GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 824)

Name of Candidate: K. Varun Reddy
Medium Hindi/Eng.: English
Center: OLD RAJENDRA NAGAR
Registration Number: 11704
Date: 3/10/16

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Total Marks Obtained:

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INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in HINDI and ENGLISH.
3. All questions are compulsory.
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be clearly stated on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than that authorized.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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# EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence  
2. Context Competence  
3. Content Competence  
4. Language Competence  
5. Introduction Competence  
6. Structure - Presentation Competence  
7. Conclusion Competence  

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.  

2.  

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All the Best
All the questions are compulsory and carry 12.5 marks each.

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

"सामाजिक नीति के प्रति अधिकार आधारित दृष्टिकोण", जिसमें पिछले दशकों से भारत को आंदोलित किया है। शासन की संरक्षण के बिचारों से पुनः राज्य के प्रति कर्त्तव्य तथा नागरिकों के न्यायविचारित अधिकारों की ओर जा रहा है। इस दृष्टिकोण के साथ इस विषय पर चर्चा करें। इस बात की भी व्याख्या करें कि अधिकार आधारित दृष्टिकोण सार्वजनिक सेवाओं के वितरण में कितना प्रभाव उम्मीदा किया है?

Constitution of India envisages

India as a welfare state. In this direction

since independence governments have launched many

welfare schemes

eg. Indira Awar Yojana (IAY)

MGNREGA

schemes of before 2005 discretion

(i) Top down model, with citizens seen as beneficiaries

(ii) way leniency and accountability in the

functioning of schemes so citizen cannot hold public

servant accountable for non-delivery of services

resulted in poor outcomes, poor quality of services

eg. since 1970 - 1990 - poverty dropped by near 10x

inspite of numerous anti-poverty schemes (e.g. IAY)
right to education.

(ii) Duty is on the state to provide entitlements' rights to the citizens. Citizens can hold state accountable for non-performance.

This signifies a dramatic shift from ideas of rationage in erstwhile schemes like Indira Awas Yojana to 21st-century schemes based on rights.

Rights-Based Approach and Quality of Service

(i) Accountability mechanisms

with decentralization of implementation; citizens can hold local leaders accountable for non-delivery of services like foodgrains under PDS; employment under MGNREGA

Social Audit; Civil Society activism via RTI has helped improve service quality.
(iii) Bureaucratic attitude change –
- right based approach has reduced asymmetry
- of power between bureaucrats and civil citizens
- with evolution of citizen charters etc., bureaucrats are more oriented towards public service

(iii) Reduction in corruption, leakages – with adoption of
- IT and better accountability mechanisms and greater
- public awareness

Therefore, one more basic services like health
- social security like pensions etc. should also be brought under the rights ambit to provide a dignified life to
- our citizens.
2. Despite high enrolment in Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), out-of-pocket expenditure on health has steadily increased over the years. In this context, highlight the achievements and shortcomings of RSBY. Also, discuss the challenges faced in its implementation.

Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) is a health insurance scheme under the Ministry of Finance, targeting the unorganised sector, which accounts for 90% of the Indian workforce.

Key Provisions:
1. Rs. 30,000 hospitalisation cover to the BPL families per annum.
2. Insurance is covered through private sector participation.

Achievements of the RSBY:
(a) It has brought in nearly 25% of India's citizens under some kind of health insurance safety net.
(b) Helped many poor households from falling into poverty trap due to high hospitalisation costs.

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(c) Enabled reach of private health insurance to rural areas

Shortcomings of RSBY

(i) **High out of pocket expenditure (70%)**

- because RSBY covers only hospitalisation charges; not primary care; out patient care; cost of medicines which accounts for 80% of medical expenditure

(ii) **Large exclusion - still only 15% of Indian households are covered** indicates large section of people are yet to be covered.

(iii) **Not significant change in improving health profile of Indian citizens in dealing with non-communicable diseases**

(iv) **Expensive tertiary care like cancer, heart diseases are not covered** (which are rising with urbanisation)
Challenges faced in the implementation

(a) Private sector insurance - Many people with pre-disease profile and elders are being excluded in the reckon

(b) Medical practitioners - Insurance player nexus to claim fake patient treatment and claim for reimbursement under RSBY

(c) for citizens - problems in getting access to RSBY health card

- Corruption; bureaucratic insensitive attitude etc.

