



JUNE 2018



New Priorities for Agriculture

IoT for Rural Areas



India on the Move

Development through Digitisation



Preface

This is our 39th edition of Yojana Gist and 30th edition of Kurukshetra Gist, released for the month of June 2018. It is increasingly finding a place in the questions of both UPSC Prelims and Mains and therefore, we've come up with this initiative to equip you with knowledge that'll help you in your preparation for the CSE.

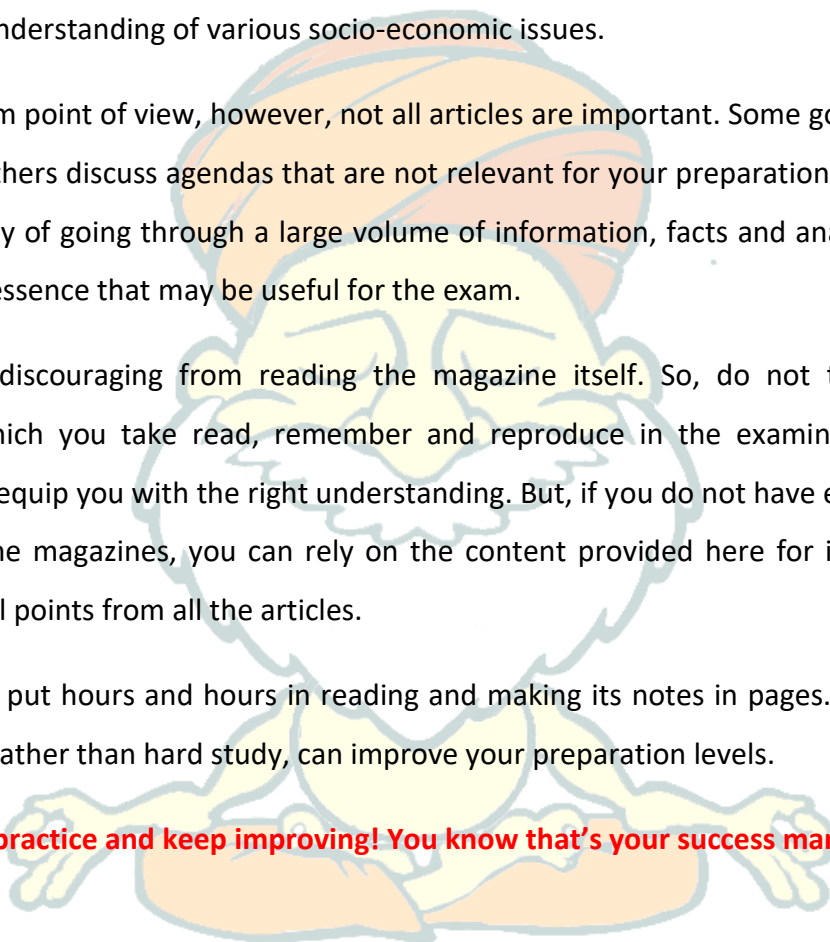
Every issue deals with a single topic comprehensively sharing views from a wide spectrum ranging from academicians to policy makers to scholars. The magazine is essential to build an in-depth understanding of various socio-economic issues.

From the exam point of view, however, not all articles are important. Some go into scholarly depths and others discuss agendas that are not relevant for your preparation. Added to this is the difficulty of going through a large volume of information, facts and analysis to finally extract their essence that may be useful for the exam.

We are not discouraging from reading the magazine itself. So, do not take this as a document which you take read, remember and reproduce in the examination. Its only purpose is to equip you with the right understanding. But, if you do not have enough time to go through the magazines, you can rely on the content provided here for it sums up the most essential points from all the articles.

You need not put hours and hours in reading and making its notes in pages. We believe, a smart study, rather than hard study, can improve your preparation levels.

Think, learn, practice and keep improving! You know that's your success mantra 😊



For the India of our Dreams

Many paradigms are taken into consideration for the true development of the nation today. The mantra of Indian government is inclusive growth so that the fruits of development percolate to the poorest of the poor.

