



**VAJIRAM & RAVI**  
Institute for IAS Examination

# The Analyst

**CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout**

**1st October 2025**



# Daily Deaths in the Fields: The Reality of Farmer Suicides

**CONTEXT:** The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reported that 10,786 farmers and agricultural workers committed suicide in 2023.

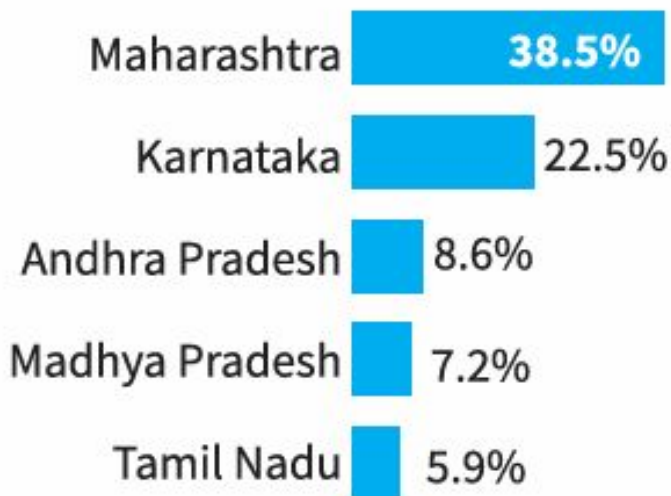
## Background

Year	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Farmer suicides	5,207	5,318	5,579	5,957	5,763
Agri labourer suicides	6,083	5,563	5,098	4,324	4,586
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,290</b>	<b>10,881</b>	<b>10,677</b>	<b>10,281</b>	<b>10,349</b>

## Fields of despair

The lives of 10,786 farmers and agricultural workers were lost to suicide in 2023, according to the NCRB report

### STATE-WISE FIGURES



A large number of farmer suicides take place in the cotton and soybean belt in Maharashtra.

# Daily Deaths in the Fields: The Reality of Farmer Suicides

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## Farmer Suicides in India in the Year 2023



India  
10,786

Source: Accidental Deaths & Suicides in India 2023 published by the NCRB

Created by  
Aravind Varier

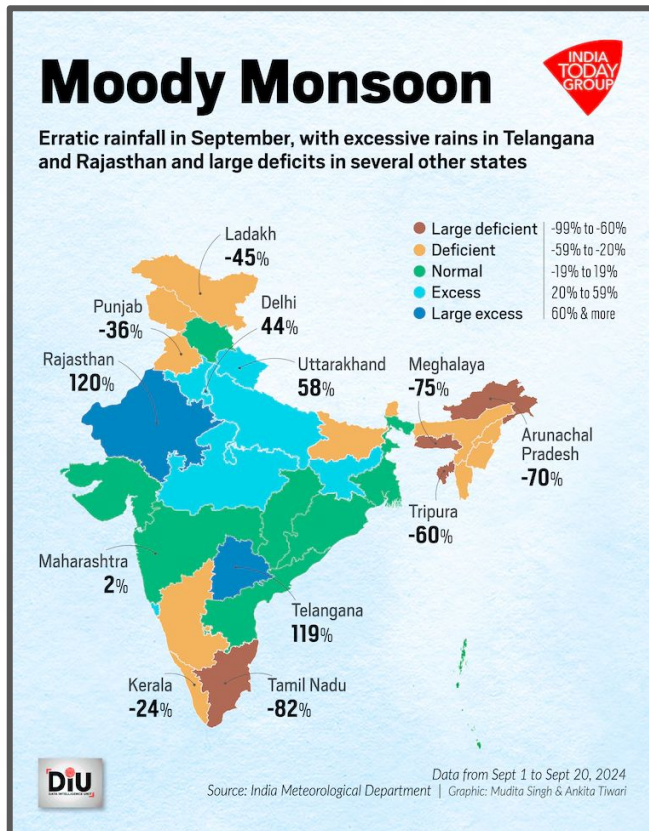
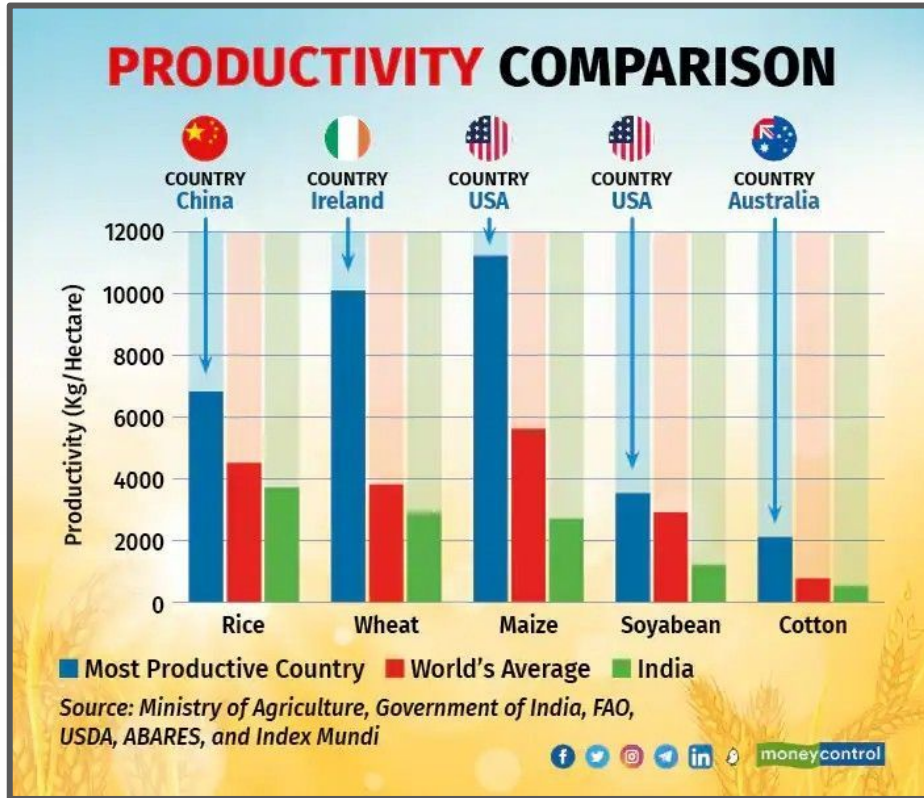
## Reasons for Farmer Suicides in India

