

Economic and Social Issues

DoSJE- UNDP Agreement for improved access to finance and technologies to waste-pickers

The agreement was signed on Labor Day, 2025 (1st May) **between United Nations Development Programme and Department of Social Justice and Empowerment to enable waste-pickers** with improved access to finance and relevant technologies along with safe and sustainable work environment.

Additional Points

- **UNDP** also provides financial support for the establishment of Project Management Units (PMUs) across various states under NAMASTE scheme.
- **Waste-pickers** have been **added as a component under the NAMASTE Scheme** from the FY24.
- NAMASTE is being implemented by MoSJE for broadening the formal inclusion of waste pickers across India, with an aim to enumerate 2,50,000 waste pickers nationwide.

Waste-Picker component under NAMASTE scheme

- Enumerate and recognize them through **a nationwide digital profiling and registration.**
- Provide **occupational photo ID cards** to ensure formal identity and access to government benefits.
- **Health insurance** coverage under Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY
- **Skill upgradation training**
- Provision of **PPE kits** and
- **Capital subsidies** for **waste collection vehicles.**
- Facilitate the **formation and strengthening of waste-picker collectives**, enabling them to manage Decentralized Waste Collection Centers (DWCCs) and improve their livelihoods.

GAME and NITI Aayog join hands to catalyse healthy entrepreneurship ecosystems across India

Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME) and NITI Aayog have announced a strategic partnership aimed **at fostering vibrant entrepreneurship ecosystems** across multiple states in India. This collaboration **will focus on advancing place-based interventions**, starting with pilot sites in **Nagpur, Visakhapatnam and Uttar Pradesh.**

It seeks to empower local entrepreneurs by

- bringing together relevant local stakeholders in that particular region's entrepreneurship ecosystem, including government, corporates, educational institutes, financial institutes, champion entrepreneurs and community organisations.
- creating localised solutions tailored to the unique challenges of each region.

About GAME (Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship)

- It was **established in 2018** as a backbone organization to bring together a cross-section of alliances, partners, funders and other players in the entrepreneurship ecosystem who can inspire an entrepreneurial movement across the country.
- GAME's mission is to catalyze an India-wide movement of mass entrepreneurship for the growth of both existing and new enterprises. Resulting in **50 million new jobs by 2030**, where **women own 25% of the businesses.**

