Today's Prelims Topics

X's Challenge Against Govt's Use of IT Act Section 79(3)(b)

Context

Elon Musk-owned **X (formerly Twitter)** has challenged the Indian government's use of **Section 79(3)(b) of the IT Act, 2000** to moderate and remove content on social media.

What is Section 79?

- **Section 79 of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000** provides **"safe harbour" protection** to intermediaries (such as social media platforms, search engines, and internet service providers).
- **Safe-Harbour Protection:**
    - It is a legal framework that shields intermediaries (such as social media platforms, online marketplaces or hosting services) from being held liable for the content uploaded by their users, as long as they comply with certain conditions.
    - **E.g.** Wikipedia, Google, Facebook etc.
- **Key Provisions of Section 79:**
    - **79(1): Exemption from Liability:** Intermediaries **shall not be held liable** for content posted by **users** unless they are involved in modifying or creating the content.
    - **79(2): Conditions for Safe Harbour Protection:** The intermediary **must act as a passive conduit** (i.e., not modify or curate content). It should follow the provisions of **laws and IT rules**.
    - **79(3): Exceptions to Safe Harbour Protection:** Safe harbour **does not apply** if:
        - **(3)(a)** The intermediary is actively involved in publishing, modifying, or selecting the content.
        - **(3)(b)** The intermediary fails to remove content **after receiving actual knowledge or a government/court order**.

SC directive in Shreya Singhal on Section 79(3)(b)

- The **Supreme Court limited the scope** of Section 79(3)(b), ruling that: Content removal orders must come **from a court or government notification** based on **Article 19(2) grounds**.

Government's October 2023 Directive & Sahyog Portal

- **In October 2023**, the **Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY)** issued a directive to:
    - All **ministries, state governments, and police authorities**, stating that they **could issue blocking orders under Section 79(3)(b)**.
- **In October 2024**, MeitY launched **"Sahyog"**, a portal where **blocking orders can be issued and uploaded** by these authorities.

Source:

- **Indian Express - Section 79**

Sagar Mala Scheme

Context

Recently the 4th NSAC meet was held to review and boost port-led development under the Sagarmala Programme.

About Sagarmala Scheme

- It is a **port-led** development initiative launched by the Government of India in **2015 under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways (MoPSW).**
- **Objective:** To **modernize ports, improve logistics efficiency and boost coastal economy** by leveraging India's long coastline (7,500 km), 14,500 km of navigable inland waterways and strategic location on global maritime trade routes.
- **National Sagarmala Apex Committee (NSAC):** It was **established in May 2015** to oversee **Port-Led Development** under Sagarmala.
- **Achievements of Sagarmala:**
  - Coastal shipping has grown by **118%** in the last decade.
  - Ro-Pax ferry services have transported over **40 lakh** passengers.
  - Nine Indian ports now rank among the **top 100 globally (Visakhapatnam among the top 20 container ports).**

5 Key Pillars of Sagarmala

- **Port Modernisation & New Port Development:** Increase cargo handling capacity, reduce turnaround time and improve global competitiveness of Indian ports.
  - **234 port modernisation projects worth ₹2.91 lakh crore** (103 completed, adding 230 MTPA capacity).
- **Port Connectivity Enhancement:** Improve last-mile connectivity of ports through road, rail and inland waterways.
  - **279 connectivity projects worth ₹2.06 lakh crore** (92 completed, adding 1,500 km of road/rail linkages).
- **Port-Led Industrialisation & Coastal Economic Zones (CEZs):** Establish industrial clusters near ports to boost manufacturing and exports.
  - **14 industrial projects worth ₹55,000 crore** (9 completed).
  - Development of Coastal Economic Zones (CEZs) in **Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.**
- **Coastal Community Development:** Improve the livelihoods of coastal populations, especially fishermen and local businesses.
  - 310 projects worth ₹26,000 crore benefiting 30,000+ fishermen.
- **Inland Waterways Development:** Promote water-based transport to reduce congestion on roads and railways.
  - Revival of National Waterways **(Ganga, Brahmaputra, Godavari, etc.).**
  - Growth of inland waterway cargo by **700%** over a decade.

