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KURUKSHETRA

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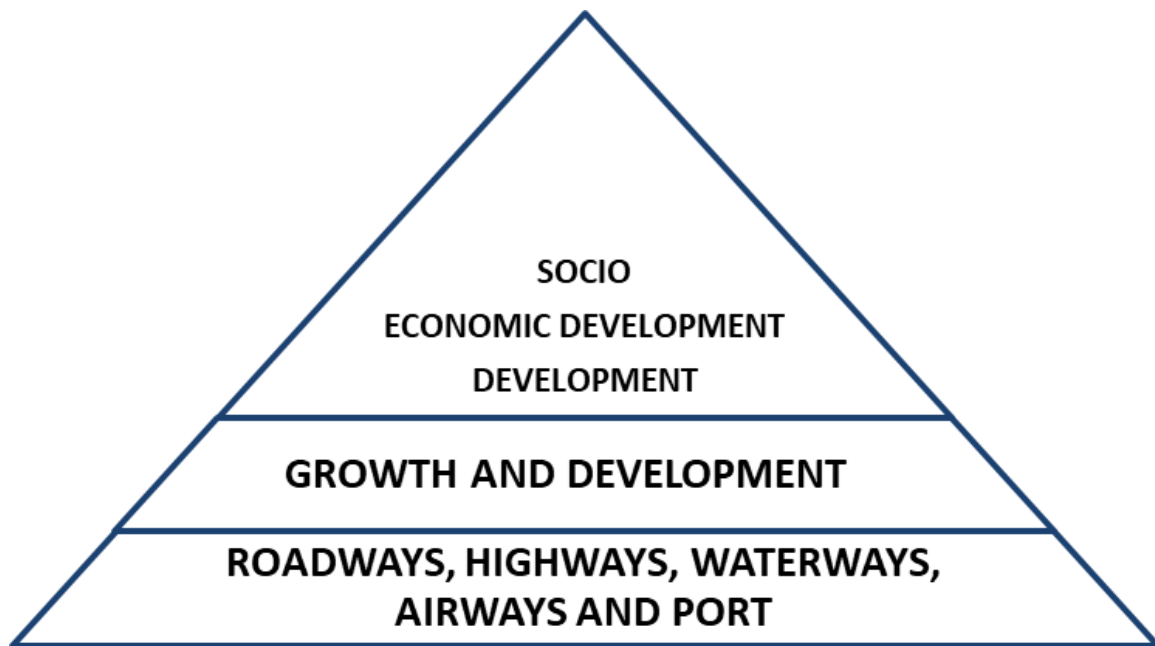
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Introduction:

Infrastructure is critical for a country's development and a country's development and progress is judged by the quality of infrastructure it has.



RBI (2007) DEFINITION:

- Power, Telecommunication, Railways, Road & Bridges sea port, airport, Industrial parks and urban infrastructure (Water Supply, Sanitation, Sewage Projects) are considered as infrastructure.

Rangarajan Commission (2001):

- Infrastructure is having Natural monopoly, non-tradability of output, bestowing externalities on society, high sunk costs (or) asset specificity, non rivalness in consumption and possibility of price exclusion.

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- Having Proper Infrastructure will help breaking the chains of caste barrier and provides equitable opportunity and inclusive development of all people.

Importance of rural Infrastructure:

Agriculture

- Proper irrigation infrastructure like drip and sprinkler irrigation, will help enable the optimum utilisation of water resources and help in reducing salinization of land.

Housing:

- Proper housing (Pucca) will help in enabling a dignified life and brace over natural hazards like flood, rain, earthquake etc.,

Drinking Water:

- It will give a healthy life to people and increased productivity among rural population, Quality drinking water will avert major **water borne diseases**.

Roads & Transport:

- Proper Roadways will help in better farm to market connectivity and increases profit of farmers and it will also increase the allied agro activities.

Electricity:

- Enables rural people to start the small business, getting motorised irrigation facility, helps in education of children.

Communication:

- Bharat Net – It opens up the potential of the rural people and helps in tele medicine e-commerce, tele education, etc.

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Health:

- Healthy People are the most important asset of any country. If the people are not healthy the productivity of whole country will get reduced.
- So, its important to have good health infrastructure in rural area where 68.84% of Indian Population resides.

Inclusive growth:

- Synergising the roadways, waterways, railways, etc., will help in efficient & cost-effective development of the rural people and aids in overall development of people.

Employment:

- Infrastructure will lead to more investment and that leads to more job creation create more job opportunities and helps access the job market easily.

