



Nai Roshni Scheme

Why in News?

Recently, the **Ministry of Minority Affairs** has informed the Rajya Sabha that the Government has sanctioned Rs 26 crore under the **Nai Roshni scheme** in the **last three years (2018-19 to 2020-21)** through which **around one Lakh women have been trained**.

What is the Nai Roshni Scheme?

- **Nai Roshni-a Leadership Development Programme for Minority Women** is a **Central Sector Scheme** for women belonging to minority communities in the **age group of 18 to 65 years**.
- It was **started in 2012-13**.
- The **objective of the scheme** is to empower and instil confidence among minority women, including their neighbours from other communities living in the same village/locality, by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems, banks and other institutions at all levels.
- It is **run with the help of** NGOs, Civil societies and Government Institutions all over the country.
- It includes **various training modules** like Leadership of women, Educational Programmes, Health and Hygiene, Swachh Bharat, Financial Literacy, Life Skills, Legal Rights of Women, Digital Literacy and Advocacy for Social and behavioral change.

What is the Significance of the Scheme?

- Empowerment of women per se is not only essential for equity, **but also constitutes a critical element in our fight for poverty reduction**, economic growth and strengthening of civil society.
- Women and children are **always the worst sufferers** in a poverty stricken family and need support. Empowering women, especially mothers, is **even more important as it is in homes that she nourishes**, nurtures and molds the character of her offspring.
- It helps embolden **minority women to move out of the confines of their home** and community and assume leadership roles and assert their rights, collectively or individually, in accessing services, facilities, skills, and opportunities besides claiming their due share of development benefits of the Government for improving their lives and living conditions.

What are the other schemes related to Minority Women?

- **Garib Nawaz Employment Scheme**
- **Seekho aur Kamao**
- **Begum Hazrat Mahal Girls scholarships**
- **Nai Manzil**
- **Ustad (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development)**

Source: PIB

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