



VISION IAS

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1829)

Name of Candidate	Riya Saini		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	11 20 816
Center	Online	Date	29/10/22

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:			

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

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. 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.

VisionIAS

1. The caste system continues to be one of the key drivers of poverty and inequality in India. Discuss. (150 words) 10

जाति व्यवस्था भारत में निर्धनता और असमानता के प्रमुख चालकों में से एक बनी हुई है।
विवेचना कीजिए।

The caste system refers to a relatively closed system of social stratification based on perceived notions of purity and pollution, assigned by birth.

Despite several constitutional and legal affirmative actions, the lower castes represent majority (5/6) in the Multi-dimensionally poor in India.

Caste System:- Driver of poverty, inequality

(1) Caste-Based Occupation:-
→ strong demarcation. (↑ informatisation of Manual Scavenging) → 70% → SC

(2) Ownership of Assets:-

→ land ownership is small
(SC, ST minimum under small, marginal farmers (< 2 hectares))

→ Credit-worthiness low → low collateral
→ homelessness; debt burden.

(3) Literacy:- 66% among SC (75% → average India)
59% among ST

(4) Continued Discrimination:-

- Ghettos in urban area → slums
- purity, pollution based notions.
- crimes (Serious against SC every 6 minutes (NCRB))

(5) Informal Labour :- 95% SC, ST constitute informal labour workforce.

↳ Government recruitment low:-

SC → 11.5%

ST → 5%

(6) Low Per capita income

- decline during Pandemic (24% SC, ST households reported decline (On farm))

(7) Low Skilling → vocational training and GER in higher educational institutions.

India has passed several legislations like SC, ST (Prevention of Atrocities Act), National Scholarship Portal for vulnerable sections, Stand Up India for SC, ST → loans. for course-cum-collateral

2. Recognising unpaid work of women is a necessary but challenging task.
Discuss. (150 words) 10

महिलाओं के अवैतनिक कार्य को मान्यता प्रदान करना एक अनिवार्य लेकिन चुनौतीपूर्ण कार्य है।
विवेचना कीजिए।

IMF states that 67% of women's work in India is unpaid and unaccounted for.

According to ILO, women spend 5 hours doing domestic work while men spend only 30 minutes.

Recognising unpaid work of women:-
Necessity.

Promises of wages for domestic work by political parties in Tamil Nadu has revived debate.

(1) National Accounting:- Betterment of GDP calculation by taking into account important household work

(2) Gender justice:- greater autonomy
↳ Decision - Making power

(3) Reduction in Domestic violence:-
→ greater sense of dignity, self-respect
→ courage to take a stand against violence.

(4) Targetting large section:-
almost-50% of population.

(5) Reducing Time Poverty:-
which is a hurdle for women's
productivity

(6) Policy efficiency:-
evidence based targeting of women
for welfare schemes

(7) Increase in GDP estimation
women's work accounting can increase
GDP by 27% (IMR)

Challenges

(a) Difficult to quantify work

(b) Reinforcing traditional norms
that women are only suited
for house work

(c) May increase 'Dual Burden'

(d) Does not automatically increase
decision-making (IMR)

(e) Sensitivity of topic:- most
women do not consider caring a
job.

(f) May prevent labour force entry

Proper quantification and allotting
due share to women will help India
achieve SDG-5 and improve its Global
Gender Gap Ranking.

3. The window to realise India's demographic potential is narrowing with time. Discuss in context of factors affecting the employability of Indian youth and their remedial measures. (150 words) 10

भारत की जनसांख्यिकीय क्षमता को दोहन करने का मौका समय के साथ सीमित होता जा रहा है। भारतीय युवाओं की रोजगार क्षमता को प्रभावित करने वाले कारकों और उनके सुधारात्मक उपायों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

According to NITI Aayog, India's demographic dividend will peak at 2041. India has a demographic potential ~~set~~ reaping window from 2005 to 2050, thus requiring policy measures to improve employability (96% graduates employable → Skills India Report)

Factors affecting employability of Indian Youth

(1) Literacy level :-

- wide discrepancy.
- Female (65%) & male (82%)
→ SC (56%), ST (59%) < average (73%)

(2) Low social sector Expenditure :-

Education → 4.4% of GDP
Health → 1.6% of GDP
Research → 0.6% of GDP

(3) Nature of Economy :-

~~shift~~ Primary * Manufacturing → Service

low potential of manufacturing sector to absorb labour

- (4) Higher Education → GER → 26%.
- ↳ poor vocational training
 - ↳ Skill gap. (poor - industry - academia linkage)
 - ↳ obsolete curriculum.

- (5) Gender inequality.
- female labour participation rate low → (25%) [DLFS].
 - low enrollment in STEM.

- (6) Vocational Training
↳ only 14%.

Remedial Measures

- (1) Social sector expenditure
health → 2.5% of GDP
Education → 6% of GDP.
- (2) Industry Academia Linkage
like National Apprenticeship Programme
- (3) Gender equality → POSB Act.
- (4) Linking employers with employees (AISEEM)
- (5) incentivise labour intensive industries. (MITI Aayog)

Measures like Skill India Mission, SHREYAS, AISEEM, Gramin Kaurshalya Yojana are steps in right direction.

4. Given the deeply gendered impact of population control measures, examine the need to rethink the current approach of population control measures in India. (150 words) 10

जनसंख्या नियंत्रण संबंधी उपायों के गहन लैंगिक प्रभाव को देखते हुए, भारत में जनसंख्या नियंत्रण उपायों के वर्तमान दृष्टिकोण पर पुनर्विचार करने की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Indian population control measures are proven successful to a large extent as seen by the lowering of TFR to 2.

(NFHS-5) → Stabilisation

However, only 3% sterilizations during the last decade were vasectomies, highlighting the gendered impact.

Gendered impact of Population Control Measures: need for rethink.

(1) Female led sterilization:-

→ 38% of control measures (female led)

→ apart from pills, IUD, condoms etc.

→ female sterilization → negative impacts on health and is much riskier than male

(2) Woman health:-

→ focus on increasing anaemia (57%)

→ adolescent, sexual, reproductive health, menstrual concerns.

(3) Increased contraceptives:-

with lower side-effects (eg. Chhaya, Antara)

(4) Empowerment of women

→ need for greater decision-making power in family planning.

eg. Kerala → socio-economic status improvement → lowering TFR.

(5) Voluntary Policy Measures

→ Forced policy measures of reducing family size at local levels (3rd tier) disproportionately affect women (eg. Haryana)

Way Forward.

