

Daily Mains Practice Answer 17-07-2026

Q. Discuss the significance of the Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) in achieving a citizen-centric and efficient criminal justice system. What are the implementation challenges? (150 words, 10 marks)

Direction: Intro-----Significance + Challenges in implementation-----Conclusion.

Introduction:

Describe ICJS - A digital initiative to integrate the main pillars of criminal justice, i.e., Police, Courts, Jails, Forensic Lab and Prosecution & mention "one data, one entry" principle.

Mention India's aim - To achieve fully digitized by 2027.

Main Body

Significance

- Citizen-centric justice delivery
- Faster trial & Investigation
- Seamless integration - Coordination between various agencies, integration of data sets of police, jail, etc.
- Enhance data quality by reducing errors in data entry.
- Reduce dependence on paper records in decision-making.
- Efficient case management - Enable a shift towards "SMART Policing".

Challenges

- Digital infrastructure gaps
- Data security & Privacy concerns
- Funding and Maintenance
- Lack of skilled professionals
- Lack of coordination among various agencies.

Measures need to be taken:

- Develop uniform national data standards.
- Strengthen cybersecurity and data protection frameworks.
- Invest in digital infrastructure and capacity building.
- Promote greater Centre-State coordination for better implementation.

Conclusion:

Conclude on a progressive note by mentioning that ICJS has the potential to transform the criminal justice system into a citizen-centric, transparent, etc. & enable citizens to access free and fair justice.

