

# Campaign for Social Accountability law

September 27, 2021

**In news– In Rajasthan**, a state-wide campaign has been launched to demand that the social accountability law be passed in the next Assembly session.

## Reasons for the campaign-

- The state constituted a **committee under the chairmanship of the former state election commission, Ram Lubhaya**, to advise the government on the drafting of the Social Accountability Bill in September 2019.
- **The committee strongly emphasised the need for a legal framework to guarantee accountability to the citizens** and highlighted the limitations in the existing administrative system which prevented timely delivery of services.
- **The State government is yet to take action** on the report submitted by a committee in February 2020 along with the draft of the proposed statute.
- The law once passed gives people the right to file grievances on account of violation of any policy, guideline, programme, legislation, citizens charter and get dated acknowledgement receipts.

## What is Social Accountability (SA)?

- It refers to a wide range of actions and mechanisms that citizens, communities, independent media and civil society organizations can use to hold public officials accountable.
- Components of social accountability practice include collection, analysis and dissemination of information, mobilisation of public support, advocacy and negotiation

for change.

- **Social audit** is a tool for social accountability and transparency.

### **Principles of SA-**

1. Information.
2. Involvement and participation of citizens.
3. Time bound action.
4. Protection of Citizens.
5. Citizen's right to be heard.
6. Collective Platform.
7. Report Dissemination.