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2021

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DAY - 1

Q.1. As a progressive and developing society it is our duty to respect the identity and dignity of all sections of society. In the light of the statement assess the viability of SMILE scheme. [Paper II: Social Justice]

Answer Format:

- 👍 Meaning of progressive and developing society.
- 👍 Status of vulnerability in Indian society.
- 👍 Problems and challenges faced by such groups.
- 👍 Introduction to the scheme.
- 👍 Prospects and challenges of the scheme.
- 👍 Conclusion.

SOURCE ARTICLE**Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar launches “SMILE” scheme**

The two sub-schemes of SMILE - ‘Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons’ and ‘Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging’ - provide comprehensive welfare and rehabilitation measures to the Transgender community and the people engaged in the act of begging

As a progressive and developing society it is our duty to respect the identity and dignity of all sections of society: Dr. Virendra Kumar

“The Ministry has ensured that each and every need of Transgender community and persons engaged in the act of begging are taken care of in most professional way”, says the Union Minister

Pilot projects on Comprehensive Rehabilitation in ten cities namely Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Indore, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, Patna and Ahmedabad

Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar launched the Central Sector scheme “SMILE: Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise” today at BHIM Auditorium, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, 15, Janpath Road, New Delhi. This umbrella scheme, designed by Department of Social Justice & Empowerment, is set to provide welfare and rehabilitation to the Transgender community and the people engaged in the act of begging.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Virendra Kumar said, “As a progressive and developing society it is our duty to respect the identity and dignity of all sections of society. The Ministry has ensured that

each and every need of Transgender community and persons engaged in the act of begging are taken care of in most professional way.”

“The provision of National Portal & Helpline will provide necessary information and solutions to the problems of the Transgender community and the people engaged in the act of begging,” the Union Minister added.

The two sub-schemes of SMILE - ‘Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons’ and ‘Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging’ – provide comprehensive welfare and rehabilitation measures to the Transgender community

and the people engaged in the act of begging.

The scheme keeps in mind the social security that is needed through multiple dimensions of identity, medical care, education, occupational opportunities and shelter. The Ministry has allocated Rs. 365 Crore for the scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

The Sub-scheme - 'Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons' includes various components. It provides Scholarships for Transgender Students studying in IX and till post-graduation to enable them to complete their education. It has provisions for Skill Development and Livelihood under PM-DAKSH scheme. Through Composite Medical Health it provides a comprehensive package in convergence with PM-JAY supporting Gender-Reaffirmation surgeries through selected hospitals. The Housing facility in the form of 'Garima Greh' ensures food, clothing,

recreational facilities, skill development opportunities, recreational activities and medical support etc. to the Transgender community and the people engaged in the act of begging. The Provision of Transgender Protection Cell in each state will monitor cases of offences and to ensure timely registration, investigation and prosecution of offences. The National Portal & Helpline will provide necessary information and solutions to the Transgender community and the people engaged in the act of begging when needed.

The sub-scheme - 'Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging' – will focus on Survey and identification, Mobilisation, Rescue/ Shelter Home and Comprehensive resettlement.

Besides, pilot projects have been initiated on Comprehensive Rehabilitation in ten cities namely Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Indore, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, Patna and Ahmedabad.

Q.2. Fast track special courts will contribute to the rapid delivery of justice giving human touch to the system in India. Discuss. [Governance/Constitution]

Answer Format:

- 👍 Introduction to Fast track special courts.
- 👍 Relevance of such courts in India's justice system.
- 👍 Significance of rapid delivery of justice in India.
- 👍 Meaning of giving human touch to the system.
- 👍 Role of such courts in this.
- 👍 Conclusion.

SOURCE ARTICLE

Fast Track Special Courts

The Department of Justice is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including 389 exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) Courts since October 2019. 700 FTSCs (68%) including 383 e-POCSO courts have been made operational in 27 States/UTs up to December 2021. As per information made available by High Courts the details of the target set for establishment of FTSC in the country along with the number of FTSC set up and functional against the set target is given at Annexure below:

Status of Earmarked and Functional FTSCs (as on 31.12.2021)