- **Debt trap:** Crop failure, Maharashtra, rising loans
- **Limited credit:** 40% formal access, sahu-kars, 30–40% interest
- **Cropping shifts:** Millet → cotton/sugarcane, Marathwada, Rayalaseema
- **Unproductivity:** Cotton cost ₹6,500–7,000/ql, price ₹6,800
- **Climate change:** Erratic monsoons, Telangana droughts, pest attacks
- **Socio-cultural:** Dowry loans, Punjab/Rajasthan, alcohol abuse
- **Scheme exclusion:** Landless laborers, PM Kisan gap, millions affected





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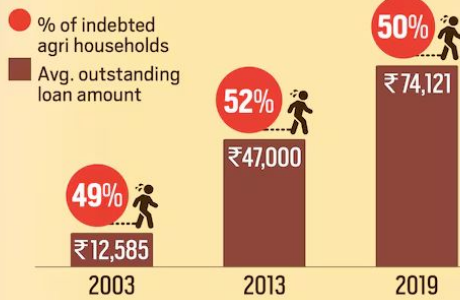


# Daily Deaths in the Fields: The Reality of Farmer Suicides

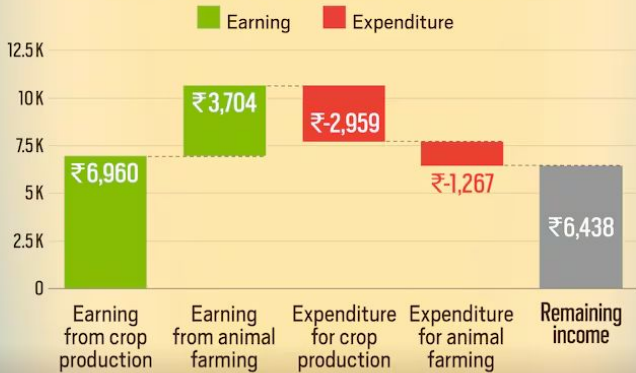
**CONTEXT:** The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reported that 10,786 farmers and agricultural workers committed suicide in 2023.

## Cloud of Debt Looms Over Farm Households

### Indebtedness of agricultural households



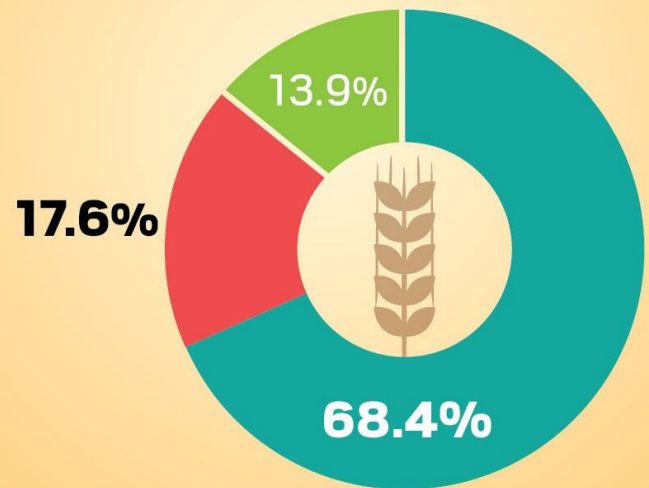
### How an Indian agricultural household runs



## SMALL & MARGINAL FARM HOLDINGS IN INDIA

PM MODI SAID NEW FARM LAWS WILL SPECIFICALLY LIFT SMALL FARMERS

### SHARE OF MARGINAL, SMALL AND LARGE OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS



Note: Operational holdings defined as all land which is wholly or partly used for agriculture production and is operated as one technical unit by one person alone or with others;

Source: Lok Sabha reply based on Agriculture Census 2015-16



Daily Deaths in the Fields:  
The Reality of Farmer  
Suicides



**CONTEXT:** The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reported that 10,786 farmers and agricultural workers committed suicide in 2023.

Government Initiatives

Scheme	Description
Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)	Crop insurance; financial support for crop failure
Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)	Direct income support
Agricultural Debt Waiver & Relief Scheme (2008)	36 million farmers benefited; ₹65,000 crore (~US\$10 billion) spent; waived loan principal & interest
Loan Waiver Schemes (State-level)	Debt relief to prevent farmer distress; e.g., UP, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh
National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)	Promotes sustainable farming, water efficiency, climate resilience
Kisan Credit Card (KCC)	Short Term Credit
PM Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana	Targets 100 underperforming districts, boost farm productivity





# Daily Deaths in the Fields: The Reality of Farmer Suicides



**CONTEXT:** The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reported that 10,786 farmers and agricultural workers committed suicide in 2023.

## Kisan Credit Card (KCC)

Ministry of Agriculture &  
Farmers Welfare

**Objective—providing adequate and  
timely credit support**  
Launched – 1998

**Implemented by: the Ministry of Agriculture and  
Farmers' Welfare**

**In association with NABARD & National Institute  
of Agricultural Extension Management**

**Eligibility: Farmers – individual/Joint borrowers  
Tenant Farmers, sharecroppers, Self-help  
Groups (SHGs)**

**Expanded in 2019– animal husbandry, dairying,  
and fisheries**

**Budget 2025– increase in KCC limit from ₹3 lakh  
to ₹5 lakh, Interest Subvention of 3% (7%  
normally)**

### Purposes

- 1. To meet the short term credit requirements for the cultivation of crops**
- 2. Post-harvest expenses**
- 3. Produce marketing loan**
- 4. Consumption requirements of farmer household**
- 5. Working capital for maintenance of farm assets and activities allied to agriculture**
- 6. Investment credit requirement for agriculture and allied activities**



# Daily Deaths in the Fields: The Reality of Farmer Suicides



**CONTEXT:** The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reported that 10,786 farmers and agricultural workers committed suicide in 2023.

## APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE IN PYQ 2020

**Q.** Under the Kisan Credit Card scheme, short-term credit support is given to farmers for which of the following purposes?

1. Working capital for maintenance of farm assets
2. Purchase of combine harvesters, tractors and mini trucks
3. Consumption requirements of farm households
4. Post-harvest expenses
5. Construction of family house and setting up of village cold storage facility

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 5 only
- (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

## The Path Ahead

- **Targeted Financial Relief:** Debt alleviation, robust crop insurance, sustainable loans
- **Crop Diversification:** Varied crops, climate resilience, market risk reduction
- **Market Reform:** Fair pricing, digital platforms, e-NAM expansion
- **Mental Health Support:** FDI- Stigma reduction, counseling access, awareness campaigns
- **Innovation & Research:** Climate-resilient crops, sustainable tech, agricultural R&D

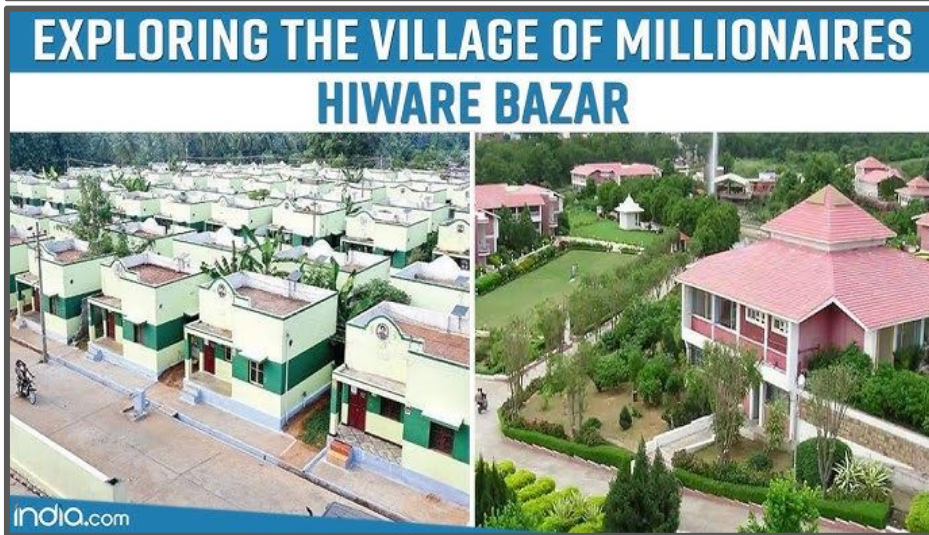




# Daily Deaths in the Fields: The Reality of Farmer Suicides

**CONTEXT:** The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reported that 10,786 farmers and agricultural workers committed suicide in 2023.

## Best Practises/Case Study



## Mains Practise Question

**Question :** What are the key reasons behind farmer suicides in India? Suggest comprehensive measures to effectively address this issue. (10 Marks, 150 words)



# Rising Cases of Road Accidents



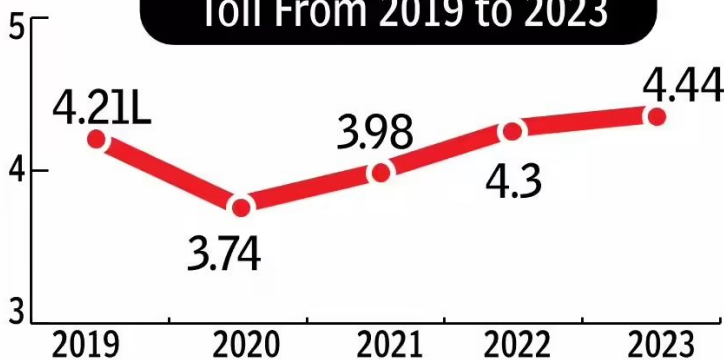
**CONTEXT:** Recently released NCRB report says that more than 1.73 lakh people were killed and 4.47 lakh others were injured in road accidents across the country in 2023.

## Background

- 1.3 million worldwide, One fourth- India
- WHO- more than 3 lakh
- 66.5%- 18 - 45 years
- 83.4% of the total road accident fatalities- 18 - 60 years

## ACCIDENTAL DEATHS

Toll From 2019 to 2023



% Share of Traffic Accidental Deaths Due to Other Causes\*



Year	Total Traffic Accidents	Road Accidents	Rail Accidents	Rail Crossing Accidents	Deaths Due to Other Causes* (In Lakh)
2019	1.8 lakh	1.5 lakh	24,619	1,762	4.1
2020	1.5 lakh	1.3 lakh	11,968	1,185	3.7
2021	1.7 lakh	1.6 lakh	16,431	1,807	3.9
2022	1.94 lakh	1.7 lakh	20,792	2,455	4.2
2023	1.98 lakh	1.7 lakh	21,803	2,242	4.4

\*Excludes deaths due to natural causes; **Source: NCRB**



# Rising Cases of Road Accidents



**CONTEXT:** Recently released NCRB report says that more than 1.73 lakh people were killed and 4.47 lakh others were injured in road accidents across the country in 2023.

