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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 824)

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Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	28474
Center	KAROL BAGH.	Date	5/11/2016

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1	12.5		1. 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)। 2. There are TWENTY questions printed in HINDI and ENGLISH. इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं तथा हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं। 3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं। 4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं। 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. 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। 6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए। 7. 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।
2	12.5		
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17	12.5		
18	12.5		
19	12.5		
20	12.5		
Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			

75, 3rd Floor, Old Rajinder Nagar Market, Near Axis Bank, New Delhi – 110060

103, 1st Floor, B/1-2, Ansal Building, Behind UCO Bank, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi – 110009

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

All the questions are compulsory and carry 12.5 marks each.

1. Rights-based approach to social policy, which has rippled through India over the past decade and a half, reorients governance from ideas of patronage towards duty of the state and justified claims of citizens. Discuss with examples. Also, explain how the rights-based approach helps in improving public service delivery.

‘सामाजिक नीति के प्रति अधिकार आधारित दृष्टिकोण’, जिसने पिछले डेढ़ दशकों से भारत को आंदोलित किया है। शासन को संरक्षण के विचारों से पुनः राज्य के प्रति कर्तव्य तथा नागरिकों के न्यायोचित अधिकारों की ओर ले जाता है। दृष्टान्तों के साथ इस विषय पर चर्चा करें। इस बात की भी व्याख्या करें कि अधिकार आधारित दृष्टिकोण सार्वजनिक सेवाओं के वितरण में किस प्रकार सहायता करता है?

After the advent of neoliberal economic policy & increased social exposure to western societies & polity, the conception of a ‘rights based approach’ was mooted by experts such as Amartya Sen ~~to~~ as the panacea for ‘deepening’ democracy, improving welfare & social outcomes.

It was seen that an excess reliance on the earlier ‘entitlement based approach’ was counterproductive as it led to bureaucratic sloth, ‘mai baap’ attitude, corruption

absence of justiciability & lower socio-economic indicators.

Therefore, NREGA, RTE, RTI and NFSA along with multiple other social welfare & entitlement schemes made the provision of such public services a duty of the state, justiciable with provisions of fines etc. eg. RTI & its appellate mechanism have transformed attitudes of bureaucrats & reduced arbitrary decⁿ making.

NREGA work-day entitlement led to higher incomes, equality, nutrition & prosperity in areas of operation.

International experts such as Amartya Sen & Andre Beteille contend that such 'rights' approaches as empirically are shown to improve

Welfare, happiness & socio-economic indicators as -

- ① ~~Minimised~~ Minimised corruption
- ② Increased access to public services
eg. food, information, work, subsidy
- ③ Allowed social movements & judicial movements to secure rights
eg. NREGSS in Rajasthan
NCPRI
- ④ 'Deepened' democracy by bringing
fruits of development to 'Antodayas',
who was earlier disenfranchised.
- ⑤ Onus of delivery & accountability
on government servants.

Therefore, it is a globally followed progressive move. However, change in work culture, reducing leakages, & inclusion/exclusion errors along with rationalisation of expenditure is imperative.

2. Despite high enrolment in Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), out-of-pocket expenditure on health has steadily increased over the years. In this context, highlight the achievements and shortcomings of RSBY. Also, discuss the challenges faced in its implementation.

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना (आर.एस.बी.वाई.) में उच्च नामांकन (इनरोलमेंट) के बावजूद, पिछले वर्षों में स्वास्थ्य पर आउट-ऑफ-पॉकेट खर्च में वृद्धि हुई है। इस सन्दर्भ में, आर.एस.बी.वाई. की उपलब्धियों तथा कमियों पर प्रकाश डालें। इसके कार्यान्वयन के मार्ग में आ रही चुनौतियों पर भी चर्चा करें।

AIMS Report recently stated that despite 8 years of RSBY, only 13% of rural & 15% of urban poor have access to insurance. Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana is a ~~new~~ family health insurance scheme which ensures FREE diagnosis, check up, medicines & operations for a family upto a year & ₹30,000 for BPL families.

It is seen that even as enrolments under RSBY have increased, out of pocket expenditure is still 73% of total,

863 million are pushed into poverty annually due to health bills.

The reasons for this are inherent in the structure of schemes like RSBY, & to an extent, PMJJY, APal Pension Yojana, IGNOAPS ~~PM~~ etc.

Achievements

- Assured & dignified access to public & private health care of choice to BPL.
- Reduced illness, improved diagnosis & treatment + Better outcomes.
- Upwards of 70 million family members enrolled.

Drawbacks

- Overdiagnosis, over-medication & unnecessary operations seen to be carried out in private hospitals as payment is treatment based.

- Increased burden on government without commensurate increase in health indicators.
- 'Aarogyashri' model of Andhra on similar lines destroyed state finances due to misuse/overuse by even well off.

