



## GIST OF YOJANA

### NITI Aayog: Redefining Federalism

- The **enduring legacy of the State** is defined by numerous factors **including political capital and will administration and policing** as well as hard and soft power.
- These approach of the **State towards understanding and solving the socio-economic development challenges** of the time

### Establishment of NITI Aayog

- In approach is reflected in **the Cabinet Resolution constituting NITI Aayog**
- NITI Aayog works as a thought partner with **all stakeholders, especially the States, which are the principal agents** for fostering economic development in the country.
- It **replaced the Central Government's practice of unilaterally designing** the pan-Indian development strategy-
- It **works with State Governments to jointly prepare development blueprints** that are suited to and take into account the special circumstances of each State
- NITIAayog is guided by a '**States-first**' approach. Its founding principles include cooperative federalism
- It has adopted a **decentralised and bottom-up strategy**, to ensure that Central and State Governments work together as equal partners in Team India.

### NITI Aayog Programme and Policies

- **NITI Forum for North East** has been constituted and being implemented by the States in partnership with the North East council
- The indices on water, education, health, innovation, export preparedness, and **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** have attracted significant positive attention.

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- The indices are based on a detailed and rigorous analysis of technical parameters. The **'Performance in Health Outcomes' Index**, is one among them for health performance
- The **Composite Water Management Index** details States have progressed on water related issues over time, including recognizing the high-performers as well as identifying areas for deeper engagement
- The **'School Education Quality Index'** aims to institutionalise a focus on improving education outcomes (learning, access, equity) in India.
- **'Aspirational Districts Program'** which aims to raise the human development indicators in these districts to the national averages by focusing on governance
- NITI has played a similar key role in the **POSHAN Abhiyaan** which the Government launched to provide an appropriate governance structure reflecting the many overlapping factors like access to sanitation and health services
- Policy suggestions are contained in NITI's document **'Strategy for New India @ 75'**.
- The preparation of this **seven-year strategy, encapsulated in this document required extensive consultations with subject experts**, State and Central Government ministries/departments and industry representatives.
- The **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** is a flagship initiative of NITI for promoting innovation and entrepreneurship across the length and breadth of the country, based on a detailed study and deliberations on the innovation

### Way forward

- NITI Aayog has a **key role to play in helping India undertake these reforms and implement policy initiatives** in a scalable and impactful manner through partnerships with States.
- In this process, States can count on NITI Aayog as a partner for **customizing and implementing** these path breaking reforms, including reducing compliance burden, weeding out archaic legislations, and unleashing the full potential of private sector participation.



### Growth Story of Gujarat

- State-wide '**Maa Annapoorna Yojana**' was launched to ensure that the children of Aanganwadis get adequate nutrition
- '**Saat Pagala Khedut Kalyan na Yojana**' aims to make the farmers and cattle breeders of Gujarat self-reliant.
- Implementing India's first **Kisaan Suryoday Yojana** worth Rs. 4500 crores to provide electricity in the day time to the farmers for irrigation
- **Sagarkhedu Sarvangi Kalyan Yojana-2** crores was announced for fishermen and sailors' welfare.
- 400 mobile veterinary clinics for **24x7 veterinary facilities** have been made functional to help animals
- The State government strictly implemented Panchayat (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) – **PESA Act from the year 2017** for the upliftment of tribal people, and more than 90 lakh tribals obtained land and forest produce rights.
- **Eklavya Model Residential Schools** have been constructed to provide Accommodation, meals, and education have been made available to tribal Children
- Essential documents like **Certificate of Income, Caste certificate**, have been made available to the citizens at their doorstep through Seva Setu Program.
- **Mukhyamantri Apprenticeship Scheme** has been launched with the innovative idea of Learning with Earning, under which students get a stipend from Rs. 3000 to Rs. 4500 per month along with their study.
- **Digital Gujarat, modern facilities** were provided in 16,000 classrooms through Gyankunj Project. 10,000 tablets at the token price of Rs. 1000 were distributed to the students
- **Kala Mahakumbh** was initiated for the first time in the State to provide a stage to the artists and highlight art and culture
- The **world's first CNG Terminal** is being set up at Bhavnagar in Gujarat, operating 6 million tonne cargo annually.

