BPAE-144: Social Policies and Administration
Assignment (TMA)

Course Code: BPAE-144
Assignment Code: BPAE-144/Asst/TMA/July 2026 – January 2027
Marks: 100

This assignment consists of Sections A, B, and C. Answer all the questions; marks are indicated on the right-hand side.

Assignment: A

1. Describe the functions of government entities engaged in social policy and administration. 20
2. Discuss the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and highlight its initiatives for improving access, equity, quality, and inclusion in education. 20

Assignment: B

3. Discuss the principles of social policy. 10
4. Examine the salient features of the National Food Security Act, 2013. 10
5. Evaluate the major provisions of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment programme. 10

Assignment: C

6. Explain poverty estimation. 6
7. What do you mean by Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)? 6
8. Write a note on Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP). 6
9. Explain the duties of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes. 6
10. Briefly discuss the National Creche Scheme. 6

1. Describe the functions of government entities engaged in social policy and administration. (20)

Answer

Social policy refers to public decisions and programmes designed to improve people's well-being, protect vulnerable groups and distribute essential opportunities more fairly. Administration turns these decisions into services that people can actually use. In India, several government entities share this responsibility because education, health, housing, employment, nutrition and social security need legislation, finance, delivery and public supervision. Their activities are interconnected rather than confined to one office.

Parliament and state legislatures. Elected legislatures provide the legal foundation for social policy. Parliament can enact laws such as the National Food Security Act and legislation on employment and social protection within the constitutional division of powers. State legislatures enact laws in their fields, approve budgets and examine how policies affect their populations. Question Hour, legislative committees, debates and audit reports help hold the executive responsible. Legislatures also represent social demands: elected members can raise issues such as school closures, disability access and pension delays. Through lawmaking and financial oversight, they transform welfare commitments into enforceable public responsibilities.

Union ministries and departments. The Union government frames national policy, establishes standards, mobilises resources and coordinates programmes across states. The Ministry of Education develops education policy and supports national initiatives; the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare shapes public-health priorities; the Ministry of Women and Child Development addresses nutrition, childcare and women's empowerment; and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment works on concerns affecting disadvantaged communities and persons with disabilities. The Ministry of Rural Development is central to rural employment and livelihood programmes. These ministries issue guidelines, undertake research, fund schemes and monitor implementation. They must also work together because a child's educational achievement depends partly on nutrition, sanitation, health and household income.

State governments and district administration. Many social services are actually delivered through state departments, public institutions and district offices. States recruit teachers and health workers, administer schools and hospitals, identify beneficiaries, adapt schemes to regional needs and