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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1050)

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INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	<div>1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).</div> <div>2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH.</div> <div>3. All questions are compulsory.</div> <div>4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</div> <div>5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.</div> <div>6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.</div> <div>7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.</div>	
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Total Marks Obtained:				
Remarks:				
Signature of Examiner				

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. Citizens' Charters make administration both accountable and citizen-friendly. However, over time, in a large number of offices, Citizens' Charters have fallen into disuse. Suggest measures that can make these charters effective tools for bringing accountability in public service. (150 WORDS)

10

Citizen charters as envisaged in the Second Administrative Reforms Commission Report are tools of participatory democracy that ensure a standards of public service delivery and meet them.

They have fallen in disuse as:

- ↓* poorly planned
- ↓* lack of accountability
- ↓* not legally mandatory

HOW TO MAKE THEM EFFECTIVE

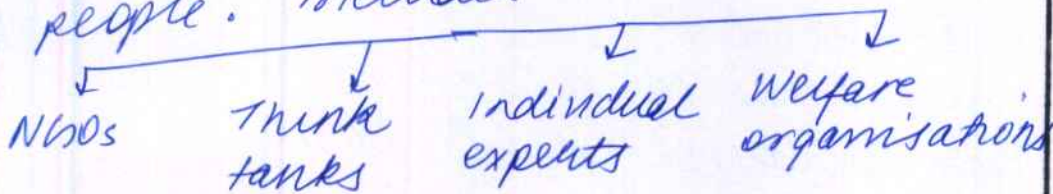
- ① Consultation with public should be a must before formulating a citizen charter
- ② Only realistic levels of service delivery should be promised.
- ③ Technology should be used to help citizens monitor adherence with the charter.

- ④ Grievance redressal for citizens should be allowed
- ⑤ As per 2nd ARC recommendation these charters can be made legal by enactment of service to citizens Act.
- ⑥ make citizens aware of existence of these charters.

conclusion:
we must move from just citizen charters to the Serretam model of public service delivery to ensure excellence in public service delivery.

2. Discuss the importance of involving civil society in pre-legislative scrutiny and mention the steps that can be taken by the government to increase public engagement in it. (150 WORDS) 10

civil society is an important stakeholder in the governance process. They represent concerns of various groups of people. Include:



IMPORTANCE IN PRE LEGISLATION STAGE

- ① Can make government aware of needs of the group they represent
- ② Can ensures provisions in proposed law are in line with legal, constitutional provisions
- ③ Can contribute ideas to make the law better
- ④ create awareness All this democracies the process of legislation.

STEPS TO BE TAKEN

- ① Draft bills should be made public
- ② Consultation with domain based civil society organisation should be mandated
- ③ members from civil society can become part of the legislation process
- ④ Use media to create awareness amongst people.

Civil society organisations like PRS legislative research organisation are playing an important role in ensuring parliament's accountability. This should be extended to the legislation process to strengthen our democracy.

3. Poor standards of tertiary education are a drag on India's competitiveness. Elucidate. Also enumerate the initiatives taken by the government in the past few years to improve the quality of higher education in India. (150 WORDS)

10

Tertiary education in India includes higher education institutions along with specific sector education. In India enrolment in higher education at 25% is still low. Poor standards lead to:

- Absence of Indian Universities from world rankings
- low enrolment
- brain drain
- ~~low~~ research and development is almost absent
- lack of innovation
- poor quality of publications

All this harms our competitiveness as:

- Produce poor quality of graduates e.g. Planning Commission said 18% of our ~~graduates~~ ^{engineers} are employable
- lack of indigenous innovation
- loss of talent

STEPS TAKEN

- ① Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Yojana (RUSA) was launched to strengthen our higher education institutions.
- ② Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) - To increase funds available with higher education institutes
- ③ UGC's graded autonomy program which aims to empower these institutions
- ④ NAAC's National Institutional Ranking Framework to encourage competition
- ⑤ Institutes of Eminence and World Class Universities being developed to improve global performance
- ⑥ Recently Higher Education Commission Bill has been introduced to revamp UGC.

