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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1050)

Name of Candidate	Jayant Nakota		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	247939
Center	Online	Date	6/08/18

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1	10		<p>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)।</p> <p>2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।</p> <p>3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।</p> <p>4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।</p> <p>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।</p> <p>6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।</p> <p>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।</p>
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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

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 बनाते हैं। हालाँकि, समय के साथ, ज्यादातर कार्यालयों में नागरिक घोषणापत्र अप्रचलित हो गए हैं। कुछ ऐसे उपाय सुझाइए जो इन घोषणापत्रों को, लोक सेवाओं में जवाबदेही लाने का प्रभावी उपकरण बना सकते हैं। (150 शब्द)

Citizen charters first introduced by John Major government (UK) seeks to boost transparency & accountability via ^{outlining the standards} vision & mission of organization, its services & setting up grievance redressal systems.

The citizen charters suffer because of many factors like non-consultative framing, lack of business process engineering, non-unique charters, no involvement of public etc.

Measures to make charters effective:

- ① Have a consultative approach with while framing → involve department officials, cutting edge functionaries etc.
- ② Have a unique charter & not a copied one → "One size fits all" is a poor approach

- ③ Give statutory backing.
- ④ Periodic revision. Only 6% of charters are revised according to 2nd ARC.
- ⑤ Keep citizen centricity in mind. Do create responsibilities of citizen.
- ⑥ Set up grievance redressal mechanisms.
- ⑦ Benchmark charters with citizen feedback.
- ⑧ Analyze officers for not meeting set standards.
- ⑨ Awareness generation in public.

Following these steps as recommended by 2nd ARC will help to make these charters effective.

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 forms an integral part of improving the governance framework in the country.

Pre-Legislative scrutiny of bills, ordinances, amendments etc. is vital for effective legislation →

- ① Wider consultation can bring in new suggestions & radical ideas.
- ② Can identify loopholes in the bills.
- ③ Varied view points are essential in a democratic set up.
- ④ Can boost public trust on legislative action & increase cooperation in implementation.
- ⑤ Public participation via civil society has educative value & makes citizens responsible.

Steps to boost public engagement

- ① More civil society invites to parliamentary standing committees like Parliamentary Accounts Committee, etc.
- ② Putting the draft bills online for feedback for wider range of time.
- ③ Incentivising ^{participation} via monetary compensation.
- ④ Tying up with organisations like PRS Legislative Research, Vidhi Legal Group etc.
- ⑤ Sending bills to think tanks like ORF, IDSA etc. ~~before~~ for feedback.

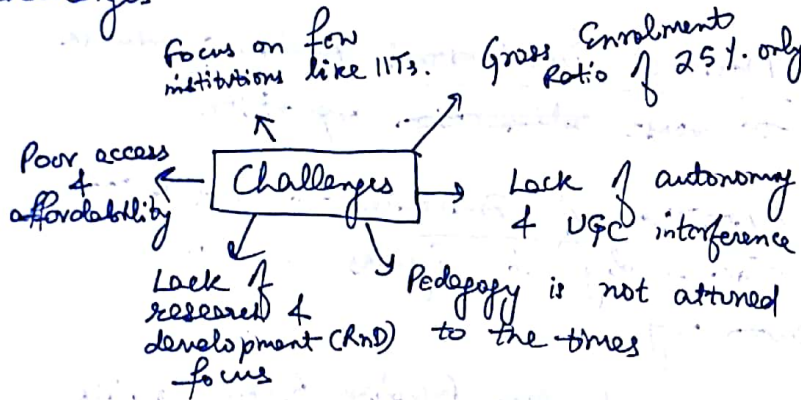
~~##~~ Public engagement is essential to democracy as it leads to effective legislation & better implementation of sound laws.

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)

The tertiary education suffers from numerous challenges



The poor standards are affecting India's competitiveness →

- ① Lack of indigenous research & therefore technology → Imports of defense items, ~~still shows~~ pharmaceuticals. shows poor standards
- ② Rote based learning hampers labour productivity.

- ③ No skills focus & vocational training.
- ④ Less than 10% of engineers are employable.
- ⑤ No institution in top 100 global rankings.

Government Initiatives

- ① National Institutional Ranking Framework to boost ~~collaboration~~ competition
- ② Institutes of Eminence to get \$1000. crore funding in 5 years & full autonomy.
- ③ Higher Education Funding Agency (HEFA) to boost funding to institutes for infrastructure upgradation.
- ④ RISE → Revitalising Infrastructure & Systems in Education.
- ⑤ Overhaul of UGC and creating HECI (Higher Education Commission of India).

