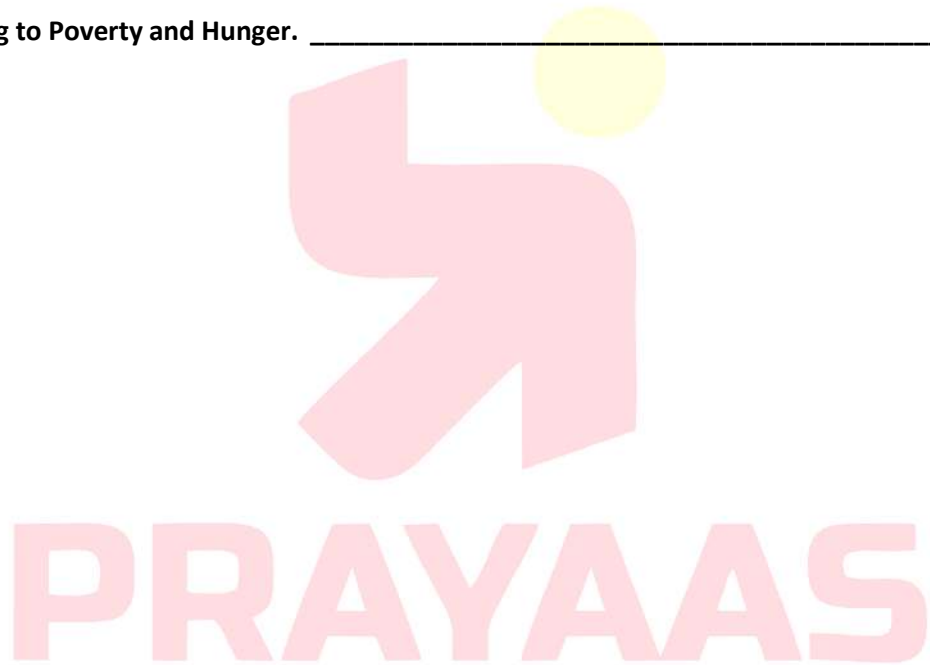


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Subject Map

PART A: GOVERNANCE → HOW the State functions and delivers → Governance deals with processes, institutions, actors, and capacity of the State.		
I. FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE <i>(Normative & Institutional Base)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept of Governance • Good Governance principles • Transparency & Accountability • Rule of law & responsiveness 	<p>→ This sets the VALUES and STANDARDS of governance</p>
II. INSTRUMENTS & MECHANISMS OF GOVERNANCE <i>(Tools through which governance operates)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency mechanisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RTI ○ Open data ○ Disclosure norms • Accountability mechanisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Legislative oversight ○ Social audit ○ Vigilance institutions • Citizens' Charters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Service standards ○ Grievance redressal 	<p>→ Ensures answerability of the State</p>
III. TECHNOLOGY-ENABLED GOVERNANCE <i>(Modernisation of governance)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applications ○ Models (G2C, G2G, G2B) ○ Successes ○ Limitations ○ Future potential 	<p>→ Improves efficiency, reach, and inclusion</p>
IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTORS IN GOVERNANCE <i>(Who runs the system)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil Services in a Democracy • Policy formulation • Policy implementation • Service delivery • Ethical neutrality 	<p>→ Human backbone of governance</p>
V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES & INTERVENTIONS <i>(Governance translated into action)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy formulation process • Policy design • Policy implementation • Monitoring & evaluation • Issues in design & implementation 	<p>→ Bridge between Governance and Social Justice</p>
VI. NON-STATE ACTORS IN GOVERNANCE <i>(Collaborative governance)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGOs • SHGs • Civil society organisations • Donors & charities • Private sector & CSR 	<p>→ State + Society = Governance outcomes</p>
PART B: SOCIAL JUSTICE → "WHAT outcomes governance must deliver → Social justice focuses on equity, inclusion, and human development.		
VII. WELFARE STATE ARCHITECTURE <i>(Targeted redistribution mechanisms)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welfare schemes by Centre & States • Scheme design & coverage • Performance assessment • Implementation challenges 	<p>→ Direct instruments of social justice</p>
VIII. PROTECTION & EMPOWERMENT MECHANISMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitutional safeguards • Statutory laws 	<p>→ Prevents exclusion and discrimination</p>

<i>(Rights-based approach)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutions & commissions • Courts & grievance mechanisms 	
IX. SOCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT <i>(Capability creation)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health • Education • Human resources 	→ Moves people from welfare to empowerment
X. POVERTY & HUNGER <i>(Core social justice outcomes)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty alleviation • Food & nutritional security • Livelihood security 	→ Ultimate test of governance effectiveness

In Short

- Governance defines HOW the State works; Social Justice defines WHAT the State must achieve.

PART A: GOVERNANCE

Unit 1: Important Aspects of Governance

Understanding Governance

Meaning of Governance

- **Governance** → processes, systems & practices of managing public affairs → public resource management + rights realization → **UNDP framework**
- **Relational concept** → interaction among institutions, processes & actors → decision-making & implementation → **Governance theory**
- **Beyond government** → includes state + civil society + private sector + media + citizens → multi-actor model → **Contemporary governance**

Standard Definitions

- **UNDP (1997)** → exercise of **economic, political & administrative authority** → managing affairs at all levels → **UNDP Policy Paper, 1997**
- **World Bank** → manner in which **power is exercised** in managing economic & social resources → development outcomes → **World Bank governance framework.**

Stakeholders in governance

- **State:** Legislature, Executive, Judiciary
- **Market**
- **Civil Society**
 - Private Sector, PSUs, Trade Unions, etc.
 - NGOs, Pressure Groups, SHGs, etc.
- **International organizations** : IMF, WB, UN, etc.
- **People**

Core Characteristics of Good Governance

- **Rule of Law** → equality before law → Article 14; *Maneka Gandhi case*, 1978
- **Transparency** → informed citizens → RTI Act, 2005
- **Accountability** → answerability of executive → CAG (Article 148); PAC system
- **Participation** → people-centric governance → 73rd-74th CAA, 1992
- **Effectiveness** → outcome-based administration → Aspirational Districts Programme, 2018
- **Equity & Inclusiveness** → social justice orientation → Article 38; SDGs, 2015

Evolution of Governance in India

Phase	Key Governance Features (with examples)
Pre-Independence Era	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centralised colonial administration → ICS, 1858 • Coercive legal framework → IPC, 1860; Police Act, 1861 • Local self-government (first step) → Lord Ripon Resolution, 1882 • Constitutional experiments → GOI Act, 1919 (Diarchy); GOI Act, 1935 (Provincial Autonomy)
Post-Independence (1950-70s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democratic constitutional governance → Constitution of India, 1950 • Planned development model → Planning Commission, 1950 • Institutional checks & balances → Election Commission (Art.324); Judiciary (Art.124) • Welfare state orientation → DPSPs (Arts.38-39)
Crisis & Reform Phase (1975-90)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authoritarian centralisation → Emergency, 1975-77 (Art.352) • Basic Structure protection → <i>Kesavananda Bharati case</i>, 1973 • Civil society mobilisation → JP Movement, 1974 • Decentralisation push → Ashok Mehta Committee, 1978
Liberalisation & Good Governance (1990s-2000s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market-oriented governance → LPG Reforms, 1991 • Transparency & accountability → RTI Act, 2005 • Grassroots democracy → 73rd-74th CAAs, 1992 • Digital governance → NeGP, 2006
Contemporary Governance (2014-Present)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiency-oriented governance vision → “Minimum Government, Maximum Governance”, 2014 • Technology-enabled inclusion → JAM Trinity; DBT, 2015 • Outcome-based governance → Aspirational Districts Programme, 2018 • Civil services capacity building → Mission Karmayogi, 2020
Emerging Trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory governance → Social Audit, MGNREGA Act, 2005 • Cooperative federalism → GST Council (Art.279A) • Data-driven governance → PM Gati Shakti, 2021 • Ethical governance → Lokpal & Lokayuktas Act, 2013

Various Forms of Governance

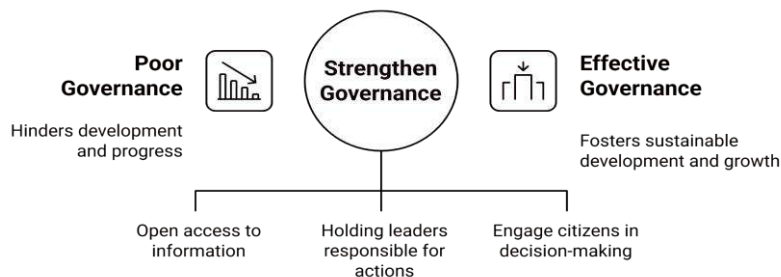
Form	Core Features (with examples)
Political Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power acquisition & legitimacy → Free & fair elections, Art.324 • Rule of law → Equality before law, Art.14; <i>Maneka Gandhi</i>, 1978 • Accountable executive → Parliamentary system, Art.75
Economic Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy formulation & allocation → Budget process, Art.112 • Market regulation → SEBI Act, 1992 • Welfare-oriented delivery → DBT framework, 2015
Social Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human development focus → Right to Education Act, 2009 (Art.21A) • Food & nutrition security → NFSA, 2013 • Social equity → DPSPs, Art.38

Administrative Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy implementation → Civil Services, Art.312 (AIS) • Service delivery reforms → Mission Karmayogi, 2020 • Accountability mechanisms → CAG, Art.148
Environmental Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable development → Art.48A; Art.51A(g) • Environmental regulation → Environment Protection Act, 1986 • Impact assessment → EIA Notification, 2006
Digital Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology-led administration → Digital India, 2015 • Transparency through tech → GeM Portal, 2016 • Real-time monitoring → PM Gati Shakti, 2021

Role of Government in Development

Role	Key Functions
Policy Formulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision & direction setting → Preamble (Justice, Equality) • Development planning → NITI Aayog, 2015 • Sectoral strategies → National Health Policy, 2017
Resource Mobilisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue collection → GST regime, 101st CAA, 2016 • Public expenditure prioritisation → Union Budget, Art.112 • Fiscal discipline → FRBM Act, 2003
Service Delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & education provision → NHM, 2013; RTE Act, 2009 • Last-mile delivery → JAM-DBT, 2015 • Nutrition support → POSHAN Abhiyaan, 2018
Social Justice & Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty alleviation → MGNREGA Act, 2005 • Food security → NFSA, 2013 • Inclusive growth mandate → DPSPs, Art.38
Regulation & Facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market regulation → SEBI Act, 1992 • Ease of doing business → Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016 • Environmental safeguards → Environment Protection Act, 1986
Institution Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democratic institutions → Election Commission, Art.324 • Accountability institutions → CAG, Art.148; Lokpal Act, 2013 • Capacity building → Mission Karmayogi, 2020

Strengthening Governance for Development



Good Governance (GG)

Good Governance (Concept)

- Value-based administration → citizen-centric state → World Bank, 1989
- Constitutional mandate → welfare orientation → Article 38
- Outcome-focused governance → efficiency + accountability → 2nd ARC, 2008



Necessary Pre-Conditions for Good Governance

- **Strong institutions** → checks & balances → Independent Judiciary, Article 124
- **Political will** → reform orientation → Electoral mandate, Article 324
- **Administrative capacity** → trained civil services → AIS, Article 312
- **Legal framework** → enforceable rights → FRs, Part III
- **Active civil society** → social accountability → Social Audit, MGNREGA Act, 2005

Barriers to Good Governance

- **Corruption** → leakage of resources → Lokpal Act, 2013 (delayed impact)
- **Bureaucratic inertia** → status quo bias → 2nd ARC, 2008
- **Centralisation** → weak local capacity → Poor devolution under Art.243G
- **Lack of transparency** → information asymmetry → Low RTI compliance, 2005
- **Capacity deficits** → skill mismatch → Baseline for Mission Karmayogi, 2020

How to Ensure Good Governance

- **Institutional reforms** → role clarity & autonomy → 2nd ARC recommendations, 2008
- **Administrative reforms** → capacity & ethics → Mission Karmayogi, 2020
- **Decentralisation** → subsidiarity principle → 73rd-74th CAAs, 1992
- **Use of technology** → transparency & speed → e-Governance under Digital India, 2015
- **Citizen engagement** → feedback & grievance redress → CPGRAMS, 2015

Key Government Initiatives for Good Governance

- **Right to Information** → transparency & citizen oversight → RTI Act, 2005
- **Lokpal & Lokayuktas** → anti-corruption framework → Lokpal Act, 2013
- **E-Governance push** → faster, transparent delivery → Digital India Programme, 2015
- **Direct Benefit Transfer** → leak-proof welfare delivery → DBT under JAM, 2015
- **Decentralisation reforms** → participatory governance → 73rd-74th CAAs, 1992
- **Administrative capacity building** → efficiency & professionalism → Mission Karmayogi, 2020
- **Outcome-based governance** → performance monitoring → Aspirational Districts Programme, 2018
- **Public grievance redressal** → accountability to citizens → CPGRAMS, 2015

