

Surakshit Hum Surakshit Tum Abhiyan: Aspirational Districts

Why in News

Recently, <u>NITI Aayog</u> and **Piramal Foundation** launched 'Surakshit Hum Surakshit Tum Abhiyan' in 112 aspirational districts.

- This drive was launched to assist the administration in providing home care support to <u>Covid-19</u> patients, who are either asymptomatic or have mild symptoms.
- Most of these districts are in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra.

Key Points

About:

- The campaign is under a special initiative Aspirational Districts Collaborative in which local leaders, civil societies and volunteers will work with the district administrations to address emerging issues across key focus areas of the Aspirational Districts Programme.
- It will be led by district magistrates in partnership with over 1000 local NGOs, which will enlist and train over 1 lakh volunteers to connect with patients through inbound/outbound calls.
- Volunteers will be trained to support 20 affected families each by educating caretakers to follow protocols, provide psycho-social support and timely updates about patients to the administration.

Objective:

- It is aimed to reach every affected person in these 112 districts.
- The campaign is expected to play a key role in district preparedness for managing nearly 70% of Covid-19 cases at home, reducing pressure on the health system, and stemming the spread of fear amongst the people.
- It will provide long-term support to India's poorest communities in the Aspirational Districts by addressing the lasting impact of Covid-19.

Aspirational Districts Programme

About:

- It was launched in January 2018, the 'Transformation of Aspirational Districts' Programme (TADP).
- Aspirational Districts are those districts in India that are affected by poor socioeconomic indicators.
- These are aspirational in the context, that improvement in these districts can lead to the overall improvement in <u>human development</u> in India.

• Ministry:

• At the Government of India level, the programme is **anchored by NITI Aayog.** In addition, individual Ministries have assumed responsibility to drive the progress of districts.

Objective:

To monitor the real-time progress of aspirational districts.

Focus Areas:

- ADP is based on 49 indicators from the 5 identified thematic areas, which focuses closely on improving people's Health & Nutrition, Education, Agriculture & Water Resources, Financial Inclusion & Skill Development, and Basic Infrastructure.
- With States as the main drivers, ADP seeks to focus on the strength of each district, identify low-hanging fruits for immediate improvement, measure progress, and rank districts.

Broad Contours of the Programme (Triple-C):

- **Convergence** (of Central & State Schemes) which brings together the horizontal and vertical tiers of the government.
- **Collaboration** (of Central, State level 'Prabhari' Officers & District Collectors) which enables impactful partnerships between government, market and civil society.
- Competition among districts driven by a spirit of the mass movement fosters accountability on district governments.

Source: TH

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