Sagarmala 2.0

- **Focus Areas:** Shipbuilding, repair, shipbreaking and recycling.
- **Investment:** ₹40,000 crore budgetary support to attract ₹12 lakh crore investments over the next decade.
- **Objectives:**
  - Bridge critical infrastructure gaps.
  - Enhance coastal economic growth.
  - Position India as a global maritime leader.

Sagarmala Startup Innovation Initiative (S2I2)

- **Objective:** Driving a new wave of **RISE (Research, Innovation, Startups, and Entrepreneurship)**.
- **Key Focus Areas:** Green shipping, Smart ports, Maritime logistics, Shipbuilding technology, Sustainable coastal development.
- **Support Provided:** Funding, mentorship and industry partnerships.

Source:

- **PIB - Sagarmala**

International Olympic Committee

Context

For the first time in the IOC's 130-year history a woman has been elected to the post of IOC Chairman.

About International Olympic Committee (IOC)

- **IOC** is the **supreme authority of the Olympic Movement**.
- It is responsible for **organizing the Olympic Games** and promoting Olympism worldwide.
- It was founded in **1894** by **Pierre de Coubertin. (HQ - Lausanne, Switzerland)**

Structure of the IOC

- **President:**
  - The **IOC President** serves an **eight-year term**, renewable for **four more years**.
  - The **current President (2025)** is **Kirsty Coventry (Zimbabwe)**, the **first woman and African** to hold the post.
- **IOC Members:**
  - IOC has **100+ members**, including **royalty, heads of state, athletes, and business leaders**.
  - Members serve as **trustees of the Olympic Movement**, not as representatives of their countries.
  - **India's current IOC member**: **Nita Ambani (Reliance Foundation chairperson)**.
- **Executive Board:**
  - It oversees daily operations. It includes the **President, four Vice Presidents, and ten other members**.
- **Commissions & Committees:**
  - The IOC has various **commissions** that focus on issues like: Athlete welfare, Ethics & governance, Anti-doping policies etc.

- **Upcoming Olympics:** Paris 2024 (Summer), Milan-Cortina 2026 (Winter), Los Angeles 2028 (Summer), Brisbane 2032 (Summer).
- India is **bidding to host the 2036 Olympics**.

Source:
- **Indian Express - IOC**

News in short

Unified Interface Logistics Platform (ULIP)
- ULIP has recorded over 100 crore API transactions, marking a key milestone in India's logistics sector.   **About ULIP**   - ULIP is a digital initiative launched under the National Logistics Policy (NLP) in September 2022 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.   - It aims to create a **seamless, technology-driven, and efficient logistics ecosystem** in India.   - It integrates **logistics data from multiple government ministries and private stakeholders** to improve **supply chain efficiency and transparency**.   **Real-time Cargo Tracking**: Enables tracking across **road, rail, ocean, and air transport**.   **ULIP** simplifies compliance with government logistics policies and regulations ➡ **Promoting EODB.**   - ULIP is maintained by **NICDC Logistics Data Services Ltd. (NLDSL).**   - NLDSL is a joint venture between the Indian Government represented by **National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT)** and **Japanese** IT major **NEC Corporation.**   **Source:**   **DD News - ULIP**
Navroz Festival
- Navroz, also known as Nowruz, is the Persian New Year and marks the beginning of spring in the Northern Hemisphere.   - It is celebrated on **March 20 or 21**, aligning with the **spring equinox**.   - Associated with **Zoroaster**, the founder of **Zoroastrianism**, and has been celebrated for over **3,000 years**.   **UNESCO** included Nowruz in its **Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2009.**   - It was introduced in India by the **Delhi Sultan, Ghiyas-ud-din Balban.**   **Source:**   **PIB - Navroz**
GPS Spoofing
Between November 2023 and February 2025, 465 GPS interference and spoofing incidents were reported, primarily in the **Amritsar and Jammu regions** near the India-Pakistan border.   **What is GPS Spoofing?**   **GPS spoofing** is a **cyberattack technique** where a fake GPS signal is transmitted to mislead a GPS receiver into calculating an incorrect location, time, or velocity.   **It differs from GPS jamming**, which blocks signals, whereas spoofing **manipulates** them to

mislead users.

