

- To become a Nidhi company, the entity has to **first register as a public limited company** which has more disclosure requirements than a private limited company.
- Only individual members are allowed in Nidhi companies, and it **cannot give loans to companies**.

Key provisions of the Nidhi (amendment) Rules, 2022

- A public company set up as a Nidhi with a **share capital of Rs 10 Lakh** needs to first get itself declared as a Nidhi by the Union government. This can be done by submitting an application showing a **minimum membership of 200** and **net owned funds of ₹2 million within 120 days** of its incorporation.
- Promoters and directors of the Nidhi company have to **meet the criteria of fit** and **proper person** as laid down in the rules.
- The rules introduced the **concept of deemed approval**. This means that if no decision is taken on the application for certification as Nidhi companies **within 45 days** of filing the application, approval would be deemed as granted.

14. Consumer Expenditure Survey

Why in News?

The All-India Household Consumer Expenditure Survey is set to resume this year after a prolonged break.

About

- Conducted by → **National Statistical Office (NSO)** **every 5 years**.
- Aim → To collect information on the **consumption spending patterns** of households across the country, both urban and rural.
- The data gathered in this exercise **reveals the average expenditure** on goods (food and non-food) and services. The data helps to **generate estimates** of household Monthly Per Capita Consumer Expenditure(MPCE) as well as the distribution of households and persons over the MPCE classes.
- How is the survey useful? → The data from the survey was used to arrive at **estimates of poverty levels** in different parts of the country and **to review economic indicators** like the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) since 2011–12.

About NSO

- The government has formed an **overarching body NSO by merging** the National Sample Survey Office (**NSSO**), Computer Centre and Central Statistical Office (**CSO**).
- NSO was **first envisaged by Rangarajan Commission** to implement and maintain statistical standards and coordinate statistical activities of Central and State agencies as laid down by the National Statistical Commission (NSC).
- It is the **statistical wing** of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (**MoSPI**).
- It Compiles and releases the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** every month in the form of 'quick estimates' and conducts the **Annual Survey of Industries (ASI)**.

15. Export Promotion Capital Goods(EPCG) Scheme

Why in News?

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has relaxed various procedures under the Export Promotion Capital Goods(EPCG) scheme in order to reduce compliance requirements and facilitate ease of doing business.

About

- Ministry → **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.
- Objective → To **facilitate the import of capital goods** for producing quality goods and services and enhance India's manufacturing competitiveness.
- Features → Under the scheme, imports of capital goods are allowed **duty-free, subject to an Export Obligation(EO)**.