S. No.	State/UT	Earmarked FTSCs		Functional FTSCs	
		FTSCs including ePOCSO	ePOCSO	FTSCs including ePOCSO	ePOCSO
1.	A&N	1	1	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	18	8	10	10
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	0	0	0
4.	Assam	27	15	15	15
5.	Bihar	54	30	45	45
6.	Chandigarh	1	0	1	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	15	11	15	11
8.	Delhi	16	11	16	11
9.	Goa	2	0	0	0
10.	Gujrat	35	24	35	24
11.	Haryana	16	12	16	12
12.	Himachal Pradesh	6	3	6	3
13.	J&K	4	0	4	2
14.	Jharkhand	22	8	22	8
15.	Karnataka	31	17	18	16
16.	Kerala	56	14	28	0
17.	Madhya Pradesh	67	26	67	56
18.	Maharashtra	138	30	34	22
19.	Manipur	2	0	2	0
20.	Meghalaya	5	5	5	5
21.	Mizoram	3	1	3	1
22.	Nagaland	1	0	1	1
23.	Odisha	45	22	36	15
24.	Punjab	12	2	12	3
25.	Rajasthan	45	26	45	30

26.	Tamil Nadu	14	14	14	14
27.	Telangana	36	10	25	4
28.	Tripura	3	1	3	1
29.	Uttar Pradesh	218	74	218	74
30.	Uttarakhand	4	4	4	0
31.	WB	123	20	0	0
	TOTAL	1023	389	700	383

Third Party Evaluation of the Scheme was conducted by National Productivity Council (NPC) during the third quarter of 2020. Evaluation of the conviction rates of the FTSCs vis-a-vis the Regular Courts was one of the terms of reference of the Study. As per the findings, it was observed that conviction to disposal rate for Regular Court Cases, FTSC Cases and e-POCSO Court Cases are 5.54%, 7.21% and 17.64% respectively.

The issue of setting up of FTSCs and their early operationalization has been taken up with concerned States/UTs at

various level from time to time. Minister of Law & Justice has addressed letters to Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts in this regard. In addition, regular review meetings with officials of the States/UTs and High Court functionaries are being held from time to time for operationalization of remaining FTSCs so as to further reduce the burden on judiciary.

This information was given by Shri Kiren Rijju Union Minister, Ministry of Law and Justice, in Lok Sabha today.

DAY -2

Q.1. Modernisation of police forces is inevitable to strengthen the internal security architecture and also to improve its functioning in India. Discuss. [Paper II: Governance/Paper III: Internal Security]

Answer Format:

- 👍 Introduction to police administration in India.
- 👍 Need for modernisation.
- 👍 Challenges before Internal security architecture.
- 👍 Requirements of its strengthening.
- 👍 How would modernisation contribute to improving the functioning.
- 👍 Conclusion.

SOURCE ARTICLE

Government of India under leadership of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi approves continuation of umbrella scheme of Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF)

The approval moves forward the initiative of Union Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah to modernize and improve the functioning of Police Forces of States and Union Territories Approval for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 provides a total Central financial outlay of Rs. 26,275 crore

The Government under the leadership of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved continuation of umbrella scheme of Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF). The approval for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26, moves forward the initiative of the Union Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah to modernise and improve the functioning of Police Forces of States and Union Territories. This scheme comprises all relevant sub-schemes that contribute to modernization and improvement with a total Central financial outlay of Rs.26,275 crore.

Salient Features of the scheme are:

- Provision has been made under the Scheme for internal security, law and order, adoption of modern technology by Police, assisting States for narcotics control and strengthening the criminal justice system by developing a robust forensic set-up in the country.
- The Scheme for modernization of State police forces has a Central outlay of Rs.4,846 crore.
- To develop operationally independent high-quality forensic sciences facilities in States/Union Territories for aiding scientific and timely investigation through modernization of resources. A central Scheme for Modernisation of Forensic Capacities with outlay of Rs.2,080.50 crore has been approved.
- Central outlay of Rs.18,839 crore has been earmarked for security related expenditure for the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir, insurgency affected North Eastern States and Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas.
- With the implementation of 'National Policy and Action Plan' for combating LWE, the LWE violence incidents have come down drastically. To further pursue this accomplishment, six LWE related schemes with Central outlay of Rs.8,689 crore have been approved. These schemes include Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Most LWE Affected Districts & Districts of Concern to consolidate the gains.
- For raising of India Reserve Battalions/ Specialised India Reserve Battalions, Central outlay of Rs.350 crore has been approved.
- Central sector scheme of 'Assistance to States & Union Territories for Narcotics Control with outlay of Rs.50 crore has been continued.

