in fraudulent practices related to the booking of Leave Travel Concession (LTC) air tickets. These irregularities involved the use of personal credit cards and the manipulation of LTC tickets, resulting in false claims and misuse of earned mileage points.

Discuss the ethical implications of the Civil Servant's involvement in financial irregularities and misuse of his official position. How does this impact public trust and the integrity of the organization?

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Approach:

- **Introduction:** Start your answer with introducing the case
- **Body:** Mention ethical implications involved, and how it impacts public trust and integrity of the organisation
- **Conclusion:** Summarize and conclude your answer.

Introduction:

The ethical implications of the Civil Servant involvement in financial irregularities and misuse of his official position are significant and far-reaching. Such actions have a profound impact on public trust and the integrity of the organization.

Body:

Ethical Implications and its impact on Public Trust:

- **Violation of Integrity:**
 - The Civil Servant's involvement in financial irregularities and misuse of his official position constitutes a violation of integrity.
 - As a public official, he is expected to act in an honest and trustworthy manner, upholding the principles of integrity, transparency, and accountability.
 - By engaging in fraudulent practices for personal financial gains, he has breached the trust placed in him by the organization and the public.
- **Breach of Public Trust:**
 - Public officials hold positions of authority and are entrusted with the responsibility of safeguarding public interest.
 - When a Civil Servant misuses his official position for personal benefit, it erodes public trust in the organization and the entire public administration system.
 - The public expects public officials to act in the best interests of society, and any breach of this trust undermines the credibility and legitimacy of the organization.
- **Damage to Organizational Reputation:**
 - The Civil Servant involvement in financial irregularities tarnishes the reputation of the

organization, in this case, the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

- The organization's integrity and credibility are closely tied to the actions of its officials.
- When a high-ranking officer is implicated in unethical practices, it raises questions about the overall ethical culture within the organization and can damage its standing in the eyes of the public and other stakeholders.

▪ **Undermining Fairness and Equality:**

- Misuse of official position and financial irregularities create an environment of unfairness and inequality.
- When public officials engage in fraudulent practices, they gain personal advantages at the expense of others who may be more deserving.
- This erodes the principles of meritocracy and fairness upon which public administration should be based.

▪ **Impact on Employee Morale:**

- The actions of the DIG can significantly impact the morale of other employees within the organization.
- When employees witness senior officials engaging in unethical behavior without facing appropriate consequences, it can lead to demoralization, decreased trust in the leadership, and a decline in the commitment to ethical conduct among other employees.
- This can further perpetuate a culture of misconduct and compromise the organization's ability to operate with integrity.

Conclusion:

The Civil Servant involvement in financial irregularities and misuse of his official position carries significant ethical implications. It undermines public trust, damages the organization's reputation, and raises questions about the overall ethical culture within public administration. Upholding integrity, transparency, and accountability are essential for maintaining public trust and preserving the integrity of the organization. Efforts should be made to address such ethical breaches effectively, restore public confidence, and ensure that mechanisms are in place to prevent future occurrences.

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