AKTU Syllabus : Unit-5

❖ Implications of the above Holistic Understanding of Harmony on Professional Ethics

Natural acceptance of human values, Definitiveness of Ethical Human Conduct, Basis for Humanistic Education, Humanistic Constitution and Humanistic Universal Order, Competence in Professional Ethics: a) Ability to utilize the professional competence for augmenting universal human order, b) Ability to identify the scope and characteristics of people-friendly and ecofriendly production systems, technologies, and management models, Case studies of typical holistic technologies, management models and production systems, Strategy for the transition from the present state to Universal Human Order: a) At the level of individual: as socially and ecologically responsible engineers, technologists and managers, b)At the level of society: as mutually enriching institutions and organizations.

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❖ Ethics –

- **What is ethics -** Human conduct in terms of **values, policies, and character** is termed as ethics.

Ethical Human Conduct:-

- human conduct means the definitiveness of human conduct.
- In other words, ethics (also known as moral philosophy) is a branch of philosophy, that addresses questions about morality, questioning concepts such as –
- good vs. bad
- noble vs. ignoble,
- right vs. wrong,

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- Besides this, issues of measurement of traits like - **justice, love, peace**, and virtue also come under the criteria of ethics.
- **How ethics can be adapted-**
- The ethics in the living of an individual can be imbibed only through the inculcation of values, policies, and character, and this is possible through the process of ensuring the right understanding through self-exploration.
- **Professional Ethics -** Professional ethics means to develop professional competence with ethical human conduct.
- Professional ethics are accepted standards of personal and business behavior, values, and guiding principles.

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- In other words, we may say that the set of standards adopted by professionals is called Professional ethics. Every profession like teaching, medicine, engineering, law, etc has its professional ethics.
- The set of ethical standards that apply to an engineering profession is known as Engineering ethics.
- Likewise, The set of ethical standards, that are applicable for a professional is known as professional ethics.
- **Need and utility of professional ethics-**
- (1) Ethical conduct of profession implies the right utilization of one's professional skills towards the fulfillment of comprehensive human goal. It ensures our meaningful participation in the larger order.

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- (2) Professional ethics concerns the moral issues that arise because of the specialist knowledge that professionals attain, and how utilization of this knowledge should be governed when providing a service to the public.
- **Competence of professional ethics -** The program to attain competency in professional ethics can be discussed under the following points-

1. Clarity about the comprehensive human goal: Samadhan – Samridhi – Abhay – Sah-astitva, and its fulfillment through universal human order.

2. Confidence in oneself: Based on the right understanding of oneself and the rest of existence.

3. Mutually fulfilling behavior: Clarity and confidence in ethical human conduct and its correlation with sustained personal as well as collective happiness and prosperity.

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- **4. Mutually enriching interaction with nature:** Self-sufficiency in fulfilment of physical needs; ability to assess the needs for physical facilities for the family and their fulfilment through production systems ensuring harmony in the nature. In the light of the above, one acquires the ability to identify and develop appropriate (people-friendly and eco-friendly) technologies, production systems etc.
- **Definitiveness of Ethical Human conduct -** How it can be ensured-The right understanding gained through self-exploration enables us to identify the definitiveness of human conduct which may also be called the ethical human conduct. It is the same for all human beings . So we are also able to understand the universality of ethical human conduct which is in consonance with the universal human values. Each one of us wants to have a definite conduct but presently we may not be able to ensure that.

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- This is because we are presently living on the basis of our pre-conditionings or assumptions which are not in consonance with the truth or the right understanding. But, this situation neither gives satisfaction to us not to others. This causes struggle and strifes between human beings and their relationship at different levels and this way harmony is eroded.
- We also see people debating endlessly about what they consider to be ethical. But the fact is, unless we have the right understanding, we are not able to identify the definitiveness of ethical human conduct. It can be understood in terms of the following:
- **1. Values (Mulya) :** Competence of living in accordance with universal human values or the participation of a unit in the larger order- its natural characteristics or svabhava is known as values. Values are a part of our ethical conduct.

