

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| ASSAM ECONOMY | 02 |
| ASSAM POLITY | 11 |
| ASSAM GEOGRAPHY | 15 |
| ANCIENT ASSAM HISTORY | 56 |
| MEDIEVAL ASSAM HISTORY | 59 |
| MODERN ASSAM HISTORY | 63 |
| FAIRS AND FESTIVALS OF ASSAM | 68 |
| ASSAM'S STATE SYMBOLS | 71 |
| MAJOR ARCHITECTURAL SITES IN ASSAM | 72 |
| NOTED PERSONALITIES | 75 |
| ASSAMESE LITERATURE | 82 |
| IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES | 94 |

ASSAM ECONOMY

The Assam Government has launched numerous schemes, policies, and missions aimed at improving the state's economic, social, and infrastructure landscape. Here is a breakdown of these initiatives across different budgets:

Budget 2020 Initiatives:

1. **AstadashMukutarUnnoyoneeMaala:**

- The Government of Assam increased its stake in Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (NRL) to ensure long-term public sector control.
- Expansion of NRL's capacity from 3 MMTPA to 9 MMTPA with a budget of Rs. 1500 Crore.

2. **Anna Yojana:**

- Free rice to all beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act to ensure nutritional security.

3. **JyotismanAsom:**

- Free electricity for households consuming less than 30 units of power.
- Rs. 400 Crore subsidy to APDCL to protect consumers from tariff hikes.

4. **Redesigned Swami Vivekananda Youth Empowerment Yojana:**

- Grants of Rs. 50,000 each for youth entrepreneurial support groups, targeting 2 lakh youths.

5. **ChahBagichaDhanPuraskarMela:**

- Rs. 5000 for tea garden workers, with additional benefits in FY 2020-21.

6. **Welfare Schemes for Tea Tribes and Adivasi:**

- Wage compensation for pregnant women and various educational and health benefits.
- Infrastructure development, including roads and high schools in tea gardens.

7. **Arundhati Scheme:**

- Rs. 40,000 for newly-wed brides with an annual family income below Rs. 5 lakh.

8. **Comprehensive Social Security Schemes:**

- Includes various pension schemes for widows, senior citizens, and divyangs (disabled persons).

9. **VistaritaKanaklataMahilaSabalikaranAsoni:**

- Revolving funds for female SHGs (Self-Help Groups) and distribution of scooties for JeevikaSakhis.

10. **Asom Mala:**

- Extensive road infrastructure development across state highways, with funds earmarked for industrial road upgrades and RCC bridges.

11. PragyanBharati:

- Educational support through waivers, textbooks, and allowances for students.

12. Assam Cancer Care Foundation:

- Development of a 3-tier cancer care grid with joint funding from the state and Tata Trusts.

13. BhramanSarathi:

- Free transport services for women and senior citizens in Guwahati, including dedicated “Pink buses” for safety.

14. AsomDarshan:

- Infrastructure development for religious institutions and improved road connectivity for tourism.

15. YuvaArohan:

- Promoting entrepreneurship among youth, including introducing entrepreneurship in school curricula.

16. SonaliShaishabRupaliPathsala:

- School infrastructure upgrades with Rs. 25 Lakh allocated to 200 elementary schools.

17. Teachers Provincialization Drive:

- Provincialization of services for teachers, covering 20,288 teachers.

18. Orunodol:

- Direct benefit transfer (DBT) of Rs. 12,000 annually to the poorest households, targeting 27 lakh families.

Budget 2021-22 Initiatives:

1. Chief Minister COVID Relief Scheme:

- Rs. 1 lakh financial assistance for families of COVID-19 victims.

2. Assam Microfinance Incentive and Relief Scheme (AMFIRS):

- Rs. 7,500 crore to support microfinance borrowers, including loan waivers and financial assistance for regular payers.

3. Engagement of Unemployed Youths:

- Recruitment of 1 lakh educated youth into the government sector with a streamlined recruitment process.

4. Asom Mala Road Development:

- Rs. 5.556 crore allocated to improve road infrastructure, including 563 km of roads under ASRIP and ARNIP.

5. SonaliXaishabBikkashitAxom:

- Establishment of 1,000 model Anganwadi centres to improve child welfare, with Rs. 13.50 crore allocated.

6. Flood-Free Assam:

- Construction of 1,000 km of embankment-cum-roads along the Brahmaputra river for flood control.

7. SwanirbharNaari:

- Support for Assam's indigenous weavers through procurement and skill training, covering 1.23 lakh beneficiaries.

8. Affordable Nutrition and Nourishment Assistance (ANNA) Yojana:

- Free meals for destitute people left out from the National Food Security Act.

9. Tea Garden Water Scheme:

- Provision of tap drinking water connections to all households in tea gardens, covering 805 tea gardens.

10. Revitalising Agriculture:

- Establishment of an Agriculture Commission to promote self-sufficiency in agriculture and livestock production.

11. Garukhuti Project:

- Providing livelihood opportunities through modern agricultural and animal rearing practices in the Garukhuti region.

12. Sunil Biplab Scheme:

- Development of 10,000 village community fish tanks for promoting fish culture and socio-economic development.

13. Department of Indigenous Faith and Culture:

- A new department to preserve Assam's unique languages, cultures, and rituals, with Rs. 100 crore allocated.

14. Support for Small Traders Affected by COVID-19:

- A one-time grant of Rs. 10,000 to small traders and artisans affected by the pandemic.

15. Health Sub-Centres Conversion:

- 1,000 health sub-centres to be converted into basic health centres offering primary medical treatment.

16. Wildlife Conservation Projects:

- Development of Azgarh Wildlife Sanctuary and expansion of Orang National Park.

17. Arundhati Gold Scheme Integration:

- Integration of e-Panjeeyan with the Arundhati Gold Scheme for smoother operation.

18. Police Battalion Establishment:

- Creation of 10 new police battalions to enhance law enforcement.

19. Assam Cultural Complex in New Delhi:

- Establishment of a cultural complex to promote Assam's culture in the national capital.

20. New Wildlife Safari and Rescue Centres:

- Establishment of new wildlife safari and rescue centres in Dibrugarh and Silchar.

21. TejasviNavadhitamastu Edu-Infra Funds:

- Rs. 8 crore allocated for six new universities, focusing on culture, sports, and education.

These schemes highlight the Assam Government's focus on infrastructure, welfare, education, and economic development, with an emphasis on creating sustainable and inclusive growth across the state.

You said:

make it better

ChatGPT said:

Certainly! Here's a more polished and concise version of the information regarding Assam's schemes, policies, and missions:

Assam Government Schemes and Policies:

Budget 2020 Initiatives:

1. AstadashMukutarUnnoyoneeMaala:

- **Objective:** Increase Assam's stake in Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (NRL) to ensure long-term public sector control.
- **Investment:**Rs. 1500 Crore for expanding NRL's capacity from 3 MMTPA to 9 MMTPA.

2. Anna Yojana:

- **Objective:** Provide free rice to all beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act to ensure nutritional security for all.

3. JyotismanAsom:

- **Objective:** Provide free electricity to households consuming less than 30 units per month and transfer Rs. 400 Crore subsidy to APDCL to prevent tariff hikes.

4. Redesigned Swami Vivekananda Youth Empowerment Yojana:

- **Objective:** Support youth entrepreneurship through grants of Rs. 50,000 for youth self-help groups.
- **Target:** Empower 2 lakh youths.

5. ChahBagichaDhanPuraskarMela:

- **Objective:** Financial inclusion for tea garden workers with Rs. 5000 for each worker (FY 18-19) and an additional Rs. 3000 in FY 20-21.

6. Welfare for Tea Tribes & Adivasi:

- **Health & Education:** Wage compensation for pregnant women, increased from 6 months to 9 months at Rs. 18,000, educational benefits for students, and construction of 102 new schools in tea gardens.

7. Arundhati Scheme:

- **Objective:** Provide Rs. 40,000 (in lieu of 1 tola of gold) to newly-wed brides from families earning less than Rs. 5 lakh annually.

8. Comprehensive Social Security Schemes:

- **Pensions & Benefits:**Rs. 300 for widows, Rs. 250 for senior citizens, Rs. 1000 for divyangs, and Rs. 250 for single women above 40 years.

9. VistaritaKanaklataMahilaSabalikaranAsoni:

- **Objective:** Empower female SHGs with revolving funds (Rs. 50,000 each), providing scooties and allowances to JeevikaSakhis.

10. Asom Mala:

- **Objective:** Transform state highways and major roads with Rs. 250 Crore allocated for industrial roads and 1000 timber bridges being upgraded to RCC structures.

11. PragyanBharati:

- **Educational Support:** Waivers, textbooks, and allowances for students in government schools. Financial assistance (Rs. 1000 to Rs. 2000) for higher education students.

12. Assam Cancer Care Foundation:

- **Objective:** Establish a 3-tier cancer care grid with Rs. 550 Crore from the state and Rs. 250 Crore from Tata Trusts.

13. BhramanSarathi:

- **Objective:** Free transport services for women and senior citizens in Guwahati, with dedicated “Pink buses” on busy routes.

14. AsomDarshan:

- **Objective:** Develop tourism infrastructure and religious institutions with Rs. 10 Lakh to 915 religious organizations and Rs. 2.5 Lakh for 8000 Namghars.

15. YuvaArohan:

- **Objective:** Foster entrepreneurship among youth by introducing entrepreneurship as a subject in schools and providing seed capital for entrepreneurial projects.

16. SonaliShaishabRupaliPathsala:

- **Objective:** Upgrade school infrastructure with Rs. 25 Lakh per school for 200 elementary schools on a pilot basis.

17. Teachers Provincialization Drive:

- **Objective:** Provincialize services of teachers, with 20,288 teachers already provincialized.

18. Orunodol:

- **Objective:** Direct benefit transfer of Rs. 12,000 annually to 27 lakh poor households to support nutrition and health.

Budget 2021-22 Initiatives:

1. Chief Minister COVID Relief Scheme:

- **Objective:** Provide Rs. 1 lakh financial assistance to the families of COVID-19 victims not covered by other schemes.

2. Assam Microfinance Incentive and Relief Scheme (AMFIRS):

- **Objective:** Offer financial relief to microfinance borrowers, including loan waivers for stressed borrowers (NPA) and Rs. 25,000 for regular payers.

3. Engagement of Unemployed Youths:

- **Objective:** Create 1 lakh jobs in the government sector, with a streamlined recruitment process.

4. Asom Mala Road Development:

- **Objective:** Construct 563 km of roads with Rs. 5.556 crore under the ASRIP and ARNIP projects.

5. SonaliXaishabBikkashitAxom:

- **Objective:** Establish 1,000 model Anganwadi centres with Rs. 13.50 crore allocated for construction.

6. Flood-Free Assam:

- **Objective:** Build 1,000 km of embankment-cum-roads along the Brahmaputra to control flooding.

7. SwanirbharNaari:

- **Objective:** Support indigenous weavers through procurement, skill development, and establishment of sales counters across India.

8. Affordable Nutrition and Nourishment Assistance (ANNA) Yojana:

- **Objective:** Provide free meals to urban destitute and homeless individuals left out of the National Food Security Act.

9. Tap Drinking Water in Tea Gardens:

- **Objective:** Provide tap water connections to all households in 805 tea gardens.

10. Revitalizing Agriculture:

- **Objective:** Establish an Agriculture Commission to promote self-sufficiency in agriculture and livestock production.

11. Garukhuti Project:

- **Objective:** Provide livelihood opportunities through modern agricultural and animal rearing practices in Darrang district.

12. Sunil Biplab Scheme:

- **Objective:** Establish 10,000 community fish ponds across Assam to increase fish production by 50,000 MT annually.

13. Department of Indigenous Faith and Culture:

- **Objective:** Preserve and promote Assam's unique cultures and faiths with Rs. 100 crore allocated for the new department.

14. Support for Small Traders Affected by COVID-19:

- **Objective:** Provide Rs. 10,000 grants to small traders and artisans affected by the pandemic.

15. Health Sub-Centres Conversion:

- **Objective:** Convert 1,000 sub-centres into primary health centres providing free medical treatment.

16. Wildlife Conservation Projects:

- **Objective:** Develop Azgarh Wildlife Sanctuary and expand Orang National Park, along with measures to prevent encroachments using drones.

17. Arundhati Gold Scheme:

- **Objective:** Integration of e-Panjeeyan with Arundhati Gold Scheme portal for smoother implementation.

18. Police Battalion Establishment:

- **Objective:** Set up 10 new police battalions for better law enforcement across the state.

19. Assam Cultural Complex in New Delhi:

- **Objective:** Establish a cultural complex in New Delhi to promote Assam's rich cultural heritage.

20. New Wildlife Safari and Rescue Centres:

- **Objective:** Establish wildlife safari and rescue centres in Dibrugarh and Silchar for better conservation efforts.

21. TejasviNavadhitamastu Edu-Infra Funds:

- **Objective:** Allocate funds to six new universities in Assam, with a focus on culture, education, and sports.

Five New Medical Colleges in Assam

- **Locations:** Golaghat, Dhemaji, Morigaon, Bongaigaon, and Tamulpur.
- **Cost per College:** Estimated at Rs 16 crore.
- **Other Initiatives:** Establishment of a State University in KarbiAnglong district.

2. GhareGharePukhuriGhareGhareMaach (2016-17)

- **Objectives:**
 - Provide nutritional and livelihood support to fishers.
 - Employment generation and empowerment of rural women through fisheries.
 - Enhance fish production and achieve self-sufficiency by 2020-21.
- **Key Actions:**
 - Construction of homestead individual ponds (~0.14 ha) and community ponds (~1.0 ha).

3. JICA Project - Assam Fisheries Development and Livelihood Project

- **Total Project Cost:** Rs 3,391.50 crore.
- **Duration:** 3 years (extendable up to 5 years).
- **Status:** Already cleared by Ministry of DoNER.

4. Fish Seed Bank at Gohpur

- **Objective:** Establish a genetically improved fish seed bank (World Bank-financed project under APART scheme).

5. APART Scheme (Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project)

- **Focus:** Value addition to agricultural commodities.
- **Implementation Body:** Assam Rural Infrastructure and Agricultural Services Society (ARIAS).

6. Chief Minister Samgra Gram UnayanYojana (CMSGUY)

- **Funds Allocated:** Rs 30,000 per year (2016-2021).
- **Objective:**
 - Provide technical support to farmers (e.g., tractors, pumps).

- Skill development for farmers.
- Distribution of Rs 5,000 to 5 lakh farmers for farm tools.

7. Organic Farming Initiatives

- **O Majuli Project:** Cluster-based organic farming approach.

8. Agricultural Export Policy

- **Objective:** Double agricultural exports from Assam by 2024-25.
- **Exports:** BhutJolokia to international markets, BaoDhaan rice to the US.
- **NERAMAC's Role:** Agri-marketing and promoting exports of regional produce.

9. Infrastructure Development

- **Key Projects:**
 - Multi-modal logistic park in Jogighopa.
 - 15 new National Waterways in Assam.
 - Air connectivity through RCS-UDAN (Flybig low-cost carrier).
 - Mahabahu Brahmaputra Scheme for bridge construction.
- **Investor Attraction:** Rs 56,000 crores worth of investments (Advantage Assam 2018).

10. Industrial & Investment Policy

- **Subsidy:** 3% interest subsidy on working capital loans for industries.
- **Reimbursement:** 100% insurance premium reimbursement.
- **Special Focus:** Pharmaceutical and textile parks.

11. North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS)

- **Funds Allocated:** Rs 1,600 crore for infrastructure development in connectivity, power, water, tourism, and social services.

12. Promotion of Oil and Gas Sector in Assam

- **Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for North-East:** Doubling oil and gas production by 2030.
- **INDMAX Unit at Bongaigaon Refinery:** Technology to increase LPG and gasoline yields.
- **North East Gas Grid Project:** 1,656 km natural gas pipeline connecting major cities in North-Eastern India.

13. Assam Bamboo and Cane Policy

- **Support:** 50% capital investment subsidy for bamboo projects.
- **Bamboo Industrial Park:** The first park in Dima Hasao district.

14. Tourism Promotion Schemes

- **ParyatanSanjeevani Scheme:** Loans for local youth to start tourism initiatives.
- **ParyatanSarathi Scheme:** Providing gadgets to tourist guides for better communication.
- **Vistadome Train:** Tourist trains with glass-roof coaches offering 360-degree views.

15. Population & Women Empowerment Policy (2017)

- **Goals:**
 - Ensure safe motherhood and reduce fertility rates.
 - Achieve gender equality and promote responsible youth behavior.
 - Provide healthcare for elderly and differently-abled individuals.

16. Waterways Development

- **New Ship Repair Facility at Pandu:** Rs 75 crore investment for enhanced cargo movement.
- **Maritime Institute:** Upcoming maritime training facility.
- **JitionDinga Scheme:** 100% subsidy for modern boat engines to reduce mishaps.

17. Atal AmritAbhiyan (Health Insurance)

- **Coverage:** Rs 2 lakh for treatment of cancer, kidney disease, heart ailments, and burn injuries.
- **Eligibility:** Free for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families.

18. Mission Ramdhenu (Immunization)

- **Objective:** Ensure full immunization for children under 2 years and pregnant women.

19. Assam Cattle Preservation Act

- **Regulations:** Stricter rules on cattle slaughter and transport.
- **Punishment:** Jail time (3-8 years) and fines for violations.

20. Mission Basundhara

- **Objective:** Land reforms to digitize records, resolve disputes, and simplify land transactions.

21. Project Sadbhawna

- **Purpose:** Clear pending government files to reduce public inconvenience.
- **Phases:** Registration and resolution within a 6-month window.

22. Right to Public Services Portal

- **Service Delivery:** Electronic delivery of notified services through the Assam Right to Public Services Portal.

23. Assam Tenancy Law

- **Rent Regulation:** Establishment of Rent Authority and Rent Courts for better dispute resolution.

24. Chief Minister Samgra Gram UnnayanYojana (Additional Initiatives)

- **Godown Setup:** 110 rural godowns for paddy storage with capital subsidies.
- **Paddy Dryers:** 200 dryer units with 33% capital subsidy.

25. Mission Bhumiputra

- **Purpose:** Provide easy access to caste certificates for citizens.

ASSAM POLITY

Lok Sabha seat - 14

Rajya Sabha seats - 7

Legislature

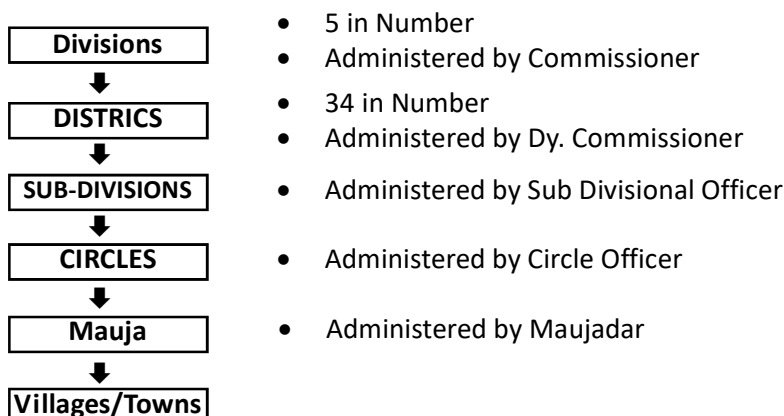
- Unicameral
- The Assam Legislative Assembly is composed of 126 members.
- Present speaker - Hitendra Nath Goswami

Judiciary

- Gauhati High Court (originally known as Assam High Court) was established in 1948. It was renamed as
- Gauhati HC in 1971.
- Sir R. F. Lodge was the first Chief Justice of Assam High Court (Later Gauhati HC).
- Gauhati High Court is the common High Court for the states of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh.
 - Kohima Bench for the State of Nagaland (Estd. 1972)
 - Aizawl Bench for the State of Mizoram (Estd. 1990)
 - Itanagar Bench for the State of Arunachal Pradesh (Estd. 2000)
- At present, the sanctioned Judge strength of the Gauhati High Court is 24 including the Chief Justice and 6 additional judges.
- Current Chief Justice of the Gauhati HC - Justice Ajai Lamba.

Local Administration

| Division Name | Divisional Office | Districts |
|---------------|--------------------|--|
| North Assam | Tezpur | Udalguri, Darrang, Sonitpur, Biswanath, Lakhimpur, Dhema'i |
| Lower Assam | Panbazar, Guwahati | Dhubri, Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon, Goalpara, Baksa, Chirang, Barpeta, Nalbari, Kamrup Rural, Kamrup Metro, South Salmara-Mankachar |
| Central Assam | Nagaon | Dima Hasao, East Karbi Anglong, West Karbi Anglong, Nagaon, Morigaon, Hojai |
| Upper Assam | Jorhat | Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Sibsagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Charaideo, Majuli |
| Barak Valley | Silchar | Cachar, Hailakandi, Karimganj |



The Panchayati raj system

Assam has gone through 5 Panchayati Acts -

1. Assam Rural panchayat Act (1948)
2. Assam Panchayati Raj Act (1959)
3. Assam Panchayati Raj Act (1972)
4. Assam Panchayati Raj Act (1986)
5. Assam Panchayat Act (1994)

3 Tier System

Gaon Sabha and Gaon Panchayat

- Gaon Sabha consists of all the persons registered in electoral rolls relating to a village or a group of villages comprised within the area of Gaon Panchayat
- The state government can declare any local area with population in between 6-10 thousands as a Gaon Panchayat.
- The members and the president are directly elected
- The member of the Gaon Panchayat are directly elected for 5 years.
- The Gaon Panchayat shall consist of 10 members with 1/3rd seats reserved for women. 50% of these shall be reserved for women belonging to SC and ST.
- At present there are 2202 Gaon Panchayats in Assam.

Anchalik Panchayat

- It consists of one member from each Gaon Panchayat to be directly elected by the people.
- The president and vice-president are elected by the elected members from amongst themselves.
- At present there are 185 Anchalik Panchayats in Assam

Zila Parishad

- The members are directly elected
- The Chairperson is indirectly elected.
- At present there are 20 Zila parishads in Assam.

Municipality

- The Assam Municipal Act 1956. Amended twice - in 1994 and 1997
- Municipality area is divided into territorial constituencies called wards.
- All the ULBS consist of elected members (councillors) from each ward (directly elected).
- Chairman is elected by the councillors of the wards.

Autonomous councils

State to get 3 more autonomous councils

- The Assam Legislative Assembly passed three new bills
 - Moran Autonomous Council Bill, 2020
 - Matak Autonomous Council Bill, 2020
 - Kamatapur Autonomous Council Bill, 2020

AUTONOMOUS COUNCILS

The various Autonomous Councils constituted by the Government are under the following heads:

- Territorial Councils under Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.
- ✓ Bodoland Territorial Council (HQ- Kokrajhar)
- ✓ Dima Hasao Autonomous District Council (HQ-Haflong)
- ✓ Karbi Anglong Autonomous District Council (HQ - Diphu)

- Statutory Autonomous Councils constituted under State Act
- ✓ Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council
- ✓ Mising Autonomous Council
- ✓ Tiwa Autonomous Council
- ✓ Deori Autonomous Council
- ✓ Thengal Kachari Autonomous Council
- ✓ Sonowal Kachari Autonomous Council

The Statutory Autonomous Councils are constituted for Social, Economic, Educational, Ethnic and Cultural advancement of the Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities living in Core Areas as well as in Satellite Areas covering many districts of Assam.

Autonomous Councils

The Government of Assam have been taking various steps to accelerate development process for the welfare the Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities to participate in the planning, monitoring and implementation of Tribal of Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities in the State through democratic decentralization of power and empowering Sub Plan (TSP) schemes in grass root level by constituting Territorial Councils, Autonomous Councils and Development Councils for different Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities in the State.

The various Autonomous Councils constituted by the Government are under the following heads :

1. Territorial Councils under Sixth Schedule of Constitution of India
2. Statutory Autonomous Councils constituted under State Act

1. Territorial Councils under Sixth Schedule of Constitution of India

- The Autonomous Councils are given varying degrees of autonomy within the State Legislature.
- In Assam there are 3 Autonomous Councils under Sixth-Schedule of the Indian Constitution. The 3 Autonomous Councils are:
 - Bodoland Territorial Council
 - Dima Hasao Autonomous District Council
 - Karbi Anglong Autonomous District Council

The Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC)

- Has legislative, administrative, executive and financial powers over 40 policy areas in the Bodoland Territorial Areas Districts comprising 4 Administrative Districts namely Udalguri, Baksa, Chirang, Kokrajhar comprising various protected tribal belts and blocks in Assam and 40 Elected Representatives to the BTC Legislative Assembly and provisions for 6 Nominated Members to be nominated by the Governor of Assam from the unrepresented communities in the BTCLA through direct election in the districts of Assam.
- It was established in 2003 following a peace agreement between the Government of India and Bodo Liberation Tigers and has been functioning since 2003 under the provision of the Amended Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India.
- The first Chief Executive Member of the BTC was Hagrama Mohilary. The headquarters of Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) is at Kokrajhar Town in Kokrajhar district.

The North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council, Dima Hasao District (NCHAC) and the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, East Karbi Anglong (KAAC)

- Autonomous councils constituted under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India to administer the respective districts and for the development of the Tribal people.
- The headquarter of North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council, Dima Hasao District (NCHAC) is in Haflong, Dima Hasao district.

- The headquarter of Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, East Karbi Anglong (KAAC) is in Diphu, East Karbi Anglong district.

2. Statutory Autonomous Councils constituted under State Act

The Statutory Autonomous Councils are constituted for Social, Economic, Educational, Ethnic and Cultural advancement of the Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities living in Core Areas as well as in Satellite Areas covering many districts of Assam. There are six (6) Statutory Autonomous Councils namely,

- Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council
- Mising Autonomous Council
- Tiwa Autonomous Council
- Deori Autonomous Council
- Thengal Kachari Autonomous Council
- Sonowal Kachari Autonomous Council
- The Kamatapur Autonomous Council
- Moran Autonomous Council
- Matak Autonomous Council

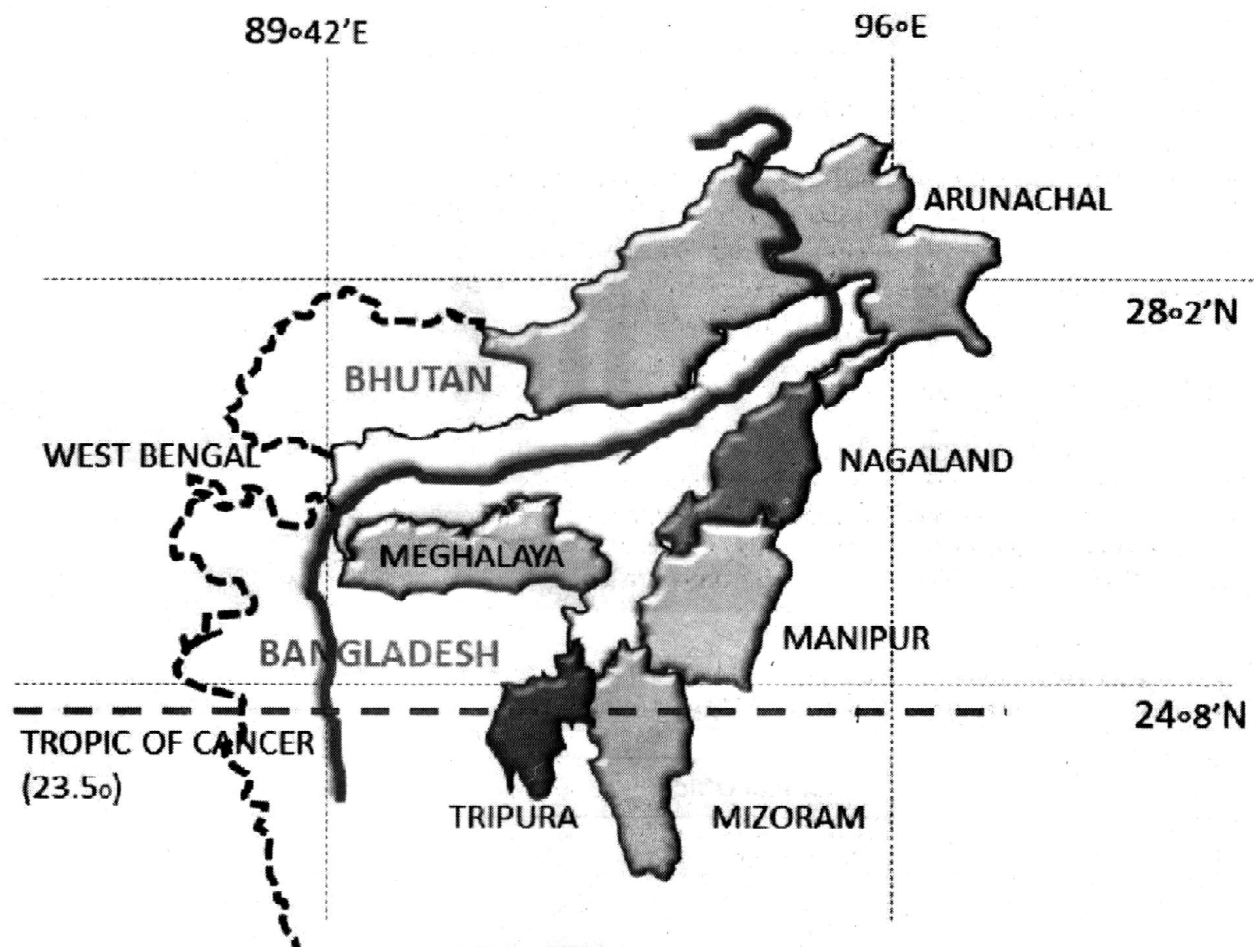
Constituencies of Assam Legislative Assembly Reserved for SC

1. Ratabari
2. Dholai
3. Abhayapuri South
4. Boko
5. Mangaldoi
6. Jagiroad
7. Roha
8. Dergaon

Constituencies of Assam Legislative Assembly Reserved for ST

1. Haflong
2. Bokajan
3. Howraghat
4. Diphu
5. Baithalangso
6. Kokrajhar West
7. Kokrajhar East
8. Sidli
9. Dudhnai
10. Barama
11. Chapaguri
12. Udalguri
13. Majuli
14. Dhakuakhana
15. Dhemaji
16. Jonai

ASSAM GEOGRAPHY



INTERNATIONAL BORDERS (528.8 km)

ASSAM - BHUTAN (265.8 km)

ASSAM - BANGLADESH (263 km)

- Udalguri (50.8 km) ● Chirang (70.7 km) ● Dhubri + South Salmara (134 km) ● Cachar (33.6 km)
- Baksa (82.9 km) ● Kokrajhar (61.4 km) ● Karimganj (95.4 km)

Source: Website of Directorate of Land records, Govt. of

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Assam- Meghalaya | 884.90 km |
| Assam-Arunachal Pradesh | 804.10 km |
| Assam- Nagaland | 512.10 km |
| Assam- Manipur | 204.10 km |
| Assam-Mizoram | 164.60 km |
| Assam-West Bengal | 127.00 km |
| Assam- Tripura | 46.30 km |

Assam census data

Area: 78438.08 Sq. km (16th in India, 2.39% of total territory of India)

Population: 3,12,05,576 (15th in India, 2.58% of total population of India)

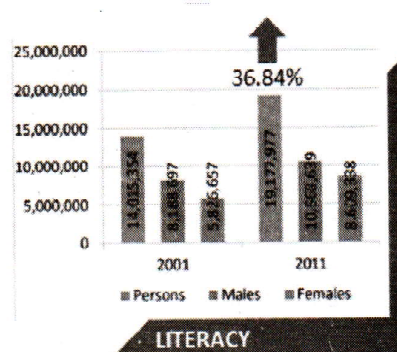
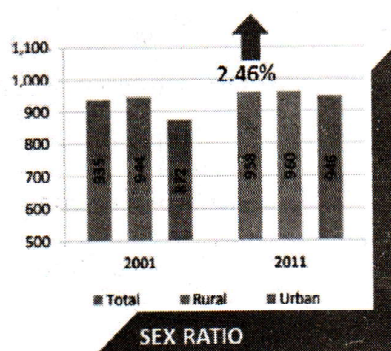
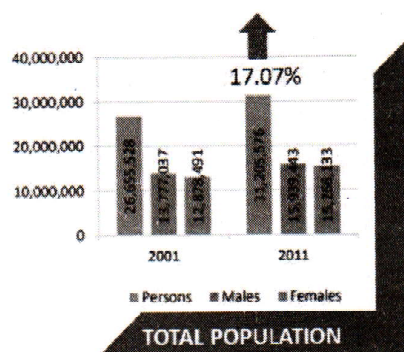
Density: 398/ Sq. km (India-382)