Challenges in implementation-

- ① Disbursements from government slow.
- ② Social & caste issues of BPL beneficiaries restrict access to an extent.
- ③ Information, awareness & ~~willi~~ dissemination widely lacking.

Therefore, a long term approach towards a public health sector led model of health care is a long term strategy, but RSBY may be made trial enabled for short term solutions

3. Unhealthy competition between Self Help Groups (SHGs) and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) reduces the effectiveness of both. Discuss. How can creating a synergy between the two help in addressing development challenges at the sub-district level?

स्वयं सहायता समूहों (एस.एच.जी.) तथा पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (पी.आर.आई.) के बीच अस्वस्थ प्रतिस्पर्धा, दोनों की प्रभाविता को कम करती है। चर्चा करें। दोनों के बीच सामंजस्य स्थापित करने से उप-जिला स्तर पर विकास की चुनौतियों से निपटने में किस प्रकार सहायता मिल सकती है?

PRIs & SHGs have individually been seen to be progressive & empowering institutions for self governance, administrative and financial empowerment & welfare as per Article 40 'grass-root democracy'.

However, reports of conflicts & mutual admonition of the PRIs & SHGs have collectively reduced the credibility of institutions.

Reasons are -

- ① 'Constitutional' nature of PRIs allow them to assume authority over local SHGs

② SHGs, being more financially independent & secure, does not give in to political & financial demands of PRIs.

③ SHGs appropriate financial, political & administrative influence through collective mobilisation, leading to political empowerment.

Recent observations by the NITI Aayog & erstwhile NC Saxena Committee have shown that the minimisation of such friction greatly improves outcomes & authority of both institutions.

It is seen to be essential to create
① Confidence building ② Operational congruence ③ Mutual incentive structures

to allow PRIs & SHGs to pool resources & work together.

This is to be done at the Block / District level.

Benefits -

- ① Financial might & mobilisation of SHGs benefit cash starved PRIs to create rural infrastructure.
 - ② 'Profit' model of SHGs along with 'persuasion' & 'social mobilisation' strategies of SHGs greatly improve participation, awareness & revenue creation in projects.
 - ③ Allow collective vision of ~~village~~ area based growth to develop & synergise efforts of both.
- ∴ It is essential & socially progressing for 'inclusive development' & PARTICIPATORY GOVERN.^E

4. With an expected increase in old age population in the near future, there is a need to increase the ambit and reach of social safety net for their welfare.

Discuss the challenges which policymakers face in design, development and execution of welfare measures for the elderly. How far do the recent measures taken by the government address these?

निकट भविष्य में वृद्ध आबादी में अनुमानित वृद्धि के परिप्रेक्ष्य में, वृद्ध जनों कल्याण के लिए सामाजिक सुरक्षा तंत्र के दायरे को बढ़ाने और इस तंत्र की पहुँच उन तक सुनिश्चित करने की आवश्यकता है। नीति-निर्माताओं द्वारा सामना की जा रही उन प्रमुख चुनौतियों की चर्चा कीजिए जो बुजुर्गों के लिए कल्याणकारी योजनाओं की परिकल्पना, विकास और उनके क्रियान्वयन से संबंधित हैं। सरकार द्वारा हाल ही में उठाए गए कदम इन चुनौतियों का किस हद तक समाधान करते हैं?

India currently has 103 million senior citizens, & will have $\frac{1}{6}$ of world's 60+ population by 2030.

India faces a situation where -

- ① 70% elderly are without income support / dependent on families.
- ② Face mental / physical harassment or nutritional / financial deprivation
- ③ Loneliness, sickness and lack of any financial or emotional security
- ④ Lack of government led old age homes, geriatric care & benefits.

Despite justiciable rights under Protection & Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizens Act, 2007, the IGNOAPS, Natl. Programme for health care of elderly & Integrated Policy on older Persons, many challenges remain to be addressed -

- ① Reluctance of elderly to take children to court & social pressures.
- ② Older persons are not a political VOTE BANK, nor a consolidated social/economic group.
∴ WIDE DISPARITY in status.
- ③ Families of elderly do not want 'external intervention' + Abs
- ④ Absence of awareness, ~~or~~ communication channels etc with elderly

Government measures, though laudable, only address a part of the problem as -

- ① MWPSC Act 2007 doesn't include Parents without property, only with daughters & childless couples.
- ② Access to IGNOAPS, healthcare programmes & police visits limited to urban & metro areas.
- ③ No financial commitment towards geriatric care, infrastructure, provision etc.
- ④ May be argued it is 'neglected' section, though very important in future.

5. Civil Society Organizations and Corporates share a symbiotic relationship, which can be leveraged to meet the developmental needs of India. Analyze. Also enumerate the CSR provisions under Companies Act, 2013.

