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# YOJANA

## AUGUST 2018

# VETRII'S UPSC Yojana August - 2018

## Introduction:

- Empowerment is having control over one's life as an individual. And social empowerment means all section of the society having equal control over their lives and opportunity to take important decisions.
- For a nation to grow it is first and foremost requirement that all sections of the society are equally empowered. This can be achieved only when different plane and policies are integrated to ensure equitable growth opportunities and access to all.
- The Government has been trying to empower these different section by adopting a multipronged approach.

## Building an inclusive society:

- The vision of the department of Social Justice and Empowerment in tune with our constitution, is to build an inclusive society where the most oppressed and backward section of our population can live a life of dignity, pride and actively contribute to the nation's human capital.
- Our mandate is the economic educational and social empowerment of the SC, OBC and other vulnerable sections of society. These sections are an important target group for policies and programmes of the Government.

## Schedules Caste Development:

- The Flagship scheme of the Department, Post-Matric Scholarship (PMS - SC) for SC students has been in operation since 1944 and is the single largest intervention by the Government of India for the education empowerment of schedules caste students.
- We are certain positive outcomes on literacy levels and targets groups, on dropout rates, participation in higher education, and finally in achievement of excellence and building human capital for the service of the nation.

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- The Department has developed a web-portal ([e-utthaan.gov.in](http://e-utthaan.gov.in)) in 2017 for online capturing of data from various Ministries/ Departments on the financial, Physical and outcome based monitoring indicators as per the formats designed by NITI Aayog.
- Beyond education, the department has adopted an area based approach for the development of SC habitations which focuses on education, health and nutrition, Swacch Bharat, livelihood and skill development.

## **Backward Classes Development:**

- Another important target group is the Backward classes. Skill development is an important intervention and is being undertaken through the National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC).

## **Senior Citizens Development:**

- An important but often neglected target group, is the senior Citizens whose numbers as well as the old age dependency ratio is growing exponentially.
- Under the existing scheme of Integrated programme for senior citizens post of Physiotherapist attendant and Yoga teachers have been created under the scheme.
- Under the Rastriya Vayoshri Yojana a scheme meant for providing living assisted devices to senior citizens belonging to the BPL Categories.

## **Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers:**

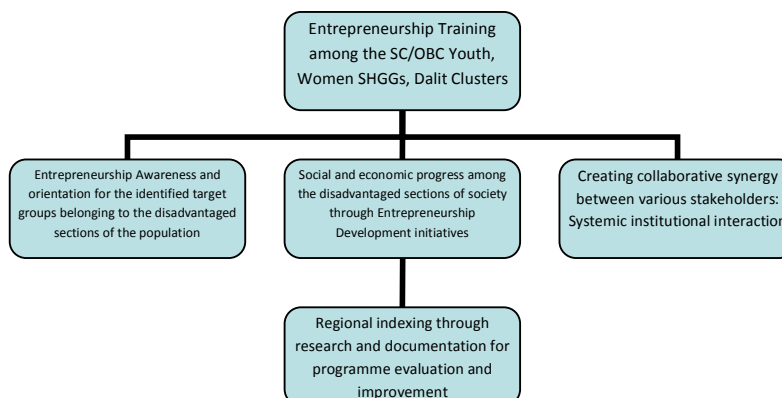
- In the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth year of Mahatma Gandhi, the department is committed to correct the historical injustice and indignity suffered by manual scavengers and rehabilitate them to a life of dignity.
- The National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation will focus areas on training, rehabilitation and awareness generation.

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## Growth Opportunities for weaker sections:

- Government in India have also made essential amendments to the constitutions and brought legislative frame works to ensure social and economic safeguards to the deprived sections of the society.
- As an initial step banks have been nationalised, provisions have been made for priority sector lending requirements for banks. Lead bank scheme was introduced to ensure government policy initiatives to get shape in action. Regional rural bank have been established to provide last mile connectivity.
- Financial inclusion is the process of ensuring access to financial services timely and adequate credit for needy weaker section and low income groups at an affordable rate.
- Barriers to financial inclusion includes 1. Agent and vendor risk 2. Consumption oriented expenditure pattern 3. Dormant Accounts 4. Inadequate Awareness levels 5. Lack of Infrastructure 6. Low Literacy Rate 7. Poor Savings Habit 8. Recovery Related Issues 9. Small ticket Transactions and High Transaction costs 10. Sustainability Factor.
- The National Minorities Finance and development corporations, National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation, Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, Mudra Yojana, Stand up India Scheme, Venture Capital Fund Scheme, Jandhan Yojana, Credit Enhancement Guarantee Scheme are the active players involved in developing the weaker sections.

