

Q1 'Proper implementation of National Education Policy 2020 will ensure substantial progress on SDG-4'. Do you agree? Critically discuss.

Q2 'NGOs are necessary, but the issues related to them are also serious'. Elucidate by focusing on the Indian context. (10)

Q3 India will celebrate 75 years of Independence this year, but women are still considered as a vulnerable section. Do you agree? What does this say about our developmental journey since Independence? (10)

Q4 Solution to India's issues of hunger or health, education or poverty, doesn't lie in the piecemeal approach but an integrated one. Justify. (15)

Q5 What factors contributed to the rise of SHGs in India? Have they fulfilled the intended roles? Critically analyse. (15)

Ans. 1

The National Education Policy 2020 has been a landmark and a long-awaited step for our country. The SDG goal 4 focuses on ensuring universal and quality education to all.

NEP-2020 ensures progress on SDG-4 :-

- 1) The revised curriculum of NEP-2020 is a much awaited positive step.
- 2) Vocational education promotion from the start of the early education
→ a potential step to achieve SDG-4.
- 3) The gender justice so as to ensure 100% gross enrolment ratio is a step towards universal education to all male female, etc.
- 4) The provision of multiple choices of subject selection → a chance for holistic development.
- 5) Ensuring primary education to the young children → a very important step for the better education.

- ⑥ compulsory vocational subjects, learning of different works / fields like ~~planning~~ toys making, etc. can help achieve comprehensive development of the children
- ⑦ Multiple degree options for college students

However despite such provisions, the progress to SDG-4 cannot be ensured until ¹⁰—

- 1) Resilient infrastructure is there
- 2) Good quality schools and teachers
- 3) Changed attitude of society, family towards girls education and not taking them as liability
- 4) Proper awareness about the policy
- 5) strong will among the stakeholders is there

Hence, to ensure the goal of SDG-4, there should be a proper plan and strong political will to implement NEP 2020.

Education is a powerful weapon to bring about a transformation in society hence NEP 2020 can be a step towards it.

Ques 2

NGOs are the non-profit organisations. In Indian context, there have been multiple numbers of NGOs in every nook and corner of the country.

The recent news has brought NGOs to the debatable platform when government cancelled registration of thousands of NGOs. It brings us to delve deeper into the positives as well as issues ⁱⁿ the NGOs.

NGOs are necessary :-

- 1) Welfare approach of NGOs
- 2) Improvement of the vulnerable issues prevailing like poverty, environment, child abuse, etc.
- 3) provide accessibility and voice to the voiceless
- 4) ensure grass root participation of people thereby strengthening democracy
- 5) Better connection with people

Issues in NGOs

- 1) Fraud or bogus NGOs, there have been

registrations of bogus NGOs in order to earn profits

② Misuse of ECRA Act

③ Diversion of fund to wrong or illegal activities like terrorism, money laundering, black marketing.

④ There's lack of government supervision and hence they evade responsibilities

⑤ Tax evasion and hiding profits earned

⑥ Promoting anti-social elements in the garb of NGOs.

⑦ Politicisation of NGOs.

⑧ bureaucratisation of NGOs.

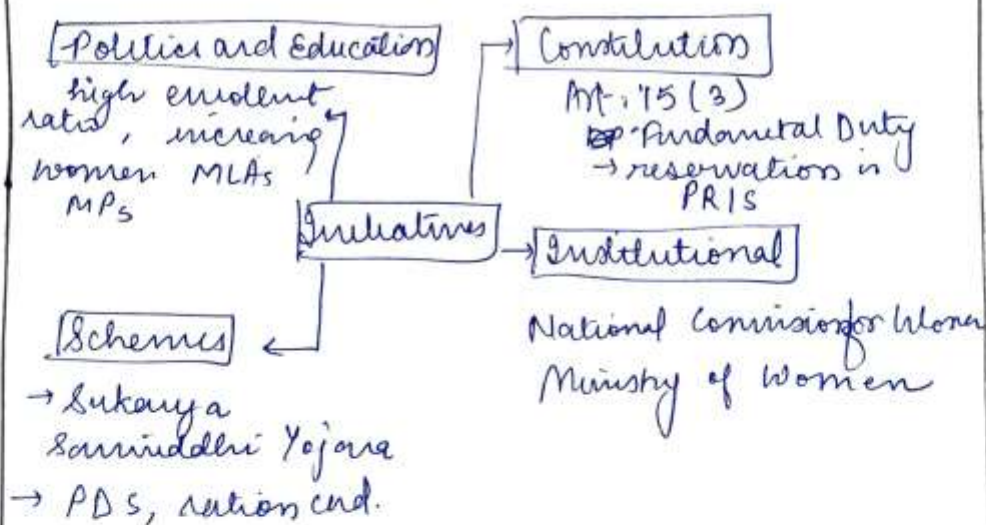
For ensuring existence of legal NGOs there should be efforts to give them an official status, allow them to take foreign fundings in limits and there should be a resilient infrastructure for them in terms of expertise and professional manng

Hence, NGOs have a long way to go with strong potential to achieve social justice.

