



Daily Mains Answer Discussion (Punjab PCS) (Day - 5)

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Q 1. Slum is not a problem but a solution. Critically examine.

- According to 2011 census, around 17% of the world population resides in slums. Slums are often characterised as unwanted by-products of urbanisation and breeding ground of diseases and criminals but they must be seen as the new solution of urbanisation and important part of urban ecosystem in following ways –
 - Slums are the lifeline of urban economy and cheapest answer to question of housing, workers who run the urban industry are provided living space by these slums, who otherwise could not have afforded to live in urban dwellings. Example - Dharavi slums.
 - Slums take the congestion and carrying load of urban centres to the peripheral of the cities, thus providing the cities with breathing space.
 - Slums concept per se is not faulty in its functional role rather problem of sanitation, diseases, Durgs etc. arise because of poor management and governance of these areas, in fact slums represent a survival strategy in the face of insufficient and affordable housing and lack of tenure security.
 - Slums are the places where rural and urban cultures meet and these slums take urban ideas to rural ecosystem.
- However, on the other side of the coin, the real shade of the slums come up as
 - Women and Children living in slums are prone to become to victims of social evils like prostitution, beggary and child trafficking, Slum dwellers regardless of gender often become victims of such social evils.
 - People living in slum areas are also prone to suffer from waterborne diseases such as typhoid and cholera, as well as from more fatal ones like cancer and HIV/AIDS.
 - Slum areas are also commonly believed to be places that generate a high incidence of crime. This is due to official neglect towards education, law and order, and government services in slum areas.
 - The majority of slum dwellers in a developing country earn their living from the informal sector which neither provides them with financial security nor with enough earnings for a decent living, keeping them firmly within the vicious cycle of poverty.
 - Lastly, hunger, malnourishment, lack of quality education, high infant mortality, child marriage, child labour are some of the other social problems prevalent in slums.
- The slums can be turned into a wonderful solution from a problematic question in the following ways –
 - The success of slum development and rehabilitation schemes lies in focussing not only on building houses but also promoting livelihood options and affordable social infrastructure and mobility options to livelihoods — the urban ecosystem as a whole.
 - The services and lives of the slum people need to be acknowledged and included in designing solutions, through participatory negotiations and institutions. This will make them more responsible towards cities and their infrastructure.
 - A recognised urban habitation system is required to make the poor eligible for basic amenities. This will also help in facilitating access to government schemes and services. Example - West Bengal Slums Model.
- Slums are the cities of the future; Overhauling slums will make urban economy more inclusive and sustainable.

Q 2. India has proved itself to be a world leader when it comes to unmanned missions, the next big thing lies in the form of manned mission. With India preparing itself for GANGAYAAN. What are the various challenges that Indian will face during this mission and what are the steps that has been taken to overcome it? Examine.

Structure

- Introduction - Briefly tell about the success of ISRO in unmanned missions and how it is a world leader in that section.
- Body - Briefly introduce about GANGAYAAN mission, and then tell various challenges that it faces. In last part of Body tell about various measure that have been taken to overcome those challenges.
- Conclusion - Concluding lines how such missions have fared in the past and why this mission is important.

Answer

- India has proven itself to be a world leader when it comes to unmanned missions in the form of Mars Orbital mission or Chandrayaan 1. The mission provided a major boost to the Indian Space Program as India effectively researched and indigenously developed the technology to research the moon, with this India has emerged as the 4th country in the world to hoist its flag on lunar surface and carries the pride of being the most economically efficient mission to moon till date.
- Building upon this, now ISRO is looking upon India's maiden human spaceflight under Gangayaan in December 2022. The Gangayaan mission aims to send a three member crew to space for a period of five to seven days by 2022 when India completes 75 years of Independence. Two unmanned Gangayaan missions will be undertaken prior to sending humans and the total cost of the mission is expected to be around 9000 crores, in return raising scientific and technological temper and making India the fourth nation to circle Earth after Soviets, Americans and Chinese.

However, the pathway to the moon is being hindered with various challenges such as –

- Financial Challenges - The Chandrayan-2 mission is expected to cost nearly Rs. 1000 crores while on the other hand Gangayaan mission is expected to cost around Rs. 10000 crores nearly 10 times
- In a country such as India which houses the largest number of malnourished people in the world, spending such a huge amount of money on sending humans to moon raises an ethical and utilitarian concern.
- Technological Challenges - The most important capabilities of a manned mission which ISRO has to take care are –
- Bringing the spacecraft back to Earth after flight. ✓Building the spacecraft in which astronauts can live in Earth like conditions in space.
- A crewed module weighs two or three times more than the communication satellites and remote sensing payloads that ISRO usually launches.

