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MONTHLY MAINSTORMING

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Shankar IAS Academy™

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G.S PAPER I

1. INDIAN HISTORY

The significance of constructive work propounded by Mahatma Gandhiji still acts as a strategy to curb inequality and injustices present in the society. Discuss

KEY POINTS

Constructive work is form of passive resistance initiated by Mahatma Gandhiji to train millions of workers to fight against British Raj.

Significance of constructive work in reducing inequalities

- Constructive work involves participation from almost all sections of society, now Indian democracy needs huge participation by people to make the government accountable.
- Unity in diversity was the cornerstone of constructive work; divisions based on caste, creed, religion etc need to be curbed from the society to minimize inequalities.
- Integrated Child Development scheme was a best example of constructive work in reducing malnutrition across country. Dedication of Anganwadi workers, social audits paved the way for the successful implementation of the scheme in several states like TamilNadu, Kerala, and Maharashtra.
- Another crucial aspect is the participation of women in various activities; minimizing the gender inequalities in the society; recently armed forces opened their gateway for inducting women pilots in the Indian Air force and offering them Permanent Commission in the Indian Military.
- Peaceful protests pressurize governments to address needs of the people; recently peaceful farmers rally in Maharashtra made the state government to consider the problems of farm distress.

G.S PAPER II

2. POLITY

Discuss the measures that are required to strengthen the criminal justice system in India.

KEY POINTS

Measures required strengthening criminal justice system

- Free legal aid to under trial prisoners suffering in jails across country, state high courts needs to pay enough salary for lawyers involved in under trial cases.
- Speedy implementation of Interoperable criminal justice system across country to improve transparency. E.g: It is mandatory for the station house officer to upload the FIR copy in the portal once he/she started the investigation.
- Statutory backing to the witness protection scheme by parliament for the safety and security of witnesses involved in cases.
- Improving the capacity of police personnel for speedy investigation of cases with solid evidences, as advocated by Padmanabiah Committee on police reforms. State police forces need to recruit skilled persons for policing purpose.
- Clearing the huge backlog of cases using fastrack courts and increasing the strength of judges in lower courts by concerned state high courts.

- Spreading awareness about the procedures involved in the criminal justice system via citizen charters, public grievance redressal system.

What are the reasons for declining in productivity of parliamentary sessions over the years? Suggest measures for the smooth functioning of parliamentary sessions.

KEY POINTS

Reasons for declining productivity in Parliamentary sessions

- The individual voting record of MPs remains unknown. With no record maintained of the voting record associated with each MP, it is difficult to distinguish their individual progressive or conservative nature.
- Frequent disagreement and lack of co-operation over critical issues leading to loud protests, affecting productivity of parliamentary sessions.
- Currently, there is no rule to dictate the minimum number of days the Parliament should mandatorily be in session.
- Parliamentary legislation is often criticised for being hastily drafted and being rushed through Parliament in an ad hoc and haphazard manner.
- In 2008, for instance, 16 Bills were passed with less than 20 minutes of debate.
- Private member bills are not getting due attention and debate. To date, only 14 private members bills have been passed.
- There are many instruments like anti defection law, whip issued by the political parties that are acting as hindrances for free speech of MPs.
- Limited seats for women, as of now women occupy only 11-12% of the strength of the parliament.

Measures to increase the productivity

- Need to increase the minimum sittings and hold special sessions.
- Mandatory fixing of minimum number of days that the Parliament should be in sessions. According to National Commission to review the working of the Constitution (NCRWC) recommended that it shall be 120 and 100 days respectively for Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
- Passage of the Women's Reservation Bill (108th amendment) reserving 33% of all seats in Parliament and State legislatures for women.
- The concept of a free vote allowing MPs to vote as they wish on particular legislative items.

In the name of proportional punishment, the death penalty essentially overlooks errors and arbitrariness in the process and its unfairness in targeting the poor. Analyse.

KEY POINTS

Most of the civilised world has abolished the death penalty. India certainly does not need it as it serves no purpose. No study has shown that the death penalty deters murder more than life imprisonment.

Errors and arbitrariness in death penalty

- The Supreme Court has repeatedly admitted that it has arbitrarily imposed this most extreme punishment. It depends overwhelmingly on the adjudicator's personal beliefs.
- The death penalty is error-ridden. Between January 1, 2000 and June 31, 2015, the Supreme Court imposed 60 death sentences. It subsequently admitted that it had erred in 15 of them (25%).
- The death penalty unfairly targets the poor and marginalised. Persons with money have access to lawyers and remain untouched.



- Abolishing the death penalty will ease, not enhance, the tax-payer's burden. The annual cost of maintaining a prisoner is about Rs 30,000.

Retention of Death penalty

- Creation of fear in the minds of perpetrators before committing a crime.
- Death penalty applied only in rarest of the rare cases.
- The state acknowledges that the sacredness of life can only be seen to be protected if those who take it away are proportionately punished.
- In 2015, the Law Commission called for abolition of the death penalty for ordinary crimes not for all crimes.

Conclusion is based on the interpretation of the candidates.

The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2016 has been recently passed in Lok Sabha. Discuss the flaws in the bill and suggest alternative provisions to overcome it.

KEY POINTS

Flaws in The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2016

- The definition of Transgender is “unscientific and primitive and based on biological attributes”.
- The principle of self-identification and its broad understanding of gender is not mentioned.
- The provision of reservations for transgender persons which were promised by NALSA have disappeared.
- National Council for Transgender Persons has been created, but has also been rendered toothless without any significant powers.
- It makes a provision for a district screening committee led by a district magistrate to certify a person's third gender identity which was found unacceptable.
- The infliction of violence by families, police, lack of availability of a complaint mechanism etc. had not been incorporated in the Bill.

Alternative provisions in the bill

- The definition of transgender must be made gender neutral by applying the principle of self-identification.
- Special grievance redressal cell to address the complaints of transgenders.
- Need to extend all kinds of reservations in cases of admission in educational institutions and for public appointments to raise their social status. Eg: Recently Tamil Nadu gave the post of constable to a transgender.
- Sufficient enforcement powers for National Council for Transgender Persons.
- Recognition of civil rights like marriage and divorce, adoption, etc., which are critical to transgender persons'and recognising their right to partnership.
- Provision of severe punishment for crimes against transgender persons based on the severity of offence.

Aligning with the unitary feature of India Constitution, the vacant posts in the lower judiciary can be filled up via a centralized recruitment process by creating All India Judicial services. Critically examine

According National Judicial data Grid, 23% posts lying vacant in lower courts and nearly 2.62 crore cases pending resolution in the lower judiciary, there is lack of attention in judiciary.

Significance of All India Judicial Service(AIJS)

- Creating an All India Judicial Service would make judiciary more accountable, professional and equitable.



- The creation of AIJS, along with provisions of reservations for the marginalised communities and women, will lead to a better represented lower judiciary.
- Best legal talent across the country would be selected on the basis of merit.
- Public faith in the judiciary would be restored.
- Transparent and efficient method of recruitment would be followed.

AIJS is not an effective solution to fill vacant posts

- In Uttar Pradesh, of the 3,204 sanctioned posts, 1,348 are vacant, i.e. 42% vacancies. It shows that the problem of vacancies is not uniform across different States. The solution is to pressure poorly performing States into performing more efficiently.
- The fact is that several States already provide for reservations in their lower judicial service. Example: Karnataka also recognises two additional categories of reservation — for those from a rural background and those from Kannada medium backgrounds.
- Unlike States, the Centre almost never provides reservation for women in the all India services.
- Instituting an AIJS would mean that nationally dominant SC, ST and OBC groups would be at an advantage as they can compete for posts across the country, which they would otherwise be disqualified from because of the domicile requirement.
- If Parliament decides to go ahead with the creation of the AIJS, State legislatures can do nothing to stop the process, according to article 312 of the constitution.
- The need of the hour for the judiciary is cooperative federalism where centre needs to help states in filling up the vacant posts in lower judiciary, rather than centralising the recruitment process where states' appointment powers are taken by centre.

3. SOCIAL JUSTICE

A Multi-dimensional approach is needed for the socio-economic upliftment of the Transgender Community. Discuss

KEY POINTS

- Transgender people have a gender identity or expression that differs from their assigned sex at birth.
- Numbering approximately 5,00,000 as per the last count (2011), transgender people in India are one of the most visibly invisible population in the country.
- So they are subject to extreme forms of social ostracisation and exclusion from basic dignity and human rights. They remain highly vulnerable to gender-based violence.

Multidimensional approaches

- Giving political rights to transgender throughout India, providing them right to vote through Election Commission of India.
- The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2016 needs to be passed in parliament. The Bill provides for inclusive education for Transgender Persons without discrimination on an equal basis with others and prohibits the establishments for discrimination against them in any matter relating to employment.
- Give them training on Modular Employable Skills modules through Vocational Training Providers (VTPs) registered under Skill Development initiative (SDI) Scheme. The Self/wage employment oriented courses needs to be conducted under Skill Development Initiative Scheme (SDIS) to enhance their employment potential and increase their chances to earn decent livelihood as well as enhance their status in the society.
- They face extreme vulnerability to HIV, so proper medical treatment for them under National aids control programme is crucial without socio- economic, gender discrimination.



- Odisha is the first region in the country to give transgender people social welfare benefits - such as a pension, housing and food grains - usually allocated for only the most impoverished. This kind of initiative needs to be replicated across states.