Ans 3

The slogans of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" is on the line of India's 75 years of its journey from Independence in 1947. Despite such proud journey, there is one section of the society crumbling between the post and pre Independence times i.e. WOMEN!

India's 50% population is women, and there have been numerous initiatives and steps to improve the conditions of the women.



Despite all these efforts, women are still considered vulnerable :-

- 1) Increasing crimes against women like Nirbhaya Gangrape.
- 2) Domestication of women.

- 3) As a dignity to household so not allowed to work
- 4) Skewed sex ratio
- 5) high school drop-outs

So, our developmental journey :-

- It is said that if a woman is empowered, a nation is empowered. India is much behind at this.
- Development journey → has been improved but has been abysmally low for the case of women. There's still 20% difference in male-female literacy.
- Despite the legislations like dowry act, dowry still persists.

Hence, despite the initiatives, schemes, there has not been the empowerment of women and hence development journey would not be complete until we attain Women empowerment!

Ans 4

India is one of the fastest growing economy in the world with at the third position in terms of Purchasing Power capacity. Despite this, ^{worsening} there have been extreme situations of hunger, health, poorly education in the prevailing times.

India has been doing its hardwork in ensuring better access to all, but there has been a lack of proper approach.

Hunger

For solving this issue, government has been performing surveys like NFHS regularly so as to gather data.

there have been schemes like

Mid-day Meals, Public Distribution System, AASHA, etc so as to ~~also~~ improve hunger.

Health

For sustaining good health, Indian

government has been working on improving health facilities.

There have been various schemes, ^{and initiatives} like Primary health centres, Jamni-suraksha yojana, Ayushman Bharat insurance for health etc.

Education

Though we have improved the literacy rate to 74%, still the issues of school drop-outs, female illiteracy persist.

For such government has come up with New Education Policy 2020, constitutional provision of RTE 2009.

Poverty

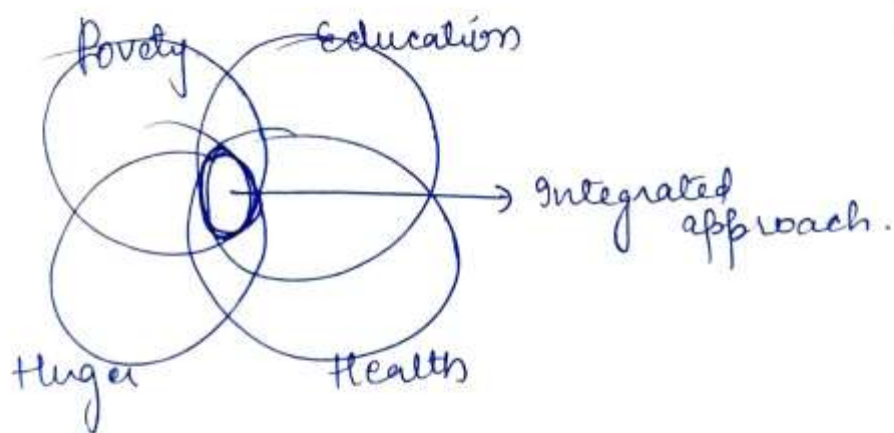
Millions of people despite various programmes like MGNREGA, Work for Food Programme, poverty still persists.

INTEGRATED APPROACH

Despite multitudes of schemes, the result has been minimal.

The literacy rate of women is still lagging at 68%, ~~millions~~ poverty at 21.9%,
extreme situations of stunting, wasting, etc
remain.

So, the clear-cut issue is not in
the efforts but at the right approach.
For efforts to become successful,
there is a heightened need for an
Integrated approach involving
multiple stakeholders like government,
people, civil society, politicians,
bureaucrats etc. so as to bring
solution to the existing social issues!



Ans. 5

SHGs i.e. self help groups are the voluntary organisations with group of people intended with similar interests in order to ensure benefits to the members or public at large.
Example: SEWA

Factors for the rise of SHGs

1) Colonial exploitation

after the independence, people have been drained → so SHGs as one organisation to ensure benefit.

2) Lack of Accessibility to people

3) Underprivileged sections like poor, women, physically handicapped and their worsen situations

4) High unemployment and high poverty

5) Failed planning of the state like the five year plans.

SHGs have fulfilled their roles:-

- 1) The conditions of women improved through various SHGs like Self-Employed Women Organisations → for increasing employment and empowerment among women.
- 2) Acted as a voice to the voiceless people like poor sections.
- 3) Forefront at launching social movements like 1970s and 1980s farm movements
- 4) Helped in availability, accessibility of government's resources to the public at large
- 5) Some of these SHGs turned into cooperatives and ensured maximum benefits like AMUL, sugarcane cooperatives, etc.

However, though welfare in approach, they have not been able to fulfill their intended roles:-

- 1) lack of professional expertise and training.
- 2) Very narrow social base i.e. only few strata of society was benefitted.
- 3) ~~so~~ Since no uniformity, so they were successful in some areas like north ^{west} India, however not much impactful in eastern India.

Despite all these, SHGs hold a strong potential to serve for the betterment of the people. For this, there have to be official status to them, professional training and resilient infrastructure.