E - Governance

What is E-Governance

- Use of ICT in governance → SMART administration → World Bank definition, 2001
- Digital interface between state & stakeholders → efficiency & transparency → 2nd ARC, 2008
- Shift from process-based to outcome-based governance → real-time monitoring → Digital India, 2015
- Reduction of human discretion → ethical governance → Faceless Assessment, 2020

Applications of E-Governance (5 points)

- Service delivery → anytime-anywhere access → UMANG App, 2017
- Welfare distribution → leak-proof transfers → DBT under JAM, 2015
- Public procurement → transparency & competition → GeM Portal, 2016
- Grievance redressal → citizen feedback loop → CPGRAMS, 2015
- Inter-departmental coordination → financial tracking → PFMS, 2016

<p>Limitations of E-Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital divide → exclusion of poor & elderly → BharatNet gaps, 2011 • Low digital literacy → under-utilisation → Digital Saksharta Mission, 2014 • Cybersecurity risks → data breaches → CERT-In framework, 2004 • Infrastructure bottlenecks → rural connectivity issues → BharatNet delays • Resistance to change → bureaucratic inertia → 2nd ARC, 2008 	<p>Potential of E-Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive governance → last-mile delivery → Digital Public Infrastructure, 2023 • Predictive governance → AI-based planning → PM Gati Shakti, 2021 • Cooperative federalism → shared digital platforms → GSTN, 2017 • Ethical governance → reduced corruption → Faceless Services, 2020 • Evidence-based policymaking → real-time dashboards → Aspirational Districts, 2018
<p>Recent Government Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital India & Digital India 2.0 → integrated e-ecosystem → 2015, 2023 • PM Gati Shakti → GIS-based planning platform → 2021 • Mission Karmayogi (iGOT) → digital civil service training → 2020 • Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission → health data integration → 2021 • ONDC → platform-based market governance → 2022 • e-Office → paperless administration → 2014 • GeM 4.0 → advanced public procurement → 2022 	

Traditional Governance vs E-Governance

Traditional Governance	E-Governance
Paper-based administration → manual files → Secretariat Manual, pre-e-Office era	Paperless administration → digital files → e-Office, 2014
Physical interface dominant → scope for discretion → Inspector Raj system	Online interface dominant → reduced discretion → Faceless Assessment, 2020
Time-consuming service delivery → procedural delays → Passport pre-2010	Time-bound service delivery → process automation → Passport Seva Project, 2010
Limited transparency → information asymmetry → Pre-RTI regime	High transparency → proactive disclosure → RTI Act, 2005
Leakage-prone welfare delivery → intermediaries → PDS pre-reforms	Leak-proof transfers → direct payments → DBT under JAM, 2015
Centralised decision-making → weak coordination → Manual planning	Integrated governance → real-time coordination → PM Gati Shakti, 2021
Low citizen participation → grievance delays → Manual complaints	Active citizen engagement → digital feedback → CPGRAMS, 2015
Limited data usage → intuition-based policy → Pre-dashboard era	Data-driven governance → analytics & dashboards → Aspirational Districts, 2018

Citizen's Charter

<p>Citizen's Charter (Concept)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service delivery commitment document → rights & standards → UK origin, adopted in India 1997 	<p>Components of Citizen's Charter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service standards & timelines → measurable outputs → Sevottam Model, 2005
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountability tool → citizen-administration interface → 2nd ARC, 2008 • Outcome-oriented governance → time-bound services → Sevottam Model, 2005 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grievance redress mechanism → feedback & correction → CPGRAMS, 2015 • Client rights & obligations → mutual accountability → 2nd ARC, 2008 • Performance monitoring → service quality audit → DARPG evaluation framework
<p>Objectives of Citizen’s Charter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve service quality → citizen satisfaction → Sevottam certification, 2011 • Enhance transparency → clear information disclosure → RTI Act synergy, 2005 • Ensure accountability → answerability of officials → Administrative Reforms Commission, 2008 • Reduce arbitrariness → standardised procedures → Sevottam Model, 2005 	<p>Features of Citizen’s Charter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen-centric approach → focus on outcomes → 2nd ARC, 2008 • Time-bound delivery → measurable commitments → Sevottam timelines • Simple & accessible language → wider reach → DARPG guidelines, 2010 • Periodic review → continuous improvement → Sevottam framework
<p>Challenges in Citizen’s Charter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-statutory nature → weak enforceability → 2nd ARC, 2008 • Poor awareness among citizens → low utilisation → DARPG reports • Lack of capacity & training → weak implementation → Pre-Sevottam phase • Absence of penalties → limited deterrence → No legal backing 	<p>Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory backing → legal enforceability → Proposed Citizen’s Charter Bill, 2011 • Capacity building of officials → service orientation → Mission Karmayogi, 2020 • Integration with e-governance → real-time tracking → CPGRAMS 2.0, 2020 • Outcome-based evaluation → quality benchmarking → Sevottam Model • Citizen awareness campaigns → demand-side pressure → Digital India, 2015 • Local customisation → contextual relevance, decentralised ownership → departmental / field-level charters
<p>Case Studies of Citizen’s Charter Functioning in India</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orissa High Court – BMC (2024) → Court-mandated Citizen’s Charter with timelines, compensation, grievance redress → death certificates within 3 days. • Meghalaya Police (2017-) → Online Citizen’s Charter defining complainant rights, FIR timelines, victim support → improved transparency. • Karnataka Sakala Guaranteed Services Act → Legally enforceable charter → 478 services, time limits, ₹20/day delay compensation, digital tracking. • Bangla Sahayata Kendra (2020) → Single-window charter delivery centres → 280 services, assisted digital access, statewide coverage. 	

Recommendations to Improve Effectiveness of Citizens’ Charters

Source	Key Recommendations
Administrative Reforms Commission Report (2000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal adoption of Citizen’s Charters across public services → standardisation of service delivery • Strengthen public grievance redress mechanisms → accessibility, responsiveness • Regular performance evaluation of services → accountability, quality control
Second Administrative Reforms Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remedy / compensation for service default → enforceability, citizen empowerment • Realistic & achievable commitments → credibility, trust • Process & organisational restructuring before charter adoption → implementation readiness

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Localised, non-uniform charters → contextual relevance • Stakeholder participation in drafting → ownership, inclusiveness • Clear accountability of officers → responsibility fixation • Periodic review & revision → dynamic, adaptive governance
National Conference on CC (2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replication of best practices → inter-state learning, standard setting • Integration with e-governance → transparency, real-time tracking • Monitoring & evaluation frameworks → outcome orientation
Lok Sabha Committee (2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodic review & updation → relevance, effectiveness • Enhanced public awareness → demand-side accountability • Robust feedback systems → continuous service improvement

Transparency and Accountability in Governance

<p>Meaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency → openness in decision-making, information access, procedural clarity • Accountability → answerability + enforceability, responsibility fixation for actions 	
<p>Importance in Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces corruption & arbitrariness → information symmetry, rule-based decisions → RTI regime • Improves trust in institutions → credibility, legitimacy → democratic governance • Enhances efficiency & outcomes → performance scrutiny, result orientation → outcome-based governance • Strengthens rule of law → predictability, due process → constitutional governance framework • Improves service delivery → time-bound action, reduced discretion → citizen-centric governance • Promotes participatory governance → informed citizens, feedback loops → social accountability • Prevents misuse of public resources → financial discipline, audit scrutiny → public finance accountability • Enhances policy credibility → evidence-based decisions, transparency → better compliance • Empowers citizens → rights awareness, grievance redress → accountable administration 	
<p>Instruments of Transparency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to Information → citizen oversight, proactive disclosure → RTI Act, 2005 • Open data & disclosures → informed participation, data democracy → Open Government Data Platform • E-Governance tools → real-time access, reduced discretion → e-Office, GeM Portal • Proactive disclosure norms → default transparency, reduced RTI burden → Section 4, RTI Act • Transparent public procurement → competition, price discovery → GeM, e-tendering • Digital dashboards → real-time monitoring, public visibility → Aspirational Districts Dashboard • Asset & interest disclosures → conflict-of-interest control → Conduct Rules 	<p>Instruments of Accountability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative accountability → executive answerability → Parliamentary Committees, PAC • Audit mechanisms → financial & performance audit → CAG, Article 148 • Judicial accountability → constitutional remedies, rule enforcement → Articles 32 & 226 • Social accountability → citizen monitoring, community oversight → Social Audit • Administrative accountability → internal controls, discipline → Conduct Rules, service rules • Vigilance & anti-corruption bodies → deterrence, investigation → Lokpal & vigilance commissions • Performance appraisal systems → outcome orientation, incentives → Result Framework Document
<p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information asymmetry persists → weak suo-motu disclosure, selective transparency • Weak enforcement mechanisms → delays, low penalties, compliance fatigue → RTI dilution concerns • Capacity constraints → audit backlogs, staff shortages, skill gaps → oversight fatigue 	<p>Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen proactive disclosure → transparency by default → Section 4, RTI Act • Digitise accountability mechanisms → traceability, audit trails → end-to-end e-governance

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opacity in discretionary domains → procurement, postings, transfers → scope for rent-seeking • Institutional resistance → secrecy mindset, file culture → slow behavioural change • Digital opacity → algorithmic decisions without explainability → black-box governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empower oversight institutions → functional autonomy, capacity enhancement → CAG, vigilance bodies • Rationalise discretion → rule-based processes, standard operating procedures • Institutionalise social accountability → citizen participation → social audits, public hearings • Capacity building & ethics training → service orientation, integrity → continuous civil service reforms
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Whistleblowers Protection Act, 2014

<p>About</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal framework to protect whistleblowers → expose corruption, abuse of power, misconduct • Governance objective → transparency, integrity, accountability in public institutions 	<p>Key Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection against victimisation → safeguards from harassment, retaliation, dismissal • Disclosure mechanism → complaints to competent authorities through prescribed channels • Confidentiality of identity → anonymity of source, protection from reprisals • Prohibition of reprisals → ban on adverse service actions by employer • Remedies & redressal → compensation, reinstatement, corrective relief • Penalty for false complaints → deterrence against malicious or frivolous disclosures • Competent authorities → receive, inquire, adjudicate complaints • Scope of application → government departments, PSUs, entities receiving public funds
<p>Issues / Limitations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricted time limit → disclosures allowed only up to seven years • No anonymous complaints → fear of exposure, deterrence effect • Exclusion of key institutions → SPG, judiciary, political parties outside scope • No incentive mechanism → absence of rewards reduces motivation • Weak protection guarantees → continued risk of harassment, career retaliation • Lack of institutional independence → inquiries often within same hierarchy • Excessive information exemptions → dilution of disclosure effectiveness • Poor enforcement → delays in authority setup, weak implementation 	<p>Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive whistleblower law → stronger legal protection → 2nd ARC • Administrative safeguards → physical safety, anti-harassment measures • Career protection → shielding whistleblowers from victimisation in service matters • Strengthen enforcement machinery → independent, time-bound inquiry • Expand scope & coverage → include excluded institutions • Awareness & support systems → encourage reporting culture • Incentivisation mechanisms → rewards for credible disclosures

Right to Information Act, 2005

<p>About</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency law → access to information held by public authorities • Democratic accountability tool → empowers citizens, curbs arbitrariness • Constitutional basis → freedom of speech → Article 19(1)(a) 	<p>Public Authorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitutional & statutory bodies → Ministries, PSUs, regulators • Government-controlled/financed entities → bodies substantially funded by State • NGOs receiving public funds → indirect transparency mandate
<p>Key Provisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suo-motu disclosure → transparency by default → Section 4 • Simple request procedure → minimal formalities → Section 6 • Time-bound response → 30 days limit → Section 7 • Limited exemptions → national security, personal info → Section 8 • Appeal mechanism → FAA → CIC/SIC (three-tier structure) 	<p>RTI Amendment Act, 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenure of CIC/ICs → determined by Central Government • Salary & service conditions → executive control increased • Autonomy concerns → dilution of institutional independence
<p>Issues & Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huge pendency → backlog of appeals → capacity deficit • No time limit for second appeal → procedural delays • Low digitisation → weak e-filing infrastructure • Manpower shortages → vacant CIC/SIC posts • Autonomy dilution → post-2019 amendment concerns • Misuse of RTI → frivolous, coercive applications • Threats to activists → harassment, violence • Low awareness → marginalised groups under-represented 	<p>Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen proactive disclosure → Section 4 compliance • Fill vacancies & build capacity → reduce pendency • Digitise RTI ecosystem → end-to-end online systems • Safeguard autonomy of ICs → institutional independence • Awareness & outreach → CSOs, local language campaigns • Protect RTI activists → security & legal safeguards