(1) Socio-economic status upgradation

(2) Targetting states with higher TFR (eg. UP, Bihar, Jharkhand)

(3) Onus of sterilization and contraception → shift to men through awareness generation about lower risks.

(4) Decentralization of family planning programme eg. IEDS → decentralization in advice → maternal health.

5. Indian healthcare system is mired by excessive brain drain of healthworkers. Discuss and suggest measures to address the phenomenon. (150 words) 10

भारतीय स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली स्वास्थ्य कार्यकर्ताओं के हृद से अधिक पलायन से ग्रसित है। विवेचना कीजिए और इस परिस्थिति से निपटने के उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Lack of opportunities ^{in India} and better standard of living for healthcare workers abroad leads to brain drain to chief countries, USA, European countries.

Brain drain results in lowering healthcare capacity, particularly at the primary healthcare level.

Reasons for Brain Drain

(1) Medical Education

- Demand supply gap in colleges.
- Expensive education and donation → unaffordable

(← Migration to Ukraine for cheap degree)

(2) Welcoming Policies:-

- ↳ in destination regions.
- ↳ easy VISA for practice/education.
- ↳ greater number of seats in universities.

(3) Problems in Government Employment

- seniority basis (not merit based)
- seniority promotion

→ Reservation in All India Quota
(less of opportunities for General class).

(4) Threats from Patients :-

→ unsafe working environment
(eg. Victimization / Threatening Doctors
during COVID)

(5) Poor infrastructure :-

- Regional disparity
- lack of access to sanitary toilets
etc

Result

Doctor: Population :- 1:150
(WHO → 1:1000)

Nurse: population → 1:600
(WHO: 1:600)

(1) Health infrastructure

→ प्रधान मंत्री स्वास्थ्य
सुरक्षा योजना.

Way Forward

→ (2) increase Medical college
density and number of MBBS
seats

→ (3) NMC to oversee prevention of
hoopfeering / donation.

→ (4) legislations to protect threatening
doctors by patient families.

Retaining Health workforce is of utmost
importance to achieve objectives of "Atmanirbhar
Bharat" : Health for All

6. Though various women organisations have played a key role in promoting entrepreneurship among women, there continue to exist obstacles that impede women entrepreneurship. Discuss in the context of India.

(150 words) 10

यद्यपि विभिन्न महिला संगठनों ने महिलाओं के बीच उद्यमिता को बढ़ावा देने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है, तथापि महिला उद्यमिता के समक्ष अड़चने पैदा करने वाली बाधाएं भी विद्यमान हैं। भारत के संदर्भ में विवेचना कीजिए।

The Female Labour Participation Rate in India is dismal at 25%. (PLFS-4).
Despite legislations like Companies Act providing reservation for minimum 1 woman in Board of Companies, only 18% of non Board members are women.

Women Organisations : Promoting women entrepreneurship

(1) Policy Formulation :- evidence and data collection to help Government

(2) Pressure groups :- to help bring policy measures for women employment
eg working Women Forum for Post Act

(3) Skilling :- Making women self-reliant by capacity Building eg. SEWA

(4) Bridge between Government and women,
↳ SHG - Bank linkage + credit disbursement
↳ grievance redressal (sexual harassment at workplace)

Obstacles to women Entrepreneurship(1) Patriarchy :-

→ Dual Burden → 5 hours of domestic work (ILO)

→ Gender social norms. (97% → hinder success)

→ and

(2) Credit availability :-

→ lack of collaterals (eg. only 14% lands under women name)

(3) Skilling :-

→ lower literacy (55%, men 82%)

→ New age skills (IoT, digital literacy etc missing)

(4) Employment :-

→ Pink collarisation

→ Gender wage gap (34% → ILO)

→ Sexual harassment at workplace

(5) Women in Leadership Roles

→ Parliament → only 14% MPs.

→ Judiciary → 11.5% in HC Judges.

If women participation equals men, India's GDP will rise by 27%

(IIFP)

Enhanced employment of women is important to raise ranking on Global Gender Gap Index → (Eco. opportunities → 143/146)

7. Discuss the issues faced by domestic workers in India. Also suggest measures that can be taken to empower them. (150 words) 10

भारत में घरेलू कामगारों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली समस्याओं की विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, उन्हें सशक्त बनाने हेतु किये जा सकने वाले उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

According to NRI Aayog, the number of domestic workers in India is almost touching 5 million.

However, due to the highly informal and domestic nature of work, this sector hardly receives policy attention → 'invisible workforce'.

Issues faced by Domestic workforce.

(1) Availability of Data:-

→ No dedicated portal for evidence based targeting of beneficiaries for welfare schemes.

(2) Job, Social insecurity

→ easy hiring firing
→ No pension/insurance
→ No Medical Benefits

(3) Working Conditions:-

→ difficult to enforce Minimum wages and Maximum hours of work
→ Maternity Benefit Act not enforced.

(4) Child Labour:- Sociologists argue that domestic work employed by middle class → child labour.

(5) Informal work:-

- NO organization into trade unions
- low bargaining power.

(6) Disguised Unemployment:-

Family members helping the worker not paid extra.

Remedial
Measures

(1) Data collection:-

Nel Zudra Survey of Domestic workers.

(2) Social security

→ Implementation of Code on Social Security

→ Minimum Wages, Maternity Benefit Act

(3) Representation in Tripartite labour board

(4) Specific legislation → minimum hours of work, grievance redressal

(5) Automatic inclusion in welfare schemes like PMAY, Ujjwala Yojana, NPSA etc.

Protection of informal workers is the mandate of Welfare State and necessary to ensure social justice.

8. It has been argued by some that raising the minimum age of marriage for females only addresses the symptoms rather than the underlying causes of gender related issues in India. Discuss. (150 words) 10

कुछ लोगों द्वारा यह तर्क दिया गया है कि महिलाओं के लिए विवाह की न्यूनतम आयु बढ़ाने से भारत में लैंगिक मुद्दों के अंतर्निहित कारणों के बजाय केवल इसके कुछ संकेतकों का समाधान होगा। विवेचना कीजिए।

According to NFHS-5, 26.7% of girls aged 20-24 years were married off before 18 years of age.

Jaya Jaitly Panel recommended raising the minimum age of marriage for girls to 21 years by amending Prohibition of Child Marriage Act.

Argument in favour of Raising Age:

(1) Maternal Health:-

raising age → late pregnancy

→ lower MMR,
IMR,
anaemia

(2) Economic opportunities:-

- increase female labour force participation rate

→ utilize productive years of youth

(3) Gender parity:-

By equalling marriage age of women to that of Man (21 years).

