



VISION IAS

www.visionias.in

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1050)

Name of Candidate	SIDDHARTH SINGH DANGAL		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG.	Registration Number	22835
Center	ORN.	Date	

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
- There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- 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.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

M-1/4, Plot No-A-12/13, 1st Floor, Ansal Building, Dr. Vidya Sagar Homoeopathic Clinic, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

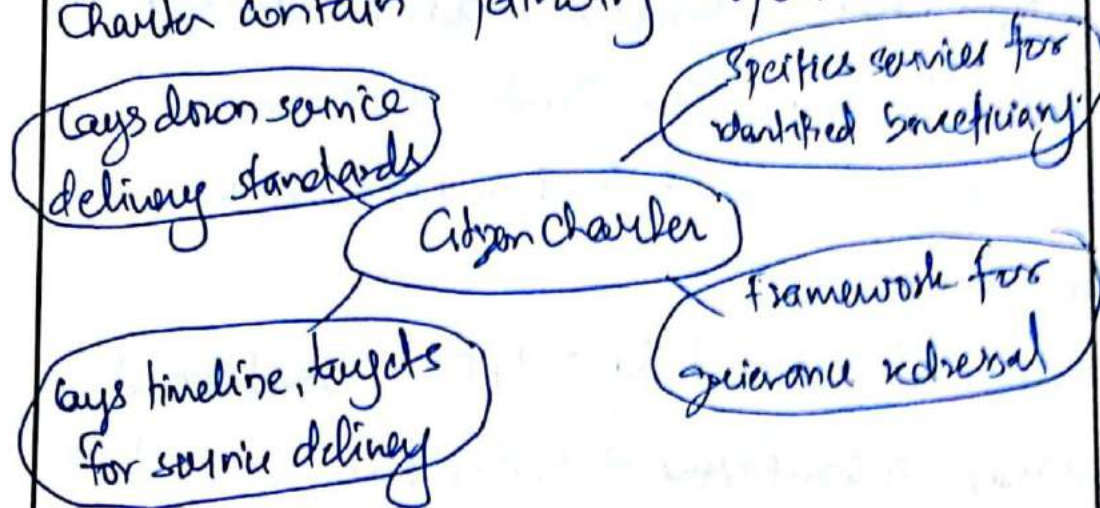
6.

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

नागरिक घोषणापत्र (सिटीजन चार्टर) प्रशासन को जवाबदेह और नागरिक-अनुकूल दोनों बनाने हैं। हालाँकि, समय के साथ, ज्यादातर कार्यालयों में नागरिक घोषणापत्र अप्रचलित हो गए हैं। कुछ ऐसे उपाय सुझाएँ जो इन घोषणापत्रों को, लोक सेवाओं में जवाबदेही लाने का प्रभावी उपकरण बना सकते हैं। (150 शब्द)

Citizens charters are document which bring quality, punctuality and accountability to government services. This is since Citizen Charter contain following aspects.



Here Citizen Charter make administration citizen friendly by clearly laying down standards and timelines and accountable by providing grievance mechanism. But over time they have fallen into disuse as shown by.

Recent survey that shows only 3 out of 23 surveyed cities in India has working citizen charter. This is due to lack of awareness among people, negligent attitude of administration.

Measures:

- A central body to check implementation of Citizen Charter at state level can be constituted
- Citizens Charter should be made mandatory
- Implementation of Citizen Charter can be made part of performance based funds under Finance Commission

Commission:

- The model suggested by 2nd ARC - formulation → Identification of beneficiary → Implementation → Independent assessment → Improvement can be utilised.
- Implementation of Citizen Charter made part of Civil Servants Annual Confidential Report.

Above measures will help bring greater urgency in citizen charter implementation.

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

पूर्व-विधायी जांच में नागरिक समाज को सम्मिलित करने के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए और इसमें जन भागीदारी बढ़ाने हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाए जा सकने वाले कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

Civil society refers to bodies, institutions, individuals, association that work for the betterment of society. ex. NGOs, STCs.

They play an important role in pre-legislative scrutiny in following manner:

(i) While legislative scrutiny is done by committee like PAC after the work has been done, civil society can scrutinise while the work is going on.