In addition to the above recommendations of:

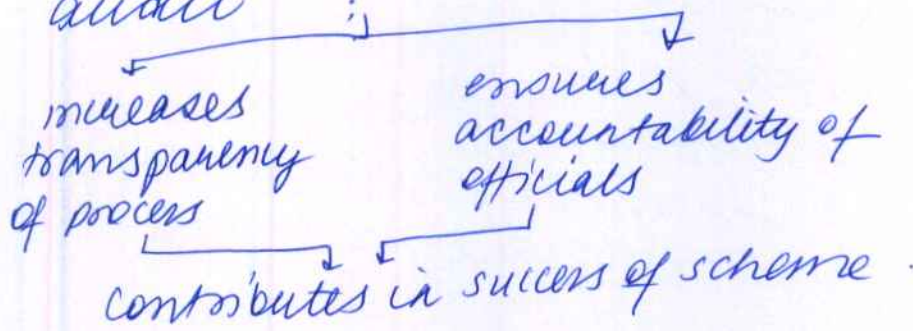
National Knowledge Commission must be followed
 Upadhyay committee
 Vashpal Committee

4. Social audit has a crucial role in effective implementation of social sector programmes. Comment. Also discuss its strengths and limitations. (150 WORDS) 10

Meghalaya has become the first state recently to make social audit compulsory.

CRUCIAL ROLE :

By allowing consultation with Gram Sabha social audit



Strengths

- ① Includes all members of Gram Sabha - is broad based
- ② Encourages participatory democracy
- ③ Prevents exclusion of anyone from process
- ④ Holds Gram Panchayat members accountable
- ⑤ Prevents leakages as well

Limitations

- ① It is prone to elite capture
- ② might exclude the poor and caste based ostracisation is common
- ③ Gram Sabha members don't possess the knowledge and expertise to make it 100% full-proof
- ④ Can be applied to social sector schemes implemented by Gram Panchayat only.

Way forward

Despite these limitations social audit has made schemes like ~~Mahatma~~ MNREGA successful. It should thus be made compulsory as mentioned by committee.

5. What are the major welfare schemes for elderly in India? Do you think the benefits of such schemes are reaching a wide section of the target segment? Give reasons. (150 WORDS) 10

Article 41 of the constitution directs the state to provide for the elderly. They constitute 8% of population as per Census 2011. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has the following schemes for them:

- ① Integrated Plan for older Peoples - supports shelter homes etc. for the elderly
- ② National Social Assistance Plan - It includes the Indira Gandhi Pension for older people that ensure lifetime pension for them.
- ③ Financial schemes - these allow savings at high rate of return for elderly eg. small savings scheme. We also have a maintenance of welfare of Parents Act 2007 along with the National Council for Senior citizen for the elderly.

However the coverage of these schemes is poor.

As:

- they focus on only those who are
- they focus on ~~protection homes~~ old age homes instead of the old
- focus is limited to providing basic services only
- Those facing discrimination within households, the poor & destitute etc. are ignored.

There is a need to broaden the scope of these schemes to ensure they reach the needy.

6. Welfare policies in India have undergone a paradigm shift in recent decades, yet they retain certain elements of continuity. Discuss with examples. (150 WORDS) 10

India is a socialist democracy as per the preamble of our constitution. We have promised welfare to our people. Welfare policies have changed over time :-

CHANGES OVER TIME

- ① Instead of focusing on basic transfer the aim now is to build capabilities
- ② Shifted away from physical transfer of goods to transferring of funds as seen in the PDS scheme
- ③ Targeting has improved as seen in evolution of PDS from ration scheme to National Food Security Act's TDS
- ④ Use of technology has increased eg. digitisation of MNAFCA records
- ⑤ Focus has been given to the poorest amongst the poor and other vulnerable minorities

SIMILARITIES

- ① The priority still is to provide basic needs of people
eg. Food security → PDS
sanitation → Swachh Bharat
Abhyas etc -
- ② The structure of delivery of welfare services is still the same
- ③ There is non discrimination and an element of progressivity

Our welfare policies have helped ~~not~~ reduce poverty
Yet there is a long way to go.