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- Gujarat is also poised to become the “**Metal Capital of India**”. It offers industries to localise supply chains and derisk their operations, and strengthen the local ecosystem that would help create cost-effective and sustainable solutions.
- **SAUNI Yojana** was made operational to make the Saurashtra region green and provide potable water of the Narmada River to 80 lakh people.
- Major multinational automobile companies like **Suzuki Motor, Ford India, Honda, and Hero MotoCorp** have established operations in Gujarat.

### Way forward

Gujarat has established itself as a national leader in various industrial sectors viz. textiles, engineering, chemicals, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, dairy, cement & ceramics, and gems & jewelry and has become the most sought-after investment destination in the country.

**This chapter can be used as Case study in optional and GS papers**



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### **Maharashtra: A Journey of Over Sixty Years**

State has many Chalcolithic sites have been located and some like Inamgaon (1300 BCE to 700 BCE) were extensively excavated

State has lasting rule over the state was that of the Satavahanas

Many Buddhist rockcut caves like Bhaja, Pitalkhore, Karla Nasik, etc. patronised mainly by the trading community

Maharashtra was ruled by a few rulers in the 6th -7th centuries CE like the Kalachuris of Madhya Pradesh and Western Chalukyas of Karnataka.

Rashtrakutas came to power and were also involved in creating of the world-famous caves at Ellora.

Impressive temples were constructed at many places like Hottal, Nilanga, Khidrapur, Gondeshwara, etc.

Some forts like Devagiri, Panhala were also built during this period.

In the 17th century, CE Chhatrapati Shivaji established his independent rule in Maharashtra. He coronated himself as a sovereign ruler

On 1st May 1960, the separate Marathi speaking state of Maharashtra was created on public demand

The Western Ghats form the source of several major rivers of Maharashtra, notable among them being the Godavari and the Krishna

The Sahyadri Range is the defining geographical feature of Maharashtra.

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The Konkan, lying between the Arabian Sea and the Sahyadri Range is narrow coastal lowland, barely 50 km wide.

The Satpuras hills along the northern border, and the Bhamragad- Chiroli-Gaikhuri Ranges on the eastern border form physical barriers preventing easy movement, and also act as natural limits to the state

Maharashtra is rich in ore deposits. Granite, Granite gneiss, Quartzite, Conglomerates are found in the basement regions of the Konkan rivers.

The Elephanta Caves are a network of sculpted caves on Elephanta Island, or Gharapuri in Mumbai Harbour, a tribute to the legend of Lord Shiva.

### Bhakti Movement

The roll call of honour includes saint poets like Dnyaneshwar, Namdev, Tukaram, and Chokhamela, apart from several saints who have contributed richly to music, art, and literature.

The **Warkari movement** that every year in June-July sees a plethora of farmers and myriad believers in Vitthoba an avatar of Lord Vishnu converge to Pandharpur in an annual pilgrimage

### Reform Movement

Prominent names include the late Justice MG Ranade, his wife Ramabai Ranade, Savitribai Phule, and Pandita Ramabai

### Way forward

- **Mumbai—the capital of Maharashtra**, is seen as India's financial capital, but is literally the Gateway of India-secular, progressive yet rooted.
- It is also **home to the largest film industry in the world**, an industry whose turnover is more than that of the GDP of several small nations.
- An industry that sees **thousands thronging to the city every year**, hoping to make it big.





### One Nation-One Election

- **First general elections of free India conducted for about six months**, starting from October 1951 held simultaneously to the Lok Sabha and the Legislative Assemblies of the States as constituted then
- The **next three cycles of elections also witnessed concurrent Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly elections** barring a few stray cases like Kerala ,Nagaland and Pondicherry
- The **fourth Lok Sabha constituted in 1967 was dissolved prematurely in 1971** ahead of its normal term resulting in a mid-term Lok Sabha election. This was the beginning of the end of simultaneous elections.
- To contemplate **simultaneous elections as a starting point**, a situation where the Lok Sabha and the Legislative Assemblies of all States and Union Territories have their **terms ending together**.