What do you mean by the concept of human rights? Discuss the challenges and measures to uphold human rights in India with relevant illustrations.

KEY POINTS

Human rights are based on the principle of respect for the individual; each person is a moral and rational being who deserves to be treated with dignity. They are called human rights because they are universal. Human rights are the rights to which everyone is entitled, no matter whom they are or where they live.

Challenges in upholding human rights

- With the rising crimes, violations, scams and scandals human rights are being violated E.g. PNB Scam, honor killings.
- Another incident which violated the right to security of people was Amritsar train tragedy, because of administrative negligence and public apathy towards safety.
- Security forces who were operating against Maoist insurgents were accused of serious human rights violations killing of innocent tribal villagers. According to a report by National Commission of Scheduled Tribes, security forces in Odisha killed five tribal villagers.
- Tribal communities remained vulnerable to displacement because of mining, dams, and other large infrastructure projects. E.g. Mankidia tribe in Odisha as denied habitat rights inside core area of Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) because of animal killings.
- Journalists faced increasing pressure to self-censor due to threat of legal action, smear campaigns and threats on social media, and even threats of physical attacks.
- Schools and colleges also faced disruptions in Darjeeling district in West Bengal state after violent protests and strikes erupted over demands for a separate Gorkhaland state.

Measures to uphold Human rights

- Enforcing power to National Human Rights Commission in India.
- Reforms in the criminal justice system to promote the efficiency of investigation and judicial pronouncement.
- Suitable framework for Good Governance as recommended by Administrative Reforms commission 2006.
- Value based education system to the present and next generations and inculcating the importance of human rights via framing comprehensive curriculum.

4. HEALTH

Successful Cooperative federalism is the need of the hour for the effective implementation of National framework on nutrition. Analyze

KEY POINTS

Level of nutrition in India

Global Nutrition Report 2018 points out the wide variation in stunting levels in different parts of the country. District-level data show high and very high levels of stunting mainly in central and northern India.

One-third of the world's stunted children under five, an estimated 46.6 million who have low height for age, live in India.

Existing problems

- The Anganwadi Services scheme, which incorporates the Integrated Child Development Services, caters to children up to age six, and to pregnant and lactating women has not worked well in several States.
- Anganwadi workers are not paid enough to perform their duty; delay in payment of their salary affects the existing mechanisms.
- According to Global nutrition report 2018, the quality of nutrition in packaged foods available to children, only 21% of these foods in India were rated as being healthy.
- Targeted Public distribution system doesn't focus well on diet diversification.
- Because of social discrimination in ration shops nutritious food remains unaffordable for marginalized communities.

Cooperative federalism

- Health is a state subject, as states are more dependent upon centre for financial resources; centre needs to back the poor performing states financially.
- Monitoring and evaluation of nutritional schemes by centre should be incorporated.
- Effective implementation of National Nutrition mission will strengthen cooperative federalism.
- States should focus and invest more in public health facilities for proper diagnosis and treatment for malnutrition.
- Proper implementation of SAMPADA yojana is crucial in giving quality packaged food.

Despite challenges, vaccination programme in India has been designed successfully to ensure the safety of the children from life threatening diseases. Examine.

KEY POINTS

Vaccination programme in India

Universal Immunization Programme in 1985, six vaccines (BCG, OPV, DPT and typhoid-paratyphoid vaccines) were introduced; these vaccines are available free of cost under UIP. India is free from the crippling disease of Polio. India's current under five mortality rate is 45 per 1000 live births against the MDG target of 42.

The immunization programme has been put on the fast track under mission Indradhanush to increase its coverage to 90 per cent by 2018 with the commitment to reach a situation where no child died from Vaccine Preventable Diseases.

Challenges in vaccination programme

India faces a threefold challenge:

- Low full immunization coverage (65 per cent).
- Limited basket of vaccines.
- Issues regarding quality and logistics of vaccine management for such a vast and diverse country.

Measures taken to overcome the challenges

- Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) that aims to reach those rural and urban slums that have under-performed regions.
- The Government has initiated a SMS based electronic vaccine intelligence network (e- VIN) to enable real time monitoring of vaccine stocks.
- e-VIN (Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network) is an indigenously developed technology system in India that digitizes vaccine stocks and monitors the temperature of the cold chain through a Smartphone application.
- Sharper focus on surveillance activities and to create partnerships with states, community-level departments and ministries for grass roots implementation and monitoring.



Preserving the gender equality plays critical role in ensuring food security and better nutritional outcomes in India. Elucidate

KEY POINTS

Role of women in ensuring food security

- Women play key roles in food provisioning as producers, home food managers, and consumers. As producers, they constitute a high and growing proportion of farmers. In India, 35 per cent of agricultural workers are women (NSSO 2011-12).
- Women also contribute to food systems through forests and fisheries. One in six persons globally depends on forests for supplementary food, green manure, fodder, firewood, etc. Women and girls are the main gatherers of forest products, especially food and firewood; the latter continues to be the primary cooking fuel in most of rural India,
- According to World Bank, seafood is globally the main source of protein for a billion people. Women constitute 46 per cent of workers in small-scale fisheries and 54 per cent in inland fisheries. Although marine products are harvested mainly by men, it is aquaculture more in women's domain, which is the fastest-growing, and predicted to provide over 50 per cent of fish consumed globally by 2020.
- The potential lies in its focus on women's access to land and property, and natural resources. Secure land rights for women can improve both their productivity as farmers and family nutritional allocations.

Better nutritional outcomes

- ASHA workers mainly constitute of women played major in reducing infant and maternal mortality rate. Eg. 40.4/1000 live births as of 2018. In 2011 it was 72/1000 live births.
- Increasing income generation for women resulted better health in the family as women tend to spend the amount for welfare of the family in many households.
- Diet diversification in rural areas as women farmers find easy to grow more millets rather than cereals.

Undue Government intervention in regulating medical devices acts as an obstacle in providing affordable and accessible health care to citizens. Critically Analyze

KEY POINTS

Government regulation of medicinal implants and devices takes place under the purview of Drugs and Cosmetics act 1940, this will enable the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) to regulate the prices, supply, import, manufacture and sale of the devices under the Medical Devices Rules of 2017.

Implications of undue government regulation

- Capping the prices of medical devices result in the lowering of supplies, so cannot be accessed during crucial times.
- Huge lacunae in the quality of stents and other medical devices like hip and knee replacements; so while the government was focusing on only prices, the greater problem was the near absence of any type of effective quality control.
- Discourages the private investors in investment of Research and Development projects in medicinal implants, as device manufacturers will suffer losses.
- No clear norms laid under Drugs and Cosmetics act with regard to Compensation.

Advantages of Government intervention

- Medicinal implants become cheaper thus providing easy access to poor people therefore reducing the Out of Pocket expenditure.
- Tends to increase the life expectancy of poor people, resulting better human capital formation.



- It also increases the coverage acting as a strategy to realize the goals of universal health care.

Government intervention needs more focus on quality of medicinal implants rather than costs, through private sector participation in manufacturing the implants and devices.

What is meant by Universal Health Coverage? Explain the measures taken by the Indian Government to attain the goals of Universal health coverage.

KEY POINTS

Universal health Coverage is to ensure that all people obtain the health services they need without suffering financial hardship when paying for them; access to essential medicines and technologies; and a sufficient capacity of well-trained, motivated health workers.

Measures by Indian Government for providing UHC

- Under the National Health Mission (NHM), support is being provided to States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare delivery system including for provision of free/affordable healthcare, free drugs and diagnostics to all those who access public health facilities.
- With the aim to reduce the expenditure incurred by patients on treatment of cancer and heart diseases, government inaugurated the Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) outlets, the retail outlet will sell drugs for the two ailments at highly discounted rates.
- Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), cashless benefit upto Rs. 30,000 per annum per family of five for specified hospitalization procedures are available to all BPL population and eleven other categories of vulnerable population groups.
- National Nutrition Mission, a joint effort towards a life cycle approach for interrupting the intergenerational cycle of under nutrition.

Labour room quality improvement initiative - LaQshya

- to improve the quality of care that is being provided to the pregnant mother in the Labour Room and Maternity Operation Theatres, thereby preventing the undesirable adverse outcomes associated with childbirth.
- Mission Indradhanush, targeted programme to immunize children who have either not received vaccines or are partially vaccinated.

Despite being a long-term project, hasty implementation of Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana might result in poor attainment of socio-economic goals. Examine

KEY POINTS

PM Jan Arogya Yojana

Objectives

- Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) will provide a cover of up to Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year, for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization.
- PMJAY will help reduce catastrophic expenditure for hospitalizations, which impoverishes people and will help mitigate the financial risk arising out of catastrophic health episodes.
- When fully implemented, PMJAY will become the world's largest fully government-financed health protection scheme. It is a visionary step towards advancing the agenda of Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Criticisms of hasty implementation

- The launch of the PMJAY was timed closer to the forthcoming general elections. the programme is now being rolled out hurriedly, even before the necessary systems and processes have been developed fully and tested for their robustness.

- The programme lags in proposing to level the playing field between the public and private hospitals, as public hospitals would continue receiving budgetary support.
- The programme remains silent in extending to the above-poverty-line (APL) population in the unorganised sector.
- Additional incentives be given to the private players for setting up hospitals in the underserved areas remain unclear.

Hence it is important to make longer-term commitments and resolve programme uncertainties, especially with regard to the inclusion of the APL, for which there is a strong case. In this stage a binding policy commitment so as to reduce policy uncertainty and enable investments in hospital infrastructure. In other words, a longer-term outlook is needed, and based on this, certain commitments are warranted.

5. EDUCATION

Inclusiveness in higher education has been increasing progressively in India recently but challenges remain to establish a quality higher education. Discuss.

KEY POINTS

Inclusiveness in higher education

- Indian campuses now are more inclusive than before in terms of the presence of women, dalits, tribals and people from Other Backward Classes (OBCs), according to the India Exclusion Report 2017 released by the Centre for Equity Studies.
- Interventions like the 93rd amendment to the Constitution (2006) which ensured OBC reservation to the elite institutions of national importance gave a big push to inclusiveness.

All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)

| | 2015-16 | 2017-18 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| Gender parity index | 0.92 | 0.94 |
| Pupil teacher ratio | 21 | 22 |
| Gross enrolment ratio | 24.3 | 25.2 |

Challenges in establishing quality higher education

- Indian languages are not yet seen as fit to be academic languages. Without having a sufficient grasp over English, it is difficult to be part of the higher education; initiatives like the National Translation Mission are lying idle.

- Severe cuts in the budgetary allocation in recent years to the higher education sector threatens to undo all the legislative initiatives to ensure an inclusive higher educational space.
- Recently, educational reforms like four-year undergraduate programme (FYUP), the choice-based credit system (CBCS), etc, have wrecked the classroom experience; the ownership of courses and classes has been taken away from the teachers.
- Research journals published in higher education institutes are not matching with the international standards.

According to the economic survey 2017-18

1. India's spending on R&D (about 0.6 percent of GDP) is well below that in major nations such as the US (2.8), China (2.1), Israel (4.3) and Korea (4.2).
2. Universities play a relatively small role in the research activities of the country, funding mostly dominated by Government.



For higher quality education

India needs to gradually move to have a greater share of an investigator-driven model for funding science research.

The private sector should be incentivized to both undertake more R&D but to also support STEM research through CSR funds.

Higher education in Indian languages needs to be introduced with the help of national translation mission.

The Government of India has nearly achieved “schooling for all” but the quality of educational outcomes remain at unacceptable levels. Analyze

KEY POINTS

- According to the Economic Survey 2017-18, Gross enrolment ratio in primary and secondary education have been around 95%, lack achieving decent learning outcomes in our schools, and no significant improvements seem to be under way.
- Then the Right to Education (RTE) Act came into force in April 2010, along with its formalisation of the automatic promotion policy. The proportion of children aged 6-14 enrolled in government schools fell significantly, as per ASER report.
- While the proportion in private schools rose from 24 per cent in 2010 to 31 per cent in 2014. Even more disturbing was the substantial decline in assessed learning outcomes in government schools: The proportion of children in Std 5 (typically age 10-11) who could read a Std 2 text fell from 51 per cent in 2010 to 41 per cent in 2013.
- There is no convincing explanation for this striking decline in assessed reading ability in government schools after the RTE Act. The assessed trends in arithmetic learning are even worse and equally unexplained.
- In the single year (2009) that only 15 year-olds from Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu participated in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) conducted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Indian students ranked 72nd out of 73 countries.
- So there is very limited learning going on in our schools. With the very limited skills imparted by our school systems, it is difficult for the young men and women to enter the labour force in millions and it is tough to cope with the “digital age”.
- According to All India survey on higher education, gross enrolment ratio was near 92% in higher education, but if we consider publication of quality journals, levels Research and Development Indian students are not par with international standards.

Measures for quality educational outcomes

- Quality teachers with high dedication to be appointed through Teachers eligibility test in all states and UTs.
- Enabling environment in schools for children to learn subjects more in a practical way rather than theory.
- Reducing the dropout rates via holding special classes for children
- Robust industry academia interface, scientists to take the role of teachers in universities will provide better quality higher education.

6. GOVERNANCE

India is lacking quality police personnel to maintain law and order and in investigating crimes. In this context, discuss the structural flaws of policing and recommend measures to overcome it.

KEY POINTS

Structural Flaws in Policing



- Postings were based on patronage, and it was not possible to deploy the best people for the most difficult tasks.
- The Police stations were always short of money, and personnel spent from their pocket on stationery and other needs.
- They reported being overworked, on duty 24 hours a day, with high stress; families got neglected; majority of police personnel lived in the nearby city because of lack of housing, schools and health facilities in that area.
- They cost of travelling from the police station to home(vice-versa) everyday, not properly compensated. They saw themselves as underpaid and not respected.
- The police personnel showed poor understanding about enforcing the law.
- The village people feared and avoided the police as they listened to those who had money. Eg: extraction of money from vehicles plying the highway; when an FIR was lodged, the police evinced sympathy for the victims as well as the accused, and took money off both to solve the case.

Measures to overcome the flaws

- As per the Second Administrative Commission, training needs to be made an attractive option for the trainers. This can be done through provision of better facilities and attractive allowances. This will attract motivated trainers.
- There is a need to stipulate humane working hours for policemen. Some states have already done so. Kerala has introduced eight hour duty system in its Police Act, becoming the first state. Haryana has also gone for the shift system.
- The 5th Report of the Second Administrative Reforms Commission has supported the need for undertaking major housing construction programmes for them. This would help them give their best to national service.
- Infrastructure needs a total overhaul. To support the policemen, transport and communication facilities need to be expanded and upgraded. To augment forensic support, there is a need to have forensic laboratories in each district or at best at Divisional/Range levels.
- As suggested by the Supreme Court in Prakash Singh v. Union of India, “the investigating police shall be separated from the law and order police to ensure speedier investigation, better expertise and improved rapport with the people.”

A motivated and willing civil service unit is the best instrument to achieve the outcomes desired by the state and society. In this context, discuss the factors affecting the motivation of public servants and the outcomes of the recognition of their work.

KEY POINTS

Factors affecting the motivation of public servants

- Working to earn a living, provides economic security to the public servants.
- Status in a society acts as a driving force the civil servants to work honestly and effectively
- Recognition of their work would act as a feedback to their thinking process and allows public servants to take fair decisions.
- Sense of personal achievement provides satisfaction to their efforts and encourages public servants to take more challenging tasks.
- Challenging nature of work makes the task interesting and public servants invest conscious efforts to solve the administrative problems effectively.

Outcomes of the recognition of their work



- Recognising the efforts of civil servants will act as motivation for young officer trainees and working professionals in the country.
- Recognition, acts one of the important tools for building the confidence of government and help in regaining the trust of citizens.
- Helps in upholding the morale of the genuine officers.
- ARC report recommended to recognize the outstanding work of civil servants through awards for better motivation.

Despite inherent flaws, social audit units form one of the most important pillars of Good governance in India. Critically examine

KEY POINTS

A social audit is a way of measuring, understanding, reporting and improving an organization's social and ethical performance. It values the voice of stakeholders, including marginalized/poor groups and for strengthening accountability and transparency in local bodies.

Inherent flaws in Social Audit Units (SAU)

- The governing bodies of most SAUs are not independent.
- Some SAUs have to obtain sanction from the implementation agency before spending funds.
- More than half the States have not followed the open process specified in the standards for the appointment of the SAU's director.
- Some States have conducted very few audits and a few have not conducted any. Several do not have adequate staff to cover all the panchayats even once a year.
- The action taken by the State governments in response to the social audit findings has been extremely poor; adequate disciplinary action against people responsible for the irregularities has also not been taken.
- According to NSSO, for the period 2016-17 and 2017-18, only 13 SAUs registered grievances and/or detected irregularities, only 7% of the money has been recovered and only 14% of the grievances have been redressed.

Importance of SAU

- (a) Trains the community on participatory local planning.
- (b) Encourages local democracy.
- (c) Encourages community participation.
- (d) Benefits disadvantaged groups.
- (e) Promotes collective decision making and sharing responsibilities.
- (f) Develops human resources and social capital

To become an important pillar in Good Governance (SAU)

- Social audits of the NFSA have failed to take off due to lack of funds. Like the Rural Development Ministry, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution should give funds to the SAUs and ask them to facilitate the social audits of the NFSA.
- Social audit units should have an independent governing body and adequate staff. Rules must be framed so that implementation agencies are mandated to play a supportive role in the social audit process.
- Real time management information system should track the calendar, the social audit findings and the action taken, and reports on these should be made publicly available.



- CAG as an institution could partner with local citizens and state audit societies to train them, build capacities and issue advisories on framing of guidelines, developing criteria, methodology and reporting for audit.

In the domain of Social media, India is lacking institutions of governance to protect the right to privacy of the individual users. Examine

KEY POINTS

Reasons for lacking institutions of Governance

- Social media is beyond juridical capability of Indian Government, it is difficult to frame a comprehensive law.
- Web servers are located outside India, so Government of India has narrow scope in regulating the privacy of data.
- Big data technology in India is at an initial stage and lacks investment in Research and Development; it is difficult screen and regulate billions of data.
- The government has prioritised more data collection and privacy-impairing legislation. These include the DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, which is listed for discussion and voting.
- Ministry of Home Affairs issued a notification authorising digital surveillance by 10 Central government agencies, thus government has given more priority in collection of data rather than protection.
- A draft law is designed to safeguard data privacy in a closed drafting process without much transparency. It has no clear path to enactment, and is not listed for the ongoing winter session of Parliament.

