Bima Sakhi Yojana: Empowering Women for Viksit Bharat

Impact of Bima Sakhi Yojana on Women and IAS Preparation

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1. Introduction to Bima Sakhi Yojana

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the **Bima Sakhi Yojana** on **9th December 2024** in **Panipat, Haryana**, the symbolic land of Nari Shakti.
- The scheme, initiated by **LIC (Life Insurance Corporation of India)**, focuses on empowering women through financial independence and employment.
- It aims to support women aged **18-70 years**, particularly from rural and deprived communities.

2. Objectives of the Scheme

- **Employment Opportunities**:
  - Aims to recruit **2 lakh women as LIC agents** in the next three years.
- **Financial Inclusion**:
  - Encourages women's participation in the insurance sector and promotes economic independence.
- **Social Security**:
  - Contributes to the "Insurance for All" mission, ensuring access to insurance across the nation.

3. Key Features of Bima Sakhi Yojana

- **Eligibility**:
  - Women must be **10th pass** and aged between **18 and 70 years**.
- **Training and Support**:
  - Women will receive special training to become LIC agents.
  - Financial assistance will be provided for **three years**:
    - **₹7,000 per month** in the first year.
    - **₹6,000 per month** in the second year.
    - **₹5,000 per month** in the third year.
- **Additional Income**:
  - Agents can earn commissions on insurance policies.
  - An LIC agent's average earnings are around ₹15,000 per month.
  - Bima Sakhis are expected to earn **₹1.75 lakh annually**, providing

additional family income.

4. Importance of Women's Participation in the Insurance Sector

- In 2017, there were **6 lakh women LIC agents**; by 2023, this number increased to **7.45 lakh**.
- Women now make up **28% of all LIC agents**.
- Bima Sakhi Yojana aims to further improve women's representation in the insurance sector.

5. Impact of Women Empowerment Initiatives

- **Self-Help Groups**: Women-led initiatives like **Krishi Sakhis (agriculture guides)** and **Pashu Sakhis (animal husbandry guides)** are inspiring models of empowerment.
    - **70,000 Krishi Sakhis** and **1.25 lakh Pashu Sakhis** are actively contributing to rural development.
- **Financial Inclusion**:
    - Over **30 crore Jan Dhan accounts** have been opened for women, providing them access to banking services.

6. Broader Vision of Nari Shakti in India

- Women are becoming **leaders in diverse fields**, including:
    - **Armed Forces**: Women now serve on the frontlines and as fighter pilots.
    - **Business**: Many women lead **producer associations** and **cooperatives** in farming and animal husbandry.
    - **Police Forces**: Increasing recruitment of women in law enforcement.

7. Linking Women Empowerment to National Development

- Initiatives like **Swachh Bharat Mission**, **Ujjwala Yojana**, and **Jal Jeevan Mission** have transformed women's lives:
    - **11.6 crore toilets** constructed under Swachh Bharat Mission.
    - **10.3 crore LPG connections** provided under Ujjwala Yojana.
    - **15.1 crore rural families** given clean drinking water connections under Jal Jeevan Mission.
- These efforts have improved women's safety, health, and overall quality of life.

8. Foundation Stone of Horticulture University in Haryana

- PM Modi laid the foundation stone for **Maharana Pratap Horticulture University** in Karnal, Haryana.
    - Spread over **495 acres** with **6 regional research centers** at a cost of

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₹700 crore.
    - The university will play a key role in making Haryana a leader in horticulture, similar to its role during the Green Revolution.

9. Vision for 2047: Viksit Bharat

- Women are seen as the **key drivers** of India’s development.
- By removing obstacles and providing opportunities, women can lead India toward becoming a **developed nation by 2047**.
- PM Modi emphasized that **Nari Shakti** will serve as the pillar of a stronger and more prosperous India.

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