- **Impact of Spoofing:**
  - Aircraft can be **misled into thinking they are on a different flight path**.
  - Ships and vehicles may **navigate incorrectly**, leading to potential security risks.
 - **Military operations, financial transactions and personal navigation** apps can be affected.

Source:

- **The Hindu - GPS Spoofing**

Life Discovered Under Antarctic Ice Shelf

- A team of scientists discovered **dozens of new species**, including **giant sea spiders, octopi and corals**, in an unexplored underwater world beneath the **Antarctic ice shelf**.
- This discovery was made possible after the **A-84 iceberg**, which measured **510 sq km** (about **2.5 times the size of Kolkata**), broke away from the **George VI Ice Shelf.**
- This discovery is part of **Challenger 150**, a **UNESCO-endorsed global initiative for deep-sea research**.
- **New Species Found**: Giant **sea spiders, octopi, corals, jellyfish and sponges**.

Source:

- **Indian Express - Undiscovered Life**
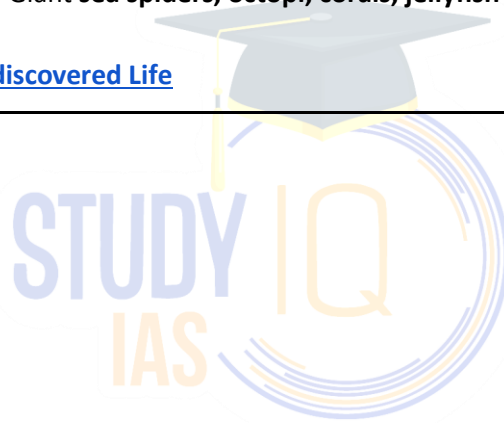
Editorial Summary

India's Marginalised in Parliamentary Budgetary Affairs

Context

In India, the executive-driven budget process limits parliamentary influence, leaving legislators with minimal opportunity to shape or scrutinize financial policies.

Process of Budget Preparation

1. **Pre-Budget Consultations**
2. **Formulation of Budget Estimates**
3. **Approval by the Cabinet**
4. **Presentation in Parliament**
5. **Parliamentary Scrutiny and Approval:** The **Budget is discussed in Parliament**, followed by:
   - General Discussion (No voting, only debate).
   - Departmental Scrutiny by Parliamentary Standing Committees.
   - Demand for Grants (Detailed discussion and voting).
   - Appropriation Bill (Legal authorization for spending).
   - Finance Bill (Legislation for tax proposals).
6. **Implementation**

Constitutional Provision That Make Budget Necessary

Article	Description
Article 112	The President is required to present an annual financial statement to both Houses of Parliament, detailing the estimated receipts and expenditures of the Government of India for the financial year.
Article 113	No demand for a grant can be made without the recommendation of the President.
Article 114	Withdrawals from the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI) are not permitted without Parliamentary authorization.
Article 266	All government revenues are to be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India, while other public funds, like provident funds and postal insurance, are to be credited to the Public Account of India.
Article 267	Parliament has the authority to establish a Contingency Fund of India through legislation, intended to address unexpected or unforeseen expenditures.

What Are The Components of Budget?

- Estimates of revenue and capital receipts;
- Ways and means to raise the revenue;
- Estimates of expenditure;
- Details of the actual receipts and expenditure of the closing financial year and the reasons for any deficit or surplus in that year; and
- Economic and financial policy of the coming year, that is, taxation proposals, prospects of revenue, spending programme and introduction of new schemes/projects.
- It includes revenue from taxes, fees, and other sources, as well as expenses for government programs, public services, and infrastructure projects.
- The budget also usually includes estimates for debt and deficit, which is the difference between the government's expenses and revenues.

What is vote-on-account?

- Vote on Account is the permission to withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India in that period, usually two months.
- A "vote-on-account" only deals with the expenditure in the Government's budget.
- Since 2016, the budget session begins on 1st February (earlier, it was the last week of February).
  - This has decreased the utility of vote on account, as now the passage of the appropriation bill is very much possible even before the beginning of the next financial year.
- Meanwhile, the Vote on Account is still relevant on account of Interim Budgets during the election years.