Consequences of lacking institutions of governance

- Loss of right to privacy, violating core principles of Fundamental rights mentioned in Indian Constitutions. Eg. The Cambridge Analytica issue, documented the compromising of personal data of Facebook users to micro-target them with subtle forms of political campaigning without their knowledge, influencing their voting preferences and the outcome of elections.
- Increasing cyber crimes like ransomware attacks, phishing, hacking government websites.
- It will lead to violation of net neutrality. Eg. Issue of “Free basics” by Facebook violated the principle of net neutrality.

Remedial measures

- Data localisation as recommended by Srikrishna Committee on issue of data protection.
- India needs a comprehensive framework on Data protection similar to EUs General data protection regulation.
- Transparency while drafting bills on data protection.

Frequent transfers of civil servants continue to be one of the most troublesome governance problems still facing in India. Discuss its implications and suggest measures for smooth functioning of bureaucracy.

KEY POINTS

In India change of government automatically follows the change of higher echelons of bureaucracy thereby lowering the organizational efficiency of the country.

Implications of frequent transfers of bureaucracy

- It adversely affects governance because civil servants are not allowed to stay in a position long enough to acquire adequate knowledge and experience of their job, and an understanding of the milieu and culture in which they have to function and the problems they need to redress.



- Civil servants are unable to build the required mutual confidence and understanding which takes time to develop and is necessary for administrative leadership.
- It prevents civil servants from staying in a position long enough to institute or sustain reforms and it is both demoralizing and demotivating when civil servants are not in a position long enough to see the fruits of their efforts which could be a source of enormous dissatisfaction to them.
- Frequent transfers and posting lead to lack of accountability and corruption.

Suggestions for smooth functioning of bureaucracy

- In order to ensure administrative continuity and stability to incumbents, a minimum tenure for each posting of officers should be predetermined, and it should normally be three to five years.
- According to ARC report, Central Civil Services Authority should be charged with the responsibility of fixing the tenure for all civil service posts under the Union Government.
- The Authority should also be given the responsibility to monitor postings and place before Parliament a periodic evaluation of the actual average tenure for each post and for the Central Government as a whole.
- The constitution of high-powered Civil Service Boards, both at the level of the Union Government and State Governments to look into and regulate cases of premature transfers of civil servants.
- The boards should be set up in State Governments to implement a streamlined transfer and promotion policy to assist the political executive who would ultimately decide regarding such matters based on identifiable criteria. Such Civil Service Boards should be constituted under statutory provisions.

7. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

A comprehensive integrated regional strategy is required for the success of India's Look West policy. Analyze

KEY POINTS

Look West Policy refers to the strengthening of political, economic, strategic, cultural relations with countries of middle-east.

Reasons for integrated strategy

- India's adoption of bilateral approach to Gulf countries; needs to see West Asia as a whole entity.
- The growing impact of the Gulf countries in the Indian Ocean region, this is more evident in the Horn of Africa. The recent success of the UAE and Saudi Arabia in brokering peace between Ethiopia and Eritrea who had been locked in a prolonged conflict underlines the positive role of the Gulf in Africa.
- Gulf countries like the UAE are eager to collaborate with India on development assistance and the construction of strategic infrastructure in the Indian Ocean littoral.
- Role of Israel- India ties deepening in field of agriculture, defense, Science and Technology.
- Saudi Arabia has been a pivotal state, as the nation with one of the world's largest petroleum reserves and capable of modulating its oil production; presence of Mecca and Medina also influence cultural ties between India and Saudi Arabia.

For Comprehensive integrated strategy

- Completing the project of Chabahar Port to win the trust from Iran.
- Emphasis on Ashgabat agreement for greater regional integration.
- Suppressing the crisis in Syria, Yemen with the help of Peace keeping forces.
- Increasing the volume of exports to middle east countries to have strong trade balance.



- Increasing diplomatic engagements and focusing on Confidence building measures in West Asia.

The newly elected government in the Maldives provides a tremendous opportunity for India to strengthen its neighbourhood policy. Analyze in the light of I.K.Gujral doctrine.

KEY POINTS

The newly elected Maldivian president called India the island nation's "closest friend" and "reaffirmed his government's 'India-First' Policy", committing to working together closely with India.

A tremendous opportunity for India

Applying I.K.Gujral Doctrine

- **Economic co-operation:** India, for its part, announced a financial assistance package of \$1.4 billion for the Maldives in the form of budgetary support, currency swap agreements and concessional lines of credit.
- **Security interests:** Both sides have agreed to ensure that they would keep other's security interests in mind as they consolidate cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- **Respecting sovereignty and territorial integrity:** The present Maldivian government takes neutral stand in its foreign policy unlike erstwhile Maldivian Government.
- **Peaceful negotiations:** India's renewed focus on strengthening democratic institutions in neighbourhood for better returns.

Challenges for India

- Maldives welcoming heavy investments by Chinese for major infrastructure projects and signing a controversial free trade agreement (FTA).
- These infrastructure projects include the China-Maldives Friendship Bridge, which connects Malé's eastern edge to the western corner of the island of Hulhulé. It is now estimated that China's loans to the Maldives total at least \$1.3 billion.
- The new Maldivian government is looking to India for more budgetary support to help meet its development goals and is also planning to revise the FTA with China.
- India's entreaties for political moderation and closer security ties were summarily ignored.

Strengthening social capital with Maldives and completing the infrastructural projects will pave the way for better bilateral relations with Maldives.

Despite strengthening India's Look West Policy, operationalization of Chabahar Port remains a huge challenge for the Indian Government. Analyze

KEY POINTS

Chabahar port Strengthening Look West Policy

- Chabahar port opens up a permanent alternative route for trade with Afghanistan and Central Asia, given the hurdles in the direct route through Pakistan. It is a milestone in India's regional connectivity and trade game plan.
- It facilitates India's role in Afghanistan's development through infrastructure and education projects. And it gives India's bilateral ties with Iran, a major oil supplier and potential trade market for India, a big fillip.
- The decision by India, Afghanistan and Iran to hold an international event to promote Chabahar and to study ways to make the route more attractive and decrease logistic costs is timely.
- India's access to the markets of Europe and Central Asia will pave the way for more exports from India.
- A big boost to Project Mausam which help enhance the cultural ties with West Asian countries.
- It will emphasise India's greater role in providing maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region.



Challenges in operationalizing chabahar port

- The Chabahar port has received a waiver from the U.S. sanctions on Iran for the moment, but these concessions could be withdrawn any time, given the constant upheaval in the administration.
- The possibility of the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan, after the pullout from Syria, will add to security concerns for Afghanistan and impact on the Chabahar route as well.
- Meanwhile, the reconciliation process with the Afghan Terrorists is likely to see the regional powers, the U.S. and Russia engaging Pakistan more. This could give Islamabad space to play spoiler in Chabahar, which is seen as a rival warm water port to Pakistan's Gwadar.
- Administrative delays, high turnaround time of ships, lack of timely release of funds are expected to increase the costs of project.

Given all the competing interests that criss-cross over Chabahar, India will require sustained and nuanced diplomacy to stay ahead in constructing the Chabahar port.

Weakly integrated South Asian region exposes the faults in India's foreign policy towards its neighbourhood. Examine

KEY POINTS

According to World Bank, South Asia is one of the least integrated regions. Intra-regional trade accounts for only 5 percent of South Asia's total trade, compared to 25 percent in ASEAN.

Factors restraining regional integration

- High trade costs and investment restrictions
- Insufficient policy-relevant analytical work on gains of Regional Integration in both trade and investment, to make informed policy decisions
- Sceptical mindset from previous failures in regional cooperation, misinformation, and lack of vocal champions for regional cooperation
- Relative asymmetry in size among the South Asian countries
- Historical political tensions, mistrust, cross-border conflicts and security concerns
- Limited transport connectivity, logistics and regulatory impediments.

Weak integration Exposing faults in India's foreign policy

- Lost a sense of diplomatic balance, for instance, when it tried to interfere with the Constitution-making process in Nepal and was accused of trying to influence electoral outcomes in Sri Lanka.
- India's refugee policy went against its own traditional practices, it was found severely wanting on the Rohingya question, and seemed clueless on how to deal with the political crisis in the Maldives.
- Failing to follow-up on its promises. Eg. Kaladan multi modal project still incomplete.

Commendable measures for strong neighbourhood

- India must shed its aggression and deal with tricky situations with far more diplomatic subtlety and finesse. The ability of diplomacy lies in subtly persuading the smaller neighbour to accept an argument rather than forcing it to, which is bound to backfire.
- Neglecting interference in political affairs of neighbouring countries.
- Rather than competing with china, India must invest where China falls short, especially at the level of institution-building and the use of soft power.



- India must also look for convergence of interests with China in the Southern Asian region spanning from Afghanistan to Nepal to Sri Lanka. There are several possible areas of convergence, including counter terrorism, regional trade and infrastructure development.