Social Audit

<p>Concept / Meaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory accountability tool → verification of official records with ground realities • Citizen-led audit → transparency, answerability, corrective governance • Focus on social impact → outcomes over financial compliance 	<p>Origin & Legal Basis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First practice in India → Tata Iron & Steel Company, 1979 • Statutory mandate → Social Audit under MGNREGA Act, 2005 • Judicial & policy backing → expanded to multiple schemes
<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure transparency → disclosure of entitlements, processes, expenditures • Strengthen accountability → public scrutiny, responsibility fixation • Empower beneficiaries → rights awareness, grievance articulation • Improve implementation quality → feedback-driven corrections 	<p>Key Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact-finding not fault-finding → constructive, reform-oriented approach • People's participation → Gram Sabha as audit forum • Public dialogue platform → officials-citizens interface • Time-bound grievance redressal → on-the-spot resolutions

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democratic deepening → participatory governance
Social Audit Unit (SAU) & Role <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent facilitation body → credibility, neutrality • Capacity building → training Gram Sabhas, resource persons • Awareness generation → rights & entitlements communication • Record verification → worksites, muster rolls, payments • Public disclosure → audit reports, action-taken reports 	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces corruption & leakages → exposure through public scrutiny • Improves service delivery → corrective action, responsiveness • Strengthens decentralisation → community ownership • Builds trust → transparency, inclusion
Issues & Challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delayed fund release → administrative costs of SAUs affected • Weak legal backing → limited enforceability (except Meghalaya) • Lack of independence → SAUs influenced by state machinery • Poor compliance → low action on audit findings • Capacity constraints → training, staffing gaps 	Way Forward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory backing → enforceability across schemes • Timely fund release → dedicated budget lines • Independent SAUs → autonomous governance structures • Mandatory action on findings → accountability timelines • Digital integration → MIS linkage with audit data • Citizen capacity building → CSOs, NGOs involvement

Key Social Accountability Initiatives in India

Initiative	Implemented By / Location	Key Features	Impact / Example
Jan Manch (Janta Manch)	Himachal Pradesh Government	Monthly district-level public hearings chaired by ministers for grievance redressal	Over 90% grievance disposal rate; strengthened citizen trust and administrative responsiveness
PRASAR (Public Response and Social Accountability Reporting)	Chhattisgarh Government	Technology-enabled grievance redress system with department-wise tracking	Enhanced accountability in delivery of MGNREGA, PDS, and rural welfare schemes
Jankari Call Centre	Bihar Government	First RTI call centre enabling citizens to file RTI applications via telephone	Increased RTI usage in rural areas; bridged digital divide and literacy barriers
Bhagidari Initiative	Delhi Government (early 2000s)	Institutionalised citizen participation through RWAs and civil society groups	Empowered RWAs; became a model for participatory urban governance
Karyawahi	Jharkhand Government (UNDP-supported)	IVR-based grievance feedback system with action-taken reporting	Improved responsiveness of district officials, especially in tribal and remote regions

Suraksha Platform	Jharkhand Innovation Lab	Women's safety audits using mobile technology and community participation	Led to improved safety protocols in public spaces
Jan Sunwai	Uttar Pradesh Government	Online and mobile grievance redressal system linked to CM's Office	Resolved over 15 lakh grievances with real-time monitoring and escalation

Role of Civil Services in a Democracy

What are Civil Services

- **Permanent executive machinery** → policy continuity, institutional memory
- **Bridge between state & citizens** → implementation arm of elected government
- **Constitutional position** → AIS & services under Union/States → Articles 312, 309

Role & Responsibilities in a Democracy

- **Policy implementation** → translate political vision into outcomes
- **Service delivery** → welfare administration, last-mile reach
- **Rule of law enforcement** → neutrality, due process, legal compliance
- **Development administration** → planning, execution, monitoring of schemes
- **Advisory role** → evidence-based inputs to political executive
- **Crisis management** → disasters, law & order, emergencies
- **Ethical governance** → integrity, probity, public trust

Issues of Civil Services

<p>Major Criticisms of Civil Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status quo bias → resistance to reform, risk aversion, comfort with existing procedures • Political interference → frequent transfers, compromised neutrality, erosion of professionalism • Red-tapism & proceduralism → excessive rules, delays, focus on process over outcomes • Generalist dominance → lack of domain expertise in complex sectors like health, economy, technology • Elitism & social distance → weak grassroots connect, empathy deficit • Corruption & rent-seeking → misuse of discretion, public trust deficit • Weak accountability mechanisms → poor performance appraisal, limited consequences for failure • Centralisation of authority → limited innovation, low field-level autonomy • Capacity & skill gaps → outdated training, mismatch with modern governance needs • Inefficient personnel management → arbitrary postings, lack of career planning 	<p>Issues Causing Ineffectiveness of Civil Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political interference → frequent transfers, posting pressures, loss of neutrality • Lack of stability of tenure → short postings, policy discontinuity, weak accountability • Capacity & skill deficits → generalist approach, inadequate domain expertise • Process-oriented functioning → rule-book mentality, risk aversion, slow decisions • Weak performance management → seniority-based appraisal, limited outcome linkage • Over-centralisation → restricted field autonomy, low innovation space • Work overload & staff shortages → role expansion, administrative fatigue • Poor coordination → siloed departments, fragmented service delivery • Ethical erosion → conflict of interest, declining public trust • Inadequate training & upskilling → outdated curricula, weak mid-career learning
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Civil Services Reforms in India

- **A.D. Gorwala Committee, 1951** → efficiency, economy, discipline → curbing corruption, professional ethics
- **Public Services (Qualifications for Recruitment) Committee / Ramaswami Mudaliar Committee, 1956** → merit-based recruitment → academic standards, UPSC role strengthening
- **V.T. Krishnamachari Committee, 1962** → district administration reform → coordination, development orientation
- **Administrative Reforms Commission I, 1969** → personnel administration → training, delegation, performance appraisal
- **D.S. Kothari Committee, 1976** → recruitment policy → scientific selection, aptitude-based testing
- **Satish Chandra Committee, 1989** → civil services examination review → exam structure rationalisation
- **Yoginder K. Alagh Committee, 2001** → CSE reforms → analytical ability, optional subject rationalisation
- **Hota Committee, 2004** → civil service reforms → performance management, mid-career training, lateral induction
- **Second Administrative Reforms Commission, 2008** → comprehensive reforms → accountability, ethics, citizen-centric administration, capacity building.

Government Policies and Interventions for Development in various sectors

Development – Basic Understanding

- **Development** → sustained improvement in quality of life → beyond GDP growth
- **Economic dimension** → income growth, productivity, employment generation
- **Social dimension** → health, education, nutrition, gender equality
- **Human development** → capability expansion, choice enhancement, dignity
- **Equity dimension** → inclusion of poor, marginalised, backward regions
- **Institutional dimension** → governance quality, service delivery, rule of law
- **Sustainability dimension** → inter-generational equity, resource conservation
- **Outcome orientation** → well-being, human capital, social mobility

Meaning of Policy & Government Intervention for Development

- **Public policy** → authoritative decisions of the State → goals, rules, actions for public welfare
- **Policy instruments** → laws, schemes, programmes shaping socio-economic development
- **Intervention logic** → market failure correction, redistribution, welfare provisioning
- **Equity orientation** → inclusion of vulnerable groups, balanced regional development
- **Governance linkage** → state capacity, implementation quality, development outcomes

Objectives of Government Intervention

- **Inclusive growth** → reduction of regional, social, gender disparities
- **Human development** → improved health, education, nutrition outcomes
- **Economic development** → productivity enhancement, employment generation, infrastructure creation



- **Social justice** → protection and upliftment of vulnerable & marginalised sections
- **Market correction** → address market failures, externalities, information asymmetry
- **Poverty alleviation** → income support, livelihood security, basic needs access
- **Regional balance** → development of backward and aspirational regions
- **Social stability** → reduce inequality-induced unrest, ensure social cohesion
- **Sustainable development** → environmental protection, resource conservation
- **Empowerment** → enhance capabilities, participation, and dignity of citizens

Major Sectors of Government Intervention

Sector	Key Areas
Social Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health → universal access & financial protection → National Health Mission; Ayushman Bharat • Education → human capital development → RTE Act, 2009; NEP, 2020 • Nutrition → maternal & child welfare → ICDS; POSHAN Abhiyaan • Sanitation → public health outcomes → Swachh Bharat Mission
Economic Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture → income security & productivity → PM-KISAN; MSP framework • MSMEs → employment & entrepreneurship → MUDRA; CGTMSE • Industry → manufacturing growth → PLI Schemes • Employment → wage & livelihood support → MGNREGA
Infrastructure Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads & logistics → connectivity & market integration → Bharatmala; PM Gati Shakti • Power & energy → energy access → Saubhagya; National Solar Mission • Housing → asset creation → PMAY (Urban & Gramin) • Digital infrastructure → governance backbone → BharatNet; Digital India
Environmental Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental protection → sustainable development → Environment Protection Act, 1986 • Climate action → adaptation & mitigation → NAPCC • Renewable energy → low-carbon transition → National Wind-Solar Missions • Resource conservation → ecological balance → National Afforestation Programme

Instruments of Policy Intervention

Instrument	Purpose
Legislative Instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal mandate for development → Acts, rules, regulations → RTE Act, 2009; NFSA, 2013 • Rights-based approach → enforceability & accountability
Fiscal Instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource allocation & incentives → subsidies, grants, DBT → PM-KISAN; fertilizer subsidy • Behavioural correction → tax incentives, cess-based funding
Institutional Instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission-mode delivery → specialised agencies → NITI Aayog; National Health Mission • Regulatory oversight → standards & compliance → SEBI; TRAI
Administrative Instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureaucratic execution → guidelines, SOPs, service rules → district administration • Coordination & supervision → inter-departmental mechanisms
Technology-based Instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiency & transparency → digital platforms, dashboards → DBT; GeM; PM Gati Shakti

Issues Arising from Policy Design

- **Top-down policy formulation** → central targets fixed without ground input → local capacity ignored → weak ownership → poor outcomes → Swachh Bharat Mission (ODF focus ignored water availability & behaviour)
- **One-size-fits-all design** → uniform norms across unequal states → differential absorptive capacity → uneven performance → Jal Jeevan Mission (hill/tribal vs plain regions)
- **Over-ambitious targets** → political deadlines > administrative capacity → rushed implementation → dilution of quality → Housing targets under PMAY (Urban)
- **Inadequate problem diagnosis** → symptoms addressed, not causes → limited impact → POSHAN Abhiyaan (focus on delivery over maternal health & sanitation linkages)
- **Poor beneficiary identification** → outdated / faulty databases → exclusion & inclusion errors → welfare distortion → SECC errors in PM-KISAN beneficiary lists
- **Limited stakeholder consultation** → beneficiaries not behaviourally aligned → resistance / low uptake → Ujjwala Yojana (refill affordability issue ignored initially)
- **Complex scheme architecture** → multiple guidelines & conditionalities → administrative overload → delayed benefits → National Health Mission fund-flow procedures
- **Insufficient pilot testing** → nationwide rollout without field learning → frequent mid-course corrections → Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY initial hospital empanelment issues

Issues in Policy Implementation

- **Centre-State coordination gaps** → rigid guidelines & fund-tying → reduced state flexibility → uneven rollout → PMFBY implementation variations across states
- **Capacity constraints** → staff shortages + skill gaps → weak execution & supervision → delayed outcomes → shortage of doctors under National Health Mission
- **Delayed fund release** → cash-flow disruption → stalled activities → cost escalation → MGNREGA wage delays due to late Centre releases
- **Leakages & corruption** → weak field monitoring → diversion of benefits → trust erosion → PDS leakages pre-NFSA reforms
- **Last-mile delivery failures** → access & awareness gaps → exclusion of beneficiaries → low uptake → Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY awareness deficit
- **Technology exclusion** → digital divide & authentication failures → denial of benefits → grievance surge → Aadhaar biometric failures in PDS
- **Poor inter-departmental convergence** → siloed working → duplication & gaps → sub-optimal impact → POSHAN Abhiyaan convergence with ICDS-NHM
- **Output-focused monitoring** → target chasing → quality compromise → sustainability issues → SBM focus on toilet construction over usage
- **Weak grievance redressal** → unresolved complaints → beneficiary fatigue → low credibility → CPGRAMS backlog at district levels
- **Frequent guideline changes** → uncertainty at field level → implementation confusion → delays → PMAY beneficiary eligibility revisions

Way Forward for Effective Policy Design & Implementation

- **Participatory policy design** → bottom-up planning, community consultation → local needs reflected → higher ownership & sustainability → Gram Sabha role under MGNREGA; District Planning Committees
- **Administrative capacity building** → skill upgradation, role clarity, institutional strengthening → improved execution quality → reduced delays & leakages → Mission Karmayogi; domain experts in health & nutrition
- **Outcome-based monitoring** → shift from outputs to outcomes → impact evaluation, course correction → real development gains → Aspirational Districts Programme dashboards; NITI Aayog SDG Index
- **Technology integration** → end-to-end digitisation → transparency, efficiency, traceability → reduced discretion & corruption → DBT under JAM; GeM portal; PM Gati Shakti