Current Efforts of Government of India:

AGRICULTURE

IRRIGATION	MARKETING	MACHINERIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PM Kishu Sinchayee Yojana on Farm Water use efficiency, Precision Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• (e-Nam)Electronic National Agricultural market• "One Nation, One Market".Efficiency of price discovery, value chain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solar Pump KUSUM scheme

Problem in APMC:

- ✓ Cartelization,
- ✓ Entry barrier,
- ✓ Monopoly of traders

E-NAM (electronic national agricultural marketing) is projected as panacea for the ills of APMC

Impact of APMC:

- ✓ Uniformity in quality, price
- ✓ Real time prices can be discovered
- ✓ Transparency is increased
- ✓ Farmer-Consumer link is more easy now
- ✓ Market integration

Challenges to eNAM:

- Development of wider chain.
- Harmonization of grading standard will be a huge task across India

Model Agriculture produces livestock market, 2017:

- As per the Act new definition of market area now extended to whole State/UT unified market area for regulation of marketing of all or any of kinds of agricultural produce.
- Warehouses & Silos to declare as market points.
- Lack of technical expertise at the State Agricultural Departments has also delayed the setting up of grading/assaying facilities.



Transport:

- Currently **27 km / day** is the speed at which NHAI builds road.
- Bharatmala Pariyojana – It will build 50 **Economic corridors, Feeder & Inter corridors, Border, Coastal and port roads** and **express ways**.
- **Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill** to be passed to ensure stricter adherence of rules in the road.
- **PMGSY (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana)** is to provide all weather road connectivity in rural areas.
- **Aajveekiva grameen express yojana** to provide last mile connectivity in rural areas using e-rickshaws providing an alternative source of livelihood to members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) by facilitating them to operate public transport services in backward areas.
- Bhupen Hazarika bridge India's longest bridge
- Chenani nashri tunnel India's longest bidirectional tunnel
- **Impact of PMGSY** (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana):
 1. Increased accessibility
 2. Employment generation
 3. Better health services
 4. Agricultural productivity increased
- **111** national waterways have been announced under **national waterways act, 2016**

Green initiatives of NHAI:

- Bridge cum barriers
- Green highways division was set up in NHAI
- Swachh pakhwada
- India's first multimodal electric vehicle passenger transport project launched in NAGPUR

Sanitation – Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)

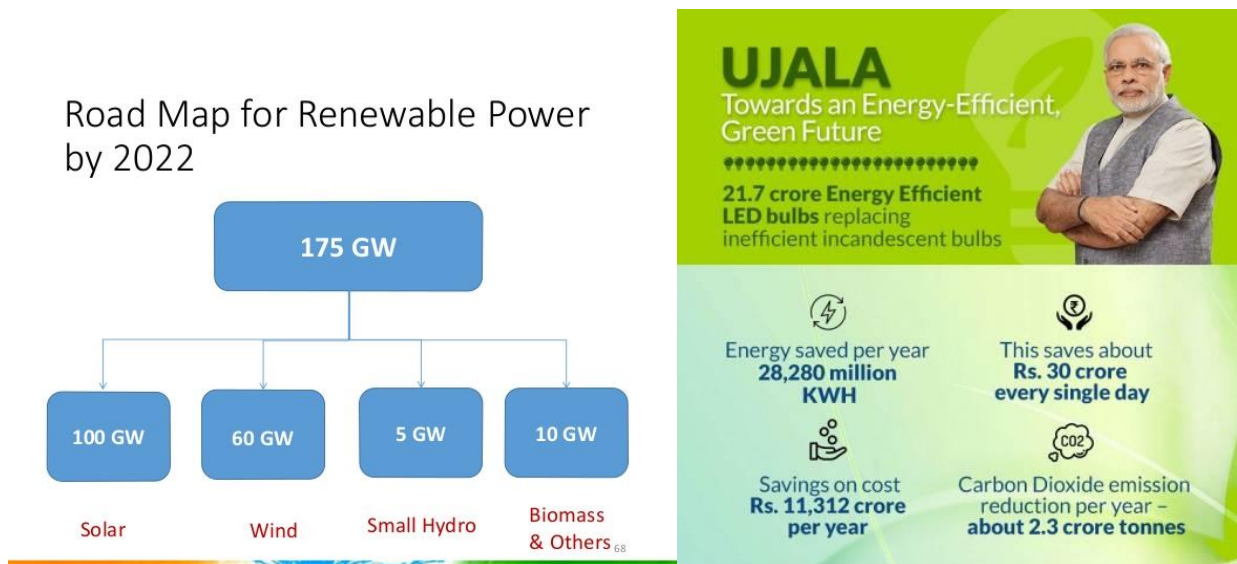
- SBM launched in 2014, to create a clean India and open defecation free across the country.
 - ✓ **391** Districts are declared as (ODF)

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- ✓ Sanitation reach shot up to **85%** (2018-9) from **38.70%** (2014)
- ✓ **7.4 Crore** Individual household's toilets are built up to May 2018 Under this mission
- ✓ SBM reduces **stunting, wasting** and **nutrient deficiency diseases, Cholera, Malaria** etc.