How do we translate the hiccups into a slow yet steady pace of development?

Government of India is therefore taking a slew of measures that are geared to ensure the achievement of the India of our dreams -

1. Addressing Market Failures:

In the provision of public goods – Diversify sources of growth + Democratising growth by unlocking the potential of people from all sections of society

International Solar Alliance:

Aims to mobilise \$1 trillion low-cost financing for massive deployment of solar energy by 2030 and bring together 121 countries that lie between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn that receive plenty of sunshine and are mostly developing nations.

- Global deployment of over 1,000GW of solar generation capacity
- Making solar energy available at affordable rates, create solar grids and establish solar credit mechanism
- *The Delhi Solar Agenda:* ISA will facilitate “affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment-friendly technology and undertake capacity building.”

Must Read: [Link 1](#)

National Nutrition Mission:

Aim is to try to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition problem, anaemia problem and low birth weight problem in these groups. This has to be reduced by at least 2-3% per annum.

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY):

- Seeks to provide the States and Territories of India with the autonomy to draw up plans for increased public investment in Agriculture by incorporating information on local requirements, geographical/climatic conditions, available natural resources/technology and cropping patterns in their districts
- This will significantly increase the productivity of Agriculture and its allied sectors and eventually maximize the returns of farmers in agriculture and its allied sectors

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

Aims at supporting sustainable production in agriculture sector by following ways:

- Providing financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of unforeseen events
- Stabilizing the income of farmers to ensure their continuance in farming
- Encouraging farmers to adopt innovative and modern agricultural practices
- Ensuring flow of credit to the agriculture sector which contributes to food security, crop diversification and enhancing growth and competitiveness of agriculture sector besides protecting farmers from production risks

e-NAM

An online trading platform for agricultural commodities in India

- The market facilitate farmers, traders and buyers with online trading in commodities
- Will help in better price discovery and provide facilities for smooth marketing of their produce.

PMKSY

- To achieve convergence of investments in irrigation at the field level

- Expand cultivable area under assured irrigation
- Improve on-farm water use efficiency to reduce wastage of water
- Enhance the adoption of precision-irrigation and other water saving technologies (More crop per drop)
- Enhance recharge of aquifers and introduce sustainable water conservation practices by exploring the feasibility of reusing treated municipal waste water for peri-urban agriculture
- Attract greater private investment in precision irrigation system

Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)

- Promotion of commercial organic production through certified organic farming.
- The produce will be pesticide residue free and will contribute to improve the health of consumer.
- It will raise farmer's income and create potential market for traders.
- It will motivate the farmers for natural resource mobilization for input production.

Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan

To strengthen the Panchayati Raj system across the country and address critical gaps that constrains its success

- Enhance capacities and effectiveness of Panchayats and the Gram Sabhas
- Enable democratic decision-making and accountability in Panchayats and promote people's participation
- Strengthen the institutional structure for knowledge creation and capacity building of Panchayats
- Promote devolution of powers and responsibilities to Panchayats according to the spirit of the Constitution and PESA Act
- Strengthen Gram Sabhas to function effectively as the basic forum of peoples participation, transparency and accountability within the Panchayat system

- Create and strengthen democratic local self-government in areas where Panchayats do not exist
- Strengthen the constitutionally mandated framework on which Panchayats are founded

Mission Antyodaya

- Seeks to converge government interventions with Gram Panchayats as the basic unit for planning by following a saturation approach by pooling resources - human and financial - to ensure sustainable livelihoods
- It is a State - led initiative for rural transformation to make a real difference based on measurable outcomes to the lives of 1,00,00,000 households in 5,000 rural clusters or 50,000 Gram Panchayats in 1,000 days.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS)

- Provides a legal guarantee for one hundred days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work at the statutory minimum wage
- Improving the purchasing power of the rural people, primarily semi or un-skilled work to people living below poverty line in rural India

Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan

- Aims to clean up the streets, roads and infrastructure of India's cities, smaller towns, and rural areas
- Eliminate open defecation Establish an accountable mechanism of monitoring toilet use
- The mission aims to achieve an Open-Defecation Free (ODF) India by 2 October 2019, the 150th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, through the construction of household-owned and community-owned toilets
- The mission will also contribute to India reaching Sustainable Development Goal Number 6 (SDG 6)

Jan Dhan Yojana

A bank account in every household (normal savings bank account)

- Access to banking & credit facilities (basic banking)
- Manage to stay away from moneylenders & financial crisis caused by emergent needs

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Housing for All 2022 Scheme)

Aims at providing affordable housing to the urban poor

- The mission of this initiative is to provide housing for all by the year 2022.
- Under this scheme, affordable houses will be built in selected cities and towns using eco-friendly construction methods for the benefit of the urban poor population in India.

Green Revolution – Krishonnati Yojana

The Umbrella scheme comprises of **11 Schemes/Missions (refer mindmap)**. These schemes look to develop the agriculture and allied sector in a holistic and scientific manner to increase the income of farmers by enhancing production, productivity and better returns on produce.

Skill India Mission

Swift technological advances in digitisation and data analytics are reshaping human development, creating new wave of job opportunities and entrepreneurship for youth. Skilling youth in new tasks and jobs is an emerging strategy for realising the full potential of our young workforce.

Industry 4.0 is characterised by increasing digitisation, connected machines, amalgamation of emerging technologies, business analytics and cyber physical systems. In this regime, low skilled jobs will be eliminated, but an increase in capacity will create new jobs requiring higher levels of skills. With fast emerging Industry 4.0 in India, skills in domains like Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality, Robotics, Big Data Analytics and 3D printing will be in much demand. The knowledge based economy will grow

in coming times. Re-skilling or up-skilling models of the existing workforce have to be designed to equip them with the changed job roles.

Refer mind-map for some of the notable schemes by the government

2. Addressing Challenges:

Set standards and develop regulations to help markets perform better

Development through Digitization – Minimum Government, Maximum Governance: The world is getting digitised at a rapid pace in all aspects and this digitisation at unprecedented levels is now being termed as the **4th Industrial Revolution**.

- The use of technology has brought in better systems, greater efficiency and is beginning to have a profound impact on governance wherein governance in India has been redefined through business process reengineering, technology and data analytics.
- **Vision:** Transforming e-Governance for Transforming Governance
- India has combined the use of unique biometric identifiers and financial inclusion for effectiveness in social benefits and to reduce the vast number of illegitimate beneficiaries under welfare programmes

Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act

- Seeks to protect home-buyers as well as help boost investments in the real estate industry
- The Act establishes Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) in each state for regulation of the real estate sector and also acts as an adjudicating body for speedy dispute redressal.

3. Promoting Equity:

Special focus on N-E States: Has invited several development projects in the NE region in order to bring about equitable development of the region

100 Aspirational Districts: Government has identified over 100 aspirational districts under its “transformation of aspirational districts programme” that are lagging on certain key development indicators to accelerate the pace of development

Ujjwala Yojana: Free LPG connection to women from BPL family

National Health Protection Scheme: Seeks to insulate the poor and the vulnerable families from the hospitalization expenses during illness

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP): Making quality medicines available at affordable prices for all, particularly the poor and disadvantaged, through exclusive outlets “Jan Aushadhi Medical Store”, so as to reduce out of pocket expenses in healthcare. Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendra (PMBJK) have been set up to provide generic drugs, which are available at lesser prices but are equivalent in quality and efficacy as expensive branded drugs.

Mission

- Create awareness among the public regarding generic medicines.
- Create demand for generic medicines through medical practitioners
- Create awareness through education and awareness program that high price need not be synonymous with high quality
- Provide all the commonly used generic medicines covering all the therapeutic groups
- Provide all the related health care products too under the scheme

Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme: To improve governance and minimize leakages

Behavioural Economics: Influence people's thought processes, behaviour and choices through social messaging in several areas

The government is seeking to influence peoples' thought processes, behaviour and choices through social messaging in areas like promotion of the girl child or making villages open defecation free. For example the PM is urging people practice yoga to stay healthy, to use khadi clothes that can help generate income for khadi workers, to give-up LPG subsidy in favour of those who cannot afford it, to switch to LED bulbs for conserving electricity and so on.