- **Cooperative federalism** → flexibility to states, shared responsibility → context-specific implementation → better outcomes → GST Council model; state flexibility in CSS guidelines

Contemporary Dimensions

1. Ladki Bahin Yojana – Maharashtra

What / Sector	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women-centric social welfare intervention → income support & empowerment 	
Objectives	Key Features
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income security for women → reduce economic dependency • Social empowerment → improve nutrition, health, decision-making power 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct cash transfer → monthly assistance to eligible women beneficiaries • Eligibility targeting → age, income & residence criteria • DBT-based delivery → reduced leakages, financial inclusion
Issues / Challenges	Way Forward
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiscal sustainability → high recurring expenditure burden on state • Targeting errors → inclusion of non-poor, exclusion of needy women • Limited empowerment depth → income support not linked to skills/employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convergence with SHGs & skill schemes → livelihood linkage • Periodic beneficiary revision → improve targeting accuracy • Outcome tracking → nutrition, health, workforce participation indicators

2. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

What / Sector	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural infrastructure intervention → road connectivity & market access 	
Objectives	Key Features
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All-weather rural road connectivity → economic integration • Reduce regional disparities → inclusive rural growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitation-based connectivity norms → population threshold criteria • Central funding with state execution → cooperative federalism model • GIS & quality monitoring → OMMAS, third-party audits
Issues / Challenges	Way Forward
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance deficit → roads deteriorate post-construction • Geographic constraints → hilly, tribal, forest areas lag • Cost escalation & delays → land, forest, contractor issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated maintenance funding → post-construction sustainability • Climate-resilient road design → flood & erosion resistance • Integration with PM Gati Shakti → logistics & economic planning

3. Proposed VB-G Ram G Bill (Replacement of MGNREGA)

What / Sector	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural employment + infrastructure-linked development intervention 	
Objectives	Key Features
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory wage employment guarantee → income security • Asset-centric rural development → durable, productive infrastructure • Align local plans with national priorities → PM Gati Shakti 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced guarantee → 125 days wage employment (vs 100 days) • Funding shift → 60:40 Centre–State wage sharing • Normative allocation → budget-linked entitlement, not open-ended • Seasonal pause provision → up to 60 days during sowing/harvest

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital ecosystem → biometric authentication, AI-based monitoring • Focus areas → water security, irrigation, core rural infrastructure
<p>Issues / Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dilution of legal right → entitlement capped by budget availability • Fiscal stress on poorer states → higher demand, lower revenue capacity • Centralisation risk → reduced state autonomy in planning • Vulnerable labour impact → seasonal pause may hurt landless workers • Exclusion risks → digital divide, planning capacity gaps 	<p>Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counter-cyclical funding window → 100% Centre funding in distress years • Transitional grants for states → manage 60:40 shift smoothly • Strengthen social audits → balance top-down allocation with accountability • Localised decision-making → Gram Sabha control over seasonal pauses

Development Processes and the Development Industry

Understanding the development Process

<p>Meaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development process → planned & continuous socio-economic transformation • Beyond income growth → human capabilities, well-being, dignity • State-led + market-supported → policy-driven change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Components • Economic growth → productivity, employment, income expansion • Human development → health, education, nutrition outcomes • Social justice → equity, inclusion, redistribution • Institutional development → governance capacity, rule of law • Sustainability → inter-generational equity, resource conservation
<p>Stages / Flow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem identification → development deficits, regional gaps • Policy formulation → goals, instruments, targeting • Implementation → institutions, resources, coordination • Monitoring & evaluation → outputs, outcomes, impact • Course correction → feedback-based redesign 	<p>Key Approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top-down approach → national priorities, mission-mode schemes • Bottom-up approach → participatory planning, local needs • Rights-based approach → legal entitlements, accountability • Outcome-based approach → impact over expenditure
<p>Actors in Development Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State → policy design, regulation, welfare provisioning • Market → investment, innovation, job creation • Civil society → participation, social accountability • Local governments → last-mile delivery, contextualisation 	<p>Development Industry - Role of Non-State Actors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development industry → organised ecosystem delivering development services • Nature → project-based, target-oriented, multi-actor driven • Rationale → State capacity gaps, last-mile challenges, complexity of development • Examples : NGOs, SHGs, Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), Donors & Multilateral Agencies, Charities & Philanthropic Foundations, Private Sector / CSR

NGOs in Development Process

<p>What are NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-profit, voluntary organisations → non-state, non-market actors → registered under Societies Act, Trust Act, Section 8 Companies Act • Development intermediaries → bridge between State & citizens → grassroots presence 	
<p>Features of NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary & non-profit orientation → service motive over profit • Grassroots presence → local knowledge, community trust • Flexibility & innovation → quick adaptation, pilot solutions • Participatory approach → community mobilisation, empowerment • Issue-based specialisation → health, education, rights, environment 	<p>Role of NGOs in Development (with Specific Examples)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service delivery support → fill state capacity gaps → last-mile outreach → education, health, nutrition → Akshaya Patra (mid-day meals); CARE India (maternal health) • Community mobilisation → awareness generation → behavioural change → sanitation, nutrition, gender norms → SEWA (women workers); UNICEF-supported NGOs in SBM campaigns • Social accountability → citizen monitoring → transparency & answerability → social audits, RTI facilitation → MKSS, Rajasthan (social audits & RTI movement) • Advocacy & policy feedback → voice of marginalised groups → rights-based reforms → land, labour, food security → Right to Food Campaign influencing NFSA • Capacity building → skills & institutional strengthening → community ownership → SHGs, PRIs, local bodies → Kudumbashree, Kerala (women SHGs) • Innovation & pilots → low-cost, scalable solutions → government adoption → sanitation, health, education → Sulabh International (sanitation model)
<p>Issues & Challenges Faced by NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding constraints → donor dependence, uncertainty → project discontinuity • Regulatory restrictions → compliance burden → FCRA-related hurdles • Accountability concerns → limited transparency in some NGOs → trust deficit • Fragmentation → duplication of efforts → limited scale impact • State suspicion → adversarial perception → constrained collaboration • Capacity gaps → management, digital, impact evaluation weaknesses 	<p>Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling regulatory environment → ease compliance, clarity → balanced FCRA framework • Institutionalised state-NGO partnerships → collaboration, role clarity → PPP in social sector • Funding diversification → CSR, domestic philanthropy → reduced donor dependency • Capacity building of NGOs → governance, finance, digital skills • Transparency & self-regulation → codes of conduct, social audits • Outcome-based engagement → measurable impact, scalability

Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in Development Process

<p>What are SHGs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small voluntary groups (10-20 members) → collective savings, internal lending • Women-centric model → financial inclusion, social empowerment • Institutional support framework → National Rural Livelihoods Mission 	
<p>Features of SHGs</p>	<p>Role of SHGs in Development</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Savings-first approach → thrift habit → credit discipline • Peer-based lending → social collateral → low default • Regular meetings → trust, collective decision-making • Bank linkage → formal credit access → SHG-Bank Linkage Programme • Capacity building focus → financial literacy, leadership skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial inclusion → access to credit for poor women → reduced moneylender dependence • Women empowerment → income control, decision-making power → social transformation • Livelihood promotion → micro-enterprises, self-employment → rural income diversification • Social mobilisation → awareness on health, nutrition, sanitation → behavioural change • Grassroots governance support → convergence with schemes → effective last-mile delivery
<p>Issues & Challenges of SHGs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uneven quality of SHGs → weak bookkeeping, governance gaps • Credit saturation → over-borrowing, repayment stress • Market access constraints → limited scale, poor value chains • Capacity deficits → lack of enterprise & digital skills • Regional imbalance → strong in southern states, weak elsewhere 	<p>Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen capacity building → accounting, entrepreneurship, digital skills • Promote producer collectives → scale, bargaining power, market access • Improve credit quality monitoring → avoid over-indebtedness • Convergence with schemes → livelihoods, nutrition, social security • Digital enablement → e-bookkeeping, DBT linkage, transparency
<p>Role of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in Rural Development in Maharashtra</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial inclusion → collective savings + bank linkage → reduced moneylender dependence → SHG-Bank Linkage under National Rural Livelihoods Mission (Aajeevika) • Women empowerment → income control + decision-making → social & political participation → SHG women entering Gram Panchayats via Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal (MAVIM) • Livelihood generation → farm & non-farm micro-enterprises → income diversification → dairy, poultry, food processing under MAVIM cluster model • Agricultural value chains → input access + collective marketing → better price realisation → SHG producer groups in soybean, cotton belts (Vidarbha) • Skill development → entrepreneurship & vocational skills → self-employment → Tejaswini Programme • Service delivery support → last-mile interface → nutrition, sanitation, health outreach → SHG involvement in POSHAN, SBM campaigns • Social mobilisation → collective action → behaviour change → sanitation adoption, school enrolment drives • Credit & risk resilience → internal lending + revolving funds → shock absorption → SHG support during drought & COVID relief • Inclusive development → SC/ST & tribal participation → social equity → SHGs in PESA areas of Gadchiroli, Nandurbar 	

Role of Groups, Associations & Civil Society in Development

<p>What</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organised non-state collectives → voluntary, membership-based bodies → associations, unions, RWAs, movements • Part of civil society space → between State & market → collective action platform 	<p>Role in Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest articulation → aggregate demands → policy responsiveness → farmers' unions & MSP debates • Participation & inclusion → citizen engagement → democratic deepening → RWAs in urban governance • Social accountability → monitoring public programmes → transparency → social audits under MGNREGA • Advocacy & rights protection → voice of marginalised → legal reforms → disability groups & RPwD Act, 2016
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community mobilisation → awareness & behaviour change → improved outcomes → SBM community groups • Service delivery support → gap-filling → last-mile reach → faith-based groups in disaster relief
<p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fragmentation & representation issues → elite capture → exclusion of weaker voices • Politicisation → partisan alignment → credibility loss • Capacity constraints → weak organisation, finance, skills • Accountability deficit → limited transparency in functioning • State mistrust → restrictive regulations, weak collaboration 	<p>Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutionalised consultation mechanisms → structured dialogue with government • Capacity building → leadership, finance, digital skills • Transparency & self-regulation → codes of conduct, disclosures • Collaborative governance → state-civil society partnerships • Inclusive representation → ensure marginalised participation

Role of Institutional & Other Stakeholders in Development

<p>What</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal & informal actors beyond State and NGOs → institutions influencing development outcomes • Includes → judiciary, regulators, academia, media, private sector, donors, multilateral agencies 	<p>Role in Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judiciary → rights enforcement, policy correction → social justice delivery → PILs expanding RTE, environment jurisprudence • Regulatory institutions → standard-setting & market discipline → fair competition → SEBI in capital markets; TRAI in telecom • Academic & research institutions → evidence generation → policy design & evaluation → NITI Aayog-academic collaborations • Media → information dissemination & watchdog role → public awareness & accountability → exposure of welfare leakages • Private sector → investment, innovation, efficiency → growth & employment → PPPs in infrastructure; CSR projects • Multilateral institutions → finance & technical expertise → capacity building → World Bank funding in health & roads • Philanthropic foundations → gap-filling support → innovation & pilots → education & nutrition initiatives
<p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination gaps → siloed functioning → duplication of efforts • Accountability concerns → private & donor-driven priorities → misalignment with local needs • Influence asymmetry → corporate dominance → policy capture risk • Capacity mismatch → research-policy disconnect • Trust deficit → state suspicion of external actors 	<p>Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear role demarcation → defined mandates & accountability • Structured partnerships → PPPs, MoUs, consultative platforms • Evidence-based engagement → policy informed by research & data • Transparency norms → disclosure, impact reporting • Alignment with national priorities → SDGs, national development goals

Role of Voluntary Groups in Youth Development

- **Skill development & employability** → training, career guidance → reduced youth unemployment → **NSS units in Maharashtra universities; Yuva Mandals**
- **Civic engagement & leadership** → volunteering, community work → democratic values → **Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan activities in districts like Nanded, Gadchiroli**
- **Social awareness** → campaigns on health, addiction, environment → behaviour change → **Sant Gadge Baba Swachhta Abhiyan youth participation**
- **Entrepreneurship promotion** → exposure, mentoring → self-employment → **Skill Development Centres under MSRLM (youth SHGs)**

Role of Financial Institutions in Rural Development

- **Credit flow to agriculture** → crop loans, KCC → farm productivity → **District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs)**
- **SHG & JLG financing** → women-led livelihoods → income diversification → **SHG-Bank linkage under MSRLM**
- **Infrastructure financing** → irrigation, storage, roads → rural asset creation → **NABARD RIDF projects in Maharashtra**
- **Financial inclusion** → savings, insurance, pensions → risk reduction → **PMJDY coverage via rural bank branches**