Recently government has announced 1 lakh health insurance for all, while it is welcome, there should be greater focus on providing primary health care free for all.
3. Unhealthy competition between Self Help Groups (SHGs) and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) reduces the effectiveness of both. Discuss. How can creating a synergy between the two help in addressing development challenges at the sub-district level?

SHGs are informal associations of 10-15 women in a village to further their economic betterment. However, these groups have also emerged as a political voice in the villages, thus clashing with Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), leading to unhealthy competition and negative effects.

(a) SHGs need PRIs for carrying out economic activity smoothly in the village
- for land acquisition to establish business
- for benefiting from schemes of Central/state governments

(b) SHGs have emerged as an important political voice ranging from social issues like alcohol, domestic violence to budget management - a fighting with PRIs.
might lead to loss of credibility and trust among people.

(c) Each trying to uproot the other to have strong hold over the village people will only cause each hurting each other because

1. STR\_activity, slowdown \rightarrow slowdown in economic activity \Rightarrow which in turn backfired on the PRI\_s for their failure to lead to development.

Therefore PRI\_s and P\_P\_s need each other for mutual progress.

Benefits of creating synergy

(a) Greater Economic activity; more industries will be set up \Rightarrow greater employment generation, supplement, high income, reduces migration, \Rightarrow increases prosperity and harmony in the village

(b) Greater revenue with Panchayat due to increased economic activity \Rightarrow greater expenditure on basic services like education, health, roads, irrigation etc.
(c) Greater political participation of SHG members will lead to greater efficiency in delivery of public services; reduced leakages, regular social audit

(d) SHGs have been instrument of financial inclusion in rural areas

(e) Social Empowerment and attitudinal change towards women in the society

Thus the benefits of creating synergy between SHGs and PRIs.
4. With an expected increase in old age population in the near future, there is a need to increase the ambit and reach of social safety net for their welfare. Discuss the challenges which policymakers face in design, development and execution of welfare measures for the elderly. How far do the recent measures taken by the government address these?

निकट भविष्य में वृद्ध आबादी में अनुमानित वृद्धि के परिप्रेक्ष्य में, वृद्ध जनों कल्याण के लिए सामाजिक सुरक्षा तंत्र के दायरे की बढाने और इस तंत्र की पहुंच उन तक सुनिश्चित करने की आवश्यकता है। नीति-निर्माताओं द्वारा सामान्य तथा राज्य स्तरों पर प्रमुख चुनौतियों की चर्चा बैठिए जो कल्याणकारी योजनाओं की एक परीक्षण, विकास और उनके प्रभाव पर संबंधित है। सरकार द्वारा हाल ही में उठाए गए कदम इन चुनौतियों का किया गया है तक समाधान करते हैं?
5. Civil Society Organizations and Corporates share a symbiotic relationship, which can be leveraged to meet the developmental needs of India. Analyze. Also enumerate the CSR provisions under Companies Act, 2013.

Civil society organisations, corporates are important stakeholders in the development of India.

Symbiotic relationship between two

(a) Corporates and Civil Society organisations need to work together for successful running of any enterprise

- huge protests against Kudankulam nuclear plant

- protests by CSO has led to delay in the plant.

(b) Civil society organisations need funds to operate at the grassroots level whereas corporates have funds but need people's goodwill and trust to purchase their products.

Hence, a symbiotic relationship - corporates can sponsor social activities of civil society organisations.
(c) NGOs, NPA, etc have their own civil society organisations operating in health, education, etc.

(d) The goal of civil society organisations is development and prosperity of Indian people, which is important to have demand for corporate finished products, provide skilled labour for these industries.

"Supporting CSO will benefit corporates in long-term"

CSO provisions of Companies Bill, 2013

(a) 2% of the annual profit of the companies earning over 5% in the past three years should be kept aside for CSR activities.

(b) Company will constitute a CSR board to frame & CSR strategy and look after its implementation.

(c) Which activities are permitted under CSR will be listed by the Government of India, e.g., health, education, skill development, etc.

(d) Activities promoting company's interests like welfare work for its & employees doesn't constitute CSR activity.
(e) Also recently, government allowed surplus surplus
to be deposited in the Government created fund, which
will be used for social schemes.

(there)

CSR provisions in the companies
will be a step towards sustainable and inclusive
growth of India Inc.
6. According to a recent WHO report, India sees the largest number of suicides globally. In this context, enumerate the objectives and approach of India's new National Mental Health Policy. Also, explain what is Mental Health Action Plan 365.

