Society & Social Justice · GS - II

Why is it necessary for Indian schools to move beyond rote learning and focus on future-oriented skills? Discuss the major challenges and suggest measures to make school education more relevant to the changing world.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 04/11/2026	GS - II	Society & Social Justice

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Technological change; employability; critical thinking; experiential learning; teacher training; digital divide; curriculum reform; equitable access; assessment reform

Model Answer

Introduction

India’s school education system must prepare learners not only to acquire knowledge but also to apply it in rapidly changing social and economic conditions. Rote memorisation, when used as the dominant method, inadequately develops creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving.

Need for Future-Oriented Skills

Technological advancement and changing labour markets require digital literacy, communication, collaboration, adaptability and entrepreneurial thinking. Experiential learning also helps students connect classroom concepts with real-life situations.

Major Challenges

Teacher shortages and inadequate training, examination-centred teaching, limited infrastructure, unequal digital access and insufficient vocational exposure constrain skill development. Rural and disadvantaged students may face additional barriers.

Way Forward

Schools should integrate projects, experiments, group activities, vocational exposure and digital learning into curricula. Teacher training must emphasise competency-based pedagogy. Assessment should evaluate understanding and application rather than memorisation alone. Public investment and inclusive digital infrastructure are essential to reduce inequalities.

Conclusion

Future-ready education must balance foundational knowledge with practical competencies. A learner-centred, inclusive and flexible system can strengthen employability, innovation and responsible citizenship.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP