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Disinfection System Vajra Kavach

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Why in News

Vajra Kavach is a simple disinfection process that enables Corona Warriors to **reuse their masks and PPEs**.

The technology has been developed under the **NIDHI-PRAYAS** program initiated by the **Department of Science and Technology (DST)**.



Key Points

- **About Vajra Kavach:**
 - Vajra Kavach's **UV (Ultra Violet)** disinfection system **removes any possible traces of the disease-causing SARS-Cov-2 (Covid-19) virus** from **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), N95 masks, coats, gloves and gowns.**
 - It **enables reuse** of PPEs and other materials used by healthcare workers.
It thus protects not only them, but our environment too, by **helping reduce biomedical waste generation.** It is also making personal protective equipment more available, affordable, and accessible.
- **NIDHI-PRAYAS:**
 - NIDHI-PRAYAS is **National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovation PRomoting and Accelerating Young and aspiring Innovators & startups.**
 - The **Department of Science & Technology** has launched a **NIDHI** program under which programmes for setting up of **incubators, seed fund, accelerators** and **'Proof of concept' grants** for innovators and entrepreneurs have been launched.
 - Under **NIDHI, PRAYAS** programme has been initiated in which established **Technology Business Incubators (TBI)** are supported with **PRAYAS grant** to support innovators and entrepreneurs with grants for **'Proof of Concept (PoC)'** and developing prototypes.
 - **PoC** is evidence that a business idea works.
 - A maximum grant of **Rs. 220 lakh** is given to a **TBI** for establishing a **PRAYAS Centre** which includes **Rs.100 lakh for PRAYAS SHALA, Rs. 20 lakh** for operational cost of **PRAYAS Centre** and maximum of **Rs. 10 lakh** to one innovator for developing prototype. Funding for ten innovators is given to the TBI in a year.
 - **Objectives:**
 - To enable translation of an innovative idea to a prototype.
 - To provide a platform for faster experimentation and modify approaches in the idea to market journey.
 - To generate innovative solutions relevant to local and global problems.
 - To attract a large number of youth who demonstrate problem solving zeal and abilities.
 - To work on their new technology/knowledge/innovation based startups.
 - To enhance the pipeline in terms of quality and quantity of innovative startups to the incubators.

Source: PIB