6. हाल की डब्लू.ओ.एच.एच. फिरोज़ के अनुसार, विश्व में सबसे बड़े आत्महत्याओं भारत में होती है। इस संबंध में, भारत की नवीन राष्ट्रीय मानसिक स्वास्थ्य नीति के उद्देश्यों तथा दृष्टिकोणों का उल्लेख करें। इसके अतिरिक्त, मानसिक स्वास्थ्य कार्य योजना 365 के संबंध में विस्तार से व्याख्या करें।

According to WHO report, India has the largest number of suicides globally nearly 212,000, exceeding even road accidents.

Reasons
(a) relationship issues
(b) female suicides
(c) student suicides unable to cope with pressure etc.

To address this issue, India has launched National Mental Health policy.

(a) it made a dramatic shift from old mental health policy towards a more "right based approach" based on on convention of the rights of the disabled

(b) objectives - is to have fair, equitable, quality mental health treatment to all
(c) It has decriminalized suicide and suicide will be treated as a mental health problem.

(d) All mental health patients have:
   i. right to mental health treatment
   ii. free legal aid
   iii. give in writing beforehand how they should be treated and appoint a nominee representative

(e) State/Central mental health authority or regulatory agencies

Therefore, the new mental health framework puts dignity and rights of the mentally ill person at the forefront.

Mental Health Action Plan - 365

(a) Launched by Government of India laying down its strategy to provide mental health care treatment across the country.

(b) It is comprehensive covering from establishment and registration of mental health care hospitals, to
awareness generation activities regarding their rights of the mentally ill person.

(c) Action Plan aims to institutionalise the new mental health framework in the country with the new policy and framework, India is moving towards more civilised rights based democracy.
7. Urban sanitation has not received adequate attention at the national level in the past and few initiatives have been taken to tackle deficiencies in urban sanitation. In light of this, examine whether the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan can help in solving the urban sanitation problem.

In India, urban sanitation is a key area of concern. Some facts to illustrate:

(a) 11,000 urban residents defecate in the open compared to near zero in Bangladesh;

(b) India has one of the lowest densities of public toilets in urban areas;

(c) India's sewage waste (almost 70%) is let into rivers untreated.

India had schemes like SWM, to deal with basic urban infrastructure of which sanitation is a key component but little progress has been made due to paucity of funds; poor devolution of powers to local bodies etc.
In this context, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan launched with both rural and urban components. It targets sanitation as the major focus of the scheme.

There is a substantial jump in the amount of funds devoted to local bodies (almost 64000 Crores) to deal with sanitation and solid waste management. Also, ULBs are encouraged to go for Public Private Partnership (PPP).

However, results after 2 years of the launch of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan indicate progress is slow. Only 9% of the public toilets targets have been achieved so far in urban areas.

Reasons:
(a) Lack of freedom, power, and capacity with urban local bodies to take
(b) Funds though look large in total, each municipality got at most 1-2 crore and corporates are not investing much due to economic slowdown
(c) Governance issues & delay in land acquisition, construction clearances, tendering process.

But a good start is made in the direction, it is projected the pace of the construction of urban sanitation will be much more in the coming years and the target for 100% sanitation will be met by 2019.
8. There is a need to move away from debates of 'public' versus 'private' provision of education towards models of education provision with public funding and private management. Discuss. Can such a move impact the quality and learning outcomes in elementary education?

The aim of Education policy in India is to provide accessible, equitable, affordable, and quality education to all its citizens. With this aim as the objective, the debate of Public versus Private provision of education seems redundant. Rather, it should be Public and Private cooperative steps towards quality education.

The idea of Public funding and Private Management is based on the success of the PPP models in infrastructure, which leverage the positives of both public and private models.
Issues with Public Education
(a) Poor quality of learning
(b) Shortage of teachers
(c) Vocational training is neglected
(d) No accountability regarding poor learning outcomes

Issues with Private Education
(a) Highly expensive; marginalized sections cannot afford
(b) Mostly located in urban areas, towns
(c) Even private sector learning outcomes are dropping

The idea of public funding and private management plugs all the above-mentioned issues:
(a) Public funding ensures equity for all sections.
(b) Private management = more private players are held accountable for quality education; monitoring teachers; learning outcomes for students; vocational training in accordance with NSQF.