Role of Cooperative Institutions in Rural Development

- **Agricultural processing & value addition** → assured markets → farmer incomes → **Sugar cooperatives in Western Maharashtra**
- **Dairy cooperatives** → regular cash income → livelihood stability → **Mahanand milk network**
- **Credit cooperatives** → affordable rural finance → reduced moneylender dependence → **Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)**
- **Democratic participation** → collective decision-making → social capital → **Cooperative movement legacy of Maharashtra**

PRAVAAS
PART B: SOCIAL JUSTICE

Vulnerable Sections of the population

Understanding Welfare and Vulnerability in India

Vulnerability

Introduction

- **Constitutional vision** → justice, equality, dignity → Preamble of Indian Constitution
- **Economic growth ≠ social equity** → persistence of structural inequalities
- **State responsibility** → targeted welfare, legal protection, institutional support
- **Development goal** → inclusive, equitable, people-centric growth

What is Vulnerability

- **Reduced coping capacity** → inability to anticipate, absorb, recover from shocks
- **Multi-dimensional nature** → social, economic, political, geographical, biological
- **Outcome** → exclusion from opportunities, rights, entitlements
- **Governance implication** → need for targeted state intervention

Ethical Basis

- **Moral responsibility of the State** → prioritise weakest sections
- **Core idea** → quality of governance judged by treatment of vulnerable

Welfare State

Meaning

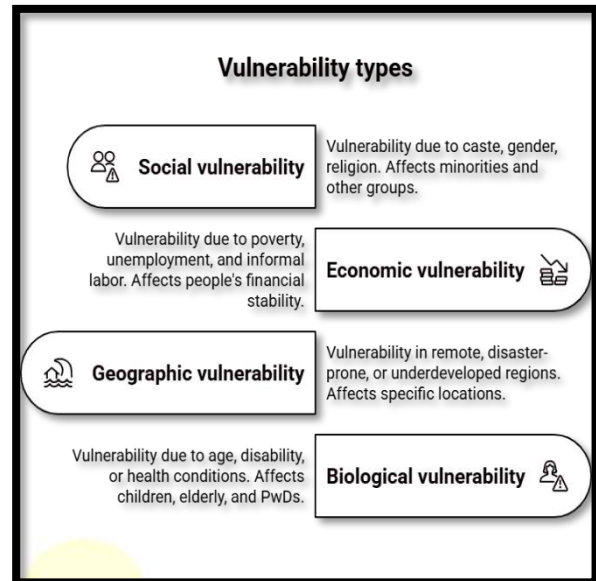
- **Active role of the State** → ensure social & economic well-being
- **Beyond law & order** → minimum living standards, social security
- **Focus groups** → marginalised, disadvantaged, vulnerable sections

Indian Context

- **Post-independence planning** → state-led development model
- **Rights-based legislation** → RTE Act, MGNREGA, NFSA
- **Welfare instruments** → affirmative action, targeted schemes, institutions
- **Core Principle** → **Minimum standard of living** → dignity, equality, social protection

Need of Welfare Schemes for Vulnerable Sections

- **Correction of historical injustice** → caste-, gender-, tribe-based exclusion over centuries → unequal starting points → need for affirmative welfare intervention
- **Social discrimination & stigma** → denial of opportunities despite formal equality → persistent exclusion from education, jobs, services → targeted protective schemes required
- **Structural poverty & income insecurity** → low wages, informal work, seasonal employment → inability to meet basic needs → food, pension, wage-support schemes necessary
- **Market failure in social sectors** → profit motive ignores the poor → under-provision of health, education, housing → state-led welfare provisioning essential
- **Human development deficits** → poor health, malnutrition, low schooling → low productivity & capabilities → welfare investment to build human capital
- **Inter-generational deprivation** → poor childhood nutrition & education → lifelong disadvantage → early-life welfare interventions needed



List of Vulnerable Groups in India

- Scheduled Castes (SCs)
- Scheduled Tribes (STs)
- Other Backward Classes (OBCs)
- Women
- Children
- Elderly (Senior Citizens)
- Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)
- Transgender Persons

- **Exposure to risks & shocks** → illness, disability, disasters, old age → sudden livelihood collapse → social security & insurance mechanisms required
- **Regional & spatial inequalities** → backward regions, tribal areas left behind → uneven development → area-specific welfare interventions
- **Constitutional mandate** → justice, equality, dignity → DPSPs & FRs → state obligation to protect vulnerable sections
- **Inclusive growth & social stability** → growth without equity breeds unrest → welfare ensures balanced, sustainable development

Scheduled Castes (SCs)

Who are Scheduled Castes

- **Historically disadvantaged social groups** → caste-based discrimination, untouchability → notified under Article 341
- **Structural exclusion** → landlessness, low human capital, social stigma

Nature of Vulnerability of SCs

- **Historical injustice** → caste hierarchy & untouchability → denial of dignity & opportunities
- **Economic deprivation** → asset poverty, informal labour → income insecurity
- **Educational backwardness** → low enrolment & high dropouts → inter-generational poverty
- **Social discrimination** → restricted access to public spaces & services
- **Atrocity exposure** → violence & coercion → fear, under-reporting

Major Welfare Interventions for Scheduled Castes

Welfare Intervention	Key Features / Focus Areas
Constitutional Safeguards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abolition of untouchability → dignity & equality → Article 17 • Reservation in education & employment → equal opportunity → Articles 15(4), 16(4) • Political representation → democratic voice → Articles 330, 332 • Welfare mandate → socio-economic upliftment → Article 46
Protective Laws	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 → deterrence against caste-based violence • Exclusive Special Courts → speedy trial & justice • Relief & Rehabilitation Rules → victim compensation
Institutional Mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Commission for Scheduled Castes → monitoring safeguards, grievance redress • Annual reports to President → accountability mechanism
Educational Welfare Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Matric & Post-Matric Scholarships for SCs → access & retention in education • Top Class Education Scheme for SCs → elite institutions inclusion • National Overseas Scholarship for SCs → global exposure
Economic Empowerment Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Central Assistance to SC Sub-Plan → targeted financial support • Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY) → income generation & infrastructure • Stand-Up India → entrepreneurship loans for SCs
Employment Support Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reservation in public employment → representation in services • Skill development under PMKVY (SC-focused components) → employability
Housing & Basic Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PM Awas Yojana (SC priority) → housing security & dignity • Swachh Bharat Mission (SC habitations) → sanitation access

<p>Social Security & Legal Support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free legal aid → access to justice → Legal Services Authorities Act • Awareness programmes → rights & entitlement literacy
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Persistent Challenges Reflecting Gaps in Current SC Welfare Mechanism (with Examples)

- **Implementation gaps** → strong legal-policy framework but weak ground enforcement → delayed justice & benefit denial → low conviction rates under **SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989**
- **Educational quality deficit** → scholarships ensure access but not learning support → poor outcomes & dropouts → low SC completion rates in higher education despite **Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme**
- **Economic mobility limits** → welfare focused on subsistence support → weak transition to high-skill sectors → limited SC representation in Group-A services despite reservation
- **Atrocity under-reporting** → fear, social pressure, police bias → invisibilisation of crimes → NCRB data showing large gap between reported cases and convictions
- **Fund utilisation inefficiency** → earmarked funds diverted or under-spent → diluted impact → irregular utilisation of **SC Sub-Plan / PM-AJAY** allocations
- **Scheme-centric fragmentation** → multiple uncoordinated interventions → lack of holistic empowerment → education-skill-employment disconnect in SC welfare schemes
- **Awareness & access barriers** → complex procedures, digital divide → eligible households excluded → low uptake of **National Overseas Scholarship for SCs**

Scheduled Tribes (STs)

Who are Scheduled Tribes

- **Indigenous / Adivasi communities** → distinct culture, language, traditions → notified under **Article 342**
- **Geographical isolation** → forested, hilly, border regions → limited access to services

Nature of Vulnerability of STs

- **Historical neglect & isolation** → late integration with mainstream economy
- **Land & forest dependence** → livelihood insecurity → displacement risks
- **Development-induced displacement** → dams, mining, infrastructure → loss of habitat
- **Low human development indicators** → health, education, nutrition deficits
- **Cultural marginalisation** → erosion of identity, customs

Major Welfare Interventions for Scheduled Tribes (STs)

Welfare Intervention	Key Features / Focus Areas
<p>Constitutional Safeguards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reservation in education & employment → equal opportunity → Articles 15(4), 16(4) • Political representation → voice in democracy → Articles 330, 332 • Promotion of ST interests → education & economic protection → Article 46
<p>Fifth & Sixth Schedules</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autonomous governance in tribal areas → protection of land & culture • Special powers to Governor / Autonomous Councils → self-governance
<p>Forest Rights Act, 2006</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual & community forest rights → livelihood & tenure security • Recognition of traditional forest dwellers → dignity & justice
<p>Protective Laws</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 → protection from exploitation & violence • Special courts & relief provisions → deterrence & justice
<p>Institutional Mechanism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Commission for Scheduled Tribes → monitoring safeguards, grievance redress • Ministry of Tribal Affairs → policy coordination

Educational Welfare Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) → quality education in tribal areas • Pre-Matric & Post-Matric Scholarships for STs → access & retention • National Overseas Scholarship for STs → higher education inclusion
Economic Empowerment Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan → targeted development funds • Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) → PVTG-focused upliftment
Livelihood & Skill Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Van Dhan Vikas Yojana → value addition to Minor Forest Produce • Skill development programmes → income diversification
Health & Nutrition Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal Health Action Plan → outreach in remote areas • Nutrition support → maternal & child health focus
Infrastructure & Habitat Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads, hostels, drinking water → area-based tribal development • Housing support → improved living conditions

Persistent Challenges in ST Welfare (Reflecting Gaps in Current Mechanism)

- **Weak implementation of Forest Rights Act** → delayed / rejected claims → tenure insecurity continues → low recognition of Community Forest Rights under FRA, 2006
- **Development-induced displacement** → mining, dams, infrastructure projects → loss of land & livelihoods → inadequate rehabilitation despite LARR Act, 2013
- **Geographical isolation** → remote, hilly, forest regions → poor service delivery → limited health & education access in tribal blocks
- **Education access-outcome gap** → schools & hostels exist but quality weak → high dropouts → low ST retention beyond secondary level despite EMRS
- **Livelihood vulnerability** → dependence on minor forest produce → price volatility & exploitation → limited income security despite Van Dhan Yojana
- **Health & nutrition deficits** → remoteness + staff shortages → high IMR & malnutrition → tribal health indicators below national average
- **Governance capacity gaps** → weak local administration in Scheduled Areas → poor scheme convergence → underutilisation of Tribal Sub-Plan funds
- **Cultural alienation** → development without cultural sensitivity → erosion of tribal identity → resistance & distrust in state programmes
- **Atrocity under-reporting** → fear, lack of access to police & courts → justice deficit → low conviction rates under SC/ST (PoA) Act
- **PVTG marginalisation** → extreme isolation & vulnerability → one-size-fits-all schemes ineffective → need for PM-JANMAN-type focused approach

Key Commissions & Committees on Scheduled Tribes (STs)

Commission / Committee	Core Focus & Key Recommendations
U.N. Dhebar Commission (1960-61)	First post-Independence review of tribal conditions; highlighted land alienation, displacement, and health gaps; advocated protective measures with welfare-based integration
Shilu Ao Committee (1972)	Introduced Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) ; recommended earmarked funds and area-based planning for focused tribal development
L.P. Vidyarthi Committee (1973)	Identified Primitive Tribal Groups (now PVTGs) ; stressed habitat protection, livelihood security, and health-nutrition interventions

Bhuria Committee (1995)	Paved way for PESA Act, 1996 ; emphasized tribal self-governance, Gram Sabha empowerment, and control over natural resources
Xaxa Committee (2013-14)	Comprehensive review of ST status; flagged displacement due to mining, weak FRA & PESA implementation; recommended legal reforms, better data, and focus on education & health

Other Backward Classes (OBCs)

Who are OBCs

- **Socially & educationally backward classes** → not covered under SC/ST → identified under **Article 340**
- **Heterogeneous groups** → caste, occupation, region-based backwardness

Nature of Vulnerability

- **Educational backwardness** → low access to quality education & skills
- **Occupational stagnation** → concentration in low-productivity sectors
- **Social disadvantage** → limited upward mobility despite formal equality

Major Welfare Interventions for Other Backward Classes (OBCs)