Urban/ rural population 14%/86%

Sex ratio: 958 (PER 1000 MALE) 49% (India-943)

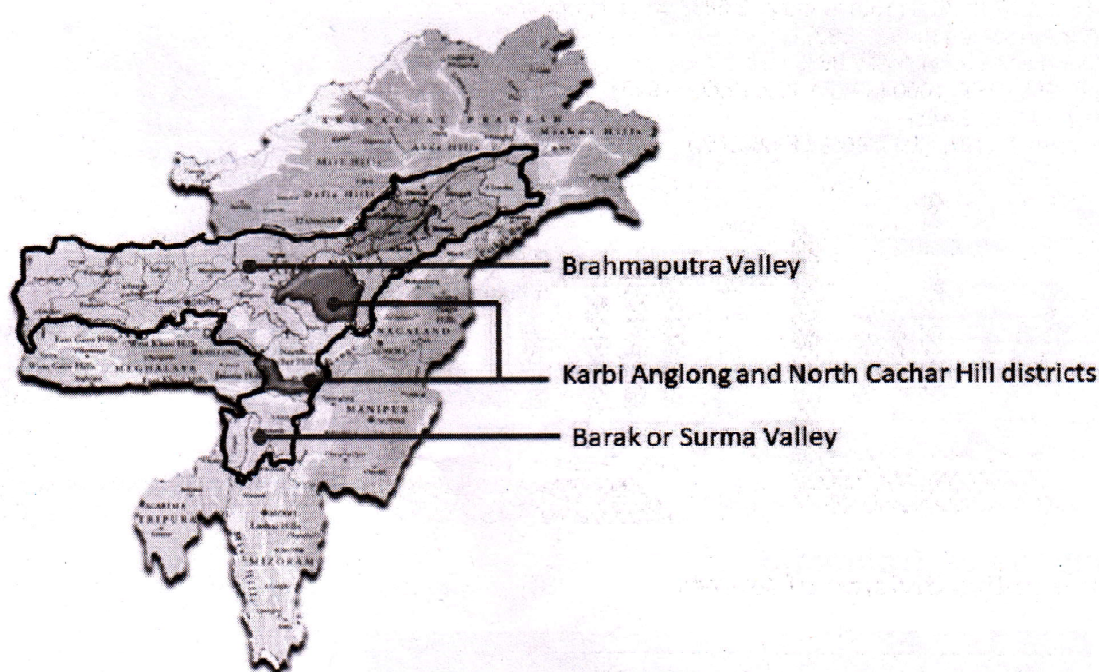
SC/ST: 7.15%/12.44%

Literacy rate: 72.19% (M77.85% / F 66.27%)



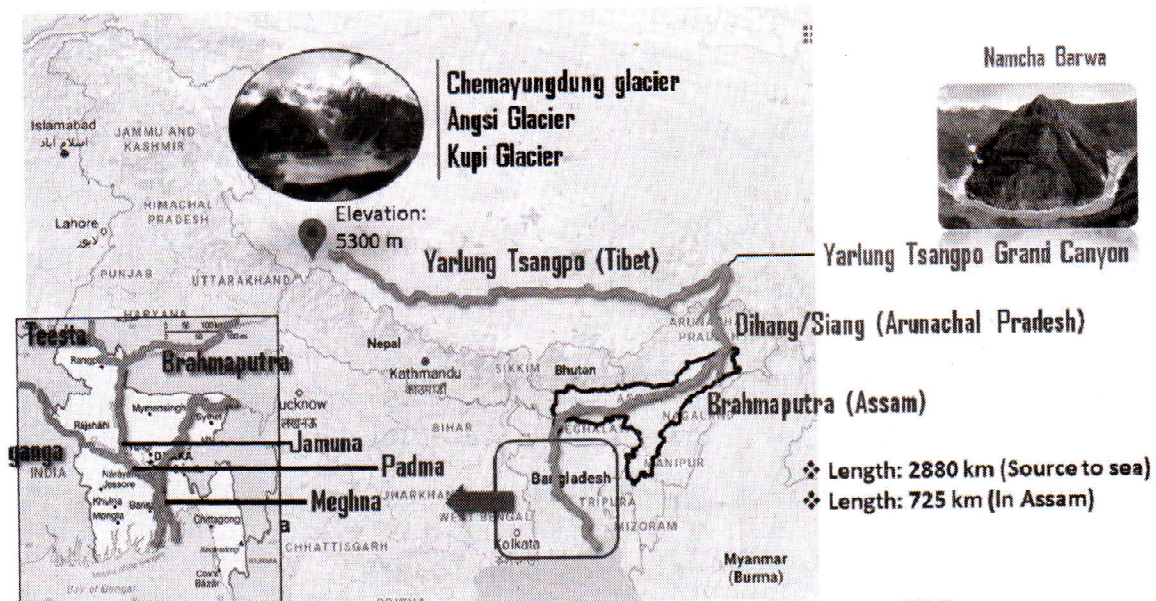
Administrative division of Assam

| Division name | Divisional Office | Districts |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Barak Valley | Silchar | Cachar, Hailakandi and Karimganj |
| Hills and Central Assam | Nagaon | Dima Hasao, Hojai, East Karbi Anglong, West Karbi Anglong, Morigaon and Nagaon |
| Lower Assam | Guwahati | Baksa, Barpeta, Bajali, Bongaigaon, Chirang, Dhubri, Goalpara, Nalbari, Kamrup Metro, Kamrup Rural, Kokarajhar, South- Salmara Mankachar, Tamulpur |
| North Assam | Tezpur | Biswanath, Darrang, Sonitpur and Udalguri |
| Upper Assam | Jorhat | Charaideo, Dhemaji, Dibrugarh, Gol aghat, Jorhat, Lakhimpur, Majuli, Sib sagar and Tinsukia |



Brahmaputra Valley

- Avg. width of the Brahmaputra Valley: 80 km
- Catchment area –
 - Tibet 2,93,000 sq. km
 - India and Bhutan: 2,40,000 sq. km
 - Bangladesh: 47,000 sq. km
- Avg width of the river 5.46 km
- Avg. annual discharge. 20,000 cumec. (approx.) Fifth largest in the world w.r.t. discharge
- Avg. dry season discharge: 4420 cumec
- Avg. slope in Tibet and Arunachal: 2.82m/km
- Avg. slope in Assam: 0.1 m/km
- The drainage area lying in India is 194413 sq.km
- The drainage area is nearly 5.9% of the total geographical area of the country.
- The culturable area of the sub-basin is about 12.15 M. ha
- The culturable area is 6.2% of the culturable area of the country.



Tributaries of Brahmaputra

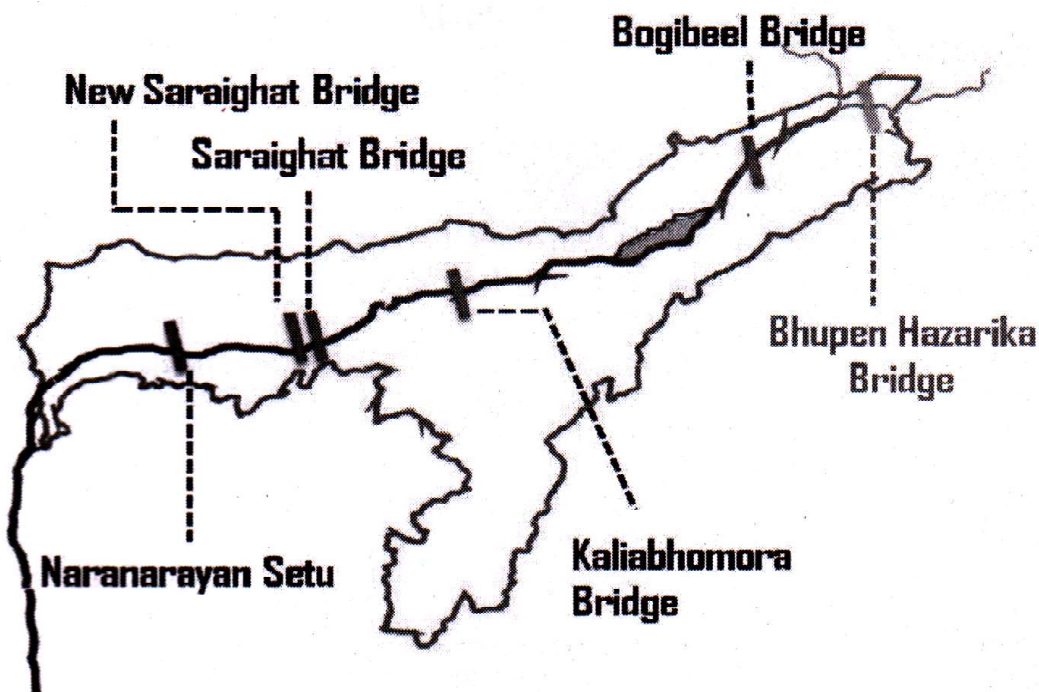
| North Bank | South Bank |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aie(Gai) • Subansiri • Jiadhal • Jiabharali • Ronganadi • Dikrong • Buroi • Borgong • Gabharu • Dhansiri(north) • Barnadi • Puthimari • Pagladia • Manas • Beki • Gangadhar • Sonkosh • Saralbhanga • Champawati | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noa Dehing • Buri Dehing • Dikhow • Dhansiri(south) • Kopili • Digaru • Dudhnai • Krishnai • Dibru • Disang(Desang) • Janji • Bhogdoi • Kalong • Barapani(Borpani) • Kulsi • Jinjiram |

Difference between North and South bank tributaries

| North Bank | South Bank |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have very steep slopes and shallow braided channels for a considerable distance from the foothills and in some cases right up to the outfall • Have boulder, pebble and coarse sandy beds and carry a heavy silt charge. • Snow as well as rain fed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have comparatively flatter grades and deep meandering channels almost from the foothills • Have comparatively low silt charge. • Mainly rain fed |

The Brahmaputra enters Bangladesh near South Salmara Mankachar. In Bangladesh, it is joined by Teesta on its right bank from where the river is known as Jamuna, then it merges with Padma river and comes to be known with the same name. Finally, it joins the river Meghna and falls in the Bay of Bengal.

Bridges over Brahmaputra



- ❖ Saraighat Bridge (Rail cum road bridge)
 - Location: Kamrup
 - Opened: 7th June, 1963
 - Length: 1.29 Km.
 - Company: Hindustan Construction Company
 - Cost: 10.6 Crore
- ❖ Kaliabhomora Bridge (Road bridge)
 - Location: Tezpur - Kaliabor
 - Opened: 14th April, 1987

- Length 3.015 Km
- Company Hindustan Construction Company
- Cost: 80 Crore
- ❖ **Naranarayan Setu (Rail cum road bridge)**
 - Location Jogighopa (Bongaigaon)
 - Opened 15th April, 1998
 - Length: 2.3 Km.
 - Company: The Braithwaite Burn and Jessop Construction Company Limited(BBJ)
- ❖ **New Saraighat Bridge (Road bridge)**
 - Location: Kamrup
 - Opened 29th January, 2017
 - Length: 1.5 Km
 - Company Gamon India Limited
- ❖ **Bogibeel Bridge (Rail cum road bridge)**
 - Location: Dhemaji-Dibrugarh
 - Opened 25th December, 2018
 - Length: 4.32 km
 - ACADEMY
 - Longest rail cum road bridge in India
 - Asia's 2nd longest rail cum road bridge
 - 5th longest bridge in India
 - Company: HCC
- ❖ **Bhupen Hazarika Setu (Dhola-Sadiya) (Road bridge) (OVER LOHIT)**
 - Location Dhola-Sadiya (Tinsukia)
 - Opened: 26th May, 2017
 - Length: 9. 15 Km
 - Company: Navayuga Engineering Company
- ❖ **Dhubri - Phulbari bridge**
 - An under construction bridge between Assam and Meghalaya.
 - To be completed by 2026-27, it would be the India's longest bridge over water and would span more than 19 km
 - Funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency(JICA) and executed by National Highway and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited(NHIDCL)

Dams of Brahmaputra

Operational Dams :

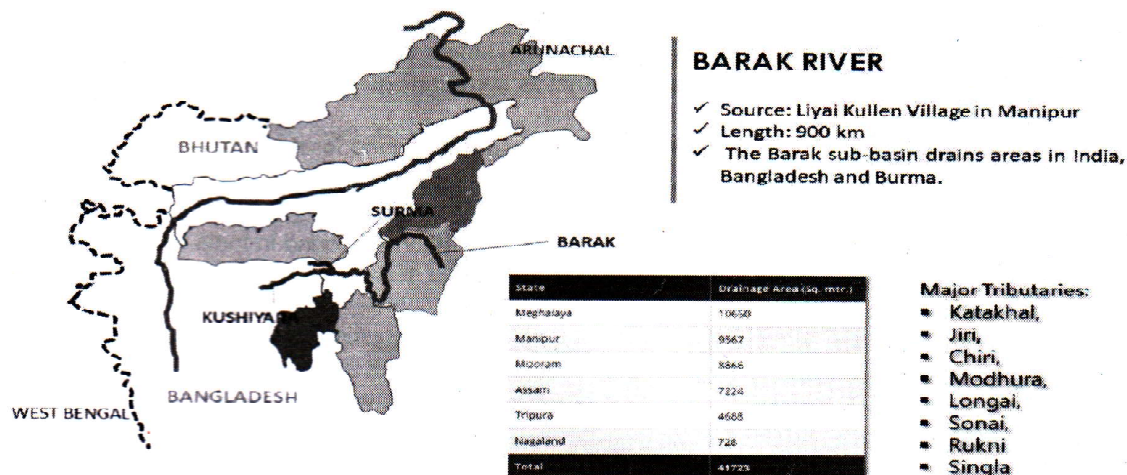
| Dam | River | District | Type | Operator | Opening year | Height | Length |
|----------|--------|--|---------|----------|--------------|--------|--------|
| Khandong | Kopili | Dima Hasao (and adjoining Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya) | Gravity | NEEPCO | 1984 | 66m | 243m |
| Umrong | Umrang | Dima | Gravity | NEEPCO | 1988 | 30m | 143m |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|-------|------|-----|------|
| | | Hasao | | | | | |
| Karbi Langpi | Borpani | West Karbi Anglong | Gravity | APGCL | 2007 | 35m | 197m |

Dams under construction:

- Pagladia Dam on Pagladia river of Rock-fill type
- Subansiri Lower Dam on Subansiri river of Gravity type

Barak Valley



Tributaries:

| North Tributaries | South Tributaries |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jiri - Chiri - Jatinga - Marang - Madhura - Dalu | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sonai - Rukni - Ghagra - Katakhal - Dhaleshwari - Singla - Longai |

Karbi Hills / Mikir Hills

- Part of Meghalaya plateau
- Average height of this plateau is 600 m.
- Dambukso (1,363m)
- Singhasan (1359 m)

North Cachar Hills

- Borail range - highest hill range of Assam
- The highest peak of Assam - Laike peak (1959 m)

Lakes/Ponds of Assam

- The lakes/ponds of Assam cover 0.20% of the total geographical area of the state
- Highest number of ponds/lakes are in Golaghat district But, areawise Kamrup district has the highest area covered by lakes/ponds
- Some of the important lakes are
 1. Chandubi lake. A natural lake situated in Kamrup district at the foot of Garo hills. Migratory birds visit during winters Created on 12 June 1987 due to a massive earthquake
 2. Deepor beel: Located in Guwahati, it is the only wetland from Assam which is a part of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International importance
 3. Dighalipukhuri: It is a man-made pond located in Guwahati it is believed that it was created by the mythological king King Bhagadatta during the swayamvar of his daughter Bhanumati
 4. Haflong Lake: Located in Dima Hasao district, its surroundings provide suitable ground for migratory birds in winter.
 5. Son beel: Located in Karimganj district. It becomes a farm land for rice cultivation during winters March and then the land fills with water and becomes a lake Also called as Shon Bill it is the second largest seasonal wetland in Asia and the largest wetland in Assam
 6. Joysagar Lake: Located at Sivasagar it is the largest manmade pond in India It was built during the reign of Ahom king Rudra Singh in memory of his mother. There are three set of temples on its north bank amongst which the most renowned is Joy Dol
 7. Borpukhuri: Located in Sivasagar the tank is located near the Sivadol It was built by Queen Ambika, queen of Ahom king Siva Singha
 8. Urapad beel: It is natural lake located in Goalpara district.
 9. Hakama lake: It is located in Dhubri district
 10. Dalu Lake: Located in Silchar
 11. Tamranga: Located in Bongaigaon district
 12. Dora Beel: Located in Kamrup district, this beel is fed by Kulsi River which acts both inlet and outlet for the lake.
 13. Kumri beel: It is a natural beel located in Goalpara where a number of birds fly to during winters
 14. Mer beel: Located in Nagaon district.
 15. Morikalang beel: Located in Morigaon district.
 16. Borsola Beel: Located in Guwahati city, the beel is a part of Bharalu water system.
 17. Kalpa Beel: Located in Barpeta district
 18. Maguri Motapung Beel: A wetland located to Dibru-Saikhowa National Park and Motapung Village of Tinsukia district.
 19. Samaguri Beel: It is an ox-bow shaped wetland located in Nagaon district it is located in Brahmaputra river basin
 20. Silsako Lake: Located in Kamrup Metro district

Islands from Assam

1. Majuli Island

- The largest riverine island of the world.
- Majuli was formed as a result of the southward migration of the Brahmaputra.
- Majuli was an integral part of the present Jorhat district of Assam on its south bank
- The Brahmaputra and one of its major tributaries, the Dihing, once flowed parallel and close to each other An extreme flood, which occurred around 1750, appears to have diverted part of the flow of the Brahmaputra through the channel of the Dihing about 190 km upstream of its confluence. When the two rivers joined, the intervening land area formed the Majuli Island

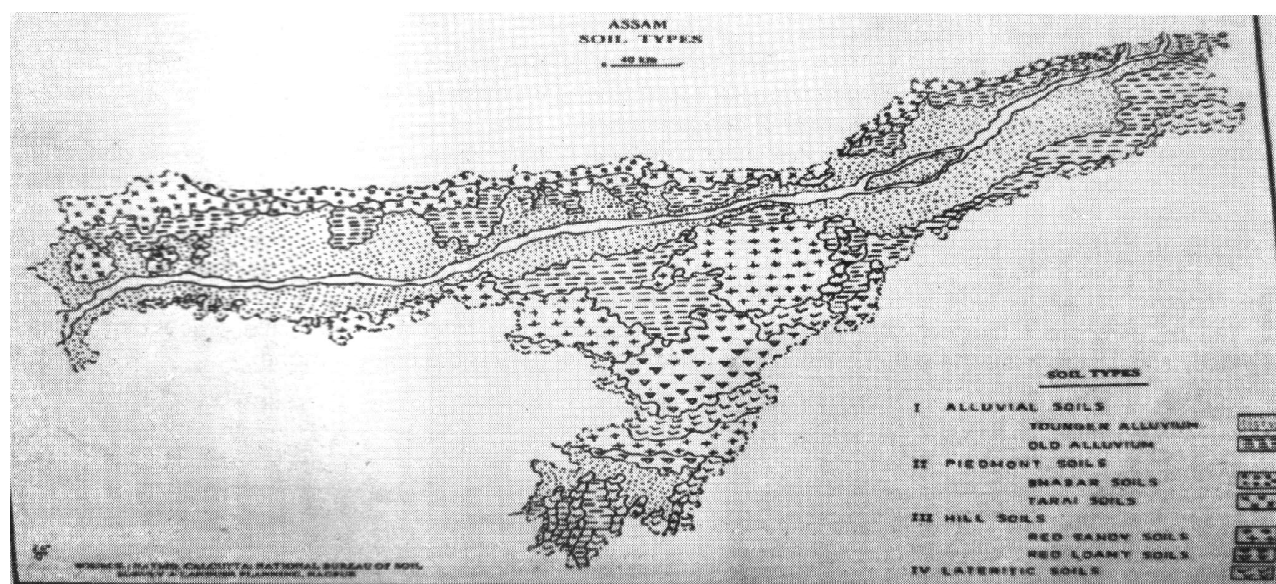
2. Umananda Island

- Umananda Island is the smallest inhabited river islet in the middle of river Brahmaputra, flowing through the city of Guwahati in Assam.
- It was known as Peacock Island among the British Colonists who named it so based on its shape. The Island is home to a very rare and endangered species called Golden Langurs.
- The legend goes that it is the very same place where Lord Kamdev (Lord of Love) was burnt into ashes by the third eye of Lord Shiva when the former tried to disrupt his meditation thereby giving it its alternative name Bhasmchal.
- The island is famous for Umananda Devi Temple located at the island.

Char/Chaporis of Assam

- The extremely braided channels of the river along with its unique gradient, suspended load and bed load combine to form Char/Chaporis.
- 'Almond' shaped and of Alluvial formations.
- Formed because of flood so height of char is never greater than the height of the highest flood.
- Chaporis are low-lying flood-prone riverbanks.
- Subjected to erosion on upstreams and deposition on downstreams so migrate downwards.

Soils



The soils of Assam may generally be divided into four groups

- Piedmont spoils confined to the northern narrow zone along the Himalayan foothills. These soils
- comprise the Bhabar and Tarai soil
 - Bhabar Soil-in the narrow Bhabar zone along the Assam Aninachal border extending east up to the river Subansin
 - Tarai Sol-just south of the Bhabar soils extends up to Dihang river in some discontinuous narrow patches
- Hill soils
 - Red sandy soils distributed covering a narrow belt along the Assam-Meghalaya border, the Karbi Plateau, southern parts of Barail ranges of the N.C. Hills district and some parts of the foothills along the eastern border of the Cachar district.
 - The red loamy soils occur in the narrow southern foothill belt running along the Assam's border

with Arunachal and Nagaland and also in the southern fringes of the Karbi Plateau and the Barail hills of N.C. Hills district. A few patches of these soils trending north-south are also found along the Assam Mizoram border.

- Lateritic soil occurs almost entirely over the N. C. Hills district covering some parts of southern Karbi Plateau while few patches are confined to eastern margin of the Hamren sub-division of Karbi Anglong district southern border of Golaghat district and the northern part of the Banak plain along the foothills of the Barail range

Climate

- The state of Assam lies in the region of monsoon climate of the subtropical belt
- The Himalayan ranges standing on the north and east of the Brahmaputra valley protect the area from the chilli winds of the given region in winter and obstructive and moist winds coming from the south west in summer the clouds brought by the Southwest monsoon that passes over the southern Hills including the Meghalaya plateau precipitate in the Brahmaputra valley.
- The depression at the eastern end of the Himalayas permits the north-east monsoon during post winter months and has an influence on the precipitation of the valley.
- Under varying intensities of the weather elements and resultant weather conditions Assam normally experiences four climatic seasons -

1. **Pre monsoon:** The pre monsoon begins in the early part of March and continues up to the end of May. In this season marked atmospheric instability develops and severe thunderstorms occur, sometimes preceded by dust-raising squalls. It favours the cultivation of tea, jute and arhu rice.

2. **Monsoon:** the monsoon sets in by the last week of May or in early June and it lasts up to September or the first part of October. 70% of the total annual rainfall occurs during this period. This is the most important season during which salicane, the principal crop of the state is cultivated.

3. **Retreating Monsoon:** The south-west monsoon withdraws sometimes in between the last part of September and first part of October and continues up to the middle of November, when fogs commonly occur.

4. **Dry Winter:** the winter season begins in the middle of November and continues up to the end of February. This season is characterised by low temperature regular morning fogs and very little amount of rainfall. December and January are the driest months and generally, January is the coldest month.

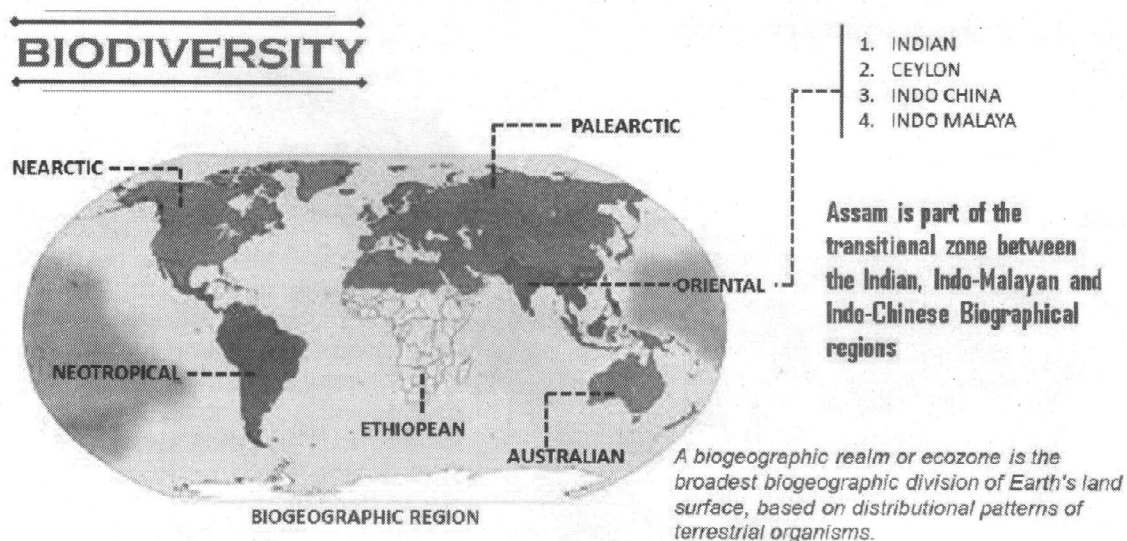
Agro-climatic regions of Assam



| Sl No. | Agro-Climatic zones | No. of Districts | Net cropped area (ha) | Area sown more than once | Cropping intensity % |
|--------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Lower Brahmaputra Valley zone | 10 | 9,29,757 | 4,69,422 | 150 |
| 2 | North Bank Plain Zone | 5 | 5,36,598 | 3,36,323 | 163 |
| 3 | Central Brahmaputra Valley Zone | 2 | 3,27,637 | 85,615 | 126 |
| 4 | Upper Brahmaputra Valley Zone | 5 | 6,20,320 | 1,94,629 | 131 |
| 5 | Barak Valley Zones | 3 | 2,41,715 | 1,01,989 | 142 |
| 6 | Hill Zones | 2 | 28,10,597 | 12,88,865 | 165 |
| | Assam | 27 | 28,10,597 | 12,88,865 | 146 |

Source : Department of Agriculture, Government of Assam

Biodiversity



- The total area covered by forests in Assam is 39.2% of the total geographical area of the state
- But reserved forest area covers 22% of the total geographical area of the state
- The highest concentration of forests in the state occurs in Karbi Anglong (450893 ha. 43.64%) and N.C. Hills (187070 ha. 38.55%)
- The lowest concentration occurs in Bongaigaon district (5354 ha, 17.09%)

The protected area network comprises of 3925 sq. km. (5% of total geographical area of Assam) (in sq km)

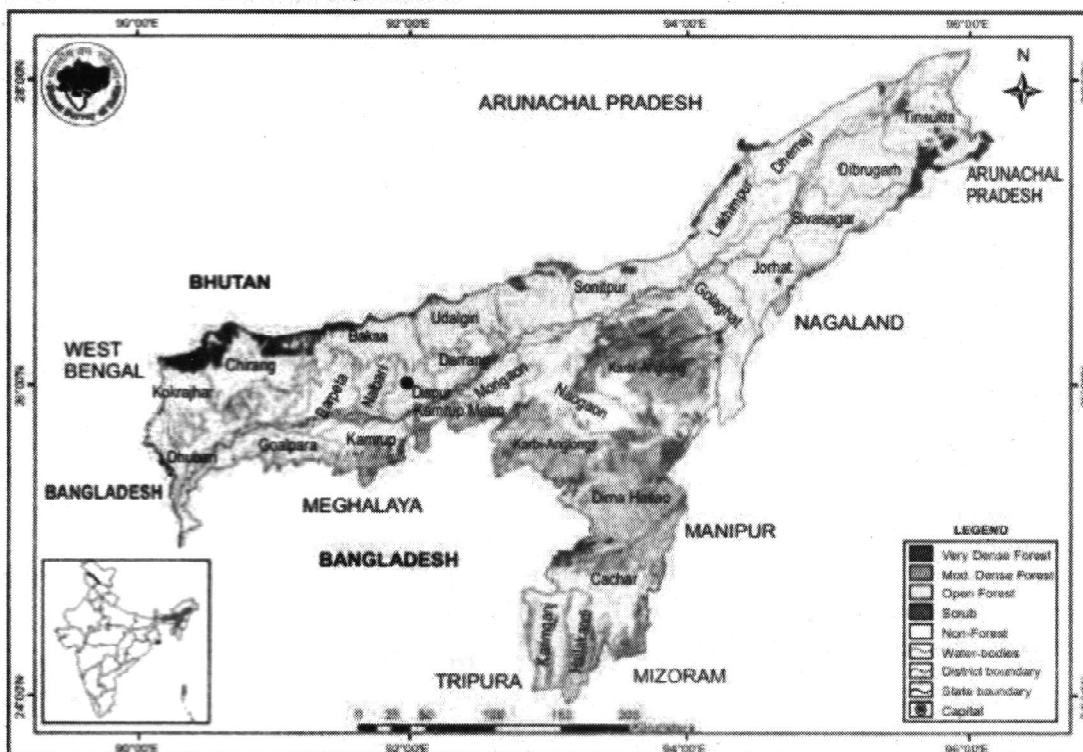
Table: Forest Cover in Assam (2021 Assessment)

| Geographical Area (GA) | Very Dense Forest (VDF) area | Percentage of VDF | Moderately Dense Forest (MDF) area | Percentage of MDF | Open Forest (OF) area | Percentage of OF | Total | percentage of Forest Cover to GA | Change in forest cover w.r.t. ISFR | Scrub |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|
| 78,438 | 3,017 | 3.85 | 9,991 | 12.74 | 15,304 | 19.51 | 28,312 | 36.09 | -15 | 228 |

Source: India State of Forest Report, 2021

- The districts with highest forest cover are Dima Hasao (4,206.93 sq km, 86.07% of total GA), Karbi Anglong (7,889.16 sq km, 75.61% of total GA) and Cachar (2,222.34 sq km, 58.70% of total GA)
- The districts with lowest forest cover are Dhubri (98.46 sq km, 4.52% of total GA), Barpeta (115.16 sq km, 5.05% of total GA) and Darrang (89.43 sq km, 5.64% of total GA)

FIGURE 11.3.3 Forest Cover Map of Assam



Flora

Forests types

As per the Champion & Seth Classification of Forest Types (1968), the forests of Assam belong to seven Forest Type Groups

- Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests
- Tropical Semi-Evergreen Forests
- Tropical Moist Deciduous Forests
- Littoral and Swamp Forests
- Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests
- Subtropical Broadleaved Hill Forests
- Subtropical Pine Forests

Generally, however, the forests in Assam can be divided into:

Evergreen:

- Occurs mainly in the eastern and southern areas covering parts of Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Sivasagar, Jorhat, N.C. Hills, Cachar and Hailakandi districts. Small areas also occur in the Himalayan foothills, especially in Lakhimpur, Dhemaji and Sonitpur districts. Ex. Hollong (state tree of Assam), Nahor, Gurjan, Mekal etc

Semi-Evergreen

- Occurs along the bhabar tract in the dwars in Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon, Barpeta, Darrang and Sonitpur districts. They are also found in Jorhat, Golaghat, Nagaon, Karbi Anglong. Barak Valley etc. Ex. Sins Kadam, Ou-tenga, Kolajam etc

Deciduous:

- Districts of Nagaon, Morigaon, Kamrup, parts of Nalbari and Barpeta. Darrang, Dhubri, Kokrajhar and Goalpara. Dominance of Sal tree. Other trees include Gomari. Teeta Champa etc

Sub-tropical Broad Leaf Hills forests and Subtropical Pine forests

- They occur in the districts of Karbi-Anglong and N. C. Hills. Species commonly occurring are Ban-hanwa³u, Higher up pure stands of Khasi-pine are found particularly in the Hamren sub-division in Karbi Anglong district.

