

CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE

PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IN INDIA AMIDST SECOND WAVE OF COVID 19

Why in news?

The health care system of India has been struggling to cope up with the devastating blow of the second wave of corona virus that has collapsed the country's health care system. Many well equipped hospitals are unable to handle the relentless inflow of patients, running shortage of beds, oxygen cylinders, vaccines, scarcity of testing kits and other essentials. This condition has stressed out the country's health infrastructure and the improvements made during the last year.

India's healthcare spending is abysmally low. As per the World Health Organisation the country ranks second last among the countries in its region in terms of public health spending as a share of its Gross Domestic Product. With less than one per cent public health spending as a share of GDP, India lags behind Bhutan (2.5 per cent), Sri Lanka (1.6 per cent) and Nepal (1.1 per cent), showed the National Health Profile 2019.

Connectedness to the syllabus:

ESSAY:

UPSC may ask candidates to write an essay on how India must ensure the Universal Health Coverage System and enhance its health infrastructure.

GS PAPER-II

- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
- Development processes and the development industry —the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.
- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.
- Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.

GS PAPER-III

- S&T – developments and their applications and effects in everyday life, achievements of Indians in S&T.

Articles link:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-56771766.amp>

https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/second-wave-of-covid-19-to-take-a-toll-on-indian-healthcare-system-fitch-121041600297_1.html

CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE

PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/opinion/indiast-health-system-has-collapsed-101618558934636.html>

<https://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/health-files/the-indian-healthcare-system-needs-an-overhaul/4345>

Videos link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwENA1rmQio>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTUf085M1DQ>

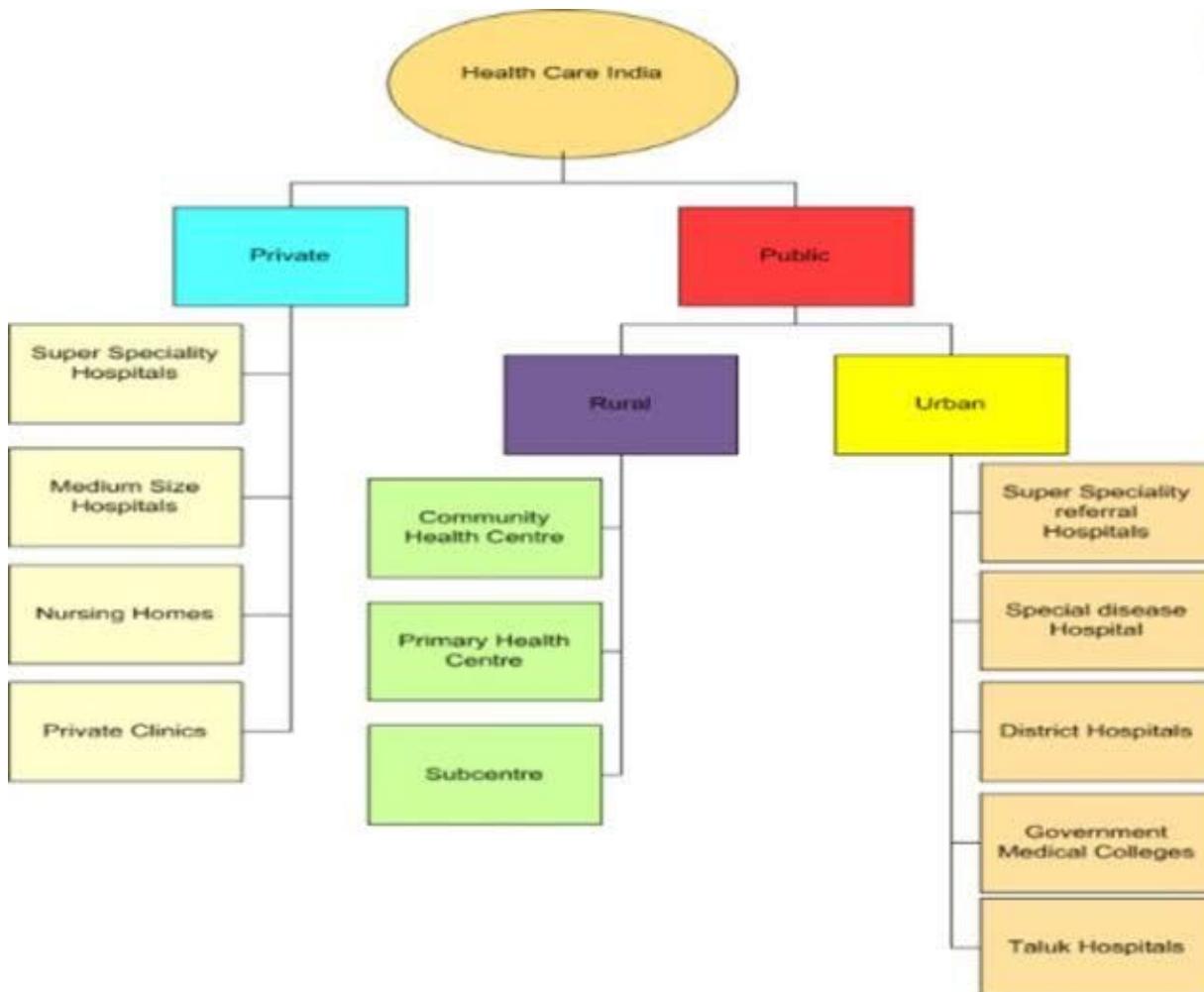
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cup4snqT1mo>

