Samaveshi Niti Sankalp 2026: from drug-free India to accessibility, a Centre-State action plan

Social justice | GS-II | News reference: 18-19 November 2026 (two-day departmental summit; PM plenary 19 November)
Prelims: Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan, Sugamya Bharat, scholarships


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Why in news

The Prime Minister chaired the plenary session of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's two-day departmental summit **"Samaveshi Niti Sankalp 2026"** at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan on 19 November 2026 (Thursday). Ministers from 27 States/UTs and Secretaries from 35 attended; time-bound action points were set on drug demand reduction, scholarships, early intervention and accessibility. The PM called for a "whole-of-government" approach and for turning the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan into a **Jan Andolan** (people's movement).

Four themes and key action points

- **Drug demand reduction (re-imagined prevention)**: observe the **10th of every month as "Nasha Mukti Sankalp Diwas"** from December 2026; a standing agenda item in every Gram Sabha and municipal ward; **at least one de-addiction centre in every district by March 2029**. State innovations: Chandigarh's VADA Clubs, Punjab's SOORMA Ambassadors, Meghalaya's DREAM Solace Home, Haryana's STARS rating for rehabilitation centres.
- **Accessible scholarships**: simpler applications, secure Centre-State digital integration, timely disbursement and grievance redress; revision of income criteria and amounts discussed.
- **Early intervention (reducing disability burden)**: convergence of health, nutrition, education and disability services; tele-rehabilitation and mobile outreach; West Bengal presented its SANSPARSH community ASD-screening model (20-point questionnaire).
- **Sugamya Bharat**: universal accessibility and inclusive design in public infrastructure, transport and digital services from the planning stage; regular accessibility audits. Examples: Kochi Metro/Water Metro, Chennai Egmore station, Ahmedabad Janmarg buses.

Key messages from the PM's address

Turn drug de-addiction into a people's movement; essay competitions and awareness in schools; a call to farmers to shun illicit crop cultivation; a role for spiritual organisations; wider use of the term "Divyang" to enhance dignity; emphasis on rehabilitation and social reintegration - "the strongest message of hope".

Prelims practice questions

Question 1: Consider the following statements:
Statement 1: "Samaveshi Niti Sankalp 2026" was a departmental summit of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Statement 2: The summit decided that the 10th of every month will be observed as "Nasha Mukti Sankalp Diwas" from December 2026

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

▼ Answer and explanation

Answer: (c) Both statements are correct; a target of one de-addiction centre per district by March 2029 was also set.

Question 2: With reference to the themes of "Samaveshi Niti Sankalp 2026", choose the odd one out:

(a) Drug demand reduction

(b) Accessible scholarships

(c) Early intervention and reduction of disability burden

(d) Industrialisation of border areas

▼ Answer and explanation

Answer: (d) The four themes were drug demand reduction, scholarships, early intervention and Sugamya Bharat; industrialisation was not one.

Mains practice question

Question: "Social justice schemes become truly inclusive only when the Centre and States walk together on time-bound action points." Comment in the light of Samaveshi Niti Sankalp 2026. (250 words, 15 marks)

Answer outline
Introduction - the idea of inclusive development.
Main body - the four themes and action points; the whole-of-government approach; the importance of a people's movement; lessons from state innovations; implementation challenges.
Conclusion - social empowerment on the road to Viksit Bharat @2047.

FAQ

In short: at the PM-chaired "Samaveshi Niti Sankalp 2026" summit, the Centre and States set time-bound action points on drug demand reduction, scholarships, early intervention and accessibility.

Q: When will "Nasha Mukti Sankalp Diwas" be observed?

On the 10th of every month, starting December 2026.

Q: What is the district-level de-addiction centre target?

At least one de-addiction centre in every district by March 2029.

Q: Which state innovations were presented?

Chandigarh's VADA Clubs, Punjab's SOORMA Ambassadors, Meghalaya's DREAM Solace Home, Haryana's STARS rating and West Bengal's SANSPARSH ASD-screening model.

Sources

1. PIB, PM chairs plenary of "Samaveshi Niti Sankalp 2026" (plenary 19 November; release 20 November 2026): https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetailm.aspx?PRID=2339157&lang=2&reg=48