(ii) Civil society due to ground level presence understands the local needs better.

(iii) By involving people in the process, not only does civil society bring greater social

audit but make people part of governance.
(iii) Can provide scrutiny independent of government machinery and point to loopholes in implementation.

Steps:

- (i) Online directory of accredited civil society groups so people can trust on their veracity.
- (ii) Increasing awareness among people to involve in civil society works.
- (iii) Regular meetings like Jan Samvaad in which both civil society and people to be invited to participate together.
- (iv) Citizen charter for effective standards for people to evaluate work on.

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

तृतीयक शिक्षा के निम्न-श्रेणी के मानक भारत की प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता में अवरोधक हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। साथ ही भारत में उच्च शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता में सुधार लाने के लिए पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान सरकार द्वारा की गई पहलों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

Tertiary education refers to higher secondary school education, vocational education, college education and higher education.

Despite rising enrollment in tertiary education reaching upto 22%. poor standards limit its impact and drag India's competitiveness.

This can be seen from following points :-

(i) As shown by industry survey, small percentage of Indian graduates are industry ready which needs to re-investment on their skilling.

(ii) Lack of innovation aspect in education reduces R & D output in industry.

(iii) Syllabus is not updated according to the changing needs of the time.

(iv) Proper time bound separation of students for college education and vocationalization is not done.

(v) Has limited India's manufacturing growth with respect to China and other east Asian countries despite cheap labour.

Initiatives:

(i) For education financing: Higher Education Financing Agency constituted to improve funds to institutes.

(ii) Institutes of Eminence identified to provide them greater independence, funding.

(iii) MHRD is conducting regular NIRF rankings to rank institutes according to their needs.

(iv) Online course portal like SOAAYAM, MOOC to provide quality lectures from top institutes free of cost.

(v) Initiatives like VAKRA, National Knowledge Network to improve research collaboration and output.

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

सामाजिक क्षेत्र के कार्यक्रमों के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में सामाजिक लेखा परीक्षण की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। डिम्पली कीजिए। साथ ही, इसके मजबूत पक्षों और सीमाओं पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

Social audit refers to when the local beneficiaries of work being undertaken themselves monitor and scrutinise its implementation.

Role's

- (i) Brings better ground level scrutiny over the work being conducted.
- (ii) Involves people in administrative work bringing them closer to government.
- (iii) Brings sense of responsibility of the people towards community asset highlight.
- (iv) Feedback can be utilised to make the programme tailor made to the situation.
- (v) Brings greater accountability towards government machinery.

Strength	Weakness
- Local needs and aspirations can be self expressed - Helps reduce dependence on external auditors - Keeps administration in touch with local needs.	- Scrubbing by amateurs amateurs. - Is prone to influence by local leaders for vested purpose. - There is lack of awareness regarding social audit among people. - Prone to local regressive practices like caste divide etc.

Have promoting social audit in all government work is required. Recently Kyrdaye became first state in the country to institutionalise social audit.

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)

(11)

10

भारत में वृद्धजनों के लिए प्रमुख कल्याणकारी योजनाएँ कौन-सी हैं? क्या आप मानते हैं कि इस प्रकार की योजनाओं का लाभ लक्षित हिस्से के एक बृहत् भाग तक पहुँच रहा है? कारण बताइए।
(150 शब्द)

Elderly presently constitute 8% of population and their numbers is expected to rise in coming years with India's further demographic progression.

To ensure quality life, following welfare programmes are run:

(i) Financial security: Programs like Rashtriya Pension Bima Scheme, PM Jeevan Jyoti Bima, for financial security of elderly.

(ii) Health: National Program for health care of the elderly, Vayamandan Yojana for assisted living implants for elderly.

(iii) Under Maintenance and welfare of Parents Act, children are mandated to give a living

sum to their parents.

(IV) Amulhar Portal to involve retired people in organisation and learn from their experience.

Reach of scheme and reason:

- (i) The reach of scheme is limited specially in rural areas due to lack of awareness, lack of support to enroll in these.
- (ii) Initiatives like Welfare are not availed by parents since they do not want to burden children against their will.
- (iii) Growing enrollment in financial security schemes is being seen but it is still a very small fraction due to lack of investible surplus with most people.

