

Government Schemes

Quarterly *Revision*



December 2023 - February 2024

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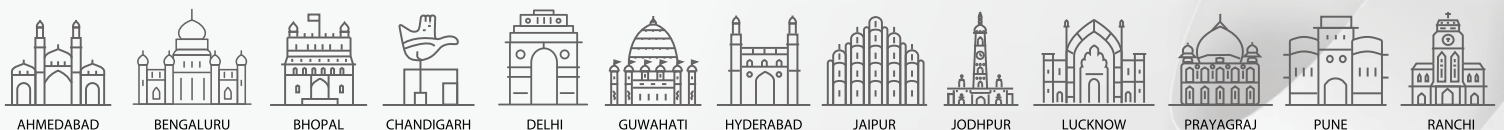
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Note to students

Dear Students,

We have introduced, the "Quarterly Revision" document which is aimed at fostering a **continuous learning process**.

The document is crafted in such a way that it will not only **enhance time efficiency** and retention capacity but also **alleviate last-minute stress of the final exam**.

Our 'Government Schemes Quarterly Revision Document' comprises of **three key sections**:



Schemes in News: It delves into **schemes that featured** during the recent quarter.



Flagship Schemes in Focus: Focuses on the Government of India's 'Flagship Schemes,' which are **inherently vital for the exam**.



Test your learning: Use multiple choice questions to evaluate your progress and understanding.

Your success is our priority, and we are hopeful that the Quarterly Revision document will play a pivotal role in achieving your goals.

"You are as strong as your Foundation"

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NOTE - Students can watch LIVE video classes of our COURSE on their ONLINE PLATFORM at their homes. The students can ask their doubts and subject queries during the class through LIVE Chat Option. They can also note down their doubts & questions and convey to our classroom mentor at Delhi center and we will respond to the queries through phone/mail.

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9 MAY, 9AM | 17 MAY, 1PM

AHMEDABAD 20 JUNE	BHOPAL 21 MAY	CHANDIGARH 5 APRIL	HYDERABAD 10 MAY
JAIPUR 7 MAY	JODHPUR 20 MAY	LUCKNOW 17 MAY	PUNE 5 MAY

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CSAT

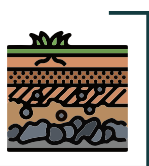
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1. Schemes In News



1.1 Ministry of Agriculture And Farmers Welfare

1.1.1. Soil Health Card Scheme



Context

Soil Health Card Scheme has recently completed 9 Years.



Quick facts

- **Purpose:** To facilitate farmers for better understanding of soil and Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)
- **Subcomponent of:** Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) cafeteria scheme
- **Soil Health card (SHC):** A printed report card issued to farmers in once in three years indicating the status of his soil in terms of 12 parameters
- **SHC Portal:** Facilitates generation of SHCs in a uniform and standardized format.



Objectives

- To assist State Governments to issue soil health cards to all farmers in the country, so as to provide a basis to address nutrient requirements.
- To develop and promote soil test based nutrient management in the districts for enhancing nutrient use efficiency.
- To strengthen functioning of Soil Testing Laboratories (STLs) through capacity building, involvement of agriculture students and effective linkage with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

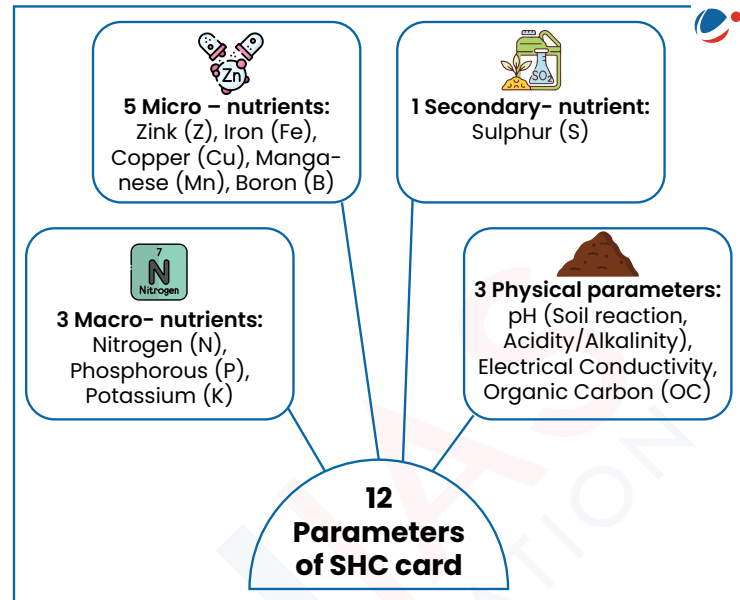


Salient Features

- **Background:** SHC scheme was launched in 2014-15 as a component of: National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). However, from 2022-23 the scheme is merged in Soil Health & Fertility sub schemes of RKVY cafeteria scheme.
 - RKVY cafeteria scheme is a Centrally Sponsored scheme.
 - It aims at making farming a remunerative economic activity through strengthening the farmer's

effort, risk mitigation and promoting agri-business entrepreneurship. **Sub-schemes merged under it are:**

- Soil Health & Fertility,
- Rainfed Area Development,
- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY),
- Per Drop More Crop,
- Agriculture Mechanization (including Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization and Management of Crop Residue (CRM), Village Haats & GRAAMS and
- Crop Diversification Programme
- **Soil Health card (SHC):** It indicates the status of soil in terms of **12 parameters (refer to the infographics)**.
 - It is also accompanied by an **advice on the various fertilizers and other soil amendments** needed for the soil.
 - It can be printed in various **major languages and Dialects**.



- **Soil Testing:** Soil samples are tested **as per the approved standards** for all the 12 parameters at:
 - **STL owned by the Department** of Agriculture and by their **own staff or by an outsourced agency**.
 - **ICAR Institutions** including KVKs and SAUs.
 - **laboratories of the Science Colleges/Universities** by the students under supervision of a Professor/Scientist.
- **Ensuring quality of soil test:** State Government is mandated to refer **1% of all the samples in a year** to a **'Referral Laboratory'** to analyse and **certify on the results of Primary Laboratory**.
 - The **State Government** is also required to support the **establishment of Referral Laboratories**.
- **Village Level Soil testing Labs or Mini labs:** Mini labs at village level is required to promote **location and crop specific** sustainable soil health management.
 - They can be set up by **individual entrepreneurs** i.e., rural youth and **community-based entrepreneurs** i.e., SHGs, Farmers Producers Organisation (FPO), Schools, Agriculture Universities, etc.
 - **District level empowered committee (DLEC)** is responsible to **select beneficiaries/entrepreneurs** to run Mini labs with the support from government
- **Payment Per Sample:** Centre provides a sum of **Rs. 190 per soil sample** to State Governments to cover the **cost of collection** of soil sample, its **test, generation and distribution** of SHC to the farmer.
 - There is **no burden on farmer** to generate Soil health card.
- **Technological interventions**
 - **SHC Portal:** It has been revamped and integrated with a **Geographic Information System (GIS) system** so that all the test results are captured and seen on a map.
 - **Mobile Application:** To ensure **authenticity of sample collection** and correctness of the information, **Sample tracking and alerts to farmers** through SMS.

Key issues with the scheme

- A **lack of awareness** among many farmers about the benefits of SHC scheme leading to **low adoption rates** in some regions.
- **Concerns about the accuracy of soil testing results** due to outdated equipment, and inadequate quality control measures in some laboratories.
- **Insufficient soil testing infrastructure** also leading to **delays in issuing soil health cards**.

To address these issues, there is a need for **awareness generation** through extension services, **increased investment in soil testing infrastructure, capacity building** of soil testing personnel, **strengthening of advisory services, etc.**



1.2 Ministry of Ayush

1.2.1. National Ayush Mission (NAM)



Context

Recently, a comprehensive report on the National AYUSH Mission (NAM) was released by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare.



Quick facts

- ➔ **Purpose:** Holistic wellness and “self-care” to reduce the disease burden
- ➔ **Type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme
- ➔ **Tenure:** From 2015 to 2025-26
- ➔ **2 components:** Mandatory and Flexible



Objectives

- ➔ To provide **AYUSH health care services** throughout the country by **strengthening and improving AYUSH health care services**.
- ➔ To establish a **holistic wellness model** through AYUSH Health and Wellness Centres to **reduce the disease burden and out of pocket expenditure**.
- ➔ To provide informed choice to the needy public through **co-location of AYUSH facilities at PHCs, CHCs and DHs resulting in medical pluralism**.
- ➔ To emphasize the **role of AYUSH in Public Health as per NHP 2017**.
- ➔ To **enhance and strengthen the infrastructure** of AYUSH educational institutions.



Salient Features

- ➔ **AYUSH:** An acronym collectively representing **five traditional systems of medicine—Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa and Homeopathy**—is an integral part of India’s rich cultural and healthcare heritage. These systems offer unique perspectives on health and well-being, drawing from ancient wisdom and practices.
- ➔ **Background:** **Before** the launch of NAM in **2014**, initiatives to promote Ayush were integrated with the

National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). However, recognising the need for a dedicated focus on Ayush, the National Ayush Mission was launched as a separate mission.

➔ **Mandatory Components:**

➔ **AYUSH Services: Providing** cost effective AYUSH Services by

- ◇ upgrading **AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries**,
- ◇ **colocation of AYUSH** facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs), District Hospitals (DHs) and
- ◇ **Setting up of 10 bedded/ 30 bedded/ 50 bedded Integrated AYUSH Hospitals.**
- ◇ Operationalizing a **network of AYUSH Health & Wellness Centres** to provide services based on holistic wellness model embedded in AYUSH principles.
 - » **12,500 AYUSH Health and Wellness Centres** (now named as Ayushman Arogya Mandir) component of AYUSHMAN BHARAT will be **implemented through NAM for a period of 5 years** upto 2023-24.

➔ **AYUSH Educational Institutions:**

- ◇ To **upgrade** Government/Government Aided AYUSH **UG as well as PG Educational Institutions.**
- ◇ To provide **financial assistance to the states for establishment of new AYUSH colleges** in the States where availability of AYUSH teaching institutions is inadequate in Government Sector,

➔ **Flexible Component:** Out of the total State envelop available, 25% of funds will be earmarked for flexible funds which can be spent on any of the items given below:

- ➔ **Yoga Wellness Centres:** Eligible for Rs. 1.00 Lakh as one time assistance for initial furnishing and recurring assistance of Rs.6.00 Lakhs per annum for manpower, maintenance etc.
- ➔ **Tele-medicine, Sports Medicine through AYUSH, IEC activities, Incentive to frontline workers** of AYUSH, Accreditation of AYUSH Healthcare facilities, etc.

➔ **Performance-based budgeting: 20% of total allocation of Flexipool budget** may be allocated to good performing States/UTs in the same proportion in which main budget of NAM is allocated.

➔ **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

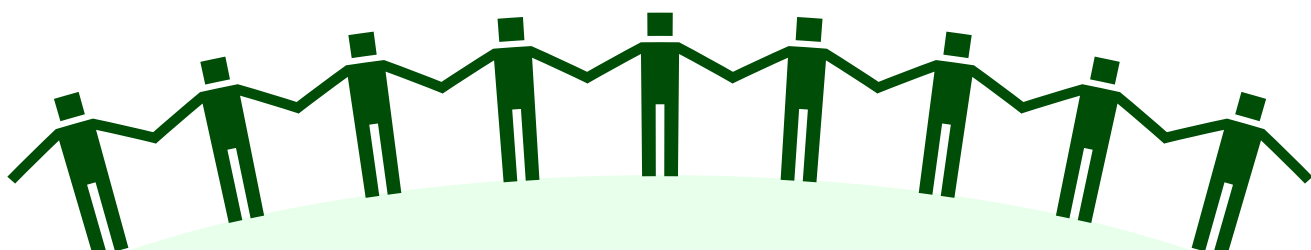
- ➔ Ministry of Ayush has created a dedicated **NAM web portal** for submission of the State Annual Action Plans (SAAPs), **Physical and financial progress** reports of approved activities, submission of UCs etc.
- ➔ States/UTs are required to report the physical and financial progress on **monthly, quarterly** and **yearly basis to the Ministry of Ayush.**

Key issues with the scheme

According to the report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee

- ➔ **Underutilization of Fund** (as per Revised Estimates for 2022-23, only about 85% funds were utilized).
- ➔ Concerns have been raised over the **high metal contents in the Ayush drugs**, which damage people's health.
- ➔ **69% of the integrated Ayush hospitals** approved under NAM are still **either under construction or the construction has not started yet**

To address these issues, there is a need for **investing in advanced analytical labs** and robust testing protocols, **increasing funding** for high-quality clinical research on efficacy and safety of Ayush therapies, Promoting **responsible advertising and patient education** on the safe and effective use of Ayush medicines, etc.





1.3 Ministry of Chemicals And Fertilizers

1.3.1. Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme



Quick facts

- **Purpose:** To provide fertilizers to the farmers at the subsidized prices.
- **Type:** Central Sector scheme
- **NBS meaning:** Instead of providing subsidies on fertilizers as a whole, **subsidy** is provided based on the **contents of the nutrients** like nitrogen, phosphorus, potash, and sulphur.
- **Inter- Ministerial Committee (IMC):** Recommends **per nutrient subsidy** for 'N', 'P', 'K' and 'S' before the start of the financial year.



