

## Year End Review 2022 - Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment - Part-1

### Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

- The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has its origin from the erstwhile Ministry of Welfare.
- Two departments have been under the Ministry
  1. Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (Samajik Nyaya and Adhikarita Vibhag)
  2. Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)



### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

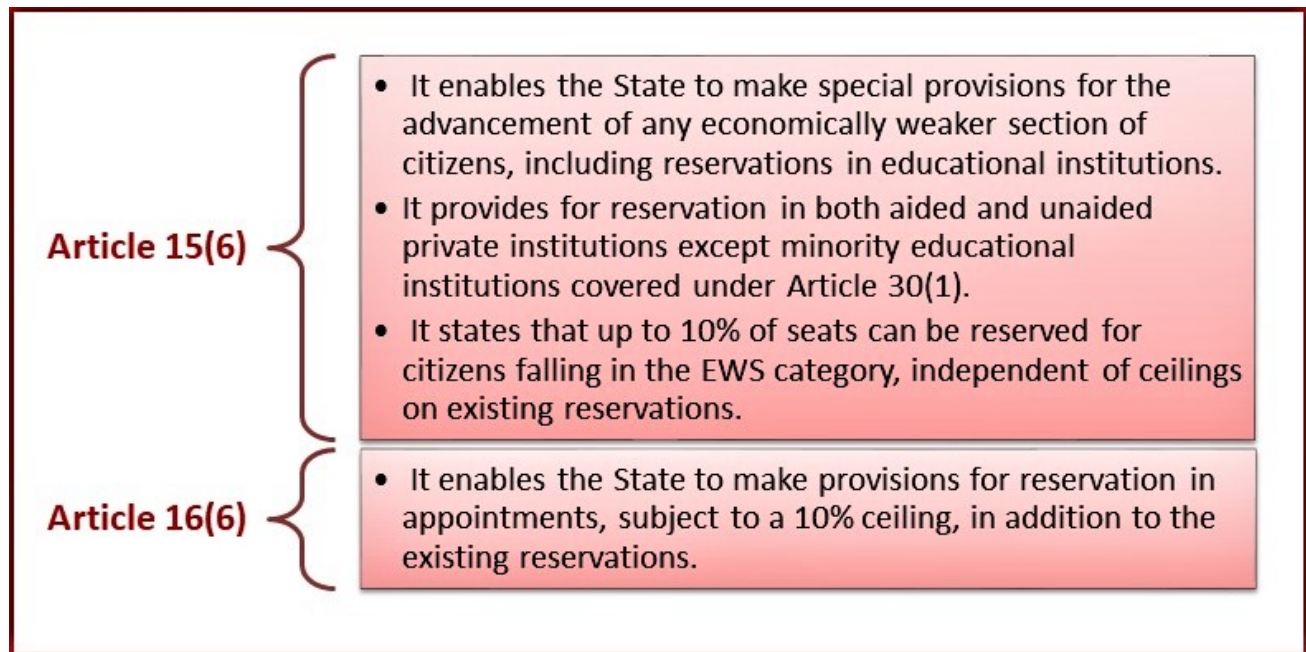
#### 1. Reservation to EWS

- **Articles 15(6) and 16(6)** were inserted in the Constitution by 103<sup>rd</sup> Constitution

Amendment Act 2019.

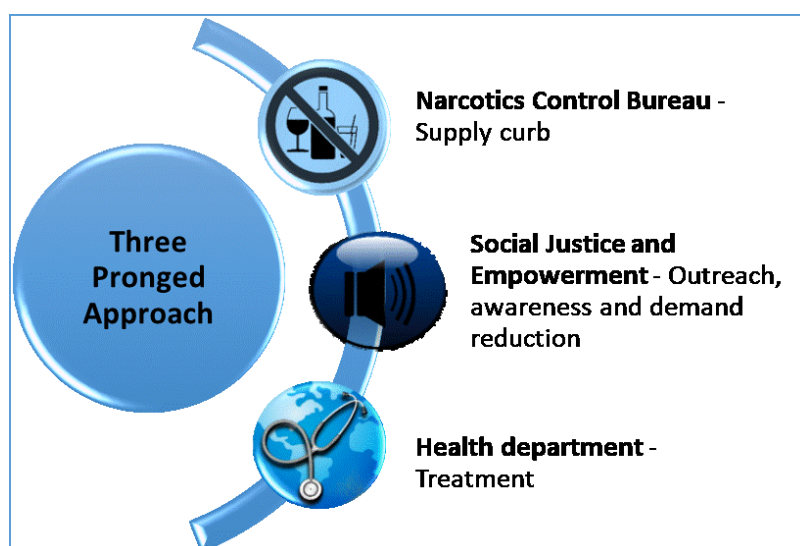
- These Articles enable the States to provide upto **10% reservation** for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in government jobs and government educational institutions.
- The Constitution bench in its majority judgment has upheld the validity of the Constitution 103<sup>rd</sup> Amendment Act 2019.

