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1a

Product endorsement is a huge industry that raises many ethical issues :-

- (i) Celebrities hold the trust of people. People tend to buy products endorsed by their favorite celebrities. Endorsing a harmful product is thus a breach of trust.
- (ii) A celebrity by virtue of being a social leader, is expected to be moral exemplar. Endorsing harmful products is thus unbecoming of a celebrity.
- (iii) This practice can also be considered as cheating a consumer who lingers his guard against the product endorsed by a celebrity.
- (iv) Celebrities have been found involved in surrogate advertisements, where they endorse ~~a~~ for one product of a brand but the intention is to promote another product of the same brand. Example:- Endorsing a T-shirt of a Whiskey brand. This ~~part~~ clearly shows Lack of Integrity.

On the other hand,

it can also be argued that at times celebrity may not be aware of the harmful

impact of the product, which in fact is the work of State regulator. Hence, one cannot blame ~~the~~ a celebrity for harmful product. He is just doing his job.

Nevertheless, celebrities must be careful while endorsing products because in a largely uneducated country like India, people tend to ~~revere~~ celebrities and blindly copy them.

1b

Gandhi was perhaps the first leader who equated cleanliness with moral freedom or Swraj.

Government has come out with various schemes like Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan & now Swachh Bharat Abhiyan but as per a WHO report, 13 of the top 20 worst polluted cities are in India. Hence, it is important

~~cleanliness cannot~~ to recognize that cleanliness cannot be enforced by a law unless underlying attitude of people change.

(i) People ^{wrongly} think that throwing garbage outside their home is alright ~~without knowing that~~. This shows their selfishness.

(ii) We consider garbage collection as a duty of someone else.

(iii) Separating biodegradable & non-biodegradable waste ^{by our hands} is not considered below our dignity. It also shows how lazy we are towards environment concerns.

(iv) Production of waste is directly linked to increasing consumerism, which really is a sign of gluttony (one of the 7 sins)

(v) Rich & among us are unconcerned about unclean surrounding because they can purchase water-purifiers & air-purifiers for their homes, without

thinking about effect of waste generation by rich on the quality of lives of poor. This reflects an attitude of injustice towards poor.

Thus, there is a need for our society to invest in Attitudinal & behavior change. This can be done by:-

- (i) Involving celebrities, political & social leaders in telling people about importance of Gandhi.
- (ii) Using religion to achieve cleanliness.
- (iii) Reconnecting people with nature, so that they can see effects of their activities on nature.
- (iv) Chapters on cleanliness in school syllabus.

Cleanliness in our surroundings is a sure sign of a progressive culture. It must be promoted by policy efforts as well as attitudinal & behavioral change.

We tend to think that in our capitalist world, those who do not work hard, get less incomes and hence are economically excluded.

Thus, our policies are also based on artificially providing them incomes. But the major factors behind this phenomenon are moral & ethical:-

(i) Mechanisation of work:- In the name of productivity, our society moved to mechanisation. This choice is directly linked with economic poverty of workers.

(ii) In Maharashtra, water for irrigation was diverted for industrial purposes. When an indebted farmer was devoid of inputs needed for crop production, how can he compete in a free market?

(iii) In India, most of the poor are people of tribes or lower castes. Thus, it was unethical exploitation of these people throughout history that is responsible for poverty.

(iv) Today, policies are made by the rich, for the rich; this leads to growing economic inequality without any regard to one vote - one value principle. This policy capture by elites leads to economic inequalities.

(v) Corruption in governance:- The schemes meant for poor like mid day meal scheme or health insurance are not properly implemented. ~~Thus~~ Corruption in such schemes have led to death of

innocent children. This ~~poor~~ unethical governance also increases economic inequality.

(vi) Consumerism of rich & middle class has polluted our water & air. This has more harmful effect for poor, thus, they have to remain absent from work, further excluding them economically.

Thus, unless we as a society do not look at moral aspects of our choices, the problem of economic exclusion of masses from mainstream cannot be solved.

An operation of commercial surrogacy is generally cost about 30-50 lakhs but a surrogate mother is paid only about 2-4 lakhs.

Apart from the economic angle, there are many ethical issues involved in commercial surrogacy.

