



**C.A Dated On 18-01-2019**

**GS-1**

**Swachh Iconic Places**

**Why in News?**

The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and State Government agencies, local administrations and the Trusts/ Boards of the Swachh Iconic Places (SIPs) came together for a two-day consultation in Mumbai, represented by over 100 delegates from across the country.

**About SIP Initiative:**

- The Swachh Iconic Places initiative aims to achieve a distinctly higher level of sanitation at these places, especially in the peripheries and approach areas.
- Following the clarion call by the Prime Minister to make Swachhata everybody's business, the Centre and selected States have taken up joint efforts for making the country's iconic places Swachh.
- The special Swachhata initiatives at these places have received CSR support from public and private companies.

**GS-2**

**Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Protsahan Yojana**

**Why in News?**

Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY), the flagship scheme of the Central Government for employment generation has crossed the milestone of one crore beneficiaries as on January 14, 2019.

**About the Scheme:**

- PMRPY was announced on August 07, 2016 and is being implemented by Ministry of Labour and Employment through the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO).



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- Under the scheme, Government is paying full employers' contribution of 12% (towards Employees' Provident Fund and Employees' Pension Scheme both), for a period of 3 years in respect of new employees who have been registered with the EPFO on or after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, with salary up to Rs. 15,000 per month. .
- The entire system is online and AADHAR based with no human interface in the implementation of the scheme.

#### **Benefits of Scheme:**

- PMRPY has a dual benefit i.e. on the one hand, the employer is incentivised for increasing the employee base in the establishment through payment of EPF contribution of 12% of wage, which otherwise would have been borne by the employer and on the other hand, a large number of workers find jobs in such establishments.
- A direct benefit is that these workers have access to social security benefit through Provident Fund, Pension and Death Linked Insurance.

### **Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)**

#### **Why in News?**

**Persons with Disabilities** implements a scheme titled 'Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS).

A Regional Conference for the scheme was organized on 17th January, 2019 at Nehru Centre, Mumbai covering Programme Implementing Agencies (PIAs) from the Western Region of the country.

#### **About the Scheme:**

- Under DDRS, Grant-in-Aid is released to about 600 NGOs every year.
- About 10% of total NGOs under DDRS, 10% of total grant and 10% of Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities are from Western Indian States
- DDRS is a Central Sector Scheme of Government of India which is being implemented since 1999 for providing financial assistance to NGOs working for education and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.



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- This scheme was revised in 2018 and the revised scheme is being implemented since 1st April 2018.

#### **About the Conference:**

- This is the second of a series of Regional Conferences to be held across the country and the exercise will culminate in a National Conference in New Delhi.
- This Regional Conference was organized in order to disseminate the provisions of the revised scheme and bring the Department closer to implementing agencies.
- This conference provided a wonderful opportunity for interactions with all stakeholders from Central Government to implementing agencies.
- An in-depth understanding of scheme would enable better outreach in terms of better facilities to end beneficiaries, i.e. persons with disabilities.

#### **GS-3**

### **Task Force report on Space Technology in Border Management**

#### **Why in News?**

The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh has approved report of Task Force created by MHA to identify areas for use of Space Technology in improving Border Management.

#### **About the Task force:**

- The Task Force headed by Joint Secretary (Border Management) and having members from BSF, Department of Space and BM Division, MHA consulted all stakeholders including Border Guarding Forces (BGFs), ISRO, National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) and Ministry of Defence (MoD) to finalise the report.
- Following areas have been identified for use of space technology:

1. Island development



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2. Border Security
3. Communication and Navigation
4. GIS and Operations Planning System
5. Border Infrastructure Development

- To execute the project in a timebound manner, a short, medium and long term plan has been proposed for implementation in five years in close coordination with ISRO and MoD.
- Major recommendations of the report are to build capacity in BGFs to use space resources for Security, operational planning and border infrastructure development.

**Steps taken:**

- In short term, immediate needs of BGFs will be met by procurement of high resolution imagery and hiring of bandwidth for communications.
- In midterm, one satellite is being launched by ISRO for exclusive use of MHA.
- Over the long term, MHA will develop ground segment and network infrastructure to share satellite resources by user agencies, develop a Central Archival Facility for storing various imagery resources and dissemination of the same to user agencies.
- Deployment of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) in remote areas will be also coordinated by satellite communications. Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) -based GPS will provide navigation facilities for operational parties in high altitude, remote and difficult borders and Naxal areas.
- BSF has been designated as lead agency for implementation of ground segment and network infrastructure including establishment of Archival Facility.
- With the assistance of Department of Space, MHA would implement the project.

**Benefits:**

- This project will strengthen island and border security and facilitate development of infrastructure in border/island areas.



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## **UNNATI-- Unispace Nanosatellite Assembly & Training programme**

### **What is it?**

Space Technology has been provided with more budgetary allocations during the last five years and now it is utilised in Infrastructure Developments like roads, Railway lines and most importantly in disaster management.

Recently Govt. inaugurated the UNNATI- (Unispace Nanosatellite Assembly & Training) programme organized by ISRO in Bengaluru today.

### **About UNNATI:.**

- UNNATI, a capacity building programme on Nanosatellite development, is an initiative by ISRO to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations conference on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space (UNISPACE-50).
- The programme provides opportunities to the participating developing countries to strengthen in assembling, integrating and testing of Nanosatellite.
- UNNATI programme is planned to be conducted for 3 years by U.R. Rao Satellite Centre of ISRO in 3 batches and will target to benefit officials of 45 countries.

The first batch started today in which 30 delegates from 17 countries are participating.