Have greater awareness, increased convenience in enrollment, increased government assistance are actions required in this regard.

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

(ii)

हाल के दशकों में भारत में कल्याणकारी नीतियों में मूलभूत बदलाव (पैराडाइम शिफ्ट) आए हैं, फिर भी उनमें निरंतरता के कुछ तत्व बने हुए हैं। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

welfare policies refer to government policies for meeting the development needs of the population.

welfare policies have gone through paradigm change in recent decades:

- (i) Greater involvement of private sector as seen from health insurance under Ayushman Bharat, Education etc.
- (ii) Improved use of technology, to increase efficiency, reach. ex. JAM trinity.
- (iii) Rights based efforts in education (RTE), work (MANREGA).
- (iv) Greater transparency in welfare policies by IT MIS in MANREGA.

(1) Implementation under local bodies like Panchayats for beneficiary identification, implementation utilising fruits of 73rd and 74th amendment.

Element of Continuity :

- The services are still government heavy with bureaucracy playing a very heavy role
- District agencies like DM and parastatal agencies still hold a big role in policies and implementation and planning at local level reflected.
- The main focus of welfare are still children, women and elderly.
- Learnings from past failed projects included in new projects ex. learnings from national Sanitation Mission in Swachha Bharat.
- Basic principles of constitution like secularism, regional balance are intact in policies for welfare.

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

चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या अपनी 268वें रिपोर्ट में बिधि आयोग द्वारा अनुशंसित परिवर्तन, भारत में कारागारों में सजा काट रहे बिचाराधीन कैदियों की समस्याओं को दूर करने में सहायता कर सकते हैं। इस सन्दर्भ में अपनाए जा सकने वाले अन्य उपाय कौन-से हैं? (150 शब्द)

The NCRB data and Jail commission point that 67% of people in jails presently are undertrials. Not only do these lead to overloading of jails (14% at present) but is also a violation of right to speedy justice under article 21 of constitution.

In this regard Law Commission recommendations can help in following manner:

- Releasing undertrials for offences under 7 years punishment if they have served half of potential punishment will reduce burden while adequately compensating caused for delay in system.

- Moral plea bargaining so that undertrials do not languish in jail
- Strengthen NSA and state and district legal authorities to provide free and competent legal advice to needy.

Other reforms:

- Redundancy in judiciary through filling up vacancies, improved quality of lower judiciary.
- Reforming criminal justice system to remove jail for minor incidents.
- Concept of Open jail which require less maintenance and provide space for ~~for~~ undertrial's development needs.
- Sensitising police as large number of undertrials are from minority community or backward class.

These above steps will help counter issues of undertrials in India.

8. While various government initiatives and policies have created opportunities in the affordable housing segment, there are challenges that still persist. Discuss. (150 WORDS) (11) 10

वद्यपि विभिन्न सरकारी पहलों और नीतियों ने वसनीय आवास के क्षेत्र में अवसरों का सृजन किया है, लेकिन कुछ ऐसी चुनौतियाँ हैं जो अभी भी बनी हुई हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

Government effort like India Awas Yojana, Housing for All, Rent Control Acts have helped to great extent in providing housing ~~some~~ needs of people.

But following challenges still exist:

(i) Almost 20 million housing needs are still unmet in the urban area alone.

(ii) Improper location of affordable houses allocated which are far from work-force people to rent these and move back to slums.

(iii) Various corruption cases like Adarsh scam.

- (iv) Rent Control Act has led to many
houseowners - taking back their house
from rent market or rent illegally.
(v) Poor quality of housing provided.

Since further reforms like
misdevelopment of sums to avoid
segregation, beneficiary led development,
increasing rent ceiling, private sector
involvement, Real estate bill to regulate
quality are need for further success
in this sector.

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)

समुचित कौशल विकास के अभाव में जनसांख्यिकीय बाधा, जनसांख्यिकीय दायित्व बन सकता है। इस संदर्भ में, राष्ट्रीय कौशल विकास एवं उद्यमिता नीति, 2015 के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द)

Demographic dividend refers to when a country has large working population compared to non working dependent population.

