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A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

GIST OF YOJANA

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Shankar IAS Academy™

Door No 18, New Plot No 259 /109,
AL Block, 4th Avenue, Shanthi Colony,
Annanagar, Chennai - 600040.



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1. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

What are the challenges in the Energy sector?

- Overall energy: A variety of subsidies and taxes distort the energy market and promote the use of inefficient/over efficient fuels and also make Indian exports and domestic production uncompetitive as energy taxes are not under GST, and hence, no input credit is given.
- Power: The high industrial/commercial tariff and the cross subsidy regime have affected the competitiveness of the industrial and commercial sectors.
- Oil and Gas: Lack of market driven gas prices for old fields disincentivises further production. Also, the gas pipeline infrastructure is not adequate.
- Coal: There is a tendency to expand open-cast mining and discourage underground operation even for better quality coal reserves.
- Renewable Energy: High energy costs result in renegeing on old Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) and erode their sanctity. This leads to uncertainty regarding power off-take and consequently endangers further investments.
- Energy efficiency: Limited technical capabilities, high initial capital expenditure, limited market and other

issues have affected efforts to achieve energy efficiency.

What are the steps required to address these challenges in Energy sector?

- Overall Energy: Oil, natural gas, electricity and coal may be brought under GST to enable input tax credit and the same GST rate may apply for all forms of energy to enable a level playing field.
- Power: All PPAs including those with State generation companies should be based on competitive bidding. For agriculture, an upfront subsidy per acre of land through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) may be considered instead of providing separate subsidies for fertilizers, electricity, crop insurance etc.
- Oil and Gas: It is important to provide for a common carrier and open access to gas pipelines and separate the developmental and regulatory functions of the PNGRB. In addition, providing for shared infrastructure for evacuation of oil and gas from small and scattered on-shore and offshore fields should be made possible.
- Coal: Detailed exploration through exploration-cum-mining leases based on production revenue sharing model and with the onus on concerned State Governments.
- Renewable energy: Central level agencies like Central Electricity Regulatory Commission or National Load Despatch Centre should socialize the costs of balancing inter-



state transmission systems (ISTS) connected power plants, over the entire system, on the lines of the point of connection (PoC) or a similar mechanism.

- **Energy efficiency:** Promote the mandatory use of LED and the replacement of old appliances in government buildings with five star appliances. Focus the UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All) programme on lower income households and small commercial establishments.

What are the challenges in Transport sector ?

- **Capacity:** The existing length of the NH network is 1.22 lakh km, which is 2.2 percent of the country's total road network of 56.03 lakh km. The existing NH length with 4-lane and above NH standards is 27,658 km (22.59 per cent), and that with single/intermediate lane width is 32,395 km (26.46 per cent); the remaining 62,379 km (50.95 per cent) is of 2-lane NH standards.
- **Maintenance:** Regular preventive maintenance has to be an integral element of road investment.
- **Land acquisition:** Existing land laws should be amended to complete infrastructure projects at a fast pace.
- **Inter-agency co-ordination:** Horizontal and vertical inter-agency cooperation is needed for planned land use to ensure inter-modal connectivity and to connect well with other parts of the network to boost overall capacity.

- **Funding:** Sources for road funding are principally commitments from gross budgetary outlays, though these may stem from earmarked revenue streams, taxes and cess, dedicated road funds, or special development programmes such as the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).
- **Institutional arrangements:** Large number of institutions and agencies are responsible for design, construction, operation and maintenance at all levels of Government. No single institution should be expected to successfully negotiate the multitude of responsibilities and functions associated with all classes of roads.

What are the steps required to address these challenges in Transport sector?

- **Increase connectivity by expanding the road network:** To achieve this, the four very important projects to be undertaken:
- **Improve road maintenance and safety:** Maintain NH assets by adopting a maintenance management system (MMS).
- **Streamline land acquisition:** Sensitize stakeholders to iron out details of land acquisitions like determining market value, deciding a compensation amount, disbursement of compensation, etc., as detailed in the 2017 guidelines issued by MORTH.
- **Skill development:** Introduce vocational training courses on road construction in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and ensure stringent



testing of driving skills before granting driving licenses by adopting technologically advanced methods such as the automated driving testing system.