- (i) Womb on a rent:- Commercial surrogacy is like using your organs for earning. In this regard, it can be equated with prostitution.
- (ii) Harmful hormones are injected into the surrogate, thus her rights ~~are~~ go to live with dignity are grossly violated.
- (iii) Motherhood cannot be reduced to a contract signed between surrogate and parents. The separation of a baby which has been in a woman's womb for 9 months is certainly going to be painful.
- (iv) Issue of parenthood:- The child might never know who gave her/him birth. This may create an identity - crisis for one.
- (v) In India, it has been seen that commercial surrogates which are fair-skinned & from upper caste are preferred. This shows moral bankruptcy of commissioning parents.

(vi) ~~Arg~~

~~Surrogacy~~, in its

on the other hand, surrogacy in itself, is not unethical. It can lead to complete & happy families. It holds immense importance in Indian society because a woman does not achieve her full status unless she becomes a mother. ~~But~~

But, reducing such a noble work to a commercial exercise governed by laws of market looks ~~not~~ inhuman.

Thus, it would be better if surrogacy is promoted as a social good but ~~with~~ not involving exchange of money.

Good journalism is a social good.

Like any profession, journalists also face many ethical issues.

- (i) Competition to become the first to break a news ~~versus~~ being the news being truthful.
- (ii) Journalists ~~are~~ In areas of into internal turmoil, journalists are under pressure from both security agencies ~~or~~ as well as insurgents. This creates problems to maintain integrity of the information.
- (iii) Journalists also have to think about need of citizens to know ~~versus~~ the imperatives of national security.
- (iv) In the era of 24x7 news channels, media has become very powerful. Hence, ~~at~~ at times, the china-wall between editors & promoters is breached. Journalists have to be wary of elite-capture of media, protect their jobs and also remain true to journalistic ethics.
- (v) In today's time when like every item news is also consumed, it is important for a journalist to make his/her program interesting while retaining the knowledge aspect of the news.

In the quest to make their programs interesting, we are witnessing increasing

sensationalism in news media .

The causes for this are :-

- (i) Increasing pressures on journalists to make-in TRPs. So, in a way, citizens are responsible for this sensationalism.
- (ii) 24x7 channels :- When actual news is not there, it is created by sensationalism.
- (iii) Lowering journalistic ethics :- To hide their inefficiencies, sensationalism is resorted to.
- (iv) Politics of sensationalism :- It is used as a tool to induce fear-psychoises in people.

Thus, it is incumbent upon journalists as well as citizens to guard against increasing sensationalisation of news in the name of entertainment. News is a serious instrument to hold the government accountable & must remain as such only.

④ Sources that can help determine correctness of an action :-

(i) Constitution :- An action that is done within the spirit of constitution ~~is~~ would most certainly be ethical.

(ii) Laws & ~~not~~ spiritual scriptures :-

Laws refrain people from doing certain actions which are deemed wrong by society.

Spiritual actions exhort a person to fulfil some of his ~~de~~ duties like duty towards one's parents or society.

(iii) Great souls :- One can learn from examples of great souls like saints, reformers, ~~to~~ socio-political leaders etc. hearing from them can guide us to do correct actions.

But there are limitations to all

these sources. Ultimately it is our conscience

through which we can judge whether our actions are right or wrong. But in today's world it is essential that we keep ~~our~~ conscience alive by constantly listening to it.

Such sources can guide

clear & practical guidelines to guide actions in public life:-

(i) Constitution :- A civil servant can always refuse to act in a manner that is unconstitutional.

(ii) Laws, rules & regulations give a reasonable idea of what is to be done in a situation. The groundrule is that Law must never be violated by one's actions.

(iii) Scriptural advice too is important in a religious country like India. It can help us take reflective judgments.

But here too, these sources are external & cannot provide answers to all circumstances. Conscience has to be used in ~~fact~~ to be successful in public life too.

It is one's duty as a part of the organisation to maintain integrity in its functioning.

If a part of the organisation is involved in anti-social activities, it is ~~never~~ justified for one to try to stop them. She must use all available internal resources to put an end to such acts. Only when she is satisfied that internal mechanisms are not working and there is a ~~serious~~ imminent danger to society, one must leak the information to public.

On the look of it, this looks like disloyalty to organisation and might involve great ordeal to one but on a closer analysis, it becomes clear that ~~the~~ leaking information is good for oneself, for society and for the organisation too.

It requires immense courage & sacrifice to stand-up for the truth and save society. In the long run, organisation stands to benefit due to higher levels of professionalism & trust of society in its products.

As an example:- An executive of Ranbaxy India tried to stop it from mixing harmful substances in its medicines. When the internal mechanism failed, that

executive leaked the information to US Food & Drug Administrator, saving the lives of countless people.