With 65% population under 35 years, India is witnessing one such period of demographic dividend.

But in absence of skill development it will lead to demographic nightmare since it will lead to low productivity, low productivity will lead to reduced competitiveness leading to reduced job growth which will lead to high dependent working population, further informalisation of jobs, rise in urban etc.

Importance National Policy on Skill Development 2015

- (i) Encourages skill development through initiatives like PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana.
- (ii) Promotes industry led initiatives like National Apprentice Promotion Scheme through adequate government support.
- (iii) Conformity to skill development standards.
- (iv) Support skill development initiatives through age appropriate and experience appropriate skilling and acceptance of prior learning.
- (v) Placement oriented skilling.
- (vi) Setting up sector skill councils.

Hence the policy indicates a major step towards skilling initiatives in the country.

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

भारत में व्हिसलब्लोअर सुरक्षा की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालिए। आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए कि क्या व्हिसलब्लोअर सुरक्षा कानून व्हिसलब्लोअर को पर्याप्त सुरक्षा उपलब्ध कराता है। (150 शब्द)

A whistleblower is a person who points to rule violations, standards violation and illegal practices in one's own working organisation.

Need :

- Helps promote good corporate practices by providing for provision for pointing out wrong practices without backlash against whistleblowers.
- Whistleblowers have been mistreated, suspended from jobs in the past and some like Mangunath even family death.
- It is needed so that cases like Satyam

Scam are pointed out before they turn too big in consequences.

Whistle Blower Protection Act

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
- Defines whistleblower in a wide term including both private and public body workers - Provides for protection of identity. - Safeguards against backlash from organisations are provided.	- The act has yet to be notified till date - For public officials recent amendment excludes information not available under RTI which defeats purpose of whistleblower protection to government

Hence notifying the act urgently and removing the recent amendments to give wider protection to whistleblower under act is required.

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

सार्वभौमिक प्रतिरक्षण कार्यक्रम (UIP) के अंतर्गत कवरेज में वृद्धि की सीमा दर के लिए कीज-से कार्यक उपलब्धता रहे हैं? सार्वभौमिक कवरेज को औद्योगिकीय राज्य करने की इस मति में वृद्धि करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए हाथिया कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

India is one of most affected countries by communicable diseases like tuberculosis, diphtheria etc. To counter this, the Universal Immunisation Program was launched in 1985 to achieve universal immunisation.

But various factors have impeded its growth:

i) Lack of specific time bound targets and schedule brings laxity in implementation.

(ii) Lack of awareness among the people about immunisation.

iii) Some of the remote and backward districts with high disease ratio have seen low coverage.

iv) Disease specific interventions were not there

v) Case to case detection of area affected was not done.

vi) Vaccines (domestic) for some diseases like leprosy was not there.

Steps taken:

i) Nission Abadharush with specific objective for diseases like typhoid, measles and target for universal immunisation for children.

ii) vaccine regime like introducing Inactivated

Polio vaccine has been improved.

iii) Capability and infrastructure of
Anganwadis and Asha workers improved.

iv) Government has introduced timely
targets for diseases like 10:5 for TB
in most districts.

(v) Domestic vaccines like MIP for leprosy.

Thus, the immunisation program
in the country has renewed a push
through new steps. These steps will help
improve human health in country better.

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

उन तरीकों पर प्रकाश डालिए जिनके चलते भारत में डिजिटल अंतराल निरंतर बना हुआ है तथा स्पष्टतः दृष्टीगोचर होता है। इस अंतराल को पाटने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

Digital divide refers to differential ability of people to access, afford and avail digital based technologies and services.

With growing internet penetration. In India, digital divide is also increasing which can be seen from following:

Manifestation:

- Low computer literacy which is as low as 8% in rural areas.

Some remote places do not have the infrastructure and power for internet penetration. ex. villages of north east.

- Gender inequality: Economic Survey

points to how smartphone penetration among women is almost 50% from men.

- Digital access and literacies low among elderly who make up 9% of population.

Perpetuates

- The gender norms in the country lock at digital access polluting minds of women hence access to them is restricted.
- Absence of local language content limits people's ability to get digital access.
- Rural places, rural area still do not have universal power, hence digital connectivity not there.

