

TAPAS initiative

August 18, 2021

In news- Recently, the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment has launched an online **portal TAPAS (Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services)**, developed by the National Institute of Social Defence (NISD).

About TAPAS initiative

- The idea of TAPAS was conceptualised at a time when exploring the online medium for work and education had become imperative due to the outbreak of Covid 19 pandemic.
- It is initiated by NISD, **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**.
- It seeks to **provide access to lectures by subject experts, study material and more**, but in a manner that it supplements the physical classroom without compromising on the quality of teaching.
- The main objective of introducing the course modules is to impart training and enhance the knowledge and skills for the capacity building of the participants.
- It **can be taken up by anyone who wishes to enhance his or her knowledge on the topics and there is no fee for joining**.
- It **is a standard MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) platform** with course material such as filmed lectures and e-study material.
- It also includes **discussion forums to support and encourage interactions among students** and course coordinators.
- The platform has been **made with a quadrant approach**.
- There will be a virtual class where an expert or a resource person will give a lecture about the subject with the help of animated infographics and Powerpoint presentations.

- The participants will be provided with informative material like articles, case studies and other study material on the related topic, which can be downloaded for future reference.
- After completing each module, students can assess their understanding of the subject with the help of a multiple-choice quiz.
- There is also a **discussion forum on the portal** on which they can raise their doubts with the course coordinator.

Basic courses under TAPAS- Drug (Substance) Abuse Prevention, Geriatric/Elderly Care, Care and Management of Dementia, Transgender Issues and Comprehensive course on Social Defence Issues.

National Institute of Social Defence(NISD)-

- NISD is a **Central Advisory Body for the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.**
- It is a **Centre of Excellence on research and training in the field of social defence.**
- NISD coordinates and liaises between the government and the non-government organisations at state, national and international levels.
- The institute develops preventive, curative and rehabilitative tools, programmes and policies in the field of social defence, and also undertakes research, training, consultancy, documentation and publication in the field.
- It was **set up originally as the Central Bureau of Correctional Services in 1961, under the Ministry of Home Affairs**, in pursuance of the recommendations emerging at various National Forums.
- **In 1964, the Bureau was transferred to the then Department of Social Security.**

- Since 1975, the Institute has been a subordinate office under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- **NISD became an Autonomous Body in 2002.**
- It is registered under the Societies Act XXI of 1860 with the Government of NCT, Delhi.