Welfare Intervention	Key Features / Focus Areas
Constitutional Safeguards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reservation in education → social & educational inclusion → Articles 15(4), 15(5) • Reservation in public employment → equal opportunity → Article 16(4) • Welfare mandate → promote weaker sections → Article 46
Institutional Mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Commission for Backward Classes → inclusion/exclusion of OBC lists, grievance redress → Article 338B
Educational Welfare Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Matric Scholarship for OBCs → reduce early dropouts • Post-Matric Scholarship for OBCs → higher education access • Free Coaching Scheme for OBCs → competitive exam inclusion- Mahajyoti Scheme for Competitive exam preparation
Economic Empowerment Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit & subsidy-based self-employment schemes → entrepreneurship promotion • Skill development programmes → employability enhancement
Reservation Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27% reservation in Central services & institutions → Mandal framework • State-specific OBC reservations → contextual backwardness
Social Justice Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creamy layer exclusion → target truly backward sections • Periodic list revision → dynamic backwardness assessment
State-Level Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OBC Welfare Departments → targeted scholarships & hostels • Maharashtra OBC welfare schemes → education & livelihood support

Persistent Challenges in OBC Welfare

- **Creamy layer capture** → advanced OBC sub-groups corner benefits → truly backward sections excluded → repeated revisions of creamy layer income limit
- **Intra-OBC inequality** → heterogeneous castes treated uniformly → extremely backward OBCs remain marginalised → demand for sub-categorisation of OBCs
- **Data deficit** → absence of updated caste-wise socio-economic data → weak evidence-based targeting → reliance on outdated Mandal-era data
- **Employment concentration** → OBCs clustered in informal & low-wage sectors → weak upward mobility → limited impact of skill schemes
- **Institutional limitations** → NCBC recommendations advisory in nature → weak enforcement → slow grievance redress

- **State-level variation** → uneven implementation of OBC schemes → regional disparities → differing OBC benefits across states

Women

Nature of Vulnerability

- **Historical patriarchy** → gender-based power imbalance → denial of rights & opportunities
- **Economic dependence** → low workforce participation, unpaid care work → income insecurity
- **Educational & skill gaps** → access improved but quality uneven → limited upward mobility
- **Health & nutrition deficits** → maternal mortality, anaemia → lifecycle vulnerability
- **Violence & safety risks** → domestic violence, harassment → restricted mobility & participation
- **Legal-social gap** → rights exist but weak enforcement → justice deficit
- **Intersectional disadvantage** → caste, class, region compound gender bias → SC/ST/Minority women

Major Welfare Interventions for Women (Centre & States)

Welfare Intervention	Key Features / Specific Schemes
Constitutional & Legal Safeguards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality & non-discrimination → Articles 14, 15(1), 15(3) • Equal opportunity → Article 16 • Maternity relief → Article 42
Protection & Safety Laws	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 → civil remedies • Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013 → safe work environment • Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 → curb economic exploitation
Health & Nutrition Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janani Suraksha Yojana → institutional deliveries • Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana → maternity benefit • POSHAN Abhiyaan → nutrition outcomes
Education & Skill Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beti Bachao Beti Padhao → education & gender balance • Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana → girl child savings • Skill India (women-focused components)
Economic Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHG-Bank Linkage under NRLM → financial inclusion • Stand-Up India → women entrepreneurship loans • MUDRA → micro-credit access
Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PM Jeevan Jyoti / Suraksha Bima Yojana → insurance cover • National Pension Scheme (women participation)
Political Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reservation in PRIs & ULBs → leadership at grassroots • Women-led SHGs & community institutions
State-Specific Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ladki Bahin Yojana (Maharashtra) → income support • State maternity & nutrition schemes

Persistent Challenges in Women Welfare

- **Low workforce participation** → unpaid care burden + social norms persist → skill gains not translating into jobs → **Female LFPR ~37% (PLFS 2022-23)** despite Skill India & NRLM
- **Safety laws-enforcement gap** → under-reporting + slow investigation → weak deterrence → low conviction rates under **Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act** & IPC crimes against women (NCRB)
- **Health outcomes lag** → access expanded but quality uneven → nutrition & care gaps → **Anaemia ~57% among women (NFHS-5)**; MMR remains high in several states
- **Economic schemes fragmentation** → credit without market/skill linkage → enterprises remain subsistence-level → SHG loans under NRLM not always connected to value chains

- **Digital & awareness divide** → Aadhaar/DBT reliance + low digital literacy → exclusion errors → rural, elderly, SC/ST women missing PMMVY/DBT benefits
- **Leadership without autonomy** → proxy representation by male relatives → limited decision-making → women sarpanches constrained despite **33-50% reservation in PRIs**

Children

Nature of Vulnerability

- **Age-based dependence** → limited agency & voice → reliance on family/state support
- **Nutrition insecurity** → inadequate early-life nutrition → stunting & wasting risk
- **Education exclusion** → poverty, migration, gender norms → dropouts & learning loss
- **Health vulnerability** → preventable diseases → high IMR/under-5 mortality in pockets
- **Protection risks** → abuse, neglect, trafficking, child labour → safety & dignity deficit
- **Intersectional disadvantage** → caste, tribe, disability, urban poverty → compounded exclusion

Major Welfare Interventions for Children (Centre & States)

Welfare Intervention	Key Features / Specific Schemes & Laws
Constitutional Safeguards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to life & dignity → Article 21 • Right to Education (6-14 yrs) → Article 21A • Child labour prohibition → Article 24
Nutrition & Early Childhood Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICDS/Anganwadi Services → supplementary nutrition, ECCE • POSHAN Abhiyaan → reduce stunting, wasting, anaemia
Health Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission Indradhanush → universal immunisation • RMNCH+A → maternal & child health continuum
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTE Act, 2009 → free & compulsory schooling • PM POSHAN (Mid-Day Meal) → nutrition-linked enrolment & retention
Protection & Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POCSO Act → protection from sexual offences • Juvenile Justice Act → care, protection, adoption
Social Security / Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child care institutions & foster care → JJ Act framework • Scholarships/hostels → SC/ST/OBC minority children
Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Commission for Protection of Child Rights → monitoring, grievances

Persistent Challenges in Child Welfare

- **Nutrition outcomes lag** → access expanded but diet diversity & quality weak → **Stunting ~35.5%, wasting ~19.3% (NFHS-5)** despite ICDS/POSHAN
- **Learning crisis** → enrolment near-universal but foundational skills poor → **ASER shows reading & arithmetic deficits** despite RTE
- **Health inequities** → service reach uneven in remote/urban-poor areas → IMR pockets persist despite Mission Indradhanush
- **Protection-enforcement gap** → under-reporting & slow trials → low conviction under **POCSO (NCRB)**
- **Child labour persistence** → poverty & informality → hidden work → cases continue despite **Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act**
- **Migration & urban poverty** → portability & access issues → schooling/nutrition disruption for migrant children
- **Institutional capacity limits** → overburdened CWCs/CCIs → care quality concerns under **JJ Act**

Elderly (Senior Citizens)

Nature of Vulnerability of Elderly

- **Income insecurity** → retirement + informal employment history → absence of regular pensions
- **Health vulnerability** → NCDs, disability, dependency → rising healthcare expenditure
- **Social isolation** → nuclear families, migration → loneliness & neglect
- **Digital exclusion** → low digital literacy → barriers in DBT, e-services
- **Gendered vulnerability** → widows outnumber men → higher poverty & dependence
- **Abuse & neglect risks** → emotional, financial exploitation → weak reporting

Major Welfare Interventions for Elderly (Centre & States)

Welfare Intervention	Key Features / Specific Schemes & Laws
Constitutional Support	• Social security mandate → Article 41 (public assistance in old age)
Income Security	• National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) → old-age pension for BPL elderly • Atal Pension Yojana → contributory pension for unorganised workers
Health Care	• National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE) → geriatric OPDs, wards • Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY) → health insurance cover (elderly beneficiaries)
Legal Protection	• Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act → maintenance, protection of life & property
Shelter & Care	• Old Age Homes → shelter for destitute elderly (state/NGO-run) • Day-care centres → social engagement
Institutional Mechanism	• National Council for Senior Citizens → policy advice & coordination
State-Specific Schemes	• Maharashtra → Shravan Bal Yojana → old-age pension & assistance

Persistent Challenges in Elderly Welfare (Reflecting Gaps)

- **Low pension adequacy** → small cash transfers → insufficient for living costs → NSAP amounts remain low
- **Health access-quality gap** → geriatric services limited at district level → NPHCE uneven implementation
- **Legal awareness deficit** → rights under Maintenance Act poorly known → under-utilisation of tribunals
- **Urban-rural divide** → services concentrated in cities → rural elderly excluded
- **Digital dependence of schemes** → online portals, Aadhaar → exclusion of very old & illiterate elderly
- **Gender imbalance** → elderly women live longer with fewer assets → feminisation of old-age poverty

Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)

Nature of Vulnerability of PwDs

- **Physical & attitudinal barriers** → inaccessible infrastructure + stigma → exclusion from education, work, public spaces
- **Low educational access & outcomes** → inadequate inclusive schooling → skill & employability gaps
- **Employment exclusion** → workplace inaccessibility & bias → high unemployment, informal work
- **Health & assistive care gaps** → high costs, limited availability → dependency & poverty
- **Digital exclusion** → non-accessible digital platforms → denial of services

- **Intersectional disadvantage** → gender, caste, poverty compound disability → PwD women most vulnerable

Major Welfare Interventions for PwDs (Centre & States)

Welfare Intervention	Key Features / Specific Schemes & Laws
Constitutional Basis	• Equality & non-discrimination → Articles 14, 15 • Social security & assistance → Articles 41, 46
Rights-Based Law	• Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act → 21 disabilities recognised, equality, accessibility, legal capacity
Reservation & Inclusion	• 4% reservation in government jobs & education → PwD inclusion mandate
Accessibility Initiatives	• Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) → barrier-free buildings, transport, ICT
Education Support	• Inclusive education under Samagra Shiksha → aids, scholarships, special educators
Employment & Livelihoods	• Skill development & self-employment support → PwD-focused components under Skill India
Health & Assistive Devices	• ADIP Scheme → free/subsidised aids & appliances
Social Security	• Disability pensions under NSAP / state schemes
Institutional Mechanism	• Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities → grievance redress & monitoring
State-Specific Schemes	• Maharashtra → disability pensions, education assistance, transport concessions

Persistent Challenges in PwD Welfare

- **Access without usability** → buildings labelled accessible but poorly designed → weak impact of **Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan**
- **Education inclusion gap** → enrolment improved but support services lacking → low higher-education participation among PwDs
- **Employment mismatch** → reservation exists but posts unfilled → low PwD representation in Group A/B services
- **Assistive device reach gap** → limited coverage & follow-up → ADIP benefits uneven across districts
- **Digital inaccessibility** → government portals not screen-reader friendly → exclusion from DBT & services
- **Awareness & enforcement deficit** → rights under RPwD Act poorly known → weak compliance & penalties

Transgender Persons

Nature of Vulnerability of Transgender Persons

- **Social exclusion & stigma** → non-conforming gender identity → denial of family, education, housing
- **Educational deprivation** → bullying, dropouts → low skill formation
- **Employment exclusion** → discrimination, lack of formal opportunities → livelihood insecurity
- **Health vulnerabilities** → lack of gender-affirmative care → mental health stress, HIV risk
- **Legal invisibility (historical)** → absence of identity recognition → exclusion from welfare
- **Violence & abuse** → harassment, police excesses → under-reporting due to fear

Major Welfare Interventions for Transgender Persons

Welfare Intervention	Key Features / Specific Schemes & Laws
Constitutional Protection	• Equality & dignity → Articles 14, 15, 21 interpreted to include gender identity
Judicial Recognition	• NALSA v. Union of India → recognition of transgender as third gender; self-identification
Rights-Based Legislation	• Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act → prohibition of discrimination; right to identity, residence, employment

Institutional Mechanism	• National Council for Transgender Persons → policy advice, grievance redress
Identity & Documentation	• Certificate of identity → access to schemes, documents
Health Interventions	• TG-inclusive healthcare advisories → access to HIV care, counselling
Education & Skill Support	• Scholarships, skill training (limited coverage)
Social Security	• State pensions & housing support → e.g., state TG welfare boards
State-Specific Initiatives	• Maharashtra → Transgender Welfare Board; social security & education support

Persistent Challenges in Transgender Welfare

- **Law-implementation gap** → rights recognised but enforcement weak → limited on-ground change post **2019 Act**
- **Self-identification dilution** → certification process bureaucratic → contrary to NALSA spirit
- **Employment vacuum** → skill schemes without placement → continued dependence on informal livelihoods
- **Healthcare access gap** → lack of trained providers → gender-affirmative care scarce in public hospitals
- **Social acceptance deficit** → welfare cannot offset family & societal exclusion → homelessness risk
- **Awareness deficit** → poor knowledge of rights & schemes → low uptake of benefits

Suggestions for Addressing Issues of Vulnerable Sections (Group-wise) — GS-II Micro-Notes