E-Governance

- NEGP
- E-Fronts

Government Steps

Infrastructure

- Bharat Net
- Common Service Centre (CSC)
- SWAN

Digital library

- Disha scheme

Gender access

- Digital access part of schemes like MGN Kisan etc.
- Digital library to women handicrafts.

Importance:

- (i) The various initiatives like NFTV, Bharat Net, CSC are taking digital availability to every corner of the country.
- (ii) By including digital component in socio-economic schemes like audio-visual content in KSTKari, government is increasing female digital penetration.
- (iii) Schemes like DISHA scheme by HRD to improve digital literacy.
- (iv) Content is being translated into local language for better access.

Hence the various efforts are helping bridge the divide. But greater focus on quality internet access, regional divide needs to be put for better results.

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

(iii)
राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन के उद्देश्य क्या हैं? आपकी राय में, गैर-संचारी रोगों में हाल के दिनों में क्यों ध्यान आकृष्ट किया है? देश में स्वास्थ्य नीति के लिए इसके निहितार्थ क्या हैं? (250 शब्द)

The various objectives of National Health Mission are :-

- (i) Improved expenditure on health from present 1.2% of GDP to 2.5% of GDP.
- (ii) Reduced out-of-pocket expenditure by providing universal and free primary care, cost free essential medicines.
- (iii) Greater involvement of private sector to improve efficiency of measures.
- (iv) Focus on both non-communicable/lifestyle and communicable diseases.
- (v) Improved and quality medical service in rural areas.
- (vi) Improved standards of medical education in the country.

In recent times non-communicable diseases especially the cardiac diseases has overtaken communicable diseases as major issue in the country.

Reasons :

- (i) Sedentary office lifestyles which reduces time for physical activity.
- (ii) The issue of obesity right from childhood has increased to 11% among children.
- (iii) Unhealthy eating practices, contaminated and adulterated food affects the body adversely.
- (iv) The government attention has been towards countering communicable hence non-communicable have been ignored to great extent.

Implications :-

- (i) Greater health expenditure on diseases like heart attack etc. is required.
- (ii) The availability of specialist doctors in India is very low (6 surgeons for 100 thousand).
This will further increase burden on system.
- (iii) The health policy needs to provide greater attention to non-communicable diseases.
- (iv) Focus on awareness rather regarding physical exercise, healthy eating practices required.

More efforts to improve medical education, awareness and expenditure is the requirement for health policy of the time.

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

समय के साथ, यह अधिकाधिक अनुभव किया जा रहा है कि राज्य द्वारा अनुचित हस्तक्षेप, स्वायत्तता की कमी एवं व्यापक राजनीतिकरण ने सहकारी क्षेत्र के कार्यकरण को गंभीर रूप से विकृत किया है तथा सहकारी क्षेत्र में तत्काल सुधार लाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

The cooperatives in India were promoted after witnessing success of cooperative experiments like ANAND. To provide adequate norms, 97th constitutional amendment introduced right to form cooperatives in article 19 and norms for their independent functioning. But cooperatives have faced following issues:

(i) Interference from state: in the name of standards, norms, election procedure reduce the flexibility and space for cooperatives to work as commercial entities.

This has led to reduced productivity.

(ii) Lack of autonomy: In decision making, choosing their leaders, products marketing has constrained their capability.

(iii) Politicisation as cooperative elections have been postponed due to party politics entering it, posts being reserved for local party leaders, deprives cooperatives of true representation and proper leadership.

Same to reinvigorate cooperatives following reforms are required :-

- Auditing, standards and norms to be closely laid out to reduce continuous interference.

- Awareness regarding elections to be spread and cooperative elections to be made

responsibility of state Election Commission

(iii) Accountability of cooperatives should be to legislature rather than line state departments to reduce interference and politicisation.

(iv) Encouraging models like FPO as being done by NABARD to induce greater commercial and profit oriented outlook.

The above steps will help improve efficiency in working of cooperatives.

