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Q8

Hunger and Poverty are the biggest challenges for good governance in India still today. Evaluate how far successive governments have progressed in dealing with these humongous problems. Suggest measures for improvement.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2017 · GS II · 10 marks · Poverty and Hunger

Issues relating to poverty and hunger.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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National Food Security Act, 2013

Legal entitlement to subsidised foodgrain for eligible households, with maternity benefit and a child-nutrition frame, building on PDS and MDM.

MGNREGA, 2005

Guarantee of 100 days of wage employment to rural households; a rights-based poverty and distress-migration tool.

PUCL v. Union of India

Right-to-food litigation in which the Supreme Court issued continuing orders on PDS, MDM and ICDS, linking hunger to [Article 21](#).

Tendulkar and Rangarajan lines

Official and expert poverty lines; Tendulkar showed a decline in the 2000s, Rangarajan a higher poor population on a different basket.

ICDS and Mid-Day Meal Scheme

Core nutrition programmes for children and, for MDM, school enrolment; both were strengthened by Supreme Court orders in the 2000s.

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