Q.2. Digital learning should not lead to digital divide in India. Comment.
[Paper II: Governance/Social Justice]

Answer Format:

- 👍 Meaning of digital learning and its need.
- 👍 Meaning of digital divide and its present status in India.
- 👍 Steps taken to improve such learning.
- 👍 Challenges and prospects.
- 👍 Conclusion.

SOURCE ARTICLE**Digital learning should not lead to digital divide: Vice President****Mantra of education should be - embrace, engage, enlighten, empower: VP****VP calls for transformation of our teaching methodology Expresses concern about pandemic's impact on children's education****VP stresses the need for de-colonisation of India's education system****Teachers should keep fit and motivate their students for the same – Vice President****Vice President inaugurates Sports Centre and Open Educational Resource (OER) at National Institute of Technical Teachers Training & Research (NITTTR), Chennai**

The Vice President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu today stressed that while Central and State governments are taking measures to promote digital learning, it is important to ensure that there is no digital divide. To ensure this, he called for increased access to the internet especially in rural areas and remote places and to 'keep inclusivity at the heart of the educational experience'. 'The mantra should be — embrace, engage, enlighten and empower', he said.

Addressing the gathering after inaugurating the Sports Centre at the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training & Research (NITTTR) in Chennai today, Shri Naidu expressed concerns about the impact of the pandemic on education, and said that school closures affected girls, children from disadvantaged backgrounds, those living in rural areas, children with disabilities and children from ethnic minorities more than their peers.

On this occasion, the Vice President also inaugurated the NITTTR Open Educational Resource (OER) today. Calling it an important step in improving inclusivity through distance education, he observed that it would help the teachers in improving their knowledge base and teaching methodology.

Calling for corrective action from the governments, Shri Naidu suggested that one of the important measures is to upgrade the skills of teachers in e-learning. Emphasising the importance of quality teacher training in India, he said that 'teachers constitute the intellectual lifeline of a nation and play a critical role in charting its development'.

Shri Naidu further stressed the need to create teachers who are 'learners and creators of knowledge — teachers who touch lives and seek to uplift the human condition'. 'We need inspirational, transformational leaders in our

classrooms, especially in rural India,' he added.

Talking about India's demographic dividend, he said that teachers have greater responsibility in moulding India's huge youth population into responsible citizens. "Education does not mean just degrees," he said and opined that true purpose of education is enlightenment, empowerment and wisdom. The Vice President also called upon the institutes to focus on developing a constrictive and positive attitude among the students.

The Vice President lauded the role of teachers as 'COVID warriors' and doing their best to ensure the academic continuity of their students during the pandemic. He noted that the teaching community explored technology and showed 'remarkable flexibility in reinventing their strategies and methodologies to support the learning of students'.

Referring to the National Education Policy 2020 as a visionary document, the Vice President said that it seeks to transform the education ecosystem in our country and underlines the importance of energising and motivating young faculty members. He urged teachers to adopt innovative strategies to address important national and global challenges and opportunities in an intellectually vibrant, collaborative environment.

Stressing the need for de-colonisation of India's education system, the Vice President called for taking inspiration from India's ancient knowledge systems and great sages who had made our country a Vishwa Guru – a knowledge giver. Calling for regaining that position, he underscored the need to make society free from the divisions based on the cast, religion, region and language.

Emphasizing the need to promote and

preserve Indian languages, Shri Naidu appreciated AICTE for starting technical courses in Indian languages. Reiterating that no languages should be imposed or opposed, he opined that one must learn as many languages as possible but primacy should be given to mother tongue.

Advising teachers to impart 'experiential learning' to students, Shri Naidu observed that such a learning methodology helps in promoting creativity and innovative outcomes. He called for taking teaching from a one way mode of communication to a two-way mode where activities need to be connected from content to context.

Calling upon NITTTR to take the lead in producing outstanding teachers through well-structured and scientifically designed training programmes, he appreciated its efforts in training more than 60,000 learners in the past two years. He complimented the institute for training international participants as well under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Expressing his happiness over inauguration of the Sports Centre at NITTTR, Shri Naidu, who himself is a sport enthusiast, exhorted the teachers to keep fit and also encourage their students to regularly practice sports or Yoga. He said that this pandemic has highlighted the importance of physical fitness and healthy food for good immunity against the diseases.