नागरिक समाज संगठन तथा कॉर्पोरेट के सहजीवी संबंध, भारत की विकास संबंधी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति में लाभदायक हो सकता है। विश्लेषण करें। इसके अतिरिक्त, कंपनी अधिनियम 2013 के अंतर्गत सी.एस.आर. संबंधी प्रावधानों का उल्लेख करें।

Civil Society refers to ~~the~~ all non governmental organisations working for social, community or public interest & welfare.

They are seen to share a 'symbiotic' relationships in certain contexts with corporate groups as-

- ① They often fulfill funding or manpower needs of CSOs.
- ② Corporates need CSOs for local community welfare to avoid conflict eg. PepsiCo. Plant in TN.
- ③ Spirit of charity & altruism allow corporates to extend support explicitly & otherwise to CSOs.

Even NGOs & Corporates are often 'opposed' to each other given their conflicting pursuits of 'public welfare v. private profit', companies like TATA have created synergies where profits are used for charity & social work.

It has been observed that a joint approach would be beneficial to India's development as-

- ① Gives 'human' face to companies
- ② Funding to CSOs.
- ③ Improves confidence of locals
if CSOs & corporates collectively work for welfare eg. Lays in Punjab.
- ④ Creates Credible & quality NGOs for further accountability & funding.

⑤ Self-motivated pursuit of 'inclusive development' becomes a social revolution.

CSR has been added within the Companies Act 2013 to say -

→ 2% of average profits of past 3 years to be utilised compulsorily towards CSR.

→ Applicable to large companies with turnover, profit & market capitalisation cut-offs.

Even as it has set an example for the world through CSR & increased convergences between corporates & development, provisions need to be tweaked to ensure that ACTUAL expenditure in desirable sectors takes place.

6. According to a recent WHO report, India sees the largest number of suicides globally. In this context, enumerate the objectives and approach of India's new National Mental Health Policy. Also, explain what is Mental Health Action Plan 365.

हाल की डब्ल्यू.एच.ओ. रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, विश्व में सर्वाधिक आत्महत्याएं भारत में होती हैं। इस संबंध में, भारत की नवीन राष्ट्रीय मानसिक स्वास्थ्य नीति के उद्देश्यों तथा दृष्टिकोणों का उल्लेख करें। इसके अतिरिक्त, मानसिक स्वास्थ्य कार्य योजना 365 के संबंध में विस्तार से बताएं।

According to NCRB & WHO, India's per capita suicide rate remains very high despite legislative deterrence. Family structure & community & religious associations,

This has often been linked to reported & largely unreported cases of mental illness such as clinical depression, dementia and schizophrenia.

It is seen to be a 'public health emergency' in a recent NIMHANS report where 20%+ persons were currently in need of help, but absence of public mental

healthcare, 0.3 psychiatrists/1000 persons ratio & absence of local & individual awareness lead to deleterious consequences.

eg. Women branded as 'witches' 'Kala jadu'.

The Mental Healthcare Bill,

Policy & Action Plan 365

together provide for -

1) Recognition, enumeration, capacity building & treatment of mental health issues.

2) DE CRIMINALIS^N of attempt to suicide under Bill. (S. 307 IPC)

3) Creating mental health capacity in 200 District hospitals.

4) Increasing capacities for psychiatrists & psychologists.

5) Include ASHAs, Community based

and family based approaches.
The mental Health Action Plan 365,
aside from the above also aims
at providing:-

- 1) Recognition & information
about such illnesses.
- 2) Swift diagnosis & immediate
treatment
- 3) Linkages with RSBY, private
health care

The state of mental Health
needs to be recognised &
treated as an illness & not
a social / supernatural disorder.

7. Urban sanitation has not received adequate attention at the national level in the past and few initiatives have been taken to tackle deficiencies in urban sanitation. In light of this, examine whether the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan can help in solving the urban sanitation problem.

अतीत में राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर शहरी स्वच्छता पर पर्याप्त ध्यान नहीं दिया गया तथा शहरी स्वच्छता में व्याप्त कमियों को दूर करने के लिए कुछ ही कदम उठाए गए थे। इस कथन के आलोक में इस बात का परीक्षण करें कि क्या स्वच्छ भारत अभियान शहरी स्वच्छता की समस्याओं के समाधान में सहायक हो सकता है?

Among 6/10 MDGs which India could not meet, Sanitation was at the bottom & showed India as one of the lowest ranked in this respect as -

- ① 60%+ people defecate in the open
- ② 56% people don't have safe drinking water
- ③ Garbage, solid waste management & related pollution increases healthcare costs & economic costs.

The blaming of 'social practices', absence of community led approach, funding & political will along with an appreciation of social costs made past programmes

ineffective.

Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan, components of JNN ORM and others since Community Development Programme (1952) have failed to address the problem & it has led to diarrhoea, disease burden, pollution of rivers & groundwater etc.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is a progressive scheme to invest financial, political & social capital into making Sanitation a National Goal [As Bangladesh did earlier].