The newly elected government in Bhutan provides huge opportunities for India to strengthen its bilateral relations with it. Elaborate

KEY POINTS

Opportunities for India

- Hydropower projects in Bhutan are an example of win-win cooperation, providing a reliable source of inexpensive and clean electricity to India, generating export revenue for Bhutan and cementing our economic integration.
- A fair tariff for the 720 MW bilateral Mangdechhu project; seeking India's support for Bhutan's 12th Five Year Plan (FYP); starting the 2,560 MW Sankosh Reservoir project and waiving off the Central GST for Bhutan. These are critical for Bhutan's economic future and commercial plans and all of them have to do with India.
- Increase in cooperation on Border District Coordination Meeting Mechanism between the bordering States and the Royal Government of Bhutan to facilitate coordination on border management.
- Flood management between India and Bhutan to discuss/ assess the probable causes and effects of the recurring floods and erosion in the southern foothills of Bhutan and adjoining plains in India.
- A big boost to India-Bhutan Trade and Transit Agreement 1972 which was last renewed recently. The Agreement established a free-trade regime between the two countries. As per the provisions of the bilateral trade agreement, trade between two countries is to be transacted in Bhutanese Ngultrums and INR.

G.S PAPER III

8. ECONOMY

The growth of successful joint entrepreneurship has a higher scope for employment generation in India. Examine.

KEY POINTS

Reasons for successful employment generation

- A Joint entrepreneurship brings in a knowledge pool along with the specialisation.
- The risks are shared among entrepreneurs.
- Huge volume brings in an optimal size of business that can more easily handle the increasing requirement of formalisation.
- It becomes a more attractive for value chain partners, establishing both forward and backward linkages.
- Joint entrepreneurship enables the firms to utilise the skilled and unskilled human resources optimally.

Case Study

Through the Startup India initiative, Government of India promotes entrepreneurship by mentoring, nurturing and facilitating startups throughout their life cycle. It has set up research parks, incubators and startup centres across the country by creating a strong network of academia and industry bodies. A 'Fund of Funds' has been created to help startups gain access to funding.



To ensure proper outcomes in employment generation

- Following the public-private-community partnership route in joint entrepreneurship.
- Promotion of joint entrepreneurship will demand development fund. While local, state and Union governments can provide such funds, they have to admit the superior role of the private sector in promoting market conditions and skills.
- There is a need to optimally support the skilling and market opening opportunities by the private sector as well as the important task of creating the chief executive who will act as the developmental link between the joint entrepreneur model and the private sector, i.e. value chain partners.
- Stability in the government and the patience of promoting such growth models that can take time, from 4-5 years.

In what ways the Government of India can provide opportunities in non-farm employment activities for small/marginal farmers to double the farmers' income by 2022? Discuss.

KEY POINTS

Opportunities Government can provide

- Alternatives for artificial insemination in livestock sector, more attention to buffalo breeding. A national breeding policy is also needed to upgrade the best performing indigenous breeds; Rashtriya Gokul Mission to be implemented effectively.
- Urbanization creating huge demand in horticulture, so effective implementation of national mission on horticulture is crucial.
- Agricultural labourers routinely seek construction-related daily wage labour to bolster their income. So migrant workers to get deserved access to various government (Central and State) schemes, despite the lack of identity proof.
- Registration of workers with the Welfare Board should be made mandatory. The registration cards should be linked to their Jan-Dhan accounts, and transfer of payments on a periodic basis be made directly to their accounts.
- Honey bee farming needs to be encouraged which provide better income during lean season.
- Free education to migrant workers children under right to education act 2009.
- Assistance to farmers to convert the agricultural wastes into bio-methanol can help generate more income and also help in recycling waste and curbing cumulative carbon emissions.

India needs a fundamental change in the national innovation system to increase the share of GDP in manufacturing sector. Examine

KEY POINTS

Manufacturing as a share of output for India is around 15%, and hasn't improved even after implementation of Make in India Scheme.

Changes needed to improve manufacturing sector

- Robust industry academia interface across country with help of organizations like Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council.
- Quality Indian firms with skill capabilities to address market demands in every sector.
- Reaping the demographic dividend by imparting the necessary skills to the youth via vocational educational training
- Strengthening of Intellectual property laws to boost Research and development in India.



- Research-intensive higher education institutes must provide a higher standard of graduates.
- Effective implementation of KIRAN (Knowledge, Involvement, Research, Advancement through Nurturing) to absorb more women scientists in to the research field.
- Combination of trade policy and firm strategy must push firms overseas, deploying their technical capability worldwide.

In the light of recent banking crisis, discuss the necessity of Non-Banking financial companies in the banking sector and the importance of tightening norms of NBFCs.

KEY POINTS

Necessity of NBFCs

- NBFCs supplement the banks by providing the infrastructure to allocate surplus resources to individuals and companies and produces competition in the financial services industry.
- It provides specialization one particular sector and develops an information advantage.
- Flexible services to meet the needs of specific client.
- Enhances the competition through unbundling targeting and specialization.

Importance of tightening norms of NBFCs

- Enables RBI for reviewing the quality of assets.
- Helps in prevention of further Banking crisis like IL&FS.
- Suitable control over liquidity management by RBI.
- Transformation of balance sheets of NBFCs resulting in more equity capital and systemic stability in the financial sector.

The rebalancing of risk in public-private partnership model will go a long way in meeting critical infrastructure, enabling higher economic growth in India. Examine

KEY POINTS

Flaws in risk sharing

- Actual recovery of user charges by private investors to make the necessary investments viable is not practically feasible, as private sector bears most of the risk.
- Unpredictability of profits by private sector, increase in cost of projects due to administrative delays obstruct the lenders taking risk (providing loans).
- Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 which does not distinguish between genuine errors in decision-making and acts. So Public servants take less risk in decision making.
- Current model follows “One-size-fits- all” approach in risk allocation; this doesn’t fit effectively for all projects.
- The loss of bargaining power over time by private player in PPPs.

Outcomes of rebalancing risks

- If the state or, a public institution came in as an intermediary by agreeing to pay user charges after a transparent and fair bidding process, private investment could be brought into other sectors like railways, real estate.
- Amendment of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 will enable public servants to take fair decisions.
- Effective implementation of Commercial courts act 2016 will decrease the judicial delays and prevent increase in cost of projects.



- A rational allocation of risks can only be undertaken in sector and project-specific contexts while avoiding centralized approach.
- Increasing bargaining power of private players through independent sector regulators help them to secure their profits.

The idea of shifting towards the gas based economy possesses huge implications for the country in various ways. Discuss with relevant illustrations

KEY POINTS

Globally, natural gas constitutes 24 per cent of the primary energy consumption. Gujarat, has relatively better access to natural gas, is having a share of 25 per cent in its energy basket. The government of India proposes to increase the share of natural gas in the whole of its energy consumption to 15 per cent by 2020.

Implications of gas based economy

- A major advantage of this fuel is that it has very low emission of particulate matter.
- Providing gas linkage to domestic households, the automobile sector, and small and major industries will play a major role in elevating the social status of the people.
- The economic advantage of gas over other conventional fuels is that it is 40 per cent cheaper than liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). Compressed natural gas (CNG), often a substitute for petrol and diesel, is 60 per cent cheaper than gasoline and 45 per cent cheaper than diesel.
- The additional savings in, say, taxi driver bills, which, if ploughed back into productive areas such as education of children, will pave way for a faster socio-economic development.
- Enable India to attain the goals (INDC) of Paris Climate agreement 2015 in a short time period.
- Reduction of Indoor air pollution in rural areas where coconut husks, rice husks are burnt for cooking purposes.

A shift to a gas-based economy will ensure both availability and affordability. Availability may be ensured by increasing production or import, developing the requisite delivery infrastructure terminals, stations and pipelines.

What is mean by Promptive Corrective Action Framework(PCA)? Does recapitalizing PCA banks help in the reduction of Non-Performing Assets of the banks? Analyze

KEY POINTS

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework to maintain sound financial health of banks. It facilitates banks in breach of risk thresholds for identified areas of monitoring, viz., capital, asset quality (which is tracked in terms of the net Non-Performing Assets ratio) and profitability, to take corrective measures in a timely manner, improve operational efficiency and focus on conserving capital to strengthen them.

Recapitalizing PCA banks is not a good idea(increasing NPA)

- Capital infusion into PCA banks suggests it is attempting to boost loan growth by empowering weaker lenders (improper distribution of financial resources).
- Even after the clean-up of PCA banks, many of them continue to post large losses—IDBI Bank for instance. It is apparent that lending processes at these lenders are not up to the mark.
- The government has been eager to dilute the PCA framework by reducing the number of metrics, rather than three metrics—capital, NPAs and profits—it wants only capital to be considered.
- Each time bailing out using tax payers money affects the financial health of the government.

Recapitalizing PCA banks, a good idea(reducing NPA)

- Provides an opportunity for weak banks to reorient their strategy of issuing loans and reducing NPAs in a long term plan.



- Enable strengthening the banking system as PCA banks are crucial in providing loans to smaller and medium enterprises, also help cleaning bank balance sheets.
- Bailing out the private banks will enable participation of private sector in investments especially in infrastructure (retrieval of loans by banks depends on the nature of investment models proposed by government).

9. AGRICULTURE

Discuss the major causes of farm distress and recommend measures to address it.

KEY POINTS

Major Causes of farm distress

- Effects of Climate change causing droughts, cyclones, floods damaging the crops severely.
- According to Economic survey 2017-18, all India percentage of net irrigated area to total cropped area was 34.5 per cent, which makes a large segment of cultivation dependent on rainfall.
- According to Economic survey 2017-18, the lack of awareness about the availability of the insurance for the harvested crop was the second highest reported reason for not insuring the crops.
- According to report prepared by the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, 70% of those interviewed alleged that they did not get any information or advice regarding farm practices from agriculture department officials.
- The survey shows that 62 per cent of interviewed farmers were unaware of the Minimum Support Price (MSP). Seventy per cent had not heard about the Direct Cash Transfer scheme.
- Employment opportunities in non-farm sector are negligible.