Therefore, it is a win-win situation for all stakeholders, if success depends on the regulatory framework.
9. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) bill recently passed by the Parliament is a regressive step towards protecting child rights in India. Examine.

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

The Parliament has recently passed the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) bill.

Important provisions

(a) For care and protection - shelter homes and rehabilitation homes for children (16-18 years)

(b) For juveniles committing serious crime - Juvenile Justice Board will determine whether they should be treated as adults

(c) Under which that a child is a person below 18 years of age.

This bill has made significant amendments to improve care and protection for children in need like orphans, beggars, trafficked etc.

However, one controversial provision which is debated is the provision to treat
Juveniles as an adult if a serious crime is committed.

Those calling it a regressive step

(a) Against UN Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) to treat Juvenile as an adult.

(b) Across the globe, reformation is the approach towards juvenile delinquency.

(c) Children below 18 years are not mature, and are very vulnerable to socially ill elements like committing crimes as they are easily influenced.

(d) Therefore they should be treated with care because most of them experience very bad upbringing, family environment, and with reformatory and care approach, they can be reconciled and rehabilitated into society.

Those for supporting the provision

(a) In the information age, children are maturing early with increasing access to information.

(b) There is an increasing number of crimes by Juveniles.
(1) Strong punishment is needed to deter juvenile especially those who are mature (above 16 years) and restore faith of society on Justice system.

However given that juvenile crimes constitute only 1/3rd of total crimes and serious crimes far less, 85% should be reconsidered.
10. "In a nation of one billion cell phones, M-governance or mobile governance has the potential to make development a truly inclusive and comprehensive mass movement". Illustrate how M-government can bring in more transparency and accountability in government functioning. Also, discuss the challenges in implementing M-government.

"एक अरब में फोन वाले देश में एम-शासन या मोबाइल शासन में, विकास को वास्तविक रूप में समावेशी तथा आधुनिक वितरण का रूप प्रदान करने की क्षमता है।" दृष्टि के साथ व्याख्यायित करें कि एम-शासन किस प्रकार सरकार के काम-काज में और विभिन्न पारदर्शिता तथा उपचारित व्यक्ति सकता है। इसके अतिरिक्त, एम-शासन के कार्यवाहण में आ रही सुगन्धितियों पर चर्चा करें।

**Mobile Governance** is the provision of services to the citizen, businessmen by the government through mobiles,

- SMS information regarding postal courier,
- Railway train status; pension/ PMANDDA fund being deposited into account.

It is the next step of E-governance, it has profound potential to transform governance and improve quality of service.

**Benefits of M-governance**

(a) **Transparency**

E-SMS message regarding PMANDDA funds deposited into bank accounts will reduce dependency on middle men; corruption and leakages.
Government can set up online helpline to know information regarding government schemes and entitlements.

(c) Accountability

- Online governance redefines relationship if POS grains are not delivered by first day of the month (similar to customer care centers)
- Will empower citizens to demand services from the government
- Also keep public servants accountable for delivery of service.

(d) Reduction in corruption

(e) Improved quality of service

- Giving registration numbers, tokens, date for
- POS progams
- Getting one's Aadhaar card will do away with need to stand in large queues.

Challenges in implementing e-governance

(a) Changing government procedures
- Training government
- Staff to adapt to new governance framework
- Re-engineer
governent procedures.
(b) Awareness generation 4G among people to utilix
governance services.

(c) Requires partnerships with private telecom players -
tendering etc. take delay.

(d) Internet penetration and digital literacy is also a challenge in the implementation.

However, important strides in the field of m-governance have been made by Agriculture Ministry, railways, Postal department, POS delivery. This has to be institutionalised.
11. The Rights of the Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 fails to adopt United Nation Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (UNCRPD) in its true spirit. Examine. Also, highlight the recent suggestions made by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment in this regard.

निष्क्रमण अधिकार विधेयक-2014, निष्क्रमणों के अधिकार पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के अभियुक्त (UNCRPD) के अभियुक्त को तीनों अथवा में अपनाने में विफल रहा है। परिक्षण करें। इसके अतिरिक्त, इस संबंध में सामाजिक न्याय तथा समाजवादी समिति द्वारा प्रदत्त सुझावों पर प्रकाश डालें।
12. An empowered Gram Sabha is the bedrock of successful local governance. In this context, analyse the role of Gram Sabha as a pillar of development. What steps can be taken to strengthen their functioning?