Energy:

- Currently, most of the rural areas fuel need are met by the wood, cow dung, Charcoal etc., But these fuels will cause health problems to the household people related to lung diseases.
- And also, women have to **walk great distance** to **collect fuel woods**. In Order to Overcome this, Government introduced **PAHAL Scheme (Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme for LPG subsidy)**, **SAUBHAGYA Scheme** (to electrify all the unelectrified villages), **Deen Dayal Upadhaya Gram Jyothi Yojana (DDUGJY)** to provide rural electrification.
- India currently stands as the **4th Largest Wind Power Producer** in world.



Healthcare and its Challenges:

- According to UN report on healthcare around **75%** of the healthcare infrastructure, including medical specialists and doctors are concentrated in urban areas even though

only 27% population lives in urban areas and so 74% of doctors in the country are catering to 1/3 of the Population

- **84%** Shortage of specialist at rural area
- **22%** reduction in MMR since 2013
- Challenges in Health care sector are of **low Quality of care, poor accountability, lack of awareness, and limited access to facilities.**
- A **parliamentary committee report** suggests all doctors passing from Indian medical colleges should compulsorily service in rural areas for at least one year
- Government should create an conducive policy for the investment and participation of private sectors in rural areas.
- Currently private sector is not interested in rural area because it's **not attractive** for them in marketwise
- Government should bring a **smart card-based health insurance scheme** with empanelled hospitals with flexibility in accessing the services across the India.
- Ayushman bharat is aiming to cover at least 50 crore people under the insurance scheme.
- Its benefit cover is of Rs5 lakh per family per year. It's being planned as the smart card based one.
- Budget 2017-18 has given a lot of impetus to rural health with 27% increase in allotment but it should be matched
- IT based solution could be used to plug the shortage of specialists in rural area by using telemedicine.

Bharat Net:

1. It brings half of the population of India to internet via broadband connectivity.
2. It aims to bring 2,50,000-gram Panchayat to be connected under fibre optical
3. The objective is to facilitate the delivery of **e-governance, e-health, e-education, e-banking, internet** in the rural areas
4. As per a study, **about 10%** internet usage in India generates a **GDP growth of 3.3%**

5. Till now, one lakh gram panchayat has been provided with broadband connectivity and also this will provide **NET NEUTRALITY**.

RURBAN (Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission):

- It aims at development of **rural growth clusters** which have a **latent potential** for growth and would trigger overall development in the region
- RURBAN will create a cluster of **smart villages**
- The Mission aims at development of **300 Rurban clusters**, in the **next five years**.
- These clusters would be strengthened with the required amenities, for which it is proposed that resources be mobilized through convergence of various schemes of the Government
- Above all a **Critical Gap Funding (CGF)** would be provided under this Mission, for focused development of these clusters.

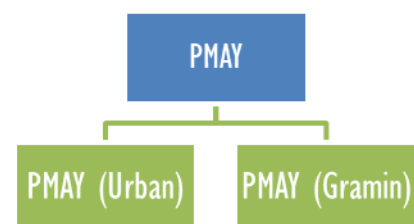
Drinking Water:

NRDWP – National Rural Drinking water Programme

1. A Direct relationship exists between **water, health & Well being**
2. Unsafe drinking water can cause **increase in MMR, IMR**
3. **SWAJAL Scheme** in 115 Aspirational Districts encourages community level participation in rural area for **Quality drinking water**.
4. NRDWP – Launched in 2009, involves grassroots level institutions like Panchayati Raj (PRI) and village water & Sanitation sub committees (VWSSC) for implementing this scheme

PMAY: PM Awas Yojana

1. It's the largest programme for rural poor in the world.
2. Govt. Provides **1.50 Lakh to 1.60 Lakh** to beneficiaries and also provides loan assistance up to 70,000 and 90-95 days of MGNREGA work.
3. Skilling of rural masons of **5 lakh** by 2019 is also part of the scheme, thus boosting employment opportunities.



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4. Construction of **1 crore houses by March, 2019** in rural India is the agenda of the scheme.

Conclusion:

- Rural Infrastructure assumes great importance in India because of the country's predominantly rural nature, the crucial linkages of infrastructure to economic growth, poverty alleviation and human development. Infrastructure is indeed correlated to economic growth in rural areas. Studies show that low per capita income correlates with lack of infrastructure is indeed correlated to economic growth in rural areas. Studies show that low per capita income correlates with lack of infrastructure.
- Therefore, infrastructure which can be driver of rural growth, is often not available in rural areas. But the situation has now changed. The Government is guided by its mission to strengthen agriculture and rural development and its focus is on, among others, construction of rural infrastructure.
- It is no doubt an important initiative for reducing the gap between rural and urban areas and improving the quality of life of people of people in rural areas.
- Giving priority to infrastructure is a progressive measure, which can be treated as the social capital that accelerates the productive activities, livelihood and quality of lives.
- Infrastructure development in providing modern facilities of roads, housing, communication, banking etc has poised the country, at the threshold of an elite and developed nation.