- Increase emphasis on research and development (R and D): Earmark 0.1 per cent of MORTH's annual budget for R and D, establish a transport data centre at the national level for applied research on roads, enhance R and D on IT-enabled traffic management systems, and periodically revise codes/standards/guidelines related to technology use in line with the latest technological developments in the highways sector.
- Increase the capacity and reach of public transport: Transform State Road Transport Undertakings (SRTUs) and promote public transport, rural transport and last mile connectivity and the Central Government will have to work with states to develop bus terminals and provide support on technologies/software such as VAHAN (for vehicle registration) and Saarthi (for driving licences).
- Expand the reach of the electronic toll collection (ETC) system: Streamline the 'FASTag' charging system, and engage with stakeholders and concessionaires (for PPP toll plazas) to ensure that all toll plazas have the requisite infrastructure for ETC.

What are the challenges in the Civil Aviation Sector?

- Adequate hangar space and availability of land to expand airports

at their current sites, particularly in major cities, are needed.

- Skilled workers: According to a study conducted by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Indian aviation could directly support 1.0 to 1.2 million jobs by 2035. This implies that about 0.25 million persons will need to be skilled over the next 10 years.
- The Ministry of Civil Aviation has mandated that all airports move from a single to a hybrid till structure.
- Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) is relatively expensive in India.
- The number of aviation safety violations needs to be controlled.

What are the steps required to address these challenges in Civil Aviation sector?

- Enhance aviation infrastructure: Complete the planned airports under the UDAN initiative in a time-bound manner, in addition to completing two new airports for Delhi and Mumbai by 2022.
- Increase investment in the sector through financial and infrastructure support.
- Increase skilled manpower: Promote collaboration between original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), industry and educational institutes to teach the latest concepts in the aviation industry including management principles, IT in aviation, etc.
- Ease the regulatory environment for airports: Adopt a consistent model for tariff determination so that it reduces passenger cost and align taxation and



pricing structure to global benchmarks by considering bringing aviation turbine fuel (ATF) under the rubric of GST.

2. SKILLS FOR A \$5 TRILLION ECONOMY

What are the steps taken by GOI to impart skills in the country?

- **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY):** It is one of the flagship schemes of the Ministry aimed at providing free-of-cost skill training to over 1 Crore youth in 4 years in 221+ job roles; offering short term training between 2 months to 6 months.
- **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK):** It is an initiative towards creation of “Model Training Centers” with standardized infrastructure for delivery of skill development training to be opened in every district of India; aiming to make benchmark institutions that can demonstrate aspirational value for competency based skill development amongst key stakeholders- industry and trainees.
- **National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS):** The scheme is aimed to increase the involvement of industries and employers in engaging youth as apprentices and providing on-the-job skill training to create a ready workforce. The government reimburses part of stipend paid by the employer.
- **Establishing Academic Equivalence:** Skill India aims to make skilling aspirational and bring vocational training in equivalence with the academic education system, especially to provide horizontal and vertical mobility pathway to candidates pursuing vocational education.
- **Capacity building in long term skill development:** One of the initiatives towards building capacity of the skill ecosystem is uniform nomenclature of all the skill institutes across country as National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs), and merging of NSTIs, with courses in ITIs, establishment of Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) and inspections and de-affiliation of various ITIs etc.
- **Grading of ITIs:** Directorate General of Training under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship launched grading exercise for ITIs to provide “Star Rating” to the performing institutes and gave an opportunity to the others to improve upon.
- **SANKALP:** Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) project aims to implement the mandate of the National Skill Development Mission (NSDM), which was launched on 15th July by Ministry of Skill Development through its core sub-missions. The project will be implemented in mission mode through World Bank support.
- **STRIVE:** “Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE)” is a Rs 2,200 crore - central



sector project, with half of the project outlay as World Bank assistance. STRIVE is an outcome-based project, marking a shift in government's implementation strategy in vocational education and training from inputs to results building in a strong shift to an outcome-based skill ecosystem.

