

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE, PILANI

First Semester - 2022-2023

Applied Philosophy

GS F312 (Close Book)

Mid Semester Examination

Room No. 6157/6162/6164

Date: 5.11.2022

Max Marks 30

Duration: 90 Minutes

- Attempt All Three Questions.
 - All Questions Carry Equal Marks.
1. Sartre contends, "Man is condemned to be free; because once thrown into the world, he is responsible for everything he does." State and discuss Sartre's philosophical analysis of human existence with the help of a quote given above.
 2. Briefly state the ethical perspectives of virtue, happiness and duty. Critically assess any two ethical perspectives by assuming yourself as a supporter of the remaining ethical perspective. You may conclude the answer with your assessment.

3. **Colombian man dies publicly under new euthanasia policy**

World News Published on Jan 09, 2022, 04:33 AM IST

Victor Escobar decided to die and to do so publicly, becoming one of the first Latin Americans to end their life without suffering from a terminal disease, under a groundbreaking court ruling in Colombia. Hours before dying on Friday, 60-year-old Escobar celebrated what he called victory in his two-year battle with a lung ailment that left him unable to breathe on his own. "Little by little, it becomes everyone's turn. So I do not say goodbye but rather, see you soon. And little by little, we will end up with God," Escobar, a practicing Catholic, said in a video sent to news organizations. His lawyer said on Twitter that he died in the city of Cali with doctors present. The last footage of him alive shows him smiling and surrounded by family. He was sedated and then given a lethal injection. Colombia de-penalized assisted death in 1997, and in July 2021 a high court expanded this "right to dignified death" to those not suffering from a terminal illness. It is the first Latin American country to take the step and one of the few in the world that did so despite being primarily Roman Catholic. The church categorically opposed euthanasia and assisted suicide. "I was already feeling sick. I felt like my lungs did not obey me," Escobar told AFP in October as he waged the final chapter of his legal battle. Diabetes and a cardiovascular ailment left him in a wheelchair, and suffering spasms wracked his body. His family backed the idea of euthanasia. Only Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxemburg, and Spain have legalized euthanasia in Europe. Colombia may have joined that list, but access to the procedure is not always smooth. As of mid-2021, patients like Escobar -- with chronic diseases and a life expectancy of more than six months -- could not undergo euthanasia. "They were being forced to live in undignified conditions against their will," said Monica Giraldo of an NGO called the Foundation for the Right to Dignified Death. She said that since the court ruling on euthanasia, three people with non-terminal diseases used it to end their lives, but Escobar is the first to do so with cameras rolling so the public could witness it. "I want my story to be known because it creates a path for patients like me, patients with degenerative conditions, to open the door to seek rest," Escobar said. In October of last year, a panel at the Imbanaco clinic rejected Escobar's request for euthanasia after two years of earlier petitions that were also dismissed. The committee argued that Escobar was not terminal and that there were still ways to try to alleviate his suffering. Giraldo

said hospitals sometimes deny euthanasia requests over "ideological positions" or scrap them at the last minute over legal concerns. But Escobar appealed in court and won. He chose to die on January 7 -- a Friday, so it would be easy for relatives to go to his funeral on the weekend, his lawyer said. "I suffer from my diseases, and I suffer watching my family suffer because of me," Escobar said in October, gasping for breath. The government says at least 157 people have chosen euthanasia since the July 2021 legal change. Giraldo's foundation works with five people seeking assisted suicide, two of whom have non-terminal conditions. Before dying, Escobar said God does not like seeing people suffer. "I do not think God will punish me for trying to stop suffering," he said. [Do you agree with Victor Escobar's decision to opt for euthanasia? Was the high court's conclusion to expand the scope of euthanasia morally right? Answer the questions in light of your understanding of the topic of Euthanasia and philosophical perspective(s).]