SBM ← Rural
Urban

Objectives

- 1) Open Defecation Free
- 2) Personal, community & Public Toilets.

- 3) Removing manual scavenging
- 4) Door-to-door collection and 100% Solid Waste Management

Urban areas have seen garbage mounds, lack of piped water supply or sewage discharge along with general municipal apathy & inability to tackle garbage.

SBM, along with Solid Waste Management Rules will help as -

- 1) Onus on waste producer to hand over / dispose effectively
- 2) Creates capacities to recycle, reuse & treat waste.
- 3) Makes it commercially profitable for municipalities.
- 4) Reduces health costs, diseases or insanitation.

8. There is a need to move away from debates of 'public' versus 'private' provision of education towards models of education provision with public funding and private management. Discuss. Can such a move impact the quality and learning outcomes in elementary education?

अब शिक्षा के सार्वजनिक बनाम निजी प्रावधान संबंधी बहसों से आगे, सार्वजनिक वित्तीय सहायता तथा निजी प्रबंधन संबंधी प्रावधान वाले शैक्षिक प्रतिदर्शों की ओर बढ़ने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा करें। क्या इस प्रकार का कदम प्रारम्भिक शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता तथा सीखने (अधिगम) की प्रक्रिया के परिणामों को प्रभावित कर सकता है?

Recently, ASER Report by PRATHAM showed that more than 65-70% children are enrolled in private schools, & overall learning outcomes have improved in private schools. Though major deviances exist.

Due to limited state capacities, 'education being a state subject' & expenditure stagnant at 1.6% of GDP has led to the private sector 'filling the gap' for a vastly increased need for ~~educat~~ quality education.

New models of administration have

been suggested, such as public funded, privately managed schools.

Benefits

- 1) Reduces chronic funding requirement for ~~and~~ private schools.
- 2) Reduces liability of finances on parents.
- 3) Reduces state burden to expand quantity, while allowing focus on quality.
- 4) Gives students 'Right to choose' schools as per outcomes.
- 5) Under Art-15(5), allows for reservations for EWS Under RTE for aided schools, along with increased academic standards.

Drawbacks

- 1) Similar schemes create avenues for collusion & corruption as public funds used for private gain.

2) Even if education is societal necessity, 'educators' do it for the profit motive. (Conflict of interest).

3) Further neglect of public education, which has adequate quality & scope for improvements.

4) Lack of control over private schools despite funding.

Even as the idea is novel, tech-aided accountability & real time assessment will be needed for this.

Chhattisgarh used this model for PDS, & it is seen that private competition often fosters better quality & outcomes.

∴ Desirable, if adequate safeguards against collusion & corruption taken.

9. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) bill recently passed by the Parliament is a regressive step towards protecting child rights in India. Examine.

हाल ही में संसद द्वारा पारित किशोर न्याय (बच्चों की देखभाल और संरक्षण) विधेयक भारत में बाल अधिकारों की रक्षा की दिशा में एक प्रतिगामी कदम है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

The Juvenile Justice (Amendment) Act, 2015 has been passed so as to make provisions for -
① Adoption ② Foster care ③ Juvenile Homes ④ Special Courts ⑤ Definition of 'Juvenile' ⑥ Process of punishment.

Even as the Act improved lacunae of the 1986 legislation, and made juvenile justice in line with Article 23 & 24, 15(3) & UDHR, the particular provision of definition of JUVENILE & the alternate procedures created for them have led to concerns.

As per JS Verma Committee (2013),
definition of juvenile changed
to those under 18, except -

- Those between 16-18 &
- committing heinous crimes &
- Adjudged by Juvenile Justice Board
to be tried as an adult.

Concerns -

- 1) No other law in India, civil or criminal makes distinction for such 'perceived maturity' at age 16. All are 18.
- 2) UDHR & ICCPR bind India at 18, along with Conv. on Rts of Child.
- 3) Exposure of young minds, regardless of crime, to adult jails invariably make them **HARDENED CRIMINALS**
- 4) Evidence of the 'social threat

for revenge' & knee jerk reaction
post Nirbhaya.

5) Objective of criminal justice
system is not retribution only,
but also reformation.

Therefore, in line with other
progressive elements, a need
exists to ~~reduce~~ end dichotomy
& discretion in age selections.

10. "In a nation of one billion cell phones, M-governance or mobile governance has the potential to make development a truly inclusive and comprehensive mass movement". Illustrate how M-government can bring in more transparency and accountability in government functioning. Also, discuss the challenges in implementing M-government.

