

Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana

For Prelims: Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana, Issues Related to Elderly, IPSrC, RVY, BPL, NPOL.

For Mains: Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana.

Source: PIB

Why in News?

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India has been working towards creating an inclusive and equitable society for all its citizens and **Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY)** is one of the Schemes in that direction.

What is Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana?

About:

- Earlier the AVYAY, was known as National Action Plan for Senior Citizen (NAPSrc), which was revamped, renamed as **Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana** in April 2021.
- It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme aimed at empowering senior citizens in India.

Objective:

- This scheme recognizes the invaluable contribution made by the elderly to society and seeks to ensure their well-being and social inclusion.
- By recognizing the invaluable contributions of the elderly to society, the government
 aims to empower and uplift them, ensuring their active participation and inclusion in all
 aspects of life.

Components:

- Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC): It provides financial assistance to eligible organization's for running and maintenance of Senior Citizen Homes/ Continuous Care Homes to improve the quality of life of the senior citizens, especially indigent senior citizens by providing basic amenities etc.
- Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY): It provides eligible senior citizens suffering from any of the age-related disability/ infirmity, with assisted living devices which can restore near normalcy in their bodily functions, overcoming the disability/ infirmity manifested such as low vision, hearing impairment, loss of teeth and loco-motor disabilities.
 - Financial criteria for beneficiaries are either the Senior Citizen belongs to <u>'Below Poverty Line' (BPL)</u> category, or he/ she has income up to Rs. 15,000 (Rupees Fifteen Thousand) per month.

Achievements:

- Nearly 1.5 lakh beneficiaries are staying in the **Senior Citizen homes.**
- 361 districts across the country have been covered.
- During the last 3 financial years a total of Rs. 288.08 crore grants in aid released and number of beneficiaries is 3,63,570.
 - Under RVY a total of 269 camps have been held and the Number of beneficiaries of this camp is over 4 lakhs. Under this scheme, a total amount of **Rs. 140.34 crore**

has been released during the last 3 financial years and a total number of 8,48,841 devices were distributed to 1,57,514 beneficiaries in 130 camps.

Significance:

- The AVYAY stands as a testament to the government's commitment to the well-being and empowerment of senior citizens in India.
- By addressing their **financial**, **healthcare**, **and social needs**, the scheme aims to empower the elderly, ensuring their active participation and inclusion in society.
- Through this initiative, the **government strives to create an environment where senior citizens can live a life of dignity, respect,** and fulfilment, acknowledging their invaluable contributions to the nation.

What are the Initiatives Related to Elderly in India?

- National Policy on Older Persons (NPOP)
- National Helpline for Senior Citizen (14567)
- Seniorcare Ageing Growth Engine (SAGE)
- National Social Assistance Programme
- Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)
- SAMPANN Project
- SACRED Portal for Elderly

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