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Entitlement Scheme and Empowerment of Women

Rs 1000 per month

- Housewives from families whose annual family income is less than Rs 2.5 lakh
- 1000 per month is given to the heads of households having less than 5 acres of land and 10 acres of rainfed land under this scheme.

Gender equality

- The paradox is that it is not counted in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of a country. This means that women's various activities such as firewood gathering, self-employment and maintenance work such as childcare, cooking, washing and cleaning are considered unproductive and are not counted in GDP.

Is equality possible?

- Nobel Prize-winning economist Amartya Sen's Capability Approach argues that employment has an intrinsic value beyond its economic value.
- Empowerment of women is not only about earning money, but also about independence, respect, equal treatment with men and decision-making power.
- Employment provides the potential to realize such skills
- This entitlement plan does not make any such change that comes with employment. Conversely, entrenching patriarchal norms that define women as family caretakers & has the potential to hinder progress made so far in gender equality.

An alternative approach

- Low participation of women (aged 15-59) in the labor force
- Historically low levels of female participation reflect the status of women trapped in the vicious cycle of a deeply patriarchal society
- From an early age girls, more than boys, face patriarchal social pressure to conform to the role of family care-taking
- They face unequal opportunities that negatively affect their abilities. This further confirms their lower position in society
- The latest All-India Time-Use Survey (TUS-2019) reveals that the burden of unpaid domestic work for women is twice that of men.
- Child care is one of the leading unpaid care activities in all states
- Women in Tamil Nadu spend 96% of their total unpaid care time on childcare

A review is necessary

- Integrating maintenance-based infrastructure is a necessary step in promoting inclusive growth and development
- Because economic growth is fundamentally dependent on labor productivity and human capital. Both are reproduced, nourished and strengthened by unpaid care, labour
- This fundamental aspect must be integrated into development policy analysis. The government should review and re-evaluate its development policies from a gender perspective

- From a practical perspective, the recently launched “Koosina Mane” scheme by the Government of Karnataka is an example. The scheme aims to set up crèches in 4000 gram panchayats for 100-day scheme workers in Karnataka. Tamil Nadu Government can implement such schemes
- And the government should invest in strengthening child care infrastructure through Anganwadi, 100 days work scheme, other schemes to improve and strengthen the wider care infrastructure in the state.
- Essentially all this requires a vision that integrates gender equality into every aspect of development policy
- If the vision of development is to be inclusive and empowering, it must be an alternative path that integrates both gender equality and social justice.

Biofuel stability

- Any hydrocarbon fuel produced from organic matter in the short term
- Can be used in solid, liquid or gaseous state as a substitute for petrol or diesel

Four-generation biofuels

First Generation	Second Generation	Third Generation	Fourth Generation
Edible organic matter	Inedible	Algae	
Sugarcane	Wood	Big algae	Pyrolysis
Wheat	Grass	Small algae	Genetically modified organism
Maize	Wastes		
Oil seed			

Status of Biofuels in India

- 2009 National Policy - Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- 2018 - Enhanced Biofuel Policy
- Biofuels National Policy - Extends from crude material to biofuel production
- Sugarcane juice, beetroot, sorghum, spoiled food grain, tapioca, sorghum

Goal

- 20% ethanol blend and 5% biodiesel blend by 2030

Challenges in adoption of biofuels

- Low efficiency
- Impact on land use - Impact on food grain production
- Biodiversity loss

Environmental challenge

- Biodiversity loss - Requirement of excess water
- Cultivation as a species - Forests will be destroyed

Constant use

- Energy Transition Authority
- Difficulty in selecting alternatives to biofuels

International Energy Agency

- Achieving net zero emissions by 2050 would require a tripling of sustainable biofuel use by 2030.
- Instead of manufacturing in large plants, it can be done close to the raw material

The path forward

- Biofuels can be beneficial as cash crops in rural agricultural development
- Biofuel use will reduce crude oil imports
- Unutilized land and municipal waste will be utilized appropriately
- Social Biofuel Distribution
- The Government should announce the appropriate price for Ethanol

e-Court/Virtual Court

- e-Court
- Adjudication and filing of cases is done online
- Reduces need for court
- Minimizes lawyer and their presence in the court premises

e-Court scheme

- 2005 National Policy on Information and Technology Action Plan for Indian Courts

Report**e-Committee, Supreme Court****Purpose of e-Court Project**

- Introduction of Information and Communication Technology in Indian Judiciary

e-Committee, High Court

- Monitoring of e-Court Project

Chairman

- Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

Goal

- Amalgamation of all Courts
- Access to Information Technology in Indian Judiciary
- Increase performance
- Making Indian Judiciary accessible, transparent and responsive

Implementation of e-Court Scheme

- Across the country
- Phase by phase
- Phase 1 & 2 (2007-15, 2015-19)
- Digital infrastructure in all courts
- Case management system
- Individual case number register
- National Judicial Data Grid
- Internally Processed Criminal Justice

Phase 2**Contextual approach**

- Stakeholders can access data simultaneously
- Data exchange in prison system, court and legal aid etc.