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- **2. Policy (Niti) :** Policy is the decision (plan, program, implementation, results, evaluation) about the enrichment, protection and right utilization of the resources (self, body and wealth – mana, tana and dhana).
- **3. Character (Charitra) :** The definiteness of my desire, thought and selection gives definiteness to my living. Definitiveness of character is the outcome of the definiteness of my behaviour and work.
- **Competence in Professional Ethics -**
- Professional ethics means to develop professional competence with ethical human conduct. Developing ethical competence in the individual (profession) is the only effective way to ensure professional ethics. The development of ethical competence is a long term process to be achieved through appropriate value education. As profession is only a subset of the life activities, the competence in profession will only be the manifestation of one's right understanding.

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- The salient features characterizing this competence can be summarized as follows:

1. Clarity about the comprehensive human goal: Samadhan – Samridhi – Abhay – Sah-astitva, and its fulfilment through universal human order.

2. Confidence in oneself: Based on the right understanding of oneself and the rest of existence.

3. Mutually fulfilling behaviour: Clarity and confidence in ethical human conduct and its correlation with sustained personal as well as collective happiness and prosperity.

4. Mutually enriching interaction with nature: Self-sufficiency in fulfilment of physical needs; ability to assess the needs for physical facilities for the family and their fulfilment through production systems ensuring harmony in nature. In light of the above, one acquires the ability to identify and develop appropriate (people-friendly and eco-friendly) technologies, production systems etc.

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➢ **What is Universal Human Order –**

➢ Universal human order (sarvabhauma vyavastha) is a feeling of **being related to every unit** including human beings and other entities of nature. Having understood the comprehensive human goal, we are able to be in harmony not only with human beings but also with the rest of nature. We can see that we are related to every unit in nature and ensure mutual fulfillment in that relationship. On the basis of understanding harmony, we get the notion of an undivided society and universal human order. The universal human order will comprise of:

1. The five dimensions of human endeavor (education, health, etc) towards a fragmented society.
2. The steps of organization from family to world family, each anchored in the right understanding will integrated in the following way: Family => family cluster => village/community => village cluster => => => world family..

Gateway Classes

Human Values, Unit-5: Lec-2

❖ **Humanistic Education, Humanistic Constitution, and Humanistic Universal Order –**

- These are based on the belief that all individuals have the inherent capacity for self expression and self realization, and that it is the responsibility of society to provide the conditions that support this capacity.
- The basis for this belief is rooted in the **idea of humanism**, which is a philosophical and ethical stance that emphasizes the value and agency of human beings, individually and collectively, and generally prefers critical thinking and evidence over acceptance of dogma or superstition.

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Human Values, Unit-5: Lec-2

- **Humanistic Education -** Humanistic education is based on the belief that education should be centered on the needs and potential of the individual student, rather than being focused solely on the acquisition of knowledge.
- The goal of humanistic education is to foster **critical thinking, creativity, self-awareness, and self-expression** in students, and to help them **develop the skills and knowledge**, necessary to **live fulfilling and meaningful lives.**
- **Humanistic Constitutions -** Humanistic constitutions are based on the belief that the organization and structure of society should be designed to support the dignity, rights, and well-being of all individuals.

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Human Values, Unit-5: Lec-2

- A humanistic constitution provides a framework for organizing society in ways that promote individual freedoms, protect human rights, and provide opportunities for individuals to pursue their goals and dreams.
- **Humanistic Social Order -** Humanistic social order is based on the belief that all individuals are connected and that the well-being of one person is linked to the well-being of others.
- The humanistic Universal order is based on the idea that all individuals have a shared responsibility to care for one another and to create a world that is just, fair, and sustainable.

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Human Values, Unit-5: Lec-2

- **Basis for humanistic education -** Principles of Humanistic Education There are five basic principles of humanistic education:

(1) Students should be able to choose what they want to learn. Humanistic teachers believe that students will be motivated to learn a subject if it's something they need and want to know.

(2) The goal of education should be to foster students' desire to learn and teach them how to learn.

- Students should be self-motivated in their studies and should have a desire to learn on their own.