Measures for addressing farm distress

- Farmers must receive expert advice by trained officials at their doorstep at the beginning of every crop season regarding all issues like which crops to sow, technology, market prices, soil fertility, irrigation; needed effective implementation of “Mera gaon mera gaurav” programme.
- Trade bans on agricultural exports must be removed, since such restrictive policies keep domestic prices low, harming farmers’ interests. As for domestic trade, all restrictions on inter-district and inter-state movement should be removed.
- Rainwater harvesting should be incorporated in irrigation projects, owing to its magnificent untapped potential.
- The establishment of micro, small and medium irrigation projects like tube wells and check dams, instead of big irrigation projects. Such projects should be financed entirely by the Centre.
- A “paani panchayat” should be established for every scheme, which will act as a specialized registered body responsible for the execution of irrigation projects. The panchayat will be responsible for the maintenance of water channels and collecting user charges from the beneficiaries.
- Fertilizer subsidies (Neem coated urea) should be provided to the farmers via direct benefit transfer.

In the context of increasing demand for electricity, there is huge potential in providing a reliable supply of electricity to the agricultural sector via solar power feeders in India. Critically Analyze

KEY POINTS

Electricity demand for agriculture is expected to double in the next 10 years and as the average cost of supply keeps increasing, the problem of agriculture subsidies will become worse.

Current Scenario

- Agricultural sector, in many States has been receiving electricity at either low tariffs or for free. Much of this supply is un-metered.
- Due to the lower tariff and poor revenue collection, agricultural sales are often seen as a major reason for the financial losses of distribution companies (discoms).
- Part of this loss is then recovered through higher tariffs for other consumers like industry and commercial (called cross-subsidy), and the remaining through direct subsidy from the State governments.
- As agricultural sector is seen as loss-making, often gets poor quality supply leading to problems such as frequent pump burn-outs and power failures.

Reliable supply of electricity via solar power feeders

- An innovative programme taking advantage of these developments has started in Maharashtra under the aegis of the 'Chief Minister's solar agriculture feeder programme'.
- The plant can be set up in few months and there is no change at the farmer's end. Pumps need not be changed and farmers do not have to take responsibility of installation and operation.
- The major advantages of this approach are that apart from ensuring day-time reliable power for the farmers, it requires no capital subsidy from the government, it is cost-effective, thereby enabling reduction in subsidy.
- Additionally, no new large transmission lines are needed, which has become a bottleneck for various large scale wind and solar power tenders.
- This approach can also provide distributed jobs to local youth in construction, operation and maintenance of the plant.
- Future programmes could link deployment of such solar feeders to: reduce unauthorised use/connections, improve metering and tariff recovery, energy efficient pumps, water saving approaches, etc.

Criticisms of solar power feeders

- Manufacturing of solar panels in India is costly due to high production cost and a case is pending in WTO regarding solar panel dispute.
- Availability of arable lands; mostly solar panels are installed in grasslands which are considered as wastelands as per government notification, lives critically endangered great Indian Bustard heavily affected.
- Lack of storage capacity of electricity in India causes huge power loss.

Therefore, Government of India needs to focus reduction in cost of manufacturing of solar panels and installation should not encroach grasslands.

Start-ups can help modernizing the Indian agricultural sector by addressing the systemic bottlenecks present in it. Critically analyze

KEY POINTS

Systemic bottlenecks

- Supply chains for perishable commodities such as fruits and vegetables and non-perishables such as wheat and rice remain largely fragmented in India, with smallholder farmers earning low margins.
- Unpredictable demand, price volatility and post-harvest losses compound the risks.
- Most small farmers lack access to production support, including high-quality inputs (such as seeds, fertilisers and chemicals), advisory services, equipment rentals, crop health and yield data, and weather forecasts.

- Most small farmers lack access to collateral-free financing and crop insurance.
- Most small farmers cannot afford to buy farm equipment.

Start ups transforming agricultural sector

- Start ups help distributing fresh produce to sellers ranging from small shops to large retail outlets, reduces waste and inefficiency by using analytics, process management software and connected devices.
- Start ups uses technology and data science to build more efficient supply chains that connect retail grocery stores with food processors and farmer producer organizations.
- Ergos, a rural warehousing company in Bihar, operates a chain of efficient and hygienic rural warehousing facilities that are located within easy access of small farms.
- AgroStar uses data, analytics, and artificial intelligence to power a standalone mobile app, a web service, and a customer call centre where farmers can obtain high-quality products for all of their farming needs.
- Start ups, a virtual marketplace for tractors and farm implements, connects farmers who need equipment with farmers who own equipment; start ups can generate valuable data in the form of heat maps that depict crop yields, pest infestations and areas experiencing water stress.
- Using reliable crop analytics, satellite imagery and machine learning, start-ups like Satsure, Amnex and CropIn are offering services that facilitate crop insurance for smallholder farmers that come with reduced premiums and more timely and accurate payouts.

Challenges for start-ups in India

- Most of the small farmers lack digital literacy to operate smart phones and mobile applications.
- Internet connectivity is lacking in the hinterland areas.
- Electricity connections are not well established in rural areas as compared to urban areas.
- Small farmers continue to use traditional methods of farming and often neglecting the modern technology.

Effective implementation of Mera gaon mera gaurav, reducing the digital divide is the need of the hour for agricultural modernization.

Discuss the institutional solutions that the government of India must deliver to farmers to tackle the agrarian distress.

KEY POINTS

Institutional Solutions to tackle agrarian distress

- Comprehensive Policy framework to Promote Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA). CSA aims to tackle three main objectives: sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and incomes; adapting and building resilience to climate change; and reducing and/or removing greenhouse gas emissions wherever possible.
- Creation of strong forward and backward linkages in agricultural sector via e-National Agricultural marketing, PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojana to prevent the post harvest losses and provide diversification of employment opportunities to farmers.
- The power subsidy needs to be replaced by direct benefit transfers so that power use can be fully costed and water conservation furthered.
- Embracing lab to land connectivity to pre-empt the adverse impact of a rise in mean temperature. Agricultural research will be vital in increasing yields but also in increasing reliance to all the pathologies that climatechange threatens to bring in its wake: extreme heat and precipitation, pests, and crop disease.



- Technologies of drip irrigation, sprinklers, and water management—captured in the “more crop for every drop” campaign—may well hold the key to future Indian agriculture and hence should be accorded greater priority in resource allocation.

10. INFRASTRUCTURE

Municipal bonds form a better source of finance for urban rejuvenation and can complement SMART cities project. Examine

KEY POINTS

Municipal bonds as source of finance

- According to the constitution of India, urban local bodies are dependent upon state government for the financial resources.
- As the urban local bodies lack financial autonomy, municipal bond markets help urban local bodies to gather needed financial resource for urban infrastructure expansion.
- Recently Pune raised Rs 2 billion from the issue of municipal bonds on the Bombay Stock Exchange in last year to fund water supply projects.
- In case of SMART cities initiative, Central government creates a special purpose vehicle for the implementation of projects and the funds are released based on certain conditions. So urban local governments lacking financial autonomy
- The municipal bonds, thus acts a channel for huge source of financial resource for urban local bodies.

Draw backs

- Obstacle is that the municipal bonds in India have not been able to attract potential investors due to the opacity in finances and operational outcomes.
- The SEBI rules need to be standardized eligibility norms for raising such bonds, and aim at ensuring a minimum level of transparency on the part of the city raising funds.
- Another issue is that the funds remained unutilized, and still stuck in fixed deposits.

Measures for strengthening financial autonomy

- State government must devolve some financial resources to urban local bodies via streamlining entertainment tax, property tax.
- Central government and state government must invest in quality human capital formation at ground level for the effective planning and utilization of financial resources.
- Urban local bodies should follow the recommendations of State finance commission for optimal utilization of financial resources.

Even though cities in India requires cutting-edge technology for its growth, participatory governance is a necessary condition for their sustainability. Discuss

KEY POINTS

Role of technology in promoting the growth in cities

- Through the use of modern technology and open data in urban design, planners can better determine how best to string together the different elements of urban planning to create inclusive communities. Tools such as the National Equity Atlas and Metro Pulse help planners and designers make sense of demographic data, racial equity, and economic benefits.



- By incorporating technology into urban design, a greater level of connectivity can be achieved for residential and commercial settings. It enables one to work from home and other locations, reducing commute times and improving traffic conditions.
- Using the right tools can help planners establish the best way to improve a community's sustainability. For example, through the use of apps like Environmental Impact Calculator that provides information on time by mode and number of calories that will be burned to get from one destination to another.
- Use of electric vehicles, e-bikes reduces the cumulative carbon emission thereby reducing effects of urban heat islands.