How is the Budget an Executive – Driven Process?

- **Executive Monopoly Over Budget Drafting:** The Finance Ministry solely drafts the Budget without meaningful involvement from Parliament or even the Cabinet.
  - Unlike legislative bills, which require thorough cabinet discussions and parliamentary debate, the Budget is prepared behind closed doors, limiting transparency and broader input.
- **Minimal Debate and Oversight:** Parliament's role in budgetary matters is largely symbolic.
  - Once the Budget is presented in the Lok Sabha, parliamentarians can discuss it but lack the authority to amend or significantly alter proposals.
  - The debates are often brief and superficial, reducing legislative oversight to mere approval rather than active shaping of financial policies.
- **Exclusion of Rajya Sabha:** The Rajya Sabha, despite being part of the legislative framework, has no substantive role in Budget discussions.
  - India permits a Finance Minister to be a Rajya Sabha member, they lack the ability to vote on their (own) Budget proposals in the Lok Sabha where the Budget is introduced and passed, highlighting the lack of bicameral influence over financial matters.
- **Absence of Independent Research Support:** Indian legislators lack access to an independent, non-partisan body like a Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) to provide data-driven analysis and expert insights.

○ This limits their capacity to scrutinize budgetary proposals and offer informed recommendations.
● **Lack of Pre-Budget Consultations:** Unlike some democracies where parliaments engage in pre-budget consultations, India does not have a structured mechanism for legislators to provide input before the Budget is finalized.
  ○ This prevents Parliament from influencing the government's economic and social priorities at the drafting stage.
● **Weakened Democratic Accountability:** The dominance of the executive in budget-making undermines the principle of parliamentary accountability.
  ○ Without the power to modify or meaningfully influence financial policies, Parliament's role in reflecting public priorities and ensuring financial discipline is weakened.

Ways to Strengthen Parliamentary Budget

● **Introduce Pre-Budget Discussions:** Institutionalize pre-Budget debates during the **monsoon session** for 5 to 7 days.
  ○ Allow legislators to assess the fiscal health of the nation, outline budgetary priorities, and suggest resource allocation strategies.
  ○ Encourage coordination among subject committees to provide informed input and enhance the quality of parliamentary debate.
● **Establish a Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO):** Create an independent, non-partisan body to provide expert analysis on budgetary matters.
  ○ Model it on institutions like the **U.S. Congressional Budget Office (CBO)** and similar bodies in **Canada, Australia, and the UK**.
  ○ The PBO would:
    ■ Conduct independent economic forecasts.
    ■ Assess the fiscal impact of proposed policies.
    ■ Provide data-driven insights and policy briefs to parliamentarians for informed decision-making.
● **Enhance the Role of Parliamentary Committees:** Strengthen the involvement of departmental standing committees in budget scrutiny.
  ○ Ensure that these committees have adequate time and resources to evaluate budget proposals in detail.
  ○ Make committee recommendations more binding on the government.
● **Empower the Rajya Sabha in Budgetary Discussions:** Give the Rajya Sabha a greater role in debating and influencing budget proposals, even if voting rights remain restricted.
  ○ Ensure that Finance Ministers who are Rajya Sabha members engage more actively with the Lok Sabha on financial matters.
● **Increase Transparency and Public Engagement:** Publish detailed budget documents and economic forecasts to improve transparency.
  ○ Encourage public consultations and stakeholder feedback before finalizing the Budget.
● **Allow Amendment Powers for Parliament:** Permit Parliament to suggest and vote on specific changes to budget proposals, rather than simply approving or rejecting them as a whole.
  ○ Grant legislators greater authority to influence sectoral allocations and policy priorities.
Source: The Hindu: India's marginalised Parliament in budgetary affairs

Charting a route for IORA under India's chairship

Context
Indian prepares to step up to chair Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) from November 2025.