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

भारत में स्वास्थ्य वित्तपोषण की वर्तमान प्रणाली के अंतर्गत बड़े पैमाने पर आउट-ऑफ-पॉकेट भुगतान किए जाते हैं, ऐसे में स्वास्थ्य देखभाल वित्तपोषण में सुधार लाने की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए। इस संबंध में स्वास्थ्य वित्तपोषण के लिए दीर्घावधिक रणनीति के रूप में बीमा को सुदृढ़ करने से संबंधित मुद्दों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

According to India Medical Health Accounts survey, 30% of health expenditure in India is out-of-pocket with majority being on medicines. Also, in last 2 decades almost 50 million people have been pushed back into poverty due to health related expenditures. Hence reforms in health financing are needed.

Reforms:

- (i) The health financing in India needs to be increased on government side from 1.2% of GDP at present to 3.5% at least.
- (ii) Universal medical insurance penetration

is required specially for tertiary and secondary medical conditions.

(iii) With 60% of hospitals and 80% of doctors in urban area, greater investment in rural areas is required to counter this inequality.

(iv) Private-public project (PPP) to be taken up for better service delivery.

To counter the above stated trend, the government recently in Budget announced Ayushman scheme of 5 lakh annual insurance for 10 crore households.

Issues associated with insurance policy:

(i) Moral hazard for private doctors who overprescribe medicines and treatment for

the patients.

- (ii) Lack of inclusion for some beneficiary leading to inclusion error.
- (iii) The insurance schemes does not include outpatients which form a big chunk.
- (iv) The insurance companies do not cover some diseases and areas so the approach is not inclusive.
- (v) Raising money from insurance companies is difficult.

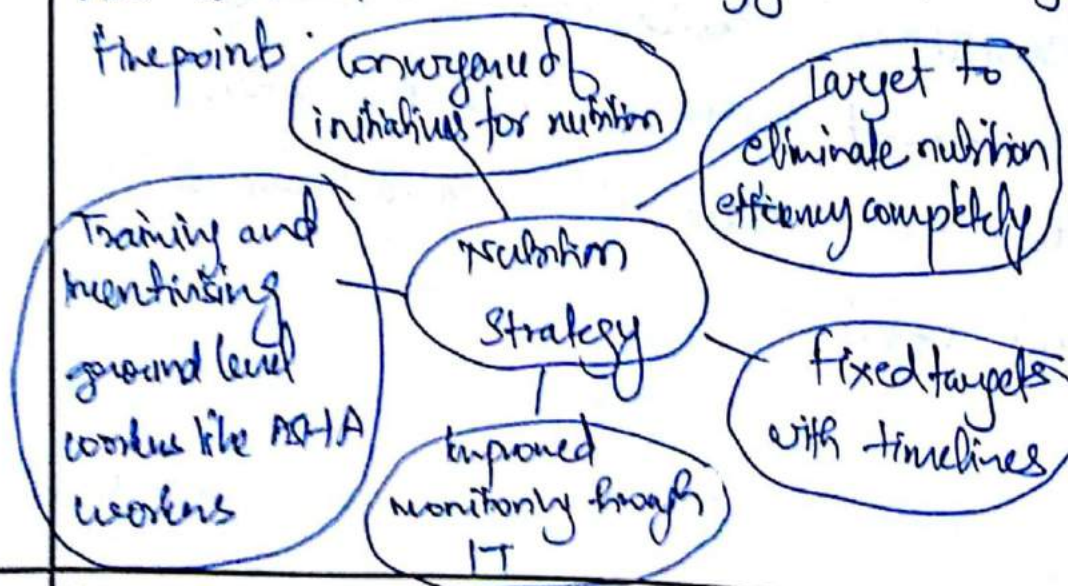
Hence, parallel to insurance, the government should work for building government healthcare facilities as only then the approach will be truly inclusive and effective.

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

ग्लोबल हंगर इंडेक्स में भारत की गिरती रैंकिंग के आलोक में हाल ही में आरंभ की गई राष्ट्रीय पोषण रणनीति के महत्व की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, पोषण से संबद्ध पहलों को बढ़ावा देने, उनकी निगरानी करने और उन्हें सतत बनाए रखने में स्थानीय स्व-शासन द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका पर उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

Recently India was ranked 100th out of 119 countries in the Global Hunger Index. This along with data from NFHS-4 which shows stunting, underweight, wasting levels at 38%, 38%, 21% points to poor nutrition status in the country.

