

Transgender

Karnataka has become the first state in the country to provide **1% horizontal reservation** for transgender people in all **government services**.

Background:

- ❑ **2014:** In **NALSA v. Union of India** case, SC ruled that:
 - ✓ Transgender are **third** gender.
 - ✓ They have same **fundamental rights** as others.
 - ✓ They should have right to **self-identification** as male, female, third gender.
 - ✓ They should get **reservation** in education and jobs.
- ❑ **2019:** Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) **Act**, 2019
- ❑ **2020:** National **Council** for Transgender Persons established in August 2020

Features of the Act:

- a) **defines transgender:** whose gender does not match gender assigned at birth
- b) **recognizes transgender:** certificate from District Magistrate
- c) **prohibits discrimination:** in education, health, employment, etc.
- d) **protect interest:** by setting up National Council for Transgender Persons
- ❑ **Right of residence** with own **family** till 18 years of age, can't be separated except on court orders in interest of the child
- ❑ It **prohibits unfair treatment** denial of service or in health, education, employment, public goods, etc.
- ❑ It gives **right to movement**; right to reside, rent, or own property.
- ❑ Offences against transgender persons will attract **imprisonment** from 6 months to two years.

Criticism of the Act:

- **One solution fits all** approach wrong. There is difference between transgender, intersex, etc.
- It **does not recognize right to self-determination** as applying for certificate to DM will lead to bureaucratic discrimination.
- If DM denies certificate, there is **no review or appeal** mechanism
- **Lighter sentence** of just **two years** for sexual abuse against transgender, as compared to **7 years** that for **women**.
- It protects, but does not promotes, i.e. there is **no reservation** in education or jobs. This is despite the fact that they are **socially and educationally backward**.

National Council for Transgender Persons:**What is the composition of NCTP?**

- a) Chairperson: Union **Minister of Social Justice**
- b) Representatives from other ministries, NITI, NHRC, NCW, states.
- c) 5 members from **transgender** community
- d) 5 experts from **NGOs**

What are the functions of NCTP?

- a) **Advise** Central government on **policies** related to transgender persons.
- b) **Monitor impact** of policies for transgender persons.
- c) **Review** activities of all the **departments**.
- d) **Redress grievances** of transgender persons.
- e) Perform such **other** functions as prescribed by Centre.

Data:

- Census 2011: **4.8 lakh** (55,000 are of 0-6 years age)
- Registered with Election Commission: **28,000**

State govt. initiatives:

Kerala

- Framed **Transgender Policy** in 2015 to bring them to the mainstream.
- Transgender **Justice Board** to deal with their complaints

Tamil Nadu:

- Welfare Board** and schemes for transgenders

Maharashtra:

- Welfare board and first state to set up **cultural institute** for transgenders

Some notable examples:

- **Prithika Yashini** - first transgender **sub-inspector** (Tamil Nadu)
- **Sathyasri Sharmila** - first transgender **lawyer** (Tamil Nadu, 2018)
- **Joyita Mondal** - first transgender **judge** (West Bengal, Lok Adalat, 2017)
- **Shabnam Mausi** - first transgender **MLA** in India. (Madhya Pradesh, 1998-2003)
- **Laxmi Narayan Tripathi** - first transgender to represent Asia Pacific in **UN** in 2008

Additional comments:

- Currently several laws do not have adequate provisions for transgenders.
- For example, Section 376 of IPC dealing with rape cases has provisions only for women, and not transgender.
- Sometimes, legal change is precursor to social change.

Way forward:

- Gender sensitization** at school level should include about third gender as well.
- Sensitize** general public and law enforcement agencies about the legal rights of transgender persons.
- Considering lack of employment opportunities, they can be given **reservation** in education and employment.
- A national toll-free **helpline** for transgender can be launched to register complaints against violation of their rights.

NCERT removes manual on transgender inclusion in schools from site: Stand by report, says expert who worked on document

Written by **Sourav Roy Barman** | Delhi |
Updated: November 6, 2021 9:45:09 am

Manual on transgender inclusion: NCERT transfers two faculty members who were part of panel

On November 2, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) had issued a notice to the NCERT, seeking its comments on a complaint, which an organisation called Legal Rights Observatory claimed to have filed, against the manual.

Written by **Sourav Roy Barman** | New Delhi |
Updated: November 11, 2021 8:21:14 am

Drug abuse

September 2021: 3,000 tonnes of drugs, worth Rs 20,000 crore were seized in Gujarat (India's biggest drugs haul till date)

June 2020: World Drug Report 2020 released by UN Office on Drugs & Crime (UNODC): fourth highest seizure of opium in 2018 was reported from India (Iran > Afghan > Pak > India)

How did Covid-19 impact illegal drug production, supply and consumption?

- Economic hardship** forcing people into drug cultivation & trafficking to earn money
- Existing movement of people hampered, forcing traffickers to find **alternate supply routes**. e.g. recent seizures in Indian ocean.
- Drug addicts are at **greater risk** of developing Covid related **complications**.
- Difficulty in getting **treatment** for drug disorder (no money, lockdown, etc.)

A 2019 report by AIIMS "Magnitude of Substance Use in India":

- 5 crore Indians use drugs (8.5 lakh by injection)
- Worst affected regions:
 - North-east India (especially Manipur)
 - North-west India (especially Punjab)
 - Mumbai, Delhi, Haryana



GOLDEN CRESCENT

Afghanistan, Iran & Pakistan supply almost **90%** of the world's illicit **OPIUM**

What are the reasons for drug abuse in India?

- India is the **link country** between two major opium producing regions: "Golden Triangle" and "Golden Crescent".
- Poverty** forcing people into drug trafficking
- Psychiatric disorder, **depression**, trauma
- Lifestyle, **recreation**, peer pressure, etc.
- Diversion from **pharma industry**.



GOLDEN TRIANGLE

Northeast's hilly terrain makes it easier for traffickers to **SMUGGLE DRUGS** from Myanmar, Laos & Thailand

Why is drug trafficking and drug abuse a serious concern for India?

- Loss of **demographic dividend** as productive years of youth goes waste.
- It leads to other evils like **domestic violence**, child abuse, etc.
- Strong link between injecting drugs and contracting **HIV**.
- Threat to **national security** as drug trafficking routes are often used for money-laundering, terror financing and arms trafficking.

What steps has India taken to control the problem of drug abuse?

- DPSP **Article 47** directs state to prohibit use of drugs.
- Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (**NDPS Act, 1985**) bans production, supply, use of drugs. **Narcotics Control Bureau** (MHA) to enforce it.
- Established **Narco-coordination center** & **National Fund for Control of Drug Abuse**
- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, has launched two initiatives:
 - National Action Plan** for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) for 2018-2025
 - Nasha Mukh Bharat**: Action Plan (2020-21) for 272 Most Affected Districts
- India is signatory to the three **UN Conventions**:
 - Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961,
 - Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971
 - Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988.
- India launched **BIMSTEC Conference** on Combating Drug Trafficking to combat the drug menace in the region.

What can be done to reduce drug abuse in India?

- a) More **International** cooperation: with other countries and UN agencies
- b) Stringent **Border** control: due to porous borders
- c) Control **local** production: give people alternate source of income
- d) Awareness in schools and **colleges**
- e) Campaigns on **social media**
- f) More de-addiction **centers**
- g) Increasing number of trained healthcare **professionals**

Conclusion:

Stigma associated with drug addiction should to be reduced.

Addiction should not be seen as a character flaw, but as an **ailment** that a person is struggling with.
(Think: crores of people can't be put in jail)

In one of the districts of a frontier state, narcotics menace has been rampant. This has resulted in money laundering, mushrooming of poppy farming, arms smuggling and near stalling of education. The system is on the verge of collapse. The situation has been further worsened by unconfirmed reports that local politicians as well as some senior police officers are providing surreptitious patronage to the drug mafia. At that point of time a woman police officer, known for her skills in handling such situations is appointed as Superintendent of Police to bring the situation to normalcy. If you are the same police officer, identify the various dimensions of the crisis. Based on your understanding, suggest measures to deal with the crisis. (250 words) 20

- Mains 2019

Bonded Labour

What is bonded labour?

- People pledging their labour due to debt or other obligation (custom, caste, etc.)
- It is a type of forced labour and modern day slavery.
- Most cases are in agricultural, brick kilns, domestic servitude, sexual slavery, etc.

Causes:

- a) **Poverty**
- b) **Caste** based discrimination
- c) Lack of **formal credit**, no collateral available, so borrows from moneylender
- d) High **interest rate** and lack of decent paying **jobs**
- e) villagers lured by **traffickers** with the promise of a good job

Impact of Covid-19:

- job loss, more poverty, more loans, children out of school

How many bonded labourers in India?

- 1.35 lakh [Census 2011]
- 80 lakh [Global Slavery Index 2018]
- **1.8 crore** to be rescued by 2030 [2016 estimates]

Steps taken:

Constitution:

- Article 21:** Right to life and personal liberty
- Article 23:** prohibits traffic in human beings and forced labour

Laws:

- Bonded Labour System (Abolition) **Act, 1976**
- IPC section **374:** Punishment for unlawfully compelling someone to work
- Minimum Wage Act 1948; Child Labour Act 1986; SC/ST (PoA) Act 1989

Schemes:

- Scheme for **Rehabilitation** of bonded labour since **1978**
- Revised in **2016** to increase assistance up to Rs 3 lakh.
- Ratification of **ILO's** Abolition of Forced Labour **Convention, 1957**

*Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 is the only law which gives **Executive Magistrate** the powers of **Judicial Magistrate First Class** to hold **Summary Trial**.*

*Still ineffective. Reason: **DMs** are not aware of the procedure to conduct **Summary Trial**. [source: **NHRC, 2018**]*

70 years of Constitution and 35 years of law, still bonded labour exists. Why?

- Labourer:** uneducated; unskilled; lack of awareness.
- Employer:** charges high interest rate;
- Society:** continuance of caste system; economic inequalities
- Government:** weak enforcement of law (victim is poor); ineffective rehabilitation;
- Economy:** low formal credit; large informal sector; no modernization of labour dependent sectors like agriculture, brick kilns, stone quarries, etc.

NHRC's 2018 Handbook on Bonded Labour:

Rescue without rehabilitation is a **remedy worse than malady** because these labourers will die of starvation. Following measures can be adopted:

- a) Public **awareness** and education is a must.
- b) Productive and **income** generating schemes must be formulated, after consulting NGOs
- c) Govt. should work on priority basis in **areas** vulnerable for bonded labour.
- d) A **speedier** grievance redressal machinery should be established for proper disposal of cases
- e) **Humanitarian training** programme for persons dealing with bonded labourer.
- f) There should be a system of **summary disposal** of cases.
- g) There should be a strict **enforcement** of the laws.
- h) There should be more **stringent** penal laws.

Way forward:

a) Prevent:

- a) Strengthening poverty alleviation programmes like **MNREGA**;
- b) Exploring use of **UBI**

b) Tackle:

- a) Strict **enforcement** of law
- b) Strengthen **NGOs** working for this cause

c) Rehabilitate:

- a) Speed up cases; timely release of **compensation**
- b) **Link** other welfare schemes; skill development of the rescued
- c) Create **database** to track rehabilitation progress

Tribals

Brief background:

- ❑ Historically referred to as **aboriginals**, **natives**, etc.
- ❑ **Scheduled Districts Act 1874** notified certain tribal areas as scheduled districts (mentioned in schedule annexed to the Act).
- ❑ Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) **Order, 1950** had list of Scheduled Tribes.
- ❑ Today India has about **705 STs**, **75** of them are **PVTGs**.

Scheduled Tribes are characterized by:

- a) Primitive Traits
- b) Geographical isolation
- c) Distinct culture
- d) Shy of contact with community at large
- e) Economically backward

PVTGs are characterized by:

- a) pre-agriculture level of technology
- b) stagnant or declining population
- c) extremely low literacy
- d) subsistence level of economy

1973: Dhebar Commission created Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category.

2006: PTGs renamed as PVTGs.

Impact of colonialism on tribals:

- **Relative isolation eroded.** Traders, officials, moneylenders etc. invaded tribal areas, and disturbed their traditional ways of living.
- Their **relation with forest disturbed** as outsiders exploited forests and forest laws restricted use of forests. [Tribals depend on forest for survival.]
- Many tribals lost their land and fell into **debt trap**.

After independence, India had three options:

- a) **Isolation:** leave them alone [they will never be able to progress]
- b) **Assimilation:** make them part of mainstream society [Problems: they will lose their identity, knowledge, culture]
- c) **Integration:** make them integral part of India, while maintaining their identity. Main idea: (a) they have to progress; (b) their progress has to be in their own way.

For this, Nehru gave Panchsheel policy:

- 1) Allow them to develop along their **own genius**. No compulsion from outside.
- 2) Respect their **land and forest rights**. Outsiders should not be able to take possession of their land.
- 3) **No over-administration** or overwhelmed by multiplicity of schemes.
- 4) **Administrators** should be recruited from **tribals** and trained.
- 5) **Results** should not be judged by money spent, but by human character that is evolved.

Constitution:

- **Article 46:** State shall protect weaker sections/SC/ST from social injustice and exploitation.
- **Article 330:** reservation in LS
- **Article 338A:** NCST
- **Schedule 5 and 6**

Laws: SC/ST (PoA) Act, **1989**; PESA, **1996**; FRA, **2006**

Data:

- Tribal population **10.4 crore** (8.6% of total)
- 90% of them in rural areas
- MP has highest tribal population
- **40%** tribals are **BPL** (others 20%)
- **Literacy** rate **59%** (national 73%)
- **Sex ratio** **990/1000** (national average 933/1000)

Some issues:

- Forceful eviction from land
- Human rights violation
- Threat to traditional knowledge
- Poor health and education
- Low price of tribal products

Solution:

- Proper implementation of FRA 2006 and LARR 2013
- Improve infra at Eklavya model schools in tribal areas
- Mobile medical camps
- Strengthen TRIFED's MSP for MFP program
- Van Dhan yojana for value addition to tribal products

Xaxa Committee 2013:

- Prevent of all kinds of tribal **land alienation** through strict enforcement of laws
- Autonomous Councils must be covered under **State Finance Commission**
- Establish **agro-based** training institutions and related **labour-intensive processing** industries in tribal regions
- **Teachers** for schools in the tribal regions should be **recruited locally**

Health problems in Tribals

- **Malnutrition:** 50% adolescent tribal girls are underweight
- **Communicable diseases:** 30% of malaria cases and 60% deaths
- **Genetic diseases:** G6PD in 25% of Vataliya Prajapati community
- **Addiction:** 72% tribal men use tobacco (56% non-tribals)
- **Life expectancy:** 64 years (national average 67 years)
- **Under 5 mortality:** 74 (national average 62)

Reasons for poor health among tribals:

- a) Primitive **childbirth** practices; not supplemented by nutritious diet of iron, calcium, vitamins.
- b) Resistance to **immunization** programs for children.
- c) **Unhygienic** practices leads to frequent illness.
- d) **Mistrust** on modern **medicine**.
- e) Lack of public health **infra**.
- f) Unwillingness in **doctors** to serve in tribal areas.

Recent initiatives:

- **GOAL** (Going Online as Leaders): MoTA and Facebook to digitally mentor young tribal women.
- **Swasthya portal:** to host all health and nutrition related information of tribals.
- **ALEKH:** e-newsletter of MoTA on health and nutrition

Way forward:

- a) Periodic **mobile medical camps** in tribal areas.
- b) **Train locals** to act as health workers.
- c) Use locals for **awareness** campaigns on benefits of hand washing, institutional deliveries, etc.
- d) Providing **transportation to pregnant** women for delivery in health center.

Forest Rights Act 2006

For people living in forests for generations, but whose rights could not be recorded.