Wetlands

- According to the ISFR, 2019, total number of wetlands inside Recorded Forest(or Green Wash) Area is 2.622(both natural (1,038) and man-made (1584)) and total percentage of Wetland area inside Recorded Forest (or Green Wash) Area is 2.46%:
- **Deepor beel** is the only Ramsar site from Assam

| Wetland/Beel | District name |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Bardolino | Dhemaji |
| Batha Beel | Darrang |
| Bhakatgaon Beel | Morigaon |
| Bhota Beel | Kamrup Metro |
| Boralimori Beel | Jorhat |
| Bordoibam Beel | Lakhimpur |
| Chalta Haor | Cachar |
| Danduwa Beel | Morigaon |
| Deepor Beel | Kamrup Metro |
| Deobali Beel | Nagaon |
| Dheer Beel | Dhubri |
| Dighali Beel | Jorhat |
| Dinjan Gereki Beel | Tinsukia |

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Diplai Beel | Kokrajhar |
| Doloni Beel | Bongaigaon |
| Haribhanga Beel | Nagaon |
| Jamjing Sengajan Wet | Jonai |
| Khamti Guwali Beel | Tinsukia |
| Kurua Beel | Kamrup Rural |
| Kuzi Beel | Nagaon |
| Lali River Beel | Morigaon |
| Mach Bhandar Beel | Kokrajhar |
| Maguri Beel | Tinsukia |
| Mer Beel | Golaghat |
| Misamari Beel | Jorhat |
| Monoha Beel | Morigaon |
| Morikolong Beel | Morigaon |
| Nandini-Karmari Beel | Morigaon |
| Patakalang Beel | Nagaon |
| Salhari Beel | Morigaon |
| Samoguri Beel | Nagaon |
| Sareshwar Beel | Gauripur |
| Sariyani Beel | Lakhimpur |
| Sataryajan Beel | Lakhimpur |
| Son Beel | Hailakandi |
| Tamranga Beel | Bongaigaon |
| Udari Beel | Morigaon |
| Urpadi Beel | Goalpara |

Wetland are locally known as beels in Assam. The riverine tracts of the Brahmaputra and Barak Valley provide a favourable geo-ecological conditions for the growth and development of wetlands

World Heritage Site

Manas national Park (1985)

Kaziranga National Park (1985)

Biosphere Reserve

Manas BR (1989)

Dibru-Saikhowa BR (1991)

Project Tiger

Manas National Park (1973)

Nameri National Park (2001)

Kaziranga National Park (2007)

Elephant Reserve

Sonitpur Elephant Reserve

Dihing-Patkai Elephant Reserve

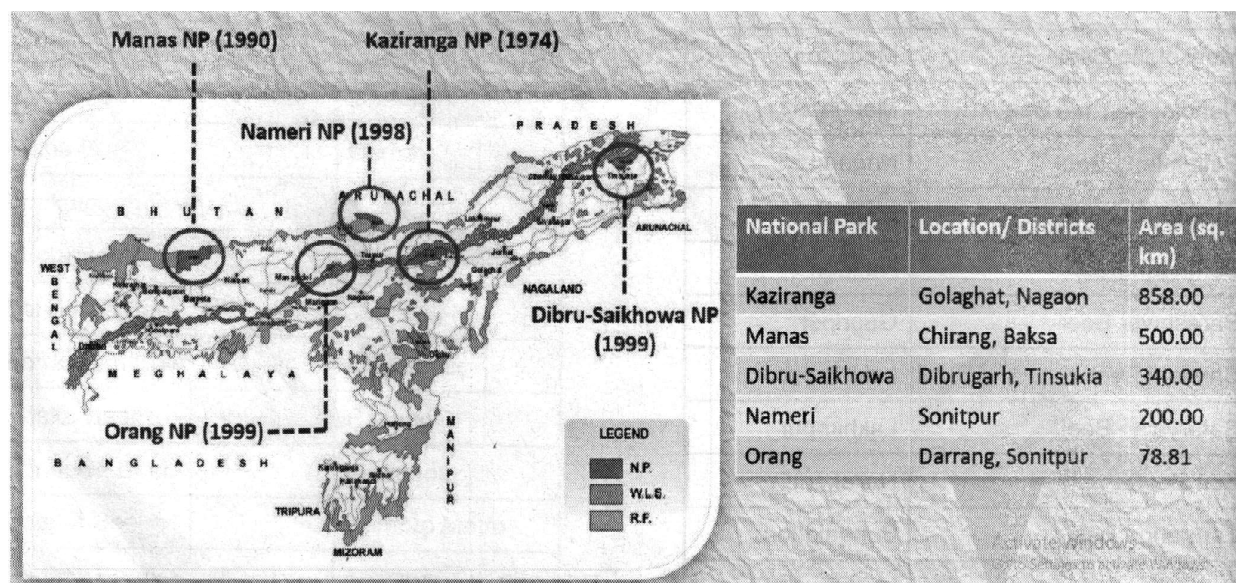
Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong Elephant Reserve

Dhansiri-Lungding Elephant Reserve

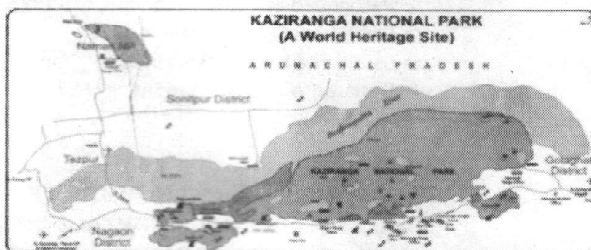
Chirang Ripu Elephant Reserve

Ramsar Site

Deepar Beel



KAZIRANG NATIONAL PARK



Wildlife:

One-horned rhinoceros, elephants, Indian bison, swamp deer, sambar, hog deer, sloth bear, tiger, leopard, leopard cat, jungle cat, bog badger, capped langur, hoolock gibbon, jackal, goose, hornbills, ibis, cormorants, egret, heron fishing eagle etc.

- ❖ Location: Golaghat and Nagaon Districts
- ❖ Area: 858 sq. km
- ❖ Declared Reserved forest in 1908
- ❖ Name changed to Wildlife Sanctuary in 1950
- ❖ Declared National Park on 11th February, 1974
- ❖ Declared World Heritage Site in 1985
- ❖ In 2007, Kaziranga came under project Tiger.

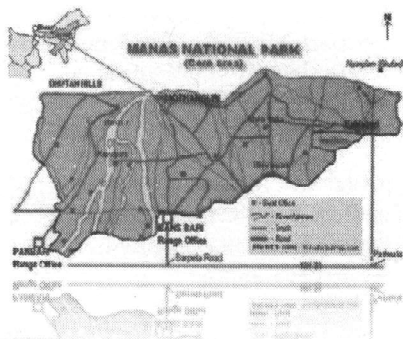
KNP IS THE HOST FOR TWO THIRD OF WORLD'S POPULATION OF ENDANGERED INDIAN ONE-HORNED RHINOCEROS

THE HIGHEST DENSITY OF TIGERS IN THE WORLD.

Kaziranga National Park

- Area Golaghat Nagaon, Sonitpur and Biswanath
- Districts: 858 sq. km (extended area) (Statistical Handbook Assam 2021)
- Declared Reserved forest in 1908
- Name changed to Wildlife Sanctuary in 1950
- Declared National Park on 11th February 1974
- Declared World Heritage Site in 1985
- In 2007, Kaziranga came under Project Tiger
- It is the host for two-third of world's population of endangered Indian One-Homed Rhinoceros. In fact, in the 14th census 2022. Kaziranga has registered a growth of 200 in the number of One-Homed Rhinos
- in 4 years taking the number to 2613
- It has the second highest density of tigers in the world.
- Recognised as an important Bird Area by Birdlife International
- A vast expanse of tall marshland and tropical broadleaf forests are found
- Divided into the following ranges
 1. Burhapanar, Bagori (Western)
 2. Kohora (Central)
 3. Agaratoli (Eastem)
 4. Biswanath (Northern)
- Wildlife One horned rhinoceros, elephants, Indian bison, swamp deer, sambar, hog deer, sloth bear, tiger, leopard, leopard cat, jungle cat., bog badger, capped langur, hollock gibbon, jackal Goose Hombills, ibis, cormorants, egret, heron fishing eagle, etc
- Rivers. Brahmaputra. Mora Diphlu, Diphlu and Mora Dhansiri.
- Nearest airport is Rowriah Airport in Jorhat
- Nearest highway is NH 37(old numbering)/NH 715(new numbering)

MANAS NATIONAL PARK



Wildlife:

Hispid hare, pigmy hog, golden langur, elephant, Indian rhinoceros, wild buffalo, wild boar, sambar deer, hog deer and hundreds of winged species.

- ❖ Location: Chirang and Baksa
- ❖ Area: 500 sq. km
- ❖ Recognized as a wildlife Sanctuary in 1922
- ❖ Came under Project Tiger in 1973
- ❖ Set up as a National Park in 1990
- ❖ Declared World Heritage Site in 1985

IT HAS THE LARGEST NUMBER OF RARELY FOUND WILD ANIMALS OF INDIA WHICH INCLUDES 22 SPECIES OF ENDANGERED ANIMALS

Rivers: Manas

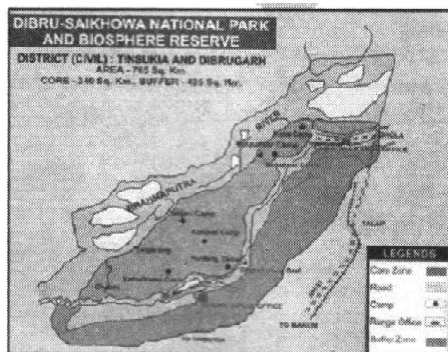
Nearest Airport: Guwahati Airport

Nearest Highway: NH 31

Manas National Park

- Location: Chirang and Baksa
- Area: 500 sq. km (Statistical Handbook Assam 2021)
- Recognised as a Wildlife Sanctuary in 1928
- Manas Biosphere Reserve was created in 1973
- It came under Project Tiger in 1973
- It was set up as a National Park in 1990 by adding Kahitama Reserved Forest, Kokilabari Reserved Forest and Panjabari Reserved Forest within the area of Manas Biosphere Reserve.
- Declared World Heritage Site in 1985
- Has the largest number of rarely found wild animals of India which includes 22 species of endangered animals
- It registered a growth in the number of rhinos in 14th census 2018 taking the number to 40 from 38 four years earlier
- The park is divided into three ranges:
 1. Panbari (the western range)
 2. Banskarni the central range)
 3. Bhuiyapara (the eastern range)
- Wildlife: Hispid hare, pigmy hog, golden langur, elephant, indian rhinoceros, wild buffalo, wild boar, sambar deer, hog deer and hundreds of winged species.
- It is especially famous for its population of wild water buffalo.
- River: Manas
- Nearest Airport: Guwahati Airport
- Nearest Highway: NH 31 (old numbering)

DIBRU-SAIKHOWA NATIONAL PARK



- ❖ Location: Dibrugarh and Tinsukia
- ❖ Area: 340 sq. km
- ❖ Biographically it exhibits properties of both Indian and Malayan sub-regions
- ❖ Declared National park on 9th March, 1999

**THE ONLY FOREST RESERVE OF THE
WORLD WHERE WILD HORSES ARE
FOUND**



Wildlife:

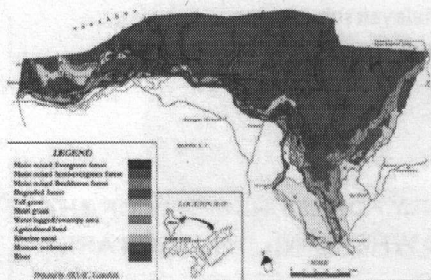
Various species of monkey, land and aquatic bird and snake, deer, wild pig, tiger etc.

Rivers: Brahmaputra, Lohit, Dibru
Nearest Airport: Dibrugarh (Mohanbari)

Dibru-Saikhowa National Park

- Location: Dibrugarh and Tinsukia
- Area: 340 sq. km (Statistical Handbook Assam 2021)
- Biogeographically, it exhibits properties of both Indian and Malayan sub-regions.
- It was declared as Dibru Reserved Forest in 1890.
- In 1986, an area 650 sq. km was declared as Wildlife Sanctuary but later in 1995 only 340 sq. km was finally declared as Wildlife sanctuary.
- In 1997, it was declared as Dibru-Saikhowa Biosphere Reserve.
- Declared National park on 9th March, 1999.
- Largest Salix swamp forest in North-Eastern India.
- The only forest reserve of the world where Wild Horses are found.
- Wildlife: Various species of monkey, land and aquatic bird and snake, deer, wild pig, tiger etc.
- Rivers: Brahmaputra, Lohit, Dibru
- Nearest Airport: Dibrugarh (Mohanbari)
- Nearest Highway: NH 37(old numbering)/NH 27(new numbering)

NAMERI NATIONAL PARK



- ❖ Location: Sonitpur
- ❖ Area: 200 sq. km
- ❖ Name changed from Nameri FR to Nduwar FR in 1978
- ❖ Set up as sanctuary in 1985
- ❖ Officially established as a National Park in 1998
- ❖ Came under Project Tiger in 2001
- ❖ Shares northern boundary with Pakke/Pakhui WS (Arunachal)

JIA BHARALI, FLOWING DOWN THROUGH NAMERI NATIONAL PARK PROVIDES WIDE VISTAS FOR ADVENTURE WATER SPORTS LIKE RAFTING AND ANGLING

Wildlife:

Deo Hanh, black bear, deers, butterflies, fish, elephant etc.

Rivers: Jia Bharali, Bor Dikorai

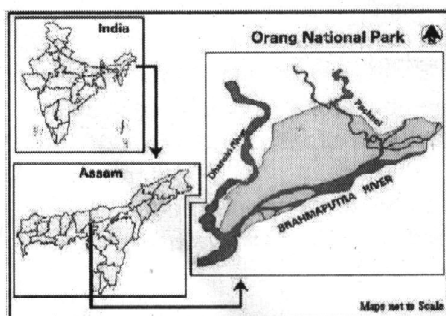
Nearest Airport: Tezpur Airport (Salonibari)



Nameri National Park

- Location: Sonitpur
- Area: 200sq. Km (Statistical Handbook Assam 2021)
- Shares northern boundary with the Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Declared Reserve forest in 1978.
- Name changed from Nameri forest reserve to Nduwar Forest reserve in 1978.
- Set up as Sanctuary in 1985.
- Officially established as a National Park in 1998.
- Came under Project Tiger in 2001.
- Rivers: Jia Bharali, Bor Dikorai
- Nearest Airport: Tezpur Airport (Salonibari)
- Nearest highway: NH 15

ORANG NATIONAL PARK



- ❖ Location: Sonitpur and Darrang District
- ❖ Area: 78.81 sq. km
- ❖ Established as a sanctuary in 1985
- ❖ Recognized as National Park on 13th April, 1999.

Wildlife:

Great Indian one-horned rhinoceros, elephant, leopard, sambar, barking deer, tiger and varieties of water birds, green pigeon, florican, teal, gees, etc.

Bordering rivers: Dhansiri, Pachnoi, Brahmaputra

Nearest Airport: Tezpur Airport (Salonibari)

Nearest National Highway: NH 52

Orang National Park

- Location: Sonitpur and Darrang
- Area 78.81 sq. km (Statistical Handbook Assam 2021)
- In 1919, declared as Orang Game Reserve
- Established as a sanctuary in 1985 and renamed as Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary
- There was a massive agitation over its name and so it was renamed as Orang National Park on 13th April, 1999
- Smallest national park of Assam
- of water birds, green pigeon, floricon, teal, gees, etc.
- Wildlife Great Indian one-horned rhinoceros, elephant, leopard, sambar, barking deer, tiger and varieties
- Rivers: Dhansin, Pachnoi, Brahmaputra
- Nearest Airport. Tezpur Airport (Salonibari)
- Nearest National Highway: NH 52(old numbering)/ NH 15(new numbering)

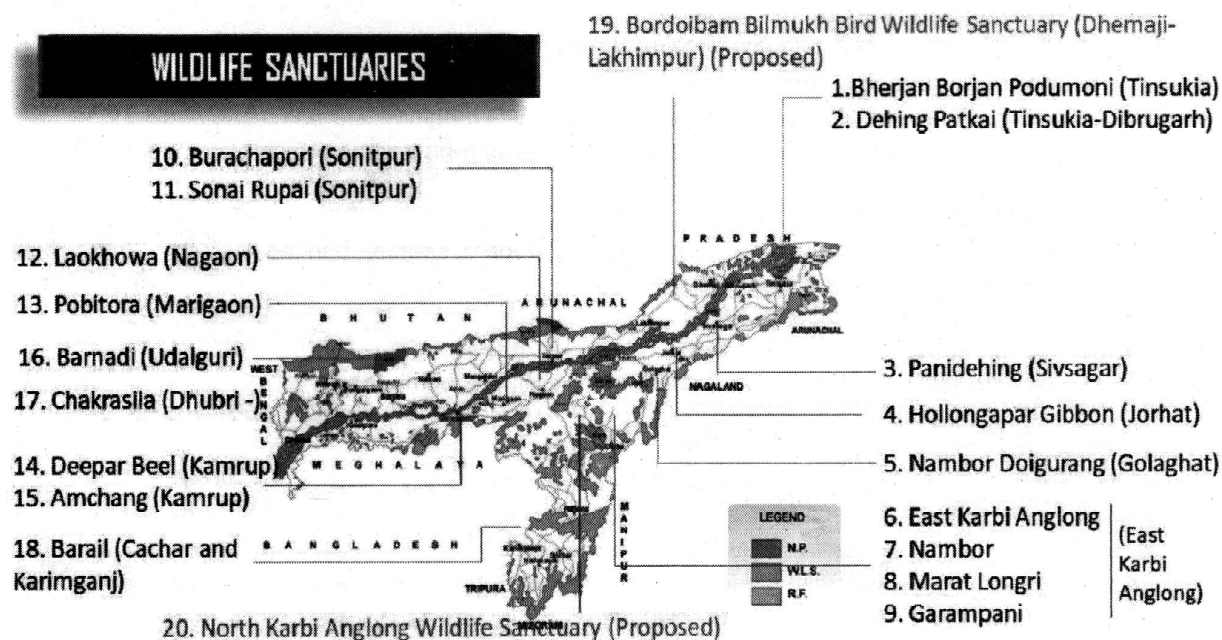
Raimona National Park

- Location: Kokrajhar district (Kokrajhar and Gossaigaon subdivision)
- Area: 422 sq. km (Statistical Handbook Assam 2021)
- named after the historical Capital of Bijni estate, Raimona
- Part of contiguous forest patch covering the northern part of the notified Ripu Reserve Forest(forms the westernmost reserve to Manas Tiger Reserve).
- Part of Chirang-Ripu Elephant Reserve.
- Famous for Golden langur which is endemic to this region.
- Wildlife Primates, slow lons, Assamese macaque, Rhesus monkey and capped langur, Chinese pangolin, dhole or Asian wild dog. Himalayan black bear, crab-eating mongoose, jungle cat, leopard cat. Asian golden cat. Bengal tiger, leopard, clouded leopard, Asian elephant, guar, Himalayan serow. sambar, chital, hog deer, barking deer, crestless Himalayan porcupine and hispid hare.
- Rivers: Sonkosh and Manas
- Nearest Airport Rupsi Airport
- Nearest National Highway: NH 27(new numbering)

Dehing Patkal National Park

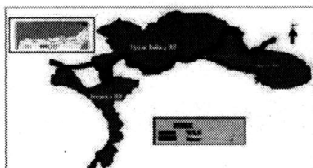
- Location: Dibrugarh and Tinsukia
- Area 234.26 sq. km (Statistical Handbook Assam 2021)
- Declared Wildlife Sanctuary on 13th June, 2004.
- Declared as Dehing - Patkai Elephant Reserve under “Project Elephant”.
- On 8 June 2021, it was declared as a National Park. After declaration of this park as the 7th National park, now Assam becomes the second state having highest National Park) in the country followed by 12 in Madhya Pradesh.
- The forests of Dehing Patkai are wet tropical evergreen, in fact, it is believed to be the last remaining contiguous patch of lowland rainforest in Assam.
- Wildlife: Slow loris, Assamese macaque, stump-tailed macaque, pig-tailed macaque, Rhesus monkey, capped langur, hoolock gibbon, whitw-winged wood duck, slender-billed vulture, greater adjutant stork. lesser adjutant stork, yellow- vented warbler, great hornbill, broad-billed warbler etc.
- Rivers: Dehing river
- Nearest Airport: Dibrugarh Airport (Mohanbari)
- Nearest Highway: NH 315 and NH 215(new numbering)

WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES



WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES

Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary



- Area of 111.19 Sq. Kms.
- It will be upgraded to National Park.
- Area of ER 937 Sq. Kms.

- 1996 - demand was raised for WLS status to a 500 sq. km area of the rainforest, then divided into 3 parts - Jeypore, Upper Dehing and Dirak.
- 2001 - Nature's Beckon, organized for the first time a rainforest festival in Jeypore, Assam.
- 2004 - the Nature's Beckon-led movement succeeded in compelling the Government to concede to the demand for the Dehing Patkai WLS.
- But, its area was confined to a mere 111.19 sq km. It included only a 24 sq km area Jeypore RF out of 110 sq. km. and also excluded vast area of Upper Dehing and Dirak.

Source: The Assam Tribune

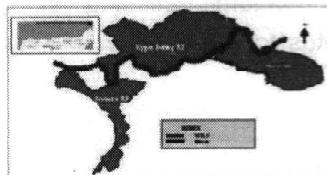


NATURE'S BECKON IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST GROUP FROM NORTHEAST INDIA. IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1982 (REGISTERED IN 1991) BY SOUMYADEEP DATTA.



WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES

Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary



- Area of 111.19 Sq. Kms.
- It will be upgraded to National Park.
- Area of ER 937 Sq. Kms.

- National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) had on April 7, 2020 discussed a proposal for transferring 98.59 hectares of land from the Saleki Proposed Reserve Forest (PRF) for Tikok open-cast coal mining project by North-Eastern Coal Field (NECF), a unit of Coal India Limited.
- Saleki is a part of the Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve (adjoining Arunachal Pradesh's Deomali Elephant Reserve with) that includes the 111.19 sq. km. Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary and several reserve forests in eastern Assam's Sivasagar, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts.
- NEC had suspended the Tikok project in October 2019 but was producing coal in its Tirap open-cast project nearby.



Additional information

- ❖ Top 3 wildlife sanctuaries sizewise
 1. Marat Longri WLS(451 sq km)
 2. Barail WLS (326.25 sq km)
 3. East Karbi Anglong-WLS(221.8 sq. km)
- ❖ Bottom 3 wildlife sanctuaries sizewise
 1. Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary (4.14 sq. km)
 2. Garampani WLS (6.05 sq. km)
 3. Bhejan-Borajan-Padumoni WLS (722 sq. km)
- ❖ In the Assam Budget 2021-22 it was announced that a new wildlife Sanctuary-Azgarh wildlife Sanctuary would be set up in Goalpara.
- ❖ Nambor-Doigrung Wildlife Sanctuary (Golaghat) and Garampani Wildlife Sanctuary (Karbi Anglong) -**Famous for Hot water springs**
- ❖ Garampani Wildlife Sanctuary has 51 rare species of Orchid
- ❖ Nambor Wildlife Sanctuary, spreading 37 sq. kms. contiguous to Garampani WLS is located in KarbiAnglong Autonomous District Council. It harbours 51 rare species of Orchid.
- ❖ Chakrasila Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the Kokrajhar and Dhubri districts and is the second home of Golden Langur off the foothills of Himalaya.
- ❖ Marat Longri Wildlife Sanctuary is an important component of Dhansiri-Lungding Elephant Reserve
- ❖ Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary is a part of Laokhowa -Burachapori eco-system.
- ❖ Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary with an area of 111.19 Sq. Kms. is located in Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts and is famous for Assam Valley Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests bordering Arunachal Pradesh. The Sanctuary is a part of the Dehing-Patkai Elephant Reserve having the World War II cemeteries nearby, along with the Stillwell Road and the oldest refinery of Asia in Digboi and 'open cast' coal mining at Ledo
- ❖ Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary (Marigaon) - **World's highest density of One horned Rhino**
- ❖ Bornadi Wildlife Sanctuary (Udalguri) - **Constituted especially for the protection and conservation of Hispid Hare and Pigmy Hog.**
- ❖ Deepar Beel Wildlife Sanctuary (Kamrup) - The only Ramsar Site in the State The proposed Bordolbam Bilmukh Bird Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Dhemaji and Lakhimpur districts, the Bird Sanctuary covers an area of 11 25 sq. kms and is a breeding ground of large Whistling Teal

- ❖ In May 2022, the Assam government has granted wildlife sanctuary status to Behali reserve forest through a preliminary notification,

Social Forestry

- The social forestry programme was launched in Assam in 1980-81.
- Objectives.
 1. To meet the requirement of leaf-fodders, fuel wood and other forest products including small timber of the local people
 2. To help the effort of individuals producing fuel wood, fodder and other forest products
 3. To extend forest to all categories of land without affecting the ownership and also to bring a sense of responsibility for protection maintenance and care of forest.
 4. To provide employment and economic upliftment of the present and future generations particularly in the rural sector, and
 5. To ensure maintenance of ecological balance.

Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs)

| IBAs | Districts |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 .Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary and adjoining areas | Kamrup |
| 2.Barail Range | Cachar/North Cachar Hills |
| 3. Barnadi Wildlife Sanctuary | Darrang |
| 4.Bauwaa Beel | Hailakandi |
| 5.Behali Reserve Forest | Sonitpur |
| 6.Bherjan - Borajan Padumoni Wildlife Sanctuary | Tinsukia |
| 7. Bordoibum - Beelmukh Bird Sanctuary | Dhemaji-Lakhimpur |
| 8.Bordoloni - Sampora | Lakhimpur and Dhemaji |
| 9. Chakrasila Complex | Dhubri / Kokrajhar |
| 10. Chand Dubi Beel and Adjacent Area | Kamrup |
| 11 .Deobali Jaloh | Nagaon |
| 12.Dhansiri Reserve Forest | Karbi Anglong |
| 13.Dibru - Saikhowa | Tinsukia, Dibrugarh and Dhemaji |

| | |
|--|---|
| 14. Dipor Beel | Kamrup |
| 15. East and North Karbi Anglong | Karbi Anglong |
| 16. Garam Pani | Karbi Anglong |
| 17. Gibbon (Hollongapar) | Jorhat |
| 18. Habang & Umru | Karbi Anglong |
| 19. Innerline(East) and Barak Reserve forest | Cachar and Hailkandi |
| 20. Jamjing - Senghjang | Dhemaji |
| 21. Jatinga | North Cachar |
| 22. Jengdia Beel and Satgaon | Kamrup |
| 23. Jhanjimukh - Kokilamukh | Jorhat |
| 24. Kaziranga National Park | Golaghat/Nagaon/Sonitpur |
| 25. Kuarbari Dalani | Lakhimpur |
| 26. Langting •- Mupa | North Cachar Hills |
| 27. Laokhowa and Burhachapori | Sonitpur and Nagaon |
| 28. Lumding - Marat Longri | Nagon, Karbi Anglong |
| 29. Majuli Island | Majuli |
| 30. Manas | Barpeta and Bongiagaon |
| 31. Nameri | Sonitpur |
| 32. Orang | Darrang And Sonitpur |
| 33. Pabho Reserve | Lakhimpur |
| 34. Pabitora | Morigaon |
| 35. Panidihing, Phokolai Beel | Sibsagar |
| 36. Ripu Chirang | Kokrajhar |
| 37. Sibsaagar Tanks | Sibsagar |
| 38. Son Beel | Karimganj |
| 39. Sonai - Rupai | Sonitpur |
| 40. Subansiri | Dhemaji (Subansiri Reserve Forest), Lakhimpur |

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| 41. Tamranga - Daiani - Bhairav Complex | Bongaigaon |
| 42. Tirap - Patkai (Saliki - Adjacent) | Tinsukia |
| 43. Upper Dihing (East Complex) | Tinsukia |
| 44. Upper Dihing (West Complex) | Dibrugarh / Tinsukia |
| 45. Urapad Beel | Goalpara |
| 46. Barail Wildlife Sanctuary | Cachar |
| 47. Dum Duma, Dangori and Kumsong Reserve Forest | Tinsukia |
| 48. Chirang Reserve Forest | Chirang |
| 49. Dadara-Pasariya-Singimari | Kamrup |
| 50. Innerline(West) and Katakhal Reserve forest | Cachar |
| 51. Krungming Forest Reserve | Dima Hasao |
| 52. Maguri and Motapung Beels | Tinsukia |
| 53. Manas Reserve Forest | Baksa |
| 54. Marat Longri Wildlife Sanctuary | Karbi Anglong |
| 55. Sareswar Beel | Dhubri |

The people & the population

- The first race to settle in Assam was Austrics (entered through the sea routes), then followed the Mongolians (entered through the Patkal hill range via Tibet, Nepal and Bhutan) and finally came the Aryans (entered via north-west route)
- According to Final Population totals of 2011 census, the population of Assam stands at 31205576.
- Nagaon is the largest district, population wise (9.07%), followed by Dhubri (6.25%), Sonitpur 6.18%) and Cachar (5.57%)
- Kamrup (Metro) has the highest population density (13313) followed by Dhubri (896) and Barpeta (742). Dima Hasao is the most sparsely populated area (44).
- Baksa has the highest sex-ratio (974) followed by Udalguri (973), Chirang (969), Lakhimpur (968) and Marigaon (967). Dima Hasao has the lowest sex-ratio (932).
- Literacy rate is highest in Kamrup (Metro) (88.71%) and lowest in Dhubri (58.30%)
- Religion -
 - According to the 2011 census, 61.47% of the people of Assam are Hindus, 34.22% are muslims and 3.7% are Christians
 - Others Jainism (0.1%), Buddhism (0.2%), Sikhism (0.1%)
- Language -
 - Assamese (48.8%), Bengali (20.05%), hindi (5.8%), Bodo (2.8%), Nepali (2.1%)

Natural Resources

Mineral Resources

Crude oil

- The commercial discovery of oil was made in 1889 at Digboi.
- Digboi refinery commissioned on 11th December, 1901
- Earlier it was owned and operated by Assam Oil Company Limited
- The management of the Digbol Oil field was taken by Oil India Limited in 1981 Digboi refinery has been termed as the “Gangotri of Indian Hydrocarbon Sector”
- Other oilfields-
 - Naharkatiya Oilfield-discovered in 1953
 - Moran Oilfield-discovered in 1956
 - Lakowa Oilfield Discovered in 1965
 - Rudrasagar Oilfield-Oil was struck at Rudratsagar field by ONGC in 1960
- Refineries-
 1. Digboi refinery-1901 (capacity 3 lakh tonnes)
 2. Noonmati refinery (Guwahati refinery) 1962 (capacity 1 million tonnes)
 3. Bongaigaon refinery-1979 (capacity-1.35 million tonnes)
 4. Numaligarh refinery (Assam refinery)-1999 (capacity-31 lakh tonnes)

Natural Gas

- In Assam almost all the petroleum producing areas of the Upper Brahmaputra valley, especially Naharkatia, Moran, Lakwa and Rudrasagar, contain ‘associated natural gas’.
- The important industries so far built up on the basis of the natural gas of Assam are - Namrup Fertilizer Factory, Namrup Thermal Power Project, Assam Gas Company. Bongaigaon Refinery also uses natural gas as raw material to produce various chemicals

Coal

- The first coal mining in the region was started in 1865 at the Makum coal fields under the initiative of H B Medlicott
- Coal fields of Assam -
 - Tinsukia district-Makum Coal field, Saraipong Tarajan Coal Deposits.
 - Dibrugarh/Sivsagar
 - Karbi Anglong - Sheelveta, Koilajan
 - N. C. Hills-Garampani, Khola Arda Coal Deposit. Dithor Goal Deposit,
- Since, the coal mines (Nationalisation) Act of 1973, the North Eastern Coal Field Limited (NECFL) of Coal India Limited has been operating in the Makum and Dilli-Jeypore Coalfield area with nine mining leases spread over an area of 62 sq. km. The mining lease areas are -
 - i. Baragolal
 - ii. Lekhapani
 - iii. Tirap Coal grant
 - iv. Namdang Coal grant
 - v. Dilli
 - vi. Jeypore
 - vii. Bimalapore
 - viii. Kollajan Mining lease and
 - ix. Sheelveta.