7. Discuss whether changes recommended by the Law Commission in its 268th report can help in addressing the problems of undertrials languishing in jails in India. What other measures can be taken in this regard? (150 WORDS)

10

As per National Crime Records Bureau 66% of prisoners are undertrials. LCI's 268th report recommended following ~~challenges~~ — changes —

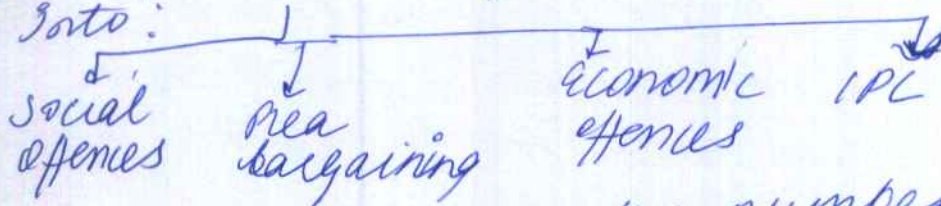
- ① Use of Article 436 of Indian Penal Code to release those who have served stipulated time in non serious cases.
- ② Encourage use of open prisons
- ③ Encourage plea bargaining

This will help address the issue. Other measures are also needed:

- ① Increase capacity of prisons which are operating at 114% capacity right now
- ② Reform the Criminal Justice Delivery system as envisaged under Madhav Menon's draft

Criminal Justice Committee

③ Reform CrPC by dividing laws into:



This will reduce the number of undertrials

④ Simplifying bail laws.

⑤ Reforms in the judiciary are also needed. There are 3 crore pendencies at the lower levels alone. If cases move fast, so will undertrials.

Thus in addition to the 268th ~~commission~~ report by LCJ we need the above as well to address the issues faced by undertrials.

8. While various government initiatives and policies have created opportunities in the affordable housing segment, there are challenges that still persist. Discuss. (150 WORDS) 10

Housing is one of the basic needs and a human right. Government has ~~also~~ had various schemes for the same:

└ Indira Awas Yojana → urban
 └ Housing for All → rural
 └ ~~Affordable Housing~~ Pradhan
 mantri Awas Yojana -

ACHIEVEMENTS

- ① Innovative financing mechanisms like credit linked subsidy
- ② Housing made available to economically weak segment and low income groups -
- ③ Encouraging participation of private sector
- ④ Using labor from other schemes to reduce cost of construction.

Despite the above opportunities, challenges exist.

- ① Land acquisition is a problem
- ② Houses constructed are at times far away from urban centers
- ③ Quality of materials used for construction is poor
- ④ Individuals are being becoming molested in home loans
- ⑤ Homes are being transferred after construction.

If the aim of constructing 2 crore houses by 2022 ~~all to~~ is to be achieved the above must be addressed.

9. Demographic dividend may become demographic liability in the absence of adequate skill development. In this context, discuss the importance of National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 2015. (150 WORDS) 10

In India 65% population is below 35 years of age. We are staring at a demographic dividend which if utilised properly can be panacea. National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015 aims to do that.

IMPORTANCE:

- As per NSSO report in India only 5% ~~are~~ (approximately) individuals are formally skilled.
- This low level of skilling makes them unemployable.
- The policy aims to create a skilled workforce by focusing on:
 - private sector participation
 - vocational courses
 - Apprenticeship programs.

- By skilling we will develop a well endowed workforce this will also reduce unemployment.

Skill India Mission has been ~~was~~ launched to realise this policy. Recommendations of Shanta Prasad committee must be applied to ensure the Policy is a success. ~~and~~ ~~and~~ this will help realise the demographic dividend.

10. Highlight the need for whistleblower protection in India. Critically analyze whether the Whistleblower Protection Act provides sufficient protection to the whistleblowers. (150 WORDS) 10

Whistleblower is someone who ~~report~~^{alerts} the authorities about any wrongdoing in their organisation.