Participatory governance a necessary condition

- Cities are complex systems, an 'organic' one and self-adaptive'.
- Self-adaptive systems points to where the capability (and motivation) of change in them resides.
- Therefore, it is the strength of its internal system of self-governance that gives a city its resilience and abilities to adapt along with environmental changes and new technologies for democratic participation of citizens in the governance of their own cities is a move in the right direction.
- Well informed citizens acts as negative feedback for the complex systems resulting in making corrective changes and helps in sustainability of the system.
- Participation of citizens in waste management help improve the recycling rate of wastes in India,thereby reducing the environmental pollution significantly.
- Example: Pune based model of waste management; well informed citizens with cooperation from Pune municipal corporation led to their success.
- The fruit of development reaches the lower strata of people if there is participatory governance.

Recently constructed bridges in Northeastern region shows that connectivity contributes immensely to their overall development in various ways. Explain

KEY POINTS

The single biggest factor which has shackled the development of the Northeast region is the absence of robust connectivity. Mazes of river systems across Arunachal Pradesh, with their confluence in the Brahmaputra, have posed an enormous challenge.

Connectivity and Development in Northeast region

1. Bogibeel, the longest rail-road bridge of India, spanning nearly five-km across the Brahmaputra. It will link Dibrugarh with North Lakhimpur district of Assam and parts of eastern Arunachal Pradesh.

- Commissioning the bridge has reduced the journey time across the river to less than five minutes.
- It has the potential to infuse economic dynamism in the region and provide opportunities for the expansion of tourism, industrial development and trade.
- Bogibeel is the gateway to the historic Stilwell Road, which connects Ledo in Assam to Kunming in China, passing through Myanmar's Kachin state, via Arunachal Pradesh.
- The route could well become the centrepiece of the ambitious Act East Policy.
- From a strategic standpoint, movement of troops has become a much quicker, efficient and reliable proposition.

2. Bhupen Hazarika bridge over the Lohit river

- Besides improving the life of the people of Sadiya, this bridge will change the economy of many remote parts of Arunachal.



- The bridge will not only greatly shorten the travel time of people living in that state's Lohit, Upper Dibang and Lower Dibang districts but will also develop tourism in that belt, particularly in places like Mayodiya, Dong, Bismaknagar,
- The bridge will certainly give the army access to an extremely remote part of the Chinese border, along the Anjaw and Dibang valley of Arunachal, allowing them to move tanks over it.

If these bridges will give the locals the vital road link that they are eagerly waiting for, they are also likely to render many of the village families jobless.

An estimated 250 families living in the villages along the Brahmaputra and another 300 families in Sadiya and Dhola area make a living from the daily ferry service.

So the state Government has the responsibility of providing "a rehabilitation package" for those people who lost their livelihoods.

11. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

What is meant by the term Industry 4.0? Discuss the measures that India need to take advantage of Industry 4.0 to bring wide ranging impacts in society.

KEY POINTS

Industry 4.0

The term Industry 4.0 encompasses a promise of a new industrial revolution, one that marries advanced manufacturing techniques with the Internet of Things to create manufacturing systems that are not only interconnected, but communicate, analyze, and use information to drive further intelligent action back in the physical world.

How India can take advantage of Industry 4.0

- India need to identify nature of work, living and communication with other people, and design of infrastructure; consideration of increasing the productivity of our people and adapt to ever-changing skill requirements.
- Greenfield smart cities present a huge opportunity because they are starting from scratch, and have the ability to start afresh everything, including modern facilities with public transportation, ICT-enabled infrastructure and impart the right kind of skills to its people. This can be further fillip by integrating through the SMART cities initiative.
- By exporting customised products(3D printing, automation) to consumers the world over, especially to high-end customers.,India can become thebiggest employment generator and forex earner.
- The distinction between research institutes and production units to be transparent and clear; and there will be constant exchange between industries and educational/research institutes.
- This will require close interaction between academia and industry. High-end educational/research institutions need to be co-located with industries in these greenfield cities, so that they can interact with each other seamlessly and bring new customised products as per changing requirements.

India needs to create centres of excellence, which act as models for future growth of cities in India.

Not only the Internet of Things technology provides greater transparency and connectivity to people, but also comes with a potential risk to privacy. Examine

KEY POINTS

Internet of Things: The devices that communicate with each other in real time are known as the Internet of Things or IoT. It is the natural evolution of the internet and has many benefits including boosting global economies, improving public utilities, and increasing efficiencies.

Usefulness of IoT

- Indian IoT market is expected to reach \$15 billion by 2020 and constitute 5 per cent of the global market (Nasscom). IoT will bring in investments, create jobs and improve Indian public infrastructure. Tata Communications allotted \$100 million in IoT focusing on smart cities, utilities, and safety of people.
- To review the inventory in your fridge and order groceries remotely at the click of a button.
- IoT could help the elderly move around in self-driving cars, shop, and receive timely assistance. Japan is already using humanoid smart robots as elder care robots. Apart from monitoring their assigned senior citizen, they also assist with mobility, entertainment and rehabilitation.
- There are significant leaps made in the world of healthcare as well with patient monitoring, voice-enabled systems to remind people to take their medication and a 'smart' pill that measures variables as the pill passes through your digestive system.

Potential risks of IoT

- Right to privacy and protection of data remains a big concern to the society, as IoT devices collect and share personal data in real-time.
- There is growing concern about the potential for increased government surveillance and a resulting encroachment of civil rights to suppress dissent or marginalise communities.
- Threats of Cyber crime in accessing and manipulating data.

Possible solutions

IoT will need a higher level of cooperation between nations on a global scale. Policy-makers, regulators, device manufacturers, supporting industries and service providers will all have to join hands in creating a safer space online.

Discuss the opportunities and challenges present in the Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing Scheme.

KEY POINTS

Opportunities in KIRAN scheme

- To enable women to pursue a career in Research and Development (R&D) in Science and Technology (S&T).
- Re-entry of such women to mainstream science by offering them opportunities to pursue R&D, take up projects having distinct societal impact and explore a career in Intellectual Property domain.
- KIRAN is providing budgetary support for creating Women Technology Park (WTP) where appropriate S&T packages for women are developed to improve livelihood and health & nutrition besides reducing drudgery in order to enhance their quality-of-life.
- Consolidation of University Research for Innovation and Excellence in women universities (CURIE) is another component of KIRAN that has a focus to develop state-of-the-art infrastructure to help large number of women to enhance their S&T skills and knowledge in order to make a fulfilling career in this domain besides promoting research culture in such institutions.

Challenges in KIRAN Scheme

- According to Department of Science and technology, Opportunities are in 10 cities, of which eight are capitals.
- Opportunities are concentrated in only five States, while six States/Union Territories have no share.
- When a woman in mid-career break wants to pursue research, she prefers to do that at a nearby location. Now the problem is, most of the R&D Centres are located in metros or bigger cities or near them. It is difficult for these women to travel the distance, and the net result is that the women from Tier-II and -III cities have no option but to compromise.
- A large number of well-qualified women are left out of the S&T activities due to various circumstances, usually typical to the gender, most often the "break in career" arises out of motherhood and family responsibilities.



Discuss the ideas that are required by the Government of India to redouble its efforts to improve Science, Research & Development in the country.

KEY POINTS

Ideas for Better R&D

1. Improving math and cognitive skills at the school level

While India has made considerable strides in improving access to primary and secondary education, learning outcomes have been weak. This weakness denies India access to the intellect and energies of millions of young people.

2. Encourage Investigator-led Research

India needs to gradually move to have a greater share of an investigator-driven model for funding science research like the establishment of the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a statutory body of DST. It is a promising start that needs to expand with more resources and creative governance structures.

3. Increase funding for research from private sector as well as from state governments

The private sector should be incentivized to both undertake more R&D but to also support STEM research through CSR funds. Government can also work with the private sector to create new R&D funding opportunities which are also in line with private sector interests. Efforts like the 50:50 partnership with SERB for industry relevant research under the Uchatar Avishkar Yojana (UAY) is a good example of what could help make such partnerships fruitful.

State governments too need to recognize the need to invest in application oriented research aimed at problems specific to their economies and populations. This would both strengthen state universities as well as provide much needed knowledge in areas such as crops, ecology and species specific to a state.

4. Link national labs to universities and create new knowledge eco-systems

A closer relationship between Universities and research institutes in the specific geographic and spatial settings would help nurture research in areas reflecting the fields of science in which the national research centers have strengths. Together they can link up with the commercial sectors and help develop industrial clusters in those areas that draw on these research strengths and lay the foundations of innovation driven “smart cities.”

5. Take a mission driven approach to R&D

Examples

National Mission on Genomics Genomic research lies at the heart of the future of the life sciences.

National Mission on Mathematics has two special advantages for India: i) it is not capital intensive; ii) standards of excellence are universal. A National Mission of Mathematics will improve mathematics teaching at all levels of higher education, seek to establish five institutes of mathematical sciences within existing institutions.

12. ENVIRONMENT

The conflict between people and animals is one of the main threats to the continued survival of many species in India. Explain with relevant illustrations and recommend measures to prevent such conflicts in future

KEY POINTS

As human populations expand and natural habitats shrink, people and animals are increasingly coming into conflict over living space and food.

Reasons for conflicts

- The high death toll was likely because large numbers of people are dependent on forests for their livelihood. People going deep into the forests in search of food or forest produce run the risk of crossing the path of a tiger or a herd of elephants.



- Recently in Pandharkhawada, Maharashtra, Tigress Avni was shot dead by forest officials because of killing humans.
- Development projects shrinks the wildlife corridors and affects the home range of the species. Recently two elephants got mowed down while crossing the railway tracks; Bird hits near airports; Ecological light pollution affecting the insects locomotion.
- Electric fences are also killing animals like elephants, tigers etc.
- Hunting animals for their precious bones, claws, ivory.
- Effects of Climate change resulting drying up of reservoirs in jungles.