Vulnerable Section	Focused Suggestions / Way Forward
Scheduled Castes (SCs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift from access to outcomes → quality education & skills beyond scholarships • Strict enforcement of SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989 → higher conviction rates • Effective utilisation of PM-AJAY / SC Sub-Plan funds → outcome tracking • Awareness & legal aid → reduce atrocity under-reporting
Scheduled Tribes (STs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speedy & genuine implementation of Forest Rights Act, 2006 → community forest rights • Development with consent → respect PESA & Fifth Schedule governance • Livelihood diversification → MFP value chains under Van Dhan Yojana • Focused support to PVTGs → PM-JANMAN mission
Other Backward Classes (OBCs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-categorisation of OBCs → address intra-group inequality • Regular revision of creamy layer criteria → better targeting • Capability building beyond reservation → skills, coaching, entrepreneurship • Strengthen role of NCBC (Art. 338B)
Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce unpaid care burden → crèches, maternity support, shared care policies • Strong enforcement of safety laws → DV Act, 2005; SH Act, 2013 • Link SHGs & credit to markets → sustainable livelihoods • From representation to power → curb proxy leadership in PRIs
Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise early childhood nutrition → quality focus under ICDS & POSHAN • Foundational learning mission → address ASER-identified learning gaps • Strengthen child protection enforcement → POCSO Act, 2012 • Portability of benefits → migrant & urban poor children
Elderly (Senior Citizens)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate & universal pensions → revise NSAP amounts • Expand geriatric healthcare → strengthen NPHCE at district level

Vulnerable Section	Focused Suggestions / Way Forward
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness & enforcement of Maintenance Act, 2007 • Community-based care → day-care & assisted living
Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforce accessibility norms → buildings, transport, digital platforms (RPwD Act, 2016) • Fill reserved posts → meaningful employment inclusion • Strengthen inclusive education → assistive tech & special educators • Improve assistive device coverage → ADIP Scheme
Transgender Persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore self-identification principle → align with NALSA (2014) • Livelihood integration → skills + assured placement • Gender-affirmative healthcare in public hospitals • Effective implementation of Transgender Act, 2019

Issues Relating to Development and Management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

Social Sector

<p>Meaning of Social Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social sector → public services aimed at human well-being & capability building • Core components → health, education, nutrition, skills, social security • Development logic → human capital formation → inclusive & sustainable growth 	<p>Importance of Social Sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human development → healthy, educated, skilled population • Economic productivity → labour quality, demographic dividend • Social equity → reduce inter-group & inter-generational inequalities • State legitimacy → trust through service delivery
<p>Key Social Sector Domains</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health sector → preventive, promotive, curative care • Education sector → foundational, secondary, higher education • Human resources → skills, employability, workforce planning 	

Health Sector

Structure of Healthcare System in India

Level / Component	Institutions & Key Functions
Primary Healthcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-Centres (SCs) → preventive & promotive care → MCH, immunisation • Primary Health Centres (PHCs) → basic curative care → OPD, minor ailments, referrals • Health & Wellness Centres (HWCs) → comprehensive primary care → NCDs, mental health, geriatrics
Secondary Healthcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Health Centres (CHCs) → specialist care → medicine, surgery, OBGY, paediatrics • Sub-District / District Hospitals → inpatient care, emergency services
Tertiary Healthcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Colleges & Teaching Hospitals → specialised & super-specialised care • Apex/Central Institutes → advanced diagnostics, research & training

Public Health System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disease surveillance & prevention → outbreak control • National health programmes → TB, HIV, malaria, NCDs
Private Healthcare Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major provider of OPD & tertiary care → urban concentration • High role in diagnostics & hospitals → drives OOP expenditure
Financing & Insurance Layer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public funding → Union + State budgets • Health insurance → Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY) • Household spending → significant OOP costs
Governance & Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy & oversight → MoHFW at Centre • Implementation → State Health Departments • Standards & regulation → medical education, quality norms

Various Issues in Indian Healthcare System at Different Levels

Level	Key Issues (with Facts & Data)
Primary Level (Sub-Centres & PHCs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure gaps → service delivery compromised → 18% PHCs without doctors; 28% without lab technicians → <i>Rural Health Statistics 2023</i> • Skewed access → remoteness & terrain constraints → weak outreach in tribal, hilly, aspirational districts • Overburdened frontline workers → ANMs & ASHAs multitasking → low incentives, limited training → quality dilution • Low utilisation of public PHCs → perceived poor quality & absenteeism → preference for private providers
Secondary Level (CHCs & District Hospitals)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist shortage → mandated norms unmet → >80% CHCs lack all four specialists → gynaecologist, surgeon, physician, paediatrician • Weak referral mechanisms → PHCs bypassed → CHCs overloaded or under-used • Diagnostic & equipment deficits → inadequate labs, blood banks → delayed diagnosis & referrals • Poor hospital management → absence of trained administrators → weak HR & logistics oversight
Tertiary Level (Medical Colleges & Super-speciality Centres)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban concentration → AIIMS & super-speciality centres clustered in metros → rural/poorer states under-served • Overcrowding → primary & secondary cases flood tertiary hospitals → referral chain breakdown • Faculty & nursing shortages → vacant teaching posts → medical education quality affected • Weak research ecosystem → limited integration of clinical care with research & innovation
Systemic Issues (Across All Levels)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low public health spending → resource constraints → ~2.1% of GDP → <i>Economic Survey 2023</i> (WHO norm ~5%) • High Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) → medical impoverishment → ~48% of total health spending → <i>NHA 2021</i> • Regulatory gaps → weak oversight of private healthcare → pricing, quality, ethics issues • Fragmented digital health systems → lack of interoperability → uneven adoption beyond CoWIN, ABHA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban-rural inequality → doctor-bed concentration in cities → rural healthcare deficit
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Key Government Initiatives in the Health Sector

Initiative	Key Features / Focus Areas
National Health Mission (NHM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched 2005 (NRHM); expanded 2013 (NUHM) → rural + urban health • Strengthens primary & secondary healthcare • ASHAs, VHNDs, Rogi Kalyan Samitis → community participation • Focus on MCH, communicable diseases, system strengthening • Outcomes → decline in MMR, IMR, rise in institutional deliveries & immunisation
Ayushman Bharat Programme (2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Umbrella health reform → primary care + financial protection
Health & Wellness Centres (HWCs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 1.5 lakh SCs/PHCs → comprehensive primary care • NCD screening, mental health, geriatrics, palliative care • Shift from selective to preventive & promotive care
Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World’s largest govt-funded health insurance scheme • ₹5 lakh/family/year cover → ~50 crore beneficiaries • Secondary & tertiary hospitalisation → public + private hospitals • Enabled via ABHA; implemented by NHA
Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched 2021 → digital health ecosystem • ABHA ID, Health Facility Registry (HFR), HPR • Interoperable digital health records → continuity of care
Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce regional health disparities • Establish AIIMS-like institutions + upgrade medical colleges • 22+ new AIIMS announced/established
Mission Indradhanush	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched 2014 → universal immunisation • Covers 12 vaccine-preventable diseases • Intensified MI → low-coverage districts & urban slums • Result → improved child immunisation coverage
NPCDCS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCD prevention & control → cancer, diabetes, CVD, stroke • Screening at HWCs → early diagnosis & referral • Lifestyle counselling focus
eSanjeevani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National telemedicine platform → free consultations • Links primary facilities with specialists • 14+ crore consultations (2024) → access in remote areas
PM-ABHIM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched 2021 → resilient public health infrastructure • Disease surveillance, block-level labs • Critical care hospital blocks in districts

Issue of Healthcare Funding in India

Current Funding Scenario	Recent Budgetary Trends
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Health Expenditure (FY 2022) → ₹9.04 lakh crore → 3.8% of GDP → ~₹6,600 per capita • Public health spending → ~1.9% of GDP → below NHP-2017 target (2.5%) • Public share rising → 29% (FY15) → 48% (FY22) → gradual shift from OOPE • Capital expenditure surge → 12.7% of THE → infrastructure push post-COVID 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Union Budget 2025-26 → ~₹96,000 crore to Health Ministry → +9.5% YoY • Post-COVID acceleration → health spending nearly doubled since FY 2020-21 • Infrastructure focus → PM-Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana → labs, surveillance, hospitals
<p>Key Funding Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target shortfall → spending < 2.5% GDP → delayed UHC goals • High OOPE (~48%) → medical poverty → distress financing (NHA 2021) • Inter-state disparity → many states spend < 8% of budgets on health • Private sector dominance → ~\$5.5 bn private health/pharma investment (2023) → public system lag • Insurance gaps → PM-JAY partial coverage → informal & middle class exposed 	<p>Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise public spending → 2.5% GDP (short term) → 3% (long term) • Strengthen primary care → HWCs + HR + diagnostics • Reduce OOPE → expand PM-JAY + free drugs (Jan Aushadhi) + price regulation • State incentives → performance-linked health grants • Data-driven planning → district health rankings, disease burden mapping • Accountability → dashboards, third-party audits, social audits

Issue of Maternal & Neonatal Health in India

<p>Maternal Health Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MMR decline → ~460 (1985) → ~80 per 1,00,000 (2023) → 86% reduction since 1990 • Absolute burden persists → ~19,000 maternal deaths/year → ~52/day • Global relevance → India among highest contributors to maternal deaths 	<p>Neonatal & Child Health Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NMR reduction → ~70% since 1990 → 17.3/1,000 (2023) • IMR & U5MR decline → 71% & 78% since 1990 • Faster than global average → yet uneven across regions
<p>Regional Performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDG achievers (MMR <70) → Kerala, Maharashtra, TN, AP, Telangana, Karnataka, Gujarat, Jharkhand • Best performers → Kerala (~19), Telangana (~43), AP (~45) • Improvers → Karnataka (108 → 63); Bihar (118 → 100) • Lagging regions → north-central & NE states → weak systems 	<p>Drivers of Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional deliveries → JSY incentives → skilled birth attendance • Antenatal care → PMSMA → assured ANC check-ups • Nutrition & income support → PMMVY → maternal health compliance • Infrastructure expansion → delivery points, FRUs, ambulances
<p>Persistent Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High absolute deaths → population scale dilutes rate gains • Unsafe abortions (~8%) → ~13 maternal deaths/day → access & awareness gap • Regional inequality → south vs north-central divide • Social determinants neglected → anemia, malnutrition, early marriage • Weak monitoring → delayed maternal death audits → slow response 	<p>Way Forward for Maternal & Neonatal Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equity focus → region-specific MNH missions → tribal, aspirational & high-MMR districts • Continuum of care → ANC → institutional delivery → PNC → emergency obstetric & newborn care • Infrastructure & workforce → strengthen FRUs → expand midwifery & skilled birth attendants • Social determinants → convergence for nutrition, anemia reduction, girls' education & delayed marriage • Monitoring & accountability → real-time dashboards → maternal death audits → district-level incentives

Education

Structure of Education System in India

Level / Component	Institutions & Key Features
Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anganwadi centres → pre-school education, nutrition, care • NEP 2020 → ECCE for ages 3-6 under foundational stage
School Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundational Stage → Classes pre-primary-2 → literacy & numeracy • Preparatory Stage → Classes 3-5 → experiential learning • Middle Stage → Classes 6-8 → subject-based learning • Secondary Stage → Classes 9-12 → multidisciplinary flexibility
Higher Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities → central, state, private, deemed • Colleges → general, professional, autonomous • Multidisciplinary approach → NEP 2020
Technical & Professional Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IITs, NITs, IIMs, AIIMS → specialised institutions • Engineering, medical, law, management streams
Vocational & Skill Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITIs, Polytechnics → job-oriented skills • Integration with schooling → NEP 2020
Open & Distance Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open universities → access & flexibility • Digital platforms → online & blended learning
Regulatory & Governance Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy → Ministry of Education • School oversight → states & local bodies • Higher education regulation → UGC, AICTE (reforms under NEP)

Major Challenges in Indian Education System

Challenge Area	Key Issues with Data / Facts
Infrastructure Deficiencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-teacher schools → ~1.1 lakh schools operate with single teacher → multi-grade teaching suffers • Low public funding → only ~0.4% of GDP (Budget 2024-25) → poor classrooms, toilets, labs • Weak foundations → ASER: >50% Class VII rural students can't read Class II text or do division
Quality of Learning & Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning poverty → UNESCO GEM 2024-25: ~73% children can't read simple text by age 10 • Enrolment-quality gap → high enrolment but low competencies • School choice shift → ASER 2024 shows migration to private schools → trust deficit in govt schools
Teacher Shortages & Skill Gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High PTR → senior secondary 47:1 vs ideal 26:1 • Non-teaching duties → election, surveys, admin work → teaching time loss • Training gaps → limited continuous professional development