NEED FOR PROTECTION

- ① Threat to life - This has been seen in various cases like Shannugam Marupath
- ② Pressure to change - If they are not protected the wrongdoer might force them to withdraw the case.
- ③ Will encourage whistleblowing.
~~With~~ If protection is afforded more people will come forward.

To provide legal protection to them the Whistleblower Protection Act 2014 was enacted.

Positive features

- ① Name of whistleblower is to be protected
- ② Their information is enough to start proceedings

Concerns

- ① No physical protection is provided
 - ② Anonymous complaints can not be registered
 - ③ Too many exemptions
 - ④ Rules haven't been notified. Thus while it is an enabling law, it suffers from loophole. This law must be strengthened and not weakened as will happen if recent amendment ~~for~~ is passed.
- ~~debilitate~~

11. What are the factors which have been responsible for slow pace of growth of coverage under the Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP). Enumerate the recent steps taken by the government in order to increase this pace to achieve universal coverage swiftly. (250 WORDS) 15

India launched the universal immunisation program in 1985. Despite this the immunisation amongst children was at 65% in 2014.

REASONS FOR SLOW PACE :

1. No mission mode approach to immunisation
2. Focus on individual diseases like polio instead of an integrated approach
3. Lack of awareness about immunisation or the National Immunisation schedule
4. Lack of funds. India spends only 1.5% of GDP on health, much lower than needed.
5. Non availability of medical staff in rural regions. 70% of doctors are serving in urban areas. Similarly, nursing staff is also unavailable.

Recent steps taken

① Indradhanush Mission

This scheme started in 2014 aims to raise immunisation levels to 90% by 2019. This is being done via a mission mode approach, focussing on areas with ~~more~~ low immunisation levels -

② New diseases

New diseases like Japanese encephalitis, ~~as~~ Pertussis etc. have been added. This takes the number of diseases covered to more than 11.

③ National Rural Health Mission

launched in 2011 this scheme lays emphasis on an integrated approach to health. It has a specific component for communicable diseases.

④ Indigenous vaccines

We have developed indigenous vaccines for various diseases like Rotavirus for Diarrhoea. This has made availability of vaccines easy.

Way forward

To make VIP successful we must improve supply side by making procurement of vaccines easy. On the demand side emphasis must be on awareness generation. The tenets of New National Health Policy 2017 must be adopted which requires government to focus on primary healthcare.

12. Highlight the ways in which digital divide perpetuates and manifests itself in India. Discuss the importance of steps taken by the government to bridge this divide. (250 WORDS)

15

As per World Development Report 2016 on digital governance, India has the second largest number of population with access to Internet. It also has the largest offline population. This digital divide perpetuates in many ways -

- ① Financial exclusion -
more with access to bank accounts and mobile phones can avail credit and other financial services while others can't.
- ② Economic opportunities -
Internet and digitalisation provide important economic opportunities not available otherwise.
- ③ Social and cultural divide -
Digital divide has become a cultural divide in many ways, creating two Indians with diverse aspirations.

④ Access to government services

At times various subsidies ~~are~~ like direct benefit transfers are not available to those not digitally connected.

Steps taken by government

① National optic fibre Network

Bharat Net or NOFN is being laid to make internet available in remotest parts of the country. Phase I of connecting 1.5 lakh Gram Panchayats is over.

② National e-governance Plan

This aims to make government services available in the remotest corners of the country.

③ Digital India Mission

Focusing on government services, Internet availability etc, it aims to bridge the digital divide.

④ Digital Literacy Mission —
Aims to make 6 crore ^{rural} households
digitally literate by 2019.
This will help bridge gap

⑤ Vidya Shiksha Abhiyan
In addition to financial literacy
it aims to develop digital literacy.