- **Jan Shikshan Sansthan**s are imparting vocational skill training programmes at the door step of the beneficiaries with a minimum cost and infrastructure. The JSS are not working in isolation, but also conduct convergence programmes with different departments.

What is the impact of these schemes ?

- The impact analysis of the short-term training under PMKVY on employment shows that training and certification has led to a nine percentage point increase in proportion of employed individuals.
- The training part alone has contributed eight percentage points on employability.
- In terms of income, PMKVY training and certification has contributed 15 per cent to the mean monthly income.
- The training part had an impact of 9 per cent, as mean monthly income of PMKVY trained individuals was seen to be Rs. 8283 as compared to Rs. 7584 of the comparison group.
- Certification has been found to have an impact of 9 per cent on the mean monthly income.
- Also, assessment of the impact of the recognition of prior learning on

income indicated a significant difference of 19 per cent in the mean monthly income of certified candidates.

- Many training organisations, even though not training under the PMKVY or other Government programmes, have started using these qualifications to meet the needs of employers.
- Universities and colleges are doing add on programmes with the Skill Councils to make students work ready or to do programmes for those in work to up skill them.

3. WATER CONSERVATION AS A NATIONAL MOVEMENT

How water crisis act as major impediment in the development of India ?

- Despite having made notable progress and accomplishments in different sectors, India faces several limitations and global challenges in order to realize dreams, expectations and ever rising aspirations of its people.
- Amongst them, interrelated water crisis and food insecurity attract special attention as these attain highest risk values owing to burgeoning population, rapid urbanization; industrialization and infrastructure development; expansion and intensification of agriculture; loss of wilderness and degradation of natural resources (forests, grasslands, wetlands including rivers, marine and coastal ecosystems); large gaps between supplies and demands of various



sectors and implications of climate change.

sustainable livelihoods can minimize risks and disaster management.

What are the objectives of Water Conservation ?

- **Enhance water availability** - This could be mainly achieved by adopting a mixed strategy focussing on the protection and restoration of natural ecosystems (forests, grasslands and wetlands including rivers), increasing green cover aiming at source sustainability, managing riparian forest buffers, adoption of water efficient diversified agriculture, encouraging rainwater harvesting, undertaking massive soil and moisture conservation efforts, storage in reservoirs, water budgeting, recycling and reuse.
- **Improve water quality** - This means effective law enforcement and stringent regulations, pollution control, restrictions on pouring of sewage, urban waste, industrial effluents and even prohibition on use of toxics (pesticides and weedicides) in agriculture, establishment of STPs and water treatment plants and adoption of bioremediation techniques.
- **Reducing water-related risks** - Considerable area of the country is being annually impacted by droughts, floods, long dry. Spells and different health hazards.
- Adoption of integrated watershed management programmed, flood control mechanisms, climate resilient agriculture, promotion of alternate income generation activities and

What are the areas that needed attention for better water conservation and management ?

- **Institutions and Governance:** Institutions working/contributing directly or indirectly towards water management would need strengthening and augmentation of manpower and financial resources and also a platform to bring in their efforts together for synergistic outcome.
- Governance at all levels would definitely matter to establish judicious water use and prevention and resolution of conflicts.
- **Participatory Approach:** The National movement certainly requires participatory approaches seeking involvement and empowerment of people so they can establish a mechanism to implement and enforce judicious use of water and efficient management of precious water resources.
- **Knowledge Management:** The complex subject of water resource management calls for collaborations/networking and institutionalising synergies between various entities for development and exchange of evidence-based knowledge on ecosystem functions and development of suitable technologies to improve water resource management to ensure source sustainability.



