

- We are a welfare state

NFSA, NREGA, RTE define rights to food, employment, education and the state has to deliver. Also healthcare.

Revenue from tax: IT, GST.

- Need for efficiency

↳ digitization is a must (but not the only requirement for efficiency).

Check out the digitization examples and evaluate the requirements. (links on last page)

- epos.ap.gov.in (AP PDS site)
- NREGA work flow requirements
- State resident data hubs (SRDH)
↳ see AP and TN particularly

Check out FM's take on pathetic tax compliance
(scroll article)

Check out the IRS officer's proposal for
360° profiling for enforcing tax compliance

With digitization comes risks.

a) incompetent implementation either in terms of technology or processes can cause exclusion/havoc

↳ perhaps not a fundamental problem but a crucial practical one given the ground realities in India.
(IITs can't run WiFi properly!)

b) over emphasis on technology (technology muscle flexing) can divert attention away from more pressing fundamental requirements. Both in terms of time and money!

For example, rather than ensuring that everybody who needs gets PDS ration, and implementing simple and effective digitization and measures to curb corruption, there's possibly undue emphasis on biometric authentication! losing sight of the main purpose? (High Modernism!)

c) Privacy! Analyse the IRS officer's proposal for risks.

Dissent/exercise for democracy at this level of profiling may deter. We will discuss this more, at length.

. Local Ids or global unique id?

Each of the above digitization examples could do with local, purpose specific local IDs like ration card, NREGA job card, PAN etc.

Any disadvantages? Any advantage with a global unique ID?

Please study the digitization requirements and the other issues discussed and prepare a chart (≤ 5 pages) report. We will discuss your report in the next class.

Pranjal Maheshwari to set up a Doodle poll to fix class timings.