



Expansion of Central Schools in the State

Why in News?

During a meeting with the **Union cabinet minister for education, skill development and entrepreneurship**, Chhattisgarh School Education Minister has urged to increase **the centre's contribution** to various **government-sponsored schemes** related to the school education department.

Key Points

- Out of **Chhattisgarh's 33 districts**, **Navodaya Vidyalayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas**, operated by the centre, have been **approved in only 16 districts**.
- The **centre and the state share the financial burden** of union government-run schemes such as **Samagra Shiksha**, **PM SHRI Yojana** and **Mid-Day Meal**, with a split of **40% and 60%** respectively,
 - State requested an **increase in the centre's contribution** to these programmes.
- The state specifically requested the **centre to allocate Rs 2,606 lakh for the Laika Sanwar Yojana under the Samagra Shiksha scheme**, which **covers education from preschool to grade 12** and **Rs 110.86 lakh** under the **Right to Education Act**.
- The state urged the centre to reopen the portal of **Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM USHA)** for Chhattisgarh, aimed at providing **funding to eligible state higher educational institutions**.
- The **need for increased funding in central government schemes** for higher education and the implementation of provisions outlined in **the National Education Policy 2020** is also stressed.

Samagra Shiksha Scheme

- It is an **integrated scheme for school education** covering the entire gamut **from pre-school to class XII**. It was **launched in 2018**.
- It aims to deliver **inclusive, equitable, and affordable school education**.
- It **subsumes the three Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE)**.

PM-SHRI Yojana

- It is a centrally sponsored scheme for the **upgradation and development of more than 14500 Schools** across the country.
- It aims at strengthening the selected existing schools from amongst schools managed by Central Government/ State/ UT Government/ local bodies.

The Midday Meal Scheme

- It comes under the **Ministry of Education, Department of School Education and Literacy**.
- It was **launched in the year 1995** as a centrally sponsored scheme. The scheme has been renamed as PM Poshan.
- It provides that every child within the **age group of six to fourteen years** studying in **classes I**

to VIII who enrolls and attends the school, shall be provided **hot cooked meal having nutritional standards of 450 calories and 12 gm of protein for primary (I- V class) and 700 calories and 20 gm protein for upper primary (VI-VIII class), free of charge every day** except on school holidays.

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