Rights under FRA, 2006:

- **Ownership** rights by giving title to lands.
- **Usage** rights to minor forest produce
- **Relief** rights for rehabilitation in case of forced eviction.
- Rights on traditional **knowledge**
- Rights to basic **amenities**
- Right of access to **biodiversity** resources

Issues:

- **Delay** in processing of claims.
- Problem in producing **evidence** to prove claims.
- **Rehabilitation** is to very far away place, and often delayed.
- **Other forest laws** restrict access to forest produce.
- People in **North-East** already enjoy more rights than under FRA, 2006.
- Basic **amenities** like road and water are **not provided**.
- **Officials** are not clear about the rights under the Act.
- **Role of Gram Sabha** rendered ineffective due to forest department's involvement

Suggested Measures:

- **Sensitize** and train officials about provisions of the Act.
- Use **GIS mapping** for demarcating forest areas.
- Dispose of cases/claims **faster** by providing more manpower and use of **technologies**.
- **Amend other laws** which stop tribals from using forest resources.
- **Clarify the role** and functions of Gram Sabha and forest department.
- Through **NGOs**, sensitize tribals about their rights and ensure that they are not fooled by forest officials.

PESA Act 1996

PESA was enacted to ensure self-governance through gram sabhas, for people living in scheduled areas.

Issues:

- **States** are supposed to make laws under PESA, many states have **still not made laws**.
- **Ministries** are working without effective **coordination** (MoTA, MoRD, MoPR)
- **Social audits** have revealed that **Gram Sabhas** are approving schemes on paper, **without** any actual **meeting** taking place.

What can be done:

- States must enact laws and frame rules
- Inter-ministerial coordination
- Make people and official aware about rights of GS
- Help GS with administrative support for decision making

Power of ADCs under 6 th Schedule		PESA Act 1996	
Legislative power	can make laws on land, forest, marriage, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Part-IX (Panchayats) did not apply to 5 th Schedule areas; but Parliament could do so	<input type="checkbox"/> Parliament did so by enacting PESA Act 1996
Judicial power	create courts to hear cases involving tribes (appeal lies to HC/SC)	<input type="checkbox"/> Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas)	
Executive power	create and manage schools, dispensary, markets, road, etc.	Purpose of PESA Act 1996:	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide self-rule
Taxation power	can impose and collect certain taxes. They also get grants from CFI.	<input type="checkbox"/> Encourage participatory democracy	<input type="checkbox"/> Protect tribal customs
<p>Prelims 2012: Which of the following provisions of Constitution have a bearing on Education?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Directive Principles of State Policy 2. Rural and Urban Local Bodies 3. Fifth Schedule 4. Sixth Schedule 5. Seventh Schedule <p>Select the correct answer using the codes given below:</p> <p>(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3, 4 and 5 only (c) 1, 2 and 5 only (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5</p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> Prevent higher Panchayats from assuming powers of lower panchayats</p> <p>Role of Gram Sabha under PESA 1996:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Protect culture, customary dispute resolution, community resources, etc.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> identify beneficiaries of poverty alleviation and other programs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Approve developmental projects</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Give Panchayat certificate of utilization of funds for projects</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> For granting mining lease for minor minerals in scheduled areas, Gram Sabha's recommendation is mandatory</p>	
<p>Prelims 2019: Under which schedule of the Constitution of India can the transfer of tribal land to private parties for mining be declared null and void?</p> <p>(a) Third Schedule (b) Fifth Schedule (c) Ninth Schedule (d) Twelfth Schedule</p>		<p>Prelims 2015: The provisions in Fifth Schedule and Sixth Schedule in the Constitution of India are made in order to</p> <p>(a) protect the interests of Scheduled Tribes (b) determine the boundaries between States (c) determine the powers, authority and responsibilities of Panchayats (d) protect the interests of all the border States</p>	
<p>Prelims 2013: The Government enacted the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act in 1996. Which one of the following is not identified as its objective?</p> <p>(a) To provide self-governance (b) To recognize traditional rights (c) To create autonomous regions in tribal areas (d) To free tribal people from exploitation</p>		<p>Prelims 2012: In the areas covered under the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996, what is the role/power of Gram Sabha?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gram Sabha has the power to prevent alienation of land in the Scheduled Areas. 2. Gram Sabha has the ownership of minor forest produce. 3. Recommendation of Gram Sabha is required for granting prospecting licence or mining lease for any mineral in Scheduled Areas. <p>Which of the statements given above is/are correct?</p> <p>(a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3</p>	
<p>Prelims 2008: Which Schedule of Constitution contains special provisions for administration and control of Scheduled Areas in several States?</p> <p>(a) Third (b) Fifth (c) Seventh (d) Ninth</p>			
I read I forget, I see I remember		See explanation of this PDF on YouTube www.youtube.com/c/allinclusiveias	
Prelims 2021	Current Affairs	Polity	Page-20 © All Inclusive IAS

Mental Health

Mental Health in India:

- ❑ WHO in a 2018 report:
 - **6.5 %** Indians have some form of **serious** mental disorder.
 - India is "worlds most depressed country".
- ❑ 2015-16 National Mental Health Survey (NMHS)
 - every sixth person (i.e. **16%**) in India needs **mental health help** of some sort
- ❑ India has just **5,000 psychiatrists**, i.e. 0.3 psychiatrists per lakh people

Issues associated with mental health in India:

- ❑ [quote the figures]
- ❑ Poor awareness about **symptoms** of mental illness delays **diagnosis**
- ❑ Social **stigma** of being "mad" delays/prevents **treatment**
- ❑ Loss of **demographic dividend** as most mental disorders are in young adults
- ❑ Loss to **economy** as work productivity decreases.

Steps taken:

- ❑ **1982:** India launched **National Mental Health Programme** to focus on prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of people suffering from mental health issues.
- ❑ **1987:** Mental Health **Act**, 1987
- ❑ **1996:** **District Mental Health Programme** to provide mental health services at primary health care level.
- ❑ **2017:** Mental Health Care **Act** 2017 repealed the Mental Health Act, 1987.
- ❑ **SDG** 3.4 aims at reducing mental illness.

Mental Healthcare Act, 2017:

- Right to Access to Healthcare **facility**
- Right to live with **dignity**
- Right to **Confidentiality**
- **Electro**-convulsive therapy cannot be given without **anaesthesia**.
- Cannot be **chained** under any circumstances
- No seclusion or **solitary** confinement.
- **Decriminalizes** suicide
- Central Mental Health **Authority** at national-level and State Mental Health Authority in every State.
- **Advance directive** to state how he/she wants to be treated and who his/her nominated representative shall be.

How has covid-19 impacted mental well-being of general population?

- No **schools**/colleges
- Spending more time on **internet** / online games
- No theatre, outings, evening **park gatherings** of elderly
- Economic factors like **job loss** or its fear, decrease in income
- Increase in **domestic violence**
- **Stigma** of being corona positive;
- Irresponsible **media** coverage, fear mongering
- **Death** of someone due to corona

Mains 2006:

What are the problems related to the rehabilitation of the mentally challenged persons in India?

What can be done?

- Do not follow sensational **news** or social media posts
- **Stay connected** using digital means
- Take help of govt. initiatives like **Manodarpan** of MHRD
- Positive use of **social media** against stigma associated with covid
- **KIRAN:** Ministry of Social Justice helpline for mental health

Suicides

Suicide: deliberately ending one's own life

Data related to suicides:

Global (Source: WHO)

- 8 lakh suicides every year
- 80% of them in low- and middle-income countries.

India (source: NCRB data for 2019)

- **1.4 lakh** suicides (10,000 students)
- 32% due to family problems
- 70% males, 30% females
- Only 3.7% were graduates and above

Think chronologically:

Family → Friends → School → Entrance exam → College life → Job → Age → Death

Reasons for suicide by youngsters:

- Poor **family** support
- Pressure to perform in **studies**
- **Bullying**, body-shaming, LGBTQ
- Broken **relationships**
- Lack of mental health **facilities**
- Social **stigma** of being mentally ill
- Unsafe use of **social media** (e.g. Blue whale challenge)

Steps to reduce suicide in students:

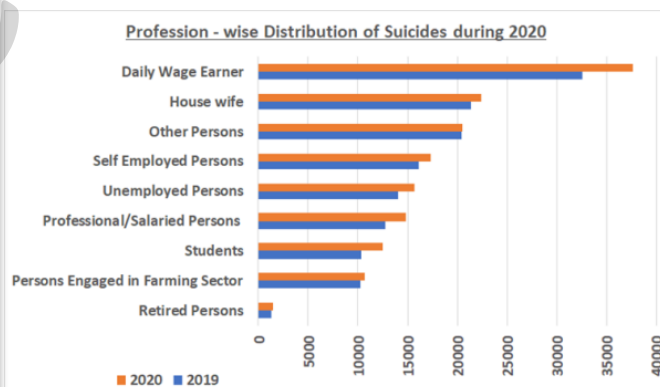
- Reducing exam **stress** in school
- Regular **counselling** in school by professionals
- Encouraging use of **professional help** in case of depression
- Establishing more mental health **facilities**
- Creating **awareness** to remove stigma

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NCRB report: Data shows more suicides among businessmen than farmers in 2020

Compared to 2019, suicides among the business community in 2020 increased 29 per cent. Suicides among tradespeople, meanwhile, increased from 2,906 in 2019 to 4,356 in 2020 — a 49.9 per cent jump.



Population

Factors that influence population growth in India?

(use frameworks to think: **PESTEL**, Health, Education, Culture)

- ❑ **Political:**
 - politicians encourage people to produce more children
- ❑ **Economic:**
 - Poor produce more children than middle class
 - Children seen as additional hands to earn
- ❑ **Social:**
 - Early marriages [Earlier the marriage, more the children]
 - Preference for male child [2.1 crore “unwanted girls” due to “son metapreference” as per Economic Survey 2017-18]
- ❑ **Technological:**
 - Availability of ultrasound; IVF
- ❑ **Legal:**
 - Weak law enforcement PCPNDT Act 1994; Dowry Prohibition Act 1961
- ❑ **Health:**
 - High Infant and Child mortality rate encourages people to produce more children, so that at least some survive to become adult.
- ❑ **Education:**
 - ❑ Educated and employed women produce less children.
- ❑ **Culture:**
 - ❑ Tradition of having large families

Core reason for population explosion? Lack of social progress

- ❑ Any group of people with low social progress will have high population growth rate.
- ❑ If govt policy leads to progress of any particular group (region, state, religion, caste, etc.), their population growth rate will decrease.
- ❑ e.g. Bihar vs Kerala, India vs Japan

	Population growth rate	
	1961-1971	2001-2011
Kerala	26.3%	4.86%
Bihar	20.9%	25%

How to control population in high TFR areas?

- a) **Spread awareness** about benefits of having less children. Use NGOs and Panchayats; special focus on women SHGs.
- b) Increase access to various **contraceptive** methods.
- c) Bust **myths** like male sterilization leads to weakness.
- d) **Reduce Infant Mortality** rate by improving **health infra**. Low survival rate makes poor produce more children.
- e) **Stop child marriages**. Early marriages result in more number of children.

Issues in current approach to sterilization?

- a) **Women centric**: 97% of all sterilizations are done on women
- b) **Unhygienic** sterilization camps, no follow up of side-effects. e.g. over 100 women hospitalized following sterilization camp in Chhattisgarh in 2014.
- c) **Target** oriented [coercion, falsification of data].
- d) Other safer **alternatives** not promoted.
- e) **Female foeticide** / infanticide
- f) Focused on poor and tribals

Government initiatives

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

MEASURES TO CHECK POPULATION GROWTH

Posted On: 06 AUG 2021 2:28PM by PIB Delhi

Initiatives for Population Control in India:

- 1952 National Family Planning Program
- 1975-76: mass sterilization
- 1978: renamed to National Family Welfare Program
- 2000: National Population Policy

Recent initiatives: [source: PIB November 2019, August 2021]

- Mission Parivar Vikas:** launched in 2017; for 146 districts having TFR 3 and above.
- Vasectomy fortnight is observed throughout the country in November each year to lay emphasis on male participation.
- Promotional activities like **Saas bahu sammelans**, **Nayi Pehel Kits**, etc.
- Post-partum Intra-uterine contraceptive device (PPIUCD) incentive scheme.
- Injectable Contraceptive** (Antara) that prevents pregnancy for three months.
- Family Planning Logistics Management Information System (**LMIS**) to track distribution of contraceptives to health facilities and ASHAs.
- Effective use of **ASHA** workers:
 - Making home delivery of **contraceptives**
 - Counselling** newly-weds to delay birth by two years
 - Carrying pregnancy **testing** kits for early detection and safe abortion.

Achievements of National Population Policy 2000: [source: PIB February 2020, August 2021]

- TFR** declined from 2.9 in 2005 to 2.2 in 2018.
- 28 out of 37** States/UTs achieved replacement level fertility of 2.1 or less.
- Decadal growth rate** declined from **21%** in 2000 to **17%** in 2011.
- Crude Birth Rate** (CBR) declined from 23.8 to **20** from 2005 to 2018.
- Teenage birth rate** halved from 16 % (NFHS III) to **8%** (NFHS IV)

“Data from NFHS will be beneficial to all line ministries, State Govts and other stakeholders”: Union Health Secretary

Posted On: 24 NOV 2021 1:50PM by PIB Delhi

- ❑ **NFHS-4** (2015-16) estimates were used as **baseline** for many **SDG** indicators.
- ❑ **NFHS-5 also includes** pre-school education, menstrual hygiene, frequency of alcohol and tobacco use, etc.
- ❑ Total Fertility Rates (**TFR**), (average number of children per women) is **2.0**

Two child policy

- ❑ 12 states in India deny people with more than two children right to contest Panchayat elections, get government jobs, etc.
- ❑ Such policies are based on the idea that denying socio-economic benefits can force people to limit number of children.

Issues with two-child policies:

- ❑ **Rights:** It is a violation of reproductive rights.
- ❑ **Sex ratio:** It will increase number of sex-selective abortions.
- ❑ **Side-effects:** Increase in cases of desertion of wife, non-registration of delivery, etc.
- ❑ **Discriminatory:** 80% of those disqualified from Panchayat for violating two-child norms, were Dalits, Adivasis, OBCs.
- ❑ **No requirement:** India has already achieved TFR of 2.1
- ❑ **International:** It is against the UN's ICPD Cairo 1994, to which India is a signatory.

Large population: burden or resource?

How can a large working-age population be beneficial?

- Increased labour **supply**.
- Increased domestic **demand**.
- Increased **savings**. As number of dependents are less, individuals can save more. More savings, more investment.
- Better **human capital**. Parents can invest more on children's health and education (especially girl child)

Median age:

India 28, China & USA 37,
West Europe 45, Japan 49

Challenges before India?

- Low gross enrollment rate in **higher education** [graduation 26%; schools 96%]
- Low **employability** of graduates.
- Low **Human development**. India ranks 129/189 in UNDP's HDI.
- More than half the population still dependent on **agriculture**.
- 86% farmers are **small and marginal** (less than 2 hectares land).
- 90% workers are in **informal employment** (low wages, no social security)
- Gender inequality** [48% of population, low literacy, low LFPR, resulting in liability]
- Policy** implications on schooling, labour availability, income tax revenue, pension funds, health, old age care, etc.
- Disparity among **states**. Kerala is ageing, Bihar's working age population will continue to grow till 2051.

What should India do?

- Education, skilling, **employability**
- Reduce social bias against **women**; improve education; safer workplaces.
- Increase retirement age; better health infra for age related diseases in **old people**
- Targeted **population control** programs in high TFR areas (Mission Parivar Vikas)
- Rapid **rural development** (Rurban mission, employment generation)
- Government **policies** should be regularly updated to reflect changes in demographic conditions.