Later on, interacting with the students and faculty members of NITTTR, Shri Naidu stressed the need to transform our teaching methods, especially in technical institutions. In response to a question, he called for creating better facilities such as good hospitals, schools, roads and connectivity in rural areas to bridge rural-urban divide and stem migration to cities.

He also urged the state governments to focus on Smart Cities program and create model cities to inspire other urban centers to improve their facilities.

Thiru Ma.Subramanian, Health Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. V.S.S. Kumar, Chairman, Board of Governors, NITTTR Chennai, Dr. Usha Natesan, Director, NITTTR, Chennai, Dr. G. Kulanthaivel, Professor, NITTTR, and others were present.

Following is the full text of speech –

“Brothers and Sisters,

I am delighted to visit National Institute of Technical Teachers Training & Research (NITTTR), Chennai and interact with all of you. NITTTR enjoys a unique position in our academic landscape. It is an institute established to empower teachers, especially technical teachers. As you are all aware, a Guru occupies a special place in our culture and the veneration a teacher receives is quite aptly depicted in the celebrated lines:

Gurur Brahmā

Gurur Visnur

Gurur devo Maheśvarah

Guruh sāksāt param Brahma

tasmai śrī gurave namah.

At this institution, the faculty members are gurus of gurus—the learners therefore, are “twice-blessed”. They are gurus themselves, learning from other worthy gurus.

The National Initiative of Technical Teachers Training, the flagship project of Ministry of Education, is coordinated by NITTTR Chennai as a National Coordinating Institute. Over the past two years, I am told that more than 60,000 learners enrolled in eight modules

of learning.

As you all are aware, teachers constitute the intellectual lifeline of a nation and play a critical role in charting its development. It is teachers who shape knowledge societies. We need teachers who are learners and creators of knowledge—teachers who touch lives and seek to uplift the human condition. We need inspirational, transformational leaders in our classrooms, especially in rural India. Great teachers redefine the educational ecosystem and build the foundation for the progress of the nation. As technical teachers, you must leverage technology to fast-track development.

In this context, the National Education Policy 2020 is a visionary document that lays out the roadmap for the future. It seeks to transform the education ecosystem in our country and underlines the importance of energizing and motivating young faculty members. It stresses upon innovation, apart from underscoring the need for faculty members to be equipped with requisite skills to design their own curricular and teaching strategies, within the approved framework. Teachers should adopt innovative strategies and their vision must address the important national and global challenges and opportunities in an intellectually vibrant, collaborative environment. Innovation must lend itself to application and must have a transformative impact on the ground.

I am happy to note that this institute is conducting various training programmes in line with National Education Policy 2020. Committed teachers play a huge role in promoting excellence and innovation.

I am told that NITTTR Chennai provides training to national and international participants as well under

the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation of Ministry of External Affairs. I must compliment the institute for having trained participants from 107 international countries. It is truly living up to the reputation of a Vishwa Guru in this field.

Dear sisters and brothers,

It is important to impart experiential learning to students. Experiential learning helps in promoting creativity and innovative outcomes. NEP also emphasises the need to develop teaching intensive universities and research-intensive institutions. I feel that NITTTR Chennai must take the lead in producing outstanding teachers through well-structured and scientifically designed training programme. Theoretically it is assumed that teaching is a one way mode of communication, but in reality, it is built on a complex two-way mode where activities need to be connected—CONTENT to CONTEXT.

Friends,

As you all are aware, the pandemic has severely impacted education worldwide. According to a report published by the World Bank, UNESCO, and UNICEF, this generation of students now risks losing \$17 trillion in lifetime earnings in present value, or about 14 per cent of today's global GDP, as a result of COVID-19 pandemic-related school closures. The report also states that school closures affected girls, children from disadvantaged backgrounds, those living in rural areas, children with disabilities and children from ethnic minorities more than their peers.

While the Central and State Governments have taken measures to promote digital learning, it is important to ensure that there is no digital divide. To achieve this, we need to increase access

to internet especially in rural areas and remote places. In a country such as ours, with tremendous diversity and layered inequities, inclusivity is at the heart of the educational experience. The mantra should be—embrace, engage, enlighten and empower.