About IORA
- Established in **1997** to promote regional cooperation among Indian Ocean countries.
- Comprises **23 member states** and **11 dialogue partners** (including the U.S., China, and the EU).
  - **India is currently vice chair IORA.**
- **Focus areas include:**
  - Maritime safety and security
  - Trade and investment facilitation
  - Disaster risk management
  - Fisheries management
  - Academic and cultural exchanges
  - Blue economy development

Significance of the Indian Ocean
- **Strategic Trade Route:** Handles **75% of global trade** and **50% of daily oil consumption**.
  - Produces **$1 trillion** in goods and services annually.
  - Facilitates **$800 billion** in intra-IORA trade (2023).
- **Resource and Economic Importance:** Rich in **marine biodiversity** and **fisheries resources**.
  - Crucial for **energy security** and **marine-based industries** (shipping, oil and gas, tourism).
  - Home to key chokepoints like the **Strait of Hormuz**, **Malacca Strait**, and **Bab el-Mandeb**.
- **Geopolitical Importance:** Forms the core of the **Indo-Pacific strategy**.
  - Key region for major powers like **China**, **the U.S.**, **Japan**, and **India**.

### Challenges Facing the Indian Ocean
- **Security Issues:** Piracy, terrorism, and trafficking (human, drugs, arms).
  - Growing influence of external powers like China and the U.S.
  - Maritime boundary disputes.
- **Environmental and Climate Challenges:** Rising sea levels and coastal erosion.
  - Marine pollution and degradation of coral reefs.
  - Increasing frequency of cyclones and tsunamis.
- **Economic and Development Issues:** Poor infrastructure in developing coastal states.
  - Lack of resources for sustainable fisheries and marine governance.
  - Dependency on external funding for regional projects.
- **Institutional Weakness:** IORA's budget is dependent on member states (mainly developing economies).
  - Lack of coordination among member states and limited institutional capacity.
  - Small Secretariat based in **Mauritius** with limited staff.

What India Needs to Do
- **Expand IORA's Funding:** Encourage private sector involvement (shipping companies, oil and gas, marine tourism).

- o Establish a dedicated IORA fund for targeted maritime projects.
- **Leverage Technology:** Introduce **digitized record-keeping** for better data management and policy analysis.
  - o Use data-driven insights to improve governance and decision-making.
- **Enhance Regional Collaboration:** Align IORA's goals with India's **SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region)** vision.
  - o Encourage research collaboration with leading IORA members like **Australia** and **France**.
  - o Mainstream **traditional coastal knowledge** from nations like **Sri Lanka**, **Mauritius**, and **Seychelles**.
- **Develop Maritime-Focused Education:** Create **maritime-ready courses** in collaboration with industrial leaders and academic institutions.
  - o Introduce **marine accounting** and interdisciplinary blue economy programs.
- **Strengthen Institutional Capacity:** Increase staffing and operational capacity of the IORA Secretariat.
  - o Establish a dedicated **Parliamentary Budget Office** (PBO)-style body within IORA to monitor financial and strategic decisions.
- **Promote Security Cooperation:** Enhance joint maritime exercises and information-sharing among IORA member states.
  - o Support capacity building for smaller coastal nations to strengthen maritime security.

Source: The Hindu: Charting a route for IORA under India's chairship
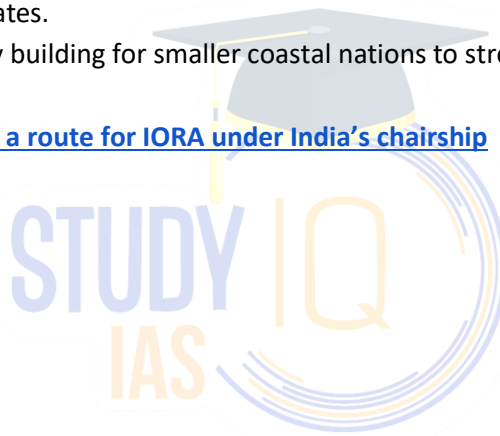
India's Success in Reducing Maternal Mortality

Context
India has **met the National Health Policy (NHP) 2017 target** of reducing the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) to **100 per lakh live births by 2020** and is <u>on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target of reducing MMR to 70 by 2030</u>, according to Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda.

