



**DATE - 25th June 2021**

# **Special Purpose Vehicle for Mission** **Karmayogi**

Context:

Recently, a three-member task force has been formed to help the government in bringing major bureaucratic reforms through its ambitious "Mission Karmayogi".

About:

## **Special Purpose Vehicle for Mission** **Karmayogi**

- The Centre has recently approved the 'National Programme for civil Services Capacity Building- Mission Karmayogi' to effect a transformational shift from rule based training to role-based capacity development of all civil services in the country.
- The Programme also aims to enhance citizen experience for government services and improve availability of competent workforce.
- To effectively roll out this competency driven mission, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), namely 'Karmayogi Bharat', would be set up as a not-for-profit company.
- It will be set up under section 8 of Companies Act, 2013 as a 100% government-owned entity.

- The SPV will be responsible to deliver and manage design, implement, enhance and manage a digital platform and infrastructure, manage and deliver competency assessment services, and manage governance of telemetry data and ensure provision of monitoring and evaluation.
- The task force shall submit its recommendations on organizational structure for the SPV aligning its vision, mission and functions.

#### Mission Karmayogi:

- **Aim and Objectives:**
  - It is aimed at building a future-ready civil service with the right attitude, skills and knowledge, aligned to the vision of New India.
  - It aims to prepare Indian civil servants for the future by making them more creative, constructive, imaginative, proactive, innovative, progressive, professional, energetic, transparent, and technology-enabled.
- **Reason for Mission:**
  - At present bureaucracy is facing challenges like- Rule orientation, political interference, inefficiency with promotions, and generalist and specialist conflict.
  - To change the status quo of civil services and bring about the long pending civil Service reforms.
- **Features of the scheme:**
  - **Tech-Aided:** The capacity building will be delivered through digital platform, with content drawn from global best practices.
  - **Coverage:** The scheme will cover 46 lakh central government employees, at all levels, and involve an outlay of Rs. 510 crores over a five-year period.
  - **Shift from Rules to Roles:** The programme will support a transition from “rules-based to roles-based” Human Resource Management (HRM) so that work allocations can be done by matching an official’s competencies to the requirements of the post.
  - **Integrated Initiative:** Eventually, service matters such as confirmation after probation period, deployment, work assignments and notification of vacancies will all be integrated into the proposed framework.

#### Other Bureaucratic Reforms:

- The Government has ended the hegemony of the Indian Administrative Services, the apex bureaucratic cadre, with respect to appointments at the level of joint secretary (JS).

- Instead, appointments to posts have been drawn from other cadres also like the Indian Revenue Service, Indian Accounts and Audit Service and the Indian Economic Service.
- Similarly, the Union government has also encouraged lateral induction of personnel from the private sector.

## Electoral Trust Scheme, 2013

Context:

- For the first time, an electoral trust (under Electoral Trust Scheme, 2013) has declared donation through electoral bonds and hasn't revealed the names of the political parties that received the money, citing anonymity guaranteed under the electoral bond scheme.
- According to the Association of Democratic Reforms (ADR), this "practice is against the spirit of the Electoral Trusts Scheme, 2013 and the Income Tax Rules, 1962 which make it mandatory for trusts to furnish each and every detail about the donor contributing to the trust.
- If Electoral trusts start adopting this precedent of donating through bonds, it will be a complete situation of unfair practices i.e. total anonymity, unchecked and unlimited funding, free flow of black money circulation, corruption, foreign funding, corporate donations and related conflict of interest etc.

About:

### The Electoral Trust Scheme:

- Electoral Trust is a non-profit organization formed in India for orderly receiving of the contributions from any person.
- Electoral Trusts are relatively new in India and are part of the ever-growing electoral restructurings in the country.
- Electoral Trusts Scheme, 2013 was notified by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).

- The provisions related to the electoral trust are under Income-tax Act, 1961 and Income tax rules-1962.

## **Objective:**

- It lays down a procedure for grant of approval to an electoral trust which will receive voluntary contributions and distribute the same to the political parties.
- A political party registered under section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 shall be an eligible political party and an electoral trust shall distribute funds only to the eligible political parties.

## **Criteria for Approval of Trusts:**

- An electoral trust shall be considered for approval if it fulfills following conditions, namely:-
- The company registered for the purposes of section 25 of the companies Act, 1959
- The object of the electoral trust shall not be to earn any profit or pass any direct or indirect benefit to its members or contributors.

## **Contributions to Electoral Trusts:**

### **Receive Voluntary Contributions From:**

An individual who is a citizen of India;

A company which is registered in India; and

A firm or Hindu undivided family or an Association of persons or a body of individuals, resident in India.

### **Shall not accept contributions From-**

An individual who is not a citizen of India.

Any other electoral trust which has been registered as a company under section 25 of the companies Act, 1959 and approved as an electoral trust under the Electoral Trusts Scheme, 2013;

A Government company as defined in section 2 of the Companies Act, 2013.

A foreign source as defined in section 2 of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010

An electoral trust can accept contributions only by cheque, demand draft or account transfer to the bank.

### **Significance of Scheme:**

- Electoral Trusts are designed to bring in more transparency in the funds provided by corporate entities to the political parties for their election related expenses.
- The Election Commission had also circulated guidelines for submission of contribution reports of electoral trusts to submit an annual report containing details of contributions received by the electoral trusts and disbursed by them to political parties in the interest of transparency.

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