Additional comments:

- Failure to use of demographic dividend will lead to demographic **disaster**.
- Deprivation → fertile for communalization/regionalism → **breakdown of society**
- The **demographic gift** should be used to achieve and sustain **double digit GDP growth** and make India a **developed country**.

Demographic changes

- ❑ A recent Lancet report has projected that world population will peak by 2064.
- ❑ From mid-2020s, India will remain world's most populous country in this century.

	2020	Peak	2100
World	780 crore	2064; 973 crore	879 crore
India	138 crore	2048; 161 crore	109 crore
TFR	World: 2.37 India : 2.1		World: 1.66 India : 1.29

Demography?

- Study of human populations (size, composition and distribution).
- Three big influencers: Births, deaths and migration
- Important for effective policy formulation.

Demographic cycle/transition:

Five stages through which a nation passes:

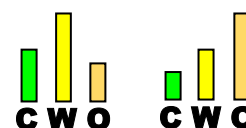
- ❑ Stage-1 : High stationary
 - High birth rate & High death rate cancel out each other. Population remains stationary. India till 1920.
- ❑ Stage-2 : Early expanding
 - High birth rate & Low death rate. Rapid rise in population. India 1920-1970 (famines & epidemics controlled)
- ❑ Stage-3 : Late expanding
 - Birth rate falls, but death rate falls even more. Population growth rate deaccelerates. India since 1971.
- ❑ Stage-4 : Low stationary
 - Low birth rate & Low death rate. Population remains stationary.
- ❑ Stage-5 : Declining
 - Birth rate lower than death rate. Population declines.

Demographic dividend:

- ❑ Economic growth 'potential' that 'can' result when working age population is larger than dependent population. India: 2005-2050.
- ❑ The term was coined by Harvard economists David Bloom and David Canning to the boost in economic growth that can result from changes in a country's population age structure.

Demographic tax/burden:

- ❑ Population that made "demographic dividend" grows old and retires.
- ❑ It relies (becomes liability) on small working age population. e.g. Japan



Demographic trap:

- ❑ High fertility combined with declining mortality in developing countries, resulting in a period of high population growth rate.
- ❑ (High birth rate) + (low death rate) = high population growth (i.e. demographic trap)
- ❑ Why called 'trap'? High population → Poverty → High population....

POCSO

POCSO Act 2012 Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences Act

To protect children from sexual abuse

Reasons for child sexual abuse in India?

- **Children:** don't know about good and bad touch, weak, so won't retaliate;
- **Abuser:** are psychopaths, mentally ill, themselves victim of child abuse
- **Family:** lack of communication (working parents, child left to caretaker)
- **Society:** eroding ethics, 93% cases by known people;
Social stigma prevents reporting of cases, so no fear in abusers
- **Government:** abusers not reprimanded for petty crime, so commits bigger crime (Broken window theory)

What was the need for POCSO, when IPC already had sections against sexual offences?

- ❑ Children can't defend themselves, hence, **more stringent law** was needed.
- ❑ To give a **child friendly system** which prevents re-victimization by tedious process.
- ❑ **IPC was ineffective** in protecting children, especially **male child**:
 - **Section 354:** Outraging modesty of woman : does not protect male child
 - **Section 375:** Rape : for peno-vaginal cases, so does not protect male child
 - **Section 377:** Unnatural offences : for penetrative acts; does not cover abuse

Features of POCSO Act, 2012 [child → crime → accused → informer → police → court]

- **Child:** any person below 18 years age; gender neutral definition
- Includes **non-penetrative** sexual assault, stalking, showing children pornography, using child for pornography.
- **Burden of proof** in POCSO cases lies on the accused.
- Mandatory **reporting** to police (else 6 months imprisonment)
- **Police:** arrange for medical treatment, care and protection of child
- **Courts:** special courts; in-camera trial without revealing identity of child;
- **Time limits:** Investigation in 2 months; trial in 6 months
- **Traffickers** are also punishable

2019 Amendments:

- ❑ **Stricter punishment** for penetrative sexual assault:
 - raised minimum imprisonment from 7 years to 10 years
 - 20 years - life imprisonment if child is below 16 years age.
 - 20 years - death penalty in case of aggravated penetrative sexual assault
- ❑ **Child pornography:**
 - ❑ Defines it as visual depiction of, sexually explicit conduct, involving a child.
 - ❑ Minimum 5 years for using child in pornography
 - ❑ Storing child porn is also an offence

POCSO Rules, 2020:

- ❑ For any institute in regular contact with children (schools, care homes, etc.):
 - Mandatory **police verification** of staff
 - **Sensitization** of staff about child safety
 - Adopting the **Child Protection Policy** framed by state govt.
- ❑ **Curriculum educating children** about personal safety, child helpline, etc.

Some other initiatives:

- **POCSO e-box:** online complaint box for reporting child sexual abuse.
- **1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs)** for cases of rape and POCSO.
- 'National **Database** on Sexual Offenders' created in 2018.
- **Child Protection Services scheme** to support children in need of care and protection.
- **Investigation Tracking System** to monitor time-bound investigation.
- '**100 million for 100 million**' campaign by Kailash Satyarthi.

Challenges that remain:

- **Non-reporting** of cases, due to social stigma
- Lack of **awareness** about gender neutrality of the act.
- How to deal with **historical cases** (before 2012) (teenager realizes about childhood abuse)
- **Communalization** of child rape cases.
- It is difficult for **weak and poor accused** to overturn presumption of guilt. (Ryan!)
- Long term impact on child's **mental health**.

Way forward:

- Educating **children** about good touch bad touch.
- **Parents** should talk more often with their children.
- Awareness among **public** about mandatory reporting.
- Training of **police** personnel in dealing with child cases.
- Ensure **timely** investigation and trial (Time limits not followed)
- Responsible reporting by **media**.

Some child specific protection laws in India:

- Pre-Conception and **Pre-Natal** Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act, 1994
- Child **Labour** (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986
- Right of Children to Free and Compulsory **Education** Act, 2009
- **Juvenile** Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
- Prohibition of Child **Marriage** Act, 2006

Ministry of Women and Child Development

Conviction Rate in POCSO Cases

Posted On: 05 AUG 2021 5:34PM by PIB Delhi

A centrally sponsored scheme for setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including 389 Exclusive POCSO Courts is implemented by the Department of Justice(DoJ), for expeditious trial and disposal of rape and POCSO cases. As informed by DoJ,

Conviction rate:

2017-2019: 33% - 34% - 35%

2019 state wise variation:

0% (HP etc) to 100% (Manipur)

All-Inclusive GS-2 & GS-3 MAINS 2021

Class-34

Child Labour

UNGA has declared 2021 to be International year for elimination of Child Labour.

Census 2011:

- 10.1 million (**1.01 crore**) children are engaged in child labour
- Most of them (21%) are in **UP** [UP > Bihar > Rajasthan]

Reasons for Child labour: (family, workplace, govt.)

Push Factors:

- Poverty** and high fertility rate
- Parents** are unemployed; earn less; bonded labour;
- Natural calamity; accident; death of **breadwinner**
- Parental **ignorance** about ill effects of child labour
- Lack of **schools** to engage the child.
- Poor performance in **studies**.

Pull Factors:

- Tradition** of employing children in certain shops
- Child labour is **cheap**; easy to hire and fire; children have **low bargaining power**.
- Increased demand in **middle class** for domestic helpers.

Ineffective governance:

- Poor implementation of child labour **laws**
- Ineffective **rehabilitation** of recued children
- Failure to generate decent **employment for adults**
- Informal economy** makes it easy for contractors to exploit children.

Impact of covid on child labour:

Covid pushed many families into poverty.

This negatively impacted health and education of children.

- Schools** were closed and poor had no access to online classes. This led to loss of education.
- Parent's** death / loss of income increased risk of child labour
- Govt's** budgetary constraints for social welfare schemes; less frequent site inspection

Constitutional Provisions against Child Labour:

- Article 23:** prohibits forced labour and human trafficking
- Article 24:** prohibits employment of children (< 14 years age) in factories.
- Article 39(e):** State shall prevent children from doing jobs unsuited to their age.

Laws against child labour:

- Factories Act, 1948** prohibits child labour (<14 years age) in factories.
- Mines Act, 1952** prohibits child labour (<18 years age) in mines.
- Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) **Act, 1987**, and its amendment in **2016**.
[National **Policy** on Child Labour **1987** focusses on rehabilitation of children]

Schemes: National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme and Pencil Portal

NGOs: Bachpan Bachao Andolan of Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi

International conventions: ILO's conventions 182 (Worst forms of child labour)

Also:

- **MNREGA** has reduced child labour, by increasing employment opportunities & family income.
- **Mid-Day Meal Scheme** has reduced child labour by increasing school attendance.

Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016

Age less than 14 years:

- can't work anywhere
- can work in family & as child artist

Age 14 to less than 18 years:

- can work anywhere
- can't work in hazardous activity

Problems:

- a) It reduced hazardous occupations from 83 to just mining, explosives, and occupations mentioned in the Factory Act.
- b) It allows child labour in "family or family enterprises". But most of India's child labour is caste-based work.
- c) It does not define the hours of work, it simply states that children may work after school hours or during vacations.

National Child Labour Project Scheme:

- Central Sector scheme launched in 1988
- It is implemented in close coordination with State, District administration and Civil society
- Rescued children of 5-8 years age are linked to formal education system
- Rescued children of 9-14 years age are put into Special Training Centers for bridge education, vocational training, stipend, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education.
- For better monitoring of the scheme, PENCIL portal was launched. (Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour)

Way forward:

- Common definition of child across laws.
- Focus on poverty alleviation programs [UBI].
- Strengthening social security schemes.
- Proper rehabilitation of rescued child.
- Strict implementation of laws.
(Just 4,500 convictions in 1 lakh cases during 2013-18)

Definition of child:

- < 14 years: Child Labour Act, 1986
- < 15 years: Factories Act, 1948
- < 16 years: Juvenile Justice Act, 2015
- < 18 years: POCSO Act, 2012

ILO's Convention no. 182 [Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999]:

- In 2020, it became the first international labour standard, to achieve universal ratification
- It prohibits worst forms of child labour like trafficking, slavery, prostitution, etc.
- It is one of the 8 fundamental conventions of ILO. (India has signed 6 out of 8).

ILO defines Child Labour as:

- Work that deprives children of their childhood, potential, dignity, and
- is harmful to physical and mental development.

[Mains 2013] Sivakasi in Tamil Nadu is known for its manufacturing clusters on firecrackers and matches. The local economy of the area is largely dependent on firecrackers industry. It has led to tangible economic development and improved standard of living in the area.

So far as child labour norms for hazardous industries like firecrackers industry are concerned, International Labour Organization (ILO) has set the minimum age as 18 years. In India, however, this age is 14 years.

The units in industrial clusters of firecrackers can be classified into registered and non-registered entities. One typical unit is household-based work. Though the law is clear on the use of child labour employment norms in registered/non-registered units, it does not include household-based works. Household-based work means children working under the supervision of their parents/relatives.

To evade child labour norms, several units project themselves as household based works but employ children from outside. Needless to say that employing children saves the costs for these units leading to higher profits to the owners.

On your visit to one of the units at Sivakasi, the owner takes you around the unit which has about 10-15 children below 14 years of age. The owner tells you that in his household-based unit, the children are all his relatives. You notice that several children smirk, when the owner tells you this. On deeper enquiry, you figure out that neither the owner nor the children are able to satisfactorily establish their relationship with each other.

1. Bring out and discuss the ethical issues involved in the above case.
2. What would be your reaction after your above visit?

Child marriage

Efforts in pre-independence India:

- RRMR and ICVS fought against child marriage
- Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929 (Sharda act) fixed age of marriage as 14 for girls, 18 for boys

Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006:

- Minimum age of marriage: 18 years for women; 21 for men
- Underage marriage is valid if minors want it to remain valid.
- It allows minor party to nullify marriage up to two of attaining majority.

National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5):

- 23.3% of women between ages 20-24 were married before the age of 18. (NFHS-4 : 26.8%)
- 27% in rural areas, 15% in urban areas

UNICEF:

- India has the largest number of brides in the world – 1/3rd of the global number.
- Every years, 15 lakh girls under 18 years of age get married.

Sustainable Development Goals:

Prevention of child marriage is part of SDG-5 on gender equality and women empowerment.

Why child marriages increased during covid:

- Ceremony at home, not temple or wedding hall. So less chances police getting info.
- Financial distress due to pandemic pushed poor parents to marry off girls early.

Reason for child marriage:

- Custom in some areas. e.g. mass child marriage on Akshay Tritiya / Akha Teej in Rajasthan
- Younger wives considered more obedient
- Girls seen as burden (dowry, security)
- Poverty forces families to reduce members

Problem with child marriage:

- Health: early pregnancy → high MMR and IMR
- Education: girl remains uneducated → against Right to Education
- Economic independence: no education → no income → dependent on husband
- Population: early marriage → more number of children

Way forward:

- Public awareness: make people aware about socio-economic impacts of child marriage
- Push for social change: involve NGOs, Panchayats, end tradition of dowry
- Focus on girl education: safe schools, transport, separate toilets
- Incentivize higher education:
 - e.g. Kanyashree Prakalpa scheme of West Bengal
 - Rs 1000/year in age 13-18, if unmarried and enrolled in some course
 - Rs 25,000 at age 18, if unmarried and enrolled in some course
- Strict enforcement of law:
 - Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006
 - Strict action in crimes against women

Should legal age for marriage for girls be increased to 21?

Arguments in support of increase:

- **Equality:**
 - There should be **gender parity** in marriage for men and women.
- **Health:**
 - Pregnancy at early age increases chances of infant and maternal **mortality**
- **Education and job:**
 - Early marriage prevents girls from attaining **higher education**.
 - This impacts their **job** prospects and **financial independence**.
- **Population:**
 - Early marriage generally leads to higher **fertility rate**.

Arguments against increasing marriage age:

- **Liberty:**
 - Once a person becomes major, it is his/her **right to take decisions** of their life.
- **Health:**
 - Pregnancy in ages 20-24 are considered safe; have **low mortality rates**.
- **Maturity:**
 - An 18 year person is **old enough to elect** representatives to run country, but not old enough to marry, seems absurd.

To bring equality, should we decrease age of men for marriage from 21 to 18?

- No, it will be counterproductive. (education, job stability, more children, etc.)
- It will increase child marriage of women, as men marry women of lower age.

Law Commission report 2008:

bring **gender parity**; set 18 years as age of marriage and 16 years as age of consent.

Covid orphans

NCPCR estimated **26,000** children lost one parent and **3,600** lost both parents due to covid. Lancet study estimated that **1.2 lakh** children in India lost a parent due to Covid.

Impact:

- Mental trauma
- Financial insecurity
- No access to health and education
- Increased chances of trafficking, abuse, child labour.

Steps taken:

- ❑ **Ministry of Women and Child Development:**
 - ❑ Child Protection Services being used to provide care as per JJ Act.
- ❑ **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights:**
 - ❑ Launched "Bal Swaraj" portal. States will upload data on children affected by covid:
 - whether produced before Child Welfare Committee
 - whether restored to a guardian/relative
 - whether child is getting his/her benefits
- ❑ **State initiatives:**
 - ❑ Delhi asked private schools to consider such students under EWS category.

Adoption

Adoption: legal process that allows someone to become parent of a child not related by blood.

- ❑ **Law:**
 - ❑ Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 governs the adoption procedure
 - ❑ 2021 amendment to JJ Act, 2015: It empowers DMs to authorize orders of adoption.
- ❑ **Body:** Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) regulates adoption through recognised adoption agencies.
- ❑ **Portal:** Child Adoption Resource Information & Guidance System (CARINGS) to bring transparency in adoption process.
- ❑ **International:** Hague Convention 1993 specifies minimum standards for inter country adoption.

Reasons for adoption

- To overcome **infertility**.
- To avoid **pregnancy** complications.
- To avoid passing **genetic disorders** or diseases.
- To **help** a child in need.

