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Q4

A ship in the harbour is safe but that is not what a ship is for.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2022 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** safety is not the purpose of a ship - or of a person, a republic, a talent
- **One stand:** harbour is for repair; the sea is the work. Recklessness is not the moral
- Move through self, science, economy, state. Keep one honest counter
- Close on a voyage with a hull inspection

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a boat that feeds no one. Stand:** purpose implies disciplined risk.
- **Headings:** self, science, 1991, state, then one counter.

Earn the proverb honestly. Peg ISRO or a disaster window.

Close on inspection plus voyage.

Note

This is a map, not the full 1,000-1,200 word essay.

Anecdote

A fishing boat that never leaves the creek does not rust in a storm. It also does not feed anyone. The owner's son wants the harbour forever. The line is the father's: safe is not what a ship is for.

One stand

Purpose implies risk under a discipline - insurance, a weather report, a right to return. Write against cowardice and against a romance of wrecks.

Heading map**What the line is asking**

- **Harbour:** comfort, a cadre posting one never leaves, a closed economy, a mind that will not publish.
- **Ship:** a talent, a reform, a satellite, a young person.
- Often-cited nautical proverb - do not fake an author.

Self

- A rank without a difficult district is a harbour. Service is the sea.
- **UPSC itself:** the harbour of notes vs the sea of a blank page.

Science and enterprise

- A rocket that stays in the shed. **ISRO's** failures as weather, then a window.
- A start-up that never ships.

Economy

- **Licence-raj harbour; 1991 as putting out. Also:** a poorly built ship that should not have sailed (a bad loan).

State

- **Diplomacy, a peacekeeping contingent, a climate pledge:** leaving the creek.
- **Disaster law:** harbour when the cyclone is named - purpose includes knowing when not to sail.

The counter

A leaking hull must stay. A child, a refugee, a poorly funded PHC is not a coward for wanting a harbour. The quote addresses unused capacity, not the uninsured poor. Precaution is not the creek; it is the inspection.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** inspect the hull, then leave the creek. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Nautical proverb

A ship in harbour is safe, but that is not what a ship is for - commonly given; do not invent a captain.

Tagore

Where the mind is without fear - including fear of a first voyage.

ISRO

Windows after failure - the sea with a checklist.

1991

Leaving the licence-raj creek - with a bill for those without a hull.

National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

When the harbour is duty: a named cyclone is not cowardice.