Access, Dropouts & Equity Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High secondary dropouts → 14.1% vs primary 1.9% • Rural-urban divide → literacy 73.5% rural vs 87.7% urban • Gender gap → female literacy ~65% • Mid-day meal stress → food inflation affects quality → govt school exits
Employability & Higher Education Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low education base → 30.4% (25-64 yrs) below primary education → OECD worst • Graduate paradox → employment ~65.5%, unemployment ~7.9% • Elite institute concerns → ~1 in 6 unplaced at IIM-Tiruchy • Skill mismatch → employers flag poor soft skills & practical exposure
Digital Divide & Disparities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unequal access → devices & connectivity skewed toward urban areas • Social divide → caste & income gaps in digital learning • Teacher capacity issues → low digital pedagogy readiness in poor regions

Key Government Initiatives in Education

School Education Initiatives	Higher Education Initiatives
Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan → Umbrella scheme (Pre-primary-XII) → infrastructure, teachers, digital learning, outcomes	Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) → funding & governance reforms in state HEIs
PM SHRI Schools (2022) → 14,500 NEP-aligned model schools → competency-based & holistic learning	National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 → 5+3+3+4 structure, multidisciplinary, ABC
NIPUN Bharat Mission (2021) → Foundational Literacy & Numeracy by Class 3 (2026-27)	National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) → performance-based ranking → quality competition
PM POSHAN (Mid-Day Meal) → nutrition support → enrolment, retention, learning capacity	Higher Education Commission of India (proposed) → single regulator → subsume UGC & AICTE
DIKSHA → digital content & teacher training → curriculum-aligned e-learning	Study in India → internationalisation → attract foreign students
Vidyanjali 2.0 → community & volunteer participation in schools	National Digital University (proposed) → scalable digital degrees
New India Literacy Programme → adult literacy (15+)	—

Human Resource Development & Skilling in India

Meaning (HRD & Skilling)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Resource Development → systematic enhancement of skills, knowledge, productivity, and employability of the workforce • Skilling ecosystem → education-training-apprenticeship continuum → demographic dividend to economic growth <p>Governance linkage → labour market relevance, industry alignment, inclusive growth</p>	
Key Issues in HRD & Skilling	Key Government Initiatives in HRD & Skilling
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low formal skilling base → only 3.5% (15+) formally trained; 24.9% informal → PLFS 2022-23 → far below Germany (~75%), S. Korea (~96%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PMKVY (1.0-4.0) → since 2015 → 1.6+ crore trained (till 2024) → PMKVY 4.0 emphasises on-the-job, industry linkage, AI/green skills, RPL • National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) → 25% stipend reimbursement (up to

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High NEET burden → >25% youth (15-29) out of education/employment/training → rural female NEET ~45% → <i>MoSPI 2022-23</i> • Education-employability mismatch → only 51.3% employable → <i>India Skills Report 2024</i> → gaps in IT, electronics, construction; weak soft/digital skills • Low employer investment → 1 in 4 firms invest in continuous skilling → <i>Annual Skill Survey 2024</i> • Weak industry-academia linkage → outdated curricula → >60% engineering grads not employable → <i>AICTE 2023</i>; limited internships/apprenticeships • Gender disparity → women <20% ITI enrolments → mobility, safety, social norms • Inter-state disparities → leaders TN, MH, GJ; laggards BR, JH, UP → uneven ITI capacity & placements • Unrecognised informal skills → ~80% workforce informal → no certification → low mobility & wages 	<p>₹1,500 → 32+ lakh apprentices; female share ~20.8%; proposed stipend hike to ₹12,300</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skill India Mission & NSDC → PPP model → Sector Skill Councils → target 40 crore youth • Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH, 2023) → unified digital ecosystem → 690+ courses, 1,600+ e-books, AI career mapping • ITI Upgradation → 1,000+ govt ITIs modernised → industry partnerships; hub-and-spoke skill hubs • PM Vishwakarma (2023) → traditional artisans → training + toolkits + credit → 30 lakh families
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Issues relating to Poverty and Hunger.

Understanding Poverty and Hunger – Key Concepts

Concept	Description
Absolute Poverty	Inability to meet minimum subsistence needs (food, shelter, clothing); measured using a defined poverty line.
Relative Poverty	Poverty in comparison to others in society; reflects inequality rather than deprivation.
Chronic Poverty	Persistent poverty over a long period, often intergenerational.
Transient Poverty	Temporary poverty due to shocks like illness, loss of job, or disaster.
Undernutrition	Insufficient caloric intake to meet basic energy needs.
Malnutrition	Imbalance of nutrients (includes undernutrition and overnutrition).
Hidden Hunger	Deficiency of essential micronutrients (e.g., iron, iodine, vitamin A) without visible signs.
Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)	Measures poverty across multiple indicators: health, education, and living standards (UNDP & Oxford).

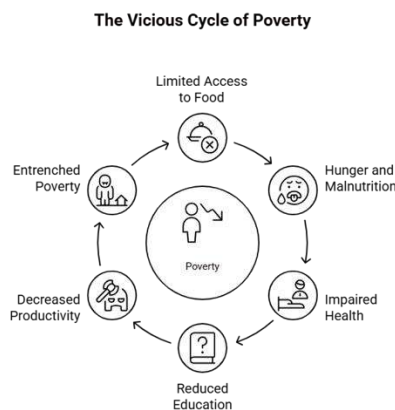
Current Status of Poverty & Hunger in India

<p>Poverty</p> <p>Extreme Poverty (Income-based)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharp decline in extreme poverty → 5.3% (2022-23) at \$3.00/day (2021 PPP) → down from 27.1% (2011-12) → ~269 million lifted → <i>World Bank</i> • Near eradication at lower threshold → ~2% (2023) at \$2.15/day (2017 PPP) → indicates success at basic subsistence line • Lower-middle-income line (\$3.65/day) → poverty fell 61% (2015) → 44% (2021) → growth + welfare impact <p>Multidimensional Poverty (MPI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPI poor → 11.3% (2024) ≈ 169.5 million → health, education, living standards → <i>Global MPI 2024</i> • Rapid reduction → 24.85% (2015-16) → 14.96% (2019-21) → 135 million exited MPI poverty • Rural disadvantage persists → 7.2% rural extreme poverty (2022-23) <p>Inequality Concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wealth concentration → Top 10% own 77%, top 1% own 73% → <i>Oxfam</i> • Consumption stress → rural spending -10% YoY, urban -4% → food access & diet quality affected 	<p>Hunger & Nutrition</p> <p>Global Hunger Index (GHI 2024)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rank & severity → 105/127, score 27.3 → “Serious” hunger (improved from 28.7 in 2023) • Indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Undernourishment → 13.7% (↓ from 16.6%) ○ Child wasting → 18.7% (highest globally) ○ Child stunting → 35.5% ○ Under-5 mortality → 2.9% • Long-term trend → score 38.4 (2000) → 27.3 (2024) → progress slower than Bangladesh/Nepal <p>Food Insecurity & Malnutrition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undernourished population → 189.2 million (14%) → <i>FAO 2020</i> • NFHS-5 (2019-21): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Women anemia → 51.4% ○ Children: stunted 34.7%, wasted 20%, underweight 32% • Affordability crisis → 74.1% can’t afford a healthy diet → <i>NITI Aayog 2023</i> <p>Calorie Intake Deficit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poorest rural 5% → 1,564 kcal/day vs req. 2,172 • Poorest urban 5% → 1,607 kcal/day vs req. 2,135 → <i>HCES 2022-23</i>
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Relationship Between Poverty and Hunger in India

<p>Poverty → Hunger (Causal Pathways)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low purchasing power → inadequate calorie & nutrient intake → poorest rural 5%: 1,564 kcal/day vs 2,172 required; urban 5%: 1,607 vs 2,135 → <i>HCES 2022-23</i> • Inability to afford healthy diet → diet quality compromised → 74.1% population cannot afford healthy diet → <i>NITI Aayog 2023</i> • Economic inequality → food access skewed → top 10% own 77% wealth; top 1% 73% → reduced food security for bottom deciles → <i>Oxfam</i> • Unemployment & low wages → unstable food consumption → 7.2% rural extreme poverty (2022-23) → undernourishment 13.7% → <i>GHI 2024</i> • Social & regional disadvantage → higher poverty → worse nutrition → SC/ST, disaster-prone states; MPI poor 11.3% (2024) 	<p>Hunger → Poverty (Reverse Causality)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malnutrition → impaired physical & cognitive development → child wasting 18.7%, stunting 35.5% → poor learning & earnings → <i>GHI 2024</i> • Maternal undernutrition → low birth weight → reduced lifetime productivity → women anemia 51.4% → <i>NFHS-5</i> • Reduced labour productivity → income loss → 189.2 million undernourished → agriculture & informal work hit → <i>FAO 2020</i> • Education disruption → low human capital → intergenerational poverty → 32% under-5 underweight → <i>NFHS-5</i>
<p>Common Structural Drivers (Reinforcing Both)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food system inefficiencies → PDS leakages & exclusion → ~90 million eligible excluded → hunger among poor 	<p>Vicious Cycle (One-line Flow)</p>

- **Agricultural constraints** → low productivity + ~40% post-harvest losses → farmer income loss + food scarcity
- **Climate shocks** → droughts/floods → livelihood & supply disruption → poorest 5.3% below \$3/day most affected
- **Social inequalities** → caste, gender, region → barriers to education, jobs, food access → poverty-hunger trap



Government Interventions to Address Poverty & Hunger in India

Intervention Area	Key Schemes → Core Impact → Major Gaps
Food Security	<p>NFSA, 2013 → subsidised grains to ~80 cr → calorie security → leakages, ~9 cr exclusions</p> <p>PMGKAY (PM Garib Kalyan Yojana) → free grains (5 kg) during crises → shock absorber → temporary nature</p> <p>ONORC (One Nation One Ration Card) → portability for migrants → access continuity → tech & awareness gaps</p>
Employment & Livelihoods	<p>MGNREGA → wage employment → rural purchasing power → delayed payments, demand-supply gap</p> <p>DAY-NRLM → SHGs (8+ cr women) → income & MPI reduction → weak market linkages</p> <p>DAY-NULM → urban livelihoods → informal worker support → limited coverage</p>
Nutrition-Specific	<p>POSHAN Abhiyaan → stunting/wasting/anemia reduction → scale & convergence → funding & HR gaps</p> <p>ICDS → child & maternal nutrition → early-life outcomes → infra & supply issues</p> <p>PM POSHAN → school meals → attendance & nutrition → quality & disruption risks</p>
Agriculture & Food Supply	<p>PMKSY → irrigation → productivity & food availability → slow rollout</p> <p>NFSM → cereals & pulses output ↑ → affordability → post-harvest losses (~40%)</p> <p>PM-KISAN → ₹6,000/year → farm income support → excludes landless labour</p>
Health & Sanitation	<p>PM-JAY → ₹5 lakh cover → health-poverty protection → OPD gap, rural infra</p> <p>NHM → MCH & disease control → U5MR ↓ → HR shortages</p> <p>Swachh Bharat → ODF → better nutrition absorption → maintenance issues</p>
Education & Skilling	<p>Samagra Shiksha → access & retention → human capital → infra/teacher gaps</p> <p>PMKVY → skilling (1.4+ cr) → employability → market mismatch</p>
Housing & Finance	<p>PMAY → 4+ cr houses → living standards ↑ → delays, land issues</p> <p>PMJDY → 50+ cr accounts → DBT scale → low financial literacy</p>

Common Challenges in Government Interventions on Poverty & Hunger

- **Implementation gaps** → bureaucratic delays, corruption, weak Centre-State coordination → diluted outcomes

- **Exclusion errors** → documentation barriers & discrimination → **SCs/STs, migrants** left out
- **Funding constraints** → underfunded nutrition programmes → **POSHAN, ICDS** scale & quality affected
- **Inefficient PDS** → leakages & targeting errors → **~90 million eligible excluded** → hunger persists
- **Climate vulnerability** → droughts/floods → crop loss & livelihood shocks → rural poverty deepens
- **Cereal-centric PDS** → calorie security without nutrition → protein & micronutrient deficits
- **Regional disparities** → weaker capacity in **Bihar, UP** → poor implementation & outcomes
- **Social inequalities** → caste, gender, ethnicity → unequal access to benefits
- **Infrastructure gaps** → poor storage, transport, health facilities → service delivery failures
- **Weak monitoring** → lack of real-time data → delayed course correction

Way Forward

- **PDS reform** → AI/blockchain, **Mera Ration** app → curb leakages & improve portability
- **Dietary diversification** → include pulses, millets, dairy → reduce **child wasting (18.7%)**
- **Post-harvest infrastructure** → storage & cold chains → cut **~40% losses**
- **Adequate funding** → prioritise health, nutrition, education → address **MPI poverty (11.3%)**
- **Climate-resilient agriculture** → drought-resistant crops, sustainable practices
- **Inclusive targeting** → simplify documents → expand migrant & vulnerable coverage
- **Tech-enabled monitoring** → analytics, satellites → real-time programme tracking
- **Equity measures** → reduce inequality → counter wealth concentration (**top 1%: 73% wealth**)