Limestone

- Limestone deposits in Assam
 - Karbi Anglong-Dillai parbat, Sheelveta, Koilajan
 - NC Hills Now Umrangsho, Julpahar, Umrangsho
 - Bokajan cement factory is based on the lime stone reserve of Kollajan
 - Assam has only one large Cement factory in Bokajan (Karbi-anglong)

- The factory started production in 1977.

Clay

- Pottery clay (Kumaramat- occurs throughout Assam
- Fire clay-in Ledo and Namdang area, the fire clay occurs with the coal seams The fire clay deposits of Sheerveta and Kollajan were also investigated by DGM (Directorate of Geology and Mining)
- China clay or Kaolin - Bering relatively pure clay, it is used in ceramic industry. Decpiani Sheelveta and Stanijan (all in Karbi Anglong district) have good Kaolin deposit
- Lithamerge (whito clay) Silanijan in Karbi Anglong
- Fuller's earth-used by the washer man to clean clothes Occurs at Subankhata (Kamrup). It can bleach vegetable oil but is not suitable for petroleum refining.
- Driting clay it is of so fine consistency that when mised with water, it forms a kind of emulsion and remains in suspension for a long time with very little treatment. It is found at Mathurapur of Sivsagar district

Sillimanite deposit

- The wonder rock that can be used without processing.
- Recent discovery in Karbi Anglong.

Feldspar

- Chiefly used in manufacture of glass, pottery, ceramic glaze, enamels, vitreous enamels etc.
- Occurs at Hahim (Kamrup) and Rangchall (Karbi Anglong)
- There is a promising occurrence of feidspar near Pancharatna of Goalpara district.

Gold

- Alluvial gold occurs in many rivers of Assam such as Subansiri, Dikrang. Sissi, Dihing, Dibong and Noa-Dihing
- Besides these rivers, placer gold is also represented from all the other tributaries of the Brahmaputra River in Upper Assam

Iron ore

- Occurs at - Chandandinga (Dhubri), Len Gupara (Goalpara), Kumi (Goalpars)

Quartz

- Hahem (Kamrun), Sheelveta and Rangchali (Karbi Anglong)

Mica

- Mainly two types of mica occur in Assam-
 - Muscovite-Borduar Reserve Forest of Kamrup and Dholamura Hills of Goalpara district
 - Lithium (lepidolite) - Chakrashila Hills

Agriculture and Allied sector

Agriculture and Allied Sector comprises of.

- Crop sector
- Livestock sector
- Forestry & Logging sector
- Fishing and Aquaculture sector

Crop Sector

- About 63% of the State's working force or 70% of the rural population are engaged in agriculture and allied activities
- The State has a gross cropped area of about 39.75 lakh hectares (2019-20)(Assam Economic Survey 21-22), more than 79% accounting for foodgrain crops.
- Net cropped area is about 26.99 lakh hectares(2019-20)(Assam Economic Survey 21-22) More than 85 percent farmers are either small or marginal with average land holding of just about 0.36 hectares
- Cropping intensity is about 147%(2019-20)(Assam Economic Survey Fallow land is about 2.16 lakh Hectares (2019-20) (Assam Economic Survey 21-22).
- Data from Agricultural census 2015-16

1. Average size of operational landholding (ha)- 1.09

2. Number of operational land holding-27 lakh

- Principal food crop of Assam is rice occupying the highest area
- Cash crops-jute, tea, cotton, sugarcane etc.
- Agricultural inputs

1. Fertilizers. The consumption of fertilizer in the state is around 67 kg/Hectare (2020-21)(Assam Economic Survey 21-22). There is a large fertiliser plant in Assam owned by Fertilizer Corporation of India in Namrup. It started production in the late 1960's by using the natural gas. The plant was expanded in 1987. There is a small fertiliser plant Chandrapur Guwahati. It was started in 1962 by Assam State Fertilisers and Chemicals Limited, Overall production of fertilisers is very much limited in Assam.

2. Pesticides: Chemical Pesticides is used more than Bio-Pesticides.

3. Seeds: Assam State Seed Certification Agency (ASSCA) is the Nodal Agency, which has been entrusted with the responsibility of seed certification namely paddy, mustard and seeds of pulses as per feasibility. Under ASSCA there are three notified Seed Testing Laboratories located at Guwahati, Jorhat and Silchar.

4. Farm Mechanization: The factors like fragmented and small land holdings, farmers poor economic conditions and nonavailability of situation specific prototypes of farm implements stand as serious hindrance to mechanization of agriculture of the state

5. Irrigation The gross irrigated area is 2.9 lakh Hectare and net irrigated area 2.5 lakh hectare (2020-21)(Assam Economic Survey 21-22) Karbi Anglong has the highest gross irrigated area while Udalguri has the highest net irrigated area. The main crops

Rice

- Rice is cultivated in the state in three seasons-Boro rice during summer, Ahu during autumn and Sali during winters.
- The total area under paddy cultivation during the year 2020-21 was 23.60 lakhs hectares(highest amongst all the crops) (Assam Economic Survey 21-22).
- Around 19% area is the area under HYV variety of rice and around 12% under hybrid rice variety(Assam Economic Survey 21-22)
- About different types of rice

1. Ahu or Autumn rice (March/April-June/July)

- These are early maturing varieties (80-130 days)
- These can be seeded or transplanted
- Ahu rice can be further classified as Dumal, Murali and Chengri mainly depending on duration

2. Boro or summer rice (Nov/Dec-May/June)

- Transplanted traditionally in the beel and marshy land situations with minimum or no tillage
- It has the highest yield

3. Other famous varieties of Rice-

- Boka Saul (mud rice)-GI tagged. Used during festival 500
- Hill rice-traditionally grown in Jhuming areas
- Bao-Dhan-Iron rich 'red rice' is grown in Brahmaputra valley of Assam, without the use of any chemical fertilizer. Export of 'Bao-dhaan or Red rice from Assam started in March 2021 in a major boost to India's rice exports potential, the first consignment of 'red rice' was flagged off to the USA by Agriculture Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA) Mala, IR-36, Lachit, Masuri, Joya, Ranjit, Ralna, China, Biplob. varieties of HYV seeds for rice Krishna are different

Wheat

- It is grown as a Rabi crop (November-March). Leading districts are Kamrup, Nalbari, Barpeta, Dhubri

but are not relegated to these districts

Maize

- Maize is cultivated in the state by the farmers for their own consumption and not commercially. Leading
- districts are Karbi Anglong and Dima-Hasao It has the highest productivity index of around 500%

Pulses:

- Pulses are the second most staple food in Assam after rice. These are Rabi crops (grown during winter season). However, some of the pulses can also be grown during the Kharif season

| Kharif Pulses | Rabi Pulses |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arhar (Tur) - Urd (Blackgram) - Moong (Greengram) - Lobia (Cowpea) - Kulthi (Horsegram) - Moth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gram - Lentil - Pea - Lathyrus - Rajmah |

Oilseeds

- A variety of oilseeds is produced in the state like mustard, sesamum, castor, groundnut soybean, etc. Leading districts - Karbi Anglong, Marigaon, Barpeta

Cash crops

Jute

- The required condition for jute cultivation (high rainfall and high temperature) are filled by Bratimaputra and Barak valley.
- The state produces about the highest ie 81% of total jute cultivation in NE India and second in rank among the states of India after WB

Cotton

- Second most important producer of cotton in North East. Mainly two hill districts of Karbi-Anglong and North Cachar Hills have favourable climate and physiography for cotton cultivation

Sugarcane

- It is widely produced in the districts of Golaghat, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Nagaon, Kamrup, Nalbari and Barpeta.
- Based on raw materials, a sugar mill in Baruabamun gaon in Golaghat district and another near Kampur in Nagaon district were established

Rubber

- Rubber plantation started in Assam for the first time in 1960s/1970s.
- The area under rubber cultivation has grown from 16 thousand hectares in 2006-07 to 59 thousand hectares in 2020-21(Assam Economic Survey 21-22) Assam is the second largest rubber grower after Tripura in the region.
- Karimganj district has emerged as one of the largest rubber growing district in Assam.

Coffee

- Coffee cultivation in NE Region started at Cachar District of Assam in 1853. Commercial cultivation started 1970s at on started 1970s at Garo Hills (Meghalaya) to wean away local community from Jhum cultivation practices. in NE Region
- Assam is the second important state in NE India for coffee production after Nagaland. Most of the coffee gardens in Assam are located in Karbi-Anglong and Dima Hasao districts

- Gunjang is the largest coffee garden in Assam
- Regional Coffee Research Station (RCRS), Diphu in Karbi Anglong district of Assam was established to support coffee plantations in 1980
- Assam grows arabica coffee and coffee plantation is intercropped with Pineapple, Pepper, Jackfruit Vegetables

Tea

- Tea is the main cash crop of the state.
- The state produces the largest amount of tea in the country.
- About 17% of the workers of Assam are engaged in tea industry.
- Tea in Assam was discovered by Rober Bruce in 1823.
 - The drink was locally known as Fanap
 - 1834 The then Governor General formed a committee to examine the possibility of commercial cultivation of tea.
 - 1839-A company known as the Assam Company was formed to take over the experimental holdings of the EIC administration over the tea gardens established in Assam till then. Nazira was the HQ of this
 - company until it was shifted to Calcutta in 1965. 1839-A private British Entrepreneur started a tea garden near Chabua (Dibrugarh)
 - 1840-A group of British planters formed Assam Company at Nazira for commercial plantation of tea in
 - a large scale.
 - 1859-Jorhat Tea Company was formed
 - Assam produces the largest quantity of tea among all the Indian states. Assam alone produces more than 50% of India's tea production and about 1/6th of the tea produced in the world.
 - 1911-Toklai tea research centre was started (Jorhat)
 - 1970-Tea Auction centre was established in Guwahati. This is the world's largest CTC tea auction centre and the world's second largest in terms of total tea
 - The government has secured a Geographical indication for the tea produced in the state. As a result "Assam Tea" is known as "Assam Orthodox Tea".
 - As per Tea Board of India 2021, in there are 121675 nos registered Small Tea Growers and number of big grower tea estates (e. with holding above 10 12 hectares) in the state is 765.
 - Area under tea cultivation is 3.47 lakh hectare and 1781kg/hectare is the average yield for the year 2020 according to the Tea Board of India.

Soybean and Sunflower

- Both are source of oil. They were not grown traditionally in Assam.
- They have been introduced recently in Assam on experimental basis in Karbi Anglong, Barpeta, Morigaon districts.

Tobacco

- It is done in very small quantities by the farmers for domestic use only. Phutaguri area of south Nagaon is popular for its flavour of tobacco

Horticultural Crops

- Horticulture crops occupy about 15% (about 8 lakh hectares) of gross cultivated area of the State with an annual production of more than 67 lakh metric tonnes. (Assam Economic Survey 2021-22)
- Different types of horticultural crops cultivated in Assam are:

1. Fruit Crops Banana, Pineapple, Orange, Papaya, Assam Lemon, Gauva, Litchi Jackfruit. Mango
 2. Tuber Crops-Potato, Sweet Potato, Tapeoca
 3. Spices Crops-Chillies, Turmeric, Onion, Ginger, Garlic, Coriander, Black Pepper
 4. Vegetable Crops - Kharif Vegetables, Rabi Vegetables
 5. Plantations Coconut Cashew nut
- About some important horticultural crops:
1. Banana: Assam's banana varieties are partially domesticated or still in their wild form. Goatpara and Kamrup are the leading producer districts. The area of Chhayagaon in south bank of Kamrup district upto Area of Goalpara is popular for a variety of Banana called Malbhog Important varieties are - Jahaji, Bar Jahaji, Malbhog, Chenichampa, Kani Bansi, Sapkal, etc. Darrangiri is Asia's largest Banana market
 2. Potato: The state of Assam has the maximum area and production under potato crop within the North East. Majorly grown at Barpeta, Darrang, Kamrup, Sonitpur, Nagaon. Dhubri, Nalbari
 3. Sweet Potato: Grown majorly at Dhubri and Kamrup.
 4. Orange: Tinsukia is the largest producer in the state
 5. Assam Lemon: It's unique for the high percentage of Vitamin C besides Vitamin B and Niacin and high peel oil that can be used in cosmetics industry.

GI. Tags from Assam under the category of Agriculture

- Assam (Orthodox) Logo
- Karbi Anglong ginger
- Tezpur Lilchi
- Joha Rice
- Boka Chaul
- Kaji Nemu
- Chokuwa Rice

Livestock sector

- 20th Livestock census, 2019 related important facts
 1. Total livestock is about 1.8 crore
 2. Assam has the 8th highest population of cattle in India.
 3. Assam has the 7th highest poultry population.
 4. Assam, with 2.1 million pig population, has the largest pig population in India.
- According to the Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Assam, around 1000 million litres of milk was produced in 2020-21.

Forestry & logging sector

- Major forest products from Assam: Timber, Agar chips, Agar Oil, Agar dust, broom grass, firewood, sand, silt, clay.
- Bamboo industry:
 1. Assam is the largest bamboo producing states in India
 2. The main bamboo growing areas of Assam are the districts of Cachar, Karbi Anglong, North Cachar Hills, Nagaon and Lakhimpur.
 3. As many as 51 species of bamboo grow in Assam

Fishery sector

- Fishery sector has been identified as one of the Ratnas among the selected Navaratnas under the Chief Minister's Samagra Gramya Unnayan Yojana (CMSGUY) Fish Production in the state

has reached a level of 3.93 Lakh MT during 2020-21 against the corresponding nutritional requirement of around 4.00 Lakh MT. (Assam Economic Survey 2021-22)

- The per capita consumption has been enhanced to 12 kg for the year 2020-21 from 11 kg in 2019. 20. (Assam Economic Survey 2021-22)
- Total number of registered beels for fishery: 1904
- **Jagiroad is world's largest dry fish market.**

Industries

- The industry sector comprises of:
 - Mining & Quarrying
 - Manufacturing
 - Electricity, Gas, Water Supply & Other Utility Services
 - Construction
- In terms of Net Value Added with a share of 1.12 percent at All-India level the State is in the 19th position out of 34 states & union territories whereon ASI was conducted and rep and reported in the ASI 2018-19. However, it is at the 16th position in respect of number of workers engaged in the sector.

Mining and Quarrying

- Major details on this provided in “Natural Resources” section

Manufacturing

- Clothing and Textiles
 1. Silk (Sericulture): Assam produces all the four varieties of silk-Golden Muga Silk, Eri Silk, Mulberry(Pat) Silk, Onk tassar Silk. However, the state accounts for highest production of non-mulberry silk like muga and eri More than 97% of Golden Muga Silk and about 65% of Eri silk is produced in Assam The largest seed producing centre is at Goreshwar in Kamrup district Second one is at Jamugurihat in Sonitpur district.

| Silk variety | Silkworm feed on |
|--------------|----------------------|
| Muga silk | Som and Sualu leaves |
| Pat silk | Mulberry leaves |
| Eri silk | Endi or Errandi silk |

2. Handloom Assam is having the highest number of looms in the country as indicated by the Handloom Census Report. Women are involved in significant number, primarily with subsidiary capacity. The state had an estimated number of 1.7 lakh full time weavers and 10.7 lakh nos of part time weavers during 2020-21. There are 33 Yam Banks in the state.

- Petroleum and Natural Gas: Refer to the Natural Resources” section.
- Brass and bell metal products(under Metals sector):
- Existence since the Mauryan period (321-185 BC) and also trace its existence to 7th century AD when Kumar Bhaskar Barman, king of Kamrupa, presented a Kangsha patra (a bell metal item) to king Harshavardhana of north India
- Mostly the bell metal industries are located in Sarthebari town of Barpeta district and Hajo region

of Kamrup(Rural) district of Assam.

- The people in the town are experts and make high quality utensils and other items, such as sarais, ban batis, glasses, plates etc. this is part of the cultural tradition of Assam, which has passed from one generation to the other
- Paper Industry :
- The first paper mill of the state was set up at Jogighopa in 1971 by the Ashok Paper Mills limited
- Most successful paper mill in Assam was set up by Hindustan Paper Corporation at Jagiroad in Marigaon district in 1985.
- Hindustan Paper corporation set up another plant at Badarpur in Karimganj district.

Handicrafts

Bamboo and cane craft

Introduction

- North eastern regions host around 90 species of bamboo
- There are at least 1500 recorded uses of Bamboo.
- Bamboo groves are found mostly along the edge of Reserve forest. Pure Bamboo forest occur in Dima
- Hasao and Karbi-Anglong districts.

Products

- There are at least 1500 recorded uses of Bamboo.
- Utility products Japi, mats, baskets, fishing contraptions, murha, table, chairs, etc.
- Industry: Paper mills
- Decoration Japi, wall hangings, flower vase, etc.
- Social functions: Japi is used for felicitation.
- Construction: Building materials, scaffolding

Employment

- Bamboo base craft is now mainly a household industry
- All the members of the family, both male and female, take part in it.
- A subsidiary occupation to the cultivators
- Full-time occupation to the highly skilled artisans

Challenges

- Lack of skilled employees
- Distribution and operation: it is technically and economically difficult to set up new branches and offices
- across the state since the product is yet to catch up with the market.
- Competition posed by timber wood products
- Lack of promotion
- Severe drop in demands
- Inadequate infrastructure
- Rural notion; lack of modernisation

Way forward

- Government as well as private initiative for promotion.
- Awareness for environment friendliness.
- More bamboo wood manufacturing units

- Government should take initiative to promote private investment
- Policy to encourage export

Measures taken by the government

- Foot overbridge at Khanapara made of bamboo
- Bamboo technology park at Chaygaon
- set up at the initiative of industries & Commerce department of Government of Assam with the help from Department of Industrial Policy & promotion, Government of India through a Special Purpose Vehicle of Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC) and private entrepreneurs.
- It has a modern Common Facility Centre for producing many innovative bamboo products

Bamboo industrial Park

- Assam CM laid the foundation stone of the park at Manderdisa in Dima Hasao district.
- The project will be implemented with Rs 50 crore from the DoNER ministry

Bell Metal Industry of Sarthebari

- It is the second largest handicraft sector in Assam after bamboo craft
- Sarthebari is famous for Bell Metal work
- Reference can be found of Bhaskar Varman gifting Bell metal articles to Harshavardhan.
- Initially the raw materials and other consumables were provided by the “Mahajans of Rajasthan and Bangal Artisans were paid the wages only
- In 1930, a cooperative society “Assam Samabai Kohar Sangha was registered From then on, provided the raw materials and other consumables
- Range of products
 - Utensils-dish, bowls, bowls with stand (ban-bati), water vessels etc.
 - Utility items-bota, xoma, tamulor toma, etc
 - Items for musical and religious purposes cymbals, Idols, etc.
 - Items for decoration-flower vase, lamp stand, clock stand, etc.
- Raw Material
 - Scraps collected from different regions are converted to bell metal in private rolling mills in
 - Guwahati and Sarthebari
 - Other important raw material-charcoal
- Technology
 - The scrap is melted in a crucible called “Muhi”
 - The molten bell metal is poured into the moulds called “Aak”
 - Converted to a thick circular lump called “Guti” or “Pitha”
 - These pithas or “gutis” are taken to re rolling mills to obtain sheets (“fali”) and circles (“chak”) of required thickness.
 - The sheets and circles are then converted to different articles by cold forming process.
 - Tools used Niyan (Anvil). Chatti, Sara (Tong), Kun (Hand operated lathe). Khonta (File). Hammer etc
- Employment
 - Approximately 1057 people engaged in Sarthebari
 - Craftsman is called ‘Kohar’ or ‘Oja’
 - Work place is called ‘Sal’
 - in one ‘sal, one “Oja” is assistants are called bhagias

- Challenges
 - Lack of promotion
 - Lack of market strategy.
 - Insufficient supply of raw materials
 - Dependence of middlemen for raw materials, working capital and sale of finished products.
 - Migration to urban areas for job
 - Machine made products.
- Measures taken by the Government
 - Government waived 5 Cr. loan borrowed by the bell metal entrepreneurs of Sarthebari
- Way forward
 - Social security should be ensured through policy making
 - Institutional support should be given for capital and training
 - Bridging of market gaps can bring positive changes

Sital Pati (Coolmat)

- The most notable and popular product among the handicrafts of Assam
- The makers are usually Kayasthas in caste, not a traditional craftspeople caste
- The raw material is the Murta cane
- The production of sital pati is purely a household industry, Generally, men prepare the cane slips, while women do the weaving work.
- The highest concentration of artisans pursuing this craft is noticed in the district of Cahar, Karimganj and Goalpara
- Process
 - Canes are washed with water mixed with some amount of soda
 - Then the canes were sun dried.
 - Then the boka (soft inside portion) from these is chopped out with the help of a chip' (chopping tool)
 - Weaving of 'pati' is generally done in twill or check pattern.
 - Colouring of the splits is done by indigenous methods.
 - White (ivory)-by boiling the splits in water with 'bhatar phen' (boiled rice juice), amrapata (hibiscus safdariffa) and tamarind leaves etc
 - Black-packing into bundles and wrapped up with mango barks and kept under the mud for about 7 days
 - Red by boiling in water mixed with 'mezenta

Fireworks Craft in Barpeta

- The industry is around 140 years old.
- Late Lakshiram Pathak of Majorhati, was the founder of the fireworks industry in Barpeta.
- The industry was also patronised by Queen Victoria who awarded the industry with a Gold medal along with two bighas of land at Bilortari Hati, Barpeta.
- At present there are only 5 (five) units engaged in manufacturing various products of firecrackers
- This is a household product and located nearby residences
- Around 1000 employees are directly involved in the manufacturing of fireworks activities. Engagement of persons normally high during the pre-festival seasons.

Challenges

- Covid-19 pandemic
- Blanket ban of firecrackers during Diwali
- Confusion with the concept of Green crackers
- Supply of raw materials
- Financial constraints
- Poor branding

Water Hyacinth (“paani meteka”)

- Water hyacinth is normally available in beels, road side ponds etc
- Rampant growth of this fast-growing weed obstructs the penetration of sunlight. inhibiting planktonic growth and contributing to eutrophication by slowing down water currents and depositing debris at the bottom
- Raw water hyacinth is abundant in Assam and presently used for the following
 - As Organic manure in dry or wet condition. (This compost is important for growing Jute, Potato, etc)
 - As mulching materials by the farmers Very recently, several Tea gardens of Assam have started using water hyacinth as mulching materials
 - As animal feed mostly for Cows & Buffalo in Assam.
 - From July, 2008, (an initiative of NEDFI) water hyacinth is now being used for manufacturing of various Craft items. Furniture, Varieties of baskets etc.
- Merits of using water hyacinth
 - Raw Material is free and abundant.
 - It is eco friendly in nature
 - Its removal helps to conserve water and rejuvenate the environment.
 - It helps to create Sustainable livelihoods & inclusive growth in rural areas.
 - It provides an opportunity to earn as per the skills of the artisans.
 - Women can build the complete value chain of this craft
- Water Hyacinth Craft Products under ASOMI Brand developed by Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission (ASRLM)
 - Initially the project has been started with 600 people in 6 clusters across Assam on a pilot basis.
 - Initially, ASRLM had planned this initiative as a source of an additional income for SHG members and thus will be a part time activity.
 - North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd (NEDFI) has been taken to provide the technical support in the project.
 - Further, ASRLM has established six Common Facility Centres (CFCs) in all the six clusters and equipped those with manpower and resources to make them sustainable in the long run.
 - Production has started from February, 2018 onwards in phased manner and so far the income from this activity reaches an amount of around 64 Lakh till the month of March 2020, with an average income of Rs. 9000/- per member.
 - As per the norms of the government procurement system, ASRLM has already registered 6 products in the Government e-Marketplace (GEM) portal and other items will also soon be available in the same.
 - These products have also made a mark in the, India Garment Fair & India Home Furnishing Fair held at Osaka, Japan in the month of July, 2019.

- The project has executed one of the biggest bulk orders by supplying beautifully crafted bordered “Yoga Mat on the occasion of International Yoga Day on 21st June, 2019, where the SHG weavers had delivered the consignments only in 20 days time.

Mask making

- Majuli in Assam has carved a special place for itself especially for its craft of mask-making
- Masks are used in Bhaonas.
- Mask making was introduced by Sri Sankardeva when he first used it in Chihna Yatra
- These masks are made from indigenous material of the island and not Plaster of Paris, and without the use of synthetic colour.
- Special attention is paid to intricate details and technicality.
- The traditional art of making masks is passed down from father to son or from the guru or teacher at the Satra to the students.
- Among all the satras, Samuguri Satra is the most prominent one for Mask Making
- Three different types of masks are made -
 - The Mukha bhaona covers the face.
 - Lotokol, which is bigger in size, extends to the chest and
 - Cho Mukha is a head and body mask
- The technique
 - Making a three-dimensional bamboo framework onto which clay-dipped pieces of cloth are plastered.
 - After drying it, a mix of clay and cow dung is layered on it.
 - Jute fibres and water hyacinth are used for beard, moustaches and hair
 - Once the mask is complete, a kordhoni (bamboo file) is used to burnish the mask
 - And finally, drama is added to the masks with deft painting.

Areca Nut Leaf (Tamulor Dhakuwa)

- it is a hard material and has good tensile strength and is available in abundance in most parts of Assam
- Assam Arecanut sheaths (Tamulor Dhakuwa) can be utilised for manufacturing disposable plates and bowls
- Dhriti, an NGO, has been working on these products in Assam since the last 3 years
- Presently 39 units have been promoted by Dhriti in Barpeta, Baksa, Bongaigaon, Karbi-Anglong, Jorhat and Golaghat districts of Assam.
- Some of the highlights of these products are as follows
 - Completely Eco-friendly, Biodegradable and Hygienic
 - Sturdy and not easily crushable and at the same time very light in weight
 - Microwave usable
 - Can be easily moulded into different shapes and can hold liquid for 4-6 hours
 - Natural and attractive appearance
- There are more than 70000 hectares of arecanut plantation in Assam. Around 10 sheaths fall from each areca nut plant every year

Others

Pottery

- Centres are found in Sonitpur, Darrang, Nagaon, Tinsukia, Cachar and Kamrup districts
- The state of affairs of the pottery industry in the State is not very encouraging

- Local pottery has mostly been replaced by the superior clay or porcelain goods, metal utensils, plastic
- goods imported into the State from outside.
- The profits of the industry are also small and most of the traditional potters have left the trade and shifted to other lucrative occupations

Wood Carving

- Wood carving is found extensively in Sonitpur district.
- The artisans produce various types of wooden Rhino, Elephants, decorated pieces of wall hanging etc.
- Around 100 artisans now depend on wood carving activities

Jewellery Craft

- Assam has more than 48000 unregistered Jewellery units
- More than 2.5 lakh artisans directly involved in this sector.
- The traditional Assamese Jewellery are found in Barpeta (40 units), Jorhat (40 units) and Ranthali (450 units) in Nagaon district.
- The main problem of this sector is shortage of Raw materials.

Electricity, Gas, Water Supply & Other Utility Services:

- Assam State Electricity Board (ASEB) formed the three utilities on 10 December, 2004 to meet the power requirement of the state.
 1. Assam Electricity Grid Corporation Limited (AEGCL)
 2. Assam Power Generation Corporation Limited (APGCL)
 3. Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL)
- There is a deficit of power. For instance, Energy requirement in Assam was worked out at 11463 Million Units (MU) for 2020-21. However, energy available was 11004 MU There are about 20% of Aggregate Transmission and Commercial Losses(%)
- Population living in households with electricity (%): 92% according to NFHS-5)
- Population living in households with an improved drinking-water source(%): 86% (according to NFHS-5)
- Households using clean fuel for cooking(LPG/Biogas/Electricity): 42% (according to NFHS-5)

Construction:

- A lot of construction is being done in Agriculture sector(like storage units). Manufacturing(like industries godowns), Service sector(like schools, hospitals) etc. Also, Government are also giving major push to the sector through schemes and policies.

Service Sector

- Service sector comprises of
 1. Trade. Repair, Hotel & Restaurants
 2. Transport, Storage, Communication & Services related to Broadcasting
 3. Financial Services
 4. Real Estate, Ownership of Dwelling and Professional services
 5. Public Administration and Other Services

Major service sectors are:

Transportation and Communication

Roads(Statistical Handbook Assam 20210

- The road network-58944 Km
 - National Highway-3882.98 km

- State Highway-2530 km
- Major District Roads - 4379 km
- Urban Roads-1615 km
- Rural Roads-37030
- Roads excluding National Highways-54992 Km
- Road Length per lakh of population (in Km)-163.74 km
- Road length per 100 sq. km. of Geographical Area (in Km)-75.15 Km

Transportation and Communication

Roads

- The road network - 58202 km
 - National Highway-3900 km State Highway-2530 km
 - Major District Roads - 4379 km
 - Urban Roads-1615 km
 - Rural Roads-37030
 - Roads under panchayat and other Non-PWD roads

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 31 | Boxirhat | Jalukbari |
| 2 | 31B | North - Salmara | Jogighopa |
| 3 | 31C | Srirampur | Rakhaldubi |
| 4 | 36 | Nagaon | Lahorijan |
| 5 | 37 | Jogighopa | Saikhowaghat |
| 6 | 37(extn) | Saikhowaghat | Santipur |
| 7 | 37A | Kuwaritol | Mission Charali (Tezpur) |
| 8 | 38 | Makum | Lekhapani |
| 9 | 39 | Numoligarh | Dimapur |
| 10 | 51 | Paikan | Bazengdoba |
| 11 | 52 | Baihata charali | Jonai |
| | | Dirok | Rupai |
| 12 | 52A(extn) | Gohpur | Assam-Arunachal Border |
| 13 | 52B | Barbarua | Kulajan |
| 14 | 52B(extn) | Kanubari in Assam | NH-37 near Bogibeel Bridge approach |
| 15 | 54 | Silchar | Lailapur |
| 16 | 54E | Doboka | |
| 17 | 61 | Assam-Nagaland Border | Jhanji |
| 18 | 62 | Dudhnai | Bhagmara |
| 19 | 152 | Pathsala | Indo- Bhutan Border |
| 20 | 153 | Lekhapani | Jairampur |
| 21 | 154 | Dhaleswar | Bhairabi |
| 22 | 53 | Jiribam | Badarpurghat |
| 23 | 44 | Malidhar | Churaibari |
| 24 | 151 | Karimganj | Sutarkandi |

Railways

- The railway route length in Assam at the end of 2016-17 was 2440.39 km (broad gauge)
- Till the end of March 2016, Assam shares only 3.7% of the total railway route length of the country.

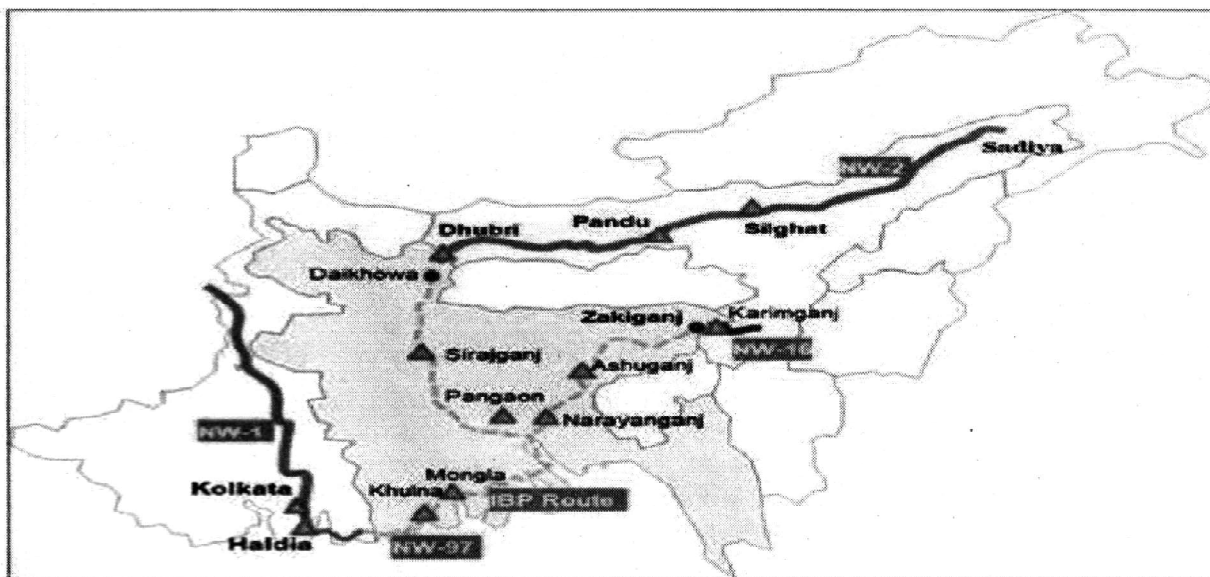
Air Transport

Airports in Assam

- Chabua Air Force Station - Dibrugarh
- Dibrugarh Airport-Mohanbari
- Jorhat Airport - Rowrah
- Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport - Borjhar (Guwahati)
- North Lakhimpur Airport - Lilabari
- Rupsi India Airport - Dhubri
- Silchar Airport Kumbhirgram
- Sookerating Airport - Tinsukia
- Tezpur Airport - Salonibari

Inland Water Transport

- Brahmaputra has 891km navigable length of waterways from Sadiya to Dhubri
- Barak has 94 km length of navigable waterways
- Sadiya-Dhuburi stretch- 2nd National Waterways of the country.
- Barak river - National waterway 16 (121 km)



Assam Inland Water Transport

- Established in 1958
- The IWT, Assam has 3 (three) nos. of Divisions namely Guwahati, Dibrugarh & Silchar.
- There are 5 (five) nos. Sub-Division offices located at Guwahati, (PPC Sub-Division), Goalpara, Jorhat, Dibrugarh and Hailakandi
- For imparting training to the Crews, one Crew Training Centre is established at Guwahat

ANCIENT ASSAM HISTORY

Timeline of Ancient Assam History

Early Period (Prehistoric to 4th Century AD)

1. MahirangaDanava

- **Era:** Earliest known king of Assam
- **Significance:** A non-Aryan Kirata chief, first ruler of Assam; capital at Mairanka, near Guwahati.
- **Successors:** Hatakasura, Sambarasura, Ratnasura, Ghatakasura.

2. Narakasura

- **Era:** Mythical king
- **Significance:** Born of Earth; constructed Kamakhya temple and tank on Nilachala Hill; killed by Krishna.
- **Successor:** Bhagadatta.

3. Bhagadatta

- **Era:** Participated in the Mahabharata war (Kaurava side).
- **Significance:** Renowned warrior, killed by Arjuna.
- **Successor:** Vajradatta (uncertain relation).

4. Bhismaka

- **Era:** Kingdom of Vidarbha
- **Significance:** Father of Rukmini (married to Krishna).

5. Banasura

- **Era:** Contemporaneous with Narakasura
- **Significance:** Capital at Sonitpur; associated with Mahabhairab temple, defeated by Krishna.

Varman Dynasty (4th to 7th Century AD)

1. Pushyavarman (c. 355-380 AD)

- **Significance:** Founder of the Varman dynasty; first Kamarupa king mentioned in the Allahabad Pillar inscription.
- **Successor:** Samudravarman.

2. Samudravarman (c. 380-405 AD)

- **Successor:** Balavarman I.

3. Balavarman I (c. 405-420 AD)

- **Significance:** Daughter married to Meghavahana of Kashmir, introduction of Buddhism to Kamarupa.
- **Successor:** Kalyanavarman.

4. Kalyanavarman (c. 420-440 AD)

- **Significance:** Diplomatic mission to China.
- **Successor:** Mahendravarman.

5. Mahendravarman (c. 450-485 AD)

- **Significance:** Shook off Gupta influence; first to perform Aswamedhayajna.
- **Successor:** Bhutivarman.

6. Bhutivarman (c. 510-555 AD)

- **Significance:** Extended the western frontier beyond the Karatoya river; earliest dated inscription of ancient Assam.
- **Successor:** Chandramukhvarman, Sthitavarman.

7. Bhaskarvarman (c. 594-650 AD)

- **Significance:** Aided Harshavardhana; famous Chinese traveler Hiuen Tsang visited Assam during his reign.
- **Successor:** Bhaskaravarman's possible death left no successor, leading to the rise of the Salastambha dynasty.

Salastambha Dynasty (8th to 10th Century AD)

1. Salastambha (8th Century AD)

- **Significance:** Shifted capital to Tezpur, founded the dynasty.
- **Successor:** Sri Harshadeva.

2. Sri Harshadeva (c. 725-750 AD)

- **Significance:** Married to Nepalese princess, conflict with Western Chalukyas.
- **Successor:** Balavarman II.

3. Balavarman II (c. 750-785 AD)

- **Successor:** Pralambha.

4. Pralambha (c. 785-815 AD)

- **Significance:** Succession of rulers, including Harjaravarman.

5. Harjaravarman (c. 815-835 AD)

- **Significance:** Built a temple at Haruppeswara and a large tank at Tezpur.
- **Successor:** Vanamalavarman.

Post-Salastambha Dynasties (11th to 12th Century AD)

1. Pala Dynasty

- **Brahmapala (c. 990-1010 AD):** First elected king, little known records.
- **Ratnapala (c. 1010-1040 AD):** Beautified Hadapyaka, renamed it Durjaya.
- **Indrapala (c. 1040-1065 AD):** Alliance with the Rashtrakutas.
- **Gopala (c. 1065-1085 AD):** Record of Gachal inscription.
- **Harshapala (c. 1085-1095 AD):** Defeated by Ramapala of Bengal.
- **Dharmapala (c. 1095-1120 AD):** Patronized KalikaPurana, moved capital to Kamarupanagar.

- **Jayapala (c. 1120-1138 AD):** Defeated by Ramapala of Bengal, lost North Bengal territories.

2. Later Kings (c. 1200 AD)

- **Vaidyadeva:** First Gauda ruler to conquer Kamarupa; left Kamauli grant.

Administration of Ancient Assam

- **Monarchy:** Kings were advised by a council of ministers; emphasized welfare, protection, and cultural promotion.
- **Local Administration:** Divided into Bhukti, Mandala, Visayas, and villages.
- **Military Organization:** Army divisions included ships, elephants, horses, and infantry, with weapons like swords, axes, spears, and bows.

Religion

- **Main Religions:** Saivism, Sakti worship (Kamakhya temple), and Buddhism influenced by early kings

MEDIEVAL ASSAM HISTORY

This is a detailed historical account of medieval Assam, primarily focused on the Ahom dynasty, the regional kingdoms, and their cultural and political developments. The information is rich with references to the dynastic rulers, their campaigns, and the complex relationships between the various kingdoms, invaders, and foreign travelers who documented these events.

Key Takeaways:

Literary Sources:

- **Buranjis** were essential for recording the events of the time. These included various types, such as Assamese Buranji, Tai-Ahom Buranji, and reports by frontier officers or ambassadors.
- **Persian Chronicles**, including works like *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri* by Minhaj-ul-Siraj and *Fathiya-i-Ibriyya* by Shihabuddin Talish, provide valuable insight into the early Muslim invasions of Assam.
- Accounts from **foreign travelers** like Ralph Fitch and Jesuit missionaries also contribute to our understanding of medieval Assam.

Invasions:

- **Muhammad-bin-Bakhtiyar Khalji** (1205-06) is considered the first Muslim invader of Kamarupa, although he was repelled.
- The **Chutiyas** and **Kacharis**, along with other neighboring kingdoms like the Koches, played significant roles in Assam's history during this time.
- **Muslim invasions**, notably by **Ghiyasuddin Iwaz Khalji** and **Tughril Khan**, posed serious challenges to the local kingdoms. Despite some defeats, local resistance continued, and alliances were forged to resist further invasions.

Regional Kingdoms:

- **Chutiya Kingdom** was an important kingdom with rulers like **Birpal** and **Gaurinarayan**. The kingdom was eventually annexed by the Ahoms in 1523 under **Suhungmung**.
- **Kachari Kingdom** had two main branches, one at Sadiya and the other on the south bank of the Brahmaputra. The Kachari rulers, such as **Bicharpatipha**, faced the challenge of expansion by the Ahoms and the Koches.
- The **Koch Kingdom** rose in power during the 16th century, founded by **Biswa Singha**. The Koches had brief dominance over the northeastern regions but were eventually challenged by the Mughals and the Ahoms.

Neo-Vaishnavism:

- **Sankaradeva**, born in 1449, is the key figure in the rise of **Neo-Vaishnavism** in Assam. His teachings promoted a form of Bhakti (devotion to God), with a focus on equality and community living through the establishment of **Satra** (religious centers).
- The Neo-Vaishnavism movement faced opposition from the Brahmanas, but Sankaradeva found refuge in the Koch kingdom, where he was supported by **Naranarayan**.

- Sankardeva's movement emphasized **qualified monism** and **absolute surrender** to the Supreme God. His disciples came from various social backgrounds, including different castes and even Muslims.

Ahom Kingdom:

- The **Ahom dynasty** began with **Sukapha** in 1228, a Tai-Ahom ruler who established his kingdom in Assam after a long journey from his homeland in Southeast Asia.
- The Ahoms' expansion and consolidation of power are marked by important events, such as the **annexation of the Chutiya kingdom** in 1523, and their resistance to multiple foreign invasions, particularly from the Muslims and the Koches.
- **Suhungmung**, also known as "Dihingia Raja," was a prominent Ahom ruler who introduced many reforms, such as the **BarpatraGohain** ministerial post and the use of the **Saka Era**.

Koch Kingdom:

- **BiswaSingha** established the **Koch Behar** kingdom in the early 16th century, and his son **Naranarayan** expanded it considerably.
- Naranarayan's court was a hub for scholars, and under his reign, **Sankaradeva** and **Madhvdeva** were influential in the Neo-Vaishnavism movement.

Ahom Kings and Political Events:

1. PratapSingha (Sushengpha) (1603-1641):

- Known for conflict with the Kacharis and Mughals, and reforms such as replacing Ahom Kotokis with Brahmins.
- Introduced administrative posts like Barbarua and Barphukan, with the latter overseeing conquered western territories.
- Introduced the **Paik System**, which organized the adult male population into military and labor units.

2. Paik System:

- A military and labor system where adult males between 16-50 were registered as paiks (foot soldiers).
- Organized into units (got), with different ranks such as Bora, Saikia, Hazarika, and Phukan, and further divided into regular and elite categories.
- **Posa System**: A tribal appeasement policy where hill tribes were given land or resources to reduce border conflicts.

3. JayadhwajSingha (1648-1663):

- First Ahom ruler to formally accept Vaishnavism.
- Faced the Mughal invasion under Mir Jumla and signed the **Treaty of Ghilajharighat** (1663), which humiliated him.
- His daughter was married off to the Mughal harem.

4. ChakradhwajSingha (1663-1669):

- Defeated the Mughals with help from **LachitBarphukan** in the **Battle of Alaboi (1669)**.
- The Ahom-Mughal conflict continued during his reign.

5. LachitBarphukan:

- Key figure in Ahom military victories, especially in the **Battle of Saraighat (1671)**, where Mughals were defeated.

6. RudraSingha (1696-1714):

- Known for his efforts in cultural development and patronage of literature and Vaishnavism.
- The first Bihu festival was celebrated at his court, and he attempted a Hindu confederacy against the Mughal Empire.
- Introduced reforms in Ahom administrative and religious practices.

7. Siva Singha (1714-1744):

- Weak ruler, heavily influenced by astrology and spiritual advisors.
- Faced internal court intrigues and continued the decline of the Ahom power.

8. GaurinathSingha (1780-1794):

- Faced the **Moamorian Rebellion** and sought British help in 1792 to suppress the insurgents.
- Eventually shifted the capital to **Jorhat** (the last Ahom capital).

9. KamaleswarSingha (1795-1810):

- Power struggles marked his reign, including the **Moamorian revolts**.
- The Moamorias gained control over some territories but were defeated in several battles.

10. ChandrakantaSingha (1811-1818):

- Faced internal intrigue and Burmese intervention.
- The **Burmese invasion** started during his reign, and he fled to **Guwahati** after Burmese forces took over the region.

11. The Burmese Invasion (1821-1824):

- The Burmese gradually took control of Assam and placed an Ahom prince, **JogeswarSingha**, on the throne.
- This marked the beginning of **Burmese rule** in Assam, which lasted until the **First Anglo-Burmese War (1824-1826)**.

12. First Anglo-Burmese War (1824-1826):

- Resulted in the Treaty of **Yandabo (1826)**, where Burma renounced all claims over Assam, leading to British control over the region.

Key Systems and Administrative Reforms:

1. **Paik System**: A crucial military and labor system, enabling the Ahom state to manage resources and manpower efficiently, centralizing control over the population.
2. **Posa System**: A policy of appeasement for tribal groups, using land and resources as incentives to keep the peace in border areas.

Religious and Cultural Developments:

- **Vaishnavism**: Strongly adopted by Ahom rulers like JayadhwajSingha, who inscribed copper plates commemorating land grants for religious purposes.
- **Temples and Architecture**: Several rulers, like RudraSingha, constructed significant temples and infrastructure, including **Joydoul**, **Jaysagar**, **Shiva Doul**, and **Sivasagar tank**.

Conflicts and Wars:

- **Mughal-Ahom Conflicts:** Including the invasion by Mir Jumla, the Treaty of Asurar All (1639), and the battles of Alaboi (1669) and Saraighat (1671).
- **Moamorian Rebellions:** Frequent uprisings, particularly in the 18th century, involving the Moamoria tribes, which significantly weakened the Ahom kingdom.
- **Burmese Invasions:** Starting in the early 19th century, culminating in full Burmese control over Assam until British intervention in the 1820s.

This timeline encapsulates the turbulent period of the Ahom kingdom, from its territorial expansion, administrative innovations, and religious transformations, to its decline under internal conflicts and external invasions. The period of Burmese control led to the eventual British annexation of Assam.

MODERN ASSAM HISTORY

Establishment of British Rule

- **David Scott's Role:** In 1823, David Scott was appointed as the "Agent to the Governor General for the Eastern Frontier," responsible for areas from Cachar in the south to Sikkim in the north.
 - He restored local rulers like Govinda Chandra of Cachar, Raja Ram Singha of Jayantia, and Gambhir Singh of Manipur to their thrones.
 - Lower Assam was placed under his administration, and he was assisted by Captain White and Davidson.
 - Upper Assam was placed under Colonel Richards, followed by Neufville, Cooper, and White.
- **Annexation of Lower Assam:** In 1828, the British permanently annexed Lower Assam. David Scott was tasked with its administration, and Captain Neufville was appointed the political agent for Upper Assam.

Uprisings Against British Rule

1. **First Uprising (1828):**
 - **Leaders:** GomdharKonwar and Dhanjay, a former Borgohain (a noble title).
 - GomdharKonwar was captured and imprisoned for 7 years.
 - Dhanjay managed to escape to the Naga Hills.
2. **Second Uprising (1829):**
 - Led by **EyangGomandeo**, an Ahom prince.
 - The uprising ended prematurely when Gomandeo was trapped by the British forces in Sadiya.
3. **Third Uprising (1830):**
 - Led by **Dhanjoy**, with support from his sons and others like PeoliPhukan, Jeuram Dulia Barua, DuramDihingiaBarua, and Krishnanath.
 - **RupchandKonwar** was declared the future king of Assam.
 - PeoliPhukan and Jeuram Dulia Barua were captured and executed in August 1830.

Key Figures in Revolts and Ruling of Assam

- **U Teerut Singh (Khasi Leader):** Revolted against the British in 1833 and was captured and deported to Dhaka, where he died in 1835.
- **PurandarSingha:**
 - The last Ahom ruler, reinstated to the throne in Upper Assam in the 1830s.
 - The **Treaty of Gauhati** was signed in 1833, but Assam was annexed by the British in 1838.

- **Annexation of Cachar and Jayantia:**

- **Cachar** was annexed in 1832 after the assassination of its king, Govind Chandra, by Gambhir Singh of Manipur.
- **Jayantia** was annexed in 1835.

ManiramDewan and the 1857 Revolt

- **ManiramDewan:**

- Born in 1806 in Sivasagar, Maniram served as a tehsildar and later worked in the ministry of PurandarSingha.
- He helped raise the Assam Tea Company, but faced discrimination from the British when he was denied land concessions like those given to European planters.
- In 1851, the British confiscated lands that had been given to his family by PurandarSingha.

- **Revolt of 1857 in Assam:**

- The Assam Light Infantry, stationed in Dibrugarh and Gauhati, were part of the 1857 uprising.
- ManiramDewan, with the help of KandarpeswarSingha, planned a rebellion, but the revolt was suppressed. ManiramDewan and PiyollBarua were hanged in February 1858.

Language and Cultural Challenges

- **Bengali as Official Language:**

- In 1836, **Bengali** was made the official language, leading to the decline of the Assamese language.
- **HaliramDhekialPhukan** and others protested against this change, and **AnandaramDhekialPhukan** published pamphlets defending Assamese.
- In 1846, the first Assamese journal, **Orunudol**, was published by Dr. Nathan Brown.
- Assamese was finally made the official language in 1873.

Agrarian Revolts (1860-1900)

1. Phulguri Uprising (1861) :

- **Causes:**
 - Ban on opium cultivation.
 - Increase in land revenue.
 - Rumors that betel nut and betel vine cultivation would be taxed.
- The rebellion resulted in the death of Lt. Singer.

2. Rangia Uprising (1893-94):

- **Causes:**
 - Increased revenue.
 - Government-issued opium.
- Protesters looted Rangia Bazar on 24 December 1893.

3. Patharughat Uprising (1894):

- **Causes:** Farmers protested against the enhanced land revenue.

- Police opened fire, killing 15 and injuring many others. This incident became known as the “Jalianwalabagh of Assam.”

Political Associations in Assam

- 1. Jorhat Sarvajanik Sabha (1875):**
 - Founder: Jagannath Barua / Raja Naranarayan Singha.
- 2. Tezpur Rayat Sabha (1884):**
 - Founder: Haribilas Agarwala.
- 3. Assam Association (1903):**
 - Founders: Manik Chandra Barua and others.
- 4. Assam Congress Socialist Party (1940):**
 - Founder: Sriman Prafulla Goswami.
- 5. Assam Chatra Sammilan (1916):**
 - President: Lakshminath Bezbarua.
- 6. Asam Jatiya Mahasabha (1937):**
 - Founder: Ambikagiri Raychoudhury.

Literary Associations in Assam

- **1857:** *Gyan Pradayini Sabha* founded by Anandaram and Gunabhiram.
- **1872:** *Asamiya Sahitya Sabha* founded by Ganga Govinda Phukan and others.
- **1885:** *Asam Desh Hitasini Sabha* founded by Priyalal Barua.
- **1888:** *Asamiya Bhasar Unnati Sadhini Sabha* founded by Lakshminath Bezbarua, Chandra Kumar Agarwala, Padmanatha Gohain Barua, etc.

Swadeshi Movement in Assam

- After the Bengal partition, the Eastern Bengal and Assam province came under the control of J. B. Fuller (Lieutenant Governor).
- Key leaders of the Swadeshi Movement in Assam included Ambikagiri Raychoudhury and Govinda Lahiri.

Political Development in Assam

- **1826-1828:** Assam was an unregulated province, managed by British political agents such as David Scott (1826–1828).
- **1828-1874:** Assam became part of the Bengal Presidency, with commissioners appointed to govern under the Governor of Bengal.
- **1874-1905:** Assam was a Chief Commissioner’s province, with several key figures like Richard Harte Keatinge and Sir Charles Alfred Elliott.
- **1905-1912:** The Eastern Bengal and Assam province came under the Lieutenant Governor, including figures like Sir Joseph Bampfylde Fuller.
- **1912-1921:** Assam was a Chief Commissioner’s province with a Legislative Council.
- **1921-1937:** Assam became a province with a Governor under Dyarchy.
- **1937-1947:** Assam was an autonomous province under Governors like Sir Robert Niel Reid.

Formation of Political Bodies in Assam

- **1903:** Assam Association was formed, with Prabhat Chandra Barua as president.

- **1905:** Bengal was partitioned, and Assam became part of the new province of Eastern Bengal and Assam.
- **1911:** The Bengal partition was annulled.
- **1912:** Assam gained its Provincial Council with 34 members (13 nominated, 21 elected).

Key Political Movements

- **1916:** The Assam Student Conference was organized, with LakshminathBezbarua as president.
- **1920:** The Non-Cooperation Movement was launched by Gandhi.
- **1921:** Gandhi visited Assam for the first time, and Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) was formed.

Important Events in Assam's Struggle for Independence

- **1921:** The Chargola tragedy, where tea garden workers lost their lives in a protest.
- **1923:** The Swarajist Party was formed in Assam, leading to a coalition government.
- **1926:** The Swarajist Party withdrew from the Assam Government.
- **1929:** Simon Commission's visit to Assam, followed by the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930).
- **1942:** The Quit India Movement led to a wave of arrests, including the deaths of KanaklataBarua and MukundaKakati.

Post-Independence History

- **1947:** Mountbatten Plan led to a referendum in Sylhet, resulting in its inclusion in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh).
- **1947:** The first governor of Assam post-independence was Sir Akbar Hydari, with GopinathBordoloi becoming the first Chief Minister.
- **1948:** Important institutions like Gauhati University and Gauhati High Court were established.

Economic and Political Changes in Assam (1950-1970)

- **1950-1957:** Bishnu Ram Medhi served as Chief Minister, and the first Five-Year Plan was introduced.
- **1957-1970:** Bimala Prasad Saliha's tenure saw significant infrastructure developments like the Saraighat Bridge (1963) and Noonmati Oil Refinery (1962).
- **1970-1972:** Mahendra Mohan Choudhury's leadership marked the establishment of key industries like Bongaigaon Petrochemicals.

The Assam Agitation (1979-1985)

- The Assam Agitation emerged due to concerns about the illegal migration of Bangladeshis, with the All Assam Students Union (AASU) playing a pivotal role.
- The **Nellie Massacre** (1983) became a tragic event during this period, with over 2,000 victims.
- **1985:** The Assam Accord was signed between the Assam government and AASU, setting the guidelines for addressing the foreigner issue.

Post-Assam Agitation Developments

- **1983:** The Congress formed the government under HiteswarSaikia.
- **1985:** The Assam GanaParishad (AGP), a regional party, formed the government under Prafulla Kumar Mahanta.
- **1990:** President's Rule was imposed in Assam.

Recent Political History

- **1991:** The Congress returned to power under Hiteswar Saikia.
- **1996:** After Saikia's death, Dr. Bhumidhar Barman took charge as acting Chief Minister.
- **2001-2006-2011:** Congress, led by Tarun Gogoi, won elections and formed the government for three consecutive terms.
- **2016:** BJP led by Sarbananda Sonowal became the Chief Minister of Assam, signaling a shift in political dynamics.

Assam Legislative Assembly

- **1861:** Assam did not have its own democratic institution under the Indian Council Act.
- **1905:** Assam was incorporated into the Legislative Council of Eastern Bengal and Assam.
- **1909:** Assam was granted a legislative council under the Government of India Act, with 5 seats.
- **1913:** The Assam Legislative Council officially began with 34 members.
- **1935:** The Government of India Act made the Assam legislature bicameral, consisting of a Legislative Assembly with 108 members.

FAIRS AND FESTIVALS OF ASSAM

Bihu

- **Bohag Bihu / Rongali Bihu:** Celebrated from the last day of the month of **Sot**, continuing for 7 days.
 - **Seven Days, Seven Bihus:**
 - **Goru Bihu:** Worship of cows.
 - **Manuh Bihu:** Celebrating the well-being of humans.
 - **Gossain Bihu:** Prayers at Namghars and participation in Nam Prasanga.
 - **Senehi Bihu:** Weavers wash and clean their handlooms.
 - **Nangol Bihu:** Farmers clean their agricultural equipment and prepare for the upcoming season.
 - **Mela Bihu:** People visit each other's homes and share food like **jolpan**.
 - **Sera Bihu:** Wrapping of **gamosa** on a banyan tree to bid farewell to Bohag Bihu.
- **Kati Bihu:** Celebrated during the Sankranti of **Ahin**. Known as **Kangali Bihu** due to its association with hardship, it includes worship of the **tulsi plant**.
- **Magh Bihu:** Celebrated post-harvest and known as **Bhogali Bihu**.

Ambubachi Fair

- **Ambubachi** (also **Amati**) is a fertility-based festival celebrated in **June-July** at **Kamakhya Temple**.
- It marks the period when Mother Earth is believed to experience her "menstruation." During this time, agricultural activities are prohibited.

Elephant Festival

- Held at **Kaziranga National Park**, it aims to create awareness about wildlife conservation and reduce man-elephant conflicts.

DihingPatkai Festival

- Held in **January** in **Lekhapani, Tinsukia**, it attracts tourists and showcases the area's potential for tourism.

Majuli Festival

- A cultural celebration showcasing the rich culture of various tribes of Assam, held in **Majuli**.

Me-Dum-Me-Phi

- A festival of the **Tai Ahom** people, honoring their ancestors by offering oblations.

Batheli

- Celebrated in early **Magh (January-February)** in some parts of **Assam**, especially **Lower Assam**, it is also known as **Sori/Suwari/Parwa** festival.

Matheni

- A festival celebrated in **DevanandaSatra, Darrang district**, on the day of **Kati Bihu**.

Moho ho

- Celebrated on the full moon day of **Aghon (November-December)**, it involves a dance by a boy dressed in banana leaves or barks, symbolizing a bear.

NoukaTana Ceremony

- A traditional boat racing ceremony that was popular during the **Ahom Kingdom**, especially in places like **Sualkuchi, Hajo**, and **Nalbari** districts.

JonbeelMela

- Held in **Jagiroad, Morigaon district**, this festival is famous for the barter system among hill tribes.

Karam Puja

- A festival primarily for tea workers, celebrated during **Bhada** (August-September), honoring the **Karam tree**.

Tusu Puja

- Celebrated by tea workers, where **Tusu** is worshipped as the goddess of crops.

Baisagu

- The **Bodo** version of **Bohag Bihu**, celebrating their supreme deity, **Bathou**, associated with **Lord Shiva**.

Ali-aai-Lignag

- A festival celebrated by the **Mising** community, marked by a **gumrang** dance and a community feast.

Tribes of Assam

- **Bodo Tribe:**
 - **Dress:** Men wear **Jumgra/Madamnigamcha**; women wear **Dokhana**.
 - **Food:** **Bedor goran** (dried pork), **Na-goran** and **napham** (dried fish), **Madh** (rice beer).
 - **Festivals:** **Bathou Puja, Kherai Puja, Garja Puja, Baisagu, KatriGasa**.
- **Mishing Tribe:**
 - **Dress:** Women wear **Sumpa, Yambo, RiwiGaseng, Ege**; men wear **Miboogaluk, Tangali, Gonroo**.
 - **Food:** **Ngo San** (preserved fish), **Apong** (rice beer).
 - **Festivals:** **Ali-ai-ligang, Nora-singa festival, PonuPorag, Amrag, Dobur puja**.
- **Tiwa Tribe:**
 - **Dress:** Women wear a waistband called **Thongali**; men wear **Nimai Sola** and **Thagla** (shirt).
 - **Food:** **Zu** (rice beer).
 - **Festivals:** **BaishakBishu, Jongkong puja, Borot Puja, Langkhun Puja**.
- **Rabha Tribe:**
 - **Dress:** Women wear **Rifan, Kambung, Khodabang**; men wear **Pajal** (dhoti), **Pazar** (neck cloth).

- **Food:** Chako, Makham, Sinchina (rice beer).
- **Festivals:** Langa Puja, Baikho / Khoksi puja.
- **Deories Tribe:**
 - **Dress:** Women wear Igu (lower wrapper), JokkaChirba, Gatigi, Baiga; men wear Iku (cloth for the waist), Bose or Jema (towel).
 - **Food:** Suze (rice beer), MerokuJubura, UjungonNiyom (different curries).
 - **Festivals:** BohagiyoBisu, MagiyoBisu.
- **Dimasa Tribe:**
 - **Dress:** Men wear Richa, Chola, Cholahula, Gainthou, Rikausa, Paguri, Rimchauramai; women wear Rigu, Ritap, Rijamphai, Rijamfinaberen, Rikaucha.
 - **Food:** Zou (rice beer).
 - **Festivals:** Bikhu (Sarembikhu, Hang chewmanaoabikhu), RajniGabra, HasniGabra, Busu Dima.
- **Singphos Tribe:**
 - **Dress:** Women wear Khakhokhring, Bukang; men wear Bupaor Baka and a white turban called Pham bam.
 - **Food:** Sapop (rice beer).
 - **Festivals:** Sopongyongmanau poi (celebrated on 14th February).
- **Khamti Tribe:**
 - **Food:** Pasom, Pasao (fish dishes), Nguhaing (dry meat), Fak-pasa (potato yam and fish).
 - **Festivals:** They are Buddhist and celebrate Poi Changkan, Mai KosoomPhai.
- **Karbis Tribe:**
 - **Dress:** Jalcho (upper body wrapper).
 - **Food:** Horlong (rice beer), Toman (fermented fish preserved in bamboo pipes).
 - **Festivals:** Rongker, HachaKekan, Chomankan.

These festivals and traditions reflect the vibrant culture and diversity of Assam and its tribes.

ASSAM'S STATE SYMBOLS

1. State Animal: Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros

- Found mainly in **Assam** and **West Bengal**.
- Inhabits the **riverine grasslands** of the **Brahmaputra** and **Terai basins**.
- It is the **fifth largest land animal** in the world.

2. State Bird: DeoHaah (White-winged Wood Duck)

- Known for its **ghostly call**, a mix of harsh honks and whistles.
- Nests in **tree holes** and is classified as **endangered**.
- Protected areas for the bird include **Dibru-Saikhowa National Park** and **Dehing-Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- Officially adopted as the state bird on **April 4, 2003**.

3. State Flower: KopouPhul (Foxtail Orchid)

- Also the state flower of **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- Represents Assam's **natural beauty** and rich flora.

4. State Tree: Hollong (Dipterocarpus macrocarpus)

- The **tallest tree** in Assam and one of the most dominant species in its forests.
- Its **resin** is used for waterproofing and varnishing products.
- Adopted as the state tree on **April 4, 2003**.

5. State Drink: Tea

- Assam is globally renowned for its **tea**, and it was declared the **official state drink** on **November 23, 2011**.

6. State Aquatic Animal: Sihu (Ganges River Dolphin)

- Known as the "**blind dolphin**" because it lacks a lens in its eyes.
- An **endangered species**, it must surface every 30-120 seconds to breathe.
- Adopted as the state aquatic animal on **April 5, 2008**.

7. State Song: O Mur ApunarDesh (O My Dearest Country)

- Written by **Lakshminath Bezbaroa** and composed by **Kamala Prasad Agarwala**.
- First published in **1910** and officially adopted as the state song on **December 15, 2013**.

MAJOR ARCHITECTURAL SITES IN ASSAM

1. Agnigarh (Tezpur)

- A fortress built by King Banasura, named “residence amidst fire” to keep his daughter, Usha, in isolation.

2. Ashwaktanta Temple (North Guwahati)

- Built by Shiva Singha in 1720 AD, this temple is believed to be where Lord Krishna’s horse rested during his battle against Narakasura.

3. AjanPir’sDargah (Sibsagar)

- A mausoleum dedicated to Ajan Fakir, a revered Muslim reformer. He was known for composing spiritual Zikirs.

4. AthkheliaNamghar (Golaghat)

- A religious structure with an uncertain origin, possibly established by Gadapani, with 8 families expanding into 8 colonies.

5. Ugratara Temple (Guwahati)

- One of the 51 Shakti Peethas, built by King Shiva Singha, it is believed that the navel of Sati fell here.

6. Umananda Temple (Peacock Island, Guwahati)

- A temple on the world’s smallest inhabited river island, with three temples dedicated to Lord Shiva and other deities.

7. Kamakhya Temple (Guwahati)

- One of the 51 Shakti Peethas, this temple was originally built by Narakasura and later rebuilt by Naranarayan of the Koch kingdom.

8. TalatalGhar (Sivasagar)

- A multi-storied structure built by RajeswarSingha, combining both above-ground and underground stories.