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

Gram Sabha is the all eligible voters in the village Panchayat. It is the most important groundwater political institution created by the 73rd constitutional Amendment bill.

Gram Sabha role in development

(a) It elects Panchayat leadership to undertake

  development of the village or approve developmental plan for the village

(b) It decides how the budget should be spent by the

  Panchayat raj; i.e. whether to focus on roads (a)

  irrigation (a) healthcare etc.

(c) through regular general meetings it holds panchayat leaders accountable for their progress in carrying out activities; budget spent and outcomes

(d) through local audits; instances of corruption, leakages and efficiency of performance are examined

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(v) Gram sabha also sometimes scrutinizes the beneficiaries under various government schemes to remove inclusion/exclusion errors.

Therefore Gram sabha play a central role like that of legislature to control/hold accountable panchayat executive.

Issues with Gram sabha

(a) Awareness and literacy affects ability to hold panchayat leaders accountable

(b) Social audit and general meetings are not regularly held

(c) Politicization of meetings, rather than genuine demands

(d) Very few villages are present at general meetings

Steps to strengthen Gram sabha

(e) Engage with NGOs, civil society organisations to participate in social audit, general meetings, to train villages in asking questions, creating awareness about functions of Panchayat; various government schemes and programmes
(b) State government can regularize fixed dates of every month to hold general meeting, so that turnout of the villagers will increase.

(c) State government should send state public servants to train and aid Panchayat leaders in execution of projects holding general meetings so that gram sabha can act as a genuine pillar of democracy and development.
13. The recent amendments to Child Labour Act seek to strike a balance between the need for education of a child and the reality of socio-economic conditions. Critically evaluate.

Child labour (prohibition and regulation) act 1986, is amended to:

(a) Children aged above 14 years are not allowed to work in hazardous industries.

(b) Children between 6-14 years should not be employed in certain industries except in family-based industries after their school hours.

(c) Employment of child artists in the film and entertainment industry etc. doesn't amount to child labour.

Evaluation:

(a) Provision of allowing above 14 years children to hazardous work is against the convention on the rights of the children, which treats children as those aged below 18 years and enjoy rights to education, happy childhood.
However, in India, the Right to Education Act provides free education up to only 14 years of age. Socio-economic realities may necessitate children to earn for their education; therefore, the provision can be justified.

(b) Allowing children aged 6-14 years in the family business will lead to children negligence to studies; absenteeism; exploitation of children on the name of family business. Regulation is a huge challenge.

But considering poverty and socio-economic realities of Indian households, they need supplementary income generated from helping hand of their children. It can also lead to developing vocational skills.

Therefore, the central issue regarding the bill is not the provisions, but their regulation and strict enforcement.
ensured that children are not exploited, studies are neglected in the name of employment.
14. Give an account of the features of ‘Housing for All by 2022’ mission. Also, discuss the challenges that lie ahead in its implementation.

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

PM Modi has announced "Housing for All" scheme which aims to construct over 2 crore houses by 2022 to provide pucca house to all homeless.

**Key Features**

(a) Three categories of house construction

(b) Public assistance of over 70,000 Rs to construct their own dwelling

(c) Interest rate subsidy for loans taken from banks. Loans can be availed at cheaper rates of 4%.

(c) Government-Private partnership in redevelopment of slums and providing houses for slum dwellers.

**Challenges in the implementation**

(i) Contract with Private players regularly putting in a place legal framework which is
(iv) Issue of land acquisition is especially in urban areas.

Cost of the houses constructed in urban areas for low-income households is not economical for private players due to high land acquisition cost.

Utility of houses constructed (observed in slum rehabilitation program in Delhi)

Construction of homes are often taken up at the fringe areas of the city, which is far away from the work sites of the daily and casual labour whom houses are constructed.

(v) Deadline of 2022 is little too optimistic considering slow pace of things.

It is an ambitious project in line with our global commitment under SDG's 2030, to provide shelter for all. Issues related to regulatory framework, consultation with house dwellers should be
15. Enumerate the directives laid down by the Supreme Court for police reforms in the Prakash Singh case. Discuss the challenges faced in implementing these reforms.