IMPORTANCE

The same World Bank Report
stated the need to develop
analogous components:

supporting infrastructure enabling policies digital literacy

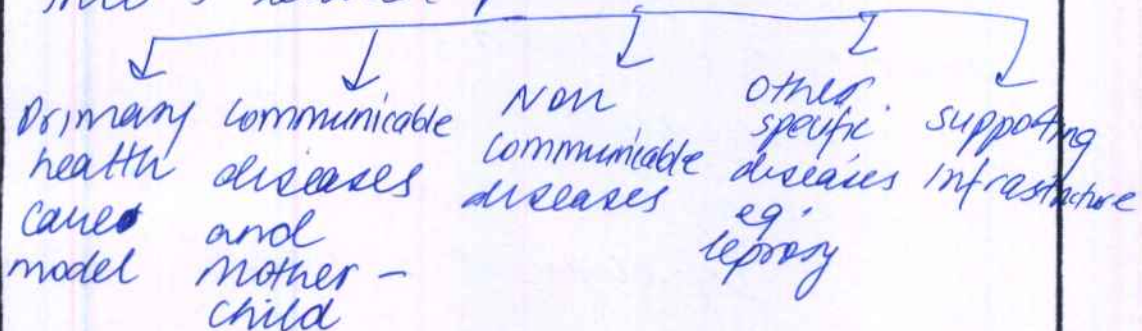
Thus above schemes by doing
this are bridging the divide.

WAY FORWARD

Recommendations of Deepak
Mohanty Committee on
digital inclusion as well
must be followed as well to
make the digital revolution
a people's revolution.

13. What are the objectives of National Health Mission? Why, in your opinion, non-communicable diseases have acquired salience in recent times? What are its implications for health policy in the country? (250 WORDS) 15

National Health Mission was launched in 2011 by restructuring existing schemes into 5 broad pillars:



OBJECTIVES:

1. making healthcare accessible to all
2. strengthening primary health care centres etc.
3. Reducing maternal and neo natal mortality
4. providing basic healthcare services
5. strengthening delivery of tertiary healthcare wrt diseases like cancer, Cardio vascular diseases etc.

NON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCD)

As reported by National Family Health Survey 2015-16, more people die due to NCD's in India than communicable diseases.

As the prevalence of NCD's is increasing in India, as seen in rise in lifestyle diseases, they become important. As a result they have acquired salience.

IMPLICATION FOR HEALTH POLICY① Funding :

Currently less than 2% of total budget is spent on NCDs. However as they increase we must increase our expenditure on NCDs.

② Tertiary healthcare

In addition to strengthening primary health care centres we must develop our tertiary services.

like specialty hospitals.

③ Diagnostic capabilities
capability to diagnose NCDs
must be developed indigenously,
in an affordable manner

④ Awareness
emphasis should be placed on
creating awareness about
NCDs like diabetes etc. Lifestyle
changes can go a long way in
addressing them.

WAY FORWARD :

As per the Universal Healthcare
pledge at in Alma Ata
declaration of World Health
Organisation we must focus
on all aspects of health.
Thus not only should NCD's
be addressed, we must work
to reduce their numbers for
a healthy India.

14. Over the years, there has been a growing realisation that undue interference from the State, lack of autonomy and widespread politicisation has severely impaired the functioning of Cooperative sector and there is a need to introduce urgent reforms in the Cooperative sector.
Discuss. (250 WORDS)

15

The 97th Constitutional Amendment Act 2011 has made cooperatives constitutional bodies. These cooperatives face multiple issues:

- ① Interference from states
- In appointment to board of directors
 - when holding elections
 - directly by sending their representative to the boards
 - etc.

- ② Lack of autonomy
- cooperatives in various sectors are regulated. eg. Rural Cooperative Banks follow NABARD rules to get access to funding.
 - State interference → reduces autonomy
 - ~~the~~ cooperatives have various stakeholders and owners, leading to dilution in autonomy.

③ Politicisation

→ Due to elections and state interference there has been increased politicisation.

④ Others

- irregular meeting schedules
- non availability of audited financial accounts
- high level of indebtedness

As a result urgent reforms are needed —

1. state legislatures should form laws pertaining to elections in cooperatives, to depoliticise the process.

2. there is a need for banks and regulator to take a hair cut to reduce indebtedness. They should be paid attention to in the NPA resolution process.