"एक अरब सेल फोन वाले देश में एम-शासन या मोबाइल शासन में, विकास को वास्तविक रूप में समावेशी तथा व्यापक जनांदोलन का रूप प्रदान करने की क्षमता है।" दृष्टांत के साथ व्याख्यायित करें कि एम-शासन किस प्रकार सरकार के काम-काज में और अधिक पारदर्शिता तथा उत्तरदायित्व ला सकता है। इसके अतिरिक्त, एम-शासन के कार्यान्वयन में आ रही चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें।

India's 'mobile revolution' provides a unique opportunity to assess, communicate with & provide information & services to all persons through telecom & the internet.

In countries such as Kenya, the use of mobiles for payments created 'm-pesa', which revolutionised Kenya by mobile money, digital payments, reducing black money & ensuring accountability. India has also devised methods such as e-gov portal,

m-kisan, payment systems, kharid app etc. for mobile based communication.

Mobile governance refers to a bilateral mode of communication, information, service delivery & grievance redressal through mobile telephony or internet.

Schemes of the government, such as for enabling mobile Payments (UPI, payment banks, BBPS), providing information (m-kisan, weather advisories, Soil Health Card) service delivery (DBT + JAM) & grievance redressal (e-gov portal, social media, RTI) have attempted to improve 'm-governance', but with limited success.

Development can be made truly democratic by mobiles as -

- ① e-transactions ② e-price discovery
- ③ Information symmetries ④ Education
- ⑤ Complaint registration ⑥ Ensured accountability.

This improves government funcⁿ by creating records of communication & transactions, which ensure accountability & action.

Challenges -

- 1) mobiles still absent from 200 million persons. (30 mln families)
- 2) Internet Divide, as only 300 million have internet access
- 3) Bureaucratic delays & unwillingness.
- 4) Lack of physical infrastructure can't be overcome fully by digital.

11. The Rights of the Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 fails to adopt United Nation Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (UNCPRD) in its true spirit. Examine. Also, highlight the recent suggestions made by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment in this regard.

निःशक्तजन अधिकार विधेयक-2014, निःशक्तजनों के अधिकार पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के अभिसमय (यू.एन.सी.आर.पी.डी.) को सही अर्थों में अपनाने में विफल रहा है। परीक्षण करें। इसके अतिरिक्त, इस संबंध में सामाजिक न्याय तथा सशक्तीकरण से संबंधित स्थायी समिति द्वारा प्रदत्त सुझावों पर प्रकाश डालें।

The RPD (equal opportunities & access) Bill 2014 has been mooted to replace the 1995 legislation governing rights of persons with disabilities.

Even as both legislations are said to be in line with the UNCPRD, it is seen that the 'letter' & 'spirit' of the law leave a huge chasm.

1) Financial support to disability schemes not given a 'rights' approach as word used is 'may' not 'shall'.

- 2) Definition of disability is seen to exclude those with special & minor disabilities.
- 3) Provision of public infrastructure access, reservations & support also not within 'mandatorily enforceable' regime.
- 4) Community Based Approach towards management of disability absent from new Bill despite proven efficacy
- 5) Shifts onus to state governments & disabled themselves to identify & register themselves as such.
- 6) Social stigma & economic cost of disability remains unaddressed.
eg. ALIMCO makes artificial prosthetics.
may be subsidised.

As per Parliamentary Standing Committee along with other subject experts, it is seen that a 'State-led entitlement' approach is ill advised. A must be substituted with community led approach of management of disability, reducing stigma, Equal opportunities & availability of access to all.

12. An empowered Gram Sabha is the bedrock of successful local governance. In this context, analyse the role of Gram Sabha as a pillar of development. What steps can be taken to strengthen their functioning?

एक सशक्त ग्राम सभा सफल स्थानीय शासन का आधार है। इस संदर्भ में, विकास के एक स्तंभ के रूप में ग्राम सभा की भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए। उनके कामकाज को मजबूत करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

Gram Sabha ~~as~~ is the group of all villagers ~~of adult~~ (18+) who constitutionally (Part IX) take part in electing PRIs & in deciding development prospects in a village.

Under Article 40, Gram Sabha is a 'lynchpin' of grass roots democracy & of 'real swaraj' as envisaged by Gandhiji.

Gram Sabha has been used extensively for multiple ends ⇒

1) Village Development ⇒ Decide schemes, funding allocation.

2) Beneficiaries ⇒ Under various schemes, selection by Gram Sabhas.

- 3) Social Audit ⇒ eg NREGSA
- 4) Developmental Projects ⇒ Under Forest Rights Act, decide whether to allow it.
- 5) Collective Social & Political Action

Experts support such empowerment on the basis of decentralisation & 'Principle of Subsidiarity'.

Concerns, however are raised on the otherwise progressive role of Gram Sabha ⇒

- ① Ambedkar called village as the prime instrument of oppression & subjugation.
- ② Caste groups or economically advanced communities lead.
- ③ State involvement ~~dissuade~~ & interference dissuade honest discussion & debate.