PRELIMS CENTRIC: Various Schemes by the Government of India

For the success of any programme, 3 A's are extremely important

- a) Availability
- b) Affordability
- c) Accessibility

Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs):

- **Implemented by:** Ministry of Rural Development
- Seeks to diversify household income of rural poor
- Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP): Helps the rural poor including artisans and weavers to set up enterprises at the village level in non-agricultural sectors

Saubhagya Scheme

- The Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana
- Objective: Electrifying all left-out Indian households
- Covers both urban and rural households - free electricity connections are provided to below poverty line (BPL) households
- Aims to empower and uplift the rural youth the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship – initiated vocational training of rural youth. Objective is to meet the need for trained manpower for implementing the mandate

Indian Institute of Skills

- State of the art Center of Excellence being set up across 5 regions on the lines of Institute of Technical Education, Singapore.
- Inspired by the Singapore model of training, the institute would also adopt various best practices from the country and will provide hands-on-training in advanced

courses such as energy efficient construction, industrial electronics and automation, etc.

Himayat

- Training-cum-placement programme for unemployed youth in Jammu and Kashmir
- The scheme aims to train 1,00,000 youth in 5 years and will provide atleast 75,000 of them with jobs

Udaan

- Special Industry Initiative for Jammu & Kashmir in the nature of partnership between the corporates of India and Ministry of Home Affairs and implemented by National Skill Development Corporation
- The programme aims to provide skills training and enhance the employability of unemployed youth of J&K.
- It has two objectives:
 - To provide an exposure to the unemployed graduates to the best of Corporate India
 - To provide Corporate India, an exposure to the rich talent pool available in the State

Pradhan Mantri Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyaan (PM-YUVA)

- Aims to create an enabling ecosystem for entrepreneurship development through entrepreneurship education & training, advocacy, and easy access to entrepreneurship network
- Promote development of social enterprises for inclusive growth.

Study Webs of Active –Learning for Young Aspiring Minds

- Professors and faculties of centrally funded institutions like IITs, IIMs, central universities will offer online courses to citizens of India

Tax Information Network (TIN)

- **By:** National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL)
- **Aim:** to modernise collection, processing, monitoring and accounting of direct taxes using information technology
- **Subsystems:**
 - Electronic Return Acceptance and Consolidation System (ERACS)
 - Online Tax Accounting System (OLTAS)
 - e-TDS (Tax deduction at source) and e-TCS (tax collected at source)

eSahyog: Paperless Assessments

Aim: Simplify the tax payment - paperless income tax assessment over emails

Sevottam: Efficient Grievance Redressal

- Connects all income tax offices in the country
- **Aim:** Address the queries and grievances in real time

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

- To provide good all-weather road connectivity to unconnected villages
- 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme
- **Steps to ensure the rural roads achieve the objective for which they are constructed:**
 - Pragmatic planning
 - Adequate allocation of funds
 - Maintenance post construction
 - Carriage way width, gradient of the roads and shoulders need to be addressed appropriately
 - Road safety relies on 5 E's:
 - ✓ Engineering of roads
 - ✓ Engineering of vehicles
 - ✓ Education and awareness of citizens

- ✓ Enforcement of traffic rules
- ✓ Emergency post-accident care
- Centralised body maintaining all rural road statistics
- Balance the socio-economic benefits of a large road network vis-à-vis the costs of pollution and deforestation that it entails

Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)

Maternity Benefit Programme that is implemented in all the districts of the country in accordance with the provision of the National Food Security Act, 2013.

- Providing partial compensation for the wage loss in terms of cash incentives (INR 6000/-) so that the woman can take adequate rest before and after delivery of the first living child
- The cash incentive provided would lead to improved health seeking behaviour amongst the Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers (PW& LM).