Challenges:

- ❑ **Social stigma** associated with not having own biological child.
- ❑ **Rules** don't allow sexual minorities to adopt children.
- ❑ Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Law 1956 allows Hindus to give or **adopt a baby privately** without involvement of an adoption agency.
- ❑ Many childcare **centres are not registered** with child welfare committees (CWC), hence this data is not uploaded on CARINGS portal.
- ❑ **Process is complicated**, annual number of adoptions fell from 6,000 in 2010 to 3,000 in last few years.
- ❑ Inability to **adjust**, leads to dissolution of adoption.

Way forward:

- ❑ **Register** all child care centres as mandated by law.
- ❑ Nationwide **campaign** to remove stigma attached with adoption.
- ❑ Proper **counselling** of prospective parents and child, before and after adoption.

Trafficking

Illegal trade in human beings for commercial exploitation

Reasons:

- ❑ **High demand**, locally and globally for:
 - forced labour, prostitution, organ trade
- ❑ **Porous borders:**
 - with Nepal and Bangladesh
- ❑ **Ineffective laws:**
 - ITPA 1956 is only for prostitution
 - Problems in inter-state police coordination
- ❑ **Low conviction rate:**
 - just 10%, as per NCRB data

Outlook Subscribe

About 1,714 human trafficking cases registered in 2020

18 September 2021 Last Updated at 5:34 pm | Source: PTI

NCRB 2020 data:

- ❑ 1,714 cases registered in 2020
- ❑ Most cases for prostitution
- ❑ Conviction rate:
 - ➔ National average 10.6%
 - ➔ 0 in seven states, 66% in TN

Steps taken:

- ❑ **Constitution:** Article 23 prohibits traffic in human beings and forced labour
- ❑ **Law:** IPC 1860, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act 1986, Bonded Labour Act 1986, etc.
- ❑ **Police:** anti human trafficking unit at State and District levels
- ❑ **Schemes:** UJJAWALA for rehabilitation and re-integration of victims of trafficking
- ❑ **NGOs:** like Rescue Foundation and Bachpan Bachao Andolan

Way forward:

- A dedicated anti-trafficking **bill** is need of the hour
- Focus should be on immediate **rehabilitation** irrespective of criminal proceedings
- Border controls, faster judicial proceedings, etc.

Problems with Trafficking in Persons Bill 2021:

- ❑ **National Investigation Agency:**
 - ❑ NIA already understaffed and overburdened. (Its main focus is anti-terrorism)
 - ❑ Bill ignores how NIA will coordinate with State/District Anti-Human Trafficking Units
- ❑ **Rescue protocol:**
 - ❑ Bill is silent on rescue protocol, making role of AHTUs unclear.
 - ❑ Absence of community-based rehabilitation and funds for rehabilitation.
- ❑ **Mixing of trafficking and sex work:**
 - ❑ Bill considers Prostitution as exploitation

Juvenile delinquency

Juvenile delinquency बाल अपराध

- Children in Conflict with the Law: person below 18 years of age who commits a crime
- Rising number of Juvenile Crimes is a matter of grave concern.

Reason for Juvenile delinquency

- ❑ Poverty:
 - forces children to commit petty crimes like theft
- ❑ Peer group:
 - bad influence from other children / anti-social elements in neighbourhood
- ❑ Cinema:
 - glorification of villains, obscenity, etc.
- ❑ Broken families:
 - lack of family support / control

Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015:

- for children in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection
- States to constitute CWCs for each district for dealing with children in need of care & protection
- Offences committed by juveniles are categorized as:
 - petty offences (<3 years of imprisonment)
 - serious offences (3-7 years imprisonment)
 - heinous offences (> 7 years imprisonment)
- 16-18 years old can be put on trial as adult in certain cases

2021 amendments:

- instead of court, DM will issue adoption orders
- all offences will be tried in Children's court
- People with past record of violation of human rights cannot be appointed to Child Welfare Committees

Hunger

India is world's largest producer of **milk and pulses**, and 2nd largest producer of **rice, wheat, sugarcane, vegetables**.

There is sufficient production, stock, distribution.
Also, NFSA 2013 gives legal right to get affordable food grains.

DownToEarth**India slips 7 spots to rank 101 among 116 countries on Global Hunger Index**

Globally, India worst in 'wasting' or 'weight for height' among children, says latest Global Hunger Index

By Kiran Pandey
Published: Friday 15 October 2021

Yet the problem of hunger persists. Why?**Production:**

- focussed on wheat & rice, at the cost of millets & pulses,
- leading to micronutrient deficiency (hidden hunger)

Stocks:

- improper storage leads to leakages and grains getting spoiled.
- FAO estimates 40% food produced in India is wasted.

Distribution:

- leakages in PDS, also technical issues with Aadhaar authentication.
- Migrants find it difficult to access PDS entitlement from another state.

Solution:

- Promote production of millets and pulses. Review open-ended procurement policy (either remove wheat and rice, or include millets and pulses)
- Modernise storage infra, develop cold chains, involve private sector.
- Implement One nation one ration card. Try DBT instead of PDS.

Other reasons for hunger:

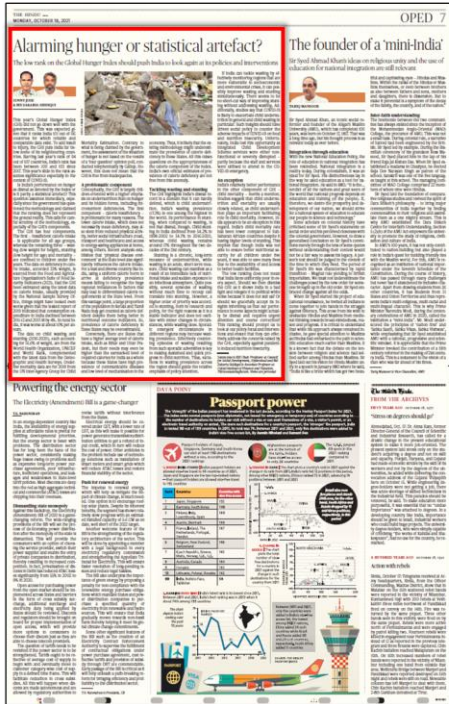
- Poverty:** can't afford healthy diet
- Disease:** frequent illness, no clean drinking water, poor sanitation
- Gender:** girls given less food, women eat at last
- Mid-day meal:** poor quality of food served to children
- Food adulteration:** adulterated food does not provide nutrition, rather causes illness

Impact:

- Health:** Malnourished children have weak immunity, frequently fall sick, more health expenses
- Physical development:** higher chances of stunting and wasting
- Mental development:** poor learning skills, high school dropout
- Low income:** due to low education level
- Economy:** loss of demographic dividend, higher govt expenditure on welfare schemes

India cannot dream of becoming a global superpower while having largest number of hungry people in the world.

18-10-2021



Some background, since we did not cover newspaper in last few days.

Global Hunger Index:

- by Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe
- Four indicators:
 - 1) undernourishment
 - 2) under-5 wasting (sign of undernutrition)
 - 3) under-5 stunting (sign of undernutrition)
 - 4) under-5 mortality

2021 ranking (out of 116):

- 065: Sri Lanka
- 076: Nepal, Bangladesh
- 092: Pakistan
- 101: India
- 103: Afghanistan

Govt. of India	GHI
<input type="checkbox"/> GHI uses unscientific method	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific method; reviewed by external experts.
<input type="checkbox"/> Its 'undernourishment' indicator is based on opinion poll conducted on telephone	<input type="checkbox"/> Used FAO's Food Balance Sheet, not phone-based opinion indicator. <input type="checkbox"/> Data taken from FAO, UNICEF, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> It must use weight and height to calculate 'undernourishment'	<input type="checkbox"/> Height and weight indicates <u>undernutrition</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Food intake indicates <u>undernourishment</u>

Wasting:

- low weight for height
- Constant 17% (2000-2020)

Stunting:

- low height for age
- Fell 54% to 34% (2000-2020)

- India performed better in 'mortality'.
- Despite poor performance in 1,2,3 India performed good in 4 (mortality)
- This could be due to good health facilities.

Pandemic reason for this?

- Pandemic was in all countries.
- Wasting & stunting takes time to occur.

Rather than dismissing the low rank, we must improve in areas where we lack.

09-11-2021

A vital cog in Bongaigaon's response to malnutrition

Project Sampoorna (Bongaigaon, Assam)

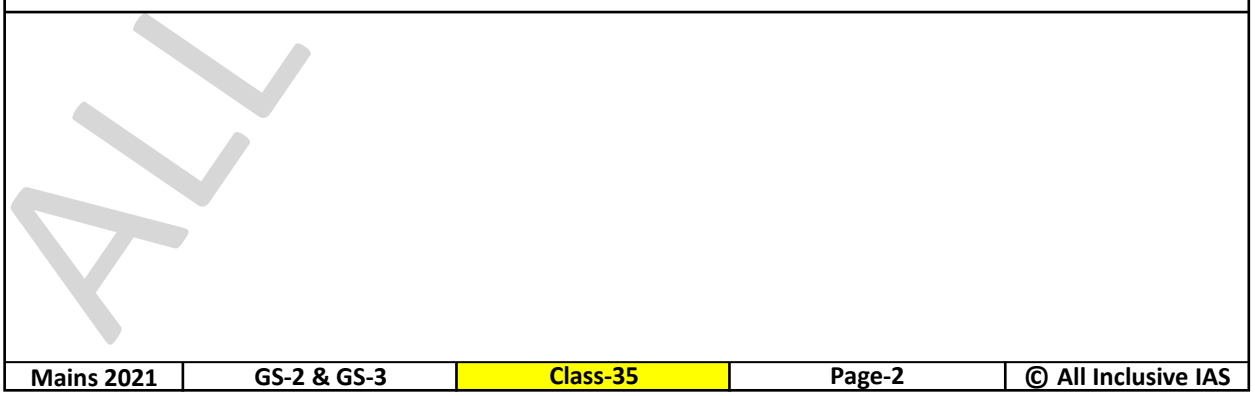
- Buddy mothers:** mother of healthy child paired with mother of malnourished child. Both from same neighbourhood and similar socio-economic background.
- Diet chart:** given to mothers, to keep a track of food intake of child.
- Financial empowerment:** mothers enrolled in SHG under NRLM, income increased.
- Nutritional support:** district administration gave milk and eggs for 3 months.
- Community participation:** people started supplying nutritious food.
- Medical help:** children who did not improve referred to doctors.

Project Sampoorna's success in reducing child malnutrition is a model that can be easily implemented anywhere. It reduced malnutrition without much financial investment.

Vicious cycle of malnutrition:

malnourished child → unhealthy adolescent → anaemic pregnant woman → low birth weight baby → malnourished child

To break the vicious cycle, easiest way is to target children's nutrition.



Triple burden of malnutrition

Malnutrition: deficiency, excess, or imbalance in energy and/or nutrients.

Triple burden of malnutrition:

- **Undernutrition:**
 - stunting (low height for age)
 - wasting (low weight for height)
- **Micronutrient deficiencies :**
 - lack of vitamins & minerals; hidden hunger
 - e.g. iron deficiency reduces child's ability to learn
- **Obesity:**
 - Health problems like diabetes, knee problems
 - Social stigma, depression

NFHS-5:

- 35.5% stunted
- 32.1% underweight (children < 5 age)

What causes undernutrition or hidden hunger?

- No food
- food available but not nutritious enough
- nutritious food eaten but body does not absorb nutrients

Drivers of triple burden of malnutrition:

- **Poverty:** hunger or low quality food; frequent illness due to lack of hygiene
- **Unhealthy food:** food that is low in nutrients and high in calories, e.g. burger
- **Lifestyle:** increased intake of processed food, high in salt and sugar, e.g. chips

Steps taken:

- **ICDS** Integrated Child Development Services scheme for 0-6 year olds
- **Mid-Day** meals for school children
- **NFSA 2013** for 67% of population
- **Poshan Abhiyaan:** launched in 2018 for malnutrition free India by 2022
- **Anaemia Mukht Bharat:** reduce anaemia by 3% points/year during 2018-22
- **Food fortification** guidelines by FSSAI

What can be done?

- **Food security;** anti-poverty programs
- **Food fortification** e.g. iodized salt; vitamin-D in milk
- **Bio-fortification** e.g. Golden rice (Vitamin A)
- **Awareness** among consumers
- **Regulations,** e.g. FSSAI limit on trans fats (2% from 2022)

Anaemic women: 57% (53% in NFHS-4)

Anaemic children under-5: 67% (58% in NFHS-4)



Some FF in India (https://ffrc.fssai.gov.in/)	
Wheat flour	Iron, Folic acid, Vitamin B12
Rice	
Milk	Vitamins A and D
Edible Oil	
Salt	Iron, Iodine

FSSAI plans to make some food fortification mandatory:

- Will help address micronutrient deficiency
- Small food processors will close down
- Side effects like gut inflammation
- Its no solution to monotonous cereal diet, less veggies, less protein

Mid-Day Meal scheme

Mid-Day Meal Scheme has been renamed as PM Poshan Shakti Nirman Yojana (**PM POSHAN**)

Changes:

- [Main point] Scheme will be extended to pre-primary or **Bal Vatikas** (another 24 lakh children)
- [following initiatives are already in practice in many states, they will be further encouraged]
- **TithiBhojan** will be encouraged (community will provide special food on festivals)
- Schools will be encouraged to develop **Nutrition Gardens** (already in 3 lakh schools)
- **Social Audit** of the scheme is made mandatory in all the districts.
- **Cooking competitions** will be organised from village level to national level.
- **FPOs and women SHGs** will be involved in implementation of the scheme.

Mid-Day meal scheme:

- ❑ Centrally Sponsored Scheme, covers 11.80 crore children studying in 11.20 lakh schools
- ❑ **1925**: started for disadvantaged children in Madras Municipal Corporation.
- ❑ **By mid 1980s** Gujarat, Kerala, TN and Pondicherry had universalized it.
- ❑ **By 1991**, 12 states implemented it.
- ❑ **15th August 1995**: National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE) launched with two main objectives:
 - 1) enhance enrolment, retention and attendance in schools
 - 2) improving nutritional levels among children
- ❑ Nutrition norms (calories, protein) revised from time to time (pulses, rice, vegetables, etc.)

Benefits:

- Increased school **attendance**, better learning outcomes
- Improved **nutrition** level, better physical/mental health

Issues:

- **Poor quality** of food, nutrition norms not followed, reports of students getting just roti and salt in many schools
- **Social discrimination** between Dalit and upper caste students, reports of parents protesting against Dalit cook
- **Social audit** and inspections are rarely done.
- **Budget** has not increased as per inflation.

Mains 2013:

The concept of Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme is almost a century old in India with early beginnings in Madras Presidency in pre-independent India. The scheme has again been given impetus in most states in the last two decades. Critically examine its twin objectives, latest mandates and success.

Mains 2015:

You are the Sarpanch of a Panchayat. There is a primary school run by the government in your area. Midday meals are provided to the children attending the school. The Headmaster has now appointed a new cook in the school to prepare the meals. However, when it is found that the cook is from Dalit community, almost half of the children belonging to higher castes are not allowed to take meals by their parents. Consequently the attendance in the school falls sharply. This could result in the possibility of discontinuation of midday meal scheme, thereafter of teaching staff and subsequent closing down the school.

1. Discuss some feasible strategies to overcome the conflict and to create right ambience.
2. What should be the responsibilities of different social segments and agencies to create positive social ambience for accepting such changes?