Therefore, there is a need to broaden scope of Gram Sabha & its functions while safeguarding dialogue & discussion -

- i). Divide into Mohalla Sabhas in villages [Caste/religion based usually] for better expression of views
- ii) Disallow state/corporate interests from interfering
- iii) Empower locals to disagree with Sarpanch by education, awareness & access.
- iv) Improve revenue streams & funding of PRIs to take action.

13. The recent amendments to Child Labour Act seek to strike a balance between the need for education of a child and the reality of the socio-economic conditions. Critically evaluate.

बाल श्रम अधिनियम में हाल में किये गए संशोधनों का उद्देश्य किसी बालक की शिक्षा की आवश्यकता तथा सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति की वास्तविकता में संतुलन स्थापित करना है। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन करें।

Child Labour (Prohibition) Act 1980 has recently been amended in tune with Arts. 15(3), 23, 24, 46 and changing socio-economic values of society.⇒

- 1) Children below 18 barred from working in hazardous occupations,
- 2) Children can be employed in 'family vocation^{or} or profession' to allow skilling & assistance during school holidays etc.
- 3) Increased fines & cognisance for employing minors in hazardous / non hazardous occupations or for not sending them to school.

The legislative & academic dilemma has been balancing the rights of child to education & freedom versus economic needs of family & differences in conception of 'role of child' in a family.

Despite a larger social movement towards education, many children, under family pressure or necessity, leave education to pursue low value unskilled employment [jirca dars, bangle making, carpet & textiles].

This leads to exploitation, low education, malnutrition & absence of skilling & value addition.

However, the Bill is seen to neglect historical practice & necessity by capping age at 18, whereas the need for education is only envisaged till 14 [6-14 u/Art. 21A], and the RTE may need to be amended in consonance with the same.

Thus, the moral confusion may be solved by the Radhakrishnan Committee (1952) which said-

- i) At 14, give choice b/w education & vocational training & provide either.
- ii) Will keep students busy till 18 & give skills which make him employable.

14. Give an account of the features of 'Housing for All by 2022' mission. Also, discuss the challenges that lie ahead in its implementation.

"2022 तक सबके लिए आवास मिशन" की विशेषताओं का विवरण दें। इसके कार्यान्वयन के मार्ग में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर भी चर्चा करें।

'Housing For All' by 2022 is a mission of Ministry of H&UPA which aims at making 2 million houses available in urban & rural areas for dignified living, pucca house, & also disaster resilience & environment management.

~~For~~ A acute need to provide housing exists with 3 million 'Kachcha' slum dwellings which are against rt. to life with dignity under Article 21.

~~Method~~

Carried out through -

1) Beneficiary led construction
upon payment of sum.

2) Interest linked subsidy Plan.

3) Affordable Housing through
PPP

4) Slum Rehabilitation — In City
— Ex Situ.

Thus, 2 million houses are
to be constructed upon -

1) Flood, earthquake, lightning
resistant material.

2) Environmentally sustainable

3) Based on National Building Code
& GRIPA

4) Extensive Use of pre-fabricated
technology & other sustainably
recycled & efficient methods.

Challenges

- i) Political value of slums, economic value of land they occupy make redevelopment challenging.
- ii) Beneficiary led construction has questionable outcomes despite safeguards
- iii) Materials used are not always sustainable.
- iv) Delivery in inaccessible areas is a challenge, eg. North East.
- v) May be doorway to corruption similar to agriculture interest subsidy programme.

15. Enumerate the directives laid down by the Supreme Court for police reforms in the Prakash Singh case. Discuss the challenges faced in implementing these reforms.

प्रकाश सिंह वाद में पुलिस सुधारों के लिए सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा दिए गए निर्देशों का उल्लेख करें। इन सुधारों के कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें।

Prakash Singh v. UoI (1994) by the Supreme Court laid down Police Reforms based on National Police Commission and ~~State~~ Malimath Committee recommendations to

- ① Reduce politicisation
- ② Improve citizen orientation & efficiency
- ③ Autonomy, operational reforms.

Even though it is widely seen as Judicial Overreach & is not implemented, the SC had laid down-

- 1) Police Complaints Authority under independent persons to investigate into complaints.
- 2) Police Establishment Board to appoint & select persons from

for sensitive posts.

3) UPSC based selection procedure
for DGP of states & for
selecting field level officials
by the PEB itself.

4) Day to day political interference
to be reduced in writing.

5) Security of tenure (3 yrs)

However, despite progressive
judgements like Prakash Singh,
TSR Subramanian & Vineet Narain,
existing issues have stalled
their implementation →

1) Judiciary cannot direct
Parliament to pass a law

2) Police & LSO are state subjects,
& individual state legislatures

not subject to SC directions
within house U/Art. 212.

3). Political accountability of police
is democratic requirement &
keystone of freedom struggle.

