

## National Traders' Welfare Board (NTWB)

*Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Polity & Governance*

### Why in News?

*Recently, National Traders' Welfare Board Holds 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting in Hybrid Mode, Strengthening Digital Governance and Stakeholder Participation.*

- It is an **advisory body** constituted by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- **Aim** - To advise the **government on policies** to improve the welfare of small traders, retailers, and their employees, reduce their compliance burdens, and modernize internal trade
- **Nodal Ministry** - Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.
- **Constituted on** - 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.
- **Objectives**
  - Identify policy measures for the welfare of traders and their employees.
  - Suggest simplifications of the Acts and Rules applicable to traders.
  - Recommend on reduction of the compliance burden of traders.
  - Improve access to funds for traders.
  - Recommend social security benefits for traders & their employees like insurance, pension etc.
  - Address challenges and issues of traders and their employees.
  - Formulating a National Retail Trade Policy aims at realizing the full potential of all formats of the retail trade.
- **Members** - TWB consists of 1 Chairperson and 20 non-official members, with Joint Secretary, DPIIT, being the convener of NTWB.
- The Joint Secretary dealing with Internal Trade in DPIIT acts as the board's official convener.

### Recent Initiatives & Key Focus Areas

<b>DigiDukaan Platform</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A specialized B2B digital commerce initiative designed to help small retailers and kirana stores effortlessly transition into the digital economy.</li> <li>• Following a successful pilot in cities like Jaipur, plans are underway for a nationwide rollout.</li> </ul>
<b>Digital Integration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging small scale merchants to use the <i>Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)</i> to expand their market reach.</li> </ul>
<b>Decriminalisation Reforms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewing and supporting major ease-of-doing-business overhauls, such as the Jan Vishwas Amendment Act, which decriminalised hundreds of minor business compliance violations.</li> </ul>
<b>Vocal for Local</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Driving campaigns to bolster indigenous, locally manufactured goods across regional ecosystems.</li> </ul>
<b>State Boards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging individual Indian States and Union Territories to set up their own localized State Traders' Welfare Boards for direct grassroots grievance redressal.</li> <li>• The board reviewed the newly launched Rajasthan Trade Promotion Policy, analyzing its provisions for trade credit support, customized insurance assistance, and structural fiscal incentives for small traders.</li> </ul>

## Reference

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