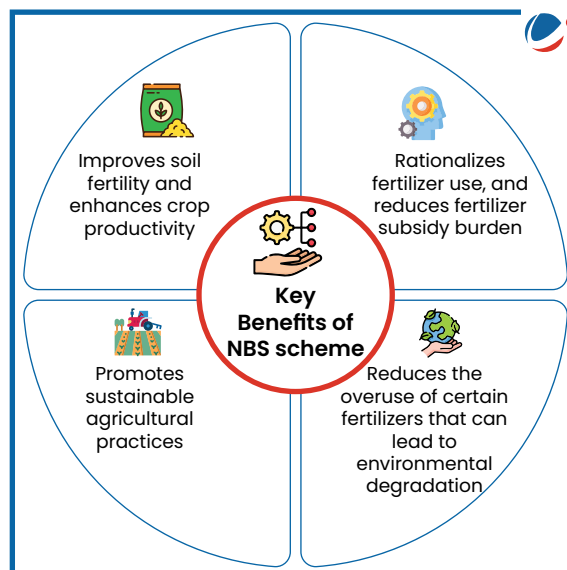
Objective

- Ensuring Nation's **food security, improving agricultural productivity** and ensuring the balanced application of fertilizers.

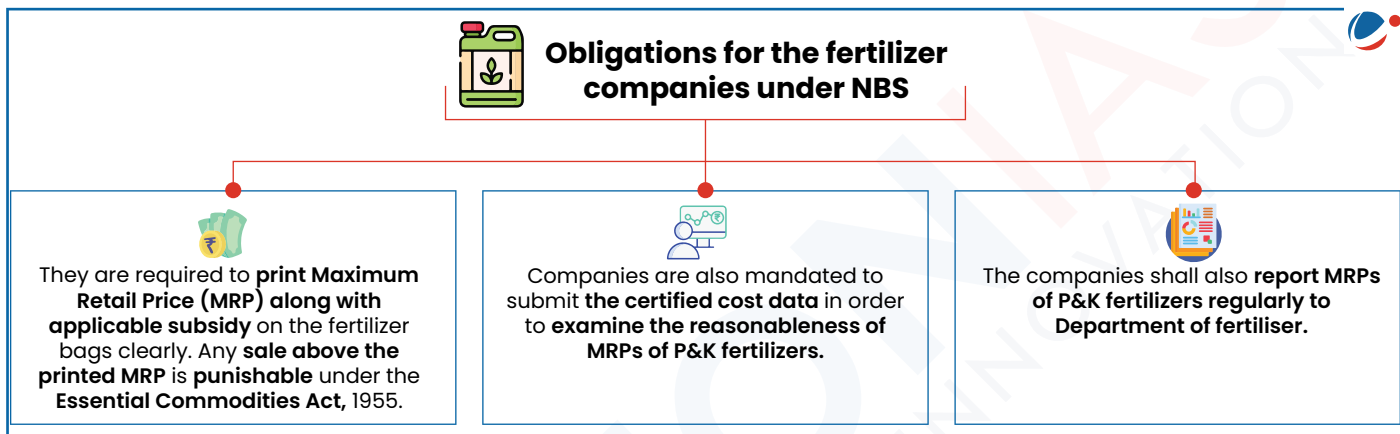


Salient Features

- **Background:** In 1992, Centre **deregulated Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers**, causing their **prices to surge**. Consequently, farmers tended to **overuse Nitrogen (N)**, whose price was still controlled.
 - This created **imbalance in soil nutrients** (N, P, and K) leading to reduced soil productivity. To address this, the **Department of Agriculture & Cooperation** introduced the **Concession Scheme for decontrolled P&K fertilizers on an ad-hoc basis** (from 1992 to 2010).
 - In 2010, the Government introduced NBS scheme.
- **NBS subsidy payment**
 - **An Inter- Ministerial Committee (IMC)** recommends subsidy before the start of the financial year.
 - **NBS is paid annually** on each nutrient **namely, 'N', 'P', 'K' and 'S'** based on the recommendation of IMC.



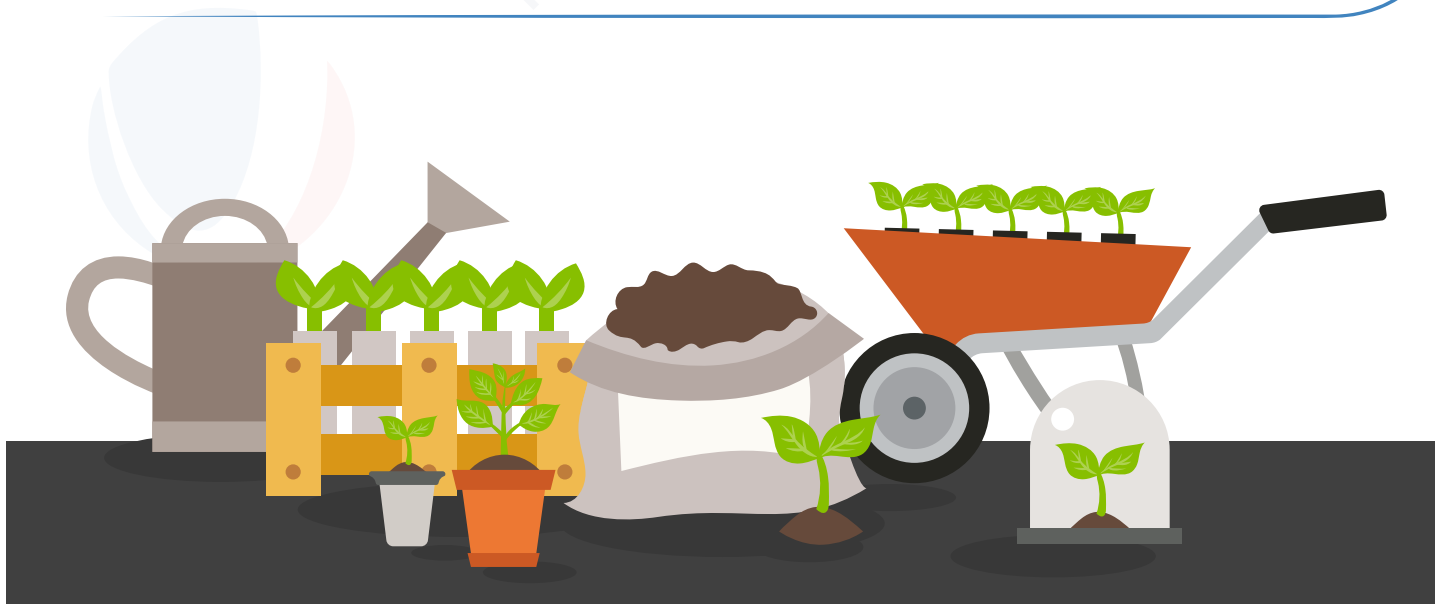
- The IMC also recommends **a per tonne additional subsidy on fortified subsidized fertilizers carrying secondary** (other than 'S') and micro-nutrients.
- **Freight concession:** In addition to NBS, **freight for the movement and distribution** of the decontrolled fertilizers by **rail and road is being provided** to enable wider availability of fertilizers in the country.
- **Subsidy for customized fertilizers:** Manufacturers of customized fertilizers and mixture fertilizers are **eligible to source subsidized fertilizers** from the manufacturers/ importers.
- There is **no separate subsidy on sale of customized fertilizers and mixture fertilizers.**
- **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT):** Subsidy is transferred to fertilizer companies through DBT, which is then passed on to farmers through reduced retail prices.
- **Integrated Fertilizer Monitoring System (iFMS):** It is an IT enabled system launched in 2016. It captures end to end details of Fertilizer in terms of Production, Movement, availability, requirement, Sale, Subsidy Bill Generation to Subsidy payment to fertilizer companies.



Key issues with the scheme

- **Diversion and black marketing** of subsidized fertilizers.
- **Fertilizer companies have often faced delays in receiving subsidies** which adversely impacts fertilizers supply.
- Continued overuse and imbalanced application of chemical fertilizers can still lead to **soil degradation, water pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions.**

To address these issues, there is a need for **stronger monitoring and enforcement mechanisms, increased awareness programs for farmers, improved soil testing infrastructure, timely disbursement of subsidies,** and a greater emphasis on **promoting organic and sustainable farming practices.**





1.4 Ministry of Defence

1.4.1. ADITI (Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX) Scheme



Quick facts

- **Purpose:** To develop **about 30 deep-tech critical and strategic technologies** where the country does not have existing capabilities
- **Components:** Grant-in-Aid to ADITI winners and to Partner Incubators (PIs)
- **Technologies covered:** Technologies which are **critically required for national security.**
- **Tenure:** FY 2023–2024 to FY 2025–2026



Objectives

- Facilitate **rapid development of strategically critical technologies** which are sensitive and innovative.
- **Indigenisation of critical technologies** and reduction of dependencies on foreign OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers).
- **Spiral development** within ADITI scheme and also spiral development of products developed under existing iDEX scheme.
- Build “**Technology Watch Tool**” and conduct **technology foresight workshops.**



Salient Features

- **ADITI challenges:** Support for upto two winners in each ADITI challenge has been provisioned. An applicant can be awarded only one ADITI challenge at a time.
 - ⊕ ADITI scheme shall **subsume iDEX Prime category of challenges** (refer to the infographics) launched after the date of approval of ADITI Scheme.
- **Partner Incubators (PIs): Network of about 10 PIs** (with specialized expertise) will be developed over the period of the scheme and they will provide specialised support and business mentorship.
- **Financial support:**
 - ⊕ **Grant-in-Aid to ADITI winners:** Grant up to **50% of the product development budget** with a cap of **Rs. 25 Crore** per winner has been considered for the contracts to be signed.
 - ⊕ **Grant-in-Aid to Partner Incubators (PIs):**
 - ◆ The project consists of **6 milestones, with a payment limit of Rs. 1,50,000 for each milestone.**

- » This payment is estimated to be provided to the PIs based on **facilitation/completion of each milestone of their associated challenge winner.**
- ◇ Additionally, **activity wise amount on requirement basis** will be given to PIs for
 - » Building pipeline for Defence needs by **locating startups/MSMEs.**
 - » Facilitating technical/financial due diligence, **incubation and mentorship support** through academia, industry and R&D to the challenge winners on milestone basis.
 - » Strengthening the innovation ecosystem by **undertaking initiatives to reach out, spread awareness, among others.**

➔ Eligibility for ADITI Challenge

- ➔ **Startups**, as defined and recognized by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- ➔ Any **Indian company** incorporated under the **Companies Act 1956/2013**, primarily an **MSME** as defined in the MSME Act, 2006.
- ➔ **Individual innovators** (research & academic institutions can use this category to apply) registered as **Startup/MSME.**

➔ Eligibility for availing grants as iDEX Partner Incubators (PIs)

- ➔ **Legal status:** The incubator should be **registered in India as a legal entity** in public, private or public – partnership mode, and should have **received/ongoing grant support from Government of India.**
- ➔ **Experience:**

- ◇ The incubator must have **operated for at least 5 years and incubated or funded a minimum of 10 defense-related startups.**
- ◇ It should have **incubated at least 5 startups in the past 3 years** that are running as 'a going concern' as of the date of 'call for application' by DIO.
- ◇ It must have managed **at least 2 sector-focused accelerator programs** (preferably in Deep Tech, Defense, AI/ML, Cyber, etc.) **in the last 5 years.**
- ➔ **Resource:** It should have **at least 25 mentors for startups affiliated with it**, at least 5 of whom should be SMEs in defence or aerospace domain; and atleast 2 investment experts/investors.
- ➔ **Networking:** The PIs should have adequate external support system viz. collaboration with industry, academia, and Government institutions to support ADITI winners.

➔ Procedure for selection

- ➔ The framework for ADITI will call for **proposals through challenges.**
- ➔ Selection will be through the **High-Power Selection Committee (HPSC)** led by challenge owner, subject matter experts, representatives from Academia/Industry and other concerned stakeholders.



➔ Monitoring: The grant utilization and progress will be **monitored by the** Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO) through PIs.

- ➔ **DIO is a Company** was incorporated under section 8 of the Companies Act 2013. Accounts of DIO are **subject to CAG audit.**
- ➔ DIO is formed jointly by **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).**

➔ Evaluation of the scheme: Evaluation **by a third party** would be arranged in FY 2025-26 before fresh appraisal/revision for continuation.

➔ Technology Watch Tool: To be developed to bridge the gap between the expectations and requirements of the modern Armed Forces and the capabilities of the defence innovation ecosystem.

ADITI scheme and iDEX

Critical & advanced technologies under ADITI shall be boosted by spiral development and also spiral development of products/technologies developed under existing iDEX scheme.

iDEX is the **operational framework of the Defence Innovation Organization (DIO)**

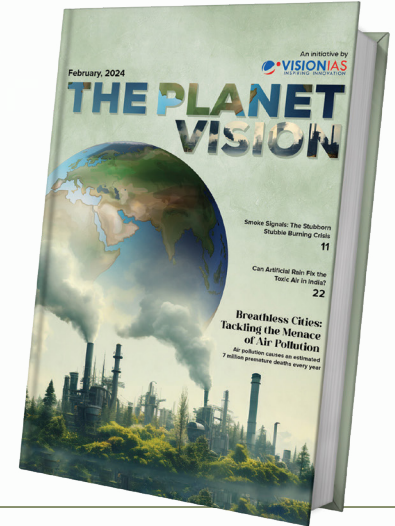
iDEX-DIO provides the winner (start-ups/ individuals) of the **Defence India Startup Challenge (DISC)** funding up to **Rs 1.5 crores** (depending upon the costing of the project and matching contribution).

To motivate young innovators, **iDEX was expanded to iDEX Prime**, with the **assistance increasing from Rs 1.5 crore to Rs 10 crore.**

THE PLANET VISION

In a world facing unprecedented environmental challenges, staying informed and empowered is more crucial than ever. VisionIAS brings you 'The Planet Vision', a simplified, informative, and interactive magazine to delve into the complexities of the environment.

With the belief, that individual efforts and awareness are the key to a sustainable future, the magazine seeks to inspire and educate people to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation for the environment, nature & planet.



Objectives of 'The Planet Vision'



Sensitise the young generation: Highlighting pressing environmental issues and their multifaceted impacts.