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(3) Humanistic educators believe that grades are irrelevant and that **only self-evaluation is meaningful**. Grading encourages students to work for a grade and not for personal satisfaction.

They also deny tests to judge students' ability, because these all emphasize only memorization and do not provide sufficient educational feedback to the teacher and student on what the student is learning in life.

(4) Humanistic educators believe that both feelings and knowledge are important to the learning process.

(5) Humanistic educators insist that schools need to provide students with an interesting and creative environment so that they will feel secure in learning. Once students feel secure, learning becomes easier and more meaningful.

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- **Summary:**
- The five basic principles of humanistic education can be summarized as follows:
- (1) Students' learning should be self-directed.
- (2) Schools should produce students who want and know how to learn.
- (3) The only form of meaningful evaluation is self-evaluation.
- (4) Feelings, as well as knowledge, are important in the learning process.
- (5) Students learn best in a nonthreatening environment.

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Human Values, Unit-5: Lec-3

❖ **Issues in Professional Ethics -**

- The issues in professional ethics are becoming very complex in the current scenario. The unethical practices are rapidly increasing and their impact is also becoming far reaching. Corruption in multiple forms is prevalent in all professions like a virus. A good number of people have started developing the mentality **that with money, everything can be accomplished, any person can be purchased, and any system can be bent to one's advantage.**
- As a result of these unethical practices, we frequently come across serious scams, fraudulent practices, black marketing, and the like.

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- This menace becomes even more serious as unethical policies are adopted collectively by large industries, multinational corporations, and even national governments.
- As a result, there is a sort of legitimization of these unethical policies by projecting them to be in the interest of large groups of people.
- Drug mafia, builder mafia, and arms mafia are being exposed by the media almost every month.
- We are also quite familiar with how misleading propaganda, and advertisements are misguiding people.

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Human Values, Unit-5: Lec-3

- Some of the unethical practices are as follows –
- Corruption in multiple forms and at various levels, at various offices.
- Tax evasion, misappropriation and misuse of public funds.
- Misleading advertisement and unethical sales promotion.
- Cut-throat competition.
- Exploiting the weakness of consumers through various enticements.
- Adulteration and spurious production.
- Endangering the health and safety of public at large.
- Hoarding and over-charging etc.

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- ..... the list could be much longer. How to Resolve Issues in Professional Ethics –

The following measures can be proposed and implemented to prevent unethical practices in professionalism -

- Employ data monitoring.
- Another effective way to prevent unethical behavior in the workplace is to establish **management review boards** to investigate possible violations of the code of conduct.
- Set up a **code of conduct** and strictly **monitor** it on a **regular basis**.

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- Promoting **awareness** about professional ethics by introducing new courses, refresher programs, seminars and workshops.
- Administering oaths and prescribing codes of ethical conduct is also a solution.
- Intensive audit inspection and monitoring the activities at sudden basis may also check the problem.
- Laws and punishment for offences may be implemented.
- Sting operation may also check the problem.
- Setting up vigilance commissions, ethics committees, consumer protection forums etc is also influential to check the problem.

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- Filing public interest litigation etc may be introduced.
- Hire the right people. Work on building a loyal community. Appraisals, increment, promotion should be given to those who are more dedicated, honest , sincere and loyal.

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❖ **How Identification of svatva leads to Svatantrata and svarajya –**

➢ We are exploring our svatva and in the process of self-verification and living accordingly, we are attaining svatantrata and svarajya. Having discussed the content of right understanding, we can see how we explored our svatva (our natural acceptance) at different levels of our living and how the dialogue that started in us helped us get rid of our preconceived notions, dilemmas, contradictions, and compulsions, either external or internal.

➢ Having explored our svatva, we are able to live accordingly and this way, we become svatantra.

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- The more, we attain this self- organized state, we are able to live in harmony with others and also we are able to help others attain this state. This leads to our participation in svarajya.
- **It is a natural process. It leads by itself, without any external force .**
- From here we get an important message: the effort towards ensuring orderliness in the society is possible and is sustained by ensuring orderliness in ourselves. Every mechanism to bring order in the society needs to be based on this. This is an important implication of right understanding when we go to make policies for nations and the world.

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