



Date -18 September 2023

PM VISHWAKARMA YOJNA

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the Topic details "PM VishwakarmaYojna". This Topic has relevance in the Social Justice section of the UPSC CSE exam.

For Prelims:

About PM Vishwakarma Scheme?

For Mains:

GS 2: Social Justice

Significance of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme?

Challenges in Implementing the PM Vishwakarma Scheme?

Way Forward?

Why in the news:

On Sunday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reaffirmed his government's dedication to improving the lives of artisans and craftspeople on the launch of the Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana.

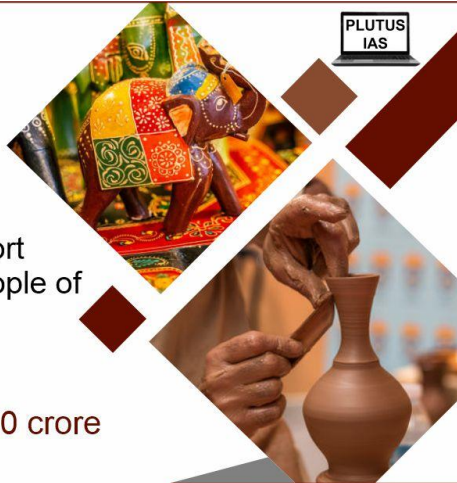
About PM Vishwakarma Scheme:

- **Financial Support:** The scheme is funded by the Union Government with Rs 13,000 crore to empower traditional artisans.
- **Registration:** Artisans can register for free via the biometric-based PM Vishwakarma portal.
- **Recognition:** Registered artisans receive PM Vishwakarma certificates and ID cards for eligibility.
- **Skill Upgradation:** The scheme offers skill training for artisan skill enhancement.
- **Toolkit Incentive:** Artisans receive ₹15,000 as a toolkit incentive.
- **Collateral-free Credit:** Eligible for ₹1-2 lakh collateral-free credit at a 5% interest rate.
- **Digital Transactions:** Incentives to promote digital payments for artisans.
- **Marketing Support:** Assistance to expand artisans' reach and boost demand for traditional crafts.

PM Vishwakarma

Central Sector Scheme to support traditional artisans and craftspeople of rural and urban India

- Financial outlay of Rs,13,000 crore
- Eighteen traditional trades to be covered in the first instance
- Artisans and craftspeople to be provided recognition through PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card
- Credit Support upto Rs. 1 lakh (First Tranche) and Rs. 2 lakh (second Tranche) with a concessional interest rate of 5%
- Scheme to provide Skill Upgradation, Toolkit Incentive, incentive for Digital Transactions and Marketing Support.



Cabinet Decision
16 August 2023



Significance of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme

Preservation of Guru-Shishya Parampara:

- PM Vishwakarma supports the traditional Guru-Shishya parampara, preserving India's cultural heritage. It ensures the transmission of skills from one generation to the next, safeguarding traditional craftsmanship.

Improving Product Quality:

- The scheme focuses on upgrading skills and providing incentives for artisans. This results in improved product quality, enhancing the reputation of Indian traditional crafts.

Integration into Value Chains:

- PM Vishwakarma integrates artisans into domestic and global value chains. Artisans can access broader markets, leading to increased income and sustained livelihoods.

Market Access and Opportunities:

- The scheme supports marketing and digital transactions, expanding artisans' market reach.

- It connects artisans with consumers, boosting demand for traditional crafts and creating growth opportunities.

Challenges in Implementing the PM Vishwakarma Scheme

- **Equitable Access:**
 - Ensuring both rural and urban artisans have fair access to scheme benefits.
 - Rural artisans may face tech, infrastructure, and market limitations, requiring efforts to address these disparities.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:**
 - Ensuring funds are used correctly, and artisans are not excluded.
 - Effective monitoring, audits, and assessments are essential to prevent misuse and discrepancies.
- **Digital Literacy:**
 - Promoting digital literacy among artisans by utilizing digital transaction incentives.
 - Providing necessary training and resources to maximize the scheme's digital impact.
- **Inclusion of Marginalized Groups:**
 - Ensuring marginalized artisans, including women and economically weaker sections, are not left behind.
 - Special efforts may be needed to reach and support these groups effectively.
- **Misuse Prevention:**
 - Preventing misuse of scheme funds and resources.
 - Robust measures are essential to detect and deter fraudulent activities, ensuring transparency and accountability.
- **Sustainable Impact:**
 - Ensuring the long-term sustainability of traditional crafts and livelihoods.
 - Developing strategies for sustained growth and benefits beyond the scheme's initial phases is crucial.

Way Forward:

- **Robust Monitoring and Evaluation:**
 - Implement thorough monitoring and audits at all levels.
 - Establish feedback channels for issue resolution.
- **Tailored Capacity Building:**
 - Customize training programs to meet artisans' specific craft needs.
 - Empower artisans with skills tailored to their craft.
- **Promotion and Marketing:**
 - Raise awareness through marketing campaigns and exhibitions.
 - Expand reach through partnerships with e-commerce platforms.
- **Technology Adoption:**
 - Encourage digital skills for marketing and transactions.
 - Provide training in e-commerce and online marketing.
- **Sustainability Measures:**
 - Develop long-term strategies, including product diversification.
 - Explore export opportunities and adapt to market changes.
- **Inclusivity and Outreach:**
 - Actively include marginalized groups, like women artisans.
 - Implement targeted outreach programs.