NFSA 2013

Note: NFSA is not just about subsidized grains

National Food Security Act 2013:

- Gives legal right to get food grains at subsidised price
- Rice ₹ 3/kg, Wheat ₹ 2/kg, Coarse grains ₹ 1/kg
- 35 kg food grains per household per month
- Covers 67% of population (75% of rural and 50% of urban population)
- Eldest woman** of family considered as '**Head of Family**' for issue of ration card
- Maternity benefit** of Rs 6000 (for pregnant women and lactating mothers)
- Higher nutritional norms for **malnourished children** up to 6 years of age.

Benefits:

- **Reduces inflation risk** for 67% of population
- **Lowers poverty** (low food expenditure, money can be used on health/education)
- **Fights malnutrition** (provisions for women and children)
- States voluntarily also deliver other essentials like **pulses, oil**, etc.

NITI Aayog has suggested revising NFSA 2013:

- Central Issue Price** was fixed for three years (2013-2016). MSP increases every year, but CIP has not been revised till now. Low CIP increases food subsidy burden on govt.
- Large stocks with FCI**. NFSA covers 67% of population. This requires FCI to maintain large stocks (cost, spoilage, leakage).
- Increase in population** → more people under NFSA → more subsidy burden on govt.
- NITI Aayog** has suggested that rural-urban ratio be reduced from **75-50 to 60-40**

Comments:

- Pandemic** has lead to widespread job losses and lowering of income.
- India is faring poorly in **Global Hunger Index**. Revision in NFSA could increase hunger.
- Guiding principle of revision should be **need of people**, not just subsidy bill.
- Strengthen **PDS** system, implement **ONOR** card, consider **DBT** as replacement of PDS.

From Prelims Economy page-46

Food Corporation of India:

- Statutory body (FCI Act, 1964)
- Under Min. of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

Objectives:

- Price support to farmers;
- Foodgrains for PDS;
- Buffer for nation's food security

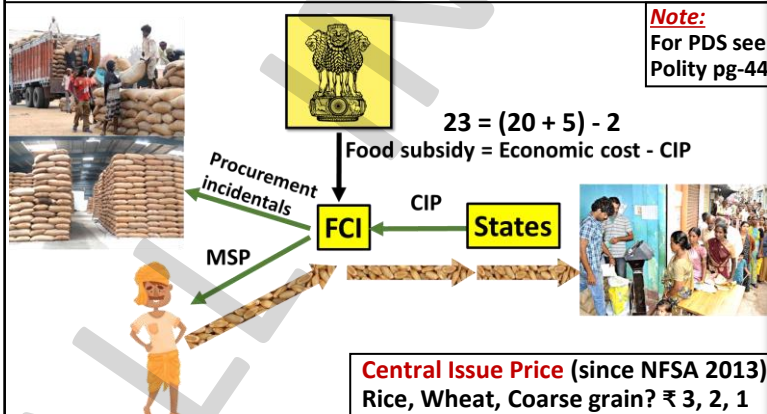
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

February 2021

Direct cash transfer under PDS

Posted On: 05 FEB 2021 6:20PM by PIB Delhi

A scheme of direct cash transfer into the bank account of beneficiaries of Public Distribution System instead of providing foodgrains is already being implemented on a pilot basis in the three Union Territories of Chandigarh, Puducherry and urban areas of Dadra & Nagar Haveli. The scheme of cash transfer of food subsidy is implemented as per provisions of the Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy Rules, 2015, notified under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) which inter alia provides food subsidy in cash directly into the bank accounts of entitled households to enable purchase of entitled quantity of foodgrains from the open market. The scheme can be



Prelims 2019:

Economic cost of food grains to FCI is **MSP** and bonus (if any) paid to the farmers plus

- (a) Transportation cost only
- (b) Interest cost only
- (c) Procurement incidentals & distribution costs
- (d) Procurement incidentals & charges for godowns

PDS**Objective:** Poor must get essential commodities, at affordable price, on time**What is sold through PDS?**

- Centre allocates to States: rice, wheat, sugar, kerosene
- States can allocate additional items: salt, oil, spices, pulses, etc.

Responsibility:

- Centre: procurement, storage, transportation, allocation to States
- States: beneficiary identification, issue Ration card, supervise FPS, etc.

Evolution of PDS

World War - II	distribution of essential commodities
1960s	severe food shortages, PDS got attention
1970s	after green revolution, PDS extended to tribal areas
1992	Revamped PDS (RPDS) launched to focus on remote areas (area based approach)
1997	Targeted PDS (TPDS) launched; focus on poor Mainly for BPL; highly subsidized But also for APL; as sudden withdrawal can be problematic
2000	Antyodaya Anna Yojana to target poorest of poor in BPL
12 th 5-year Plan (2012-17)	Plan Scheme on "End-to-End Computerisation of TPDS Operations" Includes digitization of FPS, e-POS, Aadhaar linking, etc.
2018	Integrated Management of PDS Nationwide portability of food grains under NFSA 2013 States being added gradually
Now	One Nation One Ration Card Standard format for Ration cards (issued by States) Pick ration from any FPS, biometric authentication Migrant can buy maximum 50% of family quota

- Integrated Management of PDS portal:** for inter-state ration card portability
- Annavitran portal:** for inter-district (within the state) ration card portability

Persons with Disability

Disability:

long-term physical or mental impairment which hinders effective participation in society

Census 2011:

- 2.68 crore (2.2% of population)
- 55% are literates, 36% are workers

Constitution:

- **Article 41:** State shall make provision for work, education and public assistance of disabled
- **7th Schedule:** 'relief of the disabled and unemployable' is in state list

Challenges faced by PwDs:

Inability:

- inability to do daily chores by oneself.
- communication is challenging for hearing/speaking impaired.

Social stigma:

- society believes they are paying for their past sins.
- general belief that interacting with PwD will spread disability.

Transport & buildings:

- footpath, buses, buildings, toilets are not disabled friendly
- no wheelchair ramps, no tactile path for blind

Education:

- Schooling: lack of special schools & teachers;
- competitive exams: study material not in braille; exam centre inaccessible

Low income:

- difficulty in gaining employment, especially in private sector

Cost:

- high cost of assistive devices, assistants, regular medicines, etc.



Way forward:

- Prevention:** prevent accidents, e.g. strict enforcement of traffic rules, industrial safety
- Early screening:** at young age, e.g. Comprehensive Newborn Screening (CNS) of Kerala
- Treatment:** cornea transplant for visually impaired, cochlear implant for hearing impaired
- Assistive technologies:** Investing in R&D of new technologies such as prosthetic devices.
- Funds:** There should be a disability budgeting on line of gender budget. There should be proper monitoring mechanisms and accountability of public funds.

(students can themselves create more points form challenges)

Twenty years after gruesome Erwadi tragedy, people with disabilities continue to be treated with indignity

Satendra Singh writes: While steps are being taken around the world to protect vulnerable populations, disability rights activists were pleading with Indian government to provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities in prison – G N Saibaba, the late Father Stan Swamy, Shiv Kumar.

- August 2001: 43 mentally ill people **chained**, charred to death when **fire** broke out (Erwadi, Tamil Nadu)
- Despite ratifying Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities in **2007**, enactment of laws like Rights of PwD Act **2016** and Mental Healthcare Act **2017**, we have failed to uphold rights of disabled.
- PwD in some mental asylums are **still chained**, despite the law against it.
- PwD in some prisons are **denied basic amenities** like sipper and medication.
- One has to **approach courts** HC and SC to enforce what is already there in law.
- Only 8 states/UTs have framed rules** for implementation of Mental Healthcare Act 2017 (reply of Union Minister in RS in August 2021)

Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016:

(Replaced Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995)

It aims to move from 'charity-based approach' in favour of 'rights-based approach'

- ❑ Increased reservation in higher education from 3% to 5%, and in govt jobs from 3% to 4%.
- ❑ Right to free education for every child (6 to 18 years of age) with benchmark disability.
- ❑ Types of disabilities increased from 7 to 21, added acid attack victims, mental illness, autism, Parkinson's disease, thalassemia, sickle cell disease, etc.
- ❑ A separate National and State Fund be created to provide financial support to persons with disabilities.
- ❑ Special courts will be designated in each district to handle cases concerning violation of rights of PwDs.

Accessible India Campaign: (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) (launched in 2015)

- ❑ It aims to create a universal barrier-free environment for the disabled.
- ❑ It will increase accessibility in three areas: built environment, transport and ICT ecosystem.
- ❑ Built environment:
 - Increase accessibility in govt / public centric buildings like schools, hospitals, courts, etc.
 - Provide ramp, tactile path, disabled friendly toilets, reserved parking, etc.
- ❑ Transport:
 - Increase accessibility of airports, trains, buses, ticket booking process, etc.
- ❑ ICT ecosystem:
 - To promote accessibility in websites, public documents, media content on TV, etc.
 - Use of sign language interpreters, subtitles, text to speech software, etc.

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Accessible India Campaign

Posted On: 05 NOV 2021 18:10 PM

Steps taken:

- ❑ Accessibility standards for public buildings, buses and websites have been notified.
- ❑ 71% govt schools made barrier-free by ramps, handrails and accessible toilets.
- ❑ NCERT books are being converted into Indian sign language digital format.
- ❑ For approval of Hotels, accessibility has been made mandatory.
- ❑ Barrier free infra being created under tourism schemes like 'Swadesh darshan'
- ❑ Sugamya Bharat mobile app launched

Way forward:

Sector-wise accessibility standards are required to be prescribed and notified by all ministries engaged in public services.

Reproductive rights**What do you understand by "reproductive rights" of women?**

- Reproductive Right means right to decide number, spacing, timing of children.
- It includes:
 - Right to **menstrual** health;
 - right to **education** about STDs;
 - right to use **contraceptive** methods;
 - access to reproductive health **services**;
 - right to **abortion**.

The three "A"s:

- ✓ **Availability**
- ✓ **Accessibility**
- ✓ **Affordability**

What is the need for having reproductive rights?

- a) It is a basic human right to have control over one's own body.
- b) It is necessary for reducing maternal mortality rate.
- c) It ensures better health for mother and children.
- d) It increases women's socio-economic development (education, career, standard of living).

Name some govt. initiatives to provide reproductive rights to women.

- Laws:** MTP Act, 1971 provided legal sanctions to abortions. (Before 1971, abortion was criminalized under Section 312 of IPC.)
- National Population Policy** gives women voluntary access to contraceptive methods.
- Schemes:** Janani Suraksha Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana
- SC judgements:**
 - Navtej Johar judgment:** women have a right to sexual autonomy, as a part of personal liberty under article 21.
 - Puttaswamy judgment:** women have right to reproductive choices, as a part of personal liberty under article 21.

Do women in India enjoy sufficient reproductive rights?

- a) **Patriarchy:** men take decisions on family planning
- b) **Society:** social stigma attached to sex education, contraceptives, STD, abortion.
- c) **Health Infra:** Lack of access to safe abortion clinics.
- d) **Laws:** Laws on abortions and surrogacy.

Patriarchy:

Institutionalization of male dominance over women.

Gender Budgeting**Gender Budgeting:**

- first introduced in Budget **2005-06**
- **GB statement** has two parts:
 - **Part-A:** Women **specific** schemes, **100%** allocation for women
 - **Part-B:** **Pro** women schemes, at least **30%** allocation for women
- It enabled gender-neutral ministries to design **new programs** for women.
- Gender Budgeting **Cells** in ministries for monitoring and implementation.

Violence against women

Laws against domestic violence:

- Protection of women from domestic violence Act, 2005
- Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- IPC section 498A (cruelty to women)

Some important features of Domestic Violence Act, 2005:

- Domestic violence can be physical, verbal, emotional, sexual, economic.
- Covers married women, mother, daughter, sister, etc. Also applies to live-in relations.
- Applies even after divorce (ruled by Supreme Court)
- Women can seek protection and right to reside in the house.
- Provides for appointment of protection officers and NGOs for medical/legal help and safe shelter.
- Complaint can be filed against another woman also. SC struck down the words "adult male" from the act.

Despite laws and available help, why do women in India continue to live in abusive relations?

- Education:** no awareness, no confidence
- Children:** their future
- Society:** social pressure
- Money:** dependent on husband
- House:** no alternative

Covid and Gender

Why Covid has more impact on women?

Disasters impact the vulnerable more as existing differences get amplified.

Health:

- Over-representation of women as in health sector (Nurses / Asha workers)
- Pregnant women avoiding scheduled check-ups.

Education:

- Low digital literacy among women.
- Gender bias in internet access at home.

Jobs:

- Many SHGs stopped or reduced meetings.
- Death of breadwinner due to covid, women uneducated/unskilled for work.

Safety issues:

- Vulnerable to sexual assault in health centers
- Increased cases of domestic abuse [UN-Women calling it 'Shadow Pandemic']

Covid and Domestic violence:

Domestic violence complaints double during lockdown. Possible reasons:

- Women in abusive relationship, can't leave home for work.
- Anxiety in men due to job loss / loss of income. Men vent out frustration on women.
- Reduced access to support systems like NGOs, local support groups.

Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Amendment Act, 2021

	MTP Act 1971	MTP Amendment Act 2021
Reason (contraceptive failure)	Applies only to married women	Also applies to unmarried women
Gestational limit	20 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 24 weeks for rape survivor ▪ Beyond 24 weeks for substantial fetal abnormalities
Registered Medical Practitioners opinion needed	One RMP till 12 weeks Two RMPS till 20 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One RMP till 20 weeks ▪ Two RMPs for 20-24 weeks ▪ Medical board after 24 weeks
Breach of women's confidentiality	Fine up to Rs 1000	Fine and imprisonment up to 1 year

Significance:

- make points from table

Issues:

- No freedom to women, needs approval from RMP / Medical board
- Time frame for Medical Board's decision not specified

Way forward:

- Encourage use of various contraceptive methods.
- Improving the state of health infra for safe abortions.
- Help couples make informed family planning decisions.

Ethics of abortion (Pro-choice vs Pro-life)

Arguments in support of abortions:

- Unmarried mothers do not get social acceptance.
- Woman has complete right on her own body.
- A woman is a human being, not a container for foetus.
- Banning abortion compels women to use unsafe methods of abortion.
- Abortion is least bad of several bad courses of action.
- Pregnancy and motherhood have long term impact on woman's health and career.

Arguments against abortion:

- It is morally wrong to kill an innocent human being.
- A foetus is a separate 'person' with its own right to life.
- Foetus can't protect itself, hence law is needed to protect it.
- People can't do whatever they want with their body (drug, suicide, active euthanasia)

Surrogacy

Surrogacy It is a process in which, a woman bears a child, for another person.

Surrogacy

Commercial

- Done for money
- Money along with Medical & insurance expenses is paid

Altruistic

- Not done for money
- Only medical & insurance money may be paid

- ❑ India has become a surrogacy hub; a **\$2 billion industry**.
- ❑ Poverty, lack of education, **no alternate livelihood** drives women into surrogacy.
- ❑ There have been reports of **exploitation** of surrogate; **abandonment** of child; **rackets** involving poor women; etc.
- ❑ **Law Commission** (228th report) recommended prohibiting commercial surrogacy and allowing altruistic surrogacy.

Issues with banning commercial surrogacy:

- industry will go **underground**; making surrogates vulnerable to **exploitation**
- Takes away source of livelihood
- May push women into **prostitution**, etc.

Ethics of Commercial Surrogacy

In support of commercial surrogacy	Against commercial surrogacy
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Right over own body;▪ Source of livelihood;▪ Poor gets good nutrition & medical care;▪ Brings happiness to infertile couple	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Woman as container for foetus;▪ Unethical when so many children are orphan;▪ Child denied knowledge of his real mother

Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill, 2021

Why was a law needed for ART?

- It is a **large industry**, but lacks standards and protocols.
- India has become a major center of global fertility industry. (**medical tourism**)
- High demand has created legal, ethical, and social issues
- Without ART law to regulate clinics, laws on surrogacy and abortion will not be effective.