<https://youtu.be/MrzjaNusYIA>

Images and Figures:

CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

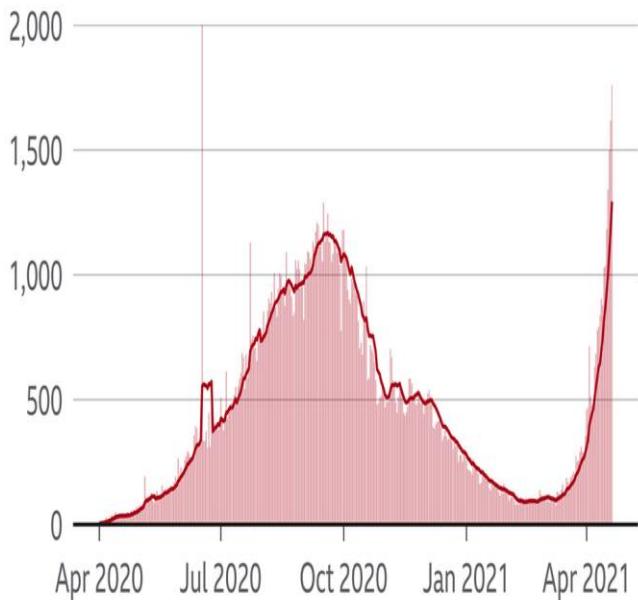


CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE

PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

Daily reported deaths are rising



Deaths on 17 June include historic deaths reclassified with coronavirus as cause

Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, data to 19 Apr

BBC

CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE

PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

NATIONAL RARE DISEASE POLICY

Why in news?

This is with regard to the recent news stating that patients of rare diseases will get treatment under Ayushman Bharat scheme of the Government. In the “National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021”, there is a provision for financial support upto Rs. 20 lakhs under the Umbrella Scheme of RastriyaArogyaNidhi for treatment, of those rare diseases that require a one-time treatment (diseases listed under Group 1 in the rare disease policy). According to the Organization for Rare Diseases India, these include inherited cancers, autoimmune disorders, congenital malformations, Hirschsprung’s disease, Gaucher disease, cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophies and Lysosomal Storage Disorders (LSDs).

The financial assistance would be extended to not only BPL families, but also the benefit would be extended to about 40% of the population, who are eligible under Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY). This financial support for treatment of rare diseases is proposed under the Umbrella Scheme of Rastriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) and not under Ayushman Bharat PMJAY.

Connectedness to the syllabus

Essay:

UPSC may ask candidates to write an essay on India’s negligence on awareness and preparedness about the rare disease. International cooperation related to rare diseases and need for a policy.

GS PAPER-II

- Development processes and the development industry —the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.
- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.
- Issues relating to poverty and hunger

GS PAPER-III

- S&T – developments and their applications and effects in everyday life, achievements of Indians in S&T.

Article links:

CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE

PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetail.aspx?PRID=1709369>

<https://rarediseases.info.nih.gov/diseases/pages/31/faqs-about-rare-diseases#:~:text=In%20the%20United%20States%2C%20a,adopting%20them%20to%20develop%20treatments.>

<https://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/94/10/15-163519/en/>

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/national-policy-for-rare-diseases-approved-by-health-minister-7-points-101617512536250.html>

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/national-policy-for-rare-diseases-notified-no-financial-help-for-diseases-that-need-costly-lifelong-treatment/articleshow/81854746.cms>

Videos link:

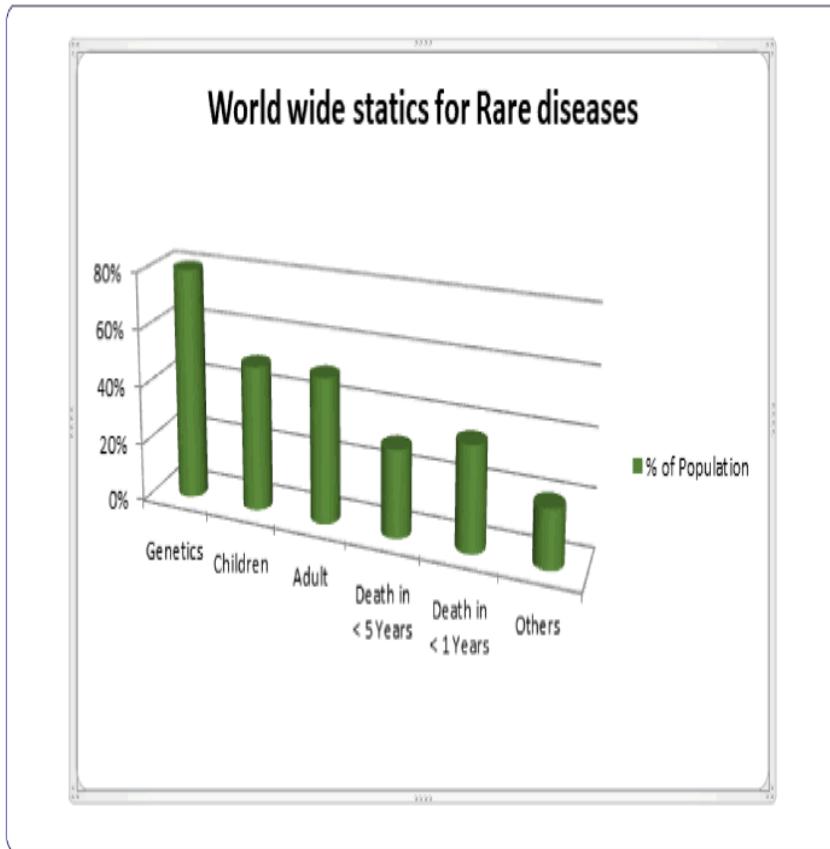
<https://youtu.be/-oUFelRBmd4>

CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE

PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

Images and Figures:



CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE

PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

THE SCENARIO IN INDIA

FROM OVER 7,000 IDENTIFIED RARE DISEASES, 95% DO NOT HAVE ANY FDA APPROVED ORPHAN DRUGS

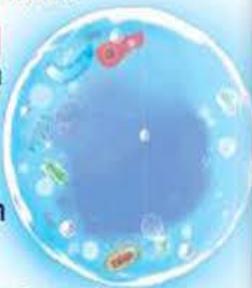
80% of the diseases occur at birth and are genetic in nature

50% babies born with rare diseases die within a year of birth

ESTIMATES

9-10 crore | No. of people in India who suffer from rare diseases, which is 25% of global patients

5.4 to 6.5 lakh | No. pf people in Hyderabad, of a population of 90 lakh, who suffer from rare diseases



40% | Chances of error in diagnosis during a patient's first visit

4.8 years | Average time taken for diagnosis

20 years | Maximum time taken to detect



SOME RARE DISEASES

- Thalassemia
- Sickle cell anaemia
- Ataxia
- Lysosomal storage disorder
- Congenital insensitivity to pain (rarest of rare)
- Acquired aplastic anaemia
- Muscular dystrophy
- Multiple sclerosis
- Sweet syndrome
- Paediatric cardiomyopathy

CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE

PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

ISSUES WITH THE HIGHER EDUCATION

Why in News?

Since independence, the higher education system in India has undergone a development spurt, entailing drastic improvements in the number of establishments, enrolment rate, faculty positions, infrastructure development and provision of facilities and technological advancements. India boasts the second-most expanded higher education system globally. But, still India is struggling to grow its education system which is evident by its poor performance in institutional rankings (not a single Indian university in top 100 universities of the world), the poor employment status of its students, poor track record in receiving national awards and recognition, poor share in research funding and so on.

Connectedness to the syllabus:

ESSAY:

UPSC can ask candidates regarding the status of higher education system in India. Challenges and reforms in higher education in India. Measures needed to improve innovation in universities in India.

GENERAL STUDIES - II

- Functions and responsibilities of the union and the states, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure
- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.
- Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

GENERAL STUDIES - III

- Science and Technology- developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.
- Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.
- Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.