In addition to creating the necessary facilities, it is important to upgrade the skills of teachers in e-learning. This is where institutions like yours play a vital role—by equipping them to be tech-savvy to meet local and global challenges.

In this context, I am very happy to have inaugurated the NITTTR Open Educational Resource (OER) earlier. I am confident that the OER will offer high-quality instructional resources for teachers to improve their knowledge base and teaching methodology. This is an important step in improving inclusivity through distance education. I compliment the concerned team behind him and encourage NITTTR to constantly update the course material and keep the learners engaged.

I would also like to compliment our teachers for acting as COVID warriors and doing their best to ensure the academic continuity of their students. Necessity is the mother of invention. In a way, therefore, the pandemic created a compelling need for faculty members to explore newer avenues to use technology in teaching. As a result, the teaching-learning ecosystem has been revolutionized with institutions adopting a hybrid system. Teachers showed remarkable flexibility in reinventing their strategies and methodologies to support the life journeys of learners.

I am happy to note that NITTTR Chennai organized specially designed training programme to the faculty members of several institutions, including

IIIT, IIITDM (23 institutes), National Institute of Technology, Tirchirappalli, NIT Patna and others. In addition to training technical teachers, I am told that it also trained medical doctors from Vardhaman Mahavir Medical College (Safdarjung Hospital) New Delhi. I am happy to know that as a goodwill gesture under ITEC, the institute had offered a specially designed two-week training programme and trained several teachers from Maldives.

Please remember that the philosophy of share and care is at the core of Indian culture. If we care to share what we have with others, the happiness we get is beyond explanation and will be always cherished. There has also been an increased focus on online education in the country to ensure accessibility, equity, and quality. I am happy to note that NITTTR Chennai has been designated as the National Coordinator for SWAYAM – Teacher Training. This is certainly an added feather in its cap and deserves to be richly commended.

Dear sisters and brothers,

I am happy to know that NITTTR Chennai is involved in the development of trilingual (English – Tamil – Hindi) dictionary for technical subjects. It is a learning platform which is set to have tremendous impact. I have always been highlighting the importance of imparting education in mother tongue up to primary or high school level. It is my conviction and studies have also shown that learning the content in the mother tongue will result in better comprehension.

The environment in which we teach has great impact in the assimilation of the content. The learning spaces also need to focus on the importance of cleanliness, greenery and sustainability in order to foster holistic learning and individual growth.

In this regard, I am extremely delighted to inaugurate the sports complex today. It has been my firm belief that academic pursuit and physical fitness must go together. If you are physically fit, you will be mentally alert. This pandemic has once again highlighted the importance of physical fitness for better immunity and well being. You must encourage the students to take up some sports or Yoga on a regular basis.

Sisters and brothers,

Teachers are the pivots of Indian society. In the highest human traditions, teachers are personifications of divinity. To match these ideals, teachers must realise the primacy of their role and perform it with a sense of national commitment.

Before concluding, I would like to quote Saint-Poet Thiruvalluvar who brilliantly summarised the purpose of education in his Thirukkural couplet when he said:

“Let a man learn thoroughly whatever he may learn, and let his conduct be worthy of his learning.”

In conclusion, I extend my best wishes to all the faculty members and staff of the NITTTR Chennai who are committed to take this prestigious institution to global standards.

DAY-3

Q.1. Do you think that G-20 not only ensures international economic cooperation but also plays an important role in global economic governance? Critically discuss. [Paper II: International Institutions]

Answer Format:

- 👍 Introduction to G-20.
- 👍 Requirements of international economic cooperation.
- 👍 Meaning of global economic governance.
- 👍 Steps taken by the Group.
- 👍 Prospects and challenges.
- 👍 Conclusion.

SOURCE ARTICLE

Cabinet approves preparations for India's G20 Presidency and setting up and staffing of the G20 Secretariat

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, today approved the setting up of a G20 Secretariat and its reporting structures, which will be responsible for implementation of overall policy decisions and arrangements needed for steering India's forthcoming G20 Presidency.

India will hold the Presidency of the G20 from 1 December 2022 to 30 November 2023, culminating with the G20 Summit in India in 2023. G20 is the premier forum for international economic cooperation that plays an important role in global economic governance.