Inspire Action and Promote Sustainable Lifestyle: Inspiring stories and case studies to motivate readers to make environmentally conscious choices.



Bridge Environmental Science and Public Understanding: Presenting complex scientific concepts in a simple and interactive manner.



Showcase Solutions: Spotlight innovative technologies, projects, and initiatives that offer solutions to environmental challenges.



Highlight Local Efforts: Showcase local conservation efforts, community initiatives, and grassroots projects that make a positive impact on the environment.

Who is the magazine for?

The Magazine is designed for students, eco-conscious individuals, educators, environmentalists, and anyone who cares about the health of our planet.

Key elements of the 'The Planet Vision'



Cover Stories: Thought-provoking articles about a critical ongoing environmental issue, along with the mitigation strategies adopted at the national and international levels.



Briefing and Developments: Stay informed about the latest environmental news, trends, and solutions.



Protect and Preserve: Inspirational stories of local conservation efforts.



Environment and You: Illustrating ways to make environmentally conscious choices in everyday life.



Green Tech: New and emerging technologies in the field of environment.



Interactive elements:

✔ **Snapshot:** Telling a story through capturing images.

✔ **Quizzes and crosswords:** To test your understanding and knowledge as a reader.

“

Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better. ”

—Albert Einstein



Scan the QR code, to download and read the Magazine:



1.5 Ministry of Education

1.5.1. Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA)



Context

Recently, Uttar Pradesh has secured ₹740 crore under the PM-USHA Scheme, the highest amount in the country.



Quick facts

- **Purpose:** To cater to needs of **educationally unserved/underserved areas**
- **Type:** Centrally Sponsored Schemes
- **Coverage:** Covers **government and government-aided institutions** of the States and UTs
- **Tenure:** 2023-24 to 2025-26



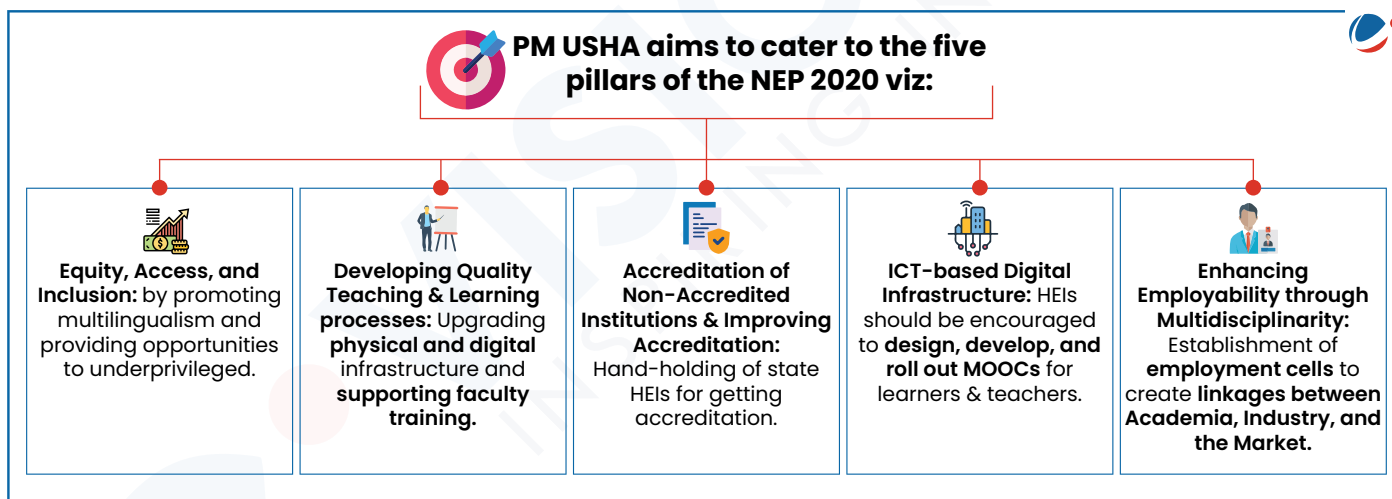
Objectives

- To improve the **overall quality of existing state higher educational institutions** (State HEIs).
- **Implementation of recommendations of the NEP 2020** through funding support provided to State HEIs.
- **Improving accreditation status** of accredited institutions and getting accreditation of non-accredited institutions.
- **Establish backward and forward linkages** with school education on one hand and employment market, on the other hand.
- **Developing infrastructure** for ODL/Online/Digital mode of education in such States/UTs.
- Providing adequate opportunities for higher education to **socially deprived communities**.
- Focusing on low **GER, Left Wing Extremism (LWE), border area districts, aspirational districts** and districts with higher SC/ ST population,
- Enhancing employability through **skilling and vocationalization**.
- Focus on multidisciplinary education, including **STEM, commerce and humanities fields of education**.



Salient Features

- **Background:** In 2013 Centre launched **Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)** to **attain higher levels of access, equity, and excellence in the State HEIs**. In 2018 the second phase of RUSA was launched in 2018.
 - Now, in the light of **the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020**, RUSA scheme has been launched as Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA).
- **component in PM-USHA**
 - **Multi-Disciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERU):** Only **accredited state government universities** would be eligible. NAAC Grading; NIRF Ranking are key criterion for shortlisting.
 - **Grants to Strengthen Universities (Accredited & Unaccredited Universities):** Only state government universities would be eligible.
 - **Grants to Strengthen Colleges (Accredited & Unaccredited Colleges):** Only state government and government-aided colleges will be eligible.
 - **New Model Degree Colleges:** Districts without any government HEIs would be eligible. Only state government colleges would be established.
 - **Gender Inclusion and Equity Initiatives:** Districts would be taken as a unit and not individual institutions. The activities that can be undertaken under this component include doing sensitisation workshops, combined hostels for females for the nearby colleges and universities in the district, etc.
 - **Management Monitoring Evaluation And Research (MMER):** The amount of MMER grants is **2%** of the total fund approved, out of which 1 % will be released to the States/ UTs and 1% will be utilized by the Centre.



- **Priority would be given to Focus districts:** States would identify the Focus Districts on the basis of the following indicators:
 - Low Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)
 - Population proportion and enrollment proportion for **Females, transgenders, SCs, STs and OBCs**
 - Aspirational/ Border Area/ Left Wing Extremism (LWE) prone district
 - Gender parity
- **Process of Selection:** Selection of institutions would be done through the challenge method.
- **Monitoring And Evaluation:** The scheme shall be monitored and evaluated at each level i.e. Central, State, and Regional.
 - AT the Central Level **National Mission Authority (NMA)** chaired by Union Minister of Education acts as an overseer of the scheme.
 - **Project Approval Board or PAB** (chaired by Secretary, Higher Education, GoI) ensures regular monitoring and evaluation of not only the proposals but also the performance of the scheme.

- **Activities not supported under PM USHA:** Payment of salaries, pensions, and other benefits, recurring/non-recurring cost for any project, etc, Scholarships, fellowships, or stipends to students, among others.

Key issues with the scheme

- **Inadequate funding and potential for funds to be misused or diverted.**
- concerns about the **lack of robust quality assurance mechanisms.**
- **persistent disparities** in access for marginalized communities, particularly in remote and rural areas.
- **Many higher education institutions, especially in rural areas, still lack adequate infrastructure**

To address these issues, there is a need for exploring **alternative financing models** and promoting **self-sustaining mechanisms for HEIs**, targeted efforts to enhance equity and access, infrastructure development, faculty recruitment and training, **promotion of industry-academia collaborations, and strengthened governance and accountability measures.**

- Emphasis on conceptual clarity to train the aspirants for developing an understanding to solve ethics case study from basic to advance level
- Case studies covers all the exclusive topics from contemporary and current issues as well as previous Year UPSC Paper Case studies
- To discuss on Various techniques on writing scoring answers.
- One to one mentoring session

ETHICS

Case Studies Classes

ADMISSION OPEN

- Focus on contemporary issues and interlinking case studies with topics of current interest.
- Regular Doubts clearing session and personal guidance for the ethics paper throughout your preparation
- Daily Class assignment and discussion
- Comprehensive & updated ethics material



1.6 Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying

1.6.1. Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY)



Context

Union Cabinet approved the PM-MKSSY under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).



Quick facts

- **Purpose:** Formalization of the fisheries sector and supporting fisheries micro and small enterprises
- **Type:** Central Sector Scheme
- **External support:** Financial support from the World Bank and the AFD (French Development Agency)
- **Tenure:** FY 2023-24 to FY 2026-27



Objectives

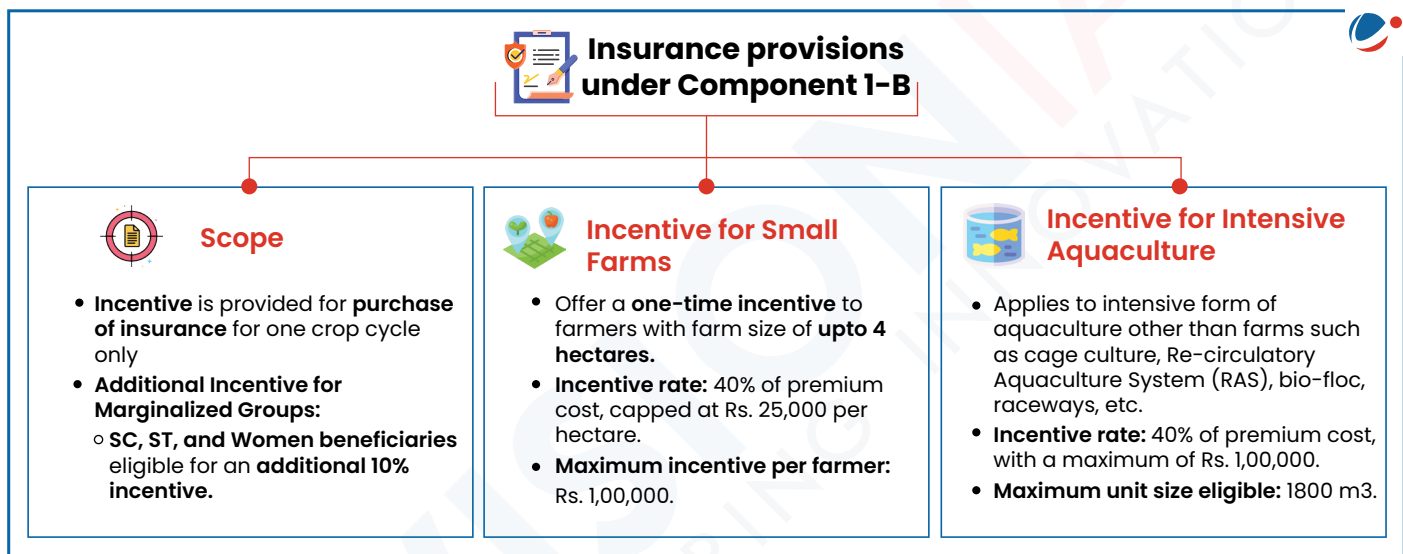
- **Gradual formalization** of the unorganised fisheries sector.
- **Facilitating institutional finance** to fisheries sector micro and small enterprises.
- **Providing a one-time incentive** to beneficiaries for purchasing aquaculture insurance.
- Incentivizing for **improving fisheries sector value-chain efficiencies**.



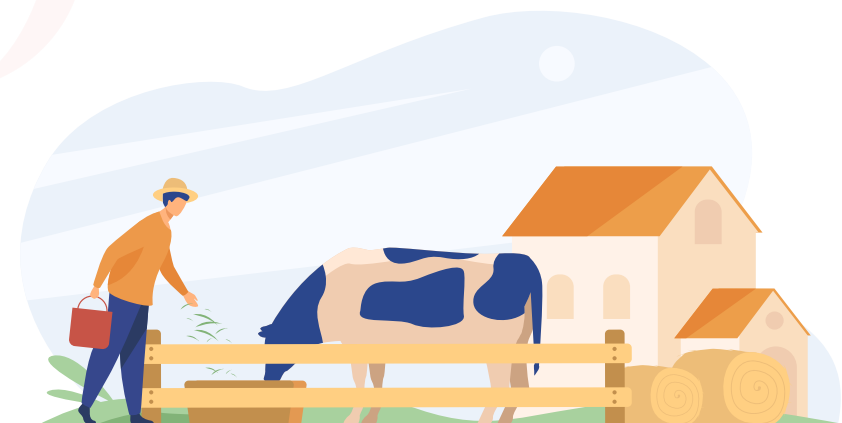
Salient Features

- **Intended beneficiaries**
 - **Fishers, Fish (Aquaculture) Farmers, Fish workers, Fish Vendors** or such other person directly engaged in fisheries value chain.
 - **Micro and Small enterprises** in the form of **Proprietary Firms, Partnership Firms and Companies** registered in India, Societies, **Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs), Cooperatives, Federations, Village Level Organizations** like SHGs, Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Fish FPOs
 - **Startups** engaged in fisheries and aquaculture value chains.
 - Any other beneficiaries that may be included by the Department of Fisheries,

- **Funding:** Total outlay of **6000 crore** rupees, of which-
 - **50% will come from public finance** including **the World Bank and the AFD** (French Development Agency) external financing
 - **50% will be contributed by the beneficiaries from private sector**
- **Key components**
 - **Component 1-A: Formalization of the fisheries sector and facilitating access of fisheries microenterprises to GoI programs** for the financing of working capital.
 - ◊ **National Fisheries Digital Platform (NFDP)** will be created and all the stakeholders will be mobilized to register on it.
 - » The NFDP will serve **multiple functions including disbursement of financial incentives.**
 - **Component 1-B: Facilitating the adoption of aquaculture insurance:** It is proposed to facilitate the creation of appropriate insurance products and to **cover at least 1 lakh hectares of aquaculture farms** (Refer to the infographics below).