- (1) Educational opportunities
→ greater enrolment in higher education and vocational training

Rising Age Not addressing Major Causes

- (1) Poor enforcement :-
despite Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 1/3rd child brides in world → India.
- (2) Patriarchy :- lower participation in labour force and educational opportunities
- (3) Health disparity
→ lack of access to ARSH, menstrual poverty etc
- (4) Financial insecurity
poverty → lower dowry at lower age → child marriages
- (5) Social Norms → Religious incentives for child marriage
Low inheritance to property (women)
(son preference)
- Increasing ~~working~~ age alone cannot result in increased empowerment. UN Women, World Bank suggests increase in Human Resource capacity of women.

9. Given the socio-economic status of backward castes in India, caste based census is the need of the hour. Do you agree? (150 words) 10

भारत में पिछड़ी जातियों की सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति को देखते हुए जाति आधारित जनगणना समय की मांग है। क्या आप इससे सहमत हैं?

Backward class Caste in India (OBC) constitute 52% of the population (2nd Backward class Commission).

OBCs are over-represented in poverty figures (27% → extreme poverty) and some OBC elites have disproportionately benefited from affirmative action.

Need for caste-based census

(1) Update of Data

last caste census data was released in 1931.

(2) Remove Errors:-

Many errors in naming, classification of castes, as it is a complex task in previous census.

(3) Policy Formulation:-

Evidence based efficient targeting of Beneficiaries -
→ Low Exclusion error.

(4) Redistribution of Benefits:-

Prevent hoarding by OBC elites.

(5) Politicisation of issues - demand by a number of parties for caste census

Challenges in Caste - Census.

- (1) Strengthening caste :-
M N Srinivas warned about caste census further strengthening caste systems.
- (2) Sensitivity :-
discontented castes may stage massive protests (eg. Mandal Commission protests)
- (3) Administrative Burden :-
→ cumbersome exercise
→ Resource diversion of Government
- (4) Difficult to enumerate :-
→ several thousand castes (> 3000)
→ similar names, different contents.
- (5) Demand for change in status
eg. Jats asking for OBC reservation

Solution to above problems is to implement the recommendations of Justice Rohini Commission (once submitted)

to calm down discontent and redistribution among sub-categorised castes.

10. While participation of private sector in the higher education system of India is a necessity, it creates issues that need careful redressal. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

हालांकि भारत की उच्चतर शिक्षा प्रणाली में निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी एक अनिवार्यता है, लेकिन यह ऐसे मुद्दे उत्पन्न करता है जिनका सावधानीपूर्वक निवारण किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

The college density in India is very low at 26. With poor higher education expenditure, infrastructure and number of seats, massive brain drain of Indian students is causing threat to Indian exchequer. (current Account Deficit)

Private Sector participation in higher education

(1) Gross Enrolment Ratio → very low at 26%.
(target → 50% (2035))

(2) Infrastructure :-
Private sector will help in setting up
- incubation centres - financing
- Multi-disciplinary universities labs -

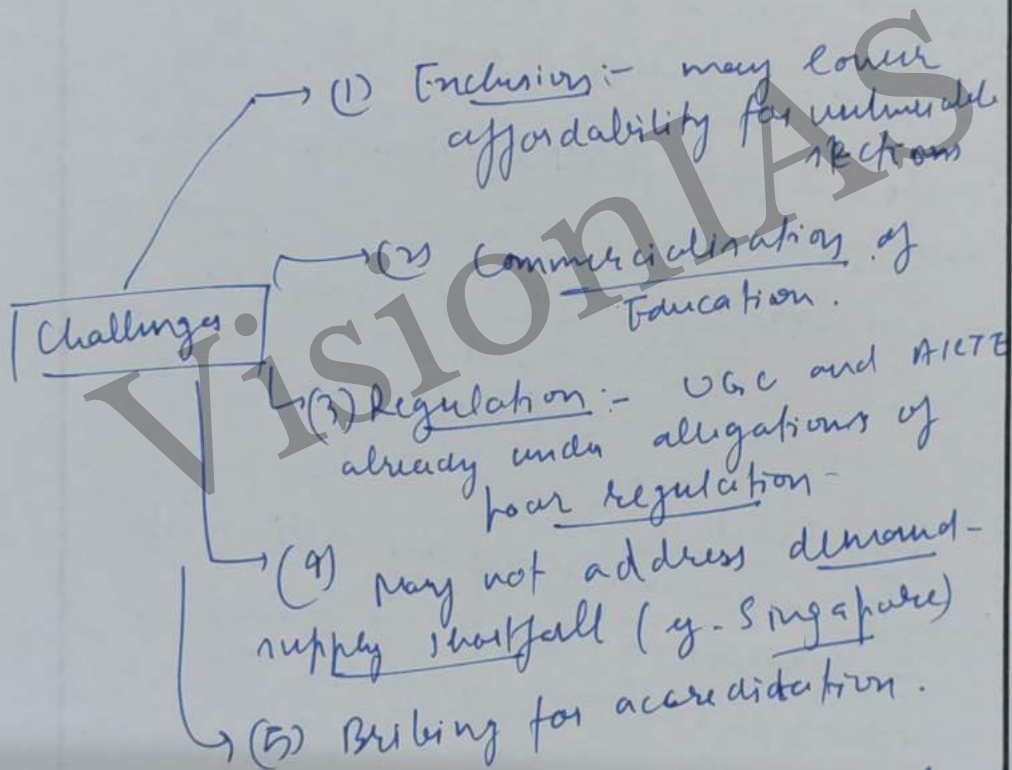
(3) Social Sector expenditure
→ Need to increase expenditure to 6% of GDP [NEP, 2020]

(4) Greater Investment.

(5) Faculty → covering teacher absence/crisis

(6) Employability → greater industry-academia linkage
↳ enhanced apprenticeship opportunities.