#### Why Simultaneous Elections?

- Simultaneous elections **reduce labour, time and expenditure in the conduct of elections**
- **Instances of pause in governance** are addressed if elections are conducted in one go instead of staggered elections.
- There is **no duplication of work** in preparing the electoral rolls for the two elections
- **All logistic arrangements are replicated** for the two elections when the same drill can cater to both the elections if held together
- **Same polling team with perhaps a couple of additional officials can handle** the poll in a combined election to Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly.
- **Two separate elections would require movement** and deployment of Forces on two occasions while one such exercise of almost the same scale can do the job in concurrent elections
- **Simultaneous nationwide election, the requirement of EVMs** in terms of numbers would be double compared to separate elections
- Simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly elections can bring considerable **savings in their election propaganda campaign expenditure** for the political parties
- Multiple methods to reach out to the electors, through public rallies, **roadshows, smaller roadside meetings, advertisements on print and electronic media and other platforms, personal contact**, and in several other ways.

In a simultaneous election, such **outreach programs will serve for both the elections**

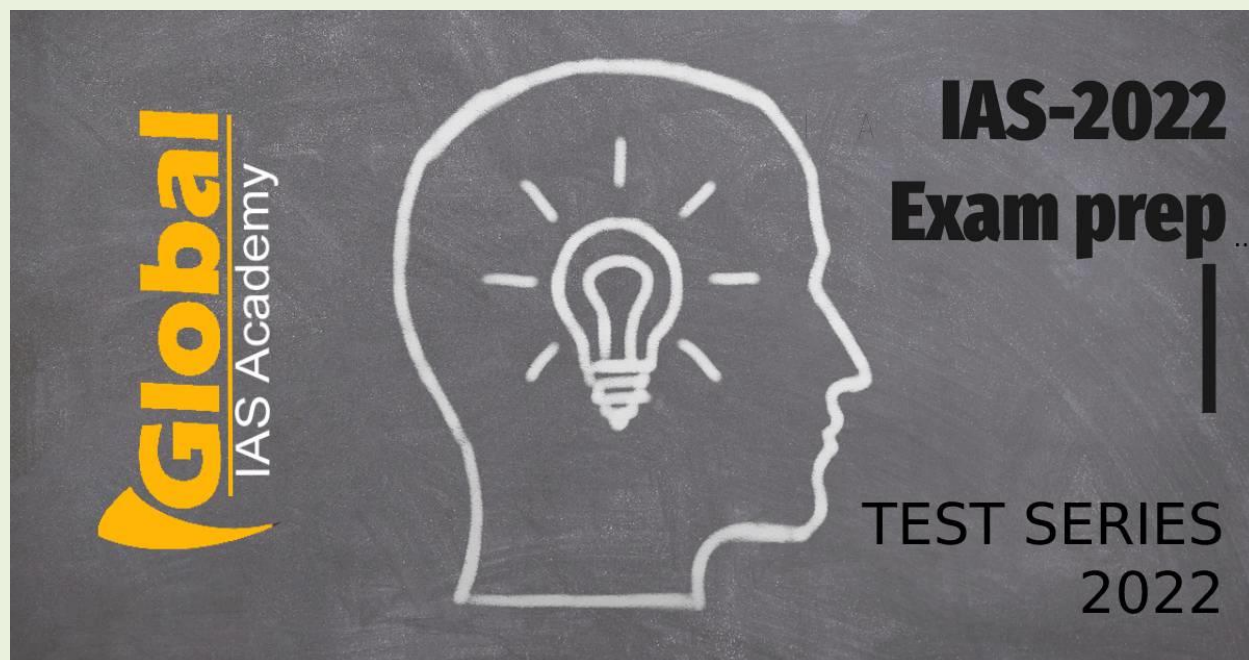
### Local Bodies' Elections

- The local bodies' elections **have not been considered for the analysis here.**
- Those elections are conducted under the **superintendence, direction, and control of a different constitutional authority**, namely, the respective State Election Commission.
- Holding local bodies' elections along with the other elections will require the team of the **same polling officials to report to** and take instructions from two different authorities simultaneously

### Way forward

- A simultaneous nationwide election could push up the voter turnout since a **once-in-five-year event is bound to attract more enthusiastic** participation across all sections.
- Frequent elections **can bring in the election-fatigue factor** at least among some sections of electors.
- Simultaneous elections in a **regular electoral cycle may help address the fatigue element and the usually observed urban apathy** in voting.
- **Better electors' participation** will further add to the credibility of the elections.
- The idea of **concurrent elections has been discussed in the past. The need/feasibility of the idea, the merits, and demerits associated with it are all likely to be a subject of further scrutiny** and analysis at different levels in the future





### Fiscal Federalism in Covid-19

- The catastrophe began in Wuhan, China in November 2019 and spread rapidly around the world.
- It was **declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern** on January 30, 2020, and a pandemic on March 11, 2020
- The Government, led by the Prime Minister, has adopted the mantra of **“Cooperative Federalism”**, and has fought an exemplary battle against the Covid-19.