4). Police officials in charge are
also subject to similar
nepotism, corruption & partisan-
ship.

Therefore, stress must alternatively
be on Santhanam & Malimath
Committee reports, which saw

- ① Insulation of prosecution wing
- ② Separate investigation from L & O.
- ③ Appointment & transfer power to
DGP + security of tenure
- ④ End political corruption.

which are more advisable
& practicable.

16. What is E-Kranti? How is it an improvement over National e-Governance Plan? Discuss the challenges foreseen in the implementation of E-kranti.

ई-क्रान्ति क्या है? यह किस प्रकार राष्ट्रीय ई-शासन योजना का परिष्कृत रूप है? ई-क्रान्ति के कार्यान्वयन संबंधी पूर्वानुमानित चुनौतियों की चर्चा करें।

'E-Kranti' is Ne GP 2.0, as the original Ne GP (2008) with 31 mission mode projects & other schemes had become obsolete given the presence of new softwares, platforms & technologies.

- ② Increased access to tech by public
- ③ Role of internet, social media & service delivery.

∴ E-Kranti improves over NeGP as-

① 'Portal' approach where two-way communication possible & desirable.
eg. ⇒ e-gov.in.

② 'Platform-neutral' ⇒ Can be used via mobile, tablet, computer or applications & other platforms.

- ③ Interactive & Real Time - with PRAGATI, m-kisan and other local & sectoral devices & schemes
- ④ Larger role to 'CSC' Common Service Centres in Gram Panchayats for education, services etc.
- ⑤ Integrated with JAM-DBT-Jan Dhan

However, numerous challenges exist in full implementation :-

- 1) Digital connectivity to 2.56 cr GPs under Digital India has not provided even 20% of total till now.
- 2) 'Digital Divide', as those who can use are already urban, young & well to-do. $\therefore$ e-enabled apps & solutions further divide people.

- 3) Data Security is a major challenge as cyber attacks increase, Cloud storage & unsecured networks.
 - 4) Privacy & secrecy of data is also a judicial & media concern.
 - 5) Information, Digital literacy & availability of devices, platforms & internet speeds are still challenged.
- ∴ e-Kranti needs to be preceded by Digital India (Connectivity, literacy & service delivery) before utilising its benefits fully.

17. Some provisions of Official Secrets Act, 1923 go against the spirit of Right to Information. Explain. In this context, examine whether this necessitates repealing of the Official Secrets Act.

सरकारी गोपनीयता अधिनियम, 1923 के कुछ प्रावधान सूचना के अधिकार की भावनाओं के विरुद्ध हैं, व्याख्या करें। इस सन्दर्भ में, इस बात की जांच करें कि क्या इसके लिए सरकारी गोपनीयता अधिनियम को निरस्त करने की आवश्यकता है?

Official Secrets Act is a colonial era legislation designed to preserve & perpetuate secrecy of government records & deliberations through wide definitions & liberal interpretations in the name of 'national security'.

Given a global transparency movement & the RTI revolution in India, it is seen that only the organisations within Schedule II or S.8 of the RTI Act can be exempt from disclosure.

~~However,~~

However, given a historical distaste for transparency within governance & an apparent conflict of interest, it is seen that OSA, 1923 is often invoked to safeguard files which are not covered under RTI Act exemptions.

Differences between RTI & OSA

<u>RTI</u>	<u>OSA</u>
• 'Transparency as rule, secrecy as rule • Appellate procedure • 30 day disclosure • Based on citizen centric mode of governance	• Secrecy as rule. • No appeal if file classified as 'secret' • 50 year period for mandatory disclosure of files (optional) • Government & secrecy centric.

However, many government files & documents could compromise either security of state, foreign relations or schemes & policies.

∴ Need for legislative or judicial DILUTION of OSA, 1923 to make 'harmonious interpretation' with given RTI Act & other contemporary jurisprudence.

∴ Need to dilute & reassess, not repeal.

18. Despite increasing awareness of beneficiaries, social audits have not played a significant role in reducing malpractices and detecting irregularities. Discuss. How can social audits be made more effective?

लाभार्थियों की बढ़ रही जागरूकता के बावजूद सामाजिक लेखांकन ने भ्रष्टाचार को घटाने तथा अनियमितताओं का पता लगाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका नहीं निभाई है। चर्चा करें। सामाजिक लेखांकन को किस प्रकार और अधिक प्रभावी बनाया जा सकता है?

Social Audits are mechanisms of transparency & accountability which allow the ~~the~~ Community [Gram Sabha] to assess, cross check & change the composition of beneficiaries, expenditure & payments made.

It was initiated in Rajasthan by MKSS to increase transparency & reduce corruption in NREGA, by involving & educating the community.