(7) Remove Regional Disparity.
Bihar → college density → 7.
(Highest → 53)



while addressing challenges through
NCI for regulation. 100% PDZ (AR) on
education sector will help increase GER
on higher education and achieve SDG-4

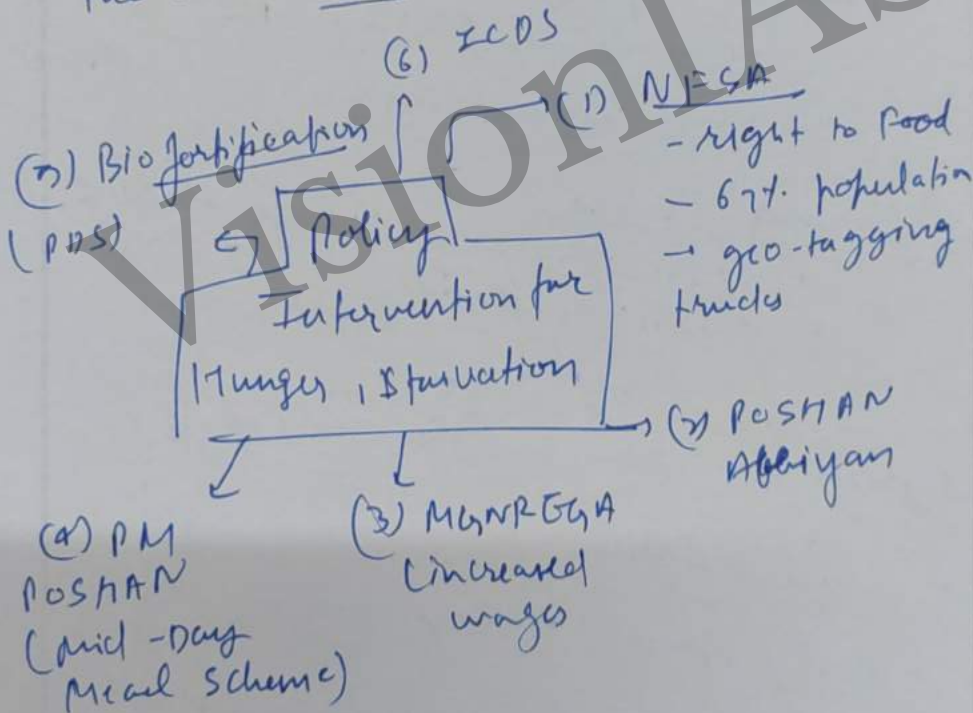
11. Eradication of hunger depends on the adequacy of policy intervention to curb the menace of hunger and starvation. In this context, discuss the concerns raised by recent reports on the hunger situation in India.

(250 words) 15

भूख का उन्मूलन वस्तुतः भूख और भुखमरी के संकट को रोकने के लिए नीतिगत हस्तक्षेपों की पर्याप्तता पर निर्भर करता है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में भूख की स्थिति पर हालिया रिपोर्ट्स द्वारा उजागर की गई चिंताओं पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Global Hunger Index ranked India at 107 out of 122 countries → serious category of hunger

This is despite the fact that India runs the largest subsidized food grain distribution programme in the world (PDS)



Concerns raised by Reports.(1) Nutritional Insecurity

- (a) Malnutrition (14%)
- (b) Stunting (35%)
- (c) Wasting (19%)

(2) Child Mortality

↳ high (under 5 child mortality)
due to nutritional and food deficiency

(4) Gendered impact.

- ↳ 1/3rd women → low BIZ
- ↳ 57% women anaemic (15-59 years)

(5) External factors

- ↳ COVID-19
- ↳ geopolitical tensions → rise in food prices
- ↳ climate change

Challenges in Reducing Poverty / Hunger(1) Inclusion Error.

↳ Migrants' ration card portability issues

↳ 40% deserving beneficiaries not in list (Economic Survey).

↳ Need for SECC data updation.

(2) Accidents of Birth

→ SC, ST, women, PwD, elderly
more vulnerable.

(3) Malnutrition

(3) Poverty :- nutritional food → \$ 2.4
absolute poverty limit → \$ 1.9

(4) wastage :- not lost in post-harvest
↳ REZ godowns overflowing.

(5) lifestyle :-
preferences changing to fast food
and expensive calories (Abigail Banerjee)

Way forward

(1) Decentralized ICDS

→ maternal, child
nutrition and hunger
→ eg. o dishes.

(2) Technology :- PDS + ePOS
↳ geo-tagging to reduce
diversion

(3) Universalisation / updation
of PDS

(4) Implementation of One Nation
One Ration Card

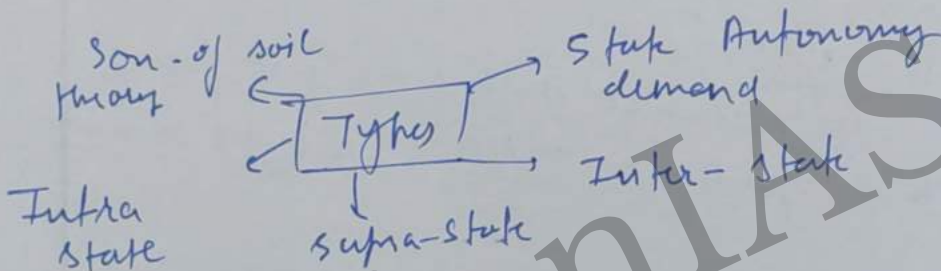
Addressing Hunger is utmost important
for "Right to life" and SDG - 2.

12. Regionalism in India is a multi-dimensional phenomenon, at once geo-cultural, politico-economic and, above all, psychological. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत में क्षेत्रवाद एक बहु-आयामी, साथ-साथ भू-सांस्कृतिक, राजनीतिक-आर्थिक और सबसे बढ़कर मनोवैज्ञानिक, परिघटना है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Regionalism is an expression of common sense of identity / interests by people living / belonging to a specific geographical area, having a common unique language, history, culture etc



Reasons for Regionalism in India

(1) Geographical:

→ people living in some geographical regions have similar lived experience, similar economic opportunities and history.

eg. North-East secessionism demand: low infrastructural development and geographical isolation from mainstream

(2) Dispute over Belgaum → Karnataka v/s Maharashtra

(2) Cultural

(a) Language:- linguistic identity
strengthens sense of belongingness
and oneness

eg Reorganisation of states
on linguistic basis.

(b) Caste:- accentuates linguism to
enhance regionalism

eg Anti-Brahmin Movement
turned into Mavida Nadu
movement.

(c) Religion:- along with other economic
cultural factors

eg Demand for Azad Kashmir,
Ichalistan.

(d) Tribal identity:- eg Bodos vs Bengali
Muslims

(3) Political:-

discontentment among masses is
fuelled by political parties for
vote bank politics.

eg partition of Andhra Pradesh
to form Telangana (TRS)
→ Mavida Nadu Movement
(DMK).

