



Dholpur Science Centre Inaugurated to Boost Innovation

Why in News?

The Union Minister of Science and Technology inaugurated the **Dholpur Science Centre in Rajasthan**, aiming to make it a vibrant hub of innovation and scientific curiosity for school children and youth in the region.

Key Points

- **Dholpur Science Centre:**
 - The **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**, in collaboration with the **National Institute of Immunology (NII)** and the National Science Centre, developed the Centre as part of a national initiative to establish science museums in [aspirational districts](#).
 - The Science Centre offers hands-on science experiences, [STEM](#)-based modules, and interactive exhibits designed to foster innovation and entrepreneurship among young minds.
 - It embodies the government's '**Vigyan Setu**' concept, which bridges scientific institutions with underserved regions.
 - The Centre aims to facilitate capacity-building for potential startups emerging from smaller towns, supporting the government's [BioE3 vision—Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment](#) vision of using biotechnology for rural empowerment.
- **BioE3 Policy:**
 - **About:**
 - The BioE3 is aimed at fostering high-performance [biomanufacturing](#), which involves the production of **bio-based products across various sectors**.
 - The policy aligns with broader **national goals such as achieving a 'Net Zero' carbon economy** and promoting sustainable growth through a [circular bioeconomy](#).
 - **Objectives:**
 - The BioE3 policy emphasizes innovation in research and development (R&D) and entrepreneurship, establishes **Biomanufacturing & Bio-AI hubs** and **Biofoundries**, aims to expand India's skilled biotechnology workforce, aligns with '[Lifestyle for Environment](#)' programs, and targets the development of regenerative bioeconomy models.
 - The BioE3 Policy aims to **generate significant employment**, especially in **tier-II and tier-III cities** through the establishment of biomanufacturing hubs.
 - These hubs will utilise local [biomass](#), fostering regional economic growth and equitable development.
 - The policy also **emphasizes ethical biosafety and global regulatory alignment** to boost India's global competitiveness while ensuring responsible biotechnology development.

Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP)

- **ADP**, launched in January 2018, represents a targeted governance approach aimed at transforming **112 of India's most underdeveloped districts**.

- Anchored by [NITI Aayog](#) and driven by the principles of convergence, collaboration, and competition, ADP seeks to address regional disparities.
- **Key Achievements:**
 - **Data-Driven Approach:** Progress is measured using **49 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) across socio-economic themes**. Monthly delta rankings encourage data-driven decision-making and accountability.
 - **Localized Implementation:** States, as the main drivers, **enable governance tailored to district-specific challenges**, fostering competitive and cooperative federalism.
 - **Inclusion and SDG Localization:** Focus on marginalized regions aligns with the **“Leave No One Behind” (LNOB) principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.
 - **Capacity Building:** Collaboration among **NITI Aayog, ministries, development partners, and district-level officers** enhances governance capacity at the grassroots level.
 - **Improvements in Key Sectors:**
 - **Health & Nutrition:** Reduction in child malnutrition and maternal mortality through targeted interventions like [Poshan Abhiyaan](#).
 - **Infrastructure Development:** Accelerated **rural electrification, housing, and road construction projects** in backward areas.

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