Swavalambini scheme

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Government policies and interventions*

Why in News?

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship provided Parliament with details on the pilot implementation, funding, and training outcomes of the Swavalambini programme.

- It is a pilot ***Women Entrepreneurship Program (WEP)*** to promote an entrepreneurial mindset and enterprise creation among female students in *Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).*
- **Launched in –** 2025.
- **Nodal Ministry –** ***Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) in collaboration with NITI Aayog.***
- **Implemented by –** National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), Noida.
- Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati.
- **Coverage –** It aims to establish over 30 women-led enterprises, particularly targeting regions like ***Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Uttar Pradesh, and Telangana in its pilot phase.***
- **Eligibility –** Female students from selected HEIs, preferably final-year undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- **Objectives –** Empower young women to transition from job seekers to job creators and aims for at least 10% of EDP-trained participants to establish successful, sustainable businesses.
- **Components – Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP) –** Introductory programme on entrepreneurial awareness.
- **Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) –** Intensive entrepreneurship development training covering crucial business aspects.
- **Faculty Development Programme (FDP) –** Faculty members from participating HEIs/Universities shall undergo a five-day training session.
- **Mentorship** - A 21-week (approx. 6 months) hybrid support system where industry leaders and successful entrepreneurs guide participants from ideation to enterprise creation.
- **Recognition -** Workshops, mentoring support, seed funding facilitation and Award to Reward (ATR) initiative.
- **Significance – Empowerment** – Addresses socio-economic barriers faced by women in entrepreneurship.

- **Growth** – Promotes women-led enterprises contributing to economic growth and employment generation.
- **Ecosystem** – Strengthens the entrepreneurship ecosystem within Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).
- **Visibility** – Enhances recognition and visibility of women entrepreneurs through institutional support.
- **Inclusion** – Promotes women's economic self-reliance and inclusive development.

References

1. PIB | Swavalambini scheme
2. About Swavalambini | Women Entrepreneurship Programme

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