- Development of 'Nature-Based Solutions' for various aspects of water management offer better opportunities and would be of immense help.
- **Ecosystem-Based Management Approach:** The move from isolationist approaches to holistic approaches are desirable on a priority basis.
- Thereby, greater focus on river basins and riverscapes for planning, assessment and interventions are the need of the hour.
- The awareness and sensitization campaign on massive scale need to be undertaken for educating the masses on the significance of maintaining our ecosystem's integrity.
- **Continuous Care:** This aspect seeks concerted efforts towards conservation of existing water sources as well as rejuvenation of rivers/restoration/recharging of depleted water resources.
- Utmost care is required to be taken for retaining the water sources. making them sustainable and ensuring judicious use thereof.
- **Capacity Development:** Success towards countering water wastage and degradation of natural ecosystems could be accomplished by creating awareness and appropriate capacity development of various stakeholders.
- Specialised agencies can be deployed for preparing the blueprint for budgeting the

water resource within the framework of the legislation on the subject and then formulate strategies for its successful implementation.

4. REFORMING GOVERNANCE

What are the recent measures taken by GOI for reforming governance that can potentially transform India ?

- **Cooperative and Competitive Federalism :** Ever since the inception of NITI Aayog w.e.f. January 1, 2015, there has been a renewed thrust on Centre State relations through cooperative federalism recognising that strong States make a strong Nation.
- A number of initiatives have been taken to foster cooperative federalism through structured support initiatives and mechanisms of engagement with the States/Union Territories (UTs) on a continuous basis.
- These include meetings between Prime Minister/Cabinet Ministers with all Chief Ministers; sub-groups of Chief Ministers on subjects of national importance; sharing of best practices; policy support and capacity development of State/UT functionaries; Aspirational Districts Program for development of 115 most backward districts; theme based extensive engagements in various sectors; framing model laws for land leasing and agriculture marketing reforms; and area specific interventions for North Eastern,



Himalayan States, and Island development.

- **Direct Benefit Transfer and Use of Aadhaar** : With Aadhaar now firmly in place especially in targeted delivery of subsidies.
- Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) continues to make major inroads into policy and service delivery framework of the country.
- Currently about 439 schemes across 55 Ministries are covered by DBT.
- Cumulatively about Rs. 7.66 lakh crore has been transferred to beneficiaries through DBT mode with estimated gains of Rs. 1.42 lakh crore.
- **Outcome Based Monitoring** : Over the last few years, there has been a structural change in the budget making process with removal of Plan, Non-Plan distinction and rationalization of Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector schemes.
- A major step in this direction is introduction of Outcome Based Budgets since Union Budget 2017-18. This is in contrast to earlier mechanism of merely focusing on financial outlays, expenditures and outputs.
- This is a major step in improving governance as the thrust is on meeting the expectations of the people by focusing on outcomes and not merely on how much expenditure has been incurred under the respective schemes.
- The Outcome Budget 2019-20 presented in the Parliament covers 163 major central sector/centrally

sponsored schemes covering 95 % of the outlays of the total of 591 schemes for which outcome budgets have been prepared by NITI Aayog and Ministry of Finance in consultation with the Ministries / Departments.

- **E - Governance** : With advancements in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) coupled with penetration of Aadhaar and mobile phones, it has been possible to provide many public services through online modes.
- Starting from biometric attendance of Government employees, digitizing database of beneficiaries across all schemes, seeding with Aadhaar numbers, using PoS machines for beneficiary authentication and finally transferring the funds to Aadhaar linked bank accounts, various initiatives have made marked improvements in the way services are delivered to the public.
- **Law and Order** : Legal and judicial reforms would need to be attended on priority so as to ensure safety of people and ensure access to justice in a timely and effective manner.
- Though Law and Order is a state subject, GOI would need to continue engaging states to reform their policing.
- The focus needs to move from litigation driven to creation of law abiding society by sensitivising citizens right from school level.



5. DEVELOPMENT WITH INCLUSIVE POLICY

What are the policy interventions for Women and Child development ?