(1) Administrative

- poor governance, high level corruption and steep motherly treatment
- Relative Deprivation
- eg Demand for Uttaranchal

(2) Economic

- Regional disparity in development fuels discontent
- lower employment opportunities
- resource curse in Central India
- eg North-East insurgency

(3) Psychological

- perceived history
- common identity → antagonism towards "others".

eg Manipur secessionists demanded autonomy by stating Manipur was never historically part of Indian Mainland

Regionalism is not necessarily a threat to National Unity. Best way to tackle regional disparity in development and incentive for industrialisation in backward regions.

13. By adopting a variation of Western secularism, we invited a condition that gradually weakened the process of secularization in India. Critically analyse.

(250 words) 15

पश्चिमी धर्मनिरपेक्षता की विविधता को अपनाकर हमने एक ऐसी स्थिति को आमंत्रित किया, जिसने भारत में धर्मनिरपेक्षीकरण की प्रक्रिया को क्रमशः दुर्बल कर दिया है। समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

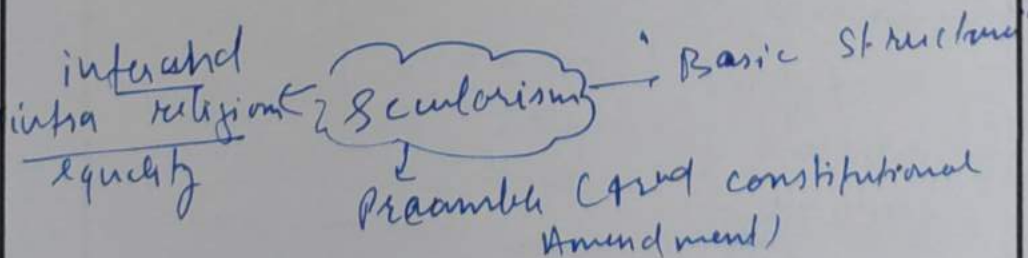
Secularism is the withdrawal of religion from State (political sphere)

Secularisation refers to gradual withdrawal of Religion influence from social, economic and political spheres.

Replacement of religious thought by Reason and non-religious thought.

Indian secularism is based upon equal respect for all religions and tolerance.

Recent events have resulted in critics arguing that Indian Secularism is moving towards Western Secularism, i.e. strict separation of Religion from State and even antagonism to religious symbols in public life.



Indian Secularism weakening Secularisation

(1) Communal Violence :-
 rising lynchings, mob violence,
 beheading, stone-pelting
 (eg) Delhi Riots (Anti-caste
 protests)

(2) Antagonism :-
 → rising suspicion among members
 of different communities.
 → & ghettoization of religious
 minorities
 → calling for religious Jihad /
Dharma Sansads.

(3) Politicization :-
 Increasing polarization by
 inflammatory speeches given by
 politicians for vote Bank.

(4) Criticism to Judicial Interpretation :-
 Reforms brought by Judiciary
 in religion through "Doctrine of
 Essentiality" is criticized for
 undue interference in religion.

(n) Majoritarianism:-

Attempts to reduce the religious diversity under the Sea of Majority culture

However, proponents of Indian secularism refuse the allegation of moving towards western secularism.

(1) Western states are more concerned with protecting individual liberties rather than community rights.

(2) Western secularism only concerns itself with intra-religious equality while India focuses both on inter and intra religious equality.

(3) India is a multi-religious state and pluralism is in the civilizational ethos.

Secularism in India is based on the philosophy of "Sarna Dharma".

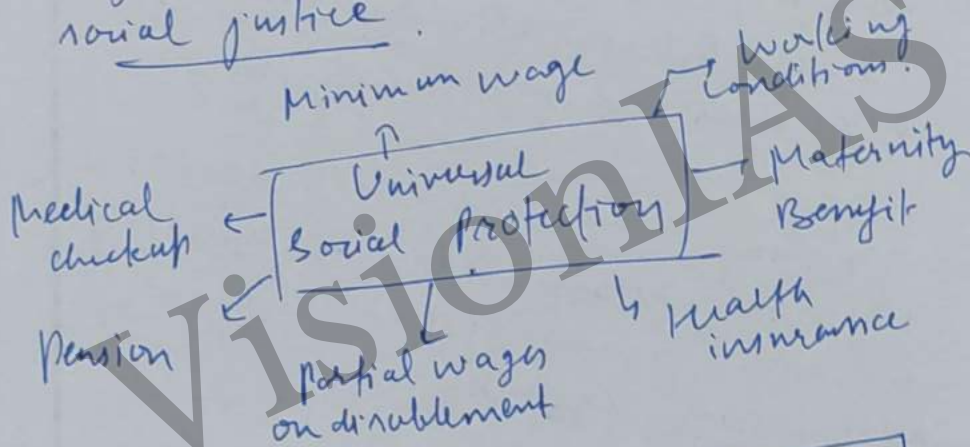
"Dambharna" Attempts should be made to eradicate all factors causing harm to civilizational ethos of pluralism and secularism in India.

14. Given its impact on both individual resilience and the resilience of the economy, is there a case for strong universal social protection in India? Discuss. (250 words) 15

व्यक्तिगत लचीलेपन और अर्थव्यवस्था की प्रत्यास्थता दोनों पर इसके प्रभाव को देखते हुए, क्या भारत में सुदृढ़ सार्वभौमिक सामाजिक सुरक्षा की स्थिति विद्यमान है? विवेचना कीजिए।

90% of the workforce in India is in the informal/unorganized sector with no social security.

Code on Social Security aims to bring into its ambit negativity of unorganized sector workers to ensure social justice.



Mandate

→ DPSP →

Article 39, 42

Universal Social Protection: Individual Resilience

- (1) Safety Net :-
 - Removal of Absolute Poverty (16% → UNDP)
 → Lower distress/indebtedness
 in old age/sickness/disablement

(2) Protection to vulnerable section:-

→ particularly, unorganised workers with no organisational capacity/
bargaining power

→ Migrants, SC, ST, women, PwD.

(3) Social Justice

→ Right to adequate means of livelihood

→ prevention of exploitation of labour

(4) Inter-generational welfare

→ higher expenditure on education, health, nutrition of children, family members.

