

Mahila shakti Kendra Scheme (MSKS)

Syllabus subtopic: Welfare Schemes for Vulnerable Sections of the population by the Centre and States and the Performance of these Schemes

Prelims and Mains focus: about the scheme and its significance

Context: The MSK Scheme, under **Ministry of Women and Child Development**, was approved in November, 2017 as a **centrally sponsored scheme to empower rural women through community participation.**

Aim of the scheme: to facilitate inter-sectoral convergence of schemes and programs meant for women **both at the Central and State/UT level.**

The scheme envisages community engagement through

1. College Student Volunteers in 115 aspirational districts as part of block level initiatives;
 2. District Level Centre for Women (DLCW) in 640 districts to facilitate women centric schemes and provide foothold for BBBP scheme;
 3. State Resource Centre for Women to support respective government in implementation of women centric schemes/programmes and also function as Project Management Unit for BBBP Scheme with separate funds allocated for State/UT level activities.
- District level Centre for Women (DLCW) has been set up in 14 districts out of 32 approved districts in Tamil Nadu namely, Salem, Chennai, Cuddalore, Virudhanagar, Perambalur, Villupuram, Namakkal, Thiruvannamalai, Trichy, Thiruvallur, Ariyalur, Thanjavur, Theni and Vellore.

- As per MSK Scheme guidelines, **at the district level**, District Level Task force with **District Collector/District Magistrate as the Chair acts as the Selection Committee for recruitment of DLCW staff.**