ART Bill, 2021:

- ❑ It is the third bill on reproductive rights, other two being on Surrogacy and Abortion.
- ❑ It includes all techniques that obtain pregnancy by handling sperm or egg outside human body.
- ❑ Example: sperm donation, IVF, Intrauterine insemination, surrogacy, etc.
 - ❑ ART banks store and supply gametes.
 - ❑ ART clinics offer ART procedures.

Important provisions of the bill:

- All ART banks and clinics to must be registered under a **National Registry**.
- **Regulatory boards** at national and state level to regulate ART banks & clinics.
- Donor will not have any **parental rights** over the child.
- Allows doctors to test embryos for **genetic disease** before implantation to uterus.
- Child born through ART will be deemed to be **biological child** of the couple.
- **Penal provisions** for abandoning the child, trafficking and sale of embryos, etc.

Digital literacy among women

What is Digital literacy ?

- It is the ability to **find and use** digital content.
- A person who can **operate computer/ smart phone** is considered as **digitally literate**.

Situation in India:

- ❑ GSMA's Mobile gender gap report 2020:
 - **63%** women in India own a **mobile**; Men 79%
 - **21%** women in India use **mobile internet**; Men 42%
- ❑ Women constitute only **29%** of India's internet users [2017 UNICEF report].

What are the reasons for low digital literacy among women in India?

- ❑ **Illiteracy**: Only 66% of women are literate compared with 82% of men
- ❑ **Family**: Parents don't allow girls to use mobile/laptop:
 - ❑ Fear of **bad influence** on girls
 - ❑ Fear of cybercrime (e.g. **morphed photos**)
- ❑ **Society**: cases of Panchayats banning mobile phone among girls
- ❑ **Economic disparity**:
 - ❑ Women earn 20% less than men in same work [Monster Salary Index 2019]
- ❑ **Psychological**:
 - ❑ **Low confidence** in some women on their ability to use internet.

Why increase digital literacy among women? {health, education, earn, save}

- ❑ **Adolescent girls**: gain info about otherwise taboo topics like menstrual health.
- ❑ **Education**: education becomes accessible (no physical movement) and affordable (free and cheap courses)
- ❑ **Skill** development (e-learning) and **better price** (online selling, Mahila E-Haat) for women of **SHGs**.
- ❑ Helps raise **women specific issues**, e.g. #MeToo highlighted the silent sexual harassment at workplace.
- ❑ **Financial inclusion**: digital literacy helps women access bank account.
- ❑ Increased **human capital** will help India realize **demographic dividend**.
- ❑ Unequal access to internet creates **socio-economic exclusions** (Kerala High Court in Faheema Shirin case 2019)

What steps have been taken to increase digital literacy among women?

- ❑ Govt. initiatives: NDLM, PMGDISHA, e-Sakhi (Rajasthan)
 - ❑ Private sector initiatives:
 - ❑ Internet Saathi by Google and Tata Trust. Based on 'train the trainer' model.
 - ❑ 'We think digital' by Facebook for digital literacy of 1 lakh women in 7 states.
- [Caution: Programs like 'Free Basics' are not as innocent as they seem, banned in 2016]

Way forward:

- a) Embedding ICT in **formal education**
- b) Technology: **voice search** instead of typing
- c) **Improve telecom infra** as internet access and digital literacy are dependent on each other.
- d) Digital literacy should be seen as a potent **weapon to fight gender inequalities** in Indian society.

MNREGA

MGNREGA:

- **social security** measure that aims to guarantee the '**right to work**'.
- Guarantees **100 days/year** of wage employment in rural areas.
- Unemployment allowance if work not provided within **15 days**.
- At least **one-third** beneficiaries shall be **women**.
- **No contractors** and machinery allowed.
- Mandatory **social audit** of all work done under NREGA.
- A **60:40** wage and material ratio has to be maintained.

Benefits:

- Effective **poverty** alleviation.
- Indirectly boosts **rural wages** in other areas.
- Reduce urban **migration** from rural areas.
- Boosts **consumer demand** (and GDP) in rural areas.
- Creates durable **assets** in rural areas such as wells, ponds, roads and canals.

Issues:

- ❑ **Low wages:**
 - ❑ NREGA wages in 17 states are less than minimum wages in those states. National average is Rs 178/day, against Rs 375/day recommended by Labour Ministry panel.
- ❑ **Underfunded:**
 - ❑ Funds are exhausted in first few months itself.
- ❑ **Delay in payments:**
 - ❑ When states don't meet administrative requirements (e.g. audited receipts), Union govt. withholds payments. Thus, workers get penalized without their fault.

Steps being taken:

- ❑ **60:40** wage-material ratio now needed at **District level**, not Panchayat level.
- ❑ **Transparency** being improved by Geo-tagging of assets created, Aadhaar linking of bank accounts, GIS based planning of work, etc. Some initiatives:
 - ❑ GeoNREGA: for geo-tagging of assets and GIS based planning
 - ❑ Life-NREGA: to improve skills of NREGA workers
- ❑ NREGA budget for FY21 increased to record **1 lakh crore** due to increased reverse migration because of lockdown.

Universal Health Coverage

Universal Health Coverage:

- According to WHO, UHC means that all individuals receive health services they need without financial hardship.
- UHC prevents people from falling into poverty.
- SDG target 3.8 is that all countries will try to achieve UHC by 2030

Challenges in achieving UHC:

- Uneven distribution of quality health infra: hospitals, doctors, etc.
- High cost of medicines and secondary/tertiary care.
- Widespread poverty (irregular income, low savings)
- Lack of health insurance coverage
- Low govt. expenditure on healthcare

Steps taken:

- Universal Immunization Programme
- Vast network of govt. and charitable hospitals / health centres.
- Schemes like PM-JAY for affordable treatment and PM-BJP for affordable medicine

Some health related data

- Govt. expenditure on health : 1.6% of GDP
- 22 - Neonatal mortality rate (death within one month)
- 28 - Infant mortality rate (death within one year)
- 34 - Under-five mortality rate (death within 5 years)
- 97% children receive at least one vaccine
- 40% children do not complete their immunization programme
- 122 - Maternal mortality rate (per 1,00,000 live births)
- Institutional deliveries: 90% in rural areas, 96% in urban areas

Poor state of health infra highlighted during covid:

- Doctors: 1 : 1456 (WHO 1:1000)
- Nurses: 1.7 : 1000 (WHO 3:1000)
- Hospital beds: 8.5 : 10,000
- Lack of ventilators, PPE kits, etc.
- Situation even worse in rural areas

What can be done?

- Increase spending on health infra
- Regular audit of health facilities
- Focus on primary healthcare (most used; not everyone needs to hospitalised)
- Create central bed bureau as recommended by SC in 1997

Digital Health

Digital health:

- Use of digital technologies to improve efficiency of health services.
- It includes digital databases, telemedicine, wearable devices, etc.

National Digital Health Mission:

- It aims to **connect** doctors, hospitals, citizens, and **all** other **stakeholders** (labs, insurers, chemists, policy makers, etc.)
- It establishes **National Health Authority** in MoH&FW to implement the mission
- Union govt. will maintain its **core building blocks** like:
 - **DigiDoctor**: details of all doctors
 - **Health Facility Register**: details of all health facilities
 - **Personal Health Record**: personal health record of individuals
 - **Consent manager**: system that enables individuals to share details

Benefits:

- It will help **citizens** keep record of own data and also in finding health facilities.
- Database will help **researchers and policy makers** with macro trends.
- Improve efficiency of healthcare **programs** (vaccination, insurance, DBT, etc.)
- Pervious health records will help **insurers** prevent mediclaim frauds.
- Telemedicine can reduce **urban-rural divide**; bring quality consultation to unserved areas.

Challenges:

- It requires cooperation of **states**.
- It can lead to exclusion of digitally illiterate and **unconnected** remote areas.
- Digitalization of data at **primary health centers** is a big challenge.
- Securing the data from **cyber-threats** and preventing its **misuse** (private players are involved).

Other related initiatives:

- National Health Portal (**NHP**): single point access for authentic health information.
- Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (**eVIN**): tracks vaccine stocks and monitors the temperature of the cold chain
- **E-Sanjeevani** platform: for D2D and Patient-to-Doctor consultations.

New Education Policy 2020

School education:

- 5+3+3+4 to replace 10+2
- Universalization from age 3 to class 10 by 2030
- Till class-5, mother tongue as medium of instruction
- From class-6, new skills like coding and vocational integration
- Board exams to be redesigned, made easier

Higher education:

- National Testing Agency to conduct common college entrance exam twice a year
- Mid-term drop-outs will get credits, and can complete degree after break
- University affiliation system to be phased out in 15 years
- Higher Education to be new regulator for all higher education, except medical & legal

Other:

- Govt. expenditure on education to be 6% of GDP
- MHRD to be renamed as Ministry of Education
- Separate technology unit to develop digital education resources

Challenges:

- Policy does not mention where will increased funds come from.
- Vocational education from early stage will increase drop outs in search of employment
- Education is in concurrent list, so state's cooperation is must.
- Four-year under-grad program may not be successful; experiment failed in DU.

Scientific Social Responsibility

Department of Science and Technology (DST) has released a draft policy on Scientific Social Responsibility.

Need for SSR:

- To develop scientific temper is a **fundamental duty** u/a 51A of Constitution
- Scientists have an **ethical obligation** of 'giving back' to society since they use taxpayers' money for research.
- It will help scientist develop better communication and **social skills**.
- It will **inspire youngsters** to take up science as a career.
- It will reduce society's tendency to see science as alien/**foreign subject**.

Draft SSR policy:

- Applies to those working on any science project **funded** by any Union ministry.
- Scientists to devote **10 days** every year to **impart scientific knowledge to society**.
- Scientist's SSR work should be included in his annual **performance review**.
- **Institutions** to prepare **plan** to achieve its SSR goals.
- Institutions **can't outsource** their SSR activities.
- Central and state **ministries** too should make plans to implement SSR
- A **national portal** should mention **societal needs that require scientific intervention** and also record SSR activities performed.

Women in STEM

STEMM: Science, Tech, Engineering, Medicine, Mathematics

Science, Tech, Engineering, Mathematics:

- **Graduates:** 43% are women
- **Researchers:** 16% are women
- **Faculty:** 15% are women

Reason for less number of Women in STEM:

(Learn chronologically: Parents don't allow → no course in college → can't study → incidents)

- ❑ **Patriarchal mindset:**
 - Belief that women can't do work in **intellectual** fields like science
- ❑ **Courses not offered:**
 - Girls college mostly have **Arts** related courses, rather than **science**
- ❑ **Restrictions on lab timings:**
 - Many colleges **restrict** women's access to **lab/library** to official hours, while **men can work anytime**.
- ❑ **Unsafe campuses:**
 - Even campuses are **not safe for women**, as seen in recent sexual assault case at IIT Madras

Some general points to encourage women participation in workforce:

- ❑ Change **public perception** through **movies** (Mission Mangal) to highlight contribution of women scientists.
- ❑ Give **examples** of **Kalpana Chawla**, Gagandeep Kang, Soumya Swaminathan and others.
- ❑ Strict implementation of Prevention of **Sexual Harassment** at Workplace Act 2013 (**POSH** Act 2013)
- ❑ Ensure **safe public transport**, or company provided facility (cab/bus).

Steps taken:

- ❑ **SERB-POWER**
 - It offers **fellowships** and research **grants** to women **researchers**.
 - POWER: Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research
- ❑ **KIRAN scheme**
 - It gives **career opportunities** to women scientists who had a **break in career**.
 - KIRAN: Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing
- ❑ **CURIE Programme**
 - To improve **R&D infra** in women universities
 - CURIE: Consolidation of university research through innovation & excellence in women universities
- ❑ **GATI Programme**
 - It will **rate institutes** on gender equality in science programs
 - GATI: Gender Advancement for Transforming Institutions
- ❑ **Vigyan Jyoti scheme:**
 - It encourages girl of **class 9-12** to pursue career in S&T
- ❑ **Age relaxation:**
 - **CSIR** gives **5 year** age relaxation to women to pursue doctoral and postdoctoral research.

WASH and gender equality

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):

- Availability of safe drinking water
- Accessibility to sanitation facilities
- Adherence to basic level of hygiene

Lack of access to WASH impacts women more than men, due to **biological and cultural factors**.

❑ Role of WASH in **maternal** and new-born health

- Collecting and carrying **water** while pregnant can cause **complications**
- Lack of safe drinking water can be fatal for **babies** dependent on **feeding formula**

❑ Role of WASH in **women education**

- During **menstruation**, girls **miss school** due to lack of safe **toilets**.
- **Learning** is **affected** when children spend **time** collecting **water** or finding safe **place** to **urinate**.

❑ Role of WASH in preventing **violence** against women

- Risk of **harassment** when travelling **long distance** to fetch water or use toilet.
- Women **consume less** water, or **hold back** urine, which increases **health issues**.

❑ Role of WASH in financial **empowerment** of women

- Collecting & carrying water reduces **time** & energy to undertake **economic activity**
- Easy access to water can enable to grow vegetables in **kitchen garden**, helping family nutrition, and also opportunity to **sell the vegetables**.

Way forward:

- ❑ Safe and affordable **sanitary pads** must be made available
- ❑ Ensure **water in all toilets** constructed under Swachh Bharat Mission
- ❑ Construction of **girls toilets** in all **schools**
- ❑ All **schools** and health facilities must have safe WASH facilities.
- ❑ Launch **digital campaign** for people to upload pics of **non-working toilets**
- ❑ Ensure that no-one practises **open defecation**.
- ❑ **Inequalities** in access to WASH should be progressively **eliminated**.

We need to recognise that **universal access to WASH** is essential to tackle **poverty**, ill-health and illiteracy.

Govt initiatives:

- ❑ **Swachh Bharat Mission:**
 - Entire India was declared open defecation free on 2 October 2019
- ❑ **Jal Jeevan Mission:**
 - aims to provide household with piped water supply by 2024

Care Economy

Care economy?

- ❑ All kinds of **care work**, which may be direct/indirect, and paid/unpaid.
 - Direct activities: feeding a baby or nursing an ill partner
 - Indirect activities: cooking and cleaning
- ❑ It can be:
 - **Paid**: domestic workers and anganwadis
 - **Unpaid**: helping own family members

Benefits of focussing and recognizing care economy:

- ❑ **It can create more jobs:**
 - Employing people to care for children where both parents are working
 - Employing people to care for elderly or handicapped patients
- ❑ **It can increase people's productivity:**
 - When household work is taken care by workers, people can focus on job better
- ❑ **It can increase Female LFPR:**
 - Women can designate household work to others, and themselves participate in labour market.
- ❑ **New entrepreneurial opportunity:**
 - Startups like Urban Clap can enrol workers for care work and provide services

Issues:

- ❑ **Non-recognition:**
 - Childcare and anganwadi workers have not been recognised as professional workers.
 - Therefore, they do not have requisite access to workers' rights and entitlements
- ❑ **Low pay, no job security:**
 - Minimum wages are not given to most of the care workers
- ❑ **No social protection:**
 - Domestic workers do not have social or health protection
- ❑ **Most are women:**
 - Women engaged in family work don't find time/energy to engage in education/job.
 - This increase feminization of poverty.

Unpaid domestic work

Women spend most of their time and energy in providing unpaid care work.

Issues:

- ❑ Lack of time and energy for education/job.
- ❑ This reduces chances of women participating in labour market (reduces Female LFPR)
- ❑ Impacts financial independence, women empowerment, family income, etc.

Benefits of recognizing/measuring/monetizing unpaid domestic work:

- ❑ It will expose the gender disparity
- ❑ As per NSSO Survey, while 90% of women perform domestic work, only 27% men do so.

Problems in recognizing / monetizing unpaid work:

- ❑ **Lack of standardization:**
 - There is huge variation in the kind of work done across households
- ❑ **Measurement challenges:**
 - People may not be comfortable in giving details of time spent on domestic activities
- ❑ **Reinforce notion of pink collar jobs:**
 - It will strengthen the notion that certain work must be done by women only
- ❑ **Commodification of care:**
 - Domestic work is done out of care & concern for own household.
 - Putting a monetary value on each activity will impact people's emotions.

What can be done?

- ❑ **Periodic surveys must be done**
 - to increase our understanding of the care economy. (What gets measured gets done)
- ❑ **Incentivize companies to create innovative products**
 - to make domestic work easier, eg automatic roti maker
- ❑ **Men should also be given childcare leave,**
 - to reduce pressure on women.
- ❑ **Creche facilities at workplace**
 - so that both care work and professional work can be managed.

Female LFPR

Some data:

PLFS 2020:

- 18.6% of working-age women in India participate in labour force.
- This is three times lower than men

World Bank:

- Indian women's participation in formal economy is among the lowest in the world.
- Only some parts of Arab world perform worse.

Problem with Female LFPR in India:

- ❑ **High Degree of Informalization:**
 - 95% of India's working women are informal workers (ILO data)
 - Lack of social protection leads to feminization of poverty
- ❑ **Low and Unequal Pay:**
 - Despite Constitutional safeguards, women are paid less than male counterparts.
- ❑ **Glass Ceiling:**
 - An **invisible barrier** prevents women from taking up top management positions.
 - Even women in top leadership roles are **paid 15% less** than males (IIM-A 2022 study)
- ❑ **Stereotyping of Jobs:**
 - Notion of **pink collar jobs** like Nursing, teaching, child care, prevents women entry in other fields.

Reason for low Female LFPR:

- ❑ **Poor education of girl child:**
 - Families don't **invest** in education of girl child as much as boys.
- ❑ **Patriarchy:**
 - Women are not allowed to **work**, especially after marriage
 - **Childcare** is considered as only women's responsibility
- ❑ **Security concerns:**
 - Unsafe public **transport**
 - Sexual harassment at place of **work**

Benefits of increasing Female LFPR:

- ❑ **Less poverty**
 - Higher family income leads to better health and education for children
 - Less chances of family falling into poverty if male loses job/life
- ❑ **Demographic dividend**
 - Increased human capital will help India realize demographic dividend
- ❑ **Lower fertility**
 - TFR among educated and working is generally lower
- ❑ **Less domestic violence**
 - Women who are financially independent find it easier to move out of abusive marriages
- ❑ **Economic boost**
 - McKinsey report estimates that equal opportunity to women can add US\$ 700 billion to Indian economy

Govt schemes:

- ❑ POSH Act 2013:
 - aims to provide safe working environment to women
- ❑ Maternity Benefit Act, 2017:
 - maternity leave extended from 12 weeks to 26 weeks
- ❑ Anganwadi centres under ICDS:
 - helps in early childhood care, thus giving time to mothers to re-join workforce

Feminization of poverty:

- ❑ incidence of poverty is greater among women than men.
- ❑ their poverty is more severe than that of men

Feminization of Agriculture

Feminization of Agriculture:

- Increase in women's participation in agriculture (mainly as farm labourers)
- India's increasing Female LFPR is mainly due to Feminization of Agriculture.

Feminisation in agriculture is good:

- **Financial empowerment** of women, and increase in household income
- **Socialization** of women with various communities, discussion of common issues, etc.

Feminisation in agriculture is bad:

- It does not reflect empowerment as women hold only **13% of operational holdings**
- Household work still is done by same women, hence farm work in **additional burden**
- They are **paid less**, and are often **abused** and **exploited** by men.

Reasons for feminization of Agriculture:

- ❑ **Men migrate** to cities due to agrarian distress
 - Women remain in village to look after cattle, children, aged parents
- ❑ Women have **less mobility**
 - Not allowed to work far away from home, hence they find work in nearby fields
- ❑ Women are **paid less**
 - Hence they are preferred for labour work
- ❑ Women are **not** generally employed in **industries**
 - Hence they have no choice but to work in agri sector

Way forward:

- ❑ Provide **alternate** avenues of work through **MNREGA**.
- ❑ Encourage formation of **Self-Help Groups** in **non-farm** sector.
- ❑ Introduce innovative farm **machines**, that are better suited for **use by women**.
- ❑ Involve civil society to organize women into **unions**, to assert their **rights** and rise against **exploitation**.

Dowry

- ❖ Dowry is **payment** made in cash or kind **to bride's in-laws**
- ❖ It is one of the many problems which arise **due to low status of women** in society
- ❖ It is a **social evil** still prevalent in 21st century India

Reason for dowry / Challenges in stopping Dowry system?

- ❑ **Patriarchy in society:**
 - **Women** are considered as **commodity**, which is **transferred** from one family to other.
 - This commodity is supposed to **bring** with it **other commodities** like fridge, TV, AC.
- ❑ **Part of Religion/culture:**
 - People consider dowry as **part of their religion/culture**
 - **Even rich people** demand dowry despite having no dearth of money
- ❑ **As a status symbol:**
 - **Status of a boy's family** increases with the amount of dowry he can get in marriage.
 - There is a **competition in society** as to who can get more dowry, and have grand wedding.

Impact:

- ❑ It has **polluted** the institution of **marriage**.
- ❑ It has led to numerous **crimes** against **women** (torture, burning, etc)
- ❑ It has increased female **foeticide/infanticide** as girls are seen as **financial burden**

Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961

- ❑ Any agreement for giving or taking dowry shall be **void**.
- ❑ Minimum **5 year** imprisonment for :
 - Giving or taking of dowry
 - abetting the giving or taking of dowry

Note:

- ❑ **Streedhan** and **Mahr** are NOT considered as dowry
- ❑ Dowry death is a criminal offence under IPC **Section 304-B**

What can be done?

- ❑ Sensitize **children** in school
 - through stories, essay writing, etc.
- ❑ Mobilize **public** opinion
 - through daily news channel debates.
- ❑ Financial empowerment of **women**
 - through education, skilling, job, SHG, etc.

Note: Following points can be used (after suitable modification) in questions about women related issues.

- ❑ Dowry is a **social problem**.
 - Social problems need **social solution**.
- ❑ Society supports **derogatory practices**
 - **Virginity test** of bride in some communities
- ❑ Real issue is **low status** of women
 - Society **protects & felicitates** people who commit crime against women
- ❑ A **social movement** is needed to uplift the status of women
 - Inspiration can be taken from **19th century** social reformers like RRR & ICVS.
- ❑ Hence, **laws** can help, but are **not enough**.
 - It is the society's **collective conscience** which can stop dowry system.
- ❑ India needs to develop not just **economically**, but also **socially**
 - A developed country, built on **foundation of persecution** of weaker section, is bound to fail.
- ❑ **Actions** speak louder than **words**
 - Fancy **speeches** and movies **cannot uplift** status of women.
 - People who commit **crime** against women must be **punished**, not **felicitated**.

Marital Rape

NFHS-5: 1/3rd married women suffered physical/sexual abuse from husband

IPC section 375: Rape is a criminal offence, but rape within marriage is not criminal offence

Legal recourse:

- Civil remedy** can be sought under Domestic Violence Act 2005
 - In 2021 Kerala HC observed that marital rape is a valid ground for divorce.
- Criminal proceedings** cannot be initiated under IPC.
 - India is one of the 36 countries where marital rape is not a criminal offence.

Petition to declare marital rape a criminal offence:

- Delhi HC gave split verdict. Petition is pending in SC.
- Centre has argued that making it a criminal offence may destabilise the institution of marriage

Should marital rape be criminalised?

Yes:

- Article 14 gives right to equality
 - Married and un-married women, both have equal right to autonomy on their body.
- Rape has grave impact on women
 - Women suffer injury, both physical and mental.

No:

- Difficult to prove:
 - Finding evidence, or proving non-consent, will be difficult
- Chances of misuse:
 - Women may misuse the law, as in domestic violence cases.

International scenario:

- Criminal act in:** Russia, USA, UK, Israel, France, Germany, etc.
- Not criminal act:** India, Sri Lanka, Oman, Nigeria, Tanzania, etc.

Recommendations:

JS Verma Committee 2013, UN Human Rights Commission, UNCEDAW, 172nd Law Commission have all **recommended criminalization** of marital rape.

- ❖ Patriarchal mindset of society believes that wife is property of husband, hence husband can treat their property in any way they want.
- ❖ We cannot stop making laws to protect the weak, for the fear of misuse.

POSH Act 2013

Kerala HC has ruled that film production units must comply with POSH Act 2013, and set up committees to deal with cases of sexual harassment.

Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act, 2013

- Sexual harassment:** any unwelcome physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of sexual nature.
- It defines sexual harassment and lays down procedure for inquiry and action to be taken
- It broadened the Vishaka guidelines which were already in place
- Covers all women working or visiting any workplace
- Internal Complaints Committee
 - ICC must be constituted at every workplace with 10 or more employees.
 - ICC has powers similar to civil court to summon any person or require documents.
 - ICC must finish inquiry within 90 days, or can forward the complaint to police.

Issues:

- Setting up ICC at every office with 10 employees may not be feasible
- ICC has powers of civil court, but does not require members to have legal background
- Action can be taken against women for false complaint, this can deter victim from filing complaint against influential people in office.
- It does not provide protection to men from sexual harassment.

Despite the law, women hesitate from filing complaint:

- Fear of retaliation by the harasser or the company.
- Social stigma and embarrassment attached with victims of sexual abuse.
- Possibility of victim shaming whereby women is blamed for provoking the man.

Note:

- It is not the weakness of law
 - but misplaced morals of society, that makes victim suffer silently.
- Due to misplaced morals of society, people often support
 - lynching, honor killing, domestic violence, victim blaming, rapist felicitation, etc.

Sex workers

Supreme Court ruling in May 2022:

SC invoked its special powers under **Article 142** (SC can pass any orders to do complete justice)

- SC recognised sex work as a "**profession**"
 - Sex workers have right to live with **dignity**
- Voluntary sex work is **not illegal** (running brothel is unlawful)
 - **Police** can't take any **action** against consenting adults
- Media** should not reveal **identity** of sex workers
 - while reporting on raid on brothels
- Govt must provide **medical assistance**
 - to sex workers who are victim of sexual assault.

Issues faced by sex workers:

- Social **stigma** and **criminalization** of profession
- Harassment** and **abuse** by policemen
- Difficulty in ensuring **education** for **children**
- High prevalence of **HIV** and other **STDs**

Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956:

- It aims to suppress immoral traffic in **women and children**
- It was brought after India signed **UN convention** against trafficking in **1950**
- It does **not** make **prostitution illegal**.
- It makes **pimping** and running brothel **illegal**.

Private prostitution is not illegal in India, but soliciting it, doing it publicly, and owning a brothel are illegal.

Way forward:

- Implement** SC ruling in letter and spirit
- Decriminalize all aspects** of sex work
- Provide alternate employment** to those who wish to quit sex work
- Sensitize public** about their plight through movies like Gangubai Kathiawadi

Elderly

- ❑ **10%** of India's population is elderly.
- ❑ Most of them are **unemployed**, and **women** (feminization of old age).
- ❑ **Family** is the main preparator of **abuse** against senior citizens.

Issues faced by elderly:

- ❑ **Health** issues:
 - Old age related ailments, heart issues, hypertension, etc.
- ❑ **Money** crunch:
 - No pension, inability to undertake economic activity.
- ❑ Lack of **socialization** opportunity:
 - family members don't interact due to paucity of time
- ❑ **Abuse** by family members:
 - Children consider parents as liability, expel them from house.

Govt initiatives:

- ❑ National Social Assistance **Programme 1995**
 - Old Age Pension scheme provides pension to BPL above 60 years of age
- ❑ Maintenance & Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizens **Act 2007**
 - It makes maintenance by children a legal right

Way forward:

- ❑ Promote **Silver economy** through schemes like SAGE
- ❑ Public **sensitization** through movies like Avtaar (1983) and Baghban (2003)
- ❑ Promote **online** communities of elderly for more social interaction
- ❑ Govt owned/funded **Old Age homes** with geriatric care.
- ❑ Strict **implementation** of 2007 act.

Elderly

- ❑ About 10% of population
- ❑ Will increase in near future (greying of population)

Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (for elderly BPL)
physical aids / assisted living devices
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Silver economy
Economic activities to meet needs of elderly

Vaya Vandana Yojana
See Economy page-35

SAGE (Seniorcare Ageing Growth Engine)
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
"one-stop access" of elderly care products and services by credible **start-ups**
It will promote **entrepreneurship** in the field of elderly care (**₹ 1 crore**)

Geriatrics is related to
health care of elderly

Gerontechnology
technologies for elderly

Manual Scavenging

Around 330 people died during "hazardous cleaning" of **sewers and septic tanks** in the last five years but "**none of them were manual scavengers**," the central government said in the Parliament on 2 August 2022.

Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and Their Rehabilitation Act 2013

- Prohibition:** The act prohibits
 - **construction** of insanitary latrines
 - **employment** of manual scavengers
 - **cleaning** sewers and septic tanks **without protective gear**
- Rehabilitation:** The act lays down procedure to rehabilitate through
 - training in alternate employment, financial help, house
- Offences under the Act are cognizable and **non-bailable**.

SC Judgment:

In 2014, SC ordered govt to identify all those who died in sewage work since 1993 and provide Rs. 10 lakh compensation to their families.

Reasons for prevalence of Manual Scavenging:

- Not recognising the problem:**
 - Govts don't accept the fact that the practice still continues
- Outsourcing of work:**
 - Govt outsources sewer cleaning to contractors
 - In case of cleaner's death, they deny any association with the cleaner
- Caste and poverty:**
 - So called lower castes are expected to perform the task
 - Social stigma does not allow employment in any other job
 - Then poverty forces person to return to manual scavenging

Way forward:

- Acknowledge** the problem
- Full **mechanisation** of all sewer cleaning operations
- Give free **skilling** and assured **job** for rehabilitation
- Make **National Commission** for Safai Karamchari a statutory body again.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/971-people-died-while-cleaning-sewers-since-1993/article65295919.ece>

- 971 people died while cleaning sewers since 1993
- The Minister said no death due to **manual scavenging**, which is defined as the **lifting of human excreta** from insanitary latrines, had been reported.
- However, **people had died "due to accidents"** while undertaking hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks", he stated.

In spare time, you may read:

1. <https://www.thequint.com/videos/manual-scavenger-reality-india-quint-interactive>
2. <https://www.thenewsminute.com/article/invisible-manual-scavengers-kerala-s-kozhikode-166783>
3. <https://www.livelaw.in/news-updates/madras-high-court-commissioner-shall-forthwith-be-liable-for-any-future-incident-of-manual-scavenging-207196>

Safai Karamchari

National Commission for Safai Karamcharis

- established in 1993 by NCSK Act 1993
- Act was to be valid till 1997, but extended till 2004
- Since 2004, NCs term is extended repeatedly, as **non-statutory** body

As per **Manual Scavengers Rehabilitation Act 2013**, NCSK monitors implementation of the Act, gives advice to govt, enquire into complaints, etc.

Hate in society

Points from this topic can be used in many answers of Polity, Society, Ethics

- ❑ **Hate:**
 - Strong feeling of **dislike** towards a **group**
 - based on class, caste, region, religion, etc
- ❑ **Hate speech:**
 - **Spreading** hate to others
 - through media, social media, speech, etc
- ❑ **Hate crime:**
 - **Violent action** against people belonging to that group
 - lynching, rioting, murder, gangrape
- ❑ **Support for hate crime:**
 - Hate is **allowed to spread** in society, then society supports those who commit hate crime
 - eg crowdfunding and religious rallies in Shambhulal Regar case (Rajasthan, 2017)
 - <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/wheels-of-justice-moving-at-slow-pace-in-rajsamand-hate-killing-case/article65592702.ece>

Why hate crimes occur / Why is it difficult to tackle hate?