Police reforms are one of the long-standing demands by various commissions since ARC, 1967. In pursuit of this, the Supreme Court in the *Prakash Singh* case, 2006, has laid down following directives to make the Indian police force transparent, robust, agile, efficient, people-friendly.

**Directives**

(a) Separate investigation and law and order departments in police

(b) Separate police establishment board to look after issues of transfers, promotions. They recommend names to cabinet and cabinet has to submit in writing if recommendations are not followed.

(c) State security appraisal committee with chief minister as head to review performance and working
of the state police force

(d) a separate grievance redressal body to receive complaints regarding police officials

(e) OAP should have 2 years term, should be appointed on the basis of recommendation from UPSC.

Challenges faced in implementation

(a) Political will and vested interests among the political clan to implement reforms which will reduce political interference in the functioning of the police

- loss of control of police might endanger their stronghold over their constituency
- risk of being convicted in corruption cases
- complaint in various illegal activities

(b) Executive lacks consensus on the reforms and sees the directives of the Supreme Court as imposed on them.
It is high time that police reforms are introduced in order to increase faith of people in the police and also make Indian police forces professional, technology-driven, and more powerful. And also to uplift themselves from the position of weak link of the criminal justice system.
16. What is E-Kranti? How is it an improvement over National e-Governance Plan? Discuss the challenges foreseen in the implementation of E-karnti.

E-Kranti is the central government scheme under "Digital India Mission" to provide all government services electronically; in short, e-Governance facilitated project of the government.

- e-Services
- online clearance
- Digilocker - to provide online access to digital services, birth certificate, voter ID, Aadhaar

Comparison with National e-Governance Plan (NeGP)

(a) E-Kranti is comprehensive - covers not just computerization of government offices but focuses more on online delivery of services from pensions, health, education, scholarships to passport, railway tickets.

(b) Decentralized model with state governments; local level bodies taking leadership in the implementation unlike centralized model of NeGP.
(c) Urgency and Pace of Implementation - much

note in Under e-Keenhi

- Nyay initiative; e-Mitra Kendras in Rajasthan
- almost all major schemes have their own websites

(d) Private sector participation and greater fund allocation

bundle e-Keenhi

challenges in implementation

(a) Content development in the local language

(b) Digital infrastructure and connectivity expansion is a major challenge

- Common service centres (CSC) are being set up to address this

(c) Digital literacy is a major challenge in citizens accessing e-Keenhi services

(d) Training Government staff; re-engineering Government procedures and processes
However it is a welcome step to introduce efficiency, transparency and accountability in public service delivery.
17. Some provisions of Official Secrets Act, 1923 go against the spirit of Right to Information. Explain. In this context, examine whether this necessitates repeal of the Official Secrets Act.

सरकारी योग्यता अधिनियम, 1923 के कुछ प्रावधान सूचना के अधिकार की मांगों के विरुद्ध हैं, व्याख्या करें। इस सन्दर्भ में, इस बात की जांच करें कि क्या इसके लिए सरकारी योग्यता अधिनियम को निरस्त करने की आवश्यकता है?
18. Despite increasing awareness of beneficiaries, social audits have not played a significant role in reducing malpractices and detecting irregularities. Discuss. How can social audits be made more effective? 

Social audit is a method of public accountability where by local government reads out the expenditure-outcome details under various schemes before the Gram Sabha.

Potential of social audit

(i) to check abuse of funds by the local executive
(ii) to hold local executive accountable for outcomes like construction of roads, schools, hospital
(iii) a platform to demand delivery of various public services like piped drinking water, sanitation, food grains

Challenges in their effective role

(a) awareness and literacy levels of rural population to hold Gram Panchayat accountable
(b) attendance in social audit decreases as very less because most of them are daily wage labourers.
Therefore most of the villagers who attend are
the political base of the village executive and
every budget details are voted without much
discussion.

(c) Irregularities in accounting procedures and poor literacy
levels of villagers enable continuation of these
irregularities.

(d) Social audits are not mandatory under most of the
Welfare schemes

Strengthening Social Audits

(e) roping in NGOs, civil society organisation
to aid Gram Sabha in Social Audit, needed taking up
awareness programs.

(i) Mandating Social audits compulsorily in
district
in all other welfare schemes

(iii) Surprise inspections should be made by State Government
accountants on the accounts of the Panchayats and
also civil society can help State Government.
(vi) Fining a day for social audit, usually on public holiday for maximum attendance.