As per practice, a G20 Secretariat is being established to handle work relating to substantive / knowledge / content, technical, media, security and logistical aspects of India's G20 Presidency. It will be manned by officers and staff from the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and other relevant line

Ministries / Departments and domain knowledge experts. The Secretariat will be functional till February 2024.

The Secretariat will be guided by an Apex Committee headed by Prime Minister, and comprising Finance Minister, Home Minister, External Affairs Minister, and G20 Sherpa (Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Minister), to provide overall guidance to India's G20 Presidency. Further, a Coordination Committee will also be set up to oversee all G20 preparations and report to the Apex Committee. The G20 Secretariat will enable long term capacity building, including knowledge and expertise, for India's leadership on global issues in multilateral fora.

Q.2. The recently launched SEED scheme will empower the tribes and ensure the delivery of social justice. Examine. [Paper II: Social Justice]

Answer Format:

- 👍 Introduction to the scheme.
- 👍 Status of de-notified, nomadic tribes in India.
- 👍 Steps to be taken to empower these communities.
- 👍 Challenges.
- 👍 Conclusion.

SOURCE ARTICLE

Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry to launch a Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs (SEED)
Under the scheme, good quality coaching, health insurance, livelihoods initiative at community level and financial assistance for construction of houses will be provided to the members of DNT/NT/SNT Communities
Department of Social Justice & Empowerment develops an online portal for the implementation of the SEED

The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Virendra Kumar will launch the Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs (SEED) at 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, the 16th February, 2022 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi for the welfare of De-notified, Nomadic and Semi Nomadic Communities.

The De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes are the most neglected, marginalized and economically and socially deprived communities. Most of them have been living a life of destitution for generations and still continue to do so with an uncertain and gloomy future. De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Tribes somehow escaped the attention of our developmental framework and thus are deprived of the support unlike Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Historically, these communities never had access to private land or home ownership. These tribes used forests and grazing lands for their livelihood and residential use and had "strong ecological connections. Many of them are dependent upon various types of natural resources and carve out intricate ecological niches for their survival. The changes in ecology and environment seriously affect their livelihood options.

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment took a decision in

February, 2014 to constitute a National Commission for De-Notified, Nomadic and Semi Nomadic Tribes for a period of three years. This National Commission was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Bhiku Ramji Idate. This commission has given its report in December, 2017. In its report, the commission prepared draft lists of DNT/NT/SNT Communities. The details of the number of DNT/NT/SNT communities.

Based on the National Commission's recommendations, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has constituted the Development and Welfare Board for De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Communities (DWBDNCs) in 2019. The Board has been mandated to formulate and implement welfare and development programmes for these communities. A Scheme for empowerment of DNT communities have been formulated for families having income from all sources of Rs.2.50 lakh or less per annum and not availing any such benefits from similar Scheme of Centre Government or the State Government. The Scheme will have following four components with an approximate cost of Rs 200 crore to be spent over a period of 5 years starting Financial Year 2021-22 to 2025-26.

To provide coaching of good quality

for DNT/NT/SNT candidates to enable them to appear in competitive examinations.

A component of free Coaching for DNT Students has been envisioned for the educational empowerment of these communities. The objective of this component is to provide good coaching quality for DNT candidates to enable them to appear in competitive examinations/ admission to professional courses like medicine, engineering, MBA, etc for obtaining an appropriate job in Public/Private Sector. The selection of the candidates for each course will be based on system generated merit list through the portal. Approximately, 6250 students will be provided free coaching under this component in five years. The total funds spend in the five years will be Rs.50 crore.

To provide health insurance to DNT/NT/SNT Communities.

Members of DNT/NT/SNT communities are likely to have little or no access to medical facilities and other benefits available under the mainstream health policies. They are so poor that they cannot afford private medical care. The primary objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to National Health Authority (NHA) in association with State Health Agencies (SHAs) for undertaking providing a health insurance cover of Rs.5 lakhs per family per year to DNT, NT and SNT families as per norms of "Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. Approximately, 4,44,500 families will be covered under health insurance in five years. The total funds spend in the five years will be Rs.49 crore.

To facilitate livelihoods initiative at community level to build and strengthen small clusters of DNT/NT/SNT Communities institutions.