- ❑ **Cultural indoctrination**
 - People are taught their region/religion/caste is **superior to others**
 - **Our rights** are more important than **their rights** (Us vs Them mentality)
- ❑ **Radicalisation of youth through social media**
 - Youngsters created 'Bulli bai' and 'Sulli deals' apps targeting Muslim women
 - Refer news article "The Digital Pollution" (Indian Express 17-01-2022)
- ❑ **Political reasons (hunger for power)**
 - **Loyalty of vote bank** is maintained by instigating people on emotive issues
 - A divided society is **easy to rule** (Social division helped Britishers then, it helps politicians now)
 - Britishers wanted to make their rule over India easy, not difficult!!!
- ❑ **Hate speech cases are withdrawn:**
 - Political **parties spread hate** to come to power, and **then withdraw cases** against their leaders
 - Since hate spreaders are **not punished**, they **don't stop**. (Rather it acts as formula for success)

Impact of hate crime:

- ❑ **Society gets divided**
 - Social **harmony** decreases, chances of riots increases
- ❑ **Innocent people suffer**
 - People are targeted due to their **belief system**
- ❑ **Problem in housing & jobs**
 - People find it difficult to find house on **rent**, get job, etc.
- ❑ **Govt resources are diverted**
 - **Police** spends lots of time and resources in tackling hate crimes
- ❑ **Serious Law & order situation**
 - When oppression exceeds **threshold**, communities **retaliate**, which leads to **riots**
 - Hate leads to riots, riots lead to hate (unending **loop**)
- ❑ **Tarnishes India's global image:**
 - **Media reports** about govt not controlling hate crimes impacts **image and investment**
 - If **discrimination** based on **race** is wrong, then so is discrimination by **region/religion/caste**.
 - We can't **oppose** hate crimes against Indians in the **West**, while **justifying** such acts at **home**.
 - [BBC 07-04-2022: How polarisation is dividing India's Silicon Valley](#)
 - [BBC 14-04-2022: Why people get away with hate speech in India](#)
 - [ToI 04-09-2022: We need to stop dividing country: Nadir Godrej](#)

Remember:

- ❑ India is not just a piece of land. India is made of Indians.
 - Dividing Indians is like dividing India
- ❑ Social division is a threat to territorial integrity
 - Social division leads to territorial division
 - eg 1947 India-Pak, 1971 Pak-Bangla

GS-4 / interview:

Q. "zeher hi zeher ko katta hai" can this be applied to control hate/crimes/riots?

A. Two wrongs don't make a right

- ❑ Darkness cannot end darkness.
 - Similarly, hate cannot end hate.
- ❑ Countering hate with hate only worsens the problem.
 - Action must be taken to STOP hate, instead of promoting it.
- ❑ Example of Riots:
 - Police appeals rioters to STOP
 - If they don't stop, then force is use to STOP them
 - Force is not used to punish (punishment is given by court, not police)
 - What if police counters riot with riot by distributing arms to rival group? Riots will increase
- ❑ Similar approach is needed to tackle hate speech/crime:
 - Police must act against all groups to STOP hate.
 - If any groups is allowed to counter hate with hate, then hate will increase
- ❑ The above approach has many applications. For example:
 - We don't counter Pak's terrorists with terrorists.
 - We STOP them by conducting cross-border raids and mobilising international opinion/action against terrorism (FATF sanctions)

17-01-2022 The Digital Pollution (IE)

CONTEXT:

- Youngsters were involved in "Bulli Bai" and "Sulli Deals" app cases.
- This shows that today's youth is also prone to hate and radicalization.

DISINFORMATION AND HATE CONTENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

- Such content is created with the motive to spread radicalization.
- But people forwarding hate content are not aware about such motives.
- Such pollution in digital space is toxic for society, it harms everyone.
- Ignoring pollution only makes the problem worse over time.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

- Individuals need to be stopped early in the path to radicalization and extremism.
- We need to counter hate content by humanizing those targeted.
- Fact checking is important, but facts have limited impact on people with strong ideology

27-01-2022 Remembering the Holocaust (TH) *Article by Ambassadors of Israel and Germany to India*

Holocaust: Genocide of European Jews during WW-2

Germany implemented persecution in stages:

Antisemitism → Enabling Act → Boycott → Camps → Nuremberg laws → Genocide

- Antisemitism means hate and discrimination against Jews
- Enabling Act 1933 increased Chancellor's powers; checks and balances were weakened
- Boycott of Jews in business, society, civil service
- Concentration camps created for re-education of political opponents
- Nuremberg laws of 1935 imposed restriction on marriage and citizenship
- During 1941-45, 60 lakh Jews were killed
- Every year **27th January** is marked as International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Relevance today:

- Society is being shaped** by abuse of official power, group-targeted hate and violent ideologies.
- Hate speech, discrimination and intolerance are **challenging civilisational values**.
- The **youth** are particularly **vulnerable to such divisive ideologies** as they make up a greater portion of the internet user base. (But due to WhatsApp, its true for **elders** as well)
- Malicious words** have the power to spark a wildfire, for it is words that started the Holocaust.
- We need to study about Holocaust because correct knowledge of the past prevents spread of divisive ideologies. (many people spread propaganda that Holocaust never happened)
- But, we must remember: Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.

06-01-2022 Message from Mumbai

- Traders of hate**, misogyny and xenophobia are **flourishing** without any fear of punishment.
- Often, they have **support of politicians** and police.
- Online mobs spreading hate should not be allowed to continue their work with impunity.
- In 'Sulli Deals' case, Delhi police could not identify culprits due to **technical and legal issues**.
- To protect people from online harassment and cyber bullying govt is identifying gaps in laws.
- While that is necessary, it cannot be an excuse to let online mobs roam free.
- In 'Bulli bai' case, Mumbai police acted swiftly and arrested three people.

Social Media & Society

Students can reproduce points from:

- ❑ class-61 pg-4,5 → Free speech
- ❑ class-65 pg-1,3 → Role of social media in elections; IT Rules 2021

Benefits of social media:

- ❑ **Strengthens democracy**
 - Politicians can directly interact with people from all corners of India
- ❑ **Strengthens freedom of speech and expression**
 - People can voice their opinion without censorship
- ❑ **Increases socialization**
 - Virtual groups can help in socialization of elderly, women, disabled
- ❑ **Helps expose discrimination/exploitation/corruption in society**
 - #MeToo movement exposed silent suffering of women
- ❑ **Helps deliver good governance:**
 - Ministries respond to grievance raised on social media
 - eg no water in train toilet, Indians stuck abroad, etc

Issues: (for each benefit, students can frame issues)

- ❑ **Weakens democracy:**
 - People use SM to promote secessionist tendency (create separate country for self, or for others)
 - Demands for Khalistan
- ❑ **Spread of Fake news and misinformation**
 - Cow dung releases oxygen to treat covid
- ❑ **Reduces socialization:**
 - Children spend most of their time on social media, avoiding contact in real world
- ❑ **Increasing hate crimes and polarization of society**
 - Many WhatsApp/Facebook groups are based on group identity
 - Messages are posted to spread hate against Brahmins, Dalits, Muslims, Biharis, etc.
- ❑ **Can be misused by party in power:**
 - It helps govt identify activists and dissenters
 - Social media posts can be used to harass people by filing criminal cases

Euthanasia

Euthanasia in India

- ❑ **Active euthanasia**: crime under section 302 or 304 of IPC.
- ❑ **Passive euthanasia**: legal, but under exceptional circumstances

Arguments in support of Euthanasia:

- ❑ **It will end continuous pain and suffering:**
 - Painless death is better than living with continuous suffering
 - Motive of euthanasia is to help the person, not harm him.
- ❑ **It brings dignified death:**
 - If one is unable to live with dignity, he should be allowed to die with dignity.
 - Forcing someone to live without dignity is against liberty.
- ❑ **Resources can treat others:** (hospital, doctor, money, time)
 - Hospital resources should be used for people who want to live (not those who want to die)
- ❑ **Religion sanctions euthanasia:**
 - Sallekhana / Santhara in Jainism, and Prayopavesa in Hinduism allow fast unto death under certain circumstances

Arguments against Euthanasia:

- ❑ **Against ethics:**
 - Humans cannot play role of god and decide end of life
 - Medical ethics call for nursing, caregiving and healing and not ending the life of patient.
- ❑ **Vulnerable sections will become victim:**
 - Elderly, bedridden patients, PwDs, may be forced to opt for Euthanasia
- ❑ **Euthanasia is like suicide, which is illegal:**
 - People commit suicide due to depression, same is the case with Euthanasia.
 - Person asking for Euthanasia should be treated, instead of being killed.
- ❑ **Advancing medical science can offer cure:**
 - Incurable disease may get cure due to advances in stem cell therapy, gene editing, etc.

Euthanasia

In 2018 SC allowed living will and passive euthanasia (but under strict guidelines)

Living Will

person states how he wants to be treated if he is **seriously ill**

Euthanasia

 (mercy killing)

- Intentionally ending life to relieve suffering
- **Active Euthanasia** → **inject** some drug to kill; **illegal** in India
- **Passive Euthanasia** → **remove** life support system; **legal** in India
- **Article 21**: Right to live with dignity includes **right to die with dignity**
- **Aruna Shanbaug** case about? Euthanasia (but she died of pneumonia)

Palliative care reducing suffering of seriously ill

Sallekhana / Santhara

Jainism; Fast unto death; only in special circumstances
Mentioned in Jain texts like **Ratnakaranda** śrāvakācāra

Prayopavesa

Hinduism; Fast unto death
Only in special circumstances

Vatakkiruttal:

Tamil ritual; Fast unto death
By Kings during Sangam age

Benefit of vaccines:

- Reduce **disease** burden:
 - no TB, hepatitis, tetanus, etc
- Less healthcare **expenses**:
 - less chances of serious disease, hence less expenses
- Better **work** productivity:
 - less sick leaves from office, less time to care for sick children
- Lowers **infant** Mortality Rate:
 - Vaccinating children reduces their chance of falling ill
 - People produce less children when probability of children's survivability increases
- Sometimes vaccines are **the only protection** against some disease
 - e.g. there is no medicine to cure Polio, it can only be prevented

Many disease have been successfully eradicated from India: Polio, Smallpox, Yaws, Guinea worm, etc.

Challenges:

- Vaccines not yet developed, or **not effective**
 - e.g. vaccines for Malaria, Dengue
- Vaccines are **not affordable** or accessible
 - e.g. covid vaccines during early days
- Vaccine **hesitancy**
 - People don't want vaccine, mostly due to misinformation
- Mutation** in pathogens
 - Mutations in pathogen may render vaccine ineffective

What can be done?

- Allocate more resource for **R&D** (money, manpower) for vaccine development for neglected diseases
- Use **patent pools** to make vaccines affordable and accessible
- Public campaigns** to counter misinformation on vaccines, involve celebrities (Amitabh Bachchan for Polio)

Immunization

Immunization Agenda 2030:

- By WHO, GAVI, etc.
- For everyone to benefit from vaccines
- Zero-dose children by 50%
- 90% coverage for essential vaccines
- 2011-20: Global Vaccine Action Plan
- 2021-30: Immunization Agenda 2030
- Caution: This is **not just about Covid**

UIP free vaccines for 12 diseases:

To all children across the country free of cost to protect them against:

Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Polio, Hepatitis B, Pneumonia and Meningitis due to Haemophilus Influenzae type b (Hib), Measles, Rubella, Japanese Encephalitis (JE) and Rotavirus diarrhoea.

(Rubella, JE and Rotavirus vaccine in select states and districts)

1978: Expanded Programme of Immunization

1985: Universal Immunization Programme

2014: Mission Indradhanush

Vaccine hesitancy:

- Refusal** to get vaccinated, despite being available & affordable.
- In USA, vaccines are absolutely free and easily available. Still only 53% are fully vaccinated. (August 2021)

Prelims 2016:

'Mission Indradhanush' launched by the Government of India pertains to

- (a) immunization of children and pregnant women
- (b) construction of smart cities across the country
- (c) India's own search for Earth-like planets in outer space
- (d) New Educational Policy

Intensified Mission Indradhanush

- 1.0** in 2017; **2.0** in 2019;
- 3.0** in 2021 for children and pregnant women who missed routine immunisation due to covid

Sports

Benefit of Sports?

- ❑ **Personality:** Sports are essential for all-round personality development
- ❑ **Entertainment:** For General public, sports tournaments are great source of entertainment e.g. IPL
- ❑ **National pride:** Achievement in international tournaments brings pride and prestige to the country
- ❑ **Bonding:** Sports promote bonding among people
- ❑ **International Relations:** refer class-42 pg-02

Reason for poor performance:

- ❑ **Infra:** lack of training infra like stadium, swimming pool, etc.
- ❑ **Funds:** for equipment, gear, etc.
- ❑ **Technology:** Outdated tech still used in training
- ❑ **Bench:** Poor bench strength to develop competitiveness

Some underlying/foundational issues of sports sector:

- ❑ **Poverty:** focus is on livelihood, sports is secondary
- ❑ **Malnutrition:** poor diet reduces competency
- ❑ **Attitude:** sports seen as leisure activity, hence not taken seriously
- ❑ **Political interference:** Nepotism, discrimination in team selection and in governing bodies
- ❑ **Bureaucratic apathy:** May 2022 case of stadium closed early for IAS officer's evening walk
- ❑ **Lack of recognition:** only male cricketers enjoy public recognition

Steps taken:

- ❑ **Ministry:** Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- ❑ **Administration:** Sports Authority of India
- ❑ **Policy:** National Sports Policy
- ❑ **Schemes:**
 - **TOPS:** Target Olympic Podium Scheme
 - **Khelo India:** to spread the culture of sports throughout India
- ❑ **Education:**
 - ❑ **National Sports Repository System:** portal where all stakeholders can register themselves (sports person, sports scientists, coaches, training centres)
 - ❑ **National Institute of Physical Education:** Deemed university under Min. of Youth Affairs & Sports
- ❑ **Awards:** Dronacharya award, Khel Ratna award, etc.

Doping:

- ❑ Use of **prohibited** drugs by athletes to **improve** athletic **performance**.
- ❑ Recently, many high profile sportspersons in India **failed dope test**.

Issues with doping:

- ❑ **Unethical:** gives unfair advantage
- ❑ **Reputation:** tarnishes image of individual and country
- ❑ **Side-effects:** on health of the athlete

Emerging challenge:

 gene-edited athletes / designer babies

- ❑ Using CRISPR like **gene editing** technologies to **improve athletic performance**
- ❑ Stronger **muscles** for weightlifting, longer **hands** for swimming, **stamina** for marathon, etc.

National Anti-Doping Bill 2022

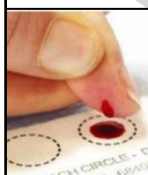
 was unanimously passed by Parliament in August 2022.

- ❑ **Statutory** powers to National Anti-Doping agency to **regulate** anti-doping activities in sports
- ❑ It will ensure highest standards of **integrity** while participating in national & international competitions

Should doping be made a criminal offence?

 (ie not just disqualification, but jail) (**Use points from above**)

- ❑ Countries like **Germany** and **Kenya** have criminalised doping.



Dried blood spot test:

- ❑ Used by WADA at Tokyo Olympics
- ❑ **World Anti-Doping Agency:**
 - est. 1999; HQ: Montreal Canada
 - not a UN agency

National Anti-Doping Bill 2021:

(Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports)

- ❑ To make NADA a statutory body
- ❑ To make NDTL as principle dope testing lab

National Anti-Doping Agency:

- ❑ Society under MoYA&S; Implements anti-doping rules

National Dope Testing Laboratory: (1990, New Delhi)

- ❑ Lost WADA accreditation in 2019; regained in 2021