All this will boost our higher education & help to reap demographic dividend.

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

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

Social audit refers to scrutiny of processes & performance of government programs by local people.

Role

- ① ~~Identification~~ of Beneficiaries can be cross-checked & outcomes verified.
- ② Performance appraisal by those affected is the most efficient.
- ③ Can check corruption & nexus between officials & service providers.
- ④ Empowerment & voice to local people is enhanced.
- ⑤ Identify loopholes for revision & better implementation.

Given the host of social sector programs like NREGA, PDS etc, effective implementation is key to take people out of poverty & improve standards of living. In this respect, social audit involving local stakeholders will boost transparency, accountability, efficiency & effectiveness of programs.

However some limitations exist :

- ① Poor literacy in rural areas hampers role of people in audits.
- ② No statutory backing. We need laws like Mephalaya's Social Audit law.
- ③ Caste & class barriers hinders participation.
- ④ Fake audit meetings.
- ⑤ Collusion of gram panchayat with officials.
- ⑥ Participation will cause economic wage loss for the day.

Thus, reforms are key to push social audits across all programs.

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

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 constitute around 10% of the population & are set to be 20% by 2050 according to UN. They form a vulnerable section of the society since they suffer from diseases, isolation, dis-empowerment, digital illiteracy, no income security etc. In this respect, welfare schemes are →

- ① National Pension Scheme & Employees Provident Fund (EPF) Contributions.
- ② PM Vaya Vandana Yojana for assured 8% interest on deposits
- ③ National Trust for disabled people helps elderly.

- ③ Income Tax limit is lowered & exemptions are granted further in Budget 2018.

The benefits of welfare schemes are not reaching a wide-section. Its only those who, have sufficient awareness of programs, affluent sections of urban population. So there's a divide in beneficiaries - es.

The reasons are →

- ① Lack of awareness via government.
- ② Insufficient deposits in banks.
- ③ Lack of support in enrolling to schemes.
- ④ Financial illiteracy.
- ⑤ Digital divide.
- ⑥ Poor funding of schemes & focus on old age group.

Given the expected rise in old population & their increased vulnerability, ~~government~~ there's a need to step up efforts.

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

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)

The post independence period saw focus on growth oriented welfare based on trickle down theory. This was evident in 2nd financial Year Plan with focus on industrialisation (Mahalanobis Strategy).

It was also evident in Green Revolution focusing on few states hoping to benefit others via trickle down.

This got shifted with wage directed welfare strategies of wage employment & self-employment. Eg. Food for Work programs, Swarozgar yojna etc.

In recent times, the focus has shifted towards basic minimum needs strategy.

as evident in ~~the~~ Public Distribution System (PDS), Right to Education (RTE) etc., Subsidy in inputs etc.

Thus there's a paradigm shift. Also, rights based approach rather than beneficiary based approach has been adopted. as seen in NREGA's right to work, National Food Security Act's right to food, Right to Education.

However, elements of continuity are present as seen in →

- ① Ad-hoc identification via Below Poverty line & Above Poverty line.
- ② Non-universal approach (Targeted instead)
- ③ Beneficiary-led.
- ④ Some mechanism of using bureaucracy to implement.

Thus, there's shift as well as continuity.

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 विधि आयोग द्वारा अनुशंसित परिवर्तन, भारत में कारागारों में मजा काट रहे विचाराधीन 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 Law Commission's 268th report recommends →

- ① Mapping of all undertrials & national level database
- ② freeing of undertrials in case they have been in jail for equal time as that when they would have been convicted.
- ③ Easier bail provisions for minor crimes.
etc.

All these steps will help a ~~best~~ ^{better} the criminal justice system →

- ① Upheld principle of 'Innocent' till convicted.
- ② Principles of natural justice will be upheld.
- ③ focus on reformatory justice.

(4) Help innocent people get out of jails.
Given that ~~is~~ greater than 60% of all
prisoners are undertrials, there's need for
such reforms.

Other measures

- (1) NHRC should investigate & recommend
safeguards - Also, represent their cases in
court.
- (2) Evidence based policing to reidentify convicts
easily.
- (3) Easier bail provisions & reduction of
bond surety will help poor people.
- (4) Fix accountability for falsely implicating
innocent.
- (5) Speed up justice system via fast track
courts, fill vacancies etc.

All these will benefit the cause of
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

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

The government has envisioned a 'Housing for All' mission by 2022.