- **One Stop Centre:** The scheme of One Stop Centres was initiated in March 2015 for facilitating access to an integrated range of services including police, medical, legal, psychological support and temporary shelter to women affected by violence. The Scheme is funded through Nirbhaya Fund.
- **Women Helpline:-** The Scheme of Universalization of Women Helpline is being implemented since 1st April 2015 and is intended to provide 24 hours emergency and non-emergency response to women affected by violence through referral (linking with appropriate authority such as police, One Stop Centre, hospital) and information about women related government schemes/programmes across the country through a single uniform number (181).
- **Sexual Harassment at Workplace:-** The Sexual Harassment at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 covers all women, irrespective of their age or employment status and protects them against sexual harassment at all workplaces whether organized or unorganized. Students, apprentices, labourers, domestic workers and even women visiting an officer are included in the Act.
- In order to ensure the effective implementation of the Act, MWCD has developed an online complaint management system titled Sexual Harassment **electronic-Box (SHe-Box)** for registering complaints related to sexual harassment at workplace.
- The Government of India proposes to **amend “The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006”**. The proposed amendments would declare child marriage void ab initio instead of being voidable at the option of the contracting parties who were child at the time of marriage.
- **Training of Elected Women Representatives:-** The Ministry has taken up the training of elected women representatives (EWRs) in panchayats to empower them to govern their villages effectively and develop into grassroots changemakers.
- **SWADHAR GREH :**The Ministry has constructed a Home for Widows namely Krishna Kutir at Vrindavan, Distt. Mathura with a capacity of 1000 beds to provide safe and secure place of stay, health services, nutritious food, legal and counseling services to widows.
- **POSHAN Abhiyaan** aims to reduce mal-nutrition from the Country in a phased manner, through the life cycle concept, by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. The Abhiyaan ensure mechanisms for timely service delivery and a robust monitoring as well as intervention infrastructure.



What are the interventions for the development of Scheduled Castes (SCs)?

- The Constitution guaranteed special provisions for protection of the social and economic rights of the Scheduled caste population.
- The Government through various Ministries and Departments has many provisions for protecting their rights.
- **Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana (BJRCY)** is for construction of hostels for scheduled caste students, both girls and boys, to provide them equal opportunity for education.
- Pre - Matric scholarship for children of those engaged in hazardous occupations and prone to health problems has been provided by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- Pre - Matric scholarship for SC children studying in classes IX and X; Free coaching for preparation of competitive examinations for employment in public and private sector are some other schemes available.
- The National The National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSCFDC) has various schemes such as Micro Credit Finance.
- Financial Assistance up to Project Cost of Rs. 60,000 is provided for small income generating activities.
- **Mahila Samridhi Yojana** is a Micro Finance scheme for females with rebate in interest. Financial

Assistance up to Rs. 60,000 is also provided.

- **Mahila Kisan Yojana** is exclusively for rural women for taking up agriculture and/ or mixed farming-related economic activities for projects cost up to Rs. 2,00,000.
- **Shilpi Samridhi Yojana** provides financial assistance up to project cost of Rs. 2,00,000 for small income generating activities.
- **Laghu Vyavsay Yojana** is for providing financial assistance up to 90% where unit cost is Rs. 5 lakhs in the form of loan and easy repayment basis for small income generating activities.

What are the interventions for the development of Scheduled Tribes (STs)?

- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs focusses on the social and economic development of STs.
- New initiatives are taken for economic empowerment and to recognise the tribal culture.
- Museums have been constructed to highlight the contribution of tribal freedom fighters.
- Various schemes are initiated to bridge the gap in literacy levels between the general population and tribal population.
- Major thrust is given on setting up of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) with the aim of expanding the reach of good quality education among the tribal persons.
- There are arrangements for school buildings including hostels and staff



quarters, provision for a playground, students' computer lab, teacher resource room etc.

- Pre Matric Scholarship, Post Matric Scholarship, National Fellowship and Scholarship Scheme for higher education of ST students, National Overseas Scholarship for ST students have also been provided.

- The Van Dhan Yojana aims to provide skill upgradation and capacity building training along with setting up of primary processing and value addition facility.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs organized a National Tribal Festival named as 'Aadi Mahotsava' to celebrate, cherish and promote the spirit of tribal craft, culture, cuisine and commerce.