

## Year-end Review | Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment - Part 1

### About the Ministry

- The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has its origin from the erstwhile Ministry of Welfare.

#### The 2 departments under the Ministry are:

1. Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (Samajik Nyaya and Adhikarita Vibhag)
2. Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

- The Ministry is entrusted with the welfare, social justice and empowerment of disadvantaged and marginalized sections.
- The marginalized sections includes scheduled and backward classes, persons with disabilities, senior citizens, victims of drug abuse, transgender and so on.
- **Union minister** - Dr. Virendra Kumar.
- **Secretary of Department of Social Justice & Empowerment** - Shri Amit Yadav (IAS).
- **Secretary of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities** - Rajesh Aggarwal (IAS).

### Schemes and initiatives by the ministry

## Initiatives for the Welfare of Scheduled Caste

- **Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship**
- **Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme (SHREYAS)**
- **Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas (SRESHTA)**
- **Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY)**
- **Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989**
- **National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC)**
- **National Commission For Scheduled Castes (NCSC)**
- **Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes (VCF-SC)**
- **Ambedkar Social Innovation and Incubation Mission (ASIIM)**



### **Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship**

- **The Pre & Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme** - Is provided for *SC, ST and OBC students* for educational empowerment of students of above categories.
- They are *implemented through the State Governments/ UT Administrations.*
- They are *Centrally Sponsored Scholarships Schemes.*

### **SHREYAS - Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme**

- SHREYAS scheme for SC, consists of **4 Sub-schemes**, which are:
  1. Free coaching scheme for SCs and OBCs
  2. Top Class Education for SCs
  3. National overseas Scholarship Scheme for SCs etc
  4. National Fellowship for SCs

### **SRESHTA - Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas**

- **Aim** - To improve the educational and socioeconomic conditions of Scheduled Castes

(SCs) through the efforts of grant-in-aid institutions (run by NGOs) and residential high schools.

*Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 (PCR Act) prohibits the practice of untouchability and punishes those who enforce disabilities arising from it.*

### **Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY)**

- **Aim** - To reduce poverty of the SC communities by generation of additional employment opportunities through skill development, income generating schemes and other initiatives.
- **Launched in** - 2021-22.

**National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC)**

- **Self-Employment Loan Scheme** – Total Disbursement of Rs. 165.79 Cr to 12,240 Beneficiaries by the NSFDC.
- **Cluster Development** – 676 SC weavers were identified in a Baseline survey by NSFDC engaged in making of Chanderi sarees at several villages.

**National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)**

- **e-Grievance Management Portal (e-GMP)** – 24x7 grievance redressal platform by NCSC, with real-time tracking of complaints, as part of the Digital India Programme.
- **Review** – The Commission conducted reviews of Public Sector Undertakings/ Public Sector Banks to evaluate implementation of the Reservation Policy & implementation of the various schemes for SC welfare.