Articles link:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/indianexpress.com/article/explained/reading-new-education-policy-india-schools-colleges-6531603/lite/>

CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2020/jul/30/how-does-new-education-policy-affect-you-2176624.amp>

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1131773.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwiWzu68hpnwAhUZT30KHS88AlcQFjAMegQIDRAC&usg=AOvVaw2etedQVBucx0089wfB2f-X>

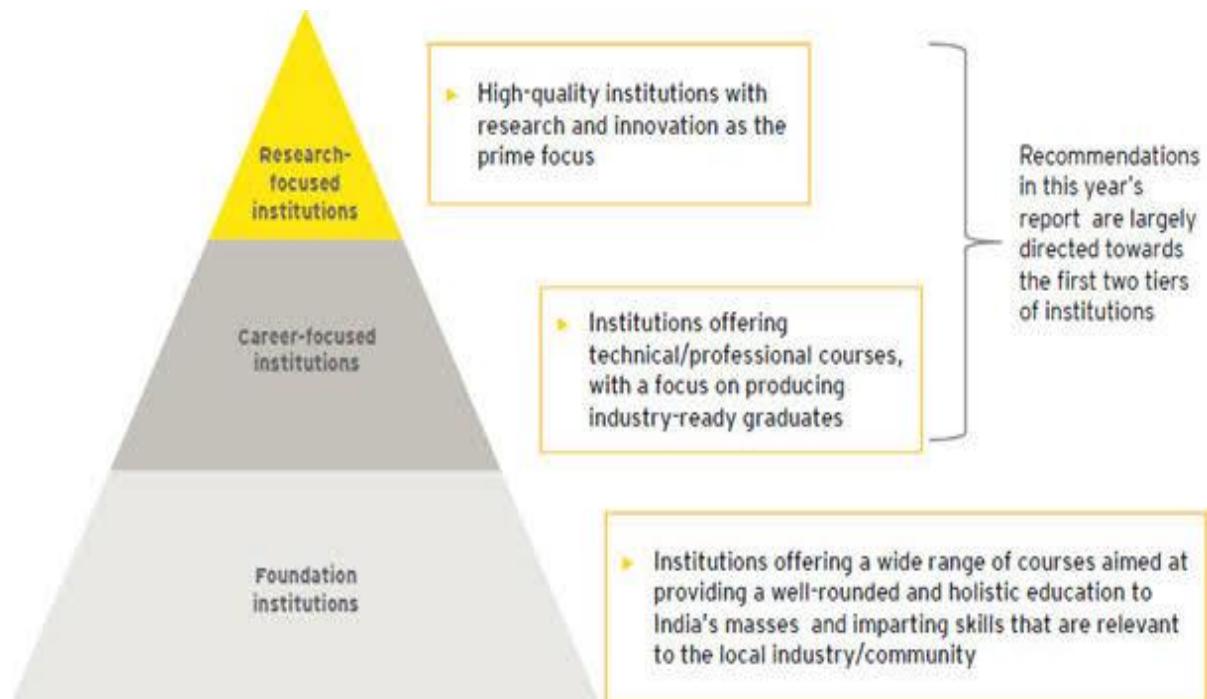
Videos link:

<https://youtu.be/A-NwncYsYu0>

<https://youtu.be/HoBEsXnshpEimages>

<https://youtu.be/50zJnfAreFc>

Images and figures



CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W

EXPLAINED
by The Indian Express

NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY

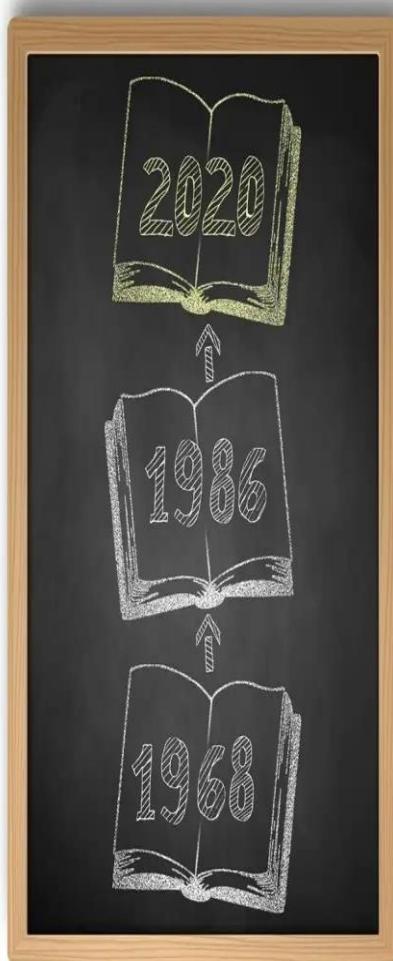


#QUIXPLAINED

3

EXPLAINED
by The Indian Express

NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY



What purpose does a National Education Policy serve?
A National Education Policy or NEP is a comprehensive framework to guide the development of education in the country. A new policy usually comes along every few decades. The latest policy is India's third. It replaces the 1986 NEP, which was in place for 34 years.

#QUIXPLAINED

CIWP

CURRENT ISSUES WRITING PRACTICE

PRE-TEST MATERIAL FOR CIWP – W