- The Centre and the States have acted in **simultaneous to limit the human and economic impact** of the pandemic
- The Government of India responded in the **true spirit of “Fiscal Federalism.”**
- Through a slew of measures, the **Centre made sufficient resources available to the States to fight the contagion, spur economic activity and maintain the standards of public service delivery**

### Enhancement of Borrowing Limit of States

To maintain fiscal prudence, the Union Government permitted the State Governments to borrow within the **Net Borrowing Ceiling of 3% of their GSDP** in a financial year.

### Ways and Means Advances

- RBI has **fixed the WMA limit of each State based on multiple factors including total expenditure, revenue deficit and fiscal position** of the State. Interest on WMA is charged at the RBI's repo rate
- States are also allowed an **overdraft facility**, which is the amount drawn over the WMA limit
- It provided them **greater comfort to undertake Covid-19 containment and mitigation efforts**. The policy intervention also enabled the States to space out their market borrowings.
- Notified Disaster Declaration & **Relaxation of SDRF Norms**
- In view of the spread of Covid-19, the **Government of India treated Covid-19 as a notified disaster**.
- State governments **could spend SDRF on quarantine related measures, procurement of essential equipment, providing temporary accommodation, food, clothing and medical care** for people affected and sheltered in quarantine camps, and for cluster containment operations.
- Initially, the expenditure on **this account was limited to 25% of SDRF** allocation for the year which was **later enhanced to 50%**.

### Special Window for Borrowings

The Central Government decided to set up a **special window to borrow the estimated amount of shortfall on behalf of the States** and passed it to them as a back-to-back loan to be repaid from future accruals in the **GST Compensation Fund**.

### **Maintaining Tax Devolution to States**

Considering Jammu and Kashmir's reorganization into Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, the **15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission recommended 41% tax devolution**

#### **Way forward**

- The fight against the virus is being **successfully carried out with the remarkably coordinated efforts** of the Centre and the States.
- In this collective fight, the country has **exhibited a new vigour in cooperative federalism and devolved governance**



### **Challenges of Skill Development**

District Skill Committees (DSC)

They set up across most states over the last decade to effectively perform their role in planning, execution, and monitoring of skill training schemes.

They control the management of skill development at the district level to ensure optimum resource utilisation, fulfillment of local aspirations, and inclusion of all marginalised sections of society

Capacity-building architecture for the DSCs should focus upon

- i) Creating and managing knowledge
- ii) Customizing and localizing content
- iii) Disseminating knowledge through training
- iv) Providing opportunities for guided practice
- v) Evaluation with actionable feedback.

### **District Skill Committees and Policies**

- **SANKALP prepared a DSC toolkit complete with templates for planning and monitoring of skill activities, a knowledge library** with useful information for managing skill training.
- The flagship skill training scheme of the MSDE, PMKVY, has a prominent role in DSC.
- In proving effective in the **implementing of PMKVY as in every other task, the Sub-Committees and the toolkit** would both play a major role
- The State Administrative Training Institutes (ATI) were approached for **designing and delivering skill management and leadership training** modules to DSC members.

### **State Administrative Training Institutes**

- It catered to **state officials in their language** about Information of skill development
- The SANKALP objective of **strengthening of this institutions could be met because financial resources could be correctly** and usefully put into aiding content/manpower in ATIs.
- Using the ATIs seemed like a **win-win for all stakeholders**
- Combining with the **concepts evolved in the Ministry with the help of specialist institutions and trainers so that true empowerment** and dissemination of ideas can happen.

- A role for institutions interested in **public policy research, particularly about local-level planning** that may take it up and generate scholarship in skill management

### Way forward

- The **empowerment of DSC and their expanding role would necessitate financial resources and innovative revenue generation** models developed by themselves
- It would mean the **need for training in financial management**.
- They are also **now expected to interact with industry representatives such as local industry and trade chambers, sector skill councils, experts** including professional consultants and MGN Fellows.
- Courses in **self-development and interpersonal communication** and other softer aspects will also help them be more effective

### Challenges in Federalism and the Way Forward

- Indian Constitution has structurally made the Union government more powerful than the states therefore the paradox of “**centralised federalism.**”
- Australian Constitutional expert **K.C. Wheare** once described the Constitution of India as “**quasi-federal**”
- “Indian Union is a **unitary state with subsidiary federal features** rather than a federal state with subsidiary unitary features.”

### Federal Governance during Covid-19

- The central government indicates its **willingness to use the levers of federal power to implement significant reforms**.
- The constitutionally mandated Finance Commission **recommends the division of revenues between the centre and the states**, with the centre traditionally retaining a significant majority of the pool.

**The most important moment for federalism in this phase is the revelation of the vital role of state governments on the ground level in managing the Covid-19 crisis in India.**

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- Union government ceded **adequate space and autonomy to the states to strengthen their healthcare facilities, manage the localised lockdowns, and implement social security measures** to mitigate the impact of the pandemic.
- Union government in most cases worked as **main agents of healthcare providers and governance providers within their jurisdiction**, with the Centre playing the coordinating role.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs **issued extensive guidelines to states for controlling the pandemic.**
- This law empowers the central government to commandeer state and local authorities if necessary.
- State governments **followed the Centre's orders** even though they have independent powers under a more specific law, **the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.**
- The central government enhanced the borrowing limit of state governments **from 3 percent to 5 percent of their gross state domestic product.**
- Further **1 percent will be permitted only if the borrowing** is linked to specific reforms such as **debt sustainability, job creation, power sector reforms and urban development.**
- Central Government consults all State Governments and in today's age, draft legislations are **shared online on websites for larger outreach and stakeholder consultations.**

For example, the Centre is drafting The Model Tenancy Act

- The Centre has even **gone to the extent of encouraging states to negotiate loans ,FDI with overseas banks ,** institutions directly since the 1990s.
- **Economic globalization** has made it possible for the States to interact with respective investors in foreign countries in a de facto sense

### The Way Forward

A diverse and large country like India requires a **proper balance between the six pillars of federalism:**

Autonomy of states, national integration, centralisation, decentralisation nationalisation, and regionalization, Extreme political centralisation or chaotic political decentralisation can both lead to the weakening of Indian federalism.





## Progress in Human Development Since Independence

- The term “human development” is accepted in the development economics literature as an expansion of human capabilities, a widening of choices, an enhancement of freedom and the fulfillment of human rights

### Human Development Reports and Measurement

- The first Human Development Report of UNDP was published in 1990
- Human Development Index (HDI) reflects the **average achievements** along **three dimensions** of human development:
  - a. Longevity,
  - b. Educational attainment and
  - c. Command over resources needed for a decent living.
    - It does not reflect the **deprivation or the distributional aspects** of development, particularly inequality
    - There has been a **change in the methodology of computation of HDI** from 2010.
    - The 2014 HDR introduced **changes to minimum and maximum values goalposts** which are now fixed rather than set at the observed values

### A gender-related development Index .

- It is based on **gender empowerment measure (GEM) emerged in 1995**
- It measures achievements in the **same dimensions and variables as the HDI, but considers inequality** in achievements between men and women.



- It focusses **on participation, measuring gender inequality** in key areas of **economic and political participation** and decision-making

### India's Ranking in Human Development

- Out of 189 countries, **India ranks 131** on the Human Development Index 2020.
- With an HDI value of 0.645, the country **fell in to the medium human development category**.
- The report stated that since 1990, the **HDI value of India has increased from 0.429 to 0.645**, registering an increase of over 50%.
- In the South Asian region, India's HDI is **more than the region's average which stands at .641**,
- **While India** is also above the average value of 0.631 among the **medium HDI category countries**.

### Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals otherwise known as the **Global Goals**, are a **universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet** and ensure that all people enjoy **peace and prosperity**

**Goal 1.** End poverty in all its forms everywhere

**Goal 2.** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

**Goal 3.** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

**Goal 4.** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all

**Goal 5.** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

**Goal 6.** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

**Goal 7.** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all

**Goal 8.** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

**Goal 9.** Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

**Goal 10.** Reduce inequality within and among countries

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**Goal 11.** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

**Goal 12.** Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

**Goal 13.** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

**Goal 14.** Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

**Goal 15.** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

**Goal 16.** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

**Goal 17.** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.



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