## Other Insights from NCRB 2023

Category	Key Data / Insight
Peak Accident Time	6 p.m. – 9 p.m. (20.7% of total accidents)
Top Vehicle in Fatal Accidents	Two-wheelers (79,533 deaths, 45.8% of total deaths)
Other High-Fatality Groups	- Pedestrians: 27,586 (15.9%) – SUV/Car/Jeep: 24,776 (14.3%)
States with Most Two-Wheeler Deaths	- Tamil Nadu: 11,490 – Uttar Pradesh: 8,370
SUV/Car/Jeep Deaths – High State	Uttar Pradesh (19.2% of total SUV/car/jeep deaths)
Truck/Lorry/Mini Truck Deaths – High State	Uttar Pradesh (29.9% of total)
Top Causes of Fatal Accidents	- Speeding: 58.6% (1,01,841 deaths) – Dangerous/Careless Driving or Overtaking: 23.6% (41,035 deaths)
Other Causes	- Poor weather, drunk driving, animal crossing: 4,952 deaths
Road Types – Death Share	- National Highways: 34.6% – State Highways: 23.4%

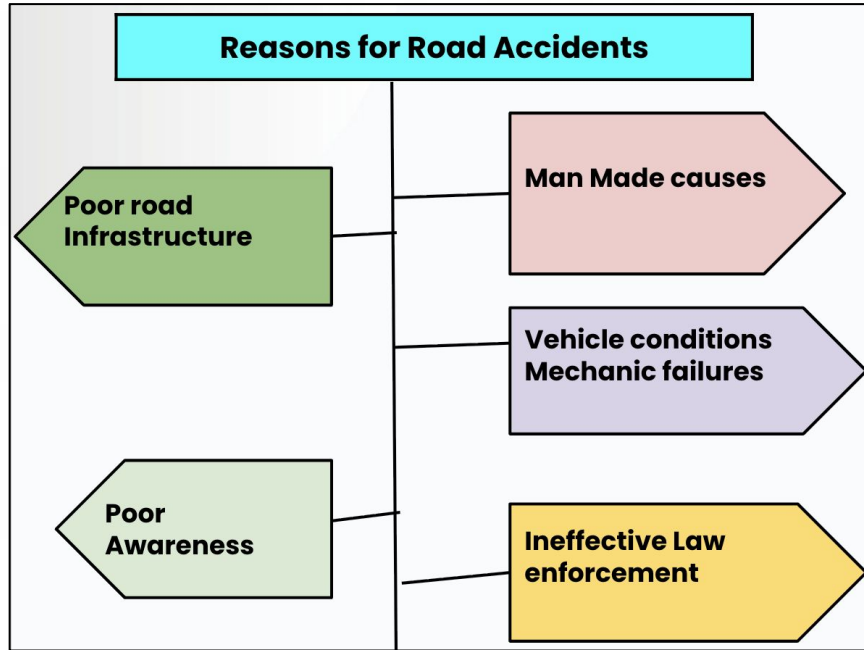




# Rising Cases of Road Accidents



**CONTEXT:** Recently released NCRB report says that more than 1.73 lakh people were killed and 4.47 lakh others were injured in road accidents across the country in 2023.



## Crash course

The NCRB report of 2023 has found that the reason for most fatal road accidents was speeding



■ **58.6%** (1,01,841) of deaths attributed to speeding

■ **23.6%** (41,035) of deaths attributed to dangerous driving or overtaking

■ Poor weather, driving under the influence and animal crossings caused **4,952 deaths**

Initiatives	Description
<b>Brasilia Declaration on Road Safety (2015)</b>	Global commitment to halve road traffic deaths and injuries by 2030
<b>Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030</b>	UN-backed initiative to prevent at least 50% of road traffic deaths and injuries by 2030
<b>International Road Assessment Programme (iRAP)</b>	Organization dedicated to saving lives through safer roads





# Rising Cases of Road Accidents



**CONTEXT:** Recently released NCRB report says that more than 1.73 lakh people were killed and 4.47 lakh others were injured in road accidents across the country in 2023.

Initiatives	Description
Motor Vehicles Amendment Act, 2019	Increased penalties for traffic violations, established Motor Vehicle Accident Fund, and created National Road Safety Board
The Carriage by Road Act, 2007	Regulates common carriers, limiting their liability
The Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2000	Provides for control of land within national highways
National Highways Authority of India Act, 1998	Establishes authority for development and maintenance of national highways

## What Should be done ?

### Infrastructure Improvements

- Road Design and Engineering:
- Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety:
- Public Transport:

### Vehicle Safety

- Mandatory Safety Features
- Vehicle Inspection
- Promotion of Safer Vehicles

### Emergency Response

- Improved Emergency Services
- Trauma Care Centers

### Technological Interventions

- Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Speed Control Devices
- Alcohol Detection Systems



# Rising Cases of Road Accidents



**CONTEXT:** Recently released NCRB report says that more than 1.73 lakh people were killed and 4.47 lakh others were injured in road accidents across the country in 2023.

## Four Pillars of Road Safety - 4Es

- Engineering
- Enforcement
- Education
- Emergency Care

## Driver Behavior and Education

- Stricter Enforcement of Traffic Laws
- Driver Education and Training
- Awareness Campaigns
- Addressing Distracted Driving

## Mains Practise Question

**Question : Road accidents are a major public health issue in India. Identify key causes and suggest comprehensive strategies to improve road safety and reduce accidents nationwide. (10 Marks, 150 words)**



# The Transformation of Girl's Education

**SYLLABUS : G.S. 2:** Education, Health

**Newspaper :** The Hindu **Page No :** 9

In a country where the phrase “*Beti padhegi toh kya karegi?* (What will a daughter do if she studies?)” once echoed through homes and villages, India has undergone a powerful transformation in girls’ education over the past decade.

At a *Mahila Sammelan* (Women’s Conference) in Dwarka, Gujarat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked a group of women how many had studied beyond class 5. To his surprise, most of the elderly women raised their hands, while few younger women did. When asked why, they pointed to the era of the *Gaekwad dynasty* (1721-1947), when fathers were penalised for not educating their daughters. Today, however, many women are literate, while their daughters-in-law are not.

This anecdote underscores a larger truth: good intentions must be backed by accountability, leadership, and policy. And under Mr. Modi’s leadership, India is witnessing just that – a systemic push to change not just rules, but mindsets. This transformation is not just about more girls in classrooms; it’s about shifting the very foundations of Indian society, its health, economy, and demography, by empowering its daughters with the most effective tool of change: education.

which was lower than the national average, increased to 70%, higher than the national average of 64%. The school dropout rate reduced by as much as 90% among female students in targeted districts.

Mr. Modi transformed the policy initiative through widespread public support, by personally auctioning gifts received at public events, raising ₹19 crore for girls’ education. He also made a personal contribution of ₹21 lakh. These efforts sent a strong signal: girls’ education wasn’t just a government scheme, it was a public movement.