- **Component-2:** Supporting microenterprises to **improve fisheries sector value chain efficiencies.**
- **Component-3: Facilitating Adoption and expansion of fish and fishery product safety** and quality assurance systems.
- **Component-4: Project management, monitoring, and reporting:** It is proposed to set up **Project Management Units (PMUs)** to manage, implement, monitor, and evaluate project activities.
- **About PMMSY:** PMMSY aims to bring about **the Blue Revolution** through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector in India.



1.6.2.

Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)



Context

Union Cabinet chaired approved the continuation of AHIDF to be implemented under Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) for another three years up to 2025-26.



Quick facts

- ➔ **Purpose:** To help increasing of milk and meat processing capacity and product diversification
- ➔ **Type:** Central Sector Scheme
- ➔ **Financial assistance:** Term Loan to the Eligible Entities would be provided
- ➔ **Tenure:** Till 2025-26



Objectives

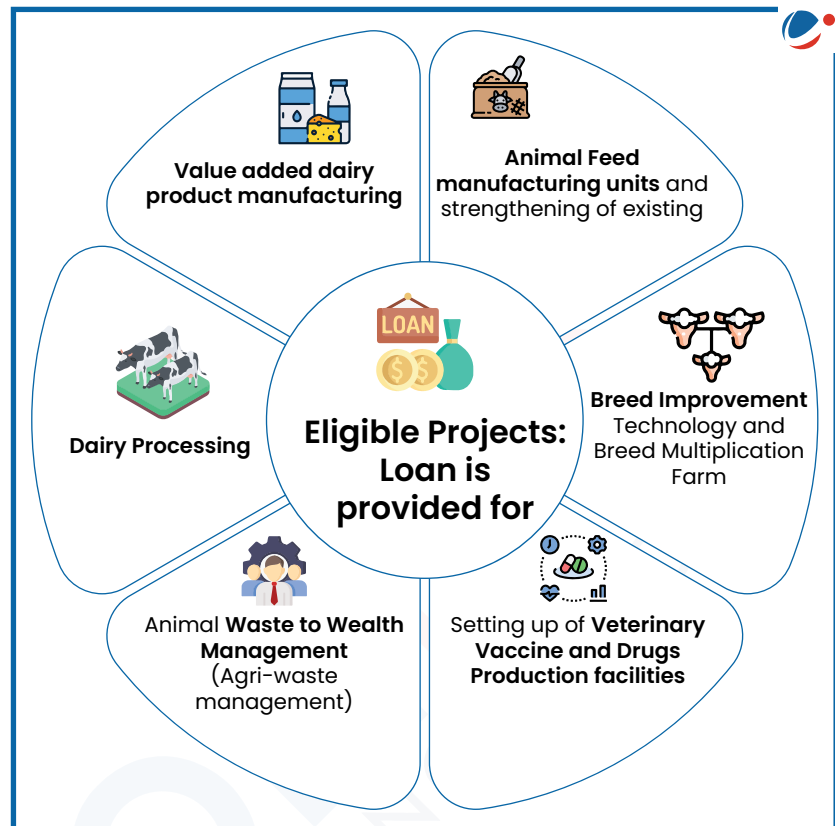
- ➔ To help **increasing of milk and meat processing capacity and product diversification** thereby providing greater access for unorganized rural milk and meat producers **to organized milk and meat market.**
- ➔ To make available **increased price realization for the producer and quality milk and meat products for the domestic consumer.**
- ➔ Develop **entrepreneurship and generate employment** and to **increase the export contribution** in the milk and meat sector.
- ➔ To make **available quality concentrated animals feed** to the cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat, pig and poultry to provide balanced ration at affordable prices.



Salient Features

- ➔ **Background:** Setting up of Rs. 15000 crore AHIDF was announced under **Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan stimulus package.**
 - ➔ The scheme has recently been realigned to be implemented under **Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF)** with a total outlay of Rs.29,610.25 crore.
- ➔ **Eligible Entities/ Eligible Borrowers:**
 - ➔ Individual entrepreneurs
 - ➔ Farmer Producer Organization (FPO)
 - ➔ Private companies

- Section 8 companies
- Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)
- Dairy Cooperatives
- **Quantum of Loan:** The project under the AHIDF shall be eligible for loan **up to 90% of the estimated/ actual project cost** on submission of viable projects.
- Loan is provided by **scheduled bank and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), NABARD and NDDB.**
- **Beneficiary Contribution**
 - **10%** for Micro and Small units
 - **up to 15%** for Medium Enterprises
 - **up to 25%** for other categories beneficiaries
- **Interest Subvention:** Loans under this financing facility are eligible for interest subvention of **3% per annum.**
 - The **DAHD will provide 3% interest subvention to the Bank upfront** in the first year and subsequently on demand by the bank for each of the beneficiaries on each year on the outstanding amount



- **Repayment period:** Maximum **repayment period should not exceed 8 years** (initially it was 10 years) from the date of first disbursement **inclusive of moratorium of 2 years** on repayment of principal.
- **Security:** Hypothecation of assets created out of Bank finance, mortgage of land & building for which credit facilities has been extended, pledge of specified financial assets etc.
- **Credit Guarantee Fund of AHIDF:** Government of India will also provide credit guarantee to the **MSME and Dairy Cooperatives up to the 25% of the term loan.**
 - **Credit Guarantee Fund of Rs.750 crore** is established which is managed by NABARD
- **Ease of applying for benefits:** Application process through online portal www.ahidf.udaymimitra.in.
- **Convergence with other scheme:** Scheme provided for Dovetailing with capital subsidy schemes of other ministries or state level schemes.
- **Achievement:** The scheme has been able to increase processing capacity by 2-4% in dairy, meat and animal feed sector.

Key issues with the scheme

- **Lack of awareness** about the AHIDF scheme among many stakeholders, especially small and marginal farmers.
- **Mandatory beneficiary contribution** may leave behind some small and marginal farmers and entrepreneurs.
- Concerns that the **implementation of the scheme may be uneven** across different regions, due to varying levels of infrastructure, resources, and administrative capabilities.

To address these issues, the government may need to **enhance awareness campaigns, increase funding allocations, provide targeted support for small and marginal farmers, offer complementary support services** (such as skill development, technical assistance) among others.

Master

UPSC PRELIMS CHALLENGES in CURRENT AFFAIRS with VISIONIAS PT365



How to Prepare
Current Affairs

Current affairs forms the cornerstone of civil services exam preparation, permeating all its phases – **Prelims, Mains, and the Interview**. Staying updated with current affairs equips aspirants to navigate the evolving landscape of the civil services exam. With the right resources and approach, candidates can transform this vast section into a strong advantage.

What is PT 365?

PT 365 document comprehensively covers the important and relevant current affairs of the last 1 year in a consolidated manner to aid Prelims preparation. It is devised as a revision document of the current affairs.

Features of PT365



Comprehensive Coverage

- Entire year's current affairs coverage.
- UPSC relevant subjects like Polity, Economy, S&T, Environment, IR, etc.
- Emphasis on topics likely to appear in upcoming prelims exam.



Clear and Concise Information

- Clear, concise presentation focusing on key issues.
- Information from credible sources.
- Appendices for rapid revision.



QR based Smart quiz

- Interactive feature to assess aspirant's learning and comprehension.



Infographics

- Aids in understanding and retention.
- Techniques, methods, and processes displayed.
- Strategic use of maps to enhance learning.



Government Schemes and Policies

- In-depth coverage of key government schemes, policies, and initiatives.



New Elements

- Tailored to reflect the pattern of previous year's questions.



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Significance of PT 365



Ease of Revision: Content categorisation is based on subjects or topics to make it easier for aspirants to locate and revise specific areas



Value Addition: Includes infographics, related developments, or news, ensuring comprehensive coverage of important information.



Crisp Material: Crisp points have been used in the articles. It allows aspirants to easily do multiple revisions in limited span of time.

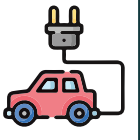


Integrated Approach: Covers basic concepts and information of all current affairs in a lucid manner, in line with previous trends of UPSC questions. Also helps in integrating key current affairs with static knowledge.



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PT 365 is a time and tested document. In the previous years, it has helped lakhs of candidates to cover current affairs in a holistic way. It's impactful features make it easier for aspirants to understand current affairs and excel in the UPSC Civil Services examination.



1.7 Ministry of Heavy Industries

1.7.1. Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme (EMPS)



Context

As the tenure of Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles (FAME-II) ended on 31st March 2024, the Ministry proposed to implement EMPS 2024.



Quick facts

- ➔ **Purpose:** For faster adoption of electric two-wheeler (e2W) and three-wheeler (e-3W)
- ➔ **Fund limited:** Total payout under the scheme shall be limited to the scheme outlay of Rs.500 crore
- ➔ **Tenure:** 4 months (1st April 2024 till 31st July 2024).
- ➔ **Implementation:** By Project Management Agency (PMA)



Objective

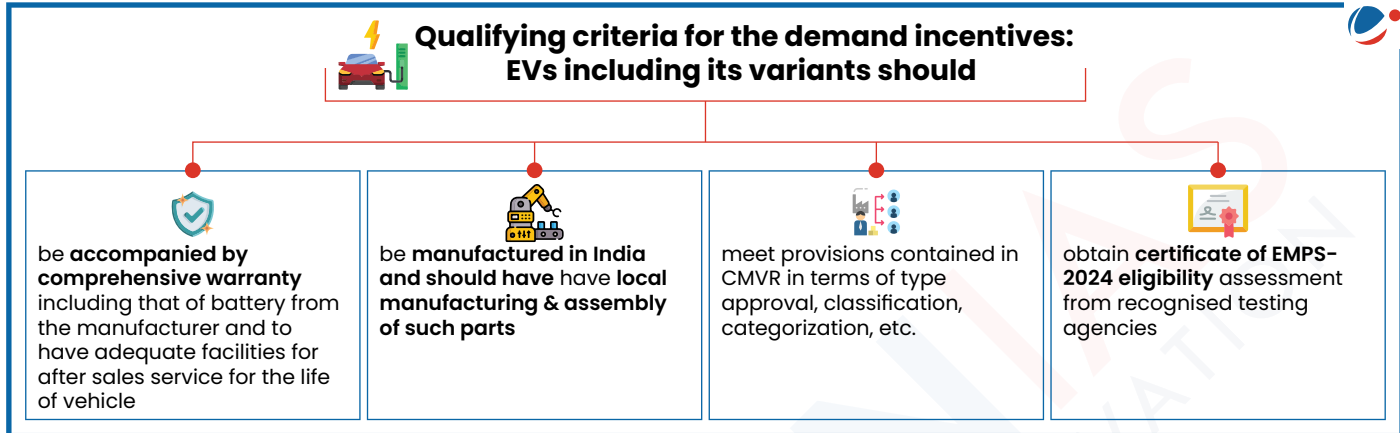
- ➔ To provide **impetus to green mobility and development of Electric Vehicle (EV) manufacturing ecosystem** in country.



Salient Features

- ➔ **Background:**
 - ⊕ **Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles in India (FAME-I)**, for promotion of electric and hybrid vehicles was launched from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2019.
 - ⊕ **FAME-II** of was launched for the period from **1st April, 2019 to 31st March 2024. Subsequently, EMPS was launched.**
- ➔ **Components of Scheme**
 - ⊕ **Subsidies:** A demand incentive of **Rs.5,000 per kWh for e-2W & e-3W** categories.
 - ◇ The incentive would **be based on battery capacity** (i.e. energy content measured in kWh) used in such vehicles.
 - ◇ In order to **restrict very high end vehicles from availing Government incentives**, the incentive shall be further **capped at 15% of ex-factory price.**

- **Administration of Scheme** including IEC (Information, Education & Communication) activities and fee for Project Management Agency.
- **Conditions to avail Demand Incentives:**
 - **Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM)** is required to be **registered with MHI** and each of their **EV models will need to be approved by MHI**.
 - Each vehicle model needs to **satisfy minimum technical eligibility criteria** with regard to vehicles efficiency.



- **Phased Manufacturing Programme (PMP):** Manufacturers are obligated to follow the PMP guidelines outlining the **localization of EV components over time**.
- **Project Implementation and Sanctioning Committee (PISC):** It is an **inter-ministerial** empowered committee headed by **Secretary (Heavy Industries)**.
 - It is constituted for overall **monitoring, sanctioning and implementation**.
 - It has the power to **Changing inter se allocation among e-2W/ e-3W**.
- **Responsibilities of State:** States need to offer bouquet of **fiscal and non-fiscal incentives** including waiver / concessional road tax or toll tax or parking fees, exemption from permit, concessional registration charges, etc.
- **Impact on benefits under other schemes:** Incentive under this scheme will be **in addition to incentives given under PLI scheme** for automobile and auto components industry (PLI-AUTO) and **PLI scheme for advanced chemistry cell (PLI-ACC)**.



1.7.2 Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Automobile and Auto Component industry (PLI-AUTO)



Context

International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT), Haryana awards the first PLI- Automotive Certificate to OLA Electric Technologies Pvt. Ltd.