The decline of traditional occupations of DNT/NT/SNT communities has exacerbated their poverty. A focus to support livelihood generation for these communities is required. The primary objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) for undertaking institution building in association with State Rural Livelihoods Mission (SRLM) of state Governments/ UTs at community level as a livelihood initiative to enhance productivity growth in key livelihood sectors for employment generation for DNT/NT/SNT communities through investments in institutional support, technical assistance. Approximately, 2,000 clusters will get benefit under this component in five years. The total funds spend in the five years will be Rs.49 crore.

To provide financial assistance for construction of houses to members of the DNT/NT/SNT Communities.

At present, a very large number of families belonging to the DNT/NT communities are without permanent shelters and dwellings. In view of their changing Socio-economic scenario, a large number of DNT communities are trying to settle themselves at one place or the other and take to alternative professions. It has been seen that DNTs are living in slum conditions all over the country both in urban and rural areas. They live either in the open, small and makeshift tents or in small hutments or improvised pucca or

kachha houses.

Considering the shortage of houses for DNTs, it has been proposed to earmark a separate outlay for PMAY to support specific importance in providing houses only for DNTs living in rural areas who have not taken benefits of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana as SC, ST, OBC and are living below poverty line. The admissible support is Rs 1.20 lakhs in plains and 1.30 lakhs in hilly areas (per unit assistance). Approximately, 4,200 houses will be constructed under this component in five years. The total funds spend in the five years will be Rs.50 crore. PORTAL: The Scheme will be implemented through a portal, developed by the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment. The portal consists of two modules. One module for registration of the applicant with details of his family, income, occupation,

aadhar and bank details, caste certificate, etc. Upon completing the registration, the applicant will be assigned a unique ID (UID) number, which will be his permanent registration number. With this UID, the applicant can apply of one or other components of the scheme, subject to his eligibility. The second part consists of the scheme component for which the applicant wants to seek benefit with his UID as Login id and his mobile as his password. The portal will create a permanent database and can be retrieved whenever the applicant desires to enroll for new component.

The funds will be transferred directly to the beneficiaries in their account. The other implementing agencies are Ministry of Rural Development, National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and National Health Authority (NHA).

DAY-4

Q.1. Both India and the UAE have embarked upon a comprehensive strategic partnership in recent years. How will it impact India's position in the Middle East? Discuss. [Paper II: International Relations]

Answer Format:

- 👍 Present status of India-UAE relations.
- 👍 Areas of cooperation between the two.
- 👍 Changing trends.
- 👍 Meaning of Comprehensive strategic partnership.
- 👍 India's interests in the Middle East.
- 👍 Future prospects.
- 👍 Conclusion.

SOURCE ARTICLE

India-UAE Virtual Summit

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of UAE Armed Forces, H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al Nahyan will hold a Virtual Summit on February 18, 2022. Both Leaders are expected to lay out their vision of the historic and friendly relations between the two countries, at a time when India is celebrating 75 years of its Independence as Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and UAE is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its foundation.

The two leaders will also discuss bilateral cooperation and exchange views on regional and international issues of mutual interest.

In recent years, bilateral relations between India and the UAE have strengthened in all areas, and both sides have embarked upon a comprehensive strategic partnership. Prime Minister visited UAE in 2015, 2018 and 2019 while the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi visited India in 2016 and 2017. Ministerial visits between the two sides have also continued, including three visits of External Affairs Minister and a visit of Commerce and Industry Minister to UAE in 2021.

Both sides have collaborated closely during the Covid-19 pandemic in critical areas of healthcare and food security. Bilateral trade, investment and energy

relations have remained robust. The two sides are also strengthening their cooperation in new areas of renewable energy, start-ups, fintech, etc. India is participating with one of the largest pavilions in the Dubai Expo 2020.

A major initiative in bilateral relations is the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). Negotiations for CEPA were launched in September 2021 and have been completed. The Agreement will take India-UAE economic and commercial engagement to the next level. UAE is India's third largest trade partner, and bilateral trade and investment ties are expected to see significant enhancements.

UAE hosts a large India community which numbers close to 3.5 million. Prime Minister has expressed India's appreciation to the leadership of UAE for supporting the Indian community during the pandemic. UAE leadership has also been appreciative of the contribution of the Indian community in its development. Both sides had agreed on an Air Bubble Arrangement in 2020 during the pandemic which has enabled the movement of people between two countries despite the challenges posed by Covid-19.