Indian Supreme Court has also ruled that a senior civil servant must stop a minister from doing wrong deeds no matter what it takes.

Competition enthruses a person to bring a push one's limit & bring out the best in oneself. As they say, Gold glitters because it is ready to bear continuous heat.

A person ~~devotes~~ practices hard, devotes his one's time & energy and innovates to beat the competition. This is good not only for oneself but also for the society.

This spirit can be seen in many of our sports persons like cricketer Virat Kohli who is regarded as one of the best batsmen or Olympic medal winners.

But there is other side to it too. If someone goes into thinking that he or she cannot beat the competition by straight means, he may adopt crooked means too to win the competition.

This can be seen in many of our sports persons involved in taking performance enhancing drugs.

Competition in economic sphere also leads to moral corruption with people involved in betting or scams.

worth loss of crosses.

Thus, there is a need to keep the competition in positive realm only. This can be done by adequate attention on behavior of children in schools and by setting good examples for them.

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Integrity demands that honesty should be reflected in our actions all the time. This goes beyond commission of actions & also involves non-commission of actions which we are supposed to perform.

Once I had a small fight with ~~someone~~ in school days. After the school got over, I found the wallet of that person lying on the road. For once I thought that ~~is~~ I can let it remain there and trust that person but I soon realized that now that I have seen that wallet lying there, it would be utterly evil to not return it to the owner. Thus, I held myself back from an evil inaction.

The statement is equally valid for public life too. A civil servant may feel that he is not responsible if his political bosses involve in corruption & siphon off public money. But in truth, civil service values of integrity & efficiency demand that that civil servant stop that

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politician from losing public money.
He is accountable not only for his
actions but also for inactions.

To me the statement means that ~~with~~ if someone is privileged, it is more important for him to value his principles above those privileges.

In Indian tradition, it is believed that ~~the~~ Lakshmi, the Goddess of wealth doesn't stick around with a person who has no principles.

As an example:-

~~In Sat~~ Ramalinga Raju of Satyam was a privileged person but when he ~~valued~~ he forgot his principles and indulged in account forging, he got caught. Today he is no longer respected ~~as~~ as he didn't follow principles of good corporate governance. He has also lost his privileges ~~as~~ today there is no entity named Satyam Computers.

~~Thus, it is~~

This is valid for

nation - States too. The once powerful

European States which inhumanely colonised

the world have today lost their privileges
and fighting deep recession in their
economies.

Hence, it is essential ~~to~~ always
value principles over privileges because that is
what ~~make~~ makes us worthy of this
privileged existence in the form of humans.

Laws preventing atrocities against Dalits have given stringent but recent happenings in Una, Gujarat show that unless entrenched social prejudices & attitudes change, it would be impossible to ensure dignity to our Dalit brethren. Thus, we must look beyond laws & tackle the problem holistically :-

- ① Material needs of Dalits :- Like occupation, housing, water, shelter, etc- needs to be provided for by economic empowerment. This can help because as Ambedkar said, when Dalits become economically powerful, the gates of temples will automatically open for them.
- ② Dalits have to leave traditional caste-based occupations like cow-skinning & must learn new skills.
- ③ Use of scriptures :- It has to be proved to our society that ancient scriptures do not give any sanction to caste based discrimination, as most of the attitudes flow from wrong reading of these scriptures.
- ④ Sensitivity training of police & bureaucrats at cutting-edge

Level :- A Dalit coming to register a complaint must ~~be~~ be comforted by the local police and government schemes for their welfare must be properly implemented. For this, sensitivity training is required.

⑤ Rule of Law :- Strict enforcement of PoA, 1989 & quick justice delivery. An efficient judiciary is the biggest social reformer.

⑥ Schools :- If children forget caste differences, the problem can be tackled in 1 generation only.

⑦ Promoting inter-caste marriages :- Govt. must provide security to such couples

⑧ Promoting Dalit literature because that can open the eyes of masses towards hidden forms of violence against Dalits.

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A bureaucrat is supposed to be anonymous. It means that all the laurels for good implementation of a scheme go to the political executive & all the blame for poor implementation also rests with political executive.

A civil servant is held to account by that political executive.

Anonymity entails that :-

- A civil servant can't criticise government policy in public.
- A civil servant can't disclose the advice given by him or her to the minister.

Anonymity & neutrality are important traits for civil servants because:-

(i) Civil servants are a part of permanent executive. If they are not anonymous, then public would turn against them in case of failure of policy. This will lead to failure of administration.