Introduction
- Maternal mortality remains a significant public health challenge in India, serving as a key indicator of healthcare quality and accessibility.
- Maternal death refers to the <u>death of a woman during pregnancy or within 42 days of pregnancy termination</u>, due to pregnancy-related causes, excluding accidental or incidental causes.
- Reducing maternal mortality is crucial for improving the health of women and newborns and achieving global health targets.

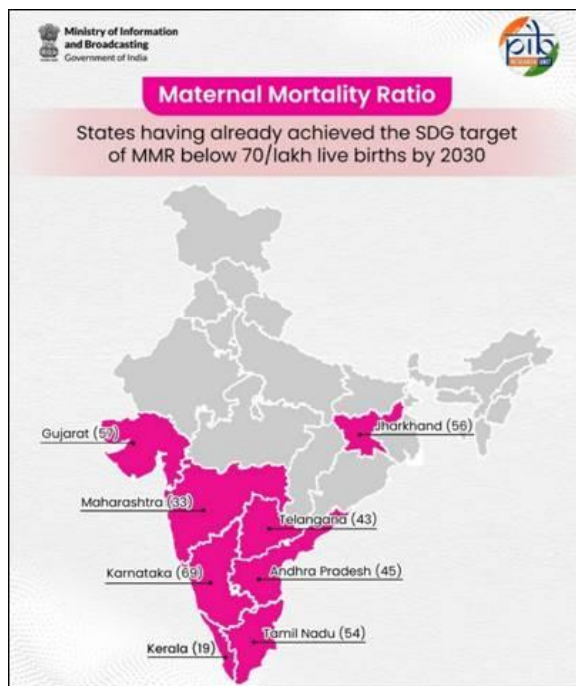### Definition of Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)
- MMR is defined as the number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births during a specific period.
- India has made notable progress in reducing MMR from **130 per 100,000 live births** in **2014-16** to **97 per 100,000 live births** in **2018-20**.
- This improvement reflects the impact of government programs, enhanced healthcare access, and better medical interventions.

Trends in Maternal Mortality in India
- On May 15, 2015, the World Health Organization (WHO) **certified India for eliminating maternal and neonatal tetanus**.

- Maternal mortality in India has shown a consistent decline over the years, highlighting progress in maternal healthcare.
- Some states have reduced their MMR below the **SDG target** of **70 per 100,000 live births**, while others still face challenges in reducing maternal deaths.

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India

Maternal Mortality Ratio
States having already achieved the SDG target of MMR below 70/lakh live births by 2030

Gujarat (57)
Jharkhand (56)
Maharashtra (33)
Telangana (43)
Karnataka (69)
Andhra Pradesh (45)
Kerala (19)
Tamil Nadu (54)

Key Findings from NFHS-5 (2019-21)

- **Antenatal Care (ANC) Visits:** The percentage of pregnant women attending an ANC visit in the first trimester increased from **59%** (NFHS-4, 2015-16) to **70%** (NFHS-5, 2019-21).
- **Recommended ANC Visits:** The percentage of women receiving at least four ANC visits from health providers increased from **51%** (2015-16) to **59%** (2019-21).
- **Institutional Births:** Institutional births rose from **79%** (2015-16) to **89%** (2019-21) at the national level.
  - **100% institutional deliveries** were reported in **Kerala, Goa, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, and Tamil Nadu**, with over **90%** in **18 other states/UTs**.
- **Institutional Deliveries in Rural and Urban Areas:** Approximately **87%** of rural births and **94%** of urban births were conducted in healthcare institutions.

Government Initiatives to Reduce MMR

- **Commitment to Global and National Targets:** India is committed to the **UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)** target of reducing MMR to **70 per 1,00,000 live births** by **2030**.
  - India has already achieved the **National Health Policy (NHP) 2017** target of reducing MMR to **less than 100 per 1,00,000 live births** by **2020**.
- **Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health, and Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) Strategy:** The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) supports all States/UTs under the **National Health Mission (NHM)** through the **Annual Programme Implementation Plan (PIP)**.
  - RMNCAH+N aims to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality by improving healthcare access and timely interventions for high-risk pregnancies.

Key Programs Under NHM

- **Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)** (Launched in 2005): Aims to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality by promoting **institutional deliveries**.

