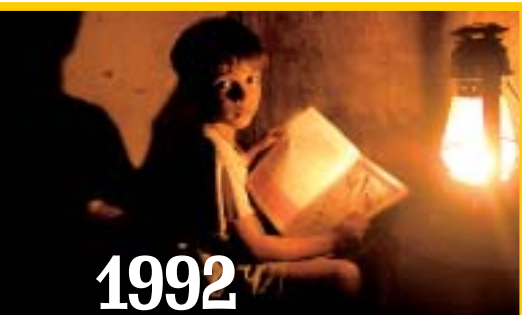


SOCIAL SECTOR: Milestones

Schemes, schemes, and more schemes. That's how all our successive governments have tried to deal with the problems of poverty, illiteracy, and healthcare. But in the absence of accountability and effective delivery mechanisms, these schemes have remained just grand plans.

1991 Government establishes a National Renewal Fund to ensure that the cost of technical change and modernisation of the productive apparatus does not devolve on the workers



1992

300 additional projects are sanctioned under the Integrated Child Development Services



1993 Employment Assurance Scheme launched in drought-prone areas, hilly regions, desert and tribal areas of the country in October



1994 'State Innovations in Family Planning Services Project Agency', a \$325 million project in collaboration with USAIDS, gets underway to provide family planning services in Uttar Pradesh. The project was conceived in September 1992



1996 Infrastructure Development Finance Company is established to make available long-term funds at the lowest possible market rates to develop infrastructure



1995 IIT Guwahati commences its academic programme. It was established in 1994 by an Act of Parliament



1997

National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation is set up by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment to promote development activities for the benefit of physically challenged people

Kasturba Gandhi Shiksha Yojana, a programme to establish special schools for girls in districts having low female literacy rate, launched in August



1998

Kisan credit cards introduced



April 1999

Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana is launched to ensure development of rural infrastructure by restructuring the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana scheme of 1989

Annapurna scheme launched to provide 10 kg of foodgrains per month to rural senior citizens



Education Guarantee Scheme introduced to provide elementary school in every habitation that does not have one within a radius of 1 km

2000 Antyodaya Anna Yojana is launched for the poor to supply wheat at Rs 2 per kg and rice at Rs 3 per kg

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is kicked off to offer universal elementary education

2001 All buses, taxis and three-wheelers plying in Delhi switch to CNG following a Supreme Court order of 1998

Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana launched to provide jobs in rural areas. 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains was allocated

July 2004



Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya scheme is launched to set up residential schools for girls belonging to the SC, ST, OBC and minority communities. The scheme is for girls from backward areas where female literacy is below national average

2003 Community based universal health insurance scheme is launched under which medical expenses up to Rs 30,000 and a cover of Rs 25,000 in case of accidental death is assured for a negligible premium

2002 Jai Prakash Rozgar Guarantee Yojana is launched to provide employment to those living in the most distressed districts of the country



2005

National rural health mission is launched to strengthen primary health care in the grass root level



National rural employment guarantee scheme is also introduced in the same year to provide livelihood to poor families

Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission is unveiled to provide infrastructure and basic services to the urban poor

Dec 2006

Lok Sabha passes the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Bill, 2006 to extend 27 per cent reservation for the OBCs in Central higher education institutions