(ii) Neutrality is important for faith of entire political spectrum in the efficacy of a civil servant.

(iii) In its absence, politicisation of civil services would

result with direct consequences for governance.

(iv) Neutrality & anonymity are also important for objective decision-making.

Hence these are important traits for a civil servant.

⑧

These are injunctions that girls should not keep mobiles & wear jeans in colleges. The proponents argue that this is for the safety of girls themselves and protection of Indian culture.

As far as the safety of girls is concerned, wearing jeans has no direct correlation with sexual abuse. Sexual abuse has direct correlation with patriarchy instead.

Similarly, Indian culture doesn't prohibit a girl from exercising her freedom. Even if it does, such ideas are not favoured by our Constitution & hence are useless.

Such ideas reflect outdated views and are new means to control agency of a girl. That is these are patriarchal ideas in new forms.

It is just a new way of saying that girls should always remain ~~at~~ submissive to boys.

The idea of a girl wearing a jeans-

top and making friends of her own is not acceptable to so-called guardians of culture because ~~this~~ tradition is the way these people gain their self-esteem from. This reflects low self-esteem on their part.

It is also poor conduct to advise such things because moral paternalism is out of fashion now. Indian Constitution allows all citizens - whether boys or girls - equal rights to wear what they want.

Hence, ~~there should not be~~ such imposition of dress codes must be thoroughly curtailed by all sections of society -

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Manual scavenging is a blot on the face of a nation that claims ~~more~~ to be the moral & superpower of the world.

1. Ethical issues associated with manual scavenging:-

- ① It is an inhuman practice & lower the dignity of a human being when he carries excreta of someone else in his hands.
- ② It is illegal & against the constitution.
- ③ It leads to continuation of caste-based occupational structure, which is a source of immense suffering for lower castes.
- ④ The practice gives rise to untouchability, another inhuman practice.

2. Available options are:-

- ① ~~do~~ Fudge the data to show less number of manual scavengers and avoid media scrutiny.
- ② Fudge the data, avoid media scrutiny & work secretly to end manual scavenging.
- ③ ~~Don't~~ Accept the prevalence of the practice & work to end it.

Evaluation of options :-

(a) The ~~me~~ option allows DM to ease political pressure and avoid bad publicity of the city administration - It ~~also~~ also allows poor manual scavengers to earn some money for survival.

But, the practice is a blot on humanity and the option is outright lying, going against the principles of transparency & integrity.

(b) The option keeps the politicians happy - Their support can be essential to end the practice.

But, ~~it~~ such things cannot remain secret for long. Manual scavenging can't be ended in secrecy. In fact, this may lead to more exploitation as money paid ~~so~~ might get reduced.

(c) This option is in line with Article 18 of the Constitution & the law of the land. It is better to accept the prevalence of a bad practice. This might help create public opinion against the practice. A civil servant should ~~not~~ ^{unduly} worry about political pressure & must show courage in such cases.

(3) After accepting that the problem exists, the District administration can use funds under Swachh

Bharat mission to build ~~re~~ modern latrines
& ensure water-availability in them.

- (ii) The ~~re~~ manual scavengers need to be provided skill training under programs like Badham Mantei Koushal Vikas Yojana. They can be trained in modern waste disposal methods.
- (iii) Till the time they complete their training, there is a need to provide PDS & monetary benefits ~~to~~ for survival of their family.

(10) Drug menace is one of the biggest national security problem facing India today. It is not only a drain on our economy but it wastes an entire generation ~~the~~. This can hurt our future.

① Options available are :-

- (i) Consult with the seniors in police department and take their advice into account.
- (ii) ~~Ref~~ Proceed with the case normally refusing to release anyone.
- (iii) Leak information to the media about political pressure to ~~not~~ release suspects.
- (iv) Meet the leaders demanding release and explain to them the dire situation.

② Evaluating the options :-

(i) Seniors in the department can help with their experienced inputs. They can also help deal with undue political pressure as no politician would like to interfere with a united police force.

~~But, there may be~~ There are no apparent demerits in this course of action.

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(i) ~~A police officer must~~ The duty that is entrusted to me would be done. This would also increase confidence of junior police officers in their leadership. ~~Releasing~~ the suspects may give important information about involvement of others on interrogation.

But, I may be suspended or transferred like other junior staff, causing trouble to myself & my family.

(ii) It is a sure shot way of ~~not~~ reducing political pressure on me.

But, ~~while~~ this option would ~~not~~ reduce the trust of citizens on not only political class but also the police. It would interfere in the smooth functioning of police in the case.