NITI Aayog in this regard released the National Nutrition Strategy with following five points:



Significance of Nutrition Strategy :

- Focuses on fixed timebound targets which promote actions and bring accountability to efforts. These targets have been included in National Nutrition Mission (2017-2024)

- Convergence of various schemes like ~~ICDS~~ ICDS, Swachh Bharat will help reduce overlapping of efforts.

- Given the stellar role ASHA, Anganwadi workers perform, their capacity building is critical for success of program.

- Using IT, monitoring can be improved and disbursement of funds etc can be checked

local government being the
most local unit of governance can play
following role :

(i) Promoting: Gram Sabha meetings can be utilised to spread awareness regarding importance of nutrition initiatives. Also local level government can involve local NGOs, SHGs in this regard.

(ii) Monitoring: The local gram Sabha or Ward Committee can become tool for social audit of local initiatives

- They can monitor efforts better since ground level realities are known to them.

(iii) Sustaining: Channelising funds according to local needs, heeding to requirement of local medical workers can help improve achieve the results.

Thus local government can play a big role in nutrition implementation in country.

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) (iv) 15

भारत में नीकरशाही, ह्रासमान मानव पूंजी से लेकर राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप तक कई गंभीर चुनौतियों का सामना कर रही है, जिन्हें यदि अनसुलझा छोड़ दिया गया तो आगे और अधिक संस्थागत पतन होगा। चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों से कैसे निपटा जा सकता है? (250 शब्द)

The bureaucracy in India is the backbone of administration in India but it suffers from various issues. They are:

- Vacancy and shortage of officers: From shortage in Indian foreign Service to almost 50% shortage in IAS as pointed out by Dasgupta Committee
- Lack of specialisation: as pointed out by Hothe Committee, 2nd ARC
- Excessive political interference: in terms of control over postings, transfers etc.
- Short unstable working hours: which

makes taking any long term initiative difficult.

- Lack of accountability: as seniority based promotion encouraged lack of efforts from officers.

- Elitist nature: due to 'mai-baap' culture which increases distance of bureaucrats from people.

The above factors greatly reduce the output and performance of bureaucracy. Following reforms in this regard are needed.

(i) Increased number of intake of people into bureaucracy to reduce the shortage

(ii) Promote lateral entry, Short term

tenure of bureaucrats to private sector, mid-career training for improved specialisation as suggested by 2nd ARC.

(iii) As suggested by 5th Pay Commission, there should be a fixed minimum and maximum tenure with deviations for cogent administrative purpose only.

(iv) Institution of Civil Service Board to decide on posting and transfer of bureaucrats.

(v) 360° appraisal, 2nd level appraisal as suggested by ARC and deletion of article 311 should be undertaken.

(vi) Institution of San Samwai, field trips to reduce power distance.

The above steps will help reduce the institutional decline of bureaucracy.

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

जहाँ, कई लोग गरीबी रेखा से ऊपर आने में सफल रहे हैं, वहीं भारत में अभी भी सर्वाधिक संख्या में गरीब निवास करने हैं। भारत में गरीबी की व्यापकता के लिए उत्तरदायी अंतर्निहित कारकों पर संशोधन में चर्चा कीजिए। गरीबी उन्मूलन की गति को संघारणीय तरीके से तीव्र करने के लिए किन क्षेत्रों में ध्यान केंद्रित किए जाने की आवश्यकता है? (250 शब्द)

1044 22% of population under poverty line as per Tendulkar criteria. India in last 2 decades has reduced poverty by almost 15% points.

But 22% is still a large number with India being home to largest absolute number of poor in the world.

factors responsible:

(i) Huge population which leads to resources getting divided among large number of people.

- (ii) Overdependence on agriculture due to lack of growth of jobs in other sectors and agriculture has lagged behind in growth.
- (iii) Poor social services like education, health in public domain which reduce the efforts for developing human capital and expenditures like sudden health expenditure have pushed 5 crore back below poverty line in last 10 years.
- (iv) leakages, diversion in government Initiatives to counter poverty.
- (v) Large informal sector which provides little security or jobs or proper wages.
- (vi) Various natural or manmade disasters which cause destruction and greatly reduce the material wealth of society.