3. Audit of financial accounts of cooperatives should be done by a third party, in independent manner.

4. Government should refrain from appointing bureaucrats or politicians to boards of states cooperatives.
5. Presence of experts ~~also~~ on the boards should be encouraged.

Way forward

The Urban Cooperative Banks sector and dairy cooperatives have been immensely successful in India. Lessons should be learnt from these. It is important to revive the cooperative movement as envisioned by Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1954 to encourage participatory development.

15. With the current system of health financing in India being largely out-of-pocket payments, examine the need for reforms in healthcare finance. Also discuss the issues associated with reinforcing insurance as the long-term strategy for health financing in this regard. (250 WORDS) 15

As per National Family Health Survey-4, 69% of expenditure on healthcare is out of pocket [OOP] expenditure. Only 11% have health care insurance in rural area as well. There is a need for urgent reforms in healthcare as a result of -

1. high OOP expenditure
2. low level of insurance
3. low level of government expenditure on healthcare at 1.5% of GDP
4. lack of private sector participation in healthcare. Our overall expenditure on healthcare at 4% of GDP is also low.
5. poor performance of insurance promoting schemes like Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana.

POTENTIAL REFORMS:

- ① encourage private sector participation in health financing
- ② Increase government share to 2.5% of GDP by 2020, as mentioned in National Health Policy 2017
- ③ Innovative financing structures as seen in countries like Thailand where government ~~refunds~~ ~~procedures~~ at all hospitals etc.

ISSUES WITH INSURANCE

- ① high premiums make it less attractive for the poor
- ② while insurance companies diversify their risks they tend to leave out patients with severe diseases
- ③ Insurance claims are often discarded due to minute details, hampering the individual

- ④ In cases of state sponsored insurance it creates a fiscal burden for government. There is also delay in disbursement of funds at times.
- ⑤ Various insurance policies at times cover only limited diseases and are not universal in nature.

WAY FORWARD

Government's Ayushman Bharat scheme which has a National Health Protection Schemes aims to revamp healthcare finance in India. ~~It is~~ NITI Aayog has developed various models for the same. It will go a long way in providing universal healthcare.

16. Explain the significance of the recently launched National Nutritional Strategy in the light of sliding ranking of India along the Global Hunger Index. Also, discuss with examples, the role that local self governments can play in promoting, monitoring and sustaining nutrition initiatives. (250 WORDS)

15

NITI Aayog has recently launched the National Nutrition strategy. It supplements the National Nutrition Mission 2017.

significance :

- ① India's rank on the Global Health Index has decreased :

	2017	2018
Rank	97/118	100/118

- ② As National Family Health Survey - 4 :

28% - underweight
38% stunted

- ③ India suffers from the problem of over nutrition as well

- ④ We also suffer from hidden hunger as for example :

women don't get enough supplements
monocropping has reduced consumption of micronutrients

National Nutritional Strategy :

- Focus on diversifying food classes consumed
- enhancing access to basic rations
- focus on both quantity consumed (calorie norm) and quality of food consumed
- Customised solutions for children, women etc -

Role of local self governments :

- ① can create awareness about consumption right types of food.
- ② can assist in implementation of schemes like mid day meal scheme or PDS
- ③ can work with government representatives like Anganwadi workers who give rations to children
- ④ can identify pregnant / lactating mothers / new born etc who are in need

of additional nutritional requirements

- ⑤ can help sustain nutrition initiatives by helping monitor and track nutrition outcomes of the ~~most~~ citizens.
- ⑥ can help customise policies to suit local needs

way forward

local self government should be made key stakeholder in nutrition related schemes.

India by enacting National Food Security Act 2013 has recognised the right to food. It is time to implement National Nutrition strategy, to deliver on it.