(iv) The leaders can be made to understand that they should not ruin the lives of young people for personal gains.

The option ~~is~~ ~~with~~ ~~large~~ may not yield much result because if the leaders could understand this, they ~~sure~~ could also understand the importance of not meddling in the case. in the first place.

In the above scenario,
following step (i) or (ii) is justified.

A police officer must be courageous to do
the right thing. It is also good to
take the seniors of the department into
confidence on such serious matters. Also,
an officer need not worry about personal
costs like suspension. He must show fortitude
here because 'It is fortitude that protects all
other virtues'.

⑪

The SC/ST act is a stellar piece of legislation that prevents atrocities against the much tormented lower castes. However, some people with vested interests have also misused the provisions of the law.

Options available to me are :-

(i) File a counter FIR against the person for misusing the law & misbehaving with the staff.

(ii) Let the person file the FIR and deal with the law, while having trust in the police.

(iii) Meet the person and reason out with him to take back the complaint.

(iv) Give him the room ^{in a friend's hotel} & end the controversy.

Evaluating the options :-

(i) The person needs to be punished for misbehaving with the staff; which had been professional in their conduct. Counter FIR would also put pressure on the person to see that they can play the game.

But this action can induce doubt in the mind of the police as it may be seen as trying to influence investigation. This action ~~would~~

might also destroy the reputation of the hotel which has been so painstakingly achieved.

- (ii) The police is duty-bound to ask the side of hotel manager in the case.

The register of the hotel can be shown proving that there was no ulterior motive to deny him the room. The police are also experienced enough to know that some people file frivolous complaints.

~~The~~ But, the coming of the police into the hotel may make customers uneasy.

On the other hand, by coming to the hotel & observing staff behavior police can take first hand look into how ethical the staff actually is.

- (iii) In Indian tradition, customer is considered to be God-send. Hence it is the duty of a hotel manager to at least, try to assuage his concerns.

But this may be seen to

be giving ~~into~~ to the unjust force. It can also mean trying to influence the victim, thus interference with rule of law.

(iv) The ugly controversy can be put to an end by arranging ^a ~~the~~ room for a person in a friend's hotel. This would give business to a friend and help keep the hotel reputation intact.

But, this step may hurt the morale of the staff and also, the customer is dangerous and may try to hurt the friend in some other ~~or~~ frivolous case.

~~Any action that one takes~~

In such a situation, ~~a~~ following option (ii) that is letting the police do their duty is justified. As a citizen, one must keep faith ~~a~~ in the system.

The police is experienced ~~or~~ & equipped enough to ensure that the law prevails in the country.

~~As if~~ This would ~~be~~ Once it is proved that the case was ~~fraudulent~~, the person may be taken to task by the police.

As for the reputation of the hotel is concerned, one case can hardly do any damage. If there is integrity with one, customers will certainly recognise it.

As they say,

'Integrity always pays but it is a slow pay'.

Hence one must be patient & follow option ii.

(12)

Immediate steps :-

(i) Personally talk to the health-staff and try to keep their morale high. They must be communicated that government is aware of the hard work conditions but it is their oath to protect the lives of the citizens.

They must be assured that they would be suitably rewarded for their services.

They must not get demoralised by public outrage. ~~It~~ ^{rather} show empathy towards them and work with ever-more compassion.

(ii) The promote management of private hospitals should be reprimanded for negligent attitude.

They should be threatened with cancellation of permits if they show laxity any further.

(iii) The public must be assured that entire government machinery is geared up to tackle the challenge. Details of ~~the~~ all the steps that are being taken must be laid bare before the public.

(iv) To beef up the infrastructure, an empowered team must be made to evaluate whether medical infrastructure

can be diverted from other areas which are
• free in that time.

(v) The political executive must be involved to communicate to the public about preventive actions such as wearing full clothes, applying creams that can repel mosquitoes & not letting water stagnant.

(vi) Large scale fumigation drive needs to be arranged.

(2) Long-term measures :-

(i) Dedicated workforce to tackle dengue & chikangunya on the lines of Singapore. Their task is to destroy all the mosquito breeding places like construction sites etc.

(ii) Research :- In china, a mutant *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito is being experimented with that destroys eggs of other dangerous mosquitoes.

(iii) Public engagement :- Every year in times of monsoons & after that, public must be engaged on dos & donts to avoid the disease.