SABLA

- Enable the Adolescent girls for self-development and empowerment
- Improve their nutrition and health status.
- Promote awareness about health, hygiene, nutrition, adolescent reproductive and sexual health (ARSH) and family and child care.
- Upgrade home-based skills, life skills and integrate with the National Skill Development Program (NSDP) for vocational skills.
- Mainstream out of school adolescent girls into formal/non formal education
- Provide information/guidance about existing public services such as PHC, CHC, Post Office, Bank, Police Station, etc.

Swadhar Greh

- Targets the women victims of difficult circumstances who are in need of institutional support for rehabilitation so that they could lead their life with dignity

- The Scheme envisages providing shelter, food, clothing and health as well as economic and social security for these women.

Mahila e-Haat

- An initiative for meeting aspirations and needs of women entrepreneurs; an online marketing platform for women, where participants can display their products
- It is an initiative for women across the country as a part of 'Digital India' and 'Stand Up India' initiatives.
- The platform has been set up by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India under Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK).



Note:

A. Village Swachhata Index (VSI): To measure cleanliness

B. India: 6th largest manufacturing nation; has improved its rank on Global Competitiveness Index & Global Innovation Index.

C. Raja Cheillah Committee: Govt. appointed Tax Reforms Committee under C. Raja Cheillah

– Measures include:

- Reforming personal taxation system by reducing marginal tax rates
- Reduction in corporate tax rates
- Reducing cost of imported inputs
- By lowering customs duties
- Reduction in number of Customs tariff rates & its rationalization
- Simplifying excise duties & its integration w/VAT system
- Bringing services sector in tax net within VAT system
- Broadening of tax base
- Building tax information & computerization system
- Improving quality of tax administration system

D. Key Recommendations by Vijay Kelkar Committee: Direct tax reforms

Administration of Direct Tax

- Taxpayer services should be extended both in quality and quantity
- Taxpayers should get easy access through internet and email
- PAN should be expanded and it should cover all citizens
- Block assessment of search and seizure cases should be abolished
- To clear backlog, department should outsource data entry work.
- All returns and issue of refunds should be completed in 4 month period.
- Dispatch of refunds should be outsourced

- Government should establish Tax Information Network to modernize, simplify and rationalize tax collection, particular TDS & TCS.
- Abolish requirement of Tax Clearance Certificate on leaving country
- Empower CBDT w/appropriate administrative and financial powers

Personal Income Tax

- Increase in exemption limit to Rs. 1 lakh for general categories of taxpayers & further exemption for senior citizens & widows
- Rationalize income tax slabs
- Eliminate surcharge on personal income tax
- Incentivize home loans by providing interest subsidy on home loans at 2%
- Increase deduction under Section 80CCC for contribution to pension funds

Corporation Tax

- Reduce corporate tax to 30% for domestic companies and 35% for foreign companies.
- Listed companies should be exempted from tax on dividends and capital gains
- Increase rate of depreciations for plant & machinery
- Abolish Minimum Alternate Tax

Wealth Tax: Abolition of wealth tax

E. Service Tax in India

- First introduced on some limited services in 1994 - 95 at 7%
- Current: 14 % service tax on around 100 services

F. Siddha: Cures diseases of body, mind and soul by purification which leads to salvation. In Siddha, Kayakalpam is an important therapy which is classified as 'Kalpa Avizhtham' & 'Kalpa Yogam'.

- Kalpa Avizhtham: Deals with medicines which are both preventive and curative

- Kalpayogam: Deals with yoga techniques, practice of which keeps body, mind and spirit healthy for a long period.

G. Attanga Yogam i. e. 8 steps or limbs of '*yogam*'

- Iyamam
- Niyamam
- Asanam
- Pranayamam
- Prathiyaharam
- Dharanai
- Dhyanam
- Samathi

P.S- Download the Mind Maps from June 2018 YK Gist Post.

All the best 😊