However, such audits have not been very effective as-

① Caste / community loyalties transp

- loyalty to state exchequer.
- ② Presence of politically or economically powerful vested interests.
 - ③ Low bargaining power of a village resident, to risk raising questions
 - ④ 'Spoils' system involves ALL persons as profiteering at the state expense. ∴ Conflict of interest
 - ⑤ Women/SC/ST Sarpanches and others cannot often enforce social audits against vested interests.
 - ⑥ May not happen as they are not mandatory, nor are they recorded. Often not executed.

Effectiveness can be increased by -

- ① Digitilation of records & collation to check discrepancy.
- ② Digital / video recording of Gram Sabha meeting.
- ③ Mandatory provision of social audit.
- ④ Presence of local NGOs, govt. officials etc. to prevent abuse.
- ⑤ Social movement so as to provide better allocation of resources in common benefit.
- ⑥ Change societal ethics & disbalance of powers in village (long term).

19. Nutrition status is linked to non-nutrition factors. In light of this statement, examine why despite a fast growing economy and the largest anti-malnutrition programme, India has the world's worst level of child malnutrition. What steps has the Government taken to tackle the malnutrition problem in India?

पोषण की दशा का सम्बन्ध गैर-पोषण कारकों से है। इस कथन के आलोक में, इस बात की परख करें कि तीव्र गति से बढ़ रही अर्थव्यवस्था तथा सबसे बड़े कुपोषण-रोधी कार्यक्रम के बाद भी, भारत विश्व में बाल-कुपोषण के संदर्भ में निम्नतम स्तर वाले देशों में शामिल है।

India's problem with nutrition deficiency, which leads to Stunting, wasting & malnutrition result in lower educational & earning outcomes, productivity issues, illness & growth problems.

WHO & AIMS have both shown the prevalence of structural & non-nutrition factors as the root cause of malnutrition -

- i). ~~Proper~~ Sanitation ⇒ Biggest killer of children, results in diarrhea, cholera, loss of nutrition & energy & leads to major malnutrition.

- ii) Society & Family ⇒ Elders eat first, males eat first. Result in inadequacies within families in spite of availability.
- iii) Service delivery ⇒ PDS & NFSA still not operational in backward & tribal areas of Jharkhand, MP, Maharashtra & Odisha, leading to higher malnutrition.
- iv) Gap Policy ⇒ Overemphasis on CEREALS leads to lack of balanced diet, as MSP, PDS etc only provide cereals primarily.
- v) Healthcare ⇒ Maternal & infant medical services, access to hospitals, medicines etc. along with disease resistance also hampers nutrition.

Despite ICDS since 1975, JSY, JSSY, ~~to~~ IGMSY & SSK, access to nutrition & child malnutrition are very high in India esp. HONGAMA Report & WHO.

Steps taken -

- i) Immunisation under Indradhanush
- ii) NFSA entitlements to ICDS & Mid Day Meal
- iii) Digitisation, PPP & grain mgmt to increase disbursement & efficiency.
- iv) Green Revolution II in Eastern India
- v). Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojna.

20. Autonomous District Councils (ADCs) based on the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India are described as 'State in miniature'. Elaborate. Also, critically evaluate the functioning of ADCs over the years.

भारतीय संविधान की छठी अनुसूची पर आधारित स्वायत्त जिला परिषद (ए.डी.सी.) को 'लघु रूप में एक राज्य' के रूप में वर्णित किया जाता है। व्याख्या करें। इसके अतिरिक्त, पिछले वर्षों के दौरान ए.डी.सी. की कार्य प्रणाली का आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन करें।

Under the 6th Schedule, Autonomous District Councils were created in Assam [Khasi-Anglong], ~~Nag~~ Nagaland [Tumlong] & now in West Bengal [Darjeeling] for-

- i) Respecting differences in culture & governance & providing self administration.
- ii) Historical reasons for tribal communities.
- iii) Tribal laws often in conflict with constitution & state laws.

These are regarded as states in miniature as they are entrusted with-

Land alienation & transfer, money lending, markets & shops. local education, criminal justice within tribes (very limited) along with local self administration in health, education, sanitation, urban planning, local infrastructure etc.

It is seen as a 'miniature state' due to extensive heads under which councils make 'laws', high degree of independence from state government as 'administration' of ~~Schedule~~ Tribal Areas entrusted to Governor & through Supreme Court & Parliament's tolerance for autonomy & self rule as per customs & traditions.

However, ADCs have often become political battles for adverse ends eg. Dargeling 'Bloody' struggle.

Despite providing autonomy & welfare of local areas & in raising aspirations, they have played a partly negative role -

- i) Not all tribals or other tribals living in the area not protected
- ii) Essential functions of state like criminal justice system often stalled.
- iii) Hotbeds of corruption or even ~~terror~~ secessionist acts, eg. [Dimas Nagao Council].

~~However~~ However, as India is a group of State Nations as per Yogender Yadav, it's largely seen to be desirable.