Society & Social Justice · GS - II

Medical negligence and gaps in maternal healthcare raise serious concerns about public health governance in India. Discuss the challenges and suggest measures to improve patient safety.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 17/10/2026	GS - II	Society & Social Justice

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Maternal mortality, medical negligence, patient safety, post-operative monitoring, infection control, medical accountability, public health infrastructure, grievance redressal, healthcare governance.

Model Answer

Introduction

Maternal healthcare is a vital component of public health. The recent death of a woman following kidney-related complications after a Caesarean delivery in Kota, Rajasthan, has renewed concerns about patient safety and accountability in government hospitals.

Major Challenges

1. Delayed intervention: Delays in identifying complications and providing appropriate treatment can worsen patient outcomes.
2. Infection control: Weak sterilisation practices or hospital-acquired infections can pose serious risks.
3. Monitoring gaps: Inadequate post-operative observation may delay the detection of kidney injury or other complications.
4. Accountability: Poor communication, unclear responsibility and ineffective grievance redressal can undermine public trust.

5. Infrastructure constraints: Shortages of specialists, equipment and critical-care facilities may affect emergency treatment.

Way Forward

Hospitals must follow standard treatment protocols, strengthen infection-control audits and ensure continuous monitoring of high-risk patients. Independent medical investigations should establish the causes of adverse outcomes and identify any negligence. Adequate staffing, emergency referral systems, transparent communication and effective grievance redressal are equally important.

Conclusion

Preventing maternal deaths requires strong healthcare infrastructure, evidence-based investigations and accountable medical administration. Patient safety must remain central to India's public health system.

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