

## Year-end Review | Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment - Part 2

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### VISVAS Yojana - Vanchit Ikai Samooh Aur Vargon Ki Aarthik Sahayta

- **About** - An initiative of the department to support livelihood activities for marginalized SC, OBC and Safai Karamcharis with a 5% interest subvention on income-generating loans.
- This scheme also *includes manual scavengers and waste pickers*.
- **Objective** - To provide the direct benefit of the lower rate of interest with *interest subvention of 5%* to the eligible Self-Help Groups formed under the National Rural Livelihood Mission.
- All subvention claims from lending institutions are processed via the PM SURAJ portal.
- **Implementation** - It is implemented by the *National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC)* and *National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC)*.

#### Initiatives for the Welfare of Safai Karamcharis

- **National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE)**
- **Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) Scheme**
- **Self-Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS)**
- **National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation (NSKFDC)**
- **National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK)**

### National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE)

- **Aim** - Envisages safety and dignity of sanitation workers in urban India by providing sustainable livelihood.
- **Joint initiative** - Of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of

Housing and Urban Affairs.

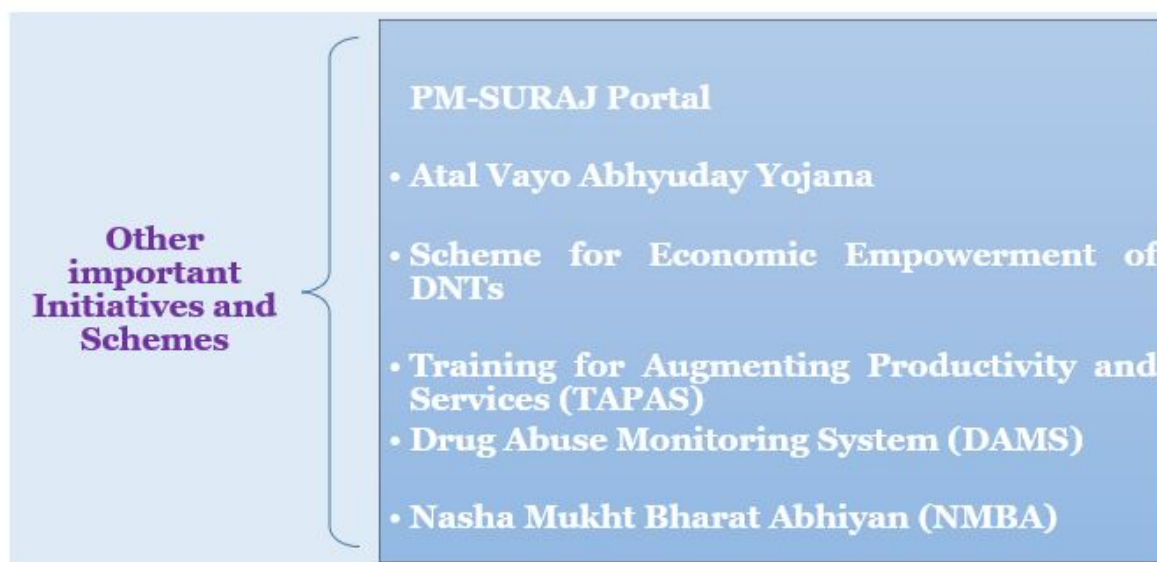
- **SRMS** - Components of erstwhile Self Employment [Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers \(SRMS\)](#) have been subsumed in NAMASTE scheme from 2023-24.
- **Waste pickers** - Have been added as a target group under NAMASTE in FY 2024-25.

### National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation (NSKFDC)

- NSKFDC provides financial assistance to the Safai Karamcharis, Scavengers and their dependants for any viable income generating schemes including sanitation related activities.
- Under non-loan-based schemes, NSKFDC provides 100% grant for skill development training programme and stipend of Rs.1500 per month, per candidate.
- The schemes/programmes of NSKFDC are implemented through various State Channelizing Agencies nominated by the State Governments /UT Administrations and Regional Rural Banks.
- The financial assistance is provided at concessional rates of interest to the SCAs/RRBs/Nationalised Banks for onward disbursement to the target group of NSKFDC.

### SMILE - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise Scheme

- **Aim** - Comprehensive rehabilitation of persons engaged in begging.
- **Objective** - To create a 'Bhiksha Vritti Mukht Bharat' (Begging-free India) by ensuring the reintegration of beggars into mainstream society.
- **Major components** - Area-specific surveys, awareness campaigns, mobilization, and rescue operations, access to shelter-homes and basic services and skills training, alternative livelihood options and formation of Self-Help Groups (SHGs).



### PM-SURAJ Portal

- **Aim and objectives** - To consolidate and streamline economic empowerment initiatives under a single digital platform.
- It integrates various loan schemes, making it a comprehensive solution for economic up-liftment.
- To bring in transparency and broaden its reach to the target groups in remote areas, a

tie-up arrangement with Common Service Centers (CSCs) has been made.

- **Launched by** - The Prime Minister on 13<sup>th</sup> march 2024.

*The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK) was constituted on 1994 as a statutory body by an Act of Parliament (National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993) that serve as a Non-Statutory body of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.*

### **Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana**

- **Aim** - To empower senior citizens in India by ensuring their active participation and inclusion in all aspects of life.
- AVYAY is a comprehensive initiative aimed at empowering senior citizens in India.

### **Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs**

- **Aim** - To facilitate livelihoods initiative at community level to build and strengthen small clusters of DNT/NT/SNT Communities institutions.
- **Implementation** - The Scheme will be implemented for a period of 5 years starting Financial Year 2021-22 to 2025-26.

### **Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services (TAPAS)**

- **About** - A *user friendly platform* following the four-quadrant approach in one line education - Video lectures, supplementary learning material, discussion forum and self-assessment.
- **Online certificate courses** - Through TAPAS, National Institute of Social Defence (NISD) is offering self-paced Online certificate courses.
  - The courses are provided in the key areas of Social Defence -Elderly care, Substance (Drug) Abuse prevention and Transgender issues.

### **Drug Abuse Monitoring System (DAMS)**

- **About** - An *online database*, wherein data on the types of substances, method of consumption, clinical and general profile of treatment seekers at de-addiction centres will be collected.
- **Quarterly basis** - The data are *collected on a quarterly basis* for understanding the trends of the substance abuse in the country.
- **Platform created** - By National Institute of Social Defence (NISD).

### **Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan (NMBA)**

- **Aim** - To tackle the issue of substance abuse and a vision to make India drug free.
- **Launched on** - 15th August 2020, in 272 districts that are most prone to usage drug in the country.

- Nasha Mukta Bharat Campaign is *a three-pronged attack* combining the efforts of Narcotics Control Bureau, Social Justice and Empowerment and Health Department.



## References

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