Various initiatives are →

① PM Awas Yojana with components such as credit linked subsidy for exor loans. Use of GIS tools to map houses. Use of SECC data.

② RERA (Real Estate Agency) to increase transparency in housing segment.

etc.

The challenges still exist →

① Identification of beneficiaries & leakages of government funds

② Lack of private sector investment as pointed by Economic Survey 2017-18.

- ③ ~~lack~~ Slow pace of construction beset by land acquisition problems & environmental regulations.
- ④ Poor awareness of government schemes.
- ⑤ Lack of rental housing at affordable rates for migrants

Way forward

- Increased private sector role, better identification via Aadhaar, easing land acquisition etc will help achieve the goal of Housing for All.

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

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

Demographic dividend implies the benefits of a young working age population.

India has 65% of population below 35 years.

However, in absence of skills, education & health, this might turn into liability.

The National Policy for Skill Development 2015 aims at →

- 1) National Skill Accreditation framework with 'prior learning' as a mechanism to gain certification
- 2) Creation of sector skill councils via National Skill Development Corporation.

- 3) Role of private sector in setting up these councils for effective skill development.
- 4) Apprenticeship programs.
- 5) Strengthening of ITI's in all states with greater funding & support.

The importance lies in effective skill training in sectors that ~~are~~ have demand for employees. Role of private players will ~~be~~ help manage skill creation better.

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

Whistleblower refers to those persons who expose the corruption or illegal transactions in a specific sector of private or government structure.

⇒ In last few years, over 70 whistleblowers / RTI activists were killed.

The Need for Whistleblower protection

① Exposing corruption leads to savings on public funds

② Work culture of the organisation improves.

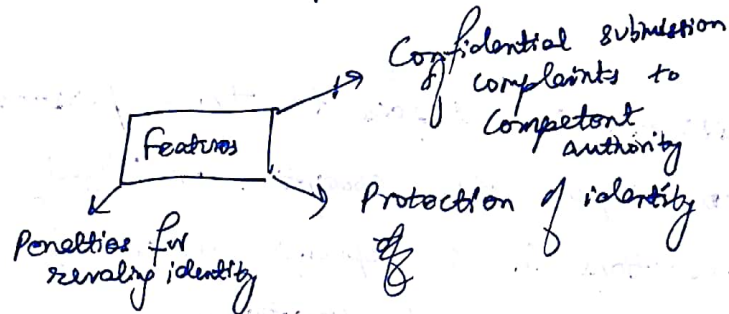
③ The guilty are punished

④ The organisational weaknesses are exposed & avoidable remedies can be planned & executed.

Given all these benefits, Whistleblowers need to be protected from threats, coercions

to retract statements.

The Whistleblower protection act provides



However lacunae exist especially with recent amendments being muddled →

1. It bans revealing of information under Official Secrets Act.
2. To ban 10 types of information to bring in line with RTI!
3. Identity of people is often exposed.
4. Decisions of Competent Authority is recommendatory.
5. Protection to people is poor & not proactive as seen in 70 deaths!

Thus suitable amendments should take place to strengthen the whistleblower protection!

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 धीमी दर के लिए कौन-से कारक उत्तरदायी रहे हैं? सार्वभौमिक कवरेज को शीघ्रातिशीघ्र प्राप्त करने की इस गति में वृद्धि करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए हालिया कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

The Universal Immunisation Program aims at full coverage of children from 0-6 years under immunisation.

- It covers many diseases like pneumococcal diseases, meningitis, ~~polio~~ tetanus etc.

The factors responsible for slow pace of growth are →

- 1) The funding of the program is woefully short.
- 2) Involvement of the States is less than enthusiastic.
- 3) There's little role of private sector.
- 4) The lack of coordination between ~~at~~ officials in Ministry of Health as well as Centre - State coordination.

- 5) The strategy & aims are ill-defined & not ambitious enough.
- 6) Involvement of Community.
- 7) Incentivisation of people to get immunised.
- 8) Lack of awareness among people of the free vaccines.
- 9) Regional divide with U.P, Bihar, Orissa etc. under the Empowered Action Group States lagging behind Southern States.
- 10) Corruption & leniency by staff/officials.

The government has taken many steps →

- ① Shifted the goal posts earlier →
Now 90% immunisation target by 2018
- ② Focused approach on backward districts.

- ③ Increase in funding.
- ④ Indradhanush Mission for wider coverage of vaccines
- ⑤ Involvement of schools in the program.

Thus, there is a need to further the momentum on immunization. We have already tasted success in eradicating polio. Following the mission of Indradhanush we can significantly improve health outcomes & reap demographic dividend.

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)

The digital divide refers to the inequitable access to digital resources & unequal capacities of the people to harness benefits of it.

How it perpetuates

- ① Only 27% people are digitally literate in India according to ~~#~~ International Telecommunication Union (ITU) study.
- ② Poverty leads to unaffordability of digital resources like mobiles, computers, internet access.
- ③ Poor access in rural areas as well as regional divide with North-East etc. still far away from fibre penetration.
- ④ Illiteracy in India is still high with only 77% literacy rate.

⑤ There's a urban-rural & rich-poor divide.

How it manifests

- ① Inequality of access to digital resources leads to income inequality as commerce shifts & goes ONLINE!
- ② Small & Medium Enterprises are getting out of business because of lack of digital use.
- ③ Cybersecurity is a huge challenge in India since there's lack of awareness, poor security infrastructure & regulation.
- ④ Phishing, e-mail spoofing, credit card hacks all happen ~~to~~ to digitally illiterate population more.
- ⑤ It breeds social tension via viral videos of communal hatred being spread by unknown citizens.

The government has taken many steps →

- ① Digital India → To improve access to digital resources, fibre optic cables, as well as digital literacy.
- ② Common Services Centre being established across India to be one stop centre for all online services.
- ③ Bharat net Mission for connecting 2.5 lakh gram panchayats with fibre optic cables.
- ④ Tele-Education, Telelaw services.
- ⑤ ISRO Satellites for communication.
- ⑥ Skill India for improving capacity of population.

Thus, there's huge role being played by government. There's need for enhanced focus & partnerships with private sector to increase pace to bridge digital divide.

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

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

The National Health Mission aims to provide universal access to quality healthcare at affordable costs & thereby reducing the prevalence of diseases & effective treatment.

The Objectives :

- ① A coordination based mission mode approach to healthcare.
- ② Effective surveillance → Integrated Disease Surveillance Program.
- ③ ~~Child~~ Maternal & Child healthcare → Integrated Child Development scheme.
- ④ Tackling NCD (Non-Communicable) & CD's diseases.
- ⑤ Holistic approach covering primary, secondary & tertiary healthcare.
- ⑥ Universal Immunization Program.



The Non-Communicable Disease have surpassed Communicable diseases (CD's) as reported in India State of Health report by Medical Council.

Reasons

- ① As a country develops, its a natural phenomena that communicable diseases will be controlled. → improved access to water, sanitation etc.
- ② With rising incomes, [&] health facilities, CD's are easier to control.
- ③ NCD's are lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, heart problems, cholesterol, cancer.
~~These~~ Thus, NCD's have acquired salience due to worsening lifestyle patterns of people especially in urban areas.
- ④ Increase in air pollution contributes to lung & heart problems (NCD's)

- ⑤ The old people are more at risk to NCD's → Their population is increasing.

Implications

- ① Treatment of NCD's is more expensive thus out of pocket expenditures will rise.
- ② Government has to control NCD's via increased public investment in secondary & tertiary care.
- ③ Partnership with private players has to be done as a stop-gap arrangement as envisioned by Niti Aayog's plan to lease district hospitals.
- ④ NCD treatment takes more time thus number of beds has to be increased across hospitals.
- ⑤ Lifestyle patterns have to be focused upon → Thus focus on preventive & promotional health.

Hence, to achieve the objectives of NHM, focus on NCD's has to be prioritised in the coming years.

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 में विकृत किया है तथा सहकारी क्षेत्र में तत्काल सुधार लाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

Cooperatives imply an autonomous & voluntary enterprise by group of people organised democratically for a particular socio-economic goal.
eg. AMUL Milk Cooperative in Gujarat.

However, recent years has seen stagnant growth in cooperative sector.

Reasons

- ① Increased politicisation → The democratic character & 1 man - 1 vote - 1 value is being diluted.
- ② The elites of rural areas are dominating the discussion & procedures.

- ③ There's undue interference from State in the form of registration, meeting norms & criteria prescribed, license system etc.
- ④ Political leaders have gained membership in many Cooperatives to boost their public image.
- ⑤ State restrict choices & decisions of cooperatives ~~take~~ thus hampers empowerment.

There's a need to introduce wide-ranging reforms →

- 1) Statutory backing to cooperatives with clearly delineated roles of members, Chairperson & state's role.
- 2) The democratic character needs to be preserved irrespective of individual contribution of assets like land pooled in cooperative. Rules & laws need to be in place for this.
- 3) There should be bar on any political party member or affiliations.