To know more about the EWS reservation, click [here](#)



## 2. Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA)

- Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) was launched on 15th August 2020, in 272 districts that are most prone to usage drug in the country.
- **Aim-** To tackle the issue of substance abuse and a vision to make India drug free.
- Nasha Mukht Bharat Campaign is a three-pronged attack combining the efforts of Narcotics Control Bureau, Social Justice and Empowerment and Health Department.



- **Navchetna Modules** were developed for sensitizing students (6th -11th standard),

teachers and parents on drug dependence, related coping strategies and life skills.

- **National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR)** is a scheme under which financial assistance is provided to governments, NGOs and government hospitals for drug demand reduction, awareness generation, capacity building, counselling, treatment and rehabilitation.

*Alcohol is the most common psychoactive substance used by Indians followed by Cannabis and Opioids.*

### 3. Scholarship for Scheduled Castes

- Pre-matric scholarships
- National Fellowships for SC Students (NFSC)
- National Overseas Scholarship Scheme

### 4. PM Young Achievers Scholarship Award Scheme for Vibrant India (PM-YASASVI)

- The scheme will cover Other Backward Class (OBC), Economically Backward Class (EBC) and DNT students for pursuing studies from **Class IX to XII** in reputed school shortlisted by the government.
- The scheme is to be implemented through National Scholarship Portal.
- **30%** of the slots shall be reserved for girl students.

### 5. Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM AJAY)

- PM-AJAY has been framed after merging the three erstwhile schemes
  - Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)
  - Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCA to SCSP)
  - Babu Jagjivan Ram Chatrawas Yojana (BJRCY)
- The objectives of the scheme are
  - Reduce poverty of the SC communities
  - Improve socio-economic developmental indicators
  - Increase literacy and encourage enrollment of SCs in schools and higher educational institutions

### 6. Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas (SHRESHTA)

- The SHRESHTA scheme was launched to provide **seats for the meritorious Scheduled Caste boys and girls** in the best private residential schools in the country.
- Every year, it is expected that about 3000 students would be selected for admission in **Class 9 and Class 11** under the scheme.
- The entire cost of the school fee and residential charges are borne by the Department.
- The students are selected through a National Entrance Test for SHRESHTA (NETS), which is conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA).
- Students belonging to the SC community, whose parental annual income is upto Rs.2.5

lakh are eligible.

*National Testing Agency (NTA) is an independent, autonomous organization under the Societies Registration Act (1860) for conducting tests for admission to premier Higher Educational Institutions (HEI).*

## 7. Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi (PM-DAKSH)

- PM-DAKSH Yojana is a national action plan for **skilling the marginalized persons** of SC, OBC, EBC, Senior Citizens, DNTs, Safai karamcharies including waste pickers, and women.
- It provides skill development training programmes at free of cost on,
  - Up-skilling/Re-skilling
  - Short Term Training
  - Long Term Courses
  - Entrepreneurship Development Program

## 8. National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE)

- [NAMASTE](#) is a central sector scheme for improving the living standards of **sanitation workers in urban areas**.
- It is a joint initiative of **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE)**, **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** and **Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation**.
- **Objectives** - It envisages safety and dignity of sanitation workers in urban India by
  - Recognising sanitation workers as one of the key contributors in the maintenance of sanitation infrastructure
  - Providing them with sustainable livelihood
  - Enhancing their occupational safety through capacity building and improved access to safety gear and machines
- It aims at provide alternative livelihoods support and entitlements to reduce their vulnerabilities.

## 9. Transgender

- The Ministry enacted “**The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019**” and **the Rules, 2020**.
- A **National Council for Transgender Persons** was constituted in 2020 to advise Government on policies, programmes, legislation and projects with respect to transgender persons.
- Ministry has launched a National Portal for Transgender Persons in 2020 to obtain certificates and identity cards online without any physical interface with the office of issue.
- A MoU has been signed with National Health Authority for providing a comprehensive medical package to transgenders in convergence with Ayushman Bharat Yojana.
- It would cover all aspects of transition related healthcare for transgender including

hormone therapy, gender reassignment surgery that can be redeemed at all private and government facilities.

- **Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE)** - It aims to provide welfare and rehabilitation to transgenders and the people engaged in the act of begging.
- The focus of the scheme is extensively on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counselling, basic documentation, education, skill development, economic linkages and so on.



## 10. Senior Citizens

- **Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC)** - It is a central sector scheme under which grants in aid are given for running and maintenance of senior citizens homes, mobile medicare units etc.
- **Elderline** - The Ministry has launched National Helpline for Senior Citizens (Toll free No. 14567) in 2022.

To know about Part-2, click [here](#)

## Reference

1. [PIB | Department of Social Justice and Empowerment](#)