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1. Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Preservation and Development of Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas

Syllabus: GS2: POLITY AND GOVERNANCE: Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes

Prelims: Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Preservation and Development of Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas

Context:

This article discusses the features and significance of the Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Preservation and Development of Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas.

Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Preservation and Development of Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas:

- This scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Culture as a financial grant scheme.
- It is administered specifically for the preservation and development of the cultural heritage of the Himalayan States/Union Territories **including the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the Union Territory of Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.**
- Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to the Voluntary Organizations including Colleges and Universities for study and research on cultural heritage, Preservation of old manuscripts, literature, art & crafts, etc.
- The scheme is a **Central Sector Scheme** and no funds are released directly to the State Governments.

Financial Mechanism of the Scheme:

- The quantum of funding is **Rs.10.00 lakhs per year** for an organization.
- The Expert Advisory Committee (EAC) on the scheme is empowered to recommend the amount beyond the maximum limit but not exceeding **Rs.30.00 lakhs** from this scheme.

2. Sainik School Society

Syllabus: GS2: POLITY AND GOVERNANCE: Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

Prelims: Sainik Schools

Context: The Government has approved the initiative of setting up 100 new Sainik Schools in partnership with NGOs/Private Schools/State Governments.

Sainik Schools Society (SSS):

- Sainik Schools Society (SSS) is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Defence, Govt of India.
- The Society runs Sainik Schools. Sainik Schools are English medium residential schools affiliated with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
- Sainik Schools prepare Cadets to join the National Defence Academy (NDA), Khadakwasla (Pune), Indian Naval Academy, Ezhimala and other Training Academies for officers.
- Sainik Schools offer admission at the level of **Class VI and Class IX**.

3. Maritime Cooperation With Regional Partners

Syllabus: GS3: Defence and Security: Defense exercises

Prelims: Bilateral and multilateral Exercises between India and other Countries

Context: Government has developed maritime cooperation with regional partners in consonance with the Government's vision of [Security and Growth for all in the Region \(SAGAR\)](#).

Description:

- Indian Navy (IN) ships and aircraft are regularly deployed in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) to enhance maritime security and to address contingencies that may arise.
- In consonance with the Prime Minister's vision of 'SAGAR', Indian Navy has undertaken 08 missions to 16 Friendly Foreign Countries for transshipment of HADR relief materials, COVID supplies and food assistance.
- The details of exercises undertaken with friendly foreign countries are tabulated below:-

Sl. No.	Country	Exercise	Periodicity
Bilateral Exercises			
1.	Australia	AUSINDEX	Biennial

2.	Bangladesh	IN-BN BILAT	Annual
3.	Bangladesh	IN-BN SF Exercise	Annual
4.	France	VARUNA	Annual
5.	Indonesia	IND-INDO BILAT	Annual
6.	Japan	JIMEX	Biennial
7.	Malaysia	IN-RMNBILAT	Biennial
8.	Maldives	Ex Ekatha	Annual
9.	Myanmar	IN-MN BILAT	Annual
10.	Oman	IN-RNOBILAT	Biennial
11.	Qatar	IN-QENFBILAT	Biennial
12.	Russia	INDRA Navy	Biennial
13.	Saudi Arabia	IN-RSNF Bilateral	Annual
14.	Singapore	SIMBEX	Annual
15.	Sri Lanka	SLINEX	Annual
16.	Sri Lanka	IN-SLN SF Ex	Annual
17.	UAE	IN-UAENBILAT	Biennial
18.	UK	KONKAN	Annual
19.	USA	Ex Sangam (SF)	Annual
20.	USA	SALVEX (Salvage)	Annual
21.	Vietnam	IN-VPN BILAT	Annual
Multilateral Exercises			
1.	Australia (lead), Multilateral	KAKADU	Biennial
2.	India (lead), Multilateral	MILAN	Biennial
3.	Indonesia (lead), Multilateral	KOMODO	Biennial
4.	IONS Member Nations	IONS Exercise	Annual
5.	Israel (lead), Multilateral	Mighty Shield	Annual
6.	Japan, USA	EOD Ex 2-JA	Annual
7.	USA (lead), Multilateral	CUTLASS Express	Annual
8.	USA (lead), Multilateral	IMX	Annual
9.	US, SE Asian countries, France, Australia	WPNS	Annual
10.	USA (lead), Multilateral	RIMPAC	Biennial
11.	USA (lead), Multilateral	Sea Dragon	Annual
12.	Australia (lead), Multilateral	Black Carillion	Annual
13.	Australia, Japan, US	MALABAR	Annual
14.	France (lead), US, Japan, Australia, India	La Perouse	Annual
15.	Singapore, Thailand	SITMEX	Annual
16.	Brazil, South Africa	IBSAMAR	Biennial

17.	Singapore, SE Asian States	MARISX	Biennial
18.	US, SE Asian countries	SEACAT	Annual
Tri-Service Exercises			
1.	ADMM Plus countries	ADMM Plus	As Scheduled
2.	Russia	INDRA (Tri Service)	Biennial
3.	Russia	VOSTOK	Annual
4.	Thailand	Ex Cobra Gold	Annual
5.	USA	Ex Tiger Triumph	Annual

Also read: [List of Joint Military Exercises of the Indian Army](#)

4. 'Agreement for Sale' rules under the provisions of RERA framed by MoHUA for Union Territories without legislatures

Syllabus: GS2: POLITY AND GOVERNANCE: Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

Prelims: Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, and recent guidelines

Context: This article examines the applicability of 'Agreement for Sale' rules under the provisions of RERA for Union Territories without legislatures.

Recent Guidelines:

- The 'Agreement for Sale' rules under the provisions of the Real Estate 2016 act have been framed by MoHUA for **Union Territories (UTs) without legislatures**.
 - The [Real Estate \(Regulation and Development\) Act](#), 2016 seeks to protect the interests of home buyers and also boost investments in the real estate sector.
 - Section 4 of RERA provides for compulsory deposit of seventy percent of the amount realized for real estate projects from allottees in a separate bank account.
- As per the terms of the agreement for sale, RERA makes the promoter liable to refund the amount, with interest and compensation, in case the developer fails to complete or is unable to give possession of the apartment, plot, building to home buyers.
- In order to provide last mile funding to stalled real estate projects which are net-worth positive and registered under RERA, a Special Window for **Affordable and Mid Income Housing (SWAMIH) Investment Fund** of Rs. 25,000 Crore has been created.

5. Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs)

Syllabus: GS2: POLITY AND GOVERNANCE: Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

Prelims: Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs)

Context: The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has launched Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs) to provide a dignified living to urban migrants/poor near their workplaces.

Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs):

- Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs) is a Sub-scheme under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U).
- **Aims and Objectives:**
 - To provide affordable rental housing to urban migrants/ poor, close to their workplace.
 - To create a conducive ecosystem for Public/Private Entities to leverage investment in rental housing
- **Beneficiaries for ARHCs:** Varied groups of urban migrants/ poor from EWS/ LIG categories including industrial & construction workers, migrants working with market/ trade associations, educational/ health institutions, hospitality sector, long-term tourists/ visitors, students etc.
- **Period:** ARHCs to be considered till PMAY (U) Mission period i.e. March 2022.
- **Two-pronged implementation strategy:**
 - **Model-1:** Utilizing existing Government funded vacant houses to convert into ARHCs through Public Private Partnership (PPP) or by Public Agencies
 - **Model-2:** Construction, Operation & Maintenance of ARHCs by Public/ Private Entities on their own available vacant land.

6. Water Treaty/Agreement

Syllabus: GS2: POLITY AND GOVERNANCE: Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.

Prelims: Water Treaty/Agreements

Context: The Government of India has signed water treaties with our neighbouring countries in the past for mutual benefits in the field of water resources.

Sr. No	Country	Treaty
1	Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indus Waters Treaty was signed in 1960 with Pakistan concerning the use of waters of the Indus system of rivers. • The Treaty extends to the main rivers of Indus basin i.e. Sutlej, Beas, Ravi (Eastern rivers) and Jhelum, Chenab and Indus (Western rivers) including their tributaries and sub tributaries and other water bodies.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All the waters of the Eastern Rivers were allocated to India for her unrestricted use while India is under obligation to let flow all the waters of the Western Rivers, except for the domestic, non-consumptive and other uses permitted in the Treaty.
2	Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mahakali Treaty was signed with Nepal in the year 1996 concerning Integrated Development of the Mahakali River (known as river 'Sarda' in India). In addition, Kosi Agreement, 1954 (amended in December, 1966) and Gandak Agreement, 1959 (amended in April, 1964) were signed with Nepal for construction of Kosi Project and Gandak Project respectively.
3	Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ganga Water Sharing Treaty was signed with Bangladesh in the year 1996 for sharing of Ganga/Ganges waters at Farakka. As per the Treaty, the Ganga/Ganges waters are being shared at Farakka during lean period, from 1st January to 31st May every year, on 10-day period basis as per the formula provided in the Treaty.

7. Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB)

Syllabus: GS2: POLITY AND GOVERNANCE: Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

Prelims: Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB)

Context: The 61st Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) meeting will be held by the [Geological Survey of India \(GSI\)](#) under the Ministry of Mines.

Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB)

- The Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) was established through the Government of India Resolution in 1966.
- The CGPB was constituted primarily to coordinate activities on geological mapping and mineral prospecting, exploration and exploitation with the Geological Survey of India (GSI).
- The announcement of the National Mineral Policy, 2008, and the emergence of a large number of newly established Central and State level organizations as well as research institutions in the scientific sector have also added urgency to the necessity of revamping the CGPB mechanism.