9. BarpetaKirtanGhar and Satra (Barpeta)

- Founded by MahapurushMadhabdev, this place is an architectural and cultural center with a lamp that has been burning for 500 years.

10. Joydoul and Joysagar Tank (Sivasagar)

- Built by Ahom King RudraSingha in memory of his mother, Joymoti, these structures are associated with Assamese royal history.

11. DhekiakhuaBomamghar (Jorhat)

- A spiritual site founded by Madhabdev in 1528 with a lamp that has been burning for over 550 years.

12. Tamreswari Temple (Sadiya, Tinsukia)

- A copper-roofed temple built by Chutia kings, known for the practice of human sacrifice, which was later abolished.

13. Da-Parbatiya (Tezpur)

- An ancient temple with the oldest architectural remains in Assam, built by the Salasthambha Dynasty in the 6th century.

14. Navagraha Temple (Guwahati)

- Devoted to the nine celestial bodies of Hindu astronomy, this temple was built by King RajeswarSingha in the late 18th century.

15. Namdang Stone Bridge (Sivasagar)

- An engineering marvel built from a single stone during the reign of Ahom King RudraSingha.

16. Poa Mecca (Hajo)

- A Muslim pilgrimage site with a dargah and a unique spiritual belief that praying here offers a fraction of the blessing of praying in Mecca.

17. Basistha Ashram (Guwahati)

- A sacred site believed to be the home of the sage Basistha, with a brick temple built in the 18th century by Ahom King RajeswarSingha.

18. ManikarneswarDevalaya (North Guwahati)

- A temple built by King RajeswarSingha, associated with the legendary king Narakasura and his treasure.

19. Madan KamdevDevalaya (North Guwahati)

- A temple with over 200 idols, resembling the Khajuraho Temple in Madhya Pradesh, believed to date back to the Pala Dynasty.

20. Mahabhairab Temple (Tezpur)

- A Lord Shiva temple built by Ban Raja of Sonitpur, known for its ancient architecture.

21. RongGhar (Sivasagar)

- Asia's first amphitheater, built in 1746 by PramattaSingha, showcasing ancient entertainment architecture.

22. Shiv Sagar and Shiva Doul (Sivasagar)

- A Shiva worshipping site built by Bor Raja Ambika, with a grand festival held annually.

23. Sukreswar Temple (Guwahati)

- Built by PramattaSingha, this temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva, located on the banks of the Brahmaputra.

24. Haygrib-Madhav Temple (Hajo)

- A temple dedicated to Lord Hayagriva and Madhav, built by Koch King Raghudeva, where a festival promoting Hindu-Muslim unity is celebrated.

Significance

These structures represent Assam's diverse cultural and religious history, blending Hinduism, Islam, and indigenous practices. Many of these sites are revered for their architectural brilliance, historical significance, and cultural contributions, making them essential elements of Assam's heritage. The mixture of ancient temples, Islamic structures, and Assamese architectural styles reflects the rich traditions that have shaped the region.

NOTED PERSONALITIES

Ajan Fakir:

- Creator of Assamese Zikir (songs of praise).
- Promoted Islam in Assam (7th-8th century).
- Real name: Shah Milan.

Aideu Handique:

- First Assamese film actress.
- Born in 1920 in Golaghat.
- Starred in *Joymoti* (1935), Assam's first film.
- Faced restrictions due to her acting; not allowed to marry.
- A film *Aldeu* (2007) was made about her life.

Ajit Barua:

- Renowned poet and translator.
- Notable work: *Brahmaputra Ityadi Podya* (1991).
- Translated works of Albert Camus.
- Awarded Assam Valley Literary Award (1999).

Ambikagiri Raichoudhury:

- Famous poet, playwright, and social activist.
- Founded *Daka Asam* (Young Assam) magazine in 1935.
- Known for the poem *Bando Ki Chandere*.
- President of Asom Sahitya Sabha (1950).
- Awarded Sahitya Akademi Award (1966).

Ananda Chandra Agarwalla:

- Noted poet and literary figure.
- Wrote *The Police Manual* (1906).
- Translated English poems into Assamese.
- Honored with titles like 'Rai Sahab' and 'Rai Bahadur'.

Ananda Chandra Baruah:

- Famous as *Bakul Banar Kavi*.
- Established Chintamani Chakra in 1962.
- Awarded Padmashree (1973).
- Published books of poems and dramas.

Anandaram Dhekial Phukan:

- First Assamese graduate and ICS officer.
- Wrote *A Few Remarks on Assamese Language* (1855).

Ananta Kandali:

- Contemporary of Srimanta Sankardeva.
- Skilled in Nyaya (logic), Sanskrit, and Bhagavata Purana.
- Born in 1520 AD at Hajo.

AnundoramBorooah:

- Assam's first graduate, barrister, and ICS officer.
- Published works on Sanskrit and English literature.

Arimatta:

- King of ancient Kamrup.
- Known for his fish-shaped head and military victories.
- Killed by King Phengwa.

Badan Chandra Borphukan:

- Introduced Burmese forces into Assam.
- Borphukan (governor) of Lower Assam.
- Died in 1818.

BanikantaKakati:

- Famous scholar and linguist.
- Known for his books on Assamese language and culture.
- Notable works include *Assamese: Its Formation and Development*.

BhabendraNathSaikia:

- Famous short story writer and film director.
- Won SahityaAkademi Award for *Shrinkhal* (1978).
- Directed popular Assamese films.

Bhattadev:

- Considered the father of Assamese prose.
- Known as Bhagavata Bhattacharya.

Bhupen Hazarika:

- Famous musician, singer, and film director.
- Known for songs like *ManuheManuhor Babe*.
- Awarded Padma Bhushan (2001), Padma Vibhushan (2012), and Bharat Ratna (2019).
- Directed *Shakuntala* (1961) and received National Film Award (1975).

Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya:

- First Assamese Jnanpith Award winner (Yaruingam).
- Published works: *Mrityunjoy*, *Yaruingam*.

Bishnu Prasad Rabha:

- Poet, dramatist, musician, and social activist.
- Known for his left-wing views and slogan "*HaalJaarMaatiTaar*".
- Active in the independence movement and Communist Party.

Chandra Kumar Agarwalla:

- Founder of *Jonaki* magazine.
- Published poetry books: *Pratima*, *Bonboragi*.
- Died in 1938.

ChandraprabhaSaikiani:

- Freedom fighter and feminist.

- Founded All Assam PradeshikMahilaSamiti.
- Received Padma Shri (1972).

ChandraprasadSaikia:

- Awarded SahityaAkademi Award for *Maharathi* (1995).
- Published books: *Maharathi*, *Meghmallar*.
- Died in 2006.

Deepali Barthakur:

- Known as the “Nightingale of Assam”.
- Awarded Padmashree (1998).
- Died in 2018 due to motor neuron disease.

Hem Barua:

- Known as *Tyagbir*.
- Famous for works *Congress Buranji* and *BilatotMohatma*.

HemchandraBarua:

- Compiler of the first Assamese dictionary *Hemxosh* (1900).

Hiren Bhattacharjee:

- SahityaAkademi Award for *SeisarPotharManch* (1992).
- Published *SugandhiPokhila*.

HomenBorgohain:

- SahityaAkademi Award for *Pita Putra* (1978).
- Worked as editor of *NiyomiyaBarta*.

Indira Miri:

- Promoted education in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Received Padma Shri (1977).
- Died in 2004.

JadavPayeng:

- Environmental activist known as “Forest Man of India”.
- Created *Molai Forest* on the Brahmaputra River’s sandbar.
- Honored with Padma Shri (2015).

Jyoti Prasad Agarwala:

- Doyen of Assamese culture.
- Directed Assam’s first film *Joymoti* (1935).
- Known for his songs and films.

1. JyotiprasadAgarwala (1903-1951)

- **First Assamese Movie:** *Joymoti* (Released on 10th March 1935)
- **Other Works:** Directed *Indramalaty* (1939)
- **Music:** Composer of music for both films.
- **Life:** Married DevajaniBhuyan (1936), went underground during British repression (1942), and was the first President of Assam branch of IPTA.
- **Death:** Died of cancer on 17th January 1951.

- **Title:** Conferred the title “Rupkonwar” by AnandachandraBarua in 1938.

2. *Kalicharan Brahma (1860-1930)*

- **Social Reformer:** Led religious and social reforms among the Bodo community.
- **Founder:** BoroSatraSanmilanni (All Bodo Students Union).
- **Death:** Died on 8th May 1930.

3. *Krishna KantaHandique*

- **Contributions:** A renowned scholar and linguist.
- **Roles:** First Vice-Chancellor of Gauhati University, awarded Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri.

4. *LakshminathBezbarua (1864-1938)*

- **Nickname:** Sahityarathi and Rasaraj.
- **Editor:** Founder of *Bahi* magazine (1909).
- **Notable Works:**
 - Poetry: *Kadam Kali, PodumKas*.
 - Novels: *PodumKonwan*.
 - Children’s Literature: *Junuka, Burhi Air Xadhu*.
 - Autobiography: *MorJibonXuworon*.

5. *Madhavdev (1489-1596)*

- **Disciple:** Followed MahapurushSrimantaSankardev after a debate in 1532.
- **Contributions:** Key figure in the Bhakti movement.

6. *MamoniRoisomGoswami (Indira Goswami)*

- **Awards:** SahityaAkademi Award (1982), first Assamese woman to receive the Jnanpeeth Award.
- **Notable Works:**
 - Autobiography: *AdhalikhaDastabej*.
 - Novels: *Mamore DhoraToruwal*.
 - Research: *Ramayana from Ganga to Brahmaputra*.

7. *MoghaiOja (Barua)*

- **Dhol Artist:** Popularized the Dhol of Assam worldwide.
- **Acting:** Acted in films like *Pioli Phukan, Ranga Police*.
- **Award:** Srijanasom Trust instituted an award in his memory in 2015.

8. *Nabin Chandra Bordoloi (Kamabeer)*

- **Political Role:** First General Secretary of Assam Pradesh Congress Committee.
- **Biography:** *SmritiTirtha* written by his daughter.

9. *Nagen Saikia*

- **Poet:** Father of the “Milobhas” poetry style.
- **Awards:** SahityaAkademi Award (1997) for *AndharotNijorMukh*.
- **Other Works:** *Chinta Aru Charcha, SwapnaSmitiBisaad*.

10. *NaliniBala Devi*

- **Awards:** Padma Shri (1958), SahityaAkademi Award (1967).
- **Notable Works:**
 - Poetry: *Sandhiyar Sur, Yugdevta*.
 - Biographies: *Smititirtha, Vishwadeepa*.

- Children's Drama: *ParijataAbishek*, *Mirabai*.

11. *NavakantaBarua*

- **Awards:** Padma Bhushan (1975), SahityaAkademi Award (1975).
- **Notable Works:** *KokadeutarHar*, *KapiliPriyar Sadhu*.

12. *NilamaniPhukan*

- **Roles:** Founder-editor of *DainikBatori* (1935), President of AsomSahitya Sabha (1944, 1947).
- **Notable Works:** *JyotiKana*, *Manasi*, *Jinjin*.

13. *NilamaniPhukan Jr.*

- **Awards:** Jnanpith Award (2020).
- **Notable Works:** *Surya HanuNamiAhe Ex Nodiyedi*, *GulapiJamurLagna*.

14. *NirmalPrabhaBordoloi*

- **Awards:** SahityaAkademi Award (1983).
- **Notable Works:** *Bon Faringar Rang Dinar Pisal Din*, *Antaranga*.

15. *NirupamaBorgohain*

- **Awards:** SahityaAkademi Award (1990) for *Abhiyati*.
- **Notable Works:** *SelNodiNirabadhi*, *Abhiyati*.

16. *PadmanathGohainBarua (1853-1938)*

- **First President:** AsomSahitya Sabha (1917).
- **Notable Works:** *Bhanumoti*, *Gadadhar*, *TetonTamull*.

17. *Parvati Prasad Barua (Geetikavi)*

- **Contribution:** Directed *Rupohi* (1941), known for his literary work.
- **Magazine:** Started *Jhupitora* in 1921.

• **PhaniSarma:**

- Title: "Natasurya" for contribution to Assamese drama.
- Directed and acted in films like *Siraj* (1948) and *PiyaliPhukan* (1955).
- Awarded the President's Medal for *PiyaliPhukan* (1955).
- Last film: *SitoBafuto* (1963).

• **PramathesBarua:**

- First Assamese film director.
- Made the first Indian film shot under artificial light (*Apradhi*, 1931).
- Directed *Devdas* (1935) in Hindi and Bengali versions.

• **PratimaBarua Pandey:**

- Folk singer from the royal family of Gauripur.
- Famous for *GoalpariyaLokgeet* (Assamese folk music).
- Awarded Padma Shri and SangeetNatakAkademi for her work.

• **Pushpalata Das:**

- Indian independence activist, social worker, and politician.
- Member of Rajya Sabha and Assam Legislative Assembly.
- Awarded Padma Bhushan in 1999 for social contributions.

•**RadhaGovindaBarua:**

- Known for bravery and creativity (“Sinhapurush” and “Rupkhanikar”).
- Founded The Assam Tribune and established the first bank of Assam.
- Built the iconic Nehru Stadium in Guwahati in 1962.

•**Syed Abdul Malik:**

- Awarded SahityaAkademi Award (1972) for *AghariAtmarKahini*.
- Other books: *ShurujmukhirShapna*, *RuptirtharYatri*, *Adharshila*.

Firsts in Assam/First Assamese:

1. **Radio Stations:** Guwahati and Shillong (established 1 July 1948).
2. **Film Studio:** JyotiChitran, Guwahati (established 17 January 1968).
3. **High Court:** Gauhati High Court (1948).
4. **Bridge over Brahmaputra:** Saraighat Bridge, Guwahati (1962).
5. **University:** Gauhati University, Guwahati (1947).
6. **Medical School:** Berry White Medical School (1902).
7. **Medical College:** Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh (1947).
8. **Mental Hospital:** Tezpur Mental Hospital.
9. **Printing Press:** Mission Press, Sivasagar.
10. **First Book Printed:** *Dharma Pustak* (1813).
11. **LokAdalat:** Hajo.
12. **Institute for Higher Education:** Cotton College, Guwahati (1901).
13. **Co-operative:** Shillong Co-operative Town Bank (established 13 September 1904).
14. **First Graduate:** AnundoramBorooah.
15. **First IAS Officer:** AnundoramBorooah.
16. **First Assamese Governor:** BlahnuramMedhi (Madras, 1957-1977).
17. **President of India:** Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed (1974-1987).
18. **PhD from London University:** Mardul Islam Bora.
19. **First Film Maker:** JyotiprasadAgarwala.
20. **First Chief Justice of High Court:** HaliramDeka.
21. **First Chief Justice of Supreme Court:** Parvati Kumar Goswami.
22. **First Woman Doctor:** Dr.RajaniPrabhaSaikia.
23. **First Woman Graduate:** SukhalataDuarah, SuchalataDowarah.
24. **First Woman Minister in Union Cabinet:** Renuka Devi Barkotoky.
25. **First Woman Justice of High Court:** MeeraSarma.
26. **First Woman ACS:** SuchibrataRaichowdhury.
27. **First Woman IAS:** Parul Das.
28. **First Woman Chief Minister:** SyedaAnwaraTaimur.
29. **Gold Medalist in Asian Games:** BhogeswarBaruah (1966).
30. **Cabinet Minister in Union Cabinet:** Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed (1966-1974).
31. **D.Lit. from London University:** Surya Kumar Bhuyan.
32. **First Assamese Lexicographer:** JaduramDekaBaruah (1839).
33. **SahityaAkademi Award:** JatindranathDowarah (Banphool), 1952.
34. **Jnanpith Award:** Dr.Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya (1979).
35. **Padma Bhushan (Woman):** Pushpalata Das (1999).
36. **Padma Shri (Woman):** Nalinibala Devi (1957).
37. **First Assamese Movie:** *Joymati*.
38. **First Assamese Colour Movie:** *Bhaiti* (1972).
39. **First Daily Newspaper in Assam:** *DainikBatori* (1935).
40. **First English Newspaper in Assam:** *Assam Tribune* (1946).

41. **First Assamese International Award-winning Film:** *SagarlaBahudoor*.
42. **Young Bismillah Khan Award (2010):** SukracharyaRabha.
43. **RTI Award (2010):** AkhilGogoi.
44. **Arjuna Award (Men):** BhogeswarBaruah (1966).
45. **Arjuna Award (Women):** MonalisaBarua (1987).
46. **Sports Person in Olympics:** Dr.TalimeranAao (Captain of Indian Football Team, 1948).
47. **Oscar-Nominated Film:** *Village Rockstar* (2018), directed by Rima Das.

•**Awards and Recognition:**

- **Padma Bhushan:** Pushpalata Das (1999).
- **Padma Shri:** Nalinibala Devi (1957).
- **SahityaAkademi Award:** JatindranathDowarah (Banphool), 1952.
- **Jnanpith Award:** Dr.Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya (1979).
- **Arjuna Award:** BhogeswarBaruah (1966), MonalisaBarua (1987).

ASSAMESE LITERATURE

- Assamese language is considered as one of the main Neo Indo-Aryan (NIA) Languages
- It is also the easternmost Indo-Aryan language that is spoken in Assam state and is one of the 3 official languages of Assam (the other two are Bengali and Bodo)
- The language is developed from Magadhi Prakrit.
- Although early compositions in Assamese language can be found from the 13th century, but its evidences can be traced back to 6th century AD where the earliest elements of language can be discerned.
- **The Charyapadas** are considered as the earliest example of Assamese literature
- Charyapada literature was followed by Pre-Vaishnava literature, when the famous poets and authors like Hem Saraswati, Rudra Kandali, Madhav Kandali, etc. made the ground of Assamese literature
- Assamese language and literature achieved its greatest height during the Vaishnava Period which is described as “**Golden Period of Assamese literature**”. In this period, Sankardeva, Madhabdeva and their contemporary Gohains and writers wrote thousands of books, poems, translation etc. making the treasure of Assamese literature full of gems
- Towards the first quarter of 19th century. Burmese invaded Assam and that period came to be the darkest period in the history of Assamese literature.
- When the British came to power in Assam, the introduction of Bengali as official language resented the people and again an enthusiasm to revive the language had started. This time the Assamese intelligentsia was assisted by the American Baptist Missionaries Under their efforts the language finally got stable and literature again started to flourish.

The stages of Assamese language development and literature can be described as below

The Ancient Era

➤ **Charyapadas:**

- Oldest available specimen of Assamese literature.
- These songs were composed of esoteric lyrics of Buddhism of the Vajrayana sect which is popularly called as Sahaja Cult
- The main Charyapada book was Charyagitikosh. These are also known as Buddha Dohar or Charyageetas.
- Charyapadas were written in both symbolic and alphabet form.

Pre-Vaishnava Era:

- In the 14th century, we see some notable literary work in narrative genre of poetry
- Some of the notable poets of this period were - Hem Saraswati, Rudra Kandali, Madhav Kandali, Harihar
- Vipra, Kaviratna Saraswati etc
- Hem Saraswati
 - He was patronized by Kamata king Durlabh Narayan
 - His literature is considered as the first-Assamese written literature.
 - Saraswati composed two pieces of poetic literature-the “Prahlaad Charita” and “Haragauri Samvad”
 - Prahlaad Charita as a descriptive poem while the Haragauri Sambad is a narrative genre.

Rudra Kandali

- He was patronized by Kachari king Tamradhvaj
- He translated some episodes from Mahabharata Drona Parva

Harihar Viora

- He was in the court of Durlabh Narayan.
- Wrote two books in poetry form. “Babrubahanar Yuddha” and “Lava-Kushar Yuddha”

Madhav Kandali

- He translated Ramayana in free-flowing idiomatic Assamese and was the first in North-India to translate Ramayana into regional language.
- He was in the court of Mahamanikya of Barahi Kingdom
- Sankardeva tributed to Madhav Kandali with the epithet of “Opromadi Kobi” (unerring predecessor poet)
- Others in the pre-sankan era, a renowned mathematician, Bakul Kayastha from Kamarupa Kingdom, compiled Kitabat Manjari (1434 AD). Kitabat Manjan is a poetical treatise on Arithmetic. Surveying and Bookkeeping

Vaishnava Era:

- dominated by two towering figures- Sankardeva and Madhabdev
- The purpose of Vaishnava literature was to give ample knowledge of Bhakti to the common people and to spread the spirit of Bhakti and convince people to lead a peaceful life worshipping only one God- Vishnu or Krishna.
- In terms of form, the varshnava literature can be grouped as poetry, drama, lyrics, hagiographies (Charit Puthis) and various prose works etc

Sankardeva’s literary contribution

Kavya

- Harichandra Upakhyan
- Rukmini Haran
- Balichatan
- Amrit manthan
- Ajamil Upakhyan
- Kurukshetra

Bhakti tatva

- Bhakti Pradip
- Bhakti Ratnakar
- nimi-Namasidh Sambad
- Anadi Paton

Translation

- Bhagavat 1st, 2nd, 6th, 8th, 10th, 11th and 12th scondha
- Uttarakanda Ramayana

Ankia Nat

- Patni Prasad
- Kaliyo Daman
- Rukmini haran
- Panjat Haran
- Ram Bijoy
- Keligopal

Geet

- Borgeet

- Bhatima
- Tutoy and sepoy

Naam

- Kirtan
- Gunamala

Madhabdeva's literary works

- Philosophical work- Janma Rahasya (this was the first literary work of Madhabdev)
- Narrative work Ramayana Adikanda
- Borgeet- around 191 in numbers
- Nat-Arjuna Bhanjan, Dadhi Mathan, Nara Singha Jatra, Govardhan Yatra, Rash Yatra, Chordhara, Pimpura
- Gusua, Bhumi letua, Bhajan Vihar

Namghosa:

- Madhabdev Magnum opus, Naam Ghosa is based chiefly on the Bhagavata Purana. The Naam-Ghosa is also known as Hajari Ghosa, as it contains one thousand verses (ghosas)
- Bhakti-Ratnavali is another notable work, rendered by Madhavadeva from the original work by Visnupuri in Sanskrit.

The other contemporary writers of Sankardeva and Madhabdeva

- Ananta Kandali Ramayana, Kumara Harana, 6th Skandha of Bhagavata, Mahiravana Vadh, Sitar patal
- Prabesh etc
- Ram Saraswati Vadha Kaba and poetic literature. Sridhar Kandall: Kankhowa and Ghunusha Kirtan
- Bhattadova He is also known as the “father of Assamese prose”. Katha Bhagavata. Katha Gita, Bhakti Ratnavalli, Bhakti Viveka (Sanskrit) etc, are his prominent works. Bhattadeva's erudition in Sanskrit grammar and literature, and his command over the Bhagavata came him the title of Bhagavata Bhattacharya

Post Vaishnava Era

- The most valuable literary achievement of this era was the writings of Buranjis and Gharit puthis.
- The Ahom brought with them the habit of recording important events and they continued in their own tai language which was replaced by Assamese language (first by Aton Burhagohain)
- The Koch kings also adopted the writing of chronicles which they named Raj Vamsavali.
- Charit Puthi
- Hagiographic texts dealing with the lives and activities of Vaishnava preachers
- Written both in poetry and prose
- The Chant puthis emerged around the first quarters of 17th century.

Modern Era

- After arrival of American Baptist missionaries in 1836, they started learning Assamese literature to spread their religion in vernacular language in Assam
- The Missionaries took the leadership to re-establish the Assamese language in which the educated Assamese people joined them. The modern era may be discussed considering the following time frame
 - a. The period of Missionary literature (1836-70 AD)
 - b. The period of Hemchandra Barua and Gunabhiram Barua (1870-1890 AD)
 - c. Jonaki Yog (1890-1940 AD)

d. The present day period since 1940 AD

The Period of Missionary literature 1836-1870 AD

- The first printed literary work in Assamese was the translation of the “New Testament” (Dharmapustak Antobhag) in 1813 AD by William Carey with the help of Atmaram Sarma and in 1833 the entire Bible

The Orunodai.

- the first Assamese journal and newspaper was published in January 1846 AD from “Sibsagar Mission Press”
- The first editor of Orunodoi was Nathan Brown.
- It was printed and published by Oliver Thomas Cutter
- Anandaram Dhekial Phukan was the most prominent Assamese writer of Orunodoi period. His works were
 - i. Englandor Vivaran (1847) (1847)
 - ii. Asomiya Lorar Mitra (1849)
 - iii. A few remarks on Assamese language and on vernacular education in Assam

The important works of this period are

- Grammar of Assamese language (1839) by William Robinson (written in English language)
- Ahom Buranji (1844 AD)-Kashinath Tamuli Phukan
- Asamiya Shabdavali aru Khandavakya (1840 AD), Mrs. OTCutter
- Belimar Buranji (1833-38 AD)- Biseswar Vidyadhip
- Assamese Dictionary. Jaduram Deka Baruah (this was the first dictionary written in Assamese language, but was not published).
- Buranji Vivekratna (1838 AD) by Maniram Barbhandar Barua alias Maniram Dewan,

The period of Hemchandra Barua and Gunabhiram Barua (1870-1890 AD)

- Hemchandra Barua and Gunabhiram Barua were pioneers in writing creative literature whose themes were based on the social problems of the Assamese people.
- During their time we see the beginning of Assamese literature with drama, travel literature etc. The creation of wit, humor and satire first entered into Assamese language,

Hemchandra Barua

- His Assamese dictionary Hemkosh was published in 1900 after his death. It was the second Assamese dictionary
- He also wrote “Asomiya Vyakaran (1859 AD) Aadipath (1873 AD), Asomiya Lorar Vyakaran (1886) and Parashuram Abhidhan (1892 AD). He also wrote Kaniya Kirtan (1861 AD) and Bahire
- Rang Sang Bhitare Kowabhaturi Barua worked as the editor of “Assam News”
- In addition to the Assamese books, he also wrote a book in English “Assamese Mamage System

Gunabhiram Barua

- He wrote his first book “Ram Navami” (1857 AD) and after that “Anandaram Dhekial Phukanor Jivan Charit (1880 AD) and Asom Buranji (1884 AD)
- He edited the monthly magazine “The Asom Bandhu
- After the foundation of Assamese literature laid by Hemchandra Barua and Gunabhiram Barua, came a group of educated young people and changed the trend of Assamese literature.
- The young group founded the “Oxomia Bhaxa Unnati Sadhini Sabha in 1888 and decided to launch a magazine.

Jonaki Yog-The Romantic Period (1890-1940 AD)

Jonaki

- With their initiative, from 9th February, 1889 AD. “Oxomia Bhaxa Unnati Sadhini Sabha” started to publish a monthly magazine, the “Jonaki from Gnicutta
- The magazine Jonaki continued only for 9 years. This period is called as “Jonaki Yog”
- Chandrakumar Agarwala was the first editor of Jonaki, followed by Hemchandra Goswami and Lakshminath Bezbarua
- **The first romantic poem “Bonkonwari”** by Chandrakumar Agarwala.
- First Assamese sonnet “Priyatamar Sithi by Hem Chandra Goswami
- Lakshminath Bezbarua’s literary work “Litikai”, Kripabar Baruar Kakotor tupula etc. “Litikai” is accepted as the first farce literary work in Assamese language.
- These 3 towering figures are together known as the “trimurti” of Assamese literature.
- Chandrakumar Agarwala issued two authoritative and commanding works- Pratima (1914) and Bin-Bairagi (1923)
- Bezbarua also produced two compendiums of viruses named Kadamkali (1913) and Padum Kali. His patriotic song “O Mur Apunar Desh” is adopted as the State anthem of Assam
- After Jonaki, the flow of Assamese literature continued in the later years through a numbers of magazines like-Ball (1910-29), Usha (1907-12), Alochani (1910-17), Awahan (1929) etc.
- Karuna Abhiram Barua, son of Gunabhiram Barua founded the first children magazine “Lora Bondhu in 1886 AD.
- Ghor Jeuti was the first Assamese women’s monthly magazine published in 1927 under the editorship of Kamalaloya Kakati.

Note:

1. The first English weekly “Times of Assam” was printed from Dibrugarh in 1895 which was discontinued in 1947
2. In 1894 Rajanikanta Bordoloi published the first Assamese novel Miri Jiyori. He was the pioneer of Assamese Novel and hence known as the “Upanyas Samval”. His other novels are- Manomati (1900), Dandua Droh (1909) Rahadai Ligiri (1930) etc.
3. In 1917 the Assam Sahitya Sabha was formed as a guardian of the Assamese society and the forum for the development of Assamese language and literature Padmanath Gohain Baruah was the first president of the society

Assamese Ballad (Malita)

Historical

Badan Borphukanor Geet

- These songs condemn Badan Borphukan for bringing the Burmese into Assam

Joymoti Kuwanrir Geet

- Explains the plight of Jaymoti and her bravery and sacrifice

Nahor Senamuwar Geet

- Nahar Senamuws and Kanchani were in love. One day, Kanchani went to the Ahom court as a slitve and her beauty caught the attention of the ruler. In due course, she became the queen However, she couldn’t forget Nahar Senamuwa, and managed to get him appointed in the palace Gradually, backed by Kanchan, Nahor became arrogant and ultimately faced the wrath of other officers. Finally Nahor was given the death sentence.

Haradatta Birdattar Geet/Padmakumarir Geet

- Haradatta and Biradatta were the leaders of a revoll in Kamarupa (Donduwa Droh), Haradatta had a daughter named Padmakuman. This revolt was suppressed by Borphukon Kalla Bhomora. After the execution of Haradatta, Padmakumari, in order to save her honour and

dignity from one Sikh Qumedan Sing (a commander of Haradatta), embraced death by jumping in the river Brahmaputra

Bakhor Borar Geet

- Bakhor Bora from Nagaon, was an Ahom officer who was executed in the charge of sedition.