SOURCE:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/pm-modi-launches-13000-crore-pm-vishwakarma-scheme-for-traditional-workers/article67317937.ece>

Q.1 Consider the following statements about PM Vishwakarma Yojna:

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
2. It supports the traditional Guru-Shishya parampara.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANSWER: D

Q.2 Consider the following statements about PM Vishwakarma Yojna:

1. It provides engineering scholarship for children of impoverished families
2. It is a specially designed scheme for the Scheduled Castes population

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANSWER: D

Q.3 Discuss the key objectives and potential impact of the Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana (PMVY) on the livelihoods of traditional artisans and craftspeople in India. Analyze the strategies needed for the successful implementation of this scheme.

Rishabh

SIR M VISVESVARAYA

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details "Sir M Visvesvaraya". This topic has relevance in the "Science and Technology" section of the UPSC CSE exam.

For Prelims:

Key details about Sir M Visvesvaraya?

For Mains:

GS2: Science and Technology

Why in the news?

Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya's birthday was recently celebrated on September 15. He was a civil engineer and administrator during colonial India.

Early Life

- Born on September 15, 1861, in Muddenahalli village of Karnataka, he completed his school education in his hometown.
- Visvesvaraya studied for a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Madras and then pursued a diploma in civil engineering at the College of Science in Pune.
- At 22, he accepted an offer to work as an Assistant Engineer in the Public Works Department (PWD) of the Government of Bombay.



Significant Inventions

- **Block System for Irrigation:** Sir MV designed and implemented a unique block system for irrigation. This innovative system allowed for better water distribution and control, minimising wastage and maximising efficiency in agricultural irrigation.
- **Automated Floodgates:** He developed an automated floodgate system that incorporated a sophisticated mechanism to regulate water flow during periods of heavy rains or flooding. This invention greatly helped flood control and prevention, protecting towns and villages from the devastating effects of excessive water.
- **Water Supply and Drainage System:** Sir MV devised efficient water supply and drainage systems, particularly in urban areas. His designs enabled the effective distribution of clean water to households and the proper disposal of waste, leading to improved sanitation and public health.
- **Block Irrigation System:** Another notable innovation of Sir MV was the block irrigation system. This system utilised a network of canals and dams to distribute water for agriculture in a controlled and systematic manner, enhancing crop productivity by ensuring a proper water supply.
- **Steel Doors:** Sir MV introduced the concept of steel doors in various civil engineering projects. His steel doors were known for their durability, strength, and resilience. They proved highly effective in flood control and protection against water-related disasters.

Legacy

- **Krishna Raja Sagara Dam:**
 - One of his most significant engineering accomplishments was the design and supervision of the Krishna Raja Sagara Dam in Karnataka.
 - Completed in 1931, this dam and its intricate canal system brought about a revolution in irrigation and boosted agricultural productivity in the region.
- **Development of Modern Mysore:**
 - Sir MV served as the Dewan (Prime Minister) of Mysore from 1912 to 1918. During his tenure, he played a pivotal role in shaping the modernisation of the state. His visionary policies and administrative reforms transformed Mysore into a progressive region.
 - Sir MV implemented critical administrative reforms as the Dewan of Mysore. He focused on health, sanitation, and urban planning, improving the overall quality of life for the people of Mysore. His efforts led to advancements in public health and infrastructure development.
- **Education:**
 - Visvesaya believed that the aim of an educational institution should be in line with the “state of the country’s civilisation and of its material prosperity”.
 - Sir MV had a strong belief in the importance of education. He was vital in establishing the Government Engineering College in Bangalore (now the Visvesvaraya Technological University) and the University of Mysore. His emphasis on education and skill development paved the way for future engineers.
 - After taking voluntary retirement from state service in 1918, he continued work in various capacities and **established the Sir Jayachamarajendra Occupational Institute Bangalore** in 1943, which was later renamed Sir Jayachamarajendra Polytechnic.
- **Engineer’s Day:**
 - Sir MV is celebrated as a legendary civil engineer in India, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania. His birthday, September 15th, is celebrated as Engineer’s Day in these countries, recognising his immense contributions to the field.

Overall, Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya was a pioneering civil engineer in India who contributed significantly to the country’s public works and institutions. He also believed in the importance of education for the country’s development and prosperity.

Sources:

[PM Modi lauds engineers for contribution to country’s progress](#)

Q1. With reference to the Inventions of Sir M. Visvesvaraya, consider the following statements:

1. He developed an automated floodgate system that regulated water flow during heavy rains and flooding, aiding in flood control.
2. Sir MV designed efficient water supply and drainage systems in urban areas, improving sanitation and public health.
3. Sir MV is known for his work in the field of light scattering..

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) None

Answer: (a)

Q2. Consider the following:

1. Sir M Visvesvaraya designed and supervised the Krishna Raja Sagara Dam in Karnataka, which revolutionised irrigation and boosted agricultural productivity.
2. As the Dewan (Prime Minister) of Mysore from 1912 to 1918, Sir MV's visionary policies and administrative reforms transformed Mysore into a progressive region.
3. Sir MV is also known for his work in establishing University of Mysore.

How many of the abovementioned statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (c)

Q3. Discuss the significant achievements of Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, particularly focusing on his contributions to civil engineering, administrative reforms, and their impact on regional development.

Gaurav Nikumbh

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