However, ISRO is yet to make a perfect fool proof launch vehicle technology, the basic requirement for a manned space mission, the PSLV and GSLV launch platforms are yet to be man rated.

- India does not have the in house facility to train astronauts which is the most basic pre-requisite to send humans to space.
- The launchpad at the Sriharikota spaceport, the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, will have to be enhanced for the human mission.
- Biological Challenges - As humans set their feet in outer space, there are also vulnerable and face several challenges like
- Zero Gravity field - Affects hand eye and head eye coordination, working without gravity leads to

loosing of minerals by bones .

- Radiation - In space stations, astronauts receive over ten times the radiation than what people are subjected to on Earth. Radiation exposure may increase the risk of cancer. It can damage the central nervous system.
- India has been able to overcome such outstanding challenges of similar potential in past like putting first satellite into space, various steps that has been taken to overcome challenges this time are –
 - ISRO's Human Space Flight Centre and Glavcosmos, which is a subsidiary of the Russian state corporation ROSCOSMOS, for cooperation in the selection, support, medical examination and space training of Indian astronauts.
 - ISRO has announced Vyommitra, a female-looking robot who will accompany the other astronauts in the mission. It can detect and give out warnings if environmental changes within the cabin get uncomfortable to astronauts and change the air condition.
 - For the return of mission - ISRO has developed Gangayan Crew Module which is a fully autonomous 5.3-tonne spacecraft designed to carry a 3-member crew to orbit and safely return to the Earth after a mission duration of up to seven days. Its 2.9-tonne, powered by liquid propellant engines.
- All the technological advancements that we see today, the communication channels built, the images displayed on our screens, the security networks that we have today is all possible because of the process which started with launching of first satellite in space by India and this manned GANGAYAAN mission is a part of the same process which will give wings to the flight of Indian technological advancements.

Q 3. Vaccine case study

- Who will get the vaccine first -?

Answer Part 1 –

- Being the Health administrator of the area, Qualities like Impartiality and Transparency and most importantly that of Integrity and Emotional intelligence will come in handy while devising the strategy and hierarchy under which the vaccines will be distributed to masses.
- The major criteria for the distribution of the vaccine would be the Risk factor of life under which an individual has been serving or living because of the disease –
- Front line Health Workers - Since they are the one who have been serving the people by putting their own lives at stake, therefore these servants must be served first. If these people are vaccinated first, this would give them the reward for their selfless service and at the same time would motivate them towards serving others when a similar situation arises in future.
- Senior Citizens having co-morbidities - Death count data all around the world suggests that senior citizens having co-morbidities are the most vulnerable section of people in this corona time, therefore they will come second and as most of the senior citizens have one complication or the other, therefore most of the senior citizens will be covered under this.
- People with co-morbidities - As the death count suggests, the maximum number of deaths are accounted to those group of people who were having co-morbidities, therefore they need to be vaccinated at the third place along with the senior citizens who are left.
- Political workers and leaders - Since this section of people need to work amidst the masses, therefore they need to be vaccinated at first, As they can get affected from anyone in the masses and at the same time if they get affected, they can be a potential and probable source for the spread of coronavirus.
- Young Children - As young children have the least exposure to the outside world alongside the luxury and privilege to remain at home and as data suggests that they are the least probable target of coronavirus because of high immunity, therefore they can be vaccinated in the end.

Part 2 - Course of Action to distribute the vaccine

- The course of action that I will take while distributing the vaccine keeping in mind that vaccine is limited at the present moment –
 - Mapping the demography of the entire area under me through the front line health workers by getting them vaccinated at first and if such a data already exists then using that for classifying the masses into groups based on the above hierarchy/strategy of vaccination.
 - Once the mapping and classification is done, Front line health workers can be vaccinated at fixed session sites but the vaccination of other high risk section would require out-reach session sites, mobile sites and teams, therefore they can be vaccinated in a batch of 100 each so that the social distancing guidelines are also followed at the same time
 - Keeping in mind the shortage of vaccine, the working professions such as from the IT background can continue to work from home and children and school-college students can be continued with online classes until and unless the vaccine is available to each one of them.