Resilience of Economy

(1) Gender empowerment:-

→ Female labour participation rate increase

→ potential GDP increase by 27% (IMR)

(2) Productivity:-

→ access to insurance, health benefits increase productivity of labour force

Demographic dividend

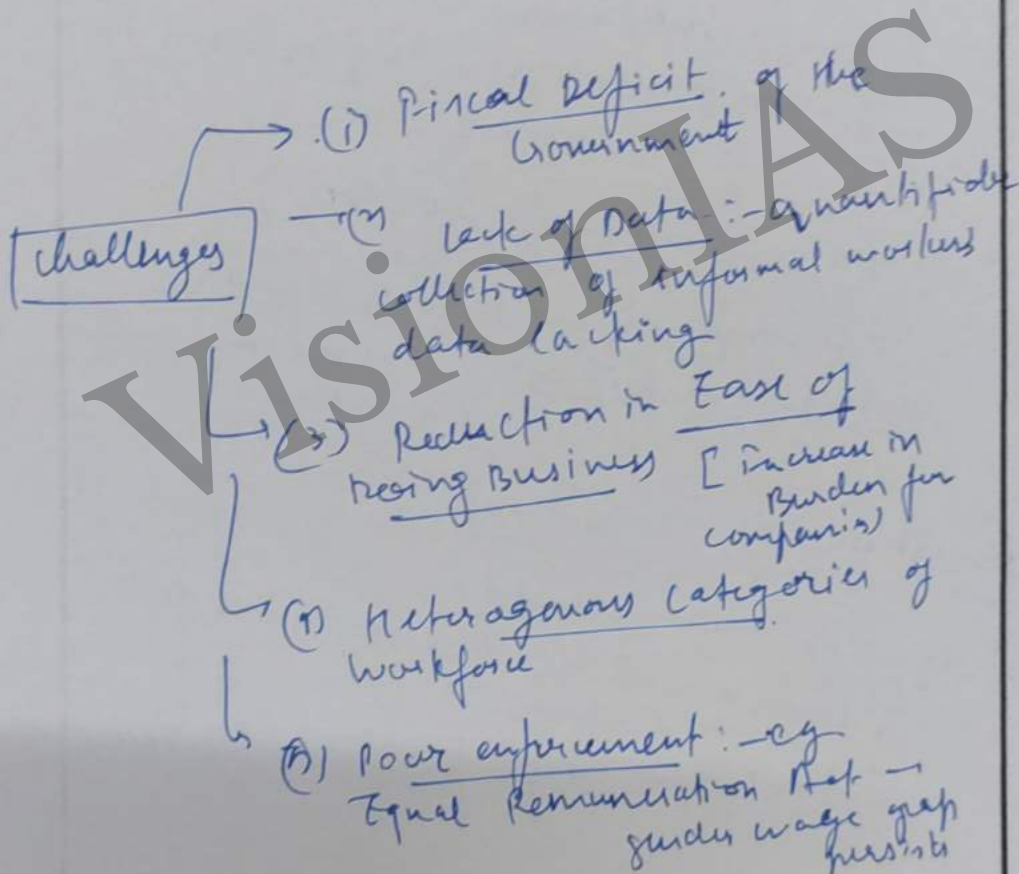
(3) International example

→ Noble Prize economists suggest that Minimum wage increase profitability of company.

(4) Unemployment of youth,

(5) Investment

income rise → savings → investment.



National Database for Unorganised Workers, e-Shram Portal and code on Social Security are steps in right direction.

15. Examine the multi-dimensional impact of globalisation on tribal development in India. (250 words) 15

भारत में जनजातीय विकास पर वैश्वीकरण के बहुआयामी प्रभाव का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Globalisation refers to increasing inter-connectedness, integration and inter-dependence between economies and societies so that what is occurring at one place affects all other places in the world.

Impact of globalisation (since 1991 reforms) has been a double-edged-bag for the tribal population in India.

Negative impact of globalisation

- (1) Development-induced Displacement:-

92% of all displaced by development projects → tribals (ST)
→ Walter Fernandez

- (2) Alienation of Rights:-

Reduced access to forests, community resources and traditional lands.

- (3) Forced Labour:-

Forced to shift from primitive activities to forced / Bonded labour or agricultural labour in small landholdings.

(4) Homogenisation :-

threats to distinct tribal identity
culture, tradition

eg) Tradition of worshipping
sacred groves on a decline

(5) Loss of language and Traditional wisdoms

eg) Bo language almost on
verge of extinction (Andaman)

(6) Environment Degradation → Loss of traditional
habitat

↳ Deforestation
↳ resource exploitation
(mining).
↳ animal-human
wildlife conflict.

(7) Marginalisation :- Tribal handicrafts
no competition to mass-based cheap
products in globalised world

Positive Impact of Globalisation(1) Preservation of culture:-

Digitisation and repository of language, culture etc to prevent extinction

eg Traditional Knowledge Digital Library.

(2) Enhanced Market Destination:-

Creates avenues for spread of tribal handicrafts, MFPS etc

eg TRIFED - marketing

(3) Glocalisation:-

Mixing of pop culture with tribal

eg Many traditional songs combined with pop culture

(4) Assertion:- Rising tribal identity assertion due to onslaught of globalisation.(5) Social Mobility:- Avenues for education, employment, health, and connection with mainstream (eg Mernu, Bihil, Sunthal)

Tribal Panchsheel Principles along with Forest Rights Act, PESA can be utilized to prevent negative aspects of globalisation.

16. What do you understand by feminisation of old age? Highlight the issues associated with it in the Indian context. Also, mention the measures taken by the government in this regard. (250 words) 15

वृद्धावस्था के नारीकरण से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारतीय संदर्भ में इससे जुड़े मुद्दों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Feminisation of old age refers to increasing number of females among the senior citizens (> 60 years) due to multiple factors, majorly, increasing greater life expectancy of females.

Male → 69.5 years } life expectancy
Female → 72.2 years }

The Sex Ratio of elderly population in India is above 1000, highlighting feminisation of old age.

Issues with feminisation of old age

- (1) Economic
- lower employability (silver economy)
 - Low awareness about financial planning and investment.
 - dependent on children/relative for economic assistance.
 - low pension and insurance coverage
 - low collateral accumulation by old age women

(2) Social:

- Reduced perception of self-worth.
- Higher Alienation and mental illnesses, depression, alzheimer.
(UP Reports)
- disinheritance from property
- Discrimination against old-aged widows.

(3) Health

- High Burden of chronic diseases
(70% → diabetes, hypertension etc)
- Special needs of elderly women -
osteoporosis, alzheimer (WHD)
- Low geriatric healthcare facilities in rural India
(70% of old women → rural)
- low health insurance penetration.