Quick facts

- **Purpose:** To increase India's share in global automotive trade
- **Type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme
- **Base year:** 2019-20 is the Base Year for calculation of Eligible sales for incentive.
- **Tenure:** From 2021 Till FY 2027-28



Objective




- Overcoming cost disabilities, creating economies of scale and building a **robust supply chain in areas of Advanced Automotive Products Technologies (AAT) products.**



Salient Features

- **Background:** Union Budget 2021-22 announced PLI schemes for 14 sectors (like Pharmaceuticals Drugs; Specialty Steel, Telecom & Networking Products) to create a robust domestic value chain.
 - The scheme offers companies **incentives on incremental sales** (over the base year) for products manufactured in India.
- **Incentive:** Incentive upto 18% for fresh investments in indigenous supply chain of AAT
 - ₹6,485 crore would be total incentive per entire Group company(ies).
 - Incentive is available for **five consecutive financial years**, beginning 2023-24 until FY 2027-28 (earlier till FY2026-27).
 - ◇ **Failure to achieve a sales value increase** results in **no incentive** for the year. However, the company qualifies for benefits the following year by meeting certain conditions.
- **2 Components**
 - **Champion OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) Incentive scheme:** Applicable on **Battery Electric Vehicles** and **Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles** of all segments

Conditions for incentive

 Minimum 50% domestic value addition	 Incentive only for once Either component level or Vehicle level	 2% additional incentive for achieving higher growth
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- **Component Champion Incentive scheme:** Applicable on **AAT components** of vehicles, **Completely Knocked Down (CKD)/ Semi Knocked Down (SKD) kits, etc.**
- **Eligibility:** Both **existing and new manufacturing companies** fulfilling the **revenue** (from automotive and/or auto component manufacturing) and investment (Global Investment of Company or its Group/Company(ies) in fixed assets) criteria.

Components	Revenue	Investment
Auto OEM	Minimum ₹ 10,000 crore	₹ 3,000
Auto-Component	Minimum ₹ 500 crore	₹ 150 crore

- **Effect of eligibility under other schemes:** Incentives under PLI Auto scheme is in addition to incentives under FAME-II (or now Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme 2024).
- **Project Management Agency (PMA):** IFCI Limited (IFCI), a Non-Banking Finance Company in the public sector.

Key issues with the scheme

- **Stringent eligibility criteria and investment thresholds**, which may be challenging for smaller players.
- **Supply chain disruptions and global semiconductor shortage** have made it difficult for companies to meet the production targets and investment commitments required under the scheme.
- **Stiff competition from well-established automotive manufacturing centers** in countries including China.

To address these issues, there is a need for providing **additional support for supply chain resilience and infrastructure development**, and exploring measures to **enhance the overall competitiveness** of the Indian automotive sector beyond just fiscal incentives.

OPTIONAL SUBJECT CLASSES

Starts : **2 JULY, 5 PM**

- Anthropology
- Geography
- Philosophy
- Political Science & International Relations
- Sociology



1.8

Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MoMSMEs)

1.8.1. Raising And Accelerating MSME Productivity (RAMP)



Context

Union Minister for MSME launched **three sub-schemes** under the aegis of RAMP programme.



Quick facts

- **Purpose:** Enhancing performance of MSMEs by promoting technology upgradation, innovation, digitization, market access, etc. through active participation of the State Governments
- **Type:** Central Sector Scheme
- **Tenure:** 2022-23 to 2026-27
- **Funding:** USD 500 Million would be a loan from the World Bank and the remaining USD 308 Million would be funded by the Gol.



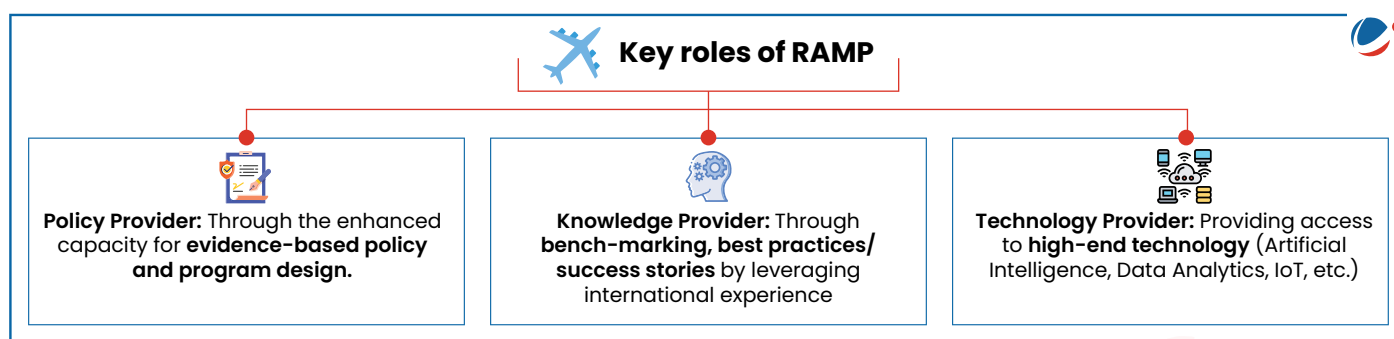
Objectives

- Accelerating **Centre- State collaboration in MSME promotion** and development.
- **Enhancing effectiveness of existing MoMSME schemes** for technology upgradation.
- **Strengthening Receivable Financing Market** for MSMEs.
- Enhancing **effectiveness of Credit Guarantee Trust for Micro & Small Enterprises (CGTMSE)**, and promoting guarantee for greening initiatives of MSEs, and women owned MSEs.
- **Reducing incidence of delayed payments** to MSEs.



Salient Features

- **Background:** RAMP was formulated and proposed by the Centre, for strengthening MSMEs in line with the recommendations made by U K Sinha Committee, KV Kamath Committee and Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (PMEAC).
 - RAMP is launched as a **Programme-for-Results (P for R)** programme.



➔ 3 sub-schemes (launched recently)

- ➔ **MSME Green Investment and Financing for Transformation Scheme (MSE GIFT Scheme):** To help MSMEs adopt green technology with interest subvention and credit guarantee support.
- ➔ **MSE Scheme for Promotion and Investment in Circular Economy (MSE SPICE Scheme):** To support circular economy projects through credit subsidy and will lead to realizing the dream of the MSME sector towards zero emissions by 2070.
- ➔ **MSE Scheme on Online Dispute Resolution for Delayed Payments (MSE ODR scheme):** To synergize legal support with modern IT tools and Artificial Intelligence to address the incidences of delayed payments for MSME.

➔ Implementation Strategy

- ➔ **Strengthening Institutions and Governance** of the MSME Program
- ➔ Support to **Market Access, Firm Capabilities and Access to Finance**

➔ Strategic Investment Plans (SIPs):

It would be formulated in **collaboration with States/UTs.**

- ➔ The SIPs would include an **outreach plan** for identification and mobilisation of MSMEs under RAMP, **identify key constraints and gaps**, set milestones and project the required budgets for interventions in priority sectors including renewable energy, rural & non-farm business, women enterprises etc.
- ➔ **SIPs of 10 States** viz. Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Sikkim, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Karnataka **have been approved**

➔ Flow of fund:

Funds would flow through RAMP into the Ministry's budget against **Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs)** to support ongoing MoMSME programmes, focusing on improving market access and competitiveness.

➔ RAMP ESSA:

As part of the requirements of World Bank funding, **Environment and Social Assessment (ESSA) is mandatory** to verify compliances to Environmental and Social standards by the last mile enterprises covered under the various programmes of the Ministry.

➔ Monitoring and policy overview:

- ➔ **National MSME Council**, headed by Minister for MSME: For overall monitoring and policy review
- ➔ **RAMP programme committee**, headed by the Secretary of MoMSME: To monitor the specific deliverables under RAMP
- ➔ **Programme Management Units (PMU):** For day to day implementation
 - ◇ It will be constituted at the National level and in States, comprising professionals and experts competitively selected from the industry.

Key issues with the scheme

- ➔ **MSMEs in remote and underdeveloped regions often face difficulties** in accessing the benefits
- ➔ Encompass **a large number of goals** which are **quite widespread**, requiring too many targeted outcomes.
- ➔ Sometimes **enhancing collaboration between Centre and States may be difficult.**

To address above issues there is a need for **clear measurable targets** under each of the objectives, giving priority to **rehabilitation of existing industrial estates/clusters and development of new industrial clusters**, special assistance to MSMEs in remote areas, etc.



1.9 Ministry of Mines

1.9.1. Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY)



Context

Ministry released the updated guidelines for the PMKKKY.



Quick facts

- **Purpose:** To ensure certain **minimum provisions for development programme** by all District Mineral Foundations (DMFs)
- **Legal recognition:** Launched in 2015 by Centre under **Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) or MMDR Act, 1957**
- **Beneficiaries:** **Directly affected people** and **directly or indirectly affected areas**
- **Accountability:** Provides for **yearly audit of the accounts of the DMFs**



Objectives

- To implement various **developmental and welfare projects/programs in mining affected areas**, and complement the existing ongoing schemes/projects of State and Central Government.
- To **minimize/mitigate the adverse impacts**, during and after mining, on the environment, health and socio-economics of people in mining districts.
- To ensure **long-term sustainable livelihoods** for the affected people in mining areas.

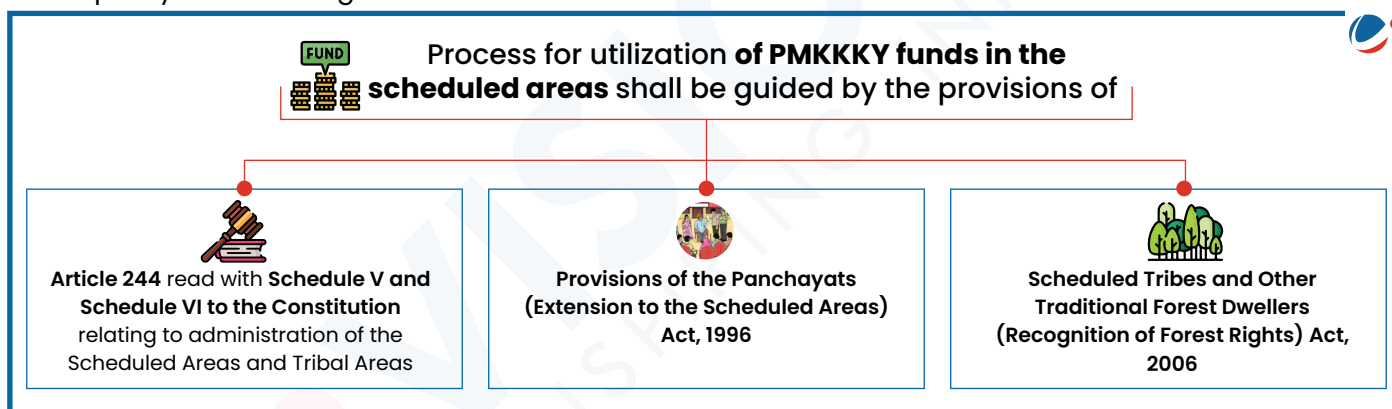


Salient Features

- **DMF:** DMF is a non-profit trust under **MMDR Act, 1957** set up by the State Governments in **all mining-affected districts**.
 - ⊕ **Chairman of Governing Council and Managing Committee of DMF shall be the District Magistrate/ Deputy Commissioner/ Collector of the district.**
 - ◇ **Mining companies** are required to **contribute 10% and 30% of the royalty** (depending on the date

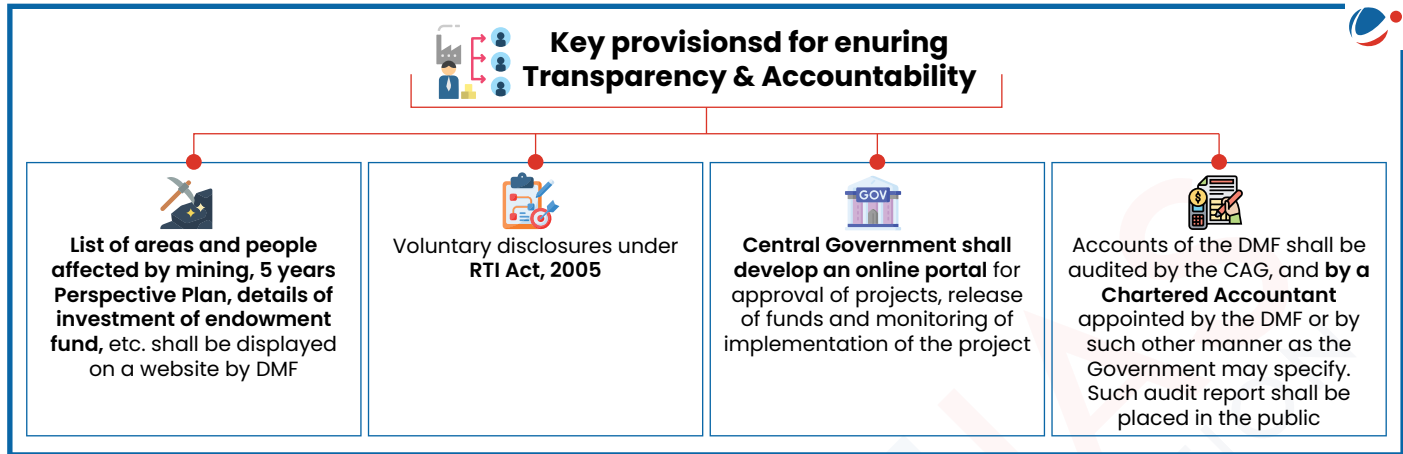
of mining lease granted) to DMFs, in addition to the royalty paid to state governments

- **Affected areas:** The DMF shall prepare and maintain an updated list of affected areas by mining related operations:
 - **Directly affected areas:** An area within such radius from a mine or cluster of mines as may be specified by the state government but shall not extend beyond 15 Km from the boundary of mines of minerals (other than minor minerals).
 - **Indirectly affected areas:** An area within such radius from a mine or cluster of mines as may be specified by the state government but shall not extend beyond 25 Km from the boundary of mines of minerals (other than minor minerals), irrespective of whether it falls with the district concerned or adjacent districts.
- **Affected people:** The DMF shall prepare and maintain an updated list of such affected persons/local communities which incorporates
 - 'Affected family' as well as 'displaced family' as defined under Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.
 - Any other as appropriately identified by the concerned gram sabha.
- **Utilisation of Funds:**
 - **High priority Sectors (at least 70% of PMKKKY funds to be utilized):** Drinking water supply; Environment preservation and pollution control measures; Health care; Education; Welfare of Women and Children; Welfare of aged and differently abled; Skill development and Livelihood generation; Sanitation; Housing; Agriculture; Animal Husbandry.
 - **Other priority Sectors (Up to 30% of the PMKKKY funds to be utilized):** Physical infrastructure; Irrigation; Energy and Watershed Development; Any other measures for enhancing environmental quality in the mining affected district.