- ○ Provides financial assistance to pregnant women, especially from **SC, ST, and BPL** households.
- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)** (Launched in 2017): Provides maternity benefit of **₹5000** for the first living child of the family.
  - ○ Under **PMMVY 2.0** (from April 2022), an additional cash incentive is provided for the second child if it is a girl.
- **Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK)** (Launched in 2011): Eliminates out-of-pocket expenses for pregnant women and sick infants in public health institutions.
  - ○ Covers free delivery (including caesarean), transport, diagnostics, medicines, and other medical needs.
- **Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN)** (Launched in 2019): Ensures assured, respectful, and quality healthcare at no cost for pregnant women and newborns.
  - ○ Focuses on ending preventable maternal and newborn deaths.
  - ○ Under the SUMAN, public healthcare facilities are categorised into basic, **BEmONC (Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care), and CEmONC (Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care)** centres to provide comprehensive healthcare services.
- **Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA)** (Launched in 2016): Provides free, assured antenatal care on the **9th day** of every month.
  - ○ Under **e-PMSMA**, high-risk pregnancies are tracked with financial incentives for extra visits.
  - ○ As of **March 2025**, over **5.9 crore** pregnant women have benefited from this scheme.
- **LaQshya** (Launched in 2017): Aims to improve the quality of care in **labour rooms** and **maternity operation theatres**.
  - ○ Ensures respectful and quality care during delivery and postpartum.

Additional Measures
- **Capacity Building:** MBBS doctors are trained in **Anesthesia (LSAS)** and **Obstetric Care (EmOC)** to address the shortage of specialists, especially in rural areas.
- **Maternal Death Surveillance Review (MDSR):** Tracks maternal deaths at both facility and community levels.
  - ○ Helps identify gaps and improve the quality of obstetric care.
- **Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Day (VHSND):** Monthly outreach activity providing maternal and child healthcare, including nutrition services.
- **Information, Education, and Communication (IEC/BCC):** Promotes early ANC registration, regular ANC visits, institutional deliveries, and proper care during pregnancy.
- **Mother and Child Protection (MCP) Card and Safe Motherhood Booklet:** Distributed to pregnant women to educate them about diet, rest, danger signs, and available healthcare services.
- **Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Portal:** A web-based tracking system for pregnant women and newborns.
  - ○ Ensures timely antenatal care, institutional delivery, and postnatal care.
- **Anaemia Mukt Bharat (AMB) Strategy:** Part of **POSHAN Abhiyan** to address anaemia among adolescents and pregnant women.
  - ○ Includes testing, treatment, and addressing non-nutritional causes of anaemia.

Infrastructure Strengthening

● **Comprehensive Abortion Care (CAC) Services:** Strengthened through training of healthcare providers, supply of drugs, equipment, and enhanced Information, Education and Communication (IEC) measures.

● **Upgradation of Delivery Points:** Improved infrastructure, equipment, and trained manpower at delivery points to provide comprehensive **RMNCAH+N** services.

● **Functionalization of First Referral Units (FRUs):** Ensured availability of skilled manpower, blood storage units, and referral linkages for better maternal care.

● **Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Wings:** Established at high caseload facilities to improve the quality of maternal and child healthcare.

● **Obstetric ICU/HDU Setup:** Operationalized in high caseload tertiary care facilities to handle complicated pregnancies and high-risk cases.

Success Stories and Innovations in Maternal Healthcare

● **Madhya Pradesh's 'Dastak Abhiyan':** Community-driven campaign focusing on early detection of maternal health risks and timely medical intervention.

● **Tamil Nadu's Emergency Obstetric Care Model:** Established a robust referral system ensuring pregnant women receive timely emergency care, reducing complications.

● **State-Level Innovations:** Several states have implemented unique and targeted strategies to reduce maternal mortality, serving as models for others.

Conclusion

● India has achieved the **National Health Policy (NHP) 2017** target of reducing MMR to below **100 per 1,00,000 live births** by **2020**.

● Continued efforts needed to reach the **SDG target** of reducing MMR to below **70 per 1,00,000 live births** by **2030**.

● Strengthening healthcare systems, expanding maternal health programs, and addressing socioeconomic barriers will be key to further reducing maternal mortality.