4) A national level authority on the lines of ^{National Human Rights} ~~Education~~ Commission to oversee safeguards, inquire & advise Union Government.

5) The state should do intervention rather than interference via ~~tax~~ benefits to cooperatives, mass awareness, replication of successful models.

The example of 'Operation Flood' based on cooperatives set up by national Dairy Development Board should serve as a model.

Increased autonomy & checking politicization will lead to a booming cooperative sector that benefits all citizens.

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 संबद्ध मुद्दों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द)

The healthcare is financed by the citizens largely out of their own pockets (OoPE). OoPE accounts for 62% of healthcare financing in India. This is a major cause of poverty. This happens because of lack of government funding with only 1.4% GDP being spent on healthcare each year.

The current system has many drawbacks with issues of access, quality, capacity, affordability. With poor government infrastructure, the patients opt for expensive health care from private players. This calls for reform →

① The objective of National Health Policy 2017 for free drugs, diagnostics & emergency

health services should be targeted at.

② Primary care should be the focus of government funding as most patients deal with it first.

③ Out-patient costs forms bulk of OoPE. The government should fund it.

④ There needs to be focus on insurance. The National Health Protection Services (NHPS) provides a 5 lakh cover to 10 crore families for all secondary & tertiary care services. This will make a dent on OoPE.

⑤ Government funds should increase from 1.4% to 2.5% ^{of GDP} gradually.

Issues associated with insurance scheme

① Insurance is expensive in long term as seen from global examples like Obamacare.

- ② The private players have unethical practices of 'over the top services' for more profits.
- ③ Doesn't solve the primary healthcare objective.
- ④ The reimbursement to total medical cost ratio has been poor as seen in Rashtriya Swasthya Abhyasan Yojana.
- ⑤ Can't substitute for government intervention in public healthcare.

Thus, there needs to be a holistic & radical approach to healthcare finance but the need for government to increase its healthcare funding is paramount.

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)

With 43% of population being malnourished (according to UN), India has to step up efforts to tackle the issue.

The National Nutrition Strategy is significant also given that India now ranks 100 out of 119 nations in Global Hunger Index.

Significance...

① focus on Maternal & child nutrition via convergence of programs -

- Janani Suraksha Yojana (Institutional delivery)
- Integrated Child development Scheme for 0-6 years of children.

② focus on breastfeeding activities & awareness generation

- ③ Fortified food supplements like Iron & folic acids (50% of women in India are anaemic)
- ④ De-Worming programme.
- ⑤ Increase food security via diverse food coverage under PDS & Mid-Day Meal scheme.
- ⑥ Greater Coordination across Ministries of Women & Child ; Health Ministry etc.
- ⑦ Better implementation of National Food Security Act.
- ⑧ Focus on clean water access & sanitation
→ Convergence with Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

The role of local self-government can be paramount →

- ① They can generate awareness & participatory management of schemes such as ICDS.
- ② More extensive monitoring of Mid-Day Meal scheme etc.

③ Identification of beneficiaries to programs like Janani Suraksha Yojana.

④ Maintenance of public primary health care services → check of on doctor's attendance, quality, vacancies etc.

⑤ Sustain initiatives via ~~putting~~ pressure on governments at state level.

Thus, involving the local self-government can bring better outcomes of the National Nutrition Strategy.

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

भारत में नौकरशाही, ह्रासमान मानव पूंजी में 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 is known as the 'steel frame' of the government. However, the 'steel frame' is getting rusted because of serious challenges →

- ① Increased political interference from transfer-postings, service conditions etc.
- ② Lack of upright officers
- ③ Training is absent at mid-career levels.
- ④ Generalist officers are finding it difficult to cope with globalisation & a hyper-technical environment that needs specialisation.
- ⑤ Lack of incentive to risk taking.

- ⑥ A strong hierarchy, centralised decision making & authoritative functioning is anachronistic with the present times.
- ⑦ Bureaucracy has a top down approach to development.
- ⑧ The traditions of field visits is being replaced by committees & conferences.

There's a need for wide-ranging reforms

- ① Civil Services Board to handle transfer postings for a neutral decision.
- ② Lateral Entry of specialists at offices requiring domain expertise.
- ③ Mid-career training.
- ④ National Commission to Review Working of constitution & recommendation is →
 "To specialise some of the generalists & generalise some of the specialists".