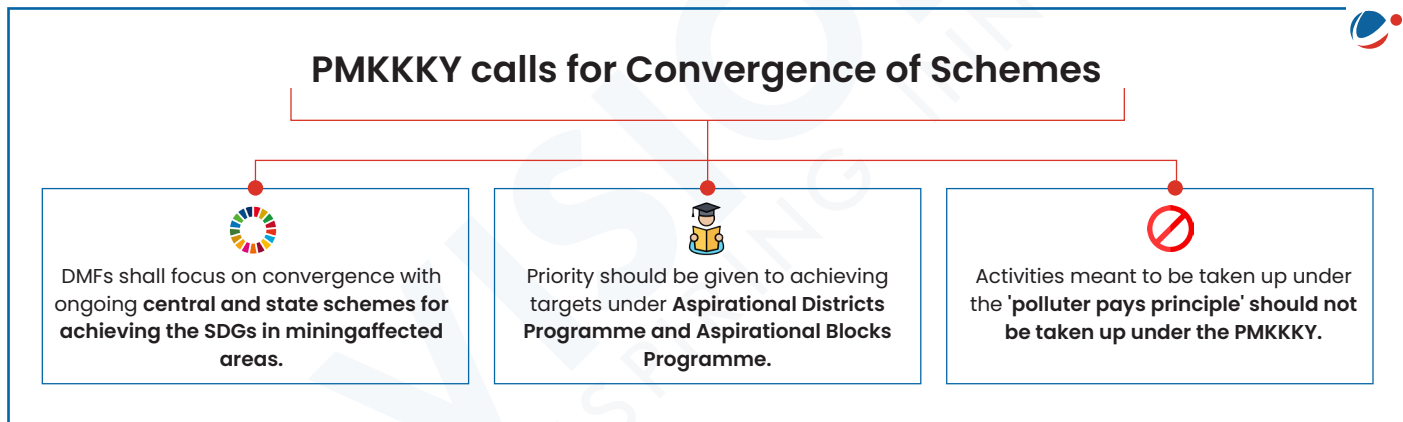


- **Distribution of funds in directly and indirectly affected areas:** A minimum of 70% of the DMF funds shall be spent only in the directly affected area.
- **Endowment fund:** It should be used for creating & sustaining livelihoods in areas where mining activity has stopped due to any reason including exhaustion of mineral.
 - Sum not exceeding 10% of the annual receipts should be kept as endowment fund in the districts having annual collection of Rs. 10 crore or more.
 - The endowment fund may be invested in government securities/bonds and FDs of scheduled banks and other instruments as are permitted by the State Government.
- **Project Management Units (PMUs):** The DMF with annual collection in the excess of Rs. 50 crores shall set up a PMU Unit for planning, technical, accounting and monitoring support.
- **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT):** Transfer of fund to all executing agencies and beneficiaries shall be through DBT only into their bank account.
- **Baseline survey for planning:** Districts shall conduct a baseline survey for perspective plan formulation. Gram Sabha/Local Bodies may aid in preparation of need assessment reports.
- **Five years Perspective Plan:** Based on the findings and gaps as identified through the baseline survey or any such survey/ assessment, the DMF shall prepare a strategy for five years and the same shall be included in the Perspective Plan.

- **Annual Plans:** The Annual Plans of the DMF shall be based upon the five-year perspective plan and success achieved in fulfilling its targets in earlier years.
- The Annual Plans **may include some other works and expenditures considered urgent in nature** although not included in the perspective plan to a maximum extent of 10% of the annual plan.



- **Grievance Redressal:** The DMFs shall devise and implement a **grievance redressal** mechanism so that each grievance is redressed, and a suitable reply is given to the complainant **within 30 days** of making a complaint to the Collector or any other officer as may be notified.
- **Compliance mechanism:** Penalty provisions for DMF in case of failure to comply with specific provisions.



Key issues with the scheme

- **According to the DMF Utilisation Index** (released by CSEP in 2022)
 - **In many states the fund remains underutilized** (example, Odisha had the highest DMF collection but had only spent 50% of it).
 - Many states have allocated a **major portion to physical infrastructure** classified under other priority areas.
 - Issue was also highlighted with respect to the **lack of data and other information**.
- Reports of **mismanagement, corruption, and improper utilization of funds** have surfaced in some areas.

To address above issues there is a need for **streamlining the implementation processes, promoting stakeholder participation, establishing robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks, capacity building of DMFs and awareness campaigns among local communities.**



1.10 Ministry of New & Renewable Energy

1.10.1. PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana



Context

Ministry recently launched PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.



Quick facts

- ➔ **Purpose:** To increase the **share of solar rooftop capacity and empower residential households** to generate their own electricity
- ➔ **Model Solar Village:** One village will be developed in each district to act as a role model for the adoption of RTS in rural areas.
- ➔ **Incentives to local bodies:** Urban Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions will be incentivised to promote RTS installations in their areas.
- ➔ **Tenure:** From 2024 Till 2026-27



Objectives

- ➔ Installation of **30 GW of solar capacity through residential rooftop solar system (RTS)**
- ➔ To help provide **free/low-cost electricity to 1 crore households up to 300 units of electricity per month** by installation of RTS
- ➔ To produce **renewable electricity of 1,000 billion units** through the capacity installed under the programme
- ➔ To develop the required **enabling ecosystem for rooftop solar projects**, including regulatory support, manufacturing facilities, supply chain, etc.
- ➔ To **boost local economy and employment generation** along with enhanced energy security.



Salient Features

- ➔ **Background:** In 2019 **Phase II Grid Connective Rooftop Solar Programme** was launched to be implemented till 2025-26. Now the scheme is subsumed under PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.

- Phase II Grid Connective Rooftop Solar Programme aimed to **40 GW rooftop solar (RTS) capacity** addition is targeted through **Central Financial Assistance (CFA)** in residential sector including for households in rural areas.
- Scheme has provision for **Performance based incentives to DISCOMs** for initial capacity addition of **18 GW**.
- **Subsidy structure:** The scheme will support the installation of **grid-connected rooftop solar projects in the residential sector** through Central Financial Support (CFA) up to:

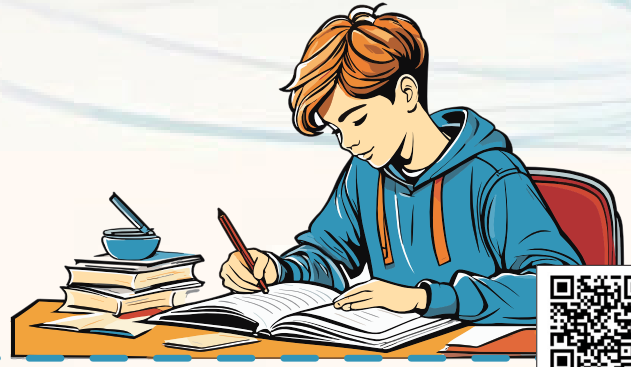
Type of Residential Segment	CFA	CFA (Special Category States)
First 2 kWp of RTS capacity or part thereof	Rs 30,000/kWp	Rs 33,000/kWp
Additional RTS capacity of 1 kWp or part thereof	Rs 18,000/kWp	Rs 19,800/kWp
Additional RTS capacity beyond 3 kW	No additional CFA	No additional CFA
Group Housing Societies/RWA, etc. for common facilities including EV charging up to 500 kWp (@3 kWp per house)	Rs 18,000/kWp	Rs 19,800/kWp

➤ **Conditions for availing CFA**

- The CFA shall be **irrespective of the size of the inverter installed**.
- Solar modules used in the installation must satisfy the **Domestic Content Requirement condition**.
- A rooftop solar installation by residential consumers/RWAs that has availed CFA under a prior/current scheme and has **subsequently increased the RTS installation size shall be eligible for additional CFA** under the current scheme **only for the balance capacity up to 3 kW of overall RTS plant size**.
- **Loan for installation of residential RTS:** Households can access **collateral-free low-interest** loan products of around **7% for installation of RTS systems up to 3 kW**.
- **National Portal:** The portal will facilitate households:
 - **To apply for subsidies and select a suitable vendor** for installing rooftop solar.
 - In decision-making, by providing relevant **information** such as **appropriate system sizes, benefits calculators, vendor ratings, etc.**
- **Financings support for other activities:** Financial assistance will be provided for capacity building, awareness and Outreach, etc.
- **Protection of beneficiary:** In order to ensure that the customers are not overcharged, the Ministry will publish **benchmark prices of solar modules, inverters, and other important equipment** on the national portal every year.
- **Quality assurance:** The scheme will establish minimum technical specifications required for **rooftop solar** to be considered eligible for the CFA.
- **Additional State Subsidy:** The State/UT governments may supplement the CFA provided by the central government for the residential sector with an additional subsidy for RTS.



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1.11 Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

1.11.1. Bharatmala Pariyojana Programme



Context

Bharatmala Phase I deadline extended by 6 years to 2027-28 (erstwhile deadline was 2022).



Quick facts

- ➔ **Purpose:** Optimizing efficiency of freight and passenger movement across the country
- ➔ **Implementing agencies:** NHAI, NHIDCL, State PWDs, State Road Development Corporations
- ➔ **Monitoring:** Public Investment Board (PIB) is required to review the progress of this program once in six months to avoid cost and time overruns
- ➔ **Tenure:** 2017 to 2027-28



Objectives

- ➔ **Optimal resource allocation** for a holistic highway development/improvement initiative.



Salient Features

- ➔ **Background:**
 - ➔ In 2000, **National Highways Development Program (NHDP)** was launched for qualitative and quantitative enhancement of **National Highways**, involving development and **4/6 laning of about 13,150 km**
 - ➔ NHDP was spread across 7 phases to be achieved by 2022, later on the need was felt to **re-define road development and have a macro approach**. Thus, in 2017 Bharatmala Pariyojana programme was launched.



Major projects under NHDP Phase 1

Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) connecting 4 major metropolitan cities viz. Delhi Mumbai-Chennai-Kolkata-Delhi.

North South and East West Corridors (NS-EW) connecting Srinagar to Kanyakumari and Silchar to Porbandar with a spur from Salem to Cochin.

◇ India has about 54.82 lakh km of road network, the **second largest in the world** in terms of length. National Highways (NHs) constitute about **2% of the total road network**, but carry **about 40% of the total road traffic**

➔ **Umbrella programme: Bharatmala Pariyojana** is an **umbrella program for the highways** sector that focuses on optimizing efficiency of freight and passenger movement across the country **by bridging critical infrastructure gaps**.

➔ **Corridor approach:** Bharatmala Pariyojana envisages a corridor approach in place of the existing package- based approach which has, in many cases, resulted in skewed development.

➔ **Focus of the programme**

- ➔ Enhanced effectiveness of already built infrastructure
- ➔ Multi- modal integration
- ➔ Bridging infrastructure gaps for seamless movement
- ➔ Integrating National and Economic Corridors

➔ **Sources of funding:** The projects under Bharatmala Pariyojana are mainly funded by Central Government and resource mobilisation by the Ministry. **Key sources of funding are:**

- ➔ Cess collected form Petrol & Diesel
- ➔ Amount collected from toll
- ➔ Additional budgetary support
- ➔ Expected monetisation of NHs through TOT
- ➔ Internal & Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR)

➔ **Project Duration:** The project shall be completed in a period of **5 years from the date of sanction**.

➔ **Grand Challenge Mechanism:**

- ➔ The mechanism facilitates **taking up projects on fast-track basis** where sufficient and timely land is made available by the State Governments.
- ➔ **10% funds are kept earmarked** to take up projects under the 'Grand Challenge' mechanism.
- ➔ A maximum of **two stretches of roads not exceeding 100 kms** are allowed from any one State in a particular financial year.

➔ **Construction of road not part of Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-I:** Such projects may be taken up for consideration **only if the State Agency is ready to bear at least 50% cost of the land acquisition**.

➔ **Promoting PPP: Toll-Operate-Transfer (ToT) model** shall be used to monetize all roads constructed through EPC route.

➔ **Resolution of Blackspots:** 5785 blackspots were identified for removal and rectification as a permanent measure to reduce road accidents.

➔ **Greenfield alignment** to avoid habitation and optimize cost of land acquisition


➔ **Wayside amenities and cargo facilities** planned at every half hour

➔ Complete access controlled with **pay per use close tolling concept**


➔ **Identification of corridors in a scientific manner**

- ➔ **Commodity-wise survey of freight movement** across 600 districts
- ➔ **Mapping of Shortest Route** for 12,000 routes carrying 90% of the freight
- ➔ Technology-based **automated traffic surveys** over 1,500+ points across the country

BharatMala: Connecting India Like Never Before



34,800 km of roads to be constructed



Rs. 5,35,000 crores to be invested

- **Economic Corridors (9000 km):**
To unlock full economic potential
- **Inter Corridor and Feeder Route (6000 km):**
Ensuring holistic connectivity
- **National Corridors Efficiency Improvement (5000 km):**
Enhancing efficiency
- **Border Roads and International Connectivity (2000 km):**
Boosting Border Connectivity
- **Coastal Roads and Port Connectivity (2000 km):**
Leveraging Ports for Progress
- **Green field Expressways (800 km):**
Express speeds for Express gains
- **Balance NHDP works (10,000 km):**
Boosting all round connectivity

- **Satellite mapping of corridors** to identify upgradation requirements
- **Online Systems for Monitoring and Process Automation**
 - **Project Monitoring Information System (PM IS)** for tracking of the status of all projects, preparation of reports, etc.
 - **Bhoomi Raashi System** for preparation and submission of Land Acquisition related notifications.
 - **Bidder Information Management System (BIMS)** to be used by all implementation agencies for maintenance of technical information.
 - **Performance Management System "Lakshya"** to be used by NHAI for setting construction and award targets for all technical officers.
 - **A comprehensive ERP system** is being set up across MoRTH, NHAI and NHIDCL, to integrate all the individual systems/tools,

Key issues with the scheme

- As of Dec-2023 only **76% of the targeted 34,800 km have been awarded for construction** with completion of about 15,549 km.
- Delay due **land acquisition and requirement of** various statutory clearances (forest, environment etc), need for **coordination among various agencies.**
- In **operation and Maintenance**, issues of **encroachment, ribbon development, unauthorized access etc. are faced.**

To address these issues, there is a need for **streamline land acquisition processes, enhance inter-agency coordination, utilising PM Gati-Shakti National Master Plan (NMP)** for minimizing conflict with various / other infrastructure, etc.

