

- Q. Why should impartiality & non-partisanship be considered as foundational values in public services, especially in the present day socio-political context? Illustrate your answer with examples.

Impartiality and non-partisanship are values of neutrality wherein decisions are based on objective facts and not based on bias or prejudices.

Importance in present sociopolitical context

① Atmosphere of intolerance

e.g. hate speeches against minorities in election campaign

② Inequalities

e.g. 65% resources held by top 10% of wealthy
(Oxfam report)

③ Pandemic situation

↳ vulnerable groups such as migrant labourers are at mercy of government

④ Geopolitical context

↳ refugees e.g. Rohingyas

↳ Political instability in neighbourhood
e.g. Afghanistan

The above context make the impartiality at the centre of public service delivery.

Illustration

A non-partisan public servant would treat the beneficiaries equally. It will

- ↳ reduce resentment → harmony
- ↳ reduce corruption → citizen satisfaction
- ↳ bring faith in system → strengthening of democracy
- ↳ welfare of vulnerables → constitutional ideal
- ↳ refugees taken care → International goodwill

Impartiality is a core human value accommodated by Nolan principles for its importance in public services.