

Pradhan Mantri Welfare scheme for DNTs

February 5, 2021

In News : New Scheme Pradhan Mantri Welfare scheme for DNTs for Economic Empowerment of DNT/NT/SNTs (SEED) allocated Rs 50 crore in the budget of 2021-22

About SEED

- The objective is to provide financial assistance for health insurance, coaching of good quality, livelihoods initiative and construction of houses for DNT, NT & SNTs.
- A total of 1.82 lakh DNT, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic communities would be benefited under this.
- Restructuring the existing schemes based on principles of operational efficiency, synergy and transparency has been envisaged in the new financial year.
- Accordingly, the (31) schemes which were being implemented till 2020-21 have been restructured into (19) schemes, each with clear verifiable outcomes.
- This would lead to greater focus on the core issues.

Denotified Tribes' (DTs)

Background

- The British Government had from time to time declared some of the tribes which, according to them, were involved in criminal activities as Criminal Tribes.
- The Criminal Tribes Act (CTA), 1871 provided that if a Local Government had reason to believe that any tribe, gang or class of people is addicted to the systematic commission of non-bailable offences, it may, with the authorization of the Governor General, declare such

tribe etc. as a “Criminal Tribe”.

- The CTA was revised in 1911 and in 1924.
- The CTA, 1924, was repealed by the Criminal Tribes Laws (Repeal) Act, 1952 on the recommendations of the Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyangar Committee. As a result, the tribes notified earlier as Criminal Tribes, stood denotified, and the name ‘Denotified Tribes’ (DTs) has been in use for them since then.
- Most DNTs are categorized as SC,ST or OBC though a few of the DNTs are not covered in any of these categories

Denotified Tribes

- The term stands for all those communities which were once notified under the Criminal Tribes Acts, enforced by the British Raj between 1871 and 1947.
- These Acts were repealed by the Independent Indian Government in 1952, and these communities were “De-Notified”.
- A few of these communities which were listed as de-notified were also nomadic

Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Tribes

- Nomadic and semi-nomadic are social groups who undertook a fairly frequent, usually seasonal physical movement as part of their livelihood strategy in the recent past.
- The term semi-nomad is mostly used to describe those sections of nomads whose duration, distance and frequency of movement is comparatively less than others.
- On the other hand, Semi-nomadic groups tend to have a fixed abode for a part of the year and are itinerant in the rest of the year

National commission for for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (NCDNT)

- The Government in July 2014 had constituted National

Commission for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (NCDNT) for a period of three years to prepare a State-wise list of castes belonging to Denotified and Nomadic Tribes and to suggest appropriate measures in respect of Denotified and Nomadic Tribes that may be undertaken by the Central Government or the State Government