- ⑤ 360° performance appraisal
- ⑥ Reviving the All-India character via Inter-State postings.
- ⑦ Use of ICT to reduce corruption.
- ⑧ Increased coordination & breaking of 'siles' among government

All these steps will go a long way to strengthen the bureaucracy. This will be landmark in the development administration - on of the country.

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 करते हैं। भारत में गरीबी की व्यापकता के लिए उत्तरदायी अंतर्निहित कारकों पर संक्षेप में चर्चा कीजिए। गरीबी उन्मूलन की गति को संधारणीय तरीके से तीव्र करने के लिए किन क्षेत्रों में ध्यान केंद्रित किए जाने की आवश्यकता है? (250 शब्द)

The poverty rates have declined from independence with 22% of population under poverty line according to census of 2011.

Factors for prevalence of poverty

① Lack of employment

- India has seen jobless growth since 1991 reforms with only service led growth.
- There has been less focus on labour intensive industries.
- Rigid labour laws etc. hamper employment generation & cause casualisation of workers.

② Failure of land reforms.

Inequitable access to land led to poverty as people couldn't engage in productive activities.

③ Poor Education & ~~Health~~ Skills.

With only 77% literacy & poor skills & vocational training, people are ill-equipped to reap the benefits on globalisation.

④ Lack of focus on Health.

A high out of pocket expenditure on health drives people to poverty.

⑤ Agriculture growth stagnating.

50% population dependent on it.

⑥ Lack of credit.

Areas of focus

① Investment in social infrastructure

Public schools & primary healthcare services need to be overhauled. RTE to be strengthened.

- ② Skill training & vocational education (Skill India Mission)
 - ③ Targeted approach as in Aspirational District Program by: NITI Aayog.
 - ④ focus on labour intensive industries like apparel, leather etc.
 - ⑤ Boost education via use of ICT eg. MOOC's courses via Swayam portal
 - ⑥ Self-employment via SHG's need to be boosted.
 - ⑦ Access to financial credit via Jan Dhan has to be enhanced.
 - ⑧ Basic needs via PDS, food security mission etc
- All these steps will help to make a dent on poverty in India.

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

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 मूल्यांकन कीजिए कि पैनल की सिफारिशें इनसे निपटने में कैसे सहायता कर सकती हैं? (250 शब्द)

Corporate Governance implies the transparent, efficient & ethical practices by corporates which safeguards the interests of all stakeholders.

The recent cases of Tata-Nestle & Infosys has brought the poor corporate governance framework in India to limelight.

The major impediments are →

- ① Vested interests of large shareholders infringing on rights of minority shareholders.
- ② A complicit & non-independent Board of Directors to regulate CEO's functioning.
Lack of independent directors.

- ③ A poor audit system with nexus of company & audit parties.
- ④ Non-regular Annual General Meetings (AGMs) with public
- ⑤ Underhand dealings & corruption
- ⑥ Inequitable pay packages among employees.
- ⑦ Non-Compliance with Companies Act, 2013.
- ⑧ Poor regulatory framework

The Kotak Panel has recommended →

- ① One-half of all directors to be independent.
- ② regular AGMs for public interaction
- ③ An independent director has to give in writing reason for his resignation.
- ④ A robust audit by 3rd party.

- ⑤ Strengthening the post of Company Secretary to report on financial dealings by company.
- ⑥ Regular Board of Director Meetings (BoD)
- ⑦ Separation of Chief Managing director & Chief Executive officer positions.

All these steps would help to increase transparency & accountability of all companies. Independent voices in BoD is the need of the hour. An independent audit will help secure the interests of all shareholders too.

Thus, the Kotak Panel Recommendations will lead to a better & robust Corporate Governance framework in India.

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-क्रांति कार्यक्रम (NeGP 2.0) के डिजाइन (रूप-रेखा) और कार्यान्वयन का मार्गदर्शन करने वाले सिद्धांतों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

National e-Governance program is important for overhauling governance in India.

Issues

- ① Lack of inter-ministerial ~~focus~~ coordination.
- ② Funding shortfalls.
- ③ Infrastructure is not ~~complete~~ compatible across programs & ministries.
- ④ Adoption of new ICT tools, softwares remains poor because of non-participation of private experts.
- ⑤ Bureaucratic resistance to change.

Principles for e-Kranti

- ① Common-architecture across ministries.
- ② Adoption of new technologies
- ③ Simplification of processes.
- ④ Streamlining of data base management.
- ⑤ e-office notices etc.

Way forward is increasing funding, coordination
and statutory backing of e-Governance measures.