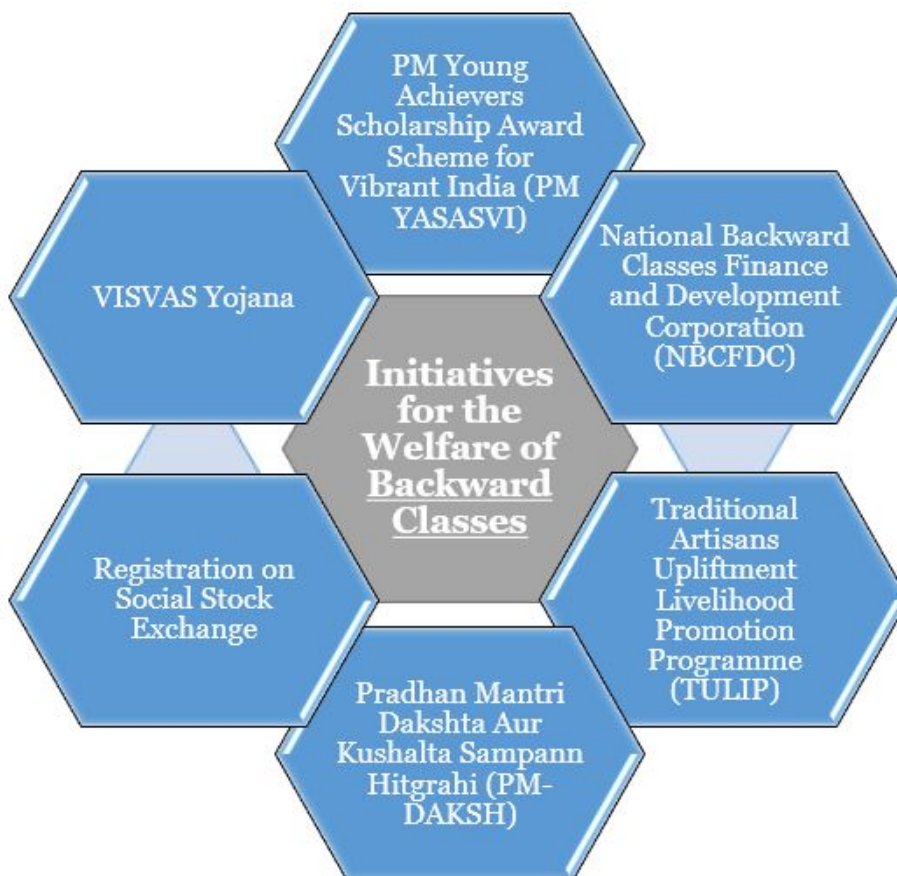
### **Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes (VCF-SC)**

- **Aim** - To promote entrepreneurship among Scheduled Castes (SCs), by providing concessional finance to SC entrepreneurs.
- **Established** - Union Budget 2014-15.
- **Fund Managed** - By the *Industrial Finance Corporation of India* with a total corpus of RS 750 Cr.

*The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (POA Act) aims to prevent crimes against members of the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).*

## Ambedkar Social Innovation and Incubation Mission (ASIIM)

- **Aim** - To promote innovation among SC students, researchers, and those working with technology business incubators and Atal Incubation Centres.
- Fund assistance up to Rs 30 lakh is provided to youth beneficiaries.
- **Launched on** - 30.09.2020.
- The scheme aligns with the 'Stand Up India' initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- It was launched under the VCF-SC.



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

- **PM YASASVI** - Is a flagship initiative by the Government of India, aimed at *providing scholarships to students*.
- **Vision** - Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, means together with all, development for all.

**National  
Backward  
Classes  
Finance and  
Development  
Corporation  
(NBCFDC)**

**2 categories** – The Corporation has rationalized its schemes into 2 categories such as *Individual Loan and Group Loan*, from the current financial year (2024) to facilitate clearer communication.

**Marketing Linkages** – The commission *supports the artisans* by providing opportunities to participate in the *country's leading fairs* such as the Shilp Samagam Mela, Dilli Haat, India International Trade Fair and so on.

### **Traditional Artisans Upliftment Livelihood Promotion Programme (TULIP)**

- **Launched on** - 05 November 2024.
- **About** - TULIP is a Digital Platform for Craft and Community Empowerment.
- It will provide a platform for economic self-reliance and global exposure to artisans via an e-marketplace.
- The launch of TULIP products in the domestic market places will be completed by January 2025.

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

- **Aim** - To enhance competency level of the target groups to make them employable both in self- employment and wage-employment for their socio-economic development.
- **Objective** - To increase family income of marginalised people by *increasing skill levels of the target youth* by providing short term skill training followed by engagement in wage/self- employment.
- It is a *Central Sector Scheme* that was launched during 2020-21.

*NBCFDC has recently registered with the National Stock Exchange – Social Stock Exchange (NSE-SSE) as well as on Bombay Stock Exchange – Social Stock Exchange (BSE-SSE) to enhance community transformation through expanded donation sources.*

### **References**

1. [PIB | Year-end review 2024](#)
2. [About| NSKFDC](#)
3. [About| Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment](#)



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