(iv) Fines :- Municipal corporations must be empowered to fine the violators & the

amount of fines need to be made exorbitant to act as deterrent.

Thus, State needs both short-term & long-term measures to deal with the menace. Just like the success against Polio, the drive against Dengue & Chikungunya can also be won by collaboration, planning and will.

(13)

Then Due to increasing population and increasing footprint of human beings, non-criminal conflicts have increased greatly.

Gandhiji used to say - "The progress of a civilisation can be gauged from the way it treats its animals".

(i) Options available:-

(i) Financial reimbursement to the farmers to avoid killing of animals.

(ii) ~~Culling~~ Declaring those animals as vermin and asking the ~~forest~~ department to cull them.

(iii) Enclose the farms with barbed wire
(iv) Requesting pasturing somewhere else as you cannot witness culling of bond animals.

~~(v) Culling the animals & financial reimbursement to farmers.~~

Evaluating the options:-

(i) The option can potentially assuage the farmers for their loss and save the life of animals too.
But, as the animals eat more, they

would grow in numbers. This can be ecologically dangerous and pose a threat to other farmers

too.

(ii) Conservation of animals is not possible without community support. The forest department should not test their patience. An officer should not let personal feelings come in between an objective decision. It is a common practice employed in controlling the population of animals.

But, ~~the~~ The option would lead to death of animals for ~~the~~ no crime of their own as it is the humans who have ventured into their space.

(iii) Barbed wires would turn away the animals & save the ~~new~~ crops. This would be a win-win for all.

But, the problem would only be shifted to a new place where there is no barbed wire.

(iv) Personal ~~into~~ love for innocent animals would not be violated.

But such weak conduct is unbecoming of a civil servant.

In this difficult scenario, an officer should follow option (ii).

~~It~~ An officer should always be objective in one's analysis & not let personal choices come in between.

The ~~de~~ decision must be made keeping ecological concerns in mind. Entire food-chain would be disturbed if these animals are not culled and most importantly, in general, communities do not want to harm animals.

Their support for animal conservation is essential.

Hence, Option (i) seems to be the best ~~one~~ choice available.

(2) Long-term measures:-

(i) There should be scientific cultivation followed in areas of man-animal conflict. i.e. the farms should be surrounded by barbed-wires ~~on~~ and/or by crops that are inedible for animals.

- (ii) Adequate nutritious plants must be available in the forest itself for the animals. This calls for forest conservation.
- (iii) Investments must be made in developing a forest corridor for animals to prevent man-animal conflict.

Animals are an important part of our nature. This world doesn't just belong to humans but. As the most evolved species, it is the duty of humans to take care of the animals.

① Dr Singh's participation is ~~inappropriate~~ as a lead investigator is inappropriate.

Ethics of medical trial suggest that the lead investigator must not only be highly knowledgeable but also independent.

Dr Singh has money invested in this firm & hence, he can't be taken as an independent person as he has direct pecuniary benefit in the success of the trial.

Dr. Singh may be only interested in the welfare of the patients but as it said, Justice should not only be done but also seen to be done

'Caesar's wife must be above all suspicion'.

There are a few other teams available doing this work. Thus it is not like Dr Singh is the only option.

② Dr. Singh has a direct conflict of interest here.

He ~~has~~^{is} invested in this firm. If the trial becomes successful, the shares of the firm would rise & give good returns to Dr. Singh.

Also, as a lead investigator, he would be much better known & will likely experience an increase in referrals if the trials succeed.

Thus, both for his ~~of~~ practice & his financial investment, ~~the~~ success of trial would be helpful.

In this scenario, consciously or sub-consciously, Dr. Singh may wish to see the trial as a success & hence lose the objective eye which is must for a lead investigator.

The conflict of interest could be mitigated by

- Not participating in the study, or
- Divesting the investments in the firm.

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③ In this case, while the Conflict of Interest of success of trial resulting into an increase in requests for Dr Singh would have remained intact but the conflict of interest of success of trial resulting into better return on investments would have ~~been~~ not been there initially.

But as the company offers him stock as a form of compensation, again the same Conflict of Interest would have arisen.

In fact, in this case, this ~~can be seen~~ ^{is} an act of bribery on the part of the firm to its potential lead investigator. Dr Singh would have felt ~~the~~ ^{he} obliged to ~~return~~ ^{return} the favour to the firm & again lost his objective eye.

Thus, the importance of lead investigator being independent cannot be emphasised more. Both Dr. Singh & the firm must follow this principle. That is what is in the long-term interests of patients as well as medical research.