Q.2. How would Pro-planet People and LIFE initiatives would ensure sustainable development? Discuss. [Paper III: Environment/ Economy]

Answer Format:

- 👍 Introduction to pro-planet people and LIFE initiatives.
- 👍 Concept of sustainable development and its significance.
- 👍 Role of the initiatives in ensuring sustainability.
- 👍 Challenges and prospects.
- 👍 Conclusion.

SOURCE ARTICLE

Text of PM's inaugural address at TERI's World Sustainable Development Summit

I am delighted to join you at the Twenty First World Sustainable Development Summit. Environment and sustainable development have been key focus areas for me all through my 20 years in office, first in Gujarat and now at the national level.

Friends, we have heard people call our planet fragile. But it is not the planet that is fragile. It is us. We are fragile. Our commitments to the planet, to nature, have also been fragile. A lot has been said over the last 50 years, since the 1972 Stockholm Conference. Very little has been done. But in India, we have walked the talk.

Equitable energy access to the poor has been a cornerstone of our environmental policy. Through Ujjwala Yojana, more than 90 million households have been provided access to clean cooking fuel. Under the PM-KUSUM scheme, we have taken renewable energy to the farmers. We are encouraging farmers to set up solar panels, use it and sell surplus power to the grid. Standalone solar pumps as well as efforts for solarising existing pumps are being scaled up. The focus on "Chemical-free Natural Farming" will also help promote sustainability, and equity.

Friends, our LED bulbs distribution scheme has been running for over seven years. It has helped save more than 220 billion units of electricity and 180 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year. We have announced the setting up of the National Hydrogen Mission. It aims to tap into Green Hydrogen, an exciting technology to power our future. I encourage academic and research institutes like TERI to come up with

scalable solutions to realize the potential of green hydrogen.

Friends, India is a mega-diverse country. With 2.4% of the world's land area, India accounts for nearly 8% of the world's species. It is our duty to protect this ecology. We are strengthening our Protected Area network. The I.U.C.N. has recognized our efforts. The Aravalli Biodiversity Park in Haryana has been declared as an O.E.C.M. site for its effective conservation of biodiversity. I am also glad that two more wetlands from India have got recognition as Ramsar sites recently. India now has 49 Ramsar sites spread over more than 1 million hectares. Restoring degraded land has been one of our main focus areas. Since 2015, we have restored more than 11.5 million hectares. We are on track to achieve the national commitment of Land Degradation Neutrality under the Bonn Challenge. We firmly believe in fulfilling all our commitments made under the U.N.F. C.C.C. We have also raised our ambitions during CoP-26 at Glasgow.

Friends, I firmly believe, and I am sure you would agree that environmental sustainability can only be achieved through climate justice. Energy requirements of the people of India are expected to nearly double in the next twenty years. Denying this energy would be denying life itself to millions. Successful climate actions also need adequate financing. For this, developed countries need to fulfill their commitments on finance and technology transfer.

Friends, sustainability requires coordinated action for the global commons. Our efforts have recognised this inter-

dependence. Through the International Solar Alliance, our aim is "One Sun, One World, One Grid". We must work towards ensuring availability of clean energy from a world-wide grid everywhere at all times. This is the "whole of the world" approach that India's values stand for.

Friends, The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (C.D.R.I.), aims to build strong infrastructure in areas prone to frequent natural disasters. On the side-lines of CoP-26, we also launched an initiative called "Infrastructure for Resilient Island States". The Island Developing States are the most vulnerable and hence need urgent protection.

Friends, to these two initiatives, we now add LIFE - Lifestyle For Environment. LIFE is about making lifestyle choices to improve our planet. LIFE will be a coalition of like-minded people across the world who will promote sustainable lifestyles. I call them 3Ps - Pro Planet

People. This global movement of Pro Planet People (3-Ps) is the Coalition for LIFE. These three global coalitions will form the trinity of our environment efforts for improving the global commons.

Friends, our traditions and culture are the sources of my inspiration. In 2021, I spoke about how the health of people and the planet are inter-linked. Indians have always lived in harmony with nature. Our culture, rituals, daily practices and numerous harvest festivals demonstrate our strong bonds with nature. Reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, re-design and re-manufacture have been part of India's cultural ethos. India will continue to act for climate resilient policies and practices as we have always done.

With these words, and with that solemn promise, I extend my best wishes to TERI and to all the participants from around the world at this Summit.