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Daily PIB summary**NAMASTE Scheme Mission Zero Sanitation Fatalities**

UPSC Civil Services • 23 August 2026 • Prelims and Mains

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WHY IN NEWS

- **Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment organized a national workshop titled 'Mission Zero: Ending Fatalities in Sanitation Work' under the NAMASTE scheme.**

WHAT IS THE NAMASTE SCHEME?

- National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
- Aims to eradicate manual cleaning of sewers and septic tanks by achieving 100% mechanization of sanitation operations.
- National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) functions as the nodal implementing agency.

KEY OPERATIONAL FOCUS

- Ensuring zero fatalities during sewer and septic tank cleaning across Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).
- Provision of protective gear, safety equipment, capital support for mechanization, and health insurance to sanitation workers.

KEY TERMS

- **NSKFDC:** National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation, a **Section 8** non-profit company under MSJE.

PAPERS

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PRELIMS FACTS

NAMASTE scheme is jointly run by MSJE and MoHUA.

NSKFDC acts as the nodal implementation agency for NAMASTE.

MAINS DISCUSSION

- Mechanisms required to completely eliminate hazardous manual sanitation work in urban India.

KEY DATA

- **Scheme Name:** NAMASTE Scheme - Joint central scheme aimed at 100% mechanization of sewer and septic tank cleaning.
- **Nodal Implementing Agency:** NSKFDC - Responsible for executing welfare and mechanization targets under NAMASTE.

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