## Scaling success nationwide

Inspired by Gujarat’s success, the *Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao* (BBBP) initiative was launched nationwide in 2015. Its aim was twofold: to prevent female foeticide and promote girls’ education. The initiative focused on 100 gender-critical districts in its initial phase and later expanded nationwide. It brought together multiple ministries – Women and Child Development, Health and Family Welfare, and Human Resource Development – in a coordinated push for change. Among other measures of outcome, its impact is most visible in the survival rate of girls. India’s sex ratio at birth improved from 919 girls per 1,000 boys (2015-16) to 929 (2019-21). Encouragingly, 20 out of 30 States/UTs are performing better than the national average of 930.





# The Transformation of Girl's Education



**SYLLABUS : G.S. 2:** Education, Health  
**Newspaper :** The Hindu **Page No :** 9

But these improvements in sex ratio at birth are encouraging, they are just one piece of a much larger puzzle. The real power of girls' education lies in the ripple effects it triggers across society. Educated women tend to marry later and have fewer children. India's Total Fertility Rate has dropped to 2.0, just below replacement level. This shift is closely tied to rising female education and workforce participation. Women with secondary education are more likely to seek institutional deliveries and prenatal care. The

Infant Mortality Rate for girls has dropped from 49 per 1,000 live births in 2014 to 33 by 2020. While overall female labour force participation remains a challenge it is rising in sectors such as healthcare, education, STEM, and entrepreneurship – fields that thrive on literacy and skills. From officers in the armed forces to CEOs of tech startups, today's educated Indian women are breaking barriers.

## The multiplier effect

Educated girls grow into educated mothers – and that changes everything. Studies show that children of educated mothers perform better in school and experience better health outcomes. In Madhya Pradesh, recent surveys show that 89.5% of people are aware of BBBP, and 63.2% say it directly encouraged them to send their daughters to school. Communities reported increased support for delaying early marriage and promoting girls' higher education. These statistics reflect changing mindsets in regions where girls were once kept from schools entirely.

This transformation is a deep-rooted change facilitated by thoughtful and effective policies aimed at empowering young women. The long-term impact of these initiatives will be even more pronounced because of the positive feedback cycle that enhances not only individual lives but entire communities. Today's educated girls are not merely students; they are potential leaders, advocates, and change-makers of tomorrow. Educated girls are more likely to join the workforce, contribute to their families' incomes, and invest in the education of their children.

As we look to the future, we can be hopeful that the changes initiated under Mr. Modi's leadership will continue to gain momentum, leading to a more equitable society where every girl has the right to learn, grow, and thrive. Let's be clear: when you educate a girl, you save a society.





**SYLLABUS : G.S. 2:** Education, Health

**Newspaper :** The Hindu **Page No :** 9

## Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)

**Objective-** address the issue of decline in Child Sex Ratio (CSR) along with related issues in a life cycle continuum.

**Launched - 2015**

### Prelims Pointers

**Ministry of Women and Child Development.**  
**Central Sector Scheme**

- Primarily focused on creating behavioural and social change

**Key Parameters: Improvement in the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) by 2 points every year**

**Improvement in the percentage of institutional deliveries or sustained at the rate of 95% or above**

**1% increase in 1st Trimester Antenatal Care (ANC) Registration per year**

**1% increase in enrolment at secondary education level and skilling of girls/ women per year**

**Raising awareness about safe Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM)**



# Why is Environmental Surveillance Important?

**SYLLABUS : G.S. 3 : Conservation, Environmental Pollution**

**Newspaper : The Hindu Page No : 12**

**Gautam Menon**

## The story so far:

**P**athogens (usually bacteria and viruses) that cause diseases in humans and animals, can be tracked in samples taken from the environment, for example, by sampling sewage through wastewater surveillance. This can provide early warnings for potential disease outbreaks.

## How does this work?

Samples taken from sewage treatment plants, effluents from hospitals and from public spaces such as railway stations and toilets in airplanes, can be studied to see how the pathogens they contain change from day-to-day. It works because pathogens of interest are shed in the stools or urine of infected individuals. Diseases transmitted by parasitic worms such as roundworms and hookworms can also be monitored through wastewater

and soil samples, providing information about the burden of the disease and the effectiveness of control measures.

Rigorous protocols inform the collection of samples. These protocols detail how samples must be collected and processed, and how pathogens are detected and analysed. By following these protocols, comparisons of pathogen load become possible, and whole-genome sequencing enables the identification of variants of the same pathogen.

## Why is this important?

Traditionally, the only way to figure out levels of infection in a community was to detect infections in patients, called clinical case detection. However, not all infected people might show symptoms, or might not choose to be tested if symptoms are mild. The number of people who are tested might not reflect the true numbers of those infected.

Environmental surveillance can thus

provide important early warning signals of an impending outbreak. It is now known that the levels of pathogen in wastewater can precede, often by more than a week, a rise in infections.

## Why do early-warning signals matter?

Understanding how many infected people there are is important for public health planning. The more the amounts of pathogen that circulate, the more likely it is that people will be infected. Preparing for a disease outbreak becomes much easier if there's more notice.

Wastewater-based epidemiology has been used for over 40 years to track several diseases such as measles, cholera and polio. Such disease surveillance in India, through wastewater, was first initiated in Mumbai for polio in 2001. During the COVID-19 pandemic, similar surveillance programs for COVID-19 were started in five cities, and they continue to this day.