Sikon Xoriyohor Geet

- Naubolsa Phukan, the father-in-law of Jayadvaj Singa had seven sons. One of them was Sikon Xorinyon. Sikon Xoriyohor aspired to become ruler and conspired against the king. As a result, Sikon Xoriyoh along with all his brothers were given death sentence

Gandhi Geet

- These songs were sung in praise of Mahatma Gandhi

Asom Sahitya Sabha

- It was formed in 1917, in Sibsagar.
- the first president Sahitya Kandari Padmanath Gohain Barua and the first secretary Sarat Chandra Goswami
- Bhaxa Unnati Sadhini Sabha.
- It is said that the organization was upgraded to Asom Sahitya Sabha from the formerly Axomia
- Its motto is “Chiro Senehi Mur Bhaxa Jononi”
- The head quarter of the organization is located in Jorhat.
- In its Sibsagar session of 1931, the sabha conferred Lakshminath Bezbaruah the title of “Rasaraj
- The Sabha also conferred the “Sahitya Kandari title to the first President of Assam Sahitya Sabha
- Padmanath Gohain Barua
- Kishnakanta Handique, Dr. Maheswar Neog. Satyendranath Sarma were conferred with “Sadasya Mahiyan” title
- Mitra Dev Mahanta, Atul Chandra Hazarika, Jnaneswar Sharma, Syed Abdul Malik and Jatindranath Goswami were honored with “Sahityacharya award

Sahitya Akademi Award winners for Assamese literature

| Year | Book | Author | Category of Books |
|------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1955 | Bana Phul | Jatindranath Dowara | Poetry |
| 1960 | Kangrechar Kachlyali Ra'dat | Benudhar Sharma | Reminiscences |
| 1961 | Iyarungam | Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya | Novel |
| 1964 | Asamar Loka Sanskriti | Birinchi Kumar Barua | Study in folk culture |
| 1966 | Bedanar Ulka | Ambikagiri Raichoudhury | Poetry |
| 1967 | Adhunik Ga/pa Sahitya | Trailokyanath Coswami | Literary criticism |
| 1968 | Alakananda | Nalinibala Devi | poetry |
| 1969 | Mancha/ekha | Atul Chandra Hazarika | Study of Assamese theatre |
| 1970 | Mahatmar Pora Rupkonadoi | Lakshminath Phukan | Reminiscences |
| 1972 | Aghari Atmar Kahini | Syed Abdul Malik | Novel |
| 1974 | Golarn | Saurabh Kumar Chaliha | Short stories |
| 1975 | Koka Deutar har | Nabakanta Barua | Novel |
| 1976 | Srinkhal | Bhabendra Nath Saikia | Short stories |
| 1977 | Baku/ Banar Kavita | Anand Chandra Barua | Poetry |
| 1978 | Pita Putra | Homen Borgohain | Novel |
| 1979 | Sonali Jahaj | Bhaben Barua | Poetry |

| | | | |
|------|--|--|--------------------|
| 1980 | Prithibir Axukh | Jogesh Das | Short stories |
| 1981 | Kabita | Nilamani Phookan (Jr.) | Poetry |
| 1982 | Mamare Dhara Tarowal Aru Dukhan Upanyasa | Mamoni Roysom Goswami (Indira Goswami) | Novel |
| 1983 | Sudirgha Din Aru Ritu | Nirmalprabha Bordoloi | |
| 1984 | Jangam | Debendra Nath Acharya | Novel |
| 1985 | Krishna Kanta Handique Rachna- Sambhar | Krishna Kanta Handique | Literary criticism |
| 1986 | Benudhar Sarma | Tirthanath Sarma | Biography |
| 1987 | Aan Ejan | Harekrishna Deka | poetry |
| 1988 | Patal Bahirabi | Lakshminandan Bora | Novel |
| 1989 | Asamiya Jatiya Jivanata Mahapurushiya Parampara | Hiren Gohain | Literary criticism |
| 1990 | Snehadevir Ekuki Galpa | Sneha Devi | Short stories |
| 1991 | Brahmaputra Ityadi Padya | Ajit Barua | poetry |
| 1992 | Shaichar Pathar Manuh | Hiren Bhattacharyya | Poetry |
| 1993 | Mor Je Kiman Hepah | Keshav Mahanta | poetry |
| 1994 | Madhupur Bahudur | Sheelabhadra (Rebati Mohan Dutta Choudhury) | Short stories |
| 1995 | Maharathi | Chandra Prasad Saikia | Novel |
| 1996 | Abhijatri | Nirupama Borgohain | |

| | | | |
|------|--|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 1997 | Andharat Nyar Mukh | Nagen Saikia | Short stories |
| 1998 | Asirbadar Rang | Arun Sarma | Novel |
| 1999 | Bipponna Samay | Medini Choudhury | Novel |
| 2000 | Baghe Tapur Rati | Apurba Sharma | Short stories |
| 2001 | Edhani Mahir Hahi | Mahim Bora | Novel |
| 2002 | Mahat Oitiyya | Naiinidhar Bhattacharyya | Prose |
| 2003 | Anek Manuh Anek Thai Aru Mrjanata | Bireswar Barua | Poetry |
| 2004 | Manuh Anukule | Hirendra Nath Dutta | poetry |
| 2005 | Mouna Uth Mukhar Hridoy | YeshedorJee Thongchi | Novel |
| 2006 | Cheneh Jorir Ganthi | Atulananda Goswami | Short stories |
| 2007 | Santanuku/anandan | Purabi Bormudoi | Novel |
| 2008 | Deo Langkhui | Rita Chowdhury | Novel |
| 2009 | Katha Ratnakar | Dhrubajyoti Bora | Novel |
| 2010 | Assamiya Ramayani sahitya:kathabastur atiguri | Keshada Mahanta | Article |
| 2011 | Aei anuragi aei udas | Kabin Phukan | poetry |
| 2012 | Patkai Epare Mor Des | Chandana Goswami | Novel |
| 2013 | Dhuliyori Bharir Sans | Rabindra Sarkar | Poetry |

| | | | |
|------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 2014 | Mariam Astin Athaba Hira Barua | Arupa Kalita Patangia | Short Stories |
| 2015 | Akashar Chhabi Aru Anyanya Galpa | Kula Saikia | Short Stories |
| 2016 | Maghmalar Bhraman | Jnan Pujari | Poetry collection |
| 2017 | Moriahola | Jayanta Madhab Bora | Novel |
| 2018 | Kali/oir Dintu Amar Hobo | Sananta Tanty | Poetry collection |
| 2019 | Chanakya | Joyasree Goswami Mahanta | Novel |

Assamese writer - Sobriquet - Pen name

| Writer | Sobriquet | Pen name |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ambikagiri Raichoudhury | Asom Kesori | |
| Ananda Chandra Agarwala | Bhangani Konwar | Sri Harsha |
| Ananda Chandra Barua | Bakulbonor Kavi | |
| Anandaram Dhekial Phukan | | A Native |
| Banikanta Kakati | - | Bhabananda Pathak |
| Benudhar Sharma | - | Bihguti Bora |
| Bhabendra Nath Saikia | - | Priya Bandhu:Sanjay:Satyapriyo Pathak |
| Bhubanmohan Baruah | | Kanchan Baruah |

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Binanda Chandra Barua | Dhwoni Kobii | Kerpai Sarma |
| Bonnchi Kumar Earua | - | Bina Baruah:Rashna Baruah |
| Bishnuprasad Rabha | Kalaguru | Bishnupriya Rabha Tahkuna |
| Bishnuram Medhl | Lauha Manab | |
| Brajanath Sarma | Abhinayacharya | |
| Chandra Kumar Agarwala | Pratimar Khonikor | |
| Chakreshwar Bhattacharyya | Rajpathar Sil | |
| Ganesh Chandra Gogoi | Paporir Kavi | |
| Copinath Bordoloi | Lokapriya | |
| Cunabhiram Barua | - | Guru Dutta |
| Hem Barua | Tyagbir | Sonaram Chand |
| Hiren Gohain | - | Niranjan Phukan |
| Indira Coswami | | Mamoni Raisom Goswami |
| Jyotiprasad Agarwalla | Roopkonwar | |
| Kamalakanta Bhattacharyya | Agnikobi | Astabakra |
| Kanaklata Baruah | Birbala | |

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Lakshminath Bezbaroa | Roxoraj, Sahityarathi | Kripabar Barbaruah |
| Mahendranath Deka Phukan | | Monai Boiragi |
| Mafijuddin Ahmed Hazarika | Gyanmalinir Kavi | |
| Mahim Bora | Rangajiya kavi | Dhanbor Kai |
| Nabin Chandra Bordoloi | Karmaveer | |
| Nalinibala Devi | Atindriyabadi Kavi | |
| Navakanta Barua | - | Ekhud Kakaideu:Sima Dutta |
| Nilmoni Phukan Sr | Bagmibor | |
| Pabitra Kumar Deka | - | Rasheswar Hazarika |
| Parvati Prasad Baruva | Geetikavi | Hoibor Abhoipuria |
| Phani Sarma | Natasurjya | |
| Radha Gobinda Baruah | Singhapurush | |
| Raghunath Choudhary | Bihogi Kavi | |
| Rajanikanta Bordoloi | Upanyash Samrat | Bholai Sarma |
| Rebati Mohan Dutta Choudhury | | Silabhadra |
| Robin Dey | Porasor | Rongmon |

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Rudra Baruah | Luit Konwar | |
| Satyanath Bora | | Ejon Asornyya |
| Syed Abdul Malik | | Ajagar.Swami Abhanganaanda |
| Surendranath Medhi | | Saurav Kumar Chaliha |
| Tarun Ram Phukan | Deshbhakta | |

Paintings

- The history of painting in Assam can be traced back from the 7th century. History says that besides other valuable presents Bhaskar Varman sent Paat aru Tulika with other equipments of painting to Harshavardhan
- The practice of painting in ancient Assam is mentioned in Harshacharit by Banabhatta and in the account of Hiuen Tsang

Sankardeva

- For Chihnayatra, Sankardeva illustrated the vision of seven heaven (saat Baikuntha) on paper made of cotton.
- Once he had drawn an elephant on cotton made paper using the colour of yellow orpiment (Hengul Haital) and pasted it on a wooden box and gifted it to Naranarayan.
- Sankardeva's "Dashamkandha Bhagawat found at Balisatra in Nagaon is an excellent example of illustrated religious work.

Books with paintings compiled under royal patronage

- Darrang Raaj Bangshavali - by Suryakhori Daivagya
- Hasthividyaarnava - by Sukumar Balkanth (drawing - Dilbor and Doshai)
- Sankhasur Vadh - by Kaviraj Chakravarty
- Geet Govinda, Battle of Lava Kusha - by Harihar Bipra

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

SPECIAL EDITION FOR PRELIMS 2025

SCHEMES, MISSIONS, PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

→ AMRIT DHAROHAR CAPACITY BUILDING SCHEME

- The 'Amrit Dharohar Capacity Building Scheme' is a collaborative effort between the **Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change**.
- The scheme IS BEING implemented over the next three years (2023 onwards) to **encourage optimal use of wetlands, and enhance biodiversity, carbon stock, eco-tourism opportunities** and income generation for local communities.
- The primary focus of the Scheme is to **strategically transition from high-volume tourism to high-value nature tourism** at ecologically sensitive wetlands.

- **Aim:** The aim is to **enhance livelihood opportunities** for local communities through harnessing the nature-tourism potential of the Ramsar Sites across the country.
- **Implementation:** The scheme is being **implemented in convergence** with various Central Government ministries and agencies, State wetland authorities, and a network of formal and informal institutions and individuals, working together for a common cause.

Pilot Projects and Skill Development:

- 5 Ramsar sites have been selected for pilot projects under the scheme.
- These pilot sites include Sultanpur National Park (Haryana), Bhitarkanika Mangroves (Odisha), Chilika Lake (Odisha), Sirpur (Madhya Pradesh), and Yashwant Sagar (Madhya Pradesh).
- Training programs for participants are carried under the Alternative Livelihood Programme (ALP) and Paryatan Navik Certificate (boatman certification for tourism).

→ AQUACULTURE CROP INSURANCE

To mitigate the risks faced by aqua farmers, NFDB (National Fisheries Development Board), which is the nodal agency for implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), proposed to implement the Aquaculture Crop Insurance scheme.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

The Scheme aims to provide basic cover for brackish water shrimp and fish on pilot basis for one year in the selected States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha.

About Aquaculture

- The term aquaculture broadly refers to the **cultivation of aquatic organisms in controlled aquatic environments** for any commercial, recreational, or public purpose.
- The breeding, rearing, and harvesting of **plants and animals** takes place in all types of water environments including ponds, rivers, lakes, the ocean and man-made “closed” systems on land.

Purposes

- Food production for human consumption,
- Rebuilding of populations of threatened and endangered species,
- Habitat restoration,
- Wild stock enhancement,
- Production of baitfish, and
- Fish culture for zoos and aquariums

Aquaculture Insurance

- Aquaculture insurance is a type of insurance **specifically designed to provide coverage and financial protection** to individuals or entities involved in aquaculture, which is the farming of aquatic organisms, such as fish, shrimp, and other aquatic species, for commercial purposes.
- This type of insurance is tailored to address the unique risks and challenges faced by aquaculture operations.

Need for Aquaculture Insurance

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Risk Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquaculture is susceptible to various risks, including diseases, adverse weather conditions, water quality issues, and natural disasters. • These risks can lead to significant financial losses for aquaculture farmers. Insurance helps manage and mitigate these risks by providing financial compensation in the event of such adverse events. |
| Investment Protection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance safeguards substantial investments in infrastructure, ensuring that the financial resources put into the operation are protected against unforeseen events. |
| Market confidence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The availability of aquaculture insurance can boost investor and farmer confidence in the industry and encourage individuals to invest in aquaculture and expand their operations. |
| Sustainability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance can promote the sustainability of aquaculture operations by providing a means to recover from unexpected setbacks, this, in turn, can encourage responsible and sustainable practices in aquaculture to reduce risks and insurance premiums. |

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ ARTHA GANGA

Arth Ganga is an initiative added to the Namami Ganga Program

- It is a **sustainable and viable economic development model** to **strengthen the river-people connection** through an economic bridge.
- It was decided that the Namami Gange mission should lead the concept of Arth Ganga with the involvement of all stakeholders.
- It was **added as a vertical of the Namami Ganga Program**, in addition to 4 verticals: **Nirmal Ganga, Aviral Ganga, Jan Ganga and Gyan Ganga.**

Six pillars of Arth-Ganga identified are:

- | |
|---|
| • Promotion of Natural Farming on the 5 km band on either side of River Ganga. |
| • Monetisation and reuse of Treated water and sludge from the STPs; |
| • Improvement of Livelihood opportunities , particularly for women; |
| • Promotion of Tourism and Cultural heritage |
| • People's Participation and Capacity Building |
| • Empowering local administration for improved water governance. |

→ ATAL PENSION YOJANA

- Atal Pension Yojana is a **pension scheme** under the Government of India.
- This scheme **replaces the Swavalamban Yojana** and was established **to provide old age income security** to the **workers belonging to the unorganised sector** who are not covered under any of the social security schemes.
- It became operational from **1st June 2015**.

Benefits

- The scheme provides the subscribers with a **fixed pension** ranging between Rs.1000 to Rs. 5000.
- The pension is provided if he/she joins and **contributes between the age of 18 years and 40 years**.
- The contribution level varies as per the conditions which is low if the subscriber joins the scheme early and might increase if he/she joins late.
- After the death of the subscriber, the **spouse is eligible for availing the same benefits** provided by the pension.
- The indicative pension wealth will be returned to the nominees after the death of a spouse.
- Contributions to the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) is eligible for tax benefits similar to the National Pension System (NPS).

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ ASPIRE

- A Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Rural Industries and Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE) **aids to set up a network of technology centres** and to set up **incubation centres to accelerate entrepreneurship** and also to promote startups for **innovation in agro-industry**.
- ASPIRE provides financial support to set up **Livelihood Business Incubators (LBI)** or **Technology Business Incubator (TBI)**.

Objectives

- | |
|---|
| ○ Create new jobs and reduce unemployment |
| ○ Promote entrepreneurship culture in India |
| ○ Grassroots economic development at the district level |
| ○ Facilitate innovative business solution for unmet social needs |
| ○ Promote innovation to further strengthen the competitiveness of MSME sector |

Eligibility

- Implement the **incubation and commercialisation of business ideas** programme through technical/research institutes including those in the field of agro-based industry.
- These would be **designated as knowledge partners** and would **incubate new/existing technologies** for their commercialisation.
- It provides funds for the incubator/incubation and creates necessary synergy between this scheme and the livelihood business.
- Incubators/Technology Business Incubators and Incubation Schemes of MSME/NSIC/KVIC/Coir Board/Other Ministries/Departments as well as Private Incubators.

→ ATAL INNOVATION MISSION

- **Atal New India Challenge** was launched under the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) to bring in innovations and technologies relevant to the masses.
- Atal Innovation Mission is a flagship initiative launched to **promote the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship** in the country.
- The AIM, in partnership with the **Railway Board, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**, has launched the Atal New India Challenge.
- The AIM, under the initiative, would invite potential innovators, start-ups and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises to innovate, create and design market-ready products with the help of cutting-edge technologies in 17 pre-identified focus areas.

Initiatives of AIM

- | |
|--------------------------|
| ○ Atal Tinkering Lab |
| ○ Atal Incubation Center |

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

| |
|---|
| ○ Mentor India |
| ○ Atal New India Challenge |
| ○ Atal Community Innovation Centre |
| ○ Aatmanirbhar Bharat ARISE – Atal New India Challenge (ANIC) Program |

17 pre-identified focus areas for the AIM

| | |
|--|--|
| ○ Waste in public spaces and dissuading public littering | ○ Safe transport |
| ○ Mixing blades for composting | ○ Electric mobility |
| ○ Decentralized composting | ○ Smart mobility |
| ○ Quality of compost | ○ Alternate fuel-based transportation |
| ○ Garbage composition devices | ○ Predictive maintenance of rolling stock |
| ○ Waste management recycling/reuse | ○ Prevention of rail failure using emerging technologies |
| ○ Affordable desalination/recycling technology | ○ Fog vision system for road and rail |
| ○ Instant potable water quality testing | ○ Climate-smart agriculture |

The programme will be driven by the **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** and four ministries:

| |
|--|
| ○ Ministry of Defence; |
| ○ Ministry of Food Processing Industries; |
| ○ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and |
| ○ Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. |

→ ATAL TINKERING LABS

- Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) have been **established at schools across India**, with a vision to “**cultivate one million children in India as neoteric innovators**”.
- The **objective of the scheme** is to “foster curiosity, creativity, and imagination in young minds” and inculcate skills such as design mindset, computational thinking, adaptive learning, physical computing, etc.
- ATL is an activity conducted under the umbrella mission named ‘**Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)**’.
- Other goals of the scheme include inculcating in children a **design mindset, adaptive learning, computational thinking, physical computing**, etc.
- The philosophy behind ATLs is that prize awards and incentives are a great start to generate an aggressive wave of innovation and entrepreneurship in school-going children.
- ATL's would be set up by schools (having grades VI to X) that are managed by the government, local bodies, private trusts or societies, etc.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ AMRUT

- Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) was launched in **June 2015**.
- The AMRUT scheme is an initiative **to provide basic civic amenities to the urban areas** to improve the quality of life with major focus to the poor and the disadvantaged.
- The AMRUT Scheme **focuses on establishing an infrastructure** for ensuring adequate sewage networks and water supply in the urban areas through the implementation of the urban revival projects.
- The first state to submit State Annual Action Plan under the AMRUT scheme was Rajasthan.
- Various other schemes like **Swachh Bharat Mission, Housing for All** and the local state schemes related to water supply, sewerage and infrastructure can also be linked to the AMRUT scheme.

Objectives

- To ensure a **proper supply of water and a sewage connection** in every household.
- To develop **green and well maintained open spaces and parks** to increase the amenity value of the cities.
- To **reduce pollution by switching to public transport** or through the construction of non-motorized transport facilities such as walking and cycling.
- AMRUT aims in covering around 500 cities that are having a population of over one lakh with notified municipalities.

Major components

- | |
|---|
| ○ Capacity building |
| ○ Reform implementation |
| ○ Water supply and management of sewerage and septage |
| ○ Drainage of stormwater |
| ○ Improvement in urban transport facilities |
| ○ Development of green spaces and parks. |

→ AYUSHMAN SAHAKAR SCHEME

- Launched under the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**, the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) in 2020.
- Ayushman Sahakar is a unique scheme to assist **cooperatives to play an important role in the creation of healthcare infrastructure** in the country.

Key Features

- Ayushman Sahakar Fund will be made available by the **National Cooperative Development Corporation**, and any cooperative society with suitable provision to undertake healthcare-related activities would be able to access the NCDC fund
- Establishment and renovation of hospitals, modernisation, expansion and repairs of healthcare institutes and development of healthcare and education infrastructure shall be the main focus

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- To meet the requirements, working capital and margin money shall also be provided to the cooperatives
- **Interest subvention of 1% to women majority cooperatives** shall also be provided under the Ayushman Sahakar scheme

Objectives

- To assist the provision of affordable and holistic healthcare through hospitals /healthcare/education facilities by cooperative societies
- To assist the promotion of AYUSH facilities by cooperative societies
- To assist cooperative societies to meet the objectives of National Health Policy
- To assist cooperative societies to participate in the National Digital Health Mission
- Assist cooperative societies to provide comprehensive healthcare including education, services, insurance and activities related thereto.

→ ATUFS

- The Ministry of Textiles has introduced the **Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS)** starting from Jan 2016, for a period of seven years.
- Under ATUFS, there is a provision of a one-time capital subsidy for eligible benchmarked machinery at the rate of 15% for garments.
- The ATUFS replaces the existing **Revised Restructured Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (RR-TUFS)** to give a boost to the textile sector under the Make in India campaign.
- The new scheme specifically targets:

- Employment generation and export by encouraging the apparel and garment industry, which will provide employment to women in particular and increase India's share in global exports.
- Promotion of Technical Textiles, a sunrise sector, for export and employment
- Promoting conversion of existing looms to better technology looms for improvement in quality and productivity
- Encouraging better quality in the processing industry and checking the need for import of fabrics by the garment sector.

→ ATAL BHUJAL SCHEME

- The objective of the programme was to lay emphasis on the **recharge of groundwater resources and improve the exploitation of the groundwater resources**, with the involvement of people at the local level.
- The scheme will be implemented and looked over by the **Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation**, which is now known as the **Jal Shakti Ministry**.
- **Half of the cost of the scheme will be borne by the Government**, while the **other half will be funded by the World Bank** in the form of a loan.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- To encourage community participation, it has been planned by the government to **give 50% of the money to gram panchayats** and states as incentives for achieving the groundwater management targets.
- The scheme is being taken up in water-stressed Gram Panchayats of Haryana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.
- The scheme has **two components**:

▪ Institutional Strengthening & Capacity Building component

▪ Incentive Component for incentivizing the States

- It also aims at bringing about behavioural change at the community level through awareness programs and capacity building for fostering sustainable groundwater management in the participating States
- The scheme envisages addressing four critical issues relating to sustainable groundwater management, that is,

▪ State-specific institutional frameworks for sustainable groundwater management;

▪ Enhancement of groundwater recharge;

▪ Improvement of water use efficiency; and

▪ Strengthening of community-based institutions to foster groundwater management.

Some potential investment categories which are **excluded** from Atal Bhujal Yojana are:

○ Construction of major dams and new large-scale irrigation systems; and

○ Industrial wastewater collection, treatment, and using it for recharging groundwater.

○ In addition, activities that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on the environment that are sensitive, diverse, or unprecedented and/or affect people are not eligible for financing under the Program.

○ Similarly, activities that involve procurement of works, goods, and services of high-value contracts will normally not be eligible for financing.

→ CITIIS 2.0

CITIIS 2.0 is a program conceived by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in partnership with the French Development Agency (AFD), Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), the European Union (EU), and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA).

The program will run for a period of four years, i.e., from 2023 till 2027.

- The program envisages to support **competitively selected projects promoting circular economy** with focus on **integrated waste management at the city level, climate-oriented reform actions at the State level, and institutional strengthening and knowledge dissemination at the National level.**
- CITIIS 2.0 will **supplement the climate actions of Government of India** through its ongoing National programs (National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, AMRUT 2.0, Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 and Smart Cities Mission), as well as contributing positively to India's Intended

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and Conference of the Parties (COP26) commitments.

CITIIS 1.0 which was launched 2018 consisted of three components:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Component 1 | ○ 12 city-level projects selected through a competitive process. |
| Component 2 | ○ Capacity-development activities in the State of Odisha. |
| Component 3 | ○ Promoting integrated urban management at the national level through activities undertaken by NIUA, which was the Program Management Unit (PMU) for CITIIS 1.0 |

Following the CITIIS 1.0 model, CITIIS 2.0 has three major components:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Component 1 | ○ Financial and technical support for developing projects focused on building climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation in up to 18 smart cities. |
| Component 2 | <p>All States and UTs will be eligible for support on demand basis. The States will be provided support to: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> set-up/strengthen their existing State climate centres/ Climate cells/ equivalents create State and city level Climate Data Observatories facilitate climate-data driven planning, develop climate action plans, and build capacities of municipal functionaries. <p>To achieve these objectives, the PMU at NIUA will coordinate provision of technical assistance and strategic support to State Governments.</p> |
| Component 3 | ○ Interventions at all three levels; Centre, State and City to further climate governance in urban India through institutional strengthening, knowledge dissemination, partnerships, building capacity, research, and development to support scale up across all States and Cities. |

➔ CREDIT GUARANTEE SCHEME FOR STARTUPS (CGSS)

- In order to venture into any business, the most important thing is capital, the availability of funds. Lack of adequate funding is normally a hindrance for most aspiring entrepreneurs. Some of them start their businesses but face a fund crunch after a short period of time. Moreover, it is not as easy to obtain loans from banks as it once used to be.
- The start-up sector, most recently, received a much-needed push from the Government of India with the formulation of the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups with a contribution of Rs. 2,000 crore.
- The scheme is part of the **Startup India action plan** and will thus allow startups to avail loans for their businesses without any collateral.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

Features

- The startup has to be recognised by the **DIPP (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion)** in order to be eligible for the credit guarantee.
- The guarantees will be offered based on portfolios, and these portfolios will consist of at least 10 startup loans for a particular financial year.
- The credit guarantee offered will be inclusive of any other assistance (Venture capital, working capital, debentures, optionally convertible debt, term loans etc.) and will be offered up to the amount of Rs. 5 crore to every eligible startup.
- The coverage offered by the scheme is as follows –
 - The scheme will be providing credit to cover up to 75% of the credit facility subject to a ceiling of Rs. 150 lakh.
 - Where loans of less than Rs. 5 lakh are granted to micro-enterprises, the scheme covers upto 85% of the credit facility.
 - MSMEs operated or owned by women and all loans granted to NER (North-East Region) including Sikkim will have up to 80% of the credit facility covered by this scheme.
 - 50% of the amount of credit for MSME retail trade will be covered under this scheme, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 50 lakh.

→ DHRUV

- The name of the scheme, DHRUV, is based on the pole star called “Dhruv Tara”. **PM Innovative Learning Programme**
- It was launched in 2019.
- The programme shall focus on encouraging young and talented students in the field of their interest be it science, performing arts, creative writing, etc.

Objectives

- Through this programme, the Indian Government shall encourage talented and gifted children to enrich their skills and knowledge
- In centres of excellence across the country, children will be mentored and nurtured by renowned experts in different areas, so that they can reach their full potential
- Two areas will be the main focus: Arts and Science

→ eSANJEEVANI

- eSanjeevani is a government scheme that **offers online OPD doctor consultations** to citizens.
- eSanjeevani is the first-ever online OPD (outpatient) consultation service offered by the government of India to citizens.
- The scheme was started in 2019.
- It is run by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.
- Also called the **National Teleconsultation Service**, it aims to provide healthcare services to patients in their homes.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- It includes a structured and safe teleconsultation between a doctor and a patient through online mode (eSanjeevani OPD).
- The eSanjeevani OPD portal and system has been developed by the **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)** in Mohali.
- The panel of doctors on the service is drawn by the state governments.
- A few states like Jharkhand, Kerala, Punjab and Tamil Nadu, etc. have started offering specialised doctor consultation services also.
- The service is also available on mobile application.

→ DAY-NRLM

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)

- It is a Centrally Sponsored Programme, launched by the Ministry of Rural Development in 2011.
- It aims to eliminate rural poverty through the promotion of multiple livelihoods and improved access to financial services for the rural poor households across the country.

Functioning

- It involves **working with community institutions through community professionals** in the spirit of self-help which is a unique proposition of DAY-NRLM.
- It impacts livelihoods by:

- Mobilizing rural households into SHGs.
- Organizing one-woman member from each rural poor household into SHGs
- Providing training and capacity building to SHG members
- Providing access to financial resources from their own institutions and banks.

Sub Programs

- **Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP):** It aims to promote agro-ecological practices that increase women farmers' income and reduce their input costs and risks.
- **Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP):** It aims to support entrepreneurs in rural areas to set up local enterprises.
- **Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY):** It was launched in August 2017, to provide safe, affordable and community monitored rural transport services to connect remote rural villages.
- **Deendayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDUGKY):** It aims at building placement-linked skills of the rural youth and placing them in relatively higher wage employment sectors of the economy.
- **Rural Self Employment Institutes (RSETIs):** DAY-NRLM, in partnership with 31 Banks and State Governments, is supporting Rural Self Employment Institutes (RSETIs) for skilling rural youth to take up gainful self-employment.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ DDU-GKY

- Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) is a centrally-sponsored scheme announced in **2014** which is focused on rural development in India.
- It is a part of the **National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM)**.
- Its **two major objectives** are:

▪ **Incorporating diversity** to the incomes of rural poor families

▪ Catering to the **career aspirations** of rural youth

- The focus of the scheme is on **rural poor youth between the ages of 15 and 35**.
- It is a **demand-driven** skills training program that is placement-linked.
- It supports the social and economic programs of the government such as Digital India, Make in India, Smart Cities, Start-up India and Stand-up India, as part of the Skill India campaign.
- The youth from rural India face several hurdles in their pursuit of a better life in the form of lack of formal education and required skills. The DDU-GKY seeks to bridge this gap by funding training projects that are of global standards with a focus on placement, retention, career progression and placement abroad.
- The scheme is under the **Ministry of Rural Development, GOI**.
- The scheme can trace its roots to the 'Special Projects' component of the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) of 2004. It was revised and repositioned as DDU-GKY in 2014.

Eligibility

Rural youth between the ages of 15 and 35 are eligible for receiving training under the scheme. There is age relaxation up to 45 years for women, SC/ST and physically disabled people. Candidates should have any of the following:

- BPL Card
- BPL PDS Card
- RSBY Card (Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana)
- Family member should be a member in a registered SHG in the village
- Family member is a paid worker under MGNREGA with a minimum of 15 days of work in the last 12 months

Implementation Model

- The scheme **functions in a three-tier model**.
- On top is the **DDU-GKY National Unit** at the Rural Development Ministry which acts as the policy-making, technical support and facilitation agency.
- Below that is the **DDU-GKY State Missions** which provide implementation support.
- At the lowest level are the **Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs)** which execute the programme through skilling and placement projects.

Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs)

- PIAs are the implementing agencies of the scheme and they should satisfy the following necessary conditions and eligibility criteria:

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- **Registered under** Indian Trust Acts or any State Society Registration Act or any State Cooperative Societies or Multi-State Cooperative Acts or the Companies Act 2013 or the Limited Liability Partnerships Act 2008 OR Government or a semi-government organization at the State and National Level.
- **Positive Net Worth for at least 2 out of the last 3 financial years** (Not applicable for NSDC Partners).
- Existence as an operational Legal Entity in India for more than 3 financial years (Not applicable for NSDC Partners).
- Turnover exceeding at least 25% of the proposed project.

→ DIGITAL INDIA

- The motto of the Digital India Mission is '**Power to Empower**'. There are three core components to the Digital India initiative. They are digital infrastructure creation, digital delivery of services, and digital literacy.

The **major objectives** of this initiative are listed below:

- To provide high-speed internet in all gram panchayats.
- To provide easy access to **Common Service Centre (CSC)** in all the locality.
- Digital India is an initiative that combines a large number of ideas and thoughts into a single, comprehensive vision so that each of them is seen as part of a larger goal.
- The Digital India Programme also focuses on restructuring many existing schemes that can be implemented in a synchronized manner.
- Digital India aims to provide the much-needed thrust to the nine pillars of growth areas. Each of these areas is a complex programme in itself and cuts across multiple Ministries and Departments.

The **nine pillars of Digital India** are given below:

- 1. Broadband Highways**– This covers three sub components, namely Broadband for All – Rural, Broadband for All – Urban and National Information Infrastructure (NII).
- 2. Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity**- This initiative focuses on network penetration and filling the gaps in connectivity in the country.
- 3. Public Internet Access Programme**- The two sub components of Public Internet Access Programme are Common Services Centres (CSCs) and Post Offices as multi-service centres.
- 4. e-Governance**: Reforming Government through Technology- Government Process Re-engineering using IT to simplify and make the government processes more efficient is critical for transformation to make the delivery of government services more effective across various government domains and therefore needs to be implemented by all Ministries/ Departments.
- 5. e-Kranti** – Electronic Delivery of Services- To improve the delivery of public services and simplify the process of accessing them. In this regard, several e-governance initiatives have been undertaken by various State Governments and Central Ministries to usher in an era of e-Government. e-Governance in India has steadily evolved from the computerization of Government Departments to initiatives that encapsulate the finer points of Governance, such as citizen centricity, service orientation and transparency.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- 6. Information for All-** This pillar aims to ensure transparency and availability of reliable data generated by the line ministries for use, reuse and redistribution for the people of India.
- 7. Electronics Manufacturing-** This pillar focuses on promoting electronics manufacturing in the country.
- 8. IT for Jobs-** This pillar focuses on providing training to the youth in the skills required for availing employment opportunities in the IT/ITES sector.
- 9. Early Harvest Programmes-** This pillar consists of a group of different short-term projects which have immediate effect on the Indian digital ecosystem like IT platform for mass messaging, crowd Sourcing of eGreetings, biometric attendance in the government offices, WI-FI in all universities etc.

