

Important activities/ achievements of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment during June, 2016:-

The following two new Schemes of National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) were launched on 01.06.2016 by Hon'ble Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment in a meeting of the State Channelizing Agencies (SCA) of the Corporations of the Ministry.

- (i) **Scheme of National Award for Performance Excellence for State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs):** The objective of the Scheme is to recognize and promote excellence in State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) of the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) and motivate them to continuously improve their performance and achieve better results in promoting prosperity among Scheduled Castes.
- (ii) **Scheme of Reimbursement of Membership Fee of Credit Information Companies to State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs):** The objective of the Scheme is to encourage and motivate the State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) to establish a system of building credit history of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes living Below Double the Poverty Line so that they could easily access bank credit in future for scaling up their business.

2. A meeting with Principal Secretaries of Social Welfare of States/UTs under the Chairpersonship of the Hon'ble Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment to review implementation of schemes was held on 03.06.2016 in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.

3. National Awards for outstanding services in the field of Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse were conferred by the Hon'ble President of India on 26.06.2016.

4. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has assigned the work of National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Abuse to National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC), All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), New Delhi. This initiative is being taken after one and a half decade of the last National Survey done in 2001.

5. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has assigned an awareness generation programme to Society for the Promotion of India Classical Music and Culture amongst Youth (SPIC MACAY). The programme is for creating awareness about the harmful effects of substance abuse to the children in the schools in all the 22 District Head Quarters in Punjab w.e.f. July, 2016.

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