## Fostering Entrepreneurship among the Marginalized:



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## Social Change among SC's and ST's:

- Certain castes and tribes are privileged in comparison to others is well known Social fact. By the same logic, certain other castes, and tribes are dis privileged comparison to their better socially endowed castes and tribes.
- The stricter implementation of reservations in higher education and in government jobs have even motivated more and more 1<sup>st</sup> Generation SC's and ST's to break the glass ceiling of social mobility, there by empowering them in all respects- social economic and political.
- Firstly, the major effect of social empowerment of the disadvantages is that it had increased their aspirations to get good and relevant education for employment. Irrespective of the region and state, the levels of literacy among SC's and ST's have increased. The enrolments in elementary education have increased too.
- The drop-out rates of retention have improved at various levels, though they continue to remain a cause of concern. The transition from elementary to secondary and from secondary to higher education has improved, though there is much to be desired in these transitions.
- However, a few concerns are striking. The adverse effect of the growing process of privatisation of higher education on the socially disadvantaged is significant as it seems to limit social mobility prospects among aspiring SCs and STs.
- No reservations in private sector employment where large scale employment opportunities are currently found, SCs and STs are either left out or become educated unemployed.

## Social empowerment for differently abled:

- One of the largest minority group in India, who have suffered long years of neglect, deprivation, segregation and exclusion are persons with disability (PwD).

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- In India, disabled persons are still oppressed, marginalized and denied the opportunity for full citizenship and participation, and from living a reasonable quality of life because of society's persistent stereotypical and prejudiced perception of them as inferior, incapable, inadequate and a burden on the family resources and society.
- It has now been officially recognised that people with disabilities are human beings with all the economic, emotional, physical, intellectual, spiritual, social and political needs that other people have.
- In order to give focused attention to policy, issues and meaningful thrust to the activities, aimed at welfare and empowerment of the persons with disabilities, a separate department for Empowerment of persons with disabilities was carved out of the ministry of social justice and empowerment.
- Under Assistance to Disabled persons scheme, the department also provides motorized tricycles. Under Technology Development Projects in Mission Mode, suitable R&D projects are identified and funded for developing aids and appliances.
- Under Accessible India Campaign, a web portal has also been created where people can upload pictures and comments on the accessibility of any building.
- Social empowerment is typically implemented at the four following levels:
  1. The individual level- where the person values him/herself and actively wants to participate in life,
  2. Family level-where the family gets guidance and support for social rehabilitation of their members with disabilities
  3. Community level-where awareness programme can be conducted. Social support from the community along with government policies leads to social inclusion where a

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person is encouraged to thrive in his/her personal situation and inclusive environment.

4. Social policies level impacting local and national level actions to promote social equity and inclusion of all persons with disabilities.

## Senior citizen:

- The concept of 'productive ageing' is premised on solid scientific evidence that ageing is keyed to the level of vigour of the body and continuous interaction between levels of body activity and levels of mental activity.
- In India, the educated middle class seniors are very quick to take to the need for knowledge and practice of productive ageing activities.
- Thus, the retired person in India places a high premium on working for a causes rather than fritter away retired life in pastime leisure and fun.

## Empowerment through political Interventions:

- The Idea of empowerment is invoked in many contexts like human rights, economic insecurity and disadvantaged groups and about their capacity building, and also in addressing the problems of rights.
- Empowerment involves two important aspects: Developing capabilities, negotiating skills and the ability of people on the one hand; and obtaining authority to make decisions or participate in decision making on affairs that affect their lives on the other. Theoretically , empowerment is a process that helps people to gain control over their lives through raising awareness, taking action and working in order to exercise greater control.
- The Task of strengthening the Panchayat raj system fell on the Indian government after independence. To strengthen democracy, villages had to be strengthened because India is a country of village panchayats. Mahatma Gandhi strongly believed in Gram Swaraj.

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According to him, the villages should be governed by themselves through elected panchayats to become self-sufficient. But Surprisingly, they were not included in the draft constitution . Due to Gandhiji's intervention it was included in Article 40 of the Directive Principles of the State Policy.

- By Mid 1960s, Panchayati Raj had reached all parts of the country and the people felt that there was a system which could attend to their issues at local level.
- The Significant Feature of 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment is that it gave constitutional status to Panchayat Raj Institutions and it became mandatory to all the state governments to implement this act.
- A Landmark feature of the act is that in all the panchayats, seats should be reserved for SCs and STs in proportion to their population and 1/3 of the total number of seats will be reserved for women. Reservation of seats will be reserved for women.
- Reservation of seats and offices of the chairpersons for scheduled castes (SCs) and Scheduled tribes (STs) in proportion to their population has the potential to bring radical change in the socio- political structure of this country. The Reservation policy has given a chance to elect nearly 18.51 percent of SC's 11.26 per cent for STs and 36.87 percent for women in all the 2,39,582 panchayats in the country.
- At Present, Seventeen states are implementing 50 per cent reservation to women at all levels of Panchayati Raj.

## Conclusion:

- It is generally acknowledged that, when one wishes to move ahead in the development mode one has to carry the least advantaged with one. Each person can make a difference if he or she tries. The Government, through it's policies, has already started making that difference to ensure an overall inclusive growth.