17. The bureaucracy in India is facing a number of serious challenges from diminishing human capital to political interference that, if left unaddressed, will lead to further institutional decline. Discuss. How can these challenges be addressed? (250 WORDS) 15

Bureaucracy in India constitutes the permanent executive the aim of which is to work for a better India. ~~Yet~~ it faces key challenges:

① Lack of human resources

- The sanctioned strength is never utilised and there are various vacancies in bureaucratic services
- lack of experts
- improper human resource management

② Political interference:

- In postings, transfers etc. making bureaucrats dependent on political masters
- in policy making and implementation

③ Red tape and corruption:

- stifles honest officers
- delays in work
-

④ Threat of prosecution

- fear of being scapegoated
 - fear of 3Cs - CBI, CVC, CAG.
- This prevents action and promotes inaction.

All this needs ~~urgently~~
to be urgently addressed to
prevent institutional decline
as bureaucrats form the steel
frame of the country..

REFORMS:① Recruitment:

As envisaged in Nola committee
and Sudendra Nath committee
there is a need to reform the
recruitment process

② Training

should encourage ethical
training along with leadership

③ Political interference

must constitute the Civil Services
Board as mentioned in the
2nd Administrative Reforms
Commission (ARC) report. It will

delink the posting, transfer and promotion process from politicians

④ As corruption:

→ Prevention of Corruption Amendment Bill 2013's provisions that support honest officers must be enacted

→ Requirement of prior sanction to prosecute officials must be removed.

→ Article 311 and 309 of the constitution both should be repealed as recommended by 2nd ARC.

⑤ Specialisation

→ Inner expertise should be developed as per Nita Committee report.

Way forward:

Max Weber's bureaucracy on which our bureaucracy is based requires impartial, neutral, bureaucrats and encourages merit. The above must be done to ensure the same and prevent institutional decline.

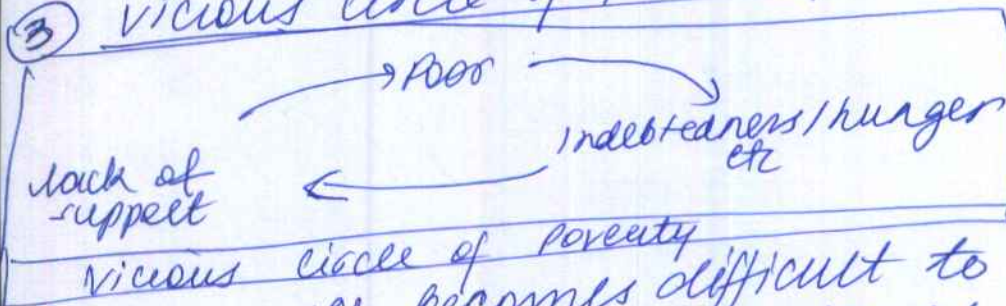
18. While many people have been able to rise above poverty line, India is still home to the largest number of poor. Discuss briefly the underlying factors responsible for the prevalence of poverty in India. What are the areas in which focussed efforts need to be made in order to accelerate poverty eradication in a sustainable manner? (250 WORDS)

15

India has been able to decrease poverty from 42% in 1991 to 21.9% in 2011. Yet we have the largest number of poor.

REASONS - FACTORS:

- ① Poor human capital development -
As seen in low level of outcomes in health and education.
- ② High level of inequality
The top 1% in India possess 52% of the wealth. This leads to perpetuation of poverty.
- ③ Vicious circle of poverty



It becomes difficult to raise oneself out of poverty as it is multidimensional and omnipresent.

- ④ Poor welfare system
various reports suggest leakages of upto 50% in our welfare delivery system. Corruption means this inefficiency.
- ⑤ Lack of opportunities
Due to poor human capital development, the poor face lack of work opportunities as well.

AREAS TO FOCUS ON

- ① Education:
will lead to capabilities development and empowers the poor.
- ② Health:
will ensure good quality of life and prevent economic losses on account of health.
- ③ Economic transfers
4.5% of our GDP is spent on key subsidies. There is a need to streamline the process.
- ↓
- reduce leakage improve targeting
- ④ Skilling - to generate better human resources

- ⑤ labor intensive job creation
 To encourage employment
 eg. Cottage industries.
- ⑥ Technology
 Need to use technology to
 improve lives of poor,
 eg. digitisation of government
 subsidies for poor
- ⑦ sanitation
 to prevent diseases
- ⑧ Basic services
 electricity, water, cooking gas
 etc.

way forward
 with launch of the Antyodaya
 mission India will soon be
 poverty free as envisaged in
 Sustainable Development
 Goals 2030. More sectors
 should be focused on for that.

19. In context of the need to strengthen corporate governance, the Kotak panel report has called for a major overhaul in norms for listed companies. Critically discuss the impediments to corporate governance in India and evaluate how the recommendations can help in overcoming them. (250 WORDS) 15

Corporate governance refers to the processes, systems, policies and other checks and balances in place to govern corporate bodies.

IMPEDIMENTS

Corporate governance issues arise as there are various stakeholders involved:



This leads to a principle agent problem which manifests in many ways -

- ① when chairman of Board and managing Director (MD) of company are same, a conflict of interest arises leading to improper vigilance on actions of corporate.
- ② Boards are unaware of day to day functioning of company and at times lack expertise too.

- ③ Minority shareholders are denied their right to partake in decision making
 - ④ shareholders are unable to attend General Body meetings ~~leading to~~
 - ⑤ nepotism prevails in appointments made on boards, rendering them ineffective (eg. independent directors)
- Due to these various cases like Satyam scam, recent Tata board tussle etc happen. Kotak committee recommendations will address these issues -

⑥ RECOMMENDATIONS

- ① Board to have 1 female independent director
- ② Boards with CMD to have 50% independent directors
- ③ ~~com~~ Top 500 companies by market capitalisation to televiser their GBMs -
- ④ These companies also need to have transparency rules in place

- ⑤ Approval from 75% shareholders needed for key decisions like hiring directors of more than 60 years age.
- ⑥ Risk committee to be empowered
- ⑦ Separation of post of chairman and MD
- ⑧ strengthening audit practices.

Conclusion

The Government has accepted Kotak committees 40 out of 80 recommendations. They will succeed in improving corporate governance if accompanied by practice of compassionate capitalism as envisaged by Narayan Murthy. Amendment to Companies Act 2013 is also needed.

20. Several issues related to adopting new technologies, transforming processes and improving implementation of NeGP need to be addressed. Discuss. Also, enumerate the sets of principles guiding the design and implementation of the e-Kranti Program (NeGP 2.0). (250 WORDS) 15

National e Governance
Program is aimed at
revolutionising public service
delivery in India. It has
3) Mission Mode Projects that
target various projects.

ISSUES

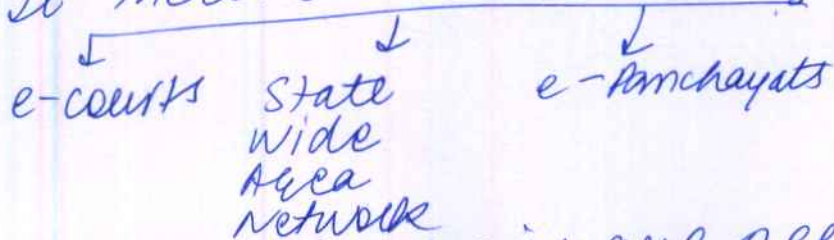
- ① Digital Illiteracy
Only 300 million in India are
online. The biggest impediment
is making citizens digitally
literate.
- ② Lack of access to internet
we have the largest offline
population in India.
- ③ Old practices die hard
NeGP envisages revolutionising
the way work is done in
various areas. People resist
such radical changes. It

④ Lack of human resources

The level of skilled employees needed to implement this are non available.

⑤ Processes :

It includes diverse projects like :



Different strategies are needed to revamp these.

E-Kranti 2 has been ~~not~~ introduced to address above challenges. It has adopted following principles of design to succeed -

- ① User friendly interface to
- ② to make it easy for user to operate
- ② Use of vernacular languages to reach remote areas
- ③ Open to modification as required etc.

This NEGP 2.0 is a key part of the 9 pillars of Digital India Mission. They must be all work together to ~~do~~ bring the digital revolution to India.