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News: Zero Defect Zero Effect Scheme (ZED)

According to the recent data, as many as 23,948 Micro, Small and Mediumsized Enterprises (MSMEs) had registered with intent to adopt the principle of the Zero Defect Zero Effect Scheme (ZED).

Zero Defect Zero Effect Scheme (ZED)

- Launched in 2016 by the Ministry of MSME, Zero Defect Zero Effect Scheme (ZED) is an integrated and comprehensive certification system.
- The scheme accounts for productivity, quality, pollution mitigation, energy efficiency, financial status, human resource and technological depth including design and IPR in both products and processes.
- Its mission is to develop and implement the 'ZED' culture in India based on the principles of Zero Defect & Zero Effect.

Zero Defect

- > The Zero defect concept is focusing on the customer.
- Zero non-conformance or non-compliance.
- Zero waste.

Zero Effect

- Zero air pollution, liquid discharge, solid waste.
- Zero wastage of natural resources.
- ZED Certification\Rating.
- > The Rating is a weighted average of the marks obtained on each parameter.
- The MSMEs will be assessed & rated on defined enabler & outcome parameters on operational level indicators and organisational level indicators at the operational level.
- Based on the assessment, the MSME will be ranked as Bronze-Silver-Gold-Diamond-Platinum enterprises.
- There are 50 parameters for ZED rating and additional 25 parameters for ZED Defence rating under ZED Maturity Assessment Model.

Objective of the Scheme

- > To develop an Ecosystem for Zero Defect Manufacturing in MSMEs.
- To promote adaptation of quality tools / systems and energy efficient manufacturing.
- > Enable MSMEs for manufacturing of quality products.
- To encourage MSMEs to constantly upgrade their quality standards in products and processes.

- > To develop professionals in the area of ZED manufacturing and certification.
- > To support the 'Make in India' campaign.
- Quality Council of India (QCI) has been appointed as the National Monitoring
 & Implementing Unit (NMIU) for implementation of ZED.

News: India Young Water Professional Programme

Recently, The first India Young Water Professional Programme has been launched by Ministry of Jal Shakti.

India Young Water Professional Programme

- The launch of India Young Water Professional Programme marks a significant milestone in Australia-India Water relationship.
- > This Programme looks to prepare future water leaders.
- > This program has been taken up under the National Hydrology Project.
- It will be implemented by Australia India Water Centre (a consortium of Australian and Indian universities).
- > It is focused on Engaged Training and Learning Model.

The Program will aim to achieve its objectives through the 70-20-10 framework, which states that three types of experience are required to learn:

- \blacktriangleright Experience 70% (learn and develop on the job).
- Exposure 20% (learn and develop through others).
- Education 10% (learn and develop through formal training)
- It also focuses on gender equality and diversity, because sustainable water management can only benefit from the views and skills of all members of society.
- It is outcome-driven and the participants will be having certain tools and techniques by the time they are finished with the Programme.
- Based on the success of this edition, a second phase of YWP will be planned in the later half of the year 2022.
- It aims to provide a structured platform for capacity building with strategic and long-term investment to support the water management reforms in India.
- To equip water professionals with the necessary skills, knowledge, behaviours and networks that will better enable them to contribute to the development and management of water resources in India, and to address the competency needs and priorities of the water sector in India.

It will help in breaking the silos of surface water vs ground water and participants will learn to take a comprehensive view of water resources management.

News: Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

Recently, the Parliament session witnessed the answering of Minister about the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

- Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) is a flagship scheme for focused and sustainable development of the fisheries sector in the country as a part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.
- Insurance coverage for fishing vessels is being introduced for the first time under PMMSY.

It aims to:

Adopt 'Cluster or Area-based Approaches' and create fisheries clusters through backward and forward linkages.

- Focus especially on employment generation activities such as seaweed and ornamental fish cultivation.
- Address critical gaps in fish production and productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure and management, modernisation and strengthening of the value chain, traceability, establishing a robust fisheries management framework and fishers' welfare.
- Consolidate the achievements of the blue revolution and bring new interventions such as fishing vessel insurance, support for new/up-gradation of fishing vessels/boats, integrated aqua parks, e-trading/marketing, etc.

Targets

- Enhance fish production by an additional 70 lakh tonne and increase fisheries export earnings to Rs.1,00,000 crore by 2024-25.
- Double the incomes of fishers and fish farmers.
- ▶ Reduce post-harvest losses from 20-25% to about 10%.
- Generate an additional 55 lakhs direct and indirect gainful employment opportunities in the fisheries sector and allied activities.

Budget and Time Period

An estimated investment of Rs. 20,050 crore for a period of 5 years from financial year (FY) 2020-21 to FY 2024-25 in all States/Union Territories. > This investment is the highest ever in the fisheries sector yet.

It will be implemented as an umbrella scheme with two separate components namely:

- Central Sector Scheme: The project cost will be borne by the Central government.
- Centrally Sponsored Scheme: All the sub-components/activities will be implemented by the States/UTs and the cost will be shared between Centre and State.

News: Nearly 2 Cr beneficiaries enrolled under Atal Pension Yojana in last 3-years

In reply to a question in Rajya Sabha Minister of State for Finance Dr. Bhagwat Karad said that nearly Two Crore beneficiaries including 88 lakh women and Four thousand Five hundred trans genders enrolled under Atal Pension Yojana in the last three years.

Atal Pension Yojana

Atal Pension Yojana (or APY, previously known as Swavalamban Yojana) is a government-backed pension scheme in India, primarily targeted at the unorganized sector. It was mentioned in the 2015 Budget speech by the then Finance Minister Arun Jaitley. It was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 9 May in Kolkata.

- The scheme provides the subscribers with a fixed pension ranging between Rs.1000 to Rs. 5000.
- The pension is provided if he/she joins and contributes between the age of 18 years and 40 years.
- The contribution level varies as per the conditions which is low if the subscriber joins the scheme early and might increase if he/she joins late.