



Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana

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Why in News

Recently, electric pottery wheels to 100 potter families in Maharashtra were distributed under the **Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana (KSY)** of **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)**.

Key Points

- **Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana (KSY)** was launched in 2018.
- **Aim:** To strengthen and improve the living of potters in the country by making them self reliant (**Atma Nirbhar**).
- **Features:** Providing potters with modern equipment and training to reconnect them with the society and revive their art.
- **Implementation:** KVIC has created proper marketing channels including tie-up with the Indian Railway for selling the products of potters.
- **Benefits:** Proper training and distribution of advanced equipment under the scheme has **eliminated drudgery** from the process of pottery making and also **resulted in increasing the production by 3-4 times**.

This has led to an **increase in income of potters** manifolds.

- **Other Initiatives for Potters:** The **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)** has announced expansion of and doubling of support to potters. This include:
 - Encouraging successful traditional potters to set up units under the **Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)** scheme. PMEGP is a credit-linked subsidy scheme which promotes self-employment through setting up of micro-enterprises.
 - Setting up of **clusters in Terracotta, Red clay pottery**, with new innovative value added products to build pottery to crockery/tile making capabilities under the **SFURTI scheme**.
The **Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI)** aims to make traditional industries more productive and competitive by organizing the traditional industries and artisans into clusters.

Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)

- KVIC is a **statutory body** established under the **Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956**.
- The KVIC is charged with the **planning, promotion, organisation and implementation of programmes** for the development of Khadi and other village industries in the rural areas in coordination with other agencies engaged in rural development wherever necessary.
- It functions under the **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**.

Source: PIB