So that social audit can become an effective instrument to ensure quality, timely, efficient delivery of public services.
19. Nutrition status is linked to non-nutrition factors. In light of this statement, examine why despite a fast growing economy and the largest anti-malnutrition programme, India has the world's worst level of child malnutrition. What steps has the Government taken to tackle the malnutrition problem in India?

पोषण की दशा का सम्बन्ध गैर-पोषण कारकों से है। इस कथन के आलोक में, इस बात की परब तो तीन तरीके से बड़ी रही अर्थव्यवस्था तथा सबसे बढ़ी कुपोषण-रोगी कारक के बाद भी, भारत विश्व में ब्रां्म-कुपोषण के संदर्भ में निष्ठूल तर बाले देशों में शामिल है।

India has highest number of malnutrition and hunger in the world. Over 190 million according to State of Food Insecurity report.

Indian children statistics according to recent National Family Health Survey,

(a) 38% are suffering from stunting
(b) 35% children are underweight.

Despite of ICDS programme, nutrition gap over decades (world's largest anti-malnutrition programme)

Issues for continuing malnutrition

(a) Narrow approach to fight malnutrition - focused on

minimum minimum nutrition provision through ICDS, mid day meal scheme.
Real nutrition also includes non-nutritional aspects like sanitation, hygiene which is neglected completely. India still has highest number of communicable disease under water borne, vector borne.

(b) Effectiveness of welfare schemes like ICDS, midday meal

(i) Governance issues - timely delivery, quality of food grain supplied, adulterated milk

(ii) Death of 11 students in school after consuming midday meal food.

(iii) Sufficiency issues - food provided under ICDS, etc are barely sufficient to meet nutrition needs.

need to increase protein and micro nutrient content

(c) Parental Awareness, Health of women, economic prosperity of the household

also determine the nutrition level of the children.

52% Indian women suffer from anemia.

India needs a holistic approach to tackle malnutrition.
Steps taken by government to tackle malnutrition

(a) Providing basic nutrition through ICDS, midday meal scheme

(b) Social safety nets like MNREGA, PDS, etc.

indirectly contribute to malnutrition fight by improving economic status of family

(c) Swachh Bharat Abhiyan - to eradicate habit of sanitation and hygiene

(d) Maternal health care - Iron Folic acid supplementation

food ration under NFPM; institutional delivery etc.

(e) Agri-cereal promotion like bajra, jowar, ragi - which are nutritionally rich

(f) Providing bio-fortification foods under ICDS eh.

Indian fight to eradicate malnutrition is crucial to realise its demographic dividend and develop as a demographic power.
20. Autonomous District Councils (ADCs) based on the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India are described as 'State in miniature'. Elaborate. Also, critically evaluate the functioning of ADCs over the years.

Autonomous district councils are constituted under the 6th schedule in states of Tripura, Mizoram, Assam, Meghalaya.

E.g. Bodo Autonomous District Council.

They are called "State in miniature" due to wide ranging powers they enjoy under 6th schedule of the constitution.

(a) They are elected by the people of the autonomous
district comprising a council of 30 members.

(b) They have legislative powers, to frame laws governing marriage, civil disputes, education, healthcare.

(c) They have control of budget, take up construction of schools, irrigation works, markets etc.

(d) They also enjoy judicial powers with respect to disputes involving local customs.

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Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com
(a) They have executive power to control law and order.

Therefore they are called 'State in miniature' because they enjoy legislative, executive and judicial powers.

Functioning of ADOs

It has been said that 6th schedule is the Panacea to the problems in India indicating the success of ADO in the country.

Advantages and political:

(a) helped communities to preserve cultural autonomy

(b) by giving powers to local governments, they made elected representatives responsible for development

(x) relative peace in Bodo territorial area

district

(c) took up measures to improve human development like education, health, etc.
challenges / limitations in functioning (elected council members)

(a) These local elites have become absolutist in terms of power; issues of corruption; misuse of power for private gains.

(b) Autonomous district councils have paucity of resources due to few economic activities in the region.

(c) Less finances limits their developmental activity.

(d) Issues of discriminatory treatment of the minorities, migrants, etc., Muslims in Tripura.

(e) Governors have often been accused of being interfering in the administration of the region.

However, the 6th schedule is a novel provision in the Indian Constitution to preserve autonomy and provide democracy at the same time to facilitate development.