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1.12 Ministry of Statistics And Programme Implementation (MOSPI)

1.12.1. Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)



Context

MPLADS e-SAKSHI Mobile Application was launched by the MoSPI to allow MPs to **propose, track, and oversee projects** under MPLAD Scheme.



Quick facts

- ➔ **Purpose:** To address the issue of inequity in development
- ➔ **Type:** Central Sector Scheme
- ➔ **Non-lapsable Fund:** Annual MPLADS non-lapsable fund entitlement per MP constituency is **Rs. 5 crores**
- ➔ **Release of fund:** In the form of **grants in-aid directly to the district authorities** on receipt of requisite documents



Objective

- ➔ To enable the **Members of Parliament to recommend works for creation of durable community assets** like drinking water, sanitation, etc. **based on locally felt needs.**



Salient Features

- ➔ **Background:** This Scheme was announced in 1993 under the Ministry of Rural Development. However, since October 1994, the administration of the Scheme has been vested with the MoSPI.
 - ➔ In wake of the **COVID pandemic**, MPLADS was suspended and no funds were allocated to the scheme for FY 2020-21.
- ➔ **Choice of Nodal District:** At the beginning of their terms, each MP is required to give his/ her choice of a **Nodal District** to the **Central Nodal Agency** under MoSPI.
 - ➔ Each MP can thereafter recommend eligible works to the tune of ₹5 crores per annum to the **Nodal District Authority** through the web portal.
- ➔ **Choice of the region for recommending works:**

➤ **Elected members**

- ◆ **Members of LS:** Within their respective constituencies (refer the infographic for exception clause)
- ◆ **Members of RS:** Within the State of Election constituencies (refer the infographic for exception clause)

➤ **Nominated members:** Anywhere in the country

➤ **Special provisions for Scheduled Castes (SCs)/ Scheduled Tribes (STs):** At least 15% of the MPLADS entitlement should be recommended for the year for areas inhabited by **SC population** and **7.5%** for areas inhabited by **STs population**.

➤ **Minimum fund allocation per project:** The minimum amount sanctioned under the MPLAD Scheme for any individual work shall, normally, be **not less than Rs. 2.5 lakh**.

➤ **However,** if the Implementing District Authority is of the view that the **work of lesser amount will be beneficial to the public at large**, it may sanction the same.

➤ **Implementing Agency (IA):**

➤ **Implementing District Authority shall make the selection** of an appropriate **Implementing Agency** through which a particular work is to be executed.

➤ it shall be mandatory to select the **Central Government Ministries/Organizations** (like Railways, Archeological Survey of India, etc.) as IA for works pertaining to their domain.

➤ **Operation and maintenance of projects:** **User Agency** is required to bear the operation and maintenance cost of the proposed asset from their own resources.

➤ User agency refers to the agency, to whom the assets, both movable and immovable, created under MPLADS, are handed over for public usage.


➤ **Impact of election on recommended projects:** Works once recommended by the Member of Parliament **cannot be changed by the successor Member of Parliament**

➤ **Applicability of RTI**

➤ As per the **Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005** and the Rules framed thereunder, all citizens have **the right to information on any aspect of the MPLAD Scheme** and the works recommended, sanctioned, or executed under it.

➤ The **Implementing District Authorities** are responsible to provide such information to the public in the manner as required under the RTI Act 2005.

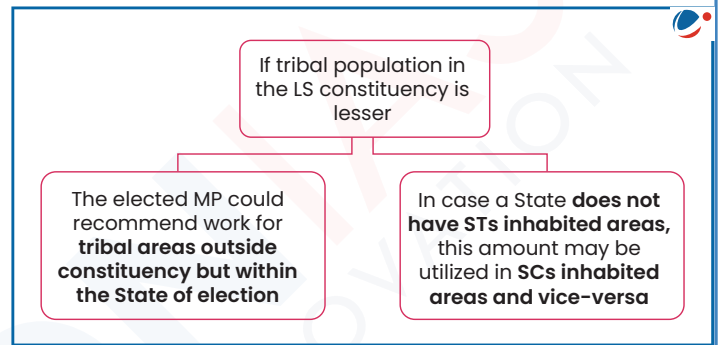
➤ **Provisions for smooth implementation of projects:**




Exception for recommendations of works by elected MP

An **elected MP** can also recommend works **anywhere in the country** subject to a **ceiling of Rs. 25 lakhs in a financial year per MP** for all such recommendations, except in case of calamity.


In case of calamity an MP can recommend **works up to a maximum of Rs.1 crore for the affected district**. Whether a calamity is of severe nature or not, will be decided by the **Government of India**.




Project implementation structures



Central Nodal Agency: The Project Management Unit under the MPLADS Division of MoSPI.




State Nodal Authority (SNA): The **Administrative Secretary** of the State **Nodal Department** selected by the State/UT Government to oversee MPLADS implementation.



➤ **Nodal District Authority (NDA):** **Administrative head of the nodal district** (selected by an MP) i.e., the District Collector/ District Magistrate/ Deputy Commissioner of the District.

➤ **Commissioners of Municipal Corporations of Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata** can also function as NDA.



Implementing District Authority (IDA): The administrative head of the Implementing District, which can **either be the nodal district or any other district**.

- MPs are **not required to wait for the fund to be released** before recommending new projects.
- MPs will be allocated **annual drawing limits at the beginning of each financial year** subject to certain condition.
- **All payments** under MPLADS shall be made **directly to the vendors from the CAN on real time basis**, once the implementing authorities authorises payments.
- **Accountability:**
 - **Web portal:** All processes under MPLAD Scheme (work recommendation by MP, sanction of the projects, authorization of fund flows, etc.) will be done **through** the web-solution <https://mplads.sbi>
 - **e-SAKSHI mobile application:** Launched for allowing MPs to **propose, track, and oversee the projects** on real-time basis.
 - ◇ The application will **streamline the communication between MPs and relevant authorities**, facilitating a more efficient exchange of information.

Key issues with the Scheme

- Critics argue that **MPLADS perpetuates unequal development** by allowing MPs to prioritize certain areas over others within their constituencies.
- There have been **instances of corruption**, including discrepancies between actual expenditure and reported amounts, improper contract extensions, **and favoritism** towards contractors who are friends or associates of the MP.
- This scheme gives an executive function to legislators which has the potential for **jeopardizing the principle of separation of powers**.

To address these issues, there is a need for **strengthening monitoring** mechanisms, **promoting community participation**, and establishing comprehensive impact assessment mechanism for the scheme.

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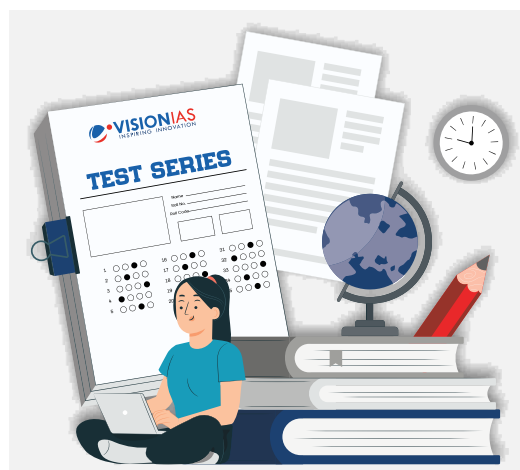
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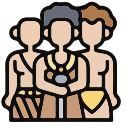
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1.13 Ministry of Tribal Affairs

1.13.1. Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN)



Context

New Solar Power Scheme for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) Habitations/ Villages is sanctioned under PM JANMAN.



Quick facts

- ➔ **Purpose:** To enhance the socio-economic conditions of 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups.
- ➔ **Type:** Comprises both Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes
- ➔ **Period:** 2023-24 to 2025-26
- ➔ **Beneficiaries:** 75 PVTG communities spread over 18 States and UT of Andaman and Nicobar.



Objective

- ➔ To aid PVTG households and habitations work towards **basic standards such as safe housing, clean drinking water, improved access to education**, etc. in a mission mode.



Salient Features

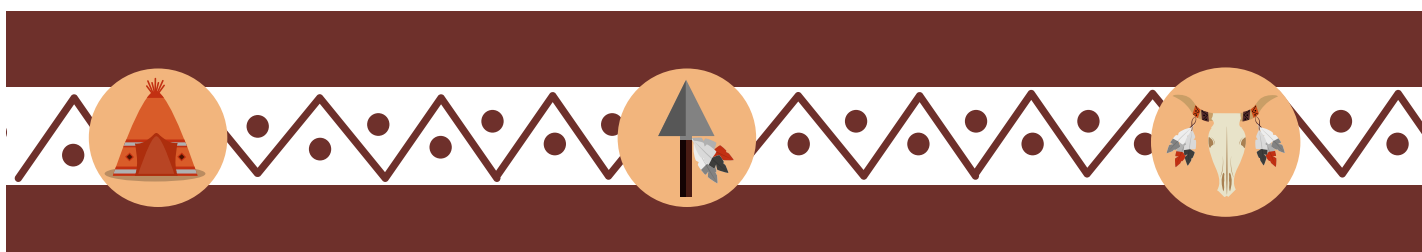
- ➔ **Background:** PM JANMAN was launched on **15th November 2023**, which is celebrated as **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas** and happens to be **birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda**.
- ➔ **States covered:** Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal,
- ➔ **Inter-ministerial convergence:** Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry and each of the 9 Ministries are responsible for implementation of their respective scheme.
- ➔ **Funding:** Rs.24,104 crore (Central Share: Rs.15,336 crore and State Share: Rs.8,768 crore)

Ministry	Schemes
Individual based interventions	
M/o Rural Development	Pucca houses: Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna Gramin Connecting roads: Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna
M/o Jal Shakti	Piped water supply/Community water supply: Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)
M/o Power	Energization of unelectrified HHs: Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) or through MNRE scheme
Community based interventions	
M/o Health and Family Welfare	Mobile Medical Units with medicine cost (MMU): National Health Mission
Ministry of Education	Construction and running of hostels: Samagra Shiksha (hostels)
M/o Women and Child Development	Construction and running of Anganwadi Centers: Anganwadi Services (AWCs)
M/o Tribal Affairs	Setting up of VDVKs: PM Janjatiya Vikas Mission Construction of Multipurpose Centers (MPC): Development of PVTG
Ministry of Communication	Installation of mobile towers: DoT (USOF)
M/o Skill Development and Entrepreneur	Vocational Education and skilling: Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan & PM Kaushal Vikas

- **Other interventions: Ministry of Ayush will set up Ayush Wellness Centre** as per existing norms and Ayush facilities will be extended to PVTG habitations through Mobile Medical Units.

Key Initiatives under PM JANMAN

- **New Solar Power Scheme (for PVTG Habitations/Villages) under PM JANMAN:** For electrification of 1 lakh un-electrified households (HHs) in PVTG. It comprises:
 - **Solar Home Lighting System (SHLS):** For the scattered un-electrified households (HHs) in PVTG areas. Installation of necessary appliances such as LED bulbs and Fan will be free of cost along with onsite comprehensive maintenance services for 5 years.
 - **Solar Mini Grids:** For a cluster of HHs. Ministry will provide the CFA support limited to Rs. 50,000 per un-electrified household covered under the mini-grids.
 - **Solarisation of Multi-Purpose Centers (MPC):** in PVTG areas where electricity through the grid is not available. Installation of off-grid solar power pack with battery bank will be done. The ministry will provide CFA limited to Rs. 1 lakh per MPC, covering the entire cost of system.
- **IEC Campaign on PM-JANMAN:** To raise awareness and ensure 100% saturation of Government Schemes in PVTG majority tribal habitations.



2. Flagship Schemes In Focus



2.1. PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP) for Multimodal Connectivity



Quick facts

- **Purpose:** To improve the productivity of industries and employment opportunities
- **Driven by: 7 Engines** i.e., Railways, Roads, Ports, Waterways, Airports Mass Transport, Logistics Infrastructure
- **Benefits:** Break departmental silos, bring down the time and cost overrun of the projects
- **Scope:** Covers projects of social as well physical infrastructure.



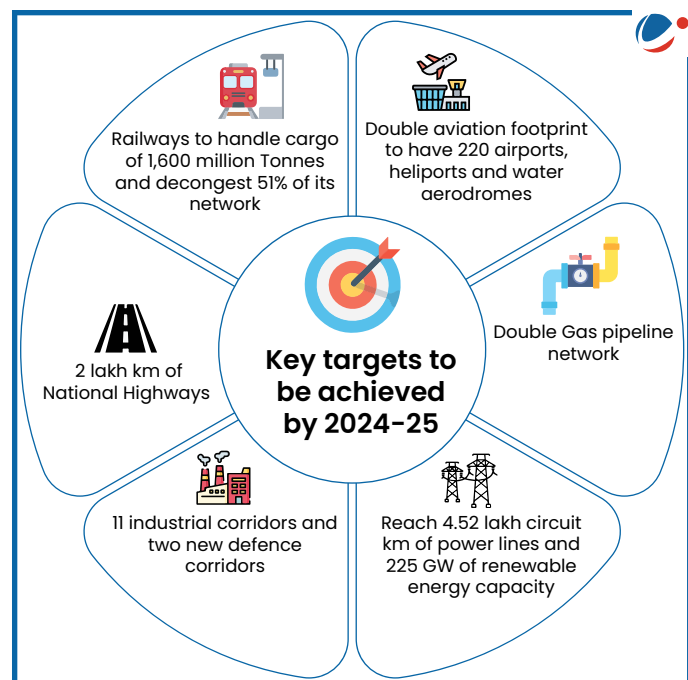
Objective

- For providing multimodal connectivity infrastructure to various economic zones.