Measures to reduce human-animal conflicts

- Constructing of wildlife corridors in crucial areas especially near buffer zones in protected areas.
- Use of acoustic device like harmony Q3 in farms to ward off animals.
- Construction of water points in jungles at appropriate places.
- Initiative like **Plan Bee** to prevent elephant crossing the railway tracks.
- Preserving the prey base of the carnivores.

A solid curriculum will help the forthcoming generations to make the government accountable in fighting climate change. Do you agree with this view? Discuss

KEY POINTS

Recently, Thousands of schoolchildren demonstrated on the streets of Australian cities, as they were protesting against their government's lacklustre response to climate change.

Reasons for solid curriculum

- Help children make aware of the basic concepts of weather and climate
- Children studying environment science in their regular curriculum will be well aware of the dangers of global warming and the impending disasters associated with climate change.
- Help children analyse the trade-off between economic development and environment, thereby paving the way for sustainable development.
- As the new generations are inculcated with knowledge about the effects of climate change, automatically allows them the government to make them accountable i.e executives has to answer the people for the environmental projects approved by the government.
- The solid curriculum can also produce great leaders who can take the agenda of mitigating and adapting to climate change to a great level.
- In case of India the solid curriculum help generate awareness not only to children but also parents, as they can learn through their children which even makes the government more accountable to the people.

United Nations Summit on climate change(COP 24) is a positive step in tackling effects of climate change but challenges remain in effective implementation of the Paris accord. Examine

KEY POINTS

COP – 24 a Positive Step

- The Paris accord is the only hope for mankind and it is good that the Katowice meet has drawn up the rules to ensure its meticulous implementation.

- The agreed game plan outlines technical guidelines to allow each tonne of GHG released in the atmosphere to be accounted for; this would facilitate effective monitoring of the progress towards hitting the nationally set goals for climate action in a transparent manner.
- It can help build trust among nations that all countries are playing their part in addressing the global warming challenge.
- The summit enables collective action and coordination at international level to solve the problems of climate change.

Challenges in effective implementation of Paris accord

- The Paris accord does not bind countries to fulfil their climate amelioration pledges; it is uncertain whether the outcome of the Katowice meet would suffice to avert the potential damage from global heating.
- Key concerns of the developing countries like common but differentiated responsibilities and access to finance and technology for climate mitigation and adaptation, have remain unaddressed.
- Several other rich countries, along with major oil-producing and -exporting countries, have strongly opposed any cut in the use of fossil fuels. Eg: Poland, the host country which presided over the conference, itself produces nearly 80 per cent of its power from coal.
- The developed countries were unwilling even to accept the report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which stated that the failure to achieve the Paris accord's target of containing global warming to 1.5 degree over the pre-industrial levels.
- The burden of global warming would fall disproportionately on the poor, who are incapable of withstanding it and are least responsible for causing this menace.

It is, therefore, clear that regardless of a positive deal at Katowice, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are unlikely to abate anytime soon and the process of global heating is set to persist in the foreseeable future.

The mission envisaged by Wildlife Institute of India is often mismatching with the ground realities in the country. Explain with relevant examples.

KEY POINTS

Wildlife institute of India Mission

To nurture the development of wildlife science and promote its application in conservation, in consonants with our cultural and socio-economic milieu.

Ground Realities

Deviating from recommendations made by statutory panels under the Environment Ministry, the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) has virtually cleared the way for at least two proposed mega hydel power projects in Arunachal Pradesh's Dibang Valley and Lohit districts, one of India's most biodiverse landscapes.

(a) Demwe Hydroelectric power project:

- To be constructed across Lohit river, the project will almost touch the border of the Kamlang sanctuary (only 50 metres away) although areas within 10-km radius of protected areas are to be considered ecologically-sensitive.
- The project is also in extreme proximity of a cultural heritage site, Parasuram Kund, and will submerge parts of the Parshuram Kund Medicinal Plant Conservation Area identified for the conservation of Globally Significant Medicinal Plants by the environment ministry.
- The project will cause serious fragmentation of the aquatic habitat in the Lohit river due to the breakage of longitudinal connectivity of the river, impact on the Gangetic River Dolphin, the national aquatic animal in the Lohit river in downstream areas in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.

(b) The Etalin hydel project:



- Etalin, a run-of-the-river project that will need little water storage, will be one of the biggest hydropower projects in India in terms of installed capacity.
- It envisages construction of two dams—on the Dir river near Yuron village and a 80-metre high dam on Tangon river.
- The Dri and Tangon rivers are tributaries of Dibang. This will affect the sedimentation budget of the Dibang river, correspondingly the biodiversity of the river.

Ministry of Transport and Highways flagged off several road development works in Chandrapur district, Maharashtra. The Tadoba tiger reserve is located close by and about 100 km of roads will cut through tiger corridors.

In these contexts WII assumes a greater significance in making decisions about protecting biodiversity and environment.

What is meant by rat-hole mining? Discuss its ecological implications and enumerate the reasons for its prevalent practice in India.

KEY POINTS

Rat-hole mining involves digging of rat-hole-sized small tunnels, usually only 3-4 feet high, which workers (often children) enter and extract coal.

Ecological implications

- Rat-hole mining in Meghalaya had caused the water in the Kopili river (it flows through Meghalaya and Assam) to turn acidic.
- Entire roadsides in and around mining areas are used for piling of coal which is a major source of air, water and soil pollution.
- Off road movement of trucks and other vehicles in the area causes further damage to the ecology of the area.

Reasons for practice despite ban

- No other method would be economically viable in Meghalaya, where the coal seam is extremely thin.
- Removal of rocks from the hilly terrain and putting up pillars inside the mine to prevent collapse would be costlier.
- Rat-hole mining operations have been in practice in Jaintia Hills, for many years without being regulated by any law and extraction of coal has been made by unscrupulous elements in a most illegal and unscientific manner.

Stringent action must be taken by the executives with utmost transparency and accountability to stop the illegal mining practice in Meghalaya.

What are the reasons for a negligible recycling rate of e-waste in India? Suggest measures for recycling e-wastes effectively.

KEY POINTS

Reasons for negligible recycling rate

- 95 percent of India's e-waste is managed by the unorganised sector using dangerous methods to recover metals from circuit-boards and wires.
- There are close to 200 e-waste recyclers in India which are licensed by the CPCB, but most of them are also just dismantlers.
- Formal sector recyclers face stiff competition from informal operators who get away without following the regulations. Authorised recyclers incur large overhead costs for mandatory infrastructure for construction and equipment and the official and unofficial costs of compliance with multiple regulations.

- The consequential cost of inventory build-up encourages malpractice and leakage of the e-waste to the informal sector because material-flow monitoring of the authorised recyclers is weak.
- Rag-pickers paid very low for their e-waste collection.

Measures for effective re-cycling of e-wastes

- Cities should organise quarterly collection drives or provide drop -off centres. Producers should set up collection centres for EEE.
- We should all purchase new products turning in our old ones for a discount, so that dealers become aggregators for channelizing e-items to authorised dismantlers.
- As users we can reduce e-waste by buying long-life items, and supporting repair and refurbishment.
- Producer responsibility organisations like Reverse Logistics Group and Karo Sambhav are paid by EEE producers to source and pay for e-waste. They should be encouraged to network with kabadiwalas.
- E Waste Management Rules 2016 need to be backed by enforcement of the regulatory framework, provision of the necessary infrastructure, and an enabling environment for compliance.

13. INTERNAL SECURITY

Union Home Ministry's authorization of security agencies to monitor, decrypt any information generated in any computer is an extreme act of governance overreach. Analyze

KEY POINTS

Union Home Ministry's decision, governance overreach

- The decision lacks accountability; provide the way for misuse without safeguards, thus violating the right to privacy.
- Also, the rules provide for tapping to start, with the home secretary's clearance to be obtained within a week. Since most people don't know when their phones are being tapped, the agencies can tap at will without clearance.
- The blanket authorisation being given to security agencies – which include not just intelligence agencies responsible for domestic security, such as the Intelligence Bureau, but also foreign-focused agencies that have no business snooping on Indian citizens such as the Research & Analysis Wing.
- The Delhi Police and tax agencies have also been given untrammelled powers of surveillance.
- There is no real basis in law for many of the agencies named in the order from the home ministry; they were simply inherited from the British Raj.
- They lack parliamentary scrutiny, lack judicial control or approval, either in open or closed courts.

Union Home Ministry's decision, not a governance overreach

- Terrorists mostly utilize social media as a platform for planning, recruitment and execution, so to prevent their misuse, security agencies needs snooping of Indian Citizens computer.
- Allows security agencies to fight cyber crime effectively; attacks such as ransom ware, phishing, currency mining can be prevented.
- Anti social elements utilize computers as a medium to create faults in the unity of country by creating division on the basis of caste, gender, religion, paving the way for internal security problems.(Cow slaughter issue). This can be prevented by the security agencies by accessing the information generated in the computer.

However, there must be a process in which a reason is given and in which, afterwards, responsibility can be assigned. Such invasion of privacy should need authorisation from a magistrate, who has to record the specific reasons in each case. There needs to be balance between individual rights and societal rights for healthy democracy in India.



IAS PARLIAMENT

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