

WRAP Exams · wrapexams.com

Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

ask@wrapexams.com · +91 85951 84903 · wrapexams.com

Q4(c)

Why is it necessary to implement PCPNDT Act in India?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2015 · Sociology GS 2 · 15 marks · Perspectives on the study of Indian society

Perspectives on the study of Indian society: Indology (G.S. Ghurye); Structural functionalism (M.N. Srinivas); Marxist sociology (A.R. Desai).

Core demand of the question

- Why is it necessary to implement **PCPNDT** Act in India?
- Link sex ratio, kinship, and technology

Revision summary

Son preference plus ultrasound created a market in missing daughters.

PCPNDT exists to stop sex selection disguised as diagnosis.

Prosperity did not remove the demand; it sometimes bought the test.

Weak implementation leaves the Act unused.

Law is necessary and must travel with property and honour reform.

Introduction

The **PCPNDT Act** is necessary because diagnostic technology made son preference a market. Without a ban on sex selection, **Seed and Earth** kinship plus cheap ultrasound would keep producing missing girls.

Body**The social problem**

- **Child sex ratio** decline in prosperous belts showed that wealth and education did not automatically save daughters.
- **Leela Dube's metaphor explains the demand:** the seed line wants sons; the girl is a transferable cost, often via **dowry**.
- Pre-natal tests turned female foeticide into a clinic service, worse in some ways than older infanticide because it looks medical.

Why implementation, not only a law on paper

- Clinics, doctors, and families collude. Weak inspection makes the Act a signboard.
- Implementation protects the future electorate, labour, and marriage market from a surplus of men and a deficit of women, with trafficking and violence as known risks.

Limits of law

- The Act cannot by itself end patriliney. Succession rights, pensions, and honour codes must move with it.

Flow diagram

Son preference -> Ultrasound market
Ultrasound market -> Missing girls
PCPNDT enforced -> Brake on selection

Conclusion

PCPNDT is necessary as a brake on technological sex selection in a son-preferring society. Implementation is the difference between a statute and a still-falling ratio.

Facts & figures

PCPNDT

Law that regulates prenatal diagnostics to prevent sex selection.

Child sex ratio

The demographic alarm that made the Act sociologically urgent.

Seed and Earth

Kinship ideology that structures demand for sons.

Dowry

A cost logic that makes daughters economically unwelcome in many families.