Digital India Initiatives

The Government has taken up many initiatives under the Digital India campaign. Discussed below are few such important initiatives:

- **DigiLockers** – This flagship initiative aims at ‘Digital Empowerment’ of the citizen by providing access to authentic digital documents to citizen’s digital document wallet
- **E-Hospitals** – It is a Hospital Management Information System (HMIS) which is a one-stop solution in connecting patients, hospitals and doctors through a single digital platform.
- **E-Pathshala** – Developed by NCERT, e-Pathshala showcases and disseminates all educational e-resources including textbooks, audio, video, periodicals and a variety of other print and non-print materials through the website and mobile app
- **BHIM** – Bharat Interface for Money is an app that makes payment transactions simple, easy and quick using Unified Payments Interface (UPI)

➔ NATIONAL URBAN LIVELIHOOD MISSION

- DAY-NULM stands for Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihood Mission.
- It is a scheme under the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** that focuses on reducing poverty and vulnerability of the urban poor households.
- It was launched in 2013.
- NULM replaced **Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)** and is known as **Rashtriya Shahri Aajeevika Mission** in Hindi.
- It focuses on **organising urban poor in their strong grassroots level institutions** by enhancing sustainable livelihood opportunities through skill development.
- It **aims at leading poor to market-based employment** and helping them to set up self-employment ventures by ensuring easy access to credit.
- Mission is implemented in all District Headquarter Towns and all other cities with a population of 1,00,000 or more as per 2011 census.
- The target of DAY-NULM is the urban population identified as below the poverty line population in urban areas by the States and Union Territories. Its intended beneficiaries are urban poor (street vendors, slum dwellers, homeless, rag pickers), unemployed and differently-abled.
- DAY-NULM has been conferred the prestigious **SKOCH Governance Gold Award**.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

Mission

- Reducing poverty and vulnerability of the urban poor households by enabling them.
- Providing access to self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities.
- Improving the livelihoods of urban poor on a sustainable basis, through building strong grassroots level institutions of the poor.
- The mission of NULM scheme also aims at providing shelter equipped with essential services to the urban homeless in a phased manner.
- Addressing livelihood concerns of the urban street vendors by facilitating access to suitable spaces, institutional credit, social security, and skills to the urban street vendors for accessing emerging market opportunities.

NULM comprises the following sub-schemes to uplift urban poor-

- Social Mobilization and Institution Development – SM&ID
- Employment through Skills Training and Placement – EST&P
- Capacity Building and Training – CBT
- Self-Employment Programme – SEP
- Scheme of Shelter for Urban Homeless – SUH
- Support to Urban Street Vendors – SUSV
- Innovative and Special project – ISP

→ FAME INDIA SCHEME PHASE II

- **Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME II)**, is a scheme launched by the Government of India to give a boost to development of Electric Vehicles.
- This is important considering the efforts to combat climate change across the globe.
- The Government of India has allocated a budget of Rs 10,000 crores for the second phase of this scheme.
- This scheme was launched to achieve the goals of **National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP)**.
- **Phase I lasted from 2015 to 2019** and Phase II of FAME was launched in 2019.
- **Department of Heavy Industries**, the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises is the monitoring authority

Latest Context

- The Central government has increased the subsidy under the second phase of the FAME India scheme on electric two-wheelers by 50 percent. The subsidy will now be **Rs 15,000 per kWh for electric two-wheelers** under FAME India phase II. Earlier, it was Rs 10,000 per kWh.
- Additionally, the cap on subsidy for an electric two-wheeler will be 40 per cent of its cost, up from 20 per cent earlier.
- The government's continued support to Electronic Vehicles- EVs will make the electric Two-wheelers more affordable which will greatly benefit electric motorcycle and scooter customers.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- Sustainable mobility solutions are very important for the future and the improved incentives for electric two-wheelers will increase penetration and encourage further indigenous investments in future technology.

Steps taken to Make Electric Vehicles more Affordable

- Incentives will be given to manufacturers involved in development of electric vehicles.
- Incentives will be given to manufacturers involved in development of lithium ion batteries and electric motors.
- The Centre has directed states to frame policies and provide incentives to manufacturers and buyers.

→ GOBARDHAN SCHEME

- The Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBAR-DHAN) scheme is implemented under the **Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin-Phase 2**, by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation under the Jal Shakti ministry.
- It was launched in 2018.
- The scheme aims to augment income of farmers by converting biodegradable waste into compressed biogas (CBG).
- The initiative aims at attracting entrepreneurs for establishing community-based CBG plants in rural areas.

Benefits of the scheme

- Helpful for the country as India is home to the highest cattle population in the world, close to 300 million in number, with a daily output of 3 million tonnes of dung.
- Encourage farmers to consider dung and other waste not just as a waste but as a source of income.
- Benefits to the rural people. It will be easier to keep the village clean and sanitized, livestock health will improve and farm yields will increase.
- Increase self-reliance in energy utilized for cooking and lighting.
- Provides a stable fuel supply in the market for oil companies and accessible credit in the market through government schemes and banks for entrepreneurs.

→ GIAN SCHEME

The Ministry of Education is preparing to resume the fourth phase of the Global Initiative of Academic Networks (GIAN). This initiative aims to bring in distinguished scholars worldwide to teach at Indian universities.

- GIAN is a **flagship initiative by the Ministry of Education (MoE)**, Government of India designed to **foster collaboration and enhance the quality of education and research** in Indian academic institutions.
- **Launched in 2015**, the **objectives** are

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- To improve the quality of higher education through international collaboration.
- To increase the touch of reputed international faculty to Indian academic institutes.
- To bring in International academic excellence in India's higher education institutions.
- To augment the country's existing academic resources, accelerate the pace of quality reform, and elevate India's scientific and technological capacity to global excellence.

• The **eligibility criteria** for joining the GIAN scheme are as follows:

- Faculty members of Indian institutions of higher education.
- Scientists and entrepreneurs from abroad.
- The courses offered under the GIAN scheme should be relevant to the Indian context.
- The courses should be designed to provide exposure to the latest developments in the field.
- The courses should be designed to provide hands-on training to the participants.

→ GREEN CREDIT PROGRAM

The MoEFCC has notified the draft 'Green Credit Programme (GCP)' implementation rules 2023. The purpose is to reward and incentivize individuals and entities for their positive environmental contributions.

Participants can earn Green Credits for a wide range of activities that promote environmental sustainability.

Green Credit

- Green Credit refers to a **unit of incentive** provided to **individuals and entities** engaged in activities that deliver a **positive impact on the environment**.
- It is a voluntary program initiated by the government to incentivize various stakeholders in contributing to environmental preservation and sustainable practices.
- This program is part of the broader '**LiFE**' campaign (**Lifestyle for Environment**), and it encourages and rewards voluntary environmentally-positive actions.

Covered Activities

- The Green Credit program encompasses **eight key types of activities** aimed at enhancing environmental sustainability:

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Tree plantation | • To promote activities for increasing green cover across the country through tree plantation and related activities |
| Water | • To promote water conservation, water harvesting and water use efficiency/savings, including treatment and reuse of wastewater |

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

| | |
|--|---|
| Sustainable agriculture | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote natural and regenerative agricultural practices and land restoration to improve productivity, soil health and nutritional value of food produced |
| Waste management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote sustainable and improved practices for waste management, including collection, segregation, and treatment |
| Air pollution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote measures for reducing air pollution and other pollution-abatement activities |
| Mangrove conservation and restoration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote measures for the conservation and restoration of mangroves |
| Ecomark | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage manufacturers to obtain an eco-mark label for their goods and services |
| Sustainable building and infrastructure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage the construction of buildings and other infrastructure using sustainable technologies and materials |

Earning and Calculation of Green Credit

- To earn Green Credits, participants **need to register their environmental activities through a dedicated website**. The activities will then be subject to verification by a designated agency.
- Based on the agency's report, the administrator will grant the applicant a certificate of Green Credit.
- The calculation of Green Credit is determined by **factors** such as resource requirements, scale, scope, size, and other relevant parameters necessary to achieve the desired environmental outcomes.

Green Credit Registry and Trading Platform

- A critical component of the program is the establishment of a **Green Credit Registry, which will help track and manage earned credits**.
- Additionally, the administrator will create and maintain a trading platform, enabling the trading of Green Credits on a domestic market.
- It is important to note that the Green Credit program **operates independently of the carbon credits** provided under the **Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, 2023**, which is governed by the Energy Conservation Act of 2001.

- A **carbon credit** is a **unit of exchange that can be used to offset greenhouse gas emissions**.
- One carbon credit is equivalent to one metric ton of carbon dioxide or equivalent greenhouse gases removed from the atmosphere.**
- The concept of carbon credit originated from the **Kyoto Protocol**.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

Concerns Regarding Green Credit Programme

- **Verification and Validation Complexity:** The process of verifying and validating environmentally positive actions can be complex and time-consuming.
- **Concerns exist regarding the administrative burden** on both participants and regulatory bodies.
- **Risk of Greenwashing:** There is a risk that some participants may engage in greenwashing, where they **falsely claim environmentally friendly activities to earn Green Credits** without genuinely contributing to environmental conservation.
- **Compatibility with Carbon Credits:** While the program is intended to be independent of carbon credits, there are concerns about **potential overlaps and the complexity of evaluation between the two types of environmental credits**.
- **Accounting for Regional Differences:** The program may struggle to account for regional variations in environmental impact, making it challenging to establish uniform credit values for diverse geographical areas.

→ GRAM MANCHITRA

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj introduced "Gram Manchitra," a Geographic Information System (GIS) app.

- The primary goal of Gram Manchitra is to **encourage spatial planning initiatives by Gram Panchayats**, leveraging the capabilities of geo-spatial technology.
- The app supports the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) by **aiding decision-making**.

Features

- **Unified GeoSpatial Platform:** Gram Manchitra provides a single and unified platform, facilitating the visualisation of developmental projects and activities at the Gram Panchayat level.
- **Sector-Wise Planning:** It enables Gram Panchayats to plan and execute developmental works across different sectors, fostering a holistic approach to rural development.
- **Development Plan Tools:** Tools include project site identification, asset tracking, cost estimation, and project impact assessment.

→ HRIDAY

- HRIDAY scheme called **National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana** was launched by the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** in **2015**.
- This scheme was introduced to **preserve and revitalize the rich cultural heritage** of the country. HRIDAY scheme aims in the conservation of heritage, urban planning and in increasing the economic growth of the heritage cities.
- HRIDAY emphasizes on the accessibility, security, safety, livelihood, cleanliness and faster service delivery in the heritage cities.
- It also encourages the development of an aesthetically appealing, accessible, informative and secured environment in heritage cities.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- It is being implemented with quantifiable goals similar to the implementation of the Smart City Scheme on a mission mode.
- The focus of HRIDAY is the **development of core heritage infrastructure** by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for areas near heritage sites approved after identification by the Ministry of Culture.
- Development of **infrastructure like** approach roads, drainage, footpaths, electrical wiring, landscaping, sanitation, street lights, water supply, waste management and allied citizen services such as tourist conveniences, security etc. are some of the major focus areas of the scheme.

HRIDAY Scheme Cities List

- Ajmer, Amravati, Badami, Gaya, Mathura, Puri, Varanasi, Velankanni, Warangal, Dwarka, Kanchipuram, Amritsar

Statement

- Preserve and revitalize the soul of the heritage city to reflect the city's unique character by encouraging an aesthetically appealing, accessible, informative & secured environment.
- To undertake strategic and planned development of heritage cities aiming at the improvement in overall quality of life with a specific focus on sanitation, security, tourism, heritage revitalization and livelihoods retaining the city's cultural identity.

Objectives

- **Planning, developing and implementing infrastructure** keeping in mind sensitivities of heritage, including service delivery and development of infrastructure in core areas of historic cities.
- **Preserve and renovate heritage** so that tourists can connect with each heritage city's unique nature.
- Develop a **heritage asset inventory** of cities documenting built, cultural, living and natural heritage as a basis for urban planning, growth, planning of services and their delivery.
- **Enhancement of basic services** focussing on sanitation like public toilets, water taps, security like street lights and in improving tourist facilities.
- **Create linkages between cultural facilities and tourism** along with the conservation of heritage and capacity building of local industries based on heritage.
- **Adaptive maintenance** of urban heritage, including rehabilitation using appropriate technology for retrofitting historic buildings with modern conveniences. Establishment of public-private partnership for preserving and maintaining historic buildings is also part of this goal.
- **Promotion of economic activities** to enhance avenues of employment among people living in and around the heritage sites. This includes skill development among them and making public and cultural spaces accessible.
- **Making cities informative using modern ICT tools** and making cities secure using modern security devices like CCTV etc.
- **Increase access** to heritage sites by developing roads, adopting the universal design, GIS mapping of historical locations and building a digital record of the heritage etc.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

➔ INTEGRATED PROCESSING DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (IPDS)

- IPDS was implemented during the **12th Five Year Plan** under the **Ministry of Textile**, Government of India.
- It was launched as an initiative to **establish four to six brownfield projects and three to five greenfield projects**.
- This scheme **aims at addressing the environmental issues faced by the textile units** in India under the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).

Implementation

- IPDS was implemented to solve various challenges faced by the textile units. These challenges include **non-availability of water for processing and environmental pollution** caused by the discharge of untreated effluents.
- IPDS also aimed at **developing processing parks with effluent treatment plants** and water supply systems.
- The implementation of the Integrated Processing of Development Scheme was done during the 12th Five Year Plan through the formation of **Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs)**.
- SPV is a **corporate body registered under the Companies Act** which functions as per the guidelines of the government. It is also responsible for obtaining bank loans and licenses required for the development of processing units in the park.
- IPDS focuses majorly on the following three areas:

- Wastewater management
- Adequate and timely supply of water
- Safe treatment of effluents before disposal

➔ INTENSIFIED MISSION INDRADHANUSH 3

- The Central Government launched the **Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0** in February 2021 with a view to extending the routine immunisation program to all pregnant women and children who had missed it due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The **Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI)** was launched in **2018** by the Central Government with the objective of covering all children under the age of two and pregnant women for immunization who were not covered under the UIP.
- This program was to intensify the Mission Indradhanush that had been launched in 2014.
- The objective of Mission Indradhanush was to have a 90% coverage of the UIP in India by 2020 and sustain the same.
- **IMI 2.0. was launched in December 2019**, to further extend the reach and coverage of the mission, including tribal and hard-to-reach areas.
- Although the scheme comes under the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)**, it is supported by many other ministries/departments such as:

- Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- Ministry of Panchayati Raj
 - Ministry of Women & Child Development
 - Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- The **diseases covered** under the mission are polio, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, hepatitis B, tetanus, meningitis, rubella, Japanese encephalitis and pneumonia.

➔ INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (ICDS)

- Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) is an Indian government welfare programme that provides **food, preschool education, and primary healthcare to children under 6 years of age and their mothers.**
- The scheme was started in **1975** and aims at the holistic development of children and empowerment of mother.
- It is a **Centrally-Sponsored scheme.**
- The scheme primarily runs through the **Anganwadi centre.**
- The scheme is under the **Ministry of Women and Child Development.**

Objectives

- To improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age-group 0-6 years;
- To lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child;
- To reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout;
- To achieve effective co-ordination of policy and implementation amongst the various departments to promote child development; and
- To enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child through proper nutrition and health education.

Provisions and Services

Integrated Child Development Services is Centrally-Sponsored and will provide the following six services to the beneficiaries:

- Supplementary Nutrition (SNP)
- Health & Nutrition Check-Up
- Immunization
- Non-Formal Education for Children in Pre-School
- Health and Nutrition Education
- Referral services
- These services are provided from Anganwadi centres established mainly in rural areas and staffed with frontline workers.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ IFWCS Scheme

The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has launched the Indian Forest & Wood Certification Scheme (IFWCS), offering voluntary third-party certification designed to promote sustainable forest management and agroforestry in the country.

- IFWCS aims to offer an **alternative to private foreign certification agencies** that have been operating in India.
- It seeks to **ensure greater integrity, transparency, and credibility in certifying** sustainable forest management and wood-based products.

Certification Scope

- The scheme covers **three main areas** for certification:

| |
|---|
| ✓ Sustainable forest management. |
| ✓ Sustainable management of trees outside forests (like plantations). |
| ✓ Chain of custody, which guarantees the traceability of forest products throughout their supply chain, ensuring ethical sourcing and handling. |

Nodal Agencies

- The scheme will be overseen by the **Indian Forest and Wood Certification Council**, which will act as a multistakeholder advisory body.
- **Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal** will act as the scheme operating agency and will be responsible for overall management of the Scheme.
- The **National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies** under the Quality Council of India will accredit the certification bodies which will carry out independent audits and assess adherence of various entities on the standards prescribed under the scheme.

Trees Outside Forests Standard

- A separate **Trees Outside Forests Standard** is now introduced as a part of the Scheme.
- **'Trees outside Forests'** means **trees growing outside recorded and notified forests**, in farmlands of an individual farmers or group of small farmers or plantation area on private land of institutions and industries, etc. and include all trees on the hedges and bunds, trees in different models of **agroforestry, silvo-pastoralism, urban and rural forestry** systems and **block plantations**.

Benefits

- The certification is **expected to enhance trust and transparency** in processes related to forest management and wood-based products.
- The **IFWCS can provide market incentives** to various entities that adhere to responsible forest management and agroforestry practices in their operations.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- This includes state forest departments, individual farmers, or Farmer Producer Organizations engaged in agroforestry and farm forestry, as well as other wood-based industries in the value chain.

Global Context

- The launch of IFWCS aligns with global efforts to address deforestation concerns.
- The scheme's objective resonates with the **pledge made by over 100 countries at the Glasgow climate change conference in 2021** to halt and reverse Deforestation by 2030.

→ DEEP OCEAN MISSION

- The Government of India has decided to launch the **Deep Ocean Mission – DOM**, with an aim to explore the marine diversity in our country, which is still unexplored.
- This ambitious project will be managed by the **Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)**.
- Through this mission, the Government aims to conduct the exploration of the underwater world on similar lines as ISRO does for space
- The Deep Ocean Mission plan will enable India to develop capabilities to exploit resources in the **Central Indian Ocean Basin (CIOB)**.
- One of the major objectives of this project is to mine and extract **polymetallic nodules (PMN)**.
- The **UN International SeaBed Authority** has allotted India 75000 sq. kilometers in CIOB for the exploration of these polymetallic nodules.

Polymetallic Nodules

- Polymetallic nodules are **Fe-Mn oxide deposits**
- They are potato **shaped and porous**
- Appearance wise, they are of a **black earthy color**
- Size ranges from 2 to 10 cm in diameter
- PMN is considered as the precipitate of hot fluids from upwelling hot magma** from the deep interior of the oceanic crust, discharged through mineralized paths
- These Rare earth minerals are considered as a great source of valuable minerals such as gold, silver, and zinc
- There are specific locations underwater where the mining of polymetallic nodules can be done.
- Any country which intends to mine PMN needs to get authorization from ISA, which was established under the **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)**.

→ KAPILA KALAM CAMPAIGN

- KAPILA is an acronym for **Kalam Program for IP (Intellectual Property) Literacy and Awareness**.
- The KAPILA programme was launched virtually in October 2020.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- Through the KAPILA Kalam Program, Government of **India will spread the awareness and importance of patenting and inventions.**
- Under this campaign, students pursuing education in higher educational institutions will get information about the correct system of the application process for patenting their invention and they will be aware of their rights.
- The program will facilitate the colleges and institutions to encourage more and more students to file patents.
- To promote awareness in the field, the Ministry celebrated the week from **15th October to 23rd October** as '**Intellectual Property Literacy Week**'.

→ KISHORI HEALTH CARD

- The **Kishori Health Cards** are maintained by the States in Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) to record the Adolescent Girls' height, weight, BMI (body mass index), along with other services provided under the SAG scheme.
- The card also carries the details of the achievements or outcomes under the scheme.
- **Kishori Diwas:** A special day is to be observed as 'Kishori Diwas' once in three months. This would typically be the day on which the general health check-up of the girls would be carried out. On this day, Information Education and Communication (IEC) would be imparted to the community, parents, etc.

→ KUSUM

- The Central Government has announced the **Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan or KUSUM scheme** which aims at furthering the production of solar power in India and also gives the benefits of solar farming to farmers.
- In March 2021, the Central Government introduced modifications to an existing component of the **PM-KUSUM scheme – a farmer income support and a de-dieseling scheme** – so as to channelise its focus on **solarising agricultural feeders instead of pumps**. This move would obviate the need for farmers to replace every existing pump in a village with a solar pump.
- The Ministry responsible for this scheme is the **New and Renewable Energy Ministry**.
- Initially, the government will distribute 1.75 million off-grid agricultural solar pumps.
- **10000 Mega Watts Solar plants** will be put up on lands that are barren.
- The state electricity distribution companies, also called, **DISCOMS will buy the additional solar power produced by the farmers on barren lands**. DISCOMS will get sops to buy this electricity.
- Tube wells and existing pumps of the government will be converted to run on solar power.
- **Farmers will get a subsidy of 60% on solar pumps**. It shall be deposited to their bank accounts directly. This subsidy is going to be shared by the central and state governments. 30% of the cost will be obtained as a bank loan. Hence, only the rest 10% will have to be borne by the farmers themselves.
- The approved scheme comprised of three components:
 - **Component-A:** Addition of 10,000 MW of solar capacity through the installation of small solar power plants of capacity up to 2 MW.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- **Component-B:** Installation of 20 lakh standalone solar-powered agricultural pumps
- **Component-C:** Solarisation of 15 lakh existing Grid-connected Agriculture Pumps
- PM-KUSUM scheme is one of the largest initiatives of the world to provide clean energy to more than 35 lakhs farmers by solarising their agriculture pump under components B and C.

Benefits

- It shall enable the decentralisation of the production of solar power.
- Transmission losses of DISCOMS will be under control.
- Subsidy burden on DISCOMS in the sector of agriculture will be decreased to a large extent.
- This will give farmers the **chance to sell to the grid the extra power** that is generated by the solar plants that are stationed on their barren lands.
- It will provide a **fillip to the emerging green economy** in India.
- The program will also aid in the de-dieseling of the agricultural sector in India. This implies that the existing diesel pumps will be replaced.
- Other benefits that will accrue to the farmers due to the implementation of this program include conservation of water, water security as well as energy efficiency.

➔ MICRO & SMALL ENTERPRISES – CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (MSE-CDP)

- The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India (GoI) has adopted the cluster development approach as a key strategy for enhancing the productivity and competitiveness as well as capacity building of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) and their collectives in the country.
- A **cluster is a group of enterprises located within an identifiable and as far as practicable, contiguous area and producing same/similar products/services.**
- The essential characteristics of enterprises in a cluster are:
 - Similarity or complementarity in the methods of production, quality control and testing, energy consumption, pollution control, etc
 - Similar level of technology and marketing strategies/practices
 - Channels for communication among the members of the cluster
 - Common challenges and opportunities.

Objectives

1. To support the **sustainability and growth of MSEs** by addressing common issues such as improvement of technology, skills and quality, market access, access to capital, etc.
2. To **build capacity** of MSEs for common supportive action through formation of self help groups, consortia, upgradation of associations, etc.
3. To **create/upgrade infrastructural facilities** in the new/existing industrial areas/ clusters of MSEs.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

4. To set up **common facility centres** (for testing, training centre, raw material depot, effluent treatment, complementing production processes, etc).

→ MISSION KARMAYOGI

- Mission Karmayogi is the National Programme for **Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB)**. Union Cabinet launched it in September 2020.
- The mission intends to lay down the foundations for the Indian civil servants' capacity building and aims to enhance governance.
- It aims to establish the new national architecture for civil services capacity building at individual, institutional and process levels
- It will cover around 46 lakh central employees between 2020-2025.
- A special purpose vehicle (SPV) (non-profit company) is **set up under the Companies Act 2013 to run this mission.**
- This SPV will manage i-GOT Karmayogi which is the online training digital platform.

Salient Features

Mission Karmayogi is a step towards improved human resource management practices in the government. It has the following features:

- The transition from **Rules Based to Roles Based** Human Resource (HR) Management – The focus is to allocate jobs to the civil servants based on their competencies.
- **On-Site Learning to complement Off-Site Learning** – It is a training given to the civil servants on-site.
- **An ecosystem of shared training infrastructure** – Civil servants to adapt to an ecosystem of shared learning materials, institutions and personnel.
- **Framework of Roles, Activities and Competencies (FRACs) approach** – All civil services positions to be calibrated under this approach. Also based on this approach, all learning content will be created and delivered to every single government entity.
- **Behavioural, Functional and Domain Competencies** – Civil Servants to build their competencies in their self-driven and mandated learning paths.
- **Co-creation of the common ecosystem** by all the Central Ministries, Departments and their organizations – This is a way to create an ecosystem of learning through an annual financial subscription for every employee.
- **Partnership with learning content creators** – Public training institutions, universities, start-ups and individual experts will be enabled to be a part of this capacity-building measure.

Six Pillars

- Policy Framework
- Institutional Framework
- Competency Framework
- Digital Learning Framework
- Electronic Human Resource Management System (e-HRMS)

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Apex Body

The Public Human Resource Council under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister of India will be the apex body of the Mission Karmayogi. The other members of this council will include:

- Union Ministers
- Chief Ministers
- Eminent public HR practitioners
- Thinkers
- Global thought leaders and
- Public Service functionaries

➔ MISSION FOR INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF HORTICULTURE (MIDH)

- The Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture or MIDH is a scheme for the holistic growth and development of the Indian horticulture sector.
- This Centrally Sponsored scheme covers vegetables, fruits, roots and tuber crops, aromatic plants, flowers, spices, bamboo, coconut, cashew and cocoa.
- MIDH also provides technical support and advice to state horticultural missions, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Saffron Mission and the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).
- MIDH is under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, GOI.
- The strategies to improve the horticulture segment employed by the scheme include technology promotion, research, post-harvest management, extension, processing and marketing.
- The scheme emphasises using differentiated strategies for different states based on the region's agro-climatic features.

Objectives

The scheme envisages the aggregation of farmers into farmers' groups like FPOs and FPCs to:

- Achieve economies of scale
- Augment horticulture production
- Enhance farmers' incomes
- Boost nutritional security
- Improve productivity by way of quality germ-plasm, planting material and water use efficiency through micro-irrigation
- Support skill development
- Generate employment for rural youth in horticulture, post-harvest management and also in the cold chain sector.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- The scheme also envisages the capacity building of farmers in adopting improved technology through existing institutions such as Krishi Vigyan Kendras, state agriculture universities and Institutes with the Department of Horticulture in the States.

MIDH Sub-Schemes

- **National Horticulture Mission (NHM):** It is implemented by the State Horticulture Missions and is aimed at increasing production in the horticulture sector.
- **National Horticulture Board (NHB):** It implements the various schemes under the MIDH at the state and UT levels.
- **Horticulture Mission for North East & Himalayan States (HMNEH):** It is implemented by the State Horticulture Missions of the Northeastern and Himalayan states.
- **Coconut Development Board (CDB):** It implements the schemes of the MIDH in all the coconut-growing states in the country.
- **Central Institute for Horticulture (CIH), Nagaland:** The institute was established in Medzipheima, Nagaland in 2006-07 for providing technical backstopping through capacity building and training of farmers and Field functionaries in the North Eastern Region.
- **National Bamboo Mission (NBM)**

| Sl. No. | Sub Scheme | Target group / area of operation |
|---------|------------|--|
| 1. | NHM | All states & UTs except states in NE and Himalayan Region. |
| 2. | HMNEH | All states in NE and Himalayan Region. |
| 3. | NBM | All states & UTs |
| 4. | NHB | All states & UTs focusing on commercial horticulture |
| 5. | CDB | All States and UTs where coconut is grown. |
| 6. | CIH | NE states, focusing on HRD and capacity building. |

Funding

- The scheme is a centrally-sponsored scheme which means it is partially funded by the Central Government.
- The GOI provides 85% of the total outlay for the programmes under the mission in all states except NE and Himalayan states. The rest 15% is from the state governments.
- In NE and Himalayan states, the GOI provides 100% contribution.



The Ministry launched "mActionSoft," a mobile-based solution for **geo-tagging project assets**.

- mActionSoft is a mobile-based solution, plays a crucial role in **capturing geo-tagged photos with GPS coordinates for works with asset outputs**.
- **Assets undergo geo-tagging at three stages:** before the commencement of work, during the work, and upon completion.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- This establishes a **comprehensive repository of information** on various works related to natural resource management, water harvesting, sanitation, agriculture, and more.

Features

- **Geo-Tagging:** Panchayats geotag assets created under finance commission funds with photographs, ensuring transparency and accountability.
- The assets geo-tagged **using mActionSoft seamlessly integrate with Gram Manchitra**, enriching the visualisation of developmental works in Gram Panchayats.

➔ MOTHERS ABSOLUTE AFFECTION (MAA)

- Mothers Absolute Affection (MAA) programme was launched as a flagship programme by the government to generate awareness among the masses about the **importance of breastfeeding**.
- It is a nationwide programme aimed at bringing focus on providing counselling for promoting breastfeeding through health systems in order to enhance the child's immunity.
- For effective implementation, MAA secretariat and a steering committee will be created in all states and at the district level.
- It will be monitored by UNICEF and other partners.

Benefits

- One out of three children in India dies because of malnutrition. Out of these deaths, 66% is caused during the first year of the infant's life, mostly due to improper feeding practices. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), every child has to be breastfed compulsorily for the first 6 months and this must continue up to two years alongside regular food. But in India, though the institutional deliveries have shot up to 78.9%, early commencement of breastfeeding is only 40%.
- Some of the benefits of the MAA Programme are mentioned below:

- Breastfeeding **benefits both, the mother and the child**. The mother has lower chances of having breast, endometrial and cervical cancers. The **risks of anaemia** are also reduced. Besides, breast milk is a **complete nutritional package** to the infant.
- **Life-threatening diseases like** diarrhoea, respiratory disorders, kidney diseases and pneumonia can be avoided by breastfeeding.
- It is also essential for the enhancement of bone formation, hence is crucial for the development of the child.
- The **protein-rich human breast milk contains vitamin A, sodium chloride, antibodies which develop passive immunity** and provide protection against pathogens. Lakhs of lives can be saved just by the promotion of breastfeeding through awareness. It is the sole effectual nutritional intervention for saving lives.

➔ NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH MISSION (NRHM)

- The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was launched in 2005, to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population, especially the vulnerable groups.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- The essence of NRHM is a health delivery system that functions independently, **is community-owned and decentralized.**
- The mission also aims to deliver constant support to those who contribute to the social determinants of health.
- Basic objectives to implement NRHM are:

- Reduction in infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate
- Ensuring population stabilization
- Prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases
- Upgrading AYUSH(Ayurvedic Yoga Unani Siddh and Homoeopath) for promotion of a healthy lifestyle.

Major initiatives under NRHM

ASHA

- The **Accredited Social Health Activists** aka ASHAs are the volunteers that engage in this mission that will establish a link between the **health system and the targeted community.** More than 8.84 lakh of these community health volunteers have contributed to this mission.
- **ASHA is the first port of call** for any health-related demands of deprived sections of the population, especially women and children, who find it difficult to access health services in rural areas.
- This programme is expanding across States and has particularly been successful in bringing people back to the Public Health System. It has also increased the utilization of outpatient services, diagnostic facilities, institutional deliveries and inpatient care.

Rogi Kalyan Samiti (Patient Welfare Committee)/Hospital Management Society:

- It is a **registered society that acts as a group of trustees** to manage the affairs of the hospitals.
- A united fund looks after the funding and other financial assistance for these communities that are involved in patient welfare activities.

United Grants to Sub-Centres

- It has given new confidence to auxiliary nurse midwives (ANMs) in the field who are better equipped now with Blood Pressure measuring equipment, Stethoscope, weighing machine, etc.
- They can actually undertake proper antenatal care and other health care services.
- Another important tool of community empowerment is the Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC) which works at the grassroots levels.

Health Care Service Delivery

- Health Care Service Delivery requires intensive human resource inputs. As can be seen from various surveys, there is an enormous shortage of human resources in the public health care sector in the country.
- NRHM has attempted to fill the gaps in human resources by providing nearly 1.7 lakh people for health services to States including 8,871 Doctors, 2025 Specialists, 76,643 ANMs, 41,609 Staff Nurses, etc. on contractual basis.
- Many unserved areas have been covered through **Mobile Medical Units (MMU).**

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- The government also provides free ambulance services in every nook and corner of the country connected with a toll-free number and available within 30 minutes of the call. Over 12,000 basic and emergency patient transport vehicles have been provided under NRHM.

Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram

- In order to promote universal healthcare, the government started the Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK) initiative which provides free to & fro transport, free drugs, free diagnostics, free blood, free diet to pregnant women who come for delivery in public health institutions and sick new-borns.