Salient Features

- **Background:** In 2021, the project was launched with an outlay of ₹100 lakh crore to promote a **transformative and sustainable approach for transforming India's infrastructural landscape.**
- **Digital platform:** Gati Shakti or NMP for Multimodal Connectivity, is a **digital platform to bring different Ministries together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation** of infrastructure connectivity projects.
- **Whole of the Government Approach:** Gati Shakti or NMP for Multimodal Connectivity, is a **digital platform to bring different Ministries together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation** of infrastructure connectivity projects.



- **Geo-mapping:**
 - **Dynamic Mapping of all infrastructure projects with real-time updation** are provided by way of a map developed by **BiSAG-N** (Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics).
 - The map is built on **open-source technologies** and hosted securely **on cloud of Govt. of India (i.e. MEGHRAJ)**.
- **Data updation**
 - Individual Ministry is given **separate login ID to update their data on aperiodic basis**.
 - **Logistics Division**, Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MoCI) assist **all the stakeholders** to update their database.
- **Intersectoral and inter-ministerial convergence:** 14 Social Sector Ministries/ Departments have been onboarded, namely Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Department of Post, etc.



2.2. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)



Quick facts

- **Ministry:** Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI)
- **Purpose:** Provide a big boost to the growth of food processing sector in the country
- **Type:** Central Sector Scheme
- **Tenure:** From 2021-22 to 2025-26



Objective

- Creation of **modern infrastructure** with efficient supply chain management **from farm gate to retail outlet**.
- Help in **providing better returns to farmers** and creating huge **employment opportunities** especially in the rural areas.
- **Reducing wastage of agricultural produce**, increasing the **processing level and enhancing the export of the processed foods**.



Salient Features

- **Background:** Centre approved the umbrella scheme **SAMPADA** (Scheme for Agro-marine processing and Development of Agro-processing Clusters) **in 2017** for implementation till 2020.
- The scheme was subsequently renamed as '**Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY)** with **some components being discontinued** (refer to the infographic in the next page).

➤ **Component of PMKSY:**

➤ **Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition infrastructure (Cold Chain):** to provide integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure facilities, without any break, from the farm gate to the consumer.

◇ The integrated cold chain project can be set up by **Partnership / Proprietorship Firms, Companies, Corporations, Cooperatives, SHGs, FPOs, NGOs, Central / State PSUs, etc.** subject to fulfilment of eligibility conditions of scheme guidelines.

◇ Cold chain for fruits and vegetables are being implemented under **Operation Greens (OG) scheme** to ensure inter-scheme convergence.

➤ **Creation of Infrastructure for Agro Processing Cluster (APC):** APC has similar objectives as that of Mega Food Park (MF) i.e., to set up modern food processing units, but at relatively small scale.

◇ Each APC under the scheme have two basic components i.e.

» **Basic Enabling Infrastructure** (roads, water supply, power supply, drainage, ETP etc.)

» **Core Infrastructure/ Common facilities** (ware houses, cold storages, IQF, tetra pack, sorting, grading. etc.)

◇ At least **10 acres of land is required** to be arranged either by purchase or on lease for **at least 50 years** for setting up of APC.

➤ **Creation/ Expansion of Food Processing And Preservation Capacities (Unit Scheme):** Creation and expansion of processing and preservation capacities inside Mega Food Parks (MFPs) and APCs.

◇ Scheme is implemented through organizations such as **Central & State PSUs/ Joint Ventures/ FPOs/ NGOs/ Cooperatives/ SHG's/ Pvt. Ltd companies/ individuals proprietorship firms** engaged in establishment/ upgradation/ modernization of food processing units.

➤ **Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure (FTL):** The scheme assists in setting up of upgradation of **quality control/ food testing laboratories (FTL) and implementation of Quality Management System through HACCP/ ISO 22000/ FSSC 22000/BRC/SQF or any other Global Food Safety Initiatives (GFSI) approved certification scheme/ Standards** in Food Processing Units.

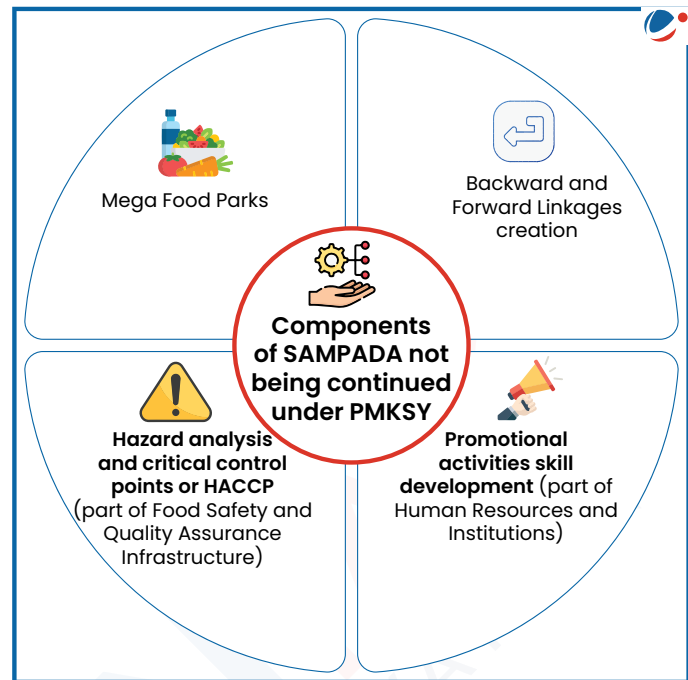
➤ **Human Resource & Institutions (HRI)-Research and Development:** 100 R&D projects have been sanctioned for 15th FC cycle.

◇ **The erstwhile skill development component under this scheme is discontinued as same is being implemented under PMFME (PM Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises) Scheme.**

➤ **Operation Greens (OG): Announced in Union Budget 2018-19** on the line of "Operation Flood".

◇ Initially the scheme was launched for **development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain**

◇ The scheme has **two components:**



Initiatives by (QCI) for ensuring Food Safety and Quality Assurance

- QCI has developed "IndiaGHP" and "IndiaHACCP" based on globally accepted Codex Standards.
- These schemes will help **India food chain related industry to demonstrate compliance to global standards** without having to go for costly and time consuming foreign certifications as many countries have mandated
 - **Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)** for high risk sectors like meat, fish, dairy etc.
 - **Good Hygienic Practices (GHP)** across all food sectors.

- ◇ **Long Term Intervention-Integrated Value Chain Development Projects:** Under the union budget 2021-22, the its scope was enlarged to 22 perishable crops.
- ◇ **Short-Term Interventions:** Under "Aatmanirbhar Bharat Package" of 2020 its scope was **expanded from TOP crops to all fruits and vegetables (i.e. TOP to TOTAL).**
- ➔ **Inter-scheme re-allocation:** Based on mid-term correction **inter-scheme reallocation** of the outlay may be approved by the Minister I/C of MoFPI **subject to 25% of the original outlay** of that scheme.
- ➔ **Use of savings of committed liability:** Savings from committed liability for any scheme shall be used **for sanction of new projects under the scheme.**
- ➔ **Awareness:** Wide publicity may be given to the schemes of PMKSY so that full advantage of benefits under PMKSY can be availed by stakeholders.

FAST TRACK COURSE 2024

GENERAL STUDIES PRELIMS

PURPOSE OF THIS COURSE

The GS Prelims Course is designed to help aspirants prepare for & increase their score in General Studies Paper I. It will not only include discussion of the entire GS Paper I Prelims syllabus but also that of previous years' UPSC papers along with practice & discussion of Vision IAS classroom tests. Our goal is that the aspirants become better test takers and can see a visible improvement in their Prelims score on completion of the course.

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- Access to PT 365 classes
- Sectional mini test and Comprehensive Current Affairs.

ADMISSION OPEN

3. Test Your Learning

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Soil Health Card Scheme:

1. It is a sub-component of the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) cafeteria scheme.
2. Under it, farmers are provided with a printed soil health card annually.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q2. Identify the incorrect statement in the context of the National Ayush Mission (NAM).

- (a) It covers Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa and Homeopathy.
- (b) It is a Central Sector Scheme.
- (c) Some Ayushman Arogya Mandirs will be operated under it.
- (d) None of the above

Q3. Which of the following nutrients is not covered under the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme?

- (a) Nitrogen
- (b) Phosphorus
- (c) Potash
- (d) Zinc

Q4. ADITI (Aging Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX) Scheme is associated with which of the following sectors/spheres?

- (a) Electric Vehicles
- (b) Defence
- (c) Women empowerment
- (d) Manual Scavenging

Q5. Consider the following pairs of Ministries and their relevant Schemes:

1. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare: Soil Health Card Scheme
2. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers: Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme
3. Ministry of Defence: ADITI (Aging Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX) Scheme

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA):

1. Its objective is to improve the overall quality of existing state higher educational institutions.
2. It is an upgraded version of the Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan.

3. Both State and Union government universities would be eligible for grants.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Q7. The nation-wide 'Soil Health Card Scheme' aims at

- 1. Expanding the cultivable area under irrigation.
- 2. Enabling the banks to assess the quantum of loans to be granted to farmers based on soil quality.
- 3. Checking the overuse of fertilizers in farmlands.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 3 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana:

- 1. It is a central sector scheme launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- 2. Operation Greens is a sub-component of this scheme.
- 3. It provides for creation of modern food processing infrastructure with efficient supply chain management.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Q9. In the context of the 'PM Gati Shakti Scheme', which of the following statement/s is/are correct?

- (1) The PM Gati Shakti Scheme-National Plan was launched in 2024.
- (2) The PM Gati Shakti Scheme pertains to seven engines (Roads, Railways, Airports, Ports, Mass Transport, Waterways, and Logistics Infrastructure).

Select the correct answer from the code given below-

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Neither 1 nor 2
- (d) Both 1 and 2

Q10. The objective of the PM JANMAN scheme is

- (a) Enabling and promoting broad-based civic participation in local governance.
- (b) Social auditing of scheme jointly by the Government and the people.
- (c) National Mission for Financial Inclusion to ensure access to financial services.
- (d) Improve the overall socio-economic conditions of particularly vulnerable tribals.

Q11. Consider the following statements regarding the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS):

1. MPLADS funds are used for creating durable assets.
2. A specified portion of each MP's fund must benefit SC/ST populations.
3. The Ministry of Rural Development has been vested with the Scheme's administration.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Q12. Consider the following statements regarding the Bharatmala Pariyojana:

1. It is an umbrella program for the highways sector focusing on optimizing efficiency of freight and passenger movement.
2. Economic Corridors are part of the program.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q13. Consider the following statements regarding PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana:

1. It aims to provide free electricity to one crore households in India.
2. Urban Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions will be incentivised to promote rooftop solar system (RTS) installations in their areas.
3. Its objective is the installation of 30 GW of solar capacity through residential rooftop solar system.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Q14. Regarding the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) consider the following statements:

1. Its objective is to provide for welfare of areas and people affected by mining-related operations.
2. It is launched under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) or MMDR Act, 1957.
3. At least 10% of the funds are to be spent on High Priority Sectors like drinking water supply, environment preservation, etc.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Q15. The process for utilization of PMKKKY funds in the scheduled areas shall be guided by the provisions of:

- (a) Schedule V and Schedule VI to the Constitution
- (b) Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996
- (c) Provisions of Forest right Act, 2006
- (d) All of the Above

Q16. The objective of Raising And Accelerating MSME Productivity (RAMP) scheme is

- (a) Helping MSMEs to adopt green technology with interest subvention and credit guarantee support.
- (b) Helping MSMEs to achieve zero emissions MSMEs sector by 2070.
- (c) Address the incidences of delayed payments for MSME
- (d) All of the above

Q17. Recently, an initiative called MeghRaj has been in the news. What is MeghRaj?

- (a) Monsoon prediction system
- (b) Cloud Computing platform
- (c) It's a new service under the Department of Posts.
- (d) It's a new scheme for helping farmers adopt smart agriculture.

Q18. Consider the following statements regarding the Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme (EMPS):

1. It will be implemented along with the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid & Electric Vehicles (FAME-II) Scheme.
2. It is only applicable to electric two-wheeler (e2W) and three-wheeler (e-3W).
3. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Q19. Consider the following Entities:

1. Individual entrepreneurs
2. Farmer Producer Organization
3. Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)
4. Dairy co-operatives

How many of the above-mentioned entities are eligible for the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Q.20 Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana:

1. The scheme promotes the formalization of the fisheries sector.
2. It is proposed to facilitate the creation of appropriate insurance products for aquaculture.
3. The scheme will facilitate institutional finance for micro and small enterprises in the fisheries sector.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

ANSWER

1	2	3	4
Answer: A	Answer: B	Answer: D	Answer: B

5	6	7	8
Answer: C	Answer: B	Answer: A	Answer: B

9	10	11	12
Answer: B	Answer: D	Answer: B	Answer: C

13	14	15	16
Answer: C	Answer: B	Answer: D	Answer: D

17	18	19	20
Answer: B	Answer: A	Answer: D	Answer: C

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