(4)

Usage

- digital literacy
- ↳ Low awareness about policies and inclusion (eg. National Social Assistance)

Measures taken by Government

- (1) Rashtriya Vayashri Yojana :-
assisted living devices supplied to
old age people by ARMC.
- (2) Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana
→ Pension after retirement
- (3) Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana
→ financial security → health insurance
- (4) POSTA Abhiyan for elderly
- (5) SACRED → employment opportunities
(Silver Economy)
- (6) DBT to widowed, old age women (COVID)
- (7) Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme
- (8) National Social Assistance Programme
- (9) Legislative :- Maintenance of parents
welfare of parents and Senior citizens
Act

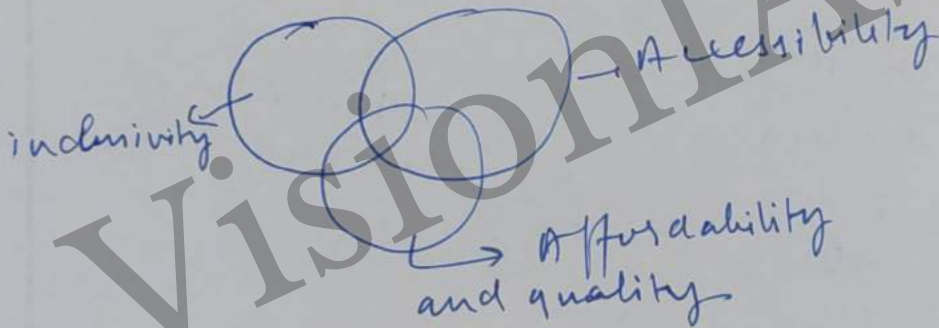
Above measures will help
achieve DPSP + Article 41 :- Assistance,
right to assistance and work in case
of old age and help achieve
social justice.

17. Strengthening the system of government-run schools is a prerequisite in ensuring social empowerment and inclusive development in India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत में सामाजिक सशक्तीकरण और समावेशी विकास सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकारी विद्यालयों की व्यवस्था को मजबूत करना एक अनिवार्य शर्त है। विवेचना कीजिए।

India has more than 10 lakh Government run schools which is 70% of the total schools in the country. Government schools help in achieving the targets of free and compulsory education laid down by Right to Education Act, 2009.



SDG-4

Strengthening Government Schools for social empowerment and inclusive development

- (1) Accessibility :-
- >10 lakh schools
 - reduced regional disparity.
 - Eg Eklavya Model Schools in tribal districts

(2) Affordability:-

→ free education along with free uniforms, textbooks.

(3) Inclusivity

→ ^{girl} women-specific → Kasturba Gandhi Balika Bhavan

→ SC, ST, OBC → Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya.

→ Tribal Youth → Ekklanya Model Schools

(4) Quality

regulation for maintaining standards set by regulating bodies along lines of RTE Act.

(5) Other provisions

→ Mid-Day Meal Scheme for greater attendance.

→ Greater infrastructural development through Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan.

Challenges / Fault-lines in Government Schools

- (1) RTE compliance → only 8% schools completely RTE compliant.
- (2) Infrastructural deficiency in digital education 42%.
↳ WASH facilities 15%.
- (3) Teaching - poor pedagogical framework
↳ Absenteeism of teachers.
↳ low pupil: teacher ratio
- (4) Disparity in GER: among vulnerable sections
- (5) Poor Outcomes →
↳ NSRF → only 30% of class 3 students can read class 2 material

Way Forward

- Penalty upon non-compliance of RTE norms
- Improved pedagogical framework,
play-based learning
- social Education expenditure →
6% of GDP (NEP, 2020)

National Education Policy must be implemented at war front.

18. Though unity in diversity has been a mainstay of India as a nation, there exist certain threats in this regard. Discuss. Also, bring out the relevance of civil society in sustaining the diversity of India. (250 words) 15

यद्यपि विविधता में एकता, एक राष्ट्र के रूप में भारत की आधारशिला रही है, तथापि इस संबंध में कुछ खतरे भी विद्यमान हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत की विविधता को बनाए रखने में नागरिक समाज की प्रासंगिकता को भी स्पष्ट कीजिए।

"Unity in Diversity" is a part of India's civilizational ethos along with pluralism and tolerance.

Several religions, linguistic regions, cultures have co-existed since centuries making it the perfect exemplification of "Salad-Bowl theory".

Unity in Diversity as Mainstay

(1) Constitutional Provisions

→ Article 14.

→ Single citizenship

→ Respect to diversities,

distinct languages, scripts, cultures.

(Article 29)

→ Fundamental Duty

(2) Religious Pluralism

Indian secularism based on

"Sarva Dharma Sambhava".

(3) Governance, role of State :-

- uniform legal system
- Pub. Tndra Service
- Constitution as supreme law of land for all

(4) Economic Integration :-

- one Nation One Tax - GST
- eNAM
- Article 301 (freedom of trade, commerce intercourse)

(5) Linguistic reorganisation of States

- reorganising identities based on diversity of languages.

→ Article 8th Schedule - 22 languages

(6) Pilgrimage, tourism etc

(7) policies like Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat, Swadesh Darshan

Threats to Unity in Diversity

(1) Intolerance.

- antagonism between communities.

→ protest based upon casteism, linguism, regionalism

- rising majoritarianism
- communal incidents.

(2) Monogenitism

- onslaught of Globalisation
- implementation of V.C.C.
- Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains under Hinduism.

(3) Regionalism: loyalty towards ^{own} region and hatred towards other
→ breeds son of soil mentality.

(4) Politicization: politicians fueling discontent and dividing society for vote bank.

Civil Society's role in sustaining diversity

(1) Awareness; sensitization of public through plays, songs, advertisements etc.

(2) Bring divisive politics / shades by politicians to ECJ's notice.

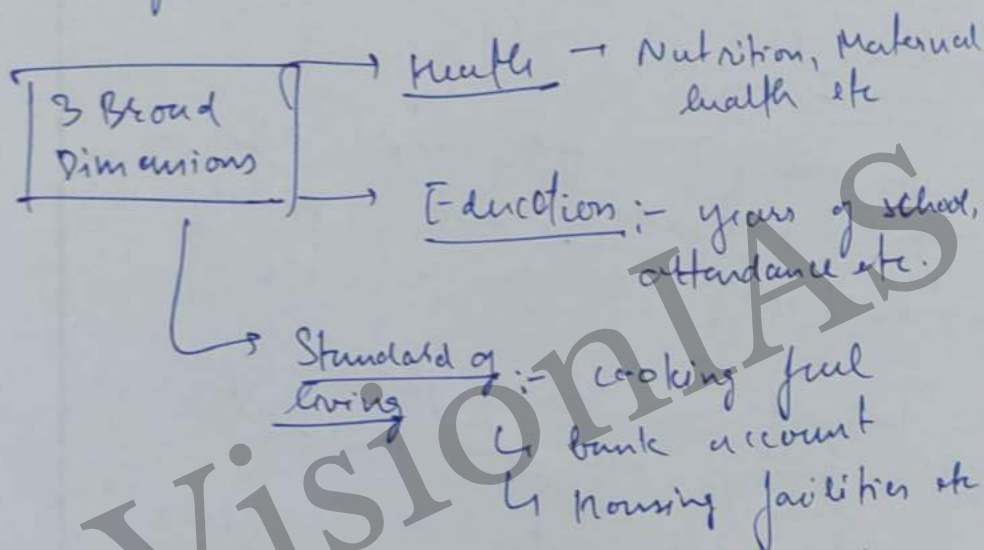
(3) Media can be used to unite people

(4) Protection of rights of minority.