## What is India doing?

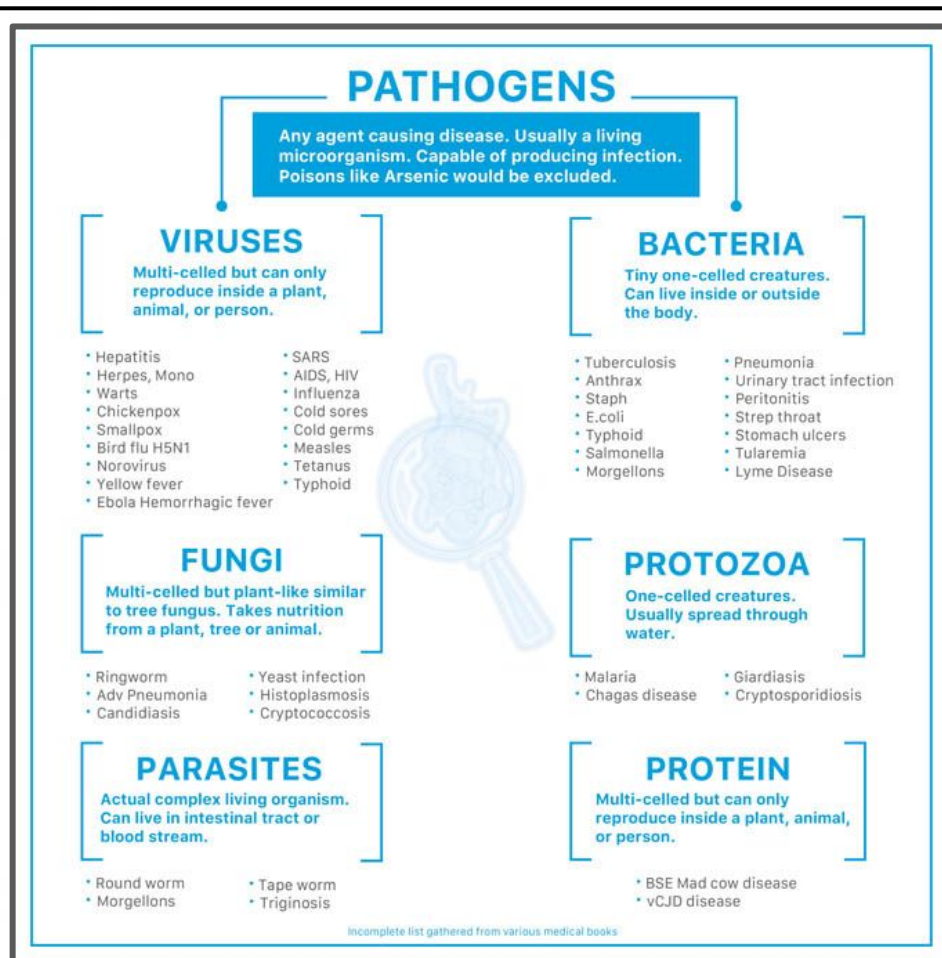
The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has recently said that it will initiate wastewater surveillance for 10 viruses across 50 cities. This will enable public health surveillance to pick up any increase in viral load within community settings. This extends ICMR's involvement in establishing environmental surveillance for viruses, including avian influenza virus, particularly in areas with outbreaks. However, there is scope for improvement. The sharing of data and protocols across institutions and reaching common agreements on templates for surveillance frameworks that are disease-specific is important. Programmatic approaches, rather than project-driven approaches, must be developed that integrate waste-water and other environmental surveillance with routine disease surveillance. Developing a national wastewater surveillance system for India is important.

Moreover, new methodologies are emerging – audio samples of people coughing in public places can be used to examine the prevalence of respiratory conditions, through refined machine learning methods. Thus, the possibilities of environmental surveillance are ever-increasing.



**SYLLABUS : G.S. 3 :** Conservation, Environmental Pollution

**Newspaper :** The Hindu **Page No :** 12



## UPSC CSE (P) 2021

69. Consider the following :

1. Bacteria
2. Fungi
3. Virus

Which of the above can be cultured in artificial/synthetic medium?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3





**SYLLABUS : G.S. 3 : Trade**

**Newspaper : The Indian Express Page No : 15**

## ENSECONOMICBUREAU

MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday constituted a six-member Payments Regulatory Board (PRB), comprising three nominees from the Central government, to oversee the functioning of payment systems in the country.

The Board is chaired by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra. Alongside the Governor, the two other RBI representatives on the PRB are the Deputy Governor and the Executive Director in charge of Payment and Settlement Systems. The government nominees include the Secretary of the Department of Financial Services,

## PAYMENTS REGULATORY BOARD

■ The Payments Regulatory Board replaces the Board for Regulation and Supervision of Payment and Settlement Systems, a committee of the RBI's Central Board

the Secretary of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, and Aruna Sundararajan, former Telecom Secretary.

The PRB replaces the Board for Regulation and Supervision of Payment and Settlement Systems

(BPSS), a committee of the RBI's Central Board. The new board derives its authority from the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

The PRB will be supported by the RBI's Department of Payment and Settlement Systems (DPSS), which will report directly to it.

The five-member BPSS, also chaired by the RBI governor, did not include government nominees. "The inclusion of government representatives means the government will now have a say in the functioning of the country's payment systems," said a banking source.

As per the Act, decisions requiring approval during board meetings will be taken by a majority of members present and

voting. In the event of a tie, the chairperson – or in his absence, the deputy governor who is a member of the board – will have a second or casting vote. The Board is required to meet at least twice a year, according to a notification issued in May.

The Act further provides that, if the chairperson so directs, any item of business requiring a decision may be circulated to Members for approval.

Such matters will be decided by a majority vote, and in the event of a tie, the chairperson, or in his absence the Deputy Governor on the board, will exercise a second or casting vote. The principal legal adviser of the RBI is a permanent invitee to the meetings of the board.

## Introduction to The Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007

- **Objective:** The act establishes a legal framework for regulating and supervising payment and settlement systems in India
- **Scope:** It covers both electronic and non-electronic payment systems, ensuring the safety, security, and efficiency of such systems.
- **Purpose:** To promote competition, innovation, and participation in payment systems while ensuring financial stability in India.





**SYLLABUS : G.S. 3 : Trade**

**Newspaper : The Indian Express Page No : 15**

## Key Definitions and Concepts

- **Payment System:** Any system enabling payment through credit cards, debit cards, electronic funds transfer, or other modes. Examples: UPI, NEFT, RTGS.
- **Settlement:** The final discharge of payment obligations through the transfer of funds between participating banks or financial institutions.
- **System Provider:** Entities authorized by the RBI to operate payment systems, such as banks, payment gateways, and financial institutions.