Areas to work :

- i) Population growth initiatives will help India limit the number of people in future.

Visit us : www.visionias.in

(i) Quality health and education along with targeting sanitation, nutrition to develop human capital. National Health Policy 2017, RTE, Sarva Shiksha Bharat are welcome steps in this regard.

(ii) Skill training to utilise 'demographic dividend'

(iv) Job creation through targeted schemes like MGNREGA.

(v) Docking farm income as a very welcome step to increase rural income where 67% population resides.

Hence containing poverty is very important to improve quality of life as World Bank itself said that 'Poverty acts as a Cognitive tax' on human life.

15. 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

कॉर्पोरेट गवर्नेंस को सुदृढ़ करने की आवश्यकता के संदर्भ में, कोटक पैनल के रिपोर्ट में सूचीबद्ध कंपनियों हेतु मानदंडों में आमूलचूल परिवर्तन का आह्वान किया गया है। भारत में कॉर्पोरेट गवर्नेंस के मार्ग में आने वाली बाधाओं पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए और साथ ही सुझावों कीजिए कि पैनल की सिफारिशों इनसे निपटने में कैसे सहायता कर सकती हैं? (250 शब्द)

With growing role of private sectors,
there is a need for strengthening
corporate governance to. Following points
justify this need:

- Scams like Satyam scam, Sharada Chit fund scam need to be prevented.
- Controversies like board of Directors
Controversy in TATA, executive remuneration
In Infosys need to be governed through
clear guidelines
- Responsibility of corporates towards society,
environment needs to be improved.
- With only 12% of leadership posts in

Companies and/or women, gender inequity needs to be balanced.

- Accountability of company towards minority & majority shareholders to be improved.

Impediments :

- Lack of transparency in guidelines related to appointments to Board of directors.
Working, transparency.
- Poor auditing standards which are not able to find scams and loopholes.
- Lack of awareness among people regarding their rights as shareholders.
- Multiple regulatory authority with overlapping jurisdiction.

Regular
shareholder
meetings

Kotak Panel

Mandates
minimum 5 audit
meetings a year.

Constitution of
remuneration committee with $\frac{4}{3}$ rd
members being independent members.

Since the committee recommendations will help bring clarity of guidelines for remuneration, greater accountability for remuneration by including independent directors.

In past Companies Act 2013, brought out reforms like CSR, independent directors, women directors, MCA 21 portal. Further reforms in line with Kotak Panel will further help improve corporate governance in country.

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

नई प्रौद्योगिकियों को अपनाने, प्रक्रियाओं को रूपांतरित करने और एनईजीपी (NeGP) के कार्यान्वयन में सुधार लाने से संबंधित कई मुद्दों से निपटने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, ई-क्रान्ति कार्यक्रम (NeGP 2.0) के डिजाइन (रूप-रेखा) और कार्यान्वयन का मार्गदर्शन करने वाले सिद्धांतों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

The national e-governance program (NeGP) was launched in 2005 to increase the use of information technology in government process and digital delivery of services.

But it suffers from following issues:

- (i) Government departments not able to adapt to new technology due to lack of incentive to adapt & disruption to existing vested interests.
- (ii) Government process if not transformed as pointed out by 2nd ARC makes use of

IT redundant and even counterproductive
(iii) Implementation is poor due to lack of
inhouse capability to train human resource
poor monitoring, lack of awareness among
people.

Hence following steps need to be taken:

(i) Business process restructuring: to make
government process more streamlined and
in consonance with digitalisation efforts
(ii) Digitalisation not for the sake of digitalisation,
but with clear objectives in mind.

(iii) Incentivising adoption of technology
and capability development of human
resource.

In this regard NeGP 2.0
called e-Kranti was launched with
following principles :

- service delivery through digitised mode
- development of content and service delivery in local language.
- Process reengineering to improve
consonance with digitisation efforts
- Rapid development of human resource.

Since e-Kranti provided new vigour
to the initiative and is one of the key
aspects of Digital India Mission.