19. In light of the recently released national multi dimensional poverty index (MPI) by India, assess the country's performance on eradicating multi dimensional poverty. (250 words) 15

भारत द्वारा हाल ही में जारी राष्ट्रीय बहुआयामी गरीबी सूचकांक (MPI) के आलोक में, बहुआयामी गरीबी उन्मूलन पर देश के प्रदर्शन का आकलन कीजिए।

NITI Aayog has released the National Multi dimensional poverty Index along lines of UNDP and OPHI's MPI.



MPI (National) has 12 dimensions and is aimed at treating poverty as a multi-disciplinary issue.

Findings

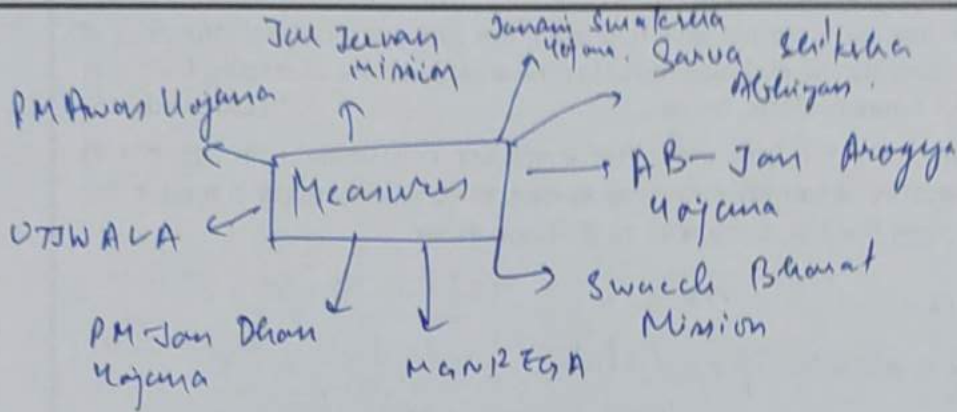
- (1) 25% of total population is Multi-dimensionally poor
- (2) Bihar, Jharkhand, UP among poorest states (Bihar → 50% → MPI)
- (3) Kerala, Sikkim etc least Multi-dimensionally poor.

- (9) Improvements in terms of availability of cooking fuel, banking service, Nutrition, household etc.

Assessment of India's performance in eradicating poverty

Positives:

- (1) According to UNDP's MPI, India lifted 4.15 million out of poverty between (2005-06) to (2020-21)
- (2) Largest number of people lifted out of poverty by any country,
(greatest contribution in global poverty removal)
- (3) IMF and WB - reduction of extreme poverty despite COVID-19 pandemic due to measures like Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana
- (4) Others:- water (53% → tap water)
↳ Sanitation (100% ODF)
↳ nutrition (wasting down to 19% (from 24%))
↳ MMR down to 113 (from 130)



Drawbacks

- (1) India still home to largest number of multi-dimensionally poor (UNDP)
- (2) $\frac{\text{low tax}}{\text{GDP}} \rightarrow$ poor tax buoyancy prevents redistribution.
- (3) Beneficiary exclusion:- eg. around 40% included in ~~MGN~~ MPSA (Economic survey).
- (4) Pandemic and geopolitical instability may reverse gains (10% of population under threat of falling back to poverty line)

Universal Basic Income and labor intensive growth alongside rights based approach can help eradicate poverty

20. Indian cities are not only mimicking the social and cultural structures of inequality and exclusion found in rural areas but are also creating fault lines for future conflicts. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भारतीय शहर न केवल ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में पाई जाने वाली असमानता और बहिष्करण की सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक संरचनाओं की नकल कर रहे हैं, बल्कि भविष्य के संघर्षों के लिए दोषपूर्ण स्थिति का भी निर्माण कर रहे हैं। विवेचना कीजिए।

India is witnessing rapid urbanisation with urban population predicted to rise to 50% by 2050 (on habitat)

Sociologist GS Gaughey called urban centres "cradles of civilizations" with the hope that cities will emerge as the perfect melting pots of different religions, cultures, castes, etc.

however, there are signs of cities reproducing social and cultural inequalities :-

(1) Religious segregation :-

- ghettoization of religious minorities
- rising antagonism and intolerance
- compartmentalisation
- Ashish Nandy :- "superiority complex of religions"

(2) Caste →

caste based occupations
(70% Manual scavengers → Dalits)

- caste is still strong in private sphere
(Charles Gould)
- endogamy, caste-based identity
assertion still remains strong
(eg. Diamond Sana)

(3) Gender Inequality

- "Mistaken Modernity" (Yogendra Singh)
 - ↳ women are allowed to work but
have participation in decision making
- Crimes against women on rise
- lower female participation in labour
force in urban areas.

(4) Class Inequalities

- stark contrast → slums rising
↳ ~50% of Mumbai's population → slums)
- Uncertainty Index :- high due to
holozation in cities.
- high incidence of white collar crimes

(5) Exclusion

- ↳ 'cities' public spaces → low accessibility
for PWD and senior citizens.

Fault lines for future conflicts:

(1) Communal violence :- due to rising mistrust and intolerance manifested in form of violence, riots, targeted murders
 ↪ eg Delhi Riots, 2019.

(2) Son-of-soil :- anti-migrant sentiments hampering fraternity and national unity
 ↪ eg Haryana reserving 75% of employment for locals

(3) Crimes :- exponential rise of crimes against women, ~~target~~ white collar crimes, stealing, murders, drug abuse etc.

(4) Crimes against Marginalised :-
 ↪ Crime against member of SC every 6 minutes.

Urban planning must take into consideration the socio-cultural faultlines emerging in urban areas. Greater equality and accessibility to the disadvantaged sections is the need of the hour.