## Banks Board Bureau (BBB)

is replaced by

Financial Services Institutions Bureau



**SYLLABUS : G.S. 3 : Trade**

**Newspaper : The Indian Express Page No : 15**

## CIVIL SERVICES (P) EXAM-2022

**64.** With reference to the 'Banks Board Bureau (BBB)', which of the following statements are correct ?

1. The Governor of RBI is the Chairman of BBB.
2. BBB recommends for the selection of heads for Public Sector Banks.
3. BBB helps the Public Sector Banks in developing strategies and capital raising plans.

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3





# Fiscal Deficit at 36% of FY26 target



**SYLLABUS : G.S.3:** Planning, Mobilization of Resources, Fiscal Policy

**Newspaper :** The Indian Express **Page No :** 15

THE CENTRE'S fiscal deficit widened to Rs 5.98 lakh crore or 38.1 per cent of the annual target in the first five months of 2025-26, compared with 27 per cent of the relevant target in the year-ago period, as net tax revenues continued to contract and capex accelerated.

In April-August 2025, net tax revenues contracted by 7.3 per cent to Rs 8.1 lakh crore as both direct and indirect taxes underperformed. Non-tax revenues surged by 31.7 per cent on year following the receipt of the higher-than-budgeted dividend from the Reserve Bank of India.

Analysts said there is still no threat to the Centre's plan to bring down the fiscal deficit to 4.4 per cent of GDP in FY26 due to robust non-tax receipts, which will likely bridge any shortfall in tax revenues, due to income tax cuts and goods and services tax (GST) rate cuts. Gross tax revenues expanded by just 1 per cent on year during the five months of FY26, amid a 2 per cent contraction in income tax collections owing to

**contracted by 7.3 per cent to Rs 8.1 lakh crore as both direct and indirect taxes underperformed**

the extension of the deadline to file taxes as well as an adverse base, and subdued 2 per cent growth in corporate tax collections. Besides, the growth in indirect tax collections also remained lacklustre, at just 3.3 per cent, amid a contraction in customs duties and a mid-single digit growth in GST and excise duty collections.

"These trends suggest some undershooting in the FY2026 BE for gross tax revenues, particularly on the direct taxes side, which is also likely to weigh on the devolution to the state governments in H2FY26. Besides, the GST numbers would also need to be closely monitored to assess the impact of the rate rationalisation on collections," Ica chief economist Aditi Nayar said.

FE

## Civil Services (P) Examination - 2025

61. Suppose the revenue expenditure is ₹ 80,000 crores and the revenue receipts of the Government are ₹ 60,000 crores. The Government budget also shows borrowings of ₹ 10,000 crores and interest payments of ₹ 6,000 crores. Which of the following statements are correct?

- I. Revenue deficit is ₹ 20,000 crores.
- II. Fiscal deficit is ₹ 10,000 crores.
- III. Primary deficit is ₹ 4,000 crores.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) I and II only
- (b) II and III only
- (c) I and III only
- (d) I, II and III

growth and adverse welfare implications.

**Fiscal Deficit:** Fiscal deficit is the difference between the government's total expenditure and its total receipts excluding borrowing

Gross fiscal deficit = Total expenditure – (Revenue receipts + Non-debt creating capital receipts)

Non-debt creating capital receipts are those receipts which are not borrowings and, therefore, do not give rise to debt. Examples are recovery of loans and the proceeds from the sale of PSUs. The fiscal deficit will have to be financed through borrowing. Thus, it indicates the total borrowing requirements of the government from all sources. From the financing side

Gross fiscal deficit = Net borrowing at home + Borrowing from RBI + Borrowing from abroad

Net borrowing at home includes that directly borrowed from the public through debt instruments (for example, the various small savings schemes) and indirectly from commercial banks through Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR). The fiscal deficit of the central government, after declining from 6.6 per cent of GDP in 1990-91 to 4.1 per cent in 1996-97 rose to 6.2 per cent





# Fiscal Deficit at 36% of FY26 target

**SYLLABUS : G.S.3:** Planning, Mobilization of Resources, Fiscal Policy

**Newspaper :** The Indian Express **Page No :** 15

**Table 5.1: Receipts and Expenditures of the Central Government**

(As per cent of GDP)	1990 -91	2000 -01	2001 -02	2002 -03	2003 -04
1. Revenue Receipts(a+b)	9.7	9.1	8.8	9.4	9.6
(a) Tax revenue(net of states' share)	7.6	6.5	5.9	6.5	6.8
(b) Non-tax revenue	2.1	2.7	3.0	3.0	2.8
2. Revenue Expenditure	12.9	13.2	13.2	13.8	13.1
(a) Interest payments	3.8	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.5
(b) Major subsidies	1.7	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.6
(c) Defence expenditure	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6
3. Revenue Deficit(2-1)	3.3	4.0	4.4	4.4	3.6
4. Capital Receipts(a+b+c)	5.6	6.3	7.1	7.4	7.5
(a) Recovery of loans	1.0	0.6	0.7	1.4	2.4
(b) Other receipts(mainly PSU disinvestment)	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.6
(c) Borrowings and other liabilities	4.6	5.6	6.2	5.9	4.5
5. Capital Expenditure	4.4	2.3	2.7	3.0	4.0
6. Total Expenditure [(2+5=6(a)+6(b))]	17.3	15.4	15.9	16.9	17.1
(a) Plan expenditure	5.0	3.9	4.4	4.6	4.4
(b) Non-plan expenditure	12.3	11.5	11.4	12.3	12.6
7. Fiscal Deficit [6-1-4(a)-4(b)]	6.6	5.6	6.2	5.9	4.5
8. Primary Deficit [7-2(a)]	2.8	0.9	1.5	1.1	0.0

Source: Economic Survey, 2005-06

**Primary Deficit:** We must note that the borrowing requirement of the government includes interest obligations on accumulated debt. To obtain an estimate of borrowing on account of current expenditures exceeding revenues, we need to calculate what has been called the primary deficit. It is simply the fiscal deficit minus the interest payments



65  
The Government:  
Functions and Scope

## Civil Services (P) Examination - 2025

**65.** A country's fiscal deficit stands at ₹ 50,000 crores. It is receiving ₹ 10,000 crores through non-debt creating capital receipts. The country's interest liabilities are ₹ 1,500 crores. What is the gross primary deficit?

- (a) ₹ 48,500 crores
- (b) ₹ 51,500 crores
- (c) ₹ 58,500 crores
- (d) None of the above



**SYLLABUS : G.S.2 :** Government Policies & Interventions

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## Decoding the News

The Government has extended the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) incentive scheme for exporters until March 31, 2026. Exporters welcomed the move, saying it removes substantial uncertainty and comes when Indian exports are facing significant headwinds.

Started in 2021, the RoDTEP scheme provides refunds to exporters for any embedded duties, taxes, and levies incurred by them not already refunded under other schemes.

The scheme had earlier been available until February 5 this year. In May, fol-

### not refunded via other schemes

lowing significant lobbying by exporters, the government restored the RoDTEP scheme for exporters done by Advance Authorisation (AA) holders, Export-Oriented Units (EOUs), and units in Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

“The timely extension of RoDTEP has removed the uncertainty that was weighing on the exporting community,” said S.C. Ralhan, president of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations.

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### Big Boost to Export

Scheme of Remission of Duties & Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP)



Mechanism to be created for reimbursement of **taxes /duties/levies at central**, state & local level, currently not being refunded



Will make Indian exports cost competitive in International Markets & **boost employment generation**



Existing MEIS to be **shifted to RoDTEP with proper monitoring** & audit mechanism



Scheme to be implemented with **end to end digitization**



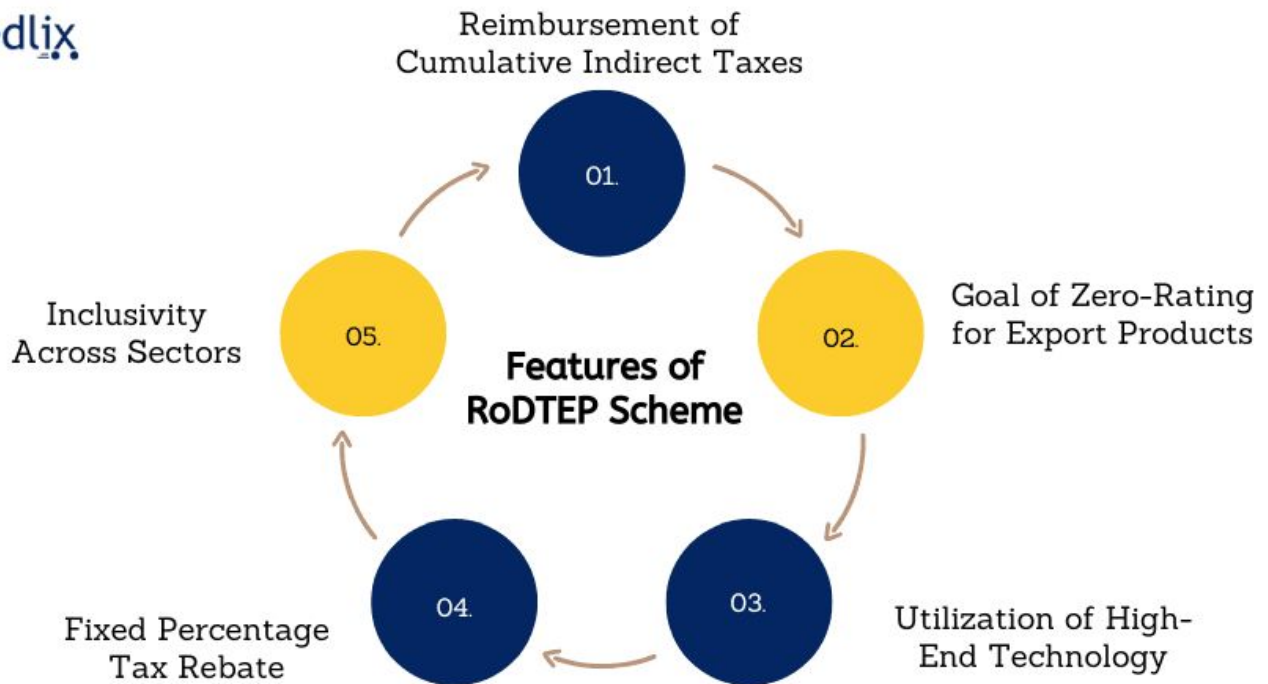
# RoDTEP Scheme

**SYLLABUS : G.S.2 :** Government Policies & Interventions

**Newspaper :** The Hindu **Page No :** 15

## Prelims Pointers

Gredlix





**Q1. Consider the following Government initiatives for agriculture:**

S.No.	Scheme	Description
1.	Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana	Financial support for crop failure
2.	Kisan Credit Card	Targets 100 underperforming districts
3.	PM Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana	Short Term Credit

**How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?**

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Answer: a**

**Q2. Consider the following statements regarding Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme:**

- 1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched in 2019.
- 2. Its objective is to address the decline in Child Sex Ratio.
- 3. It is implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: b**

**Q3. With reference to the Payments Regulatory Board, consider the following statements:**

- 1. It has been constituted under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- 2. It is chaired by the Governor of RBI
- 3. All members are nominated by the Central Government.
- 4. It replaces the Board for Regulation and Supervision of Payment and Settlement Systems.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Answer: c**

**Q4. Which one of the following makes a recommendation for appointments of whole-time directors of the public sector banks in India?**

- a) Indian Bank's Association
- b) Financial Services Institution Bureau
- c) National Payments Corporation of India
- d) Reserve Bank of India

**Answer: b**

**Q5. Consider the following statements:**

- 1. Fiscal deficit reflects the overall borrowing requirement of the government.
- 2. Revenue deficit implies that the government is unable to meet its day-to-day expenses from its revenue receipts.
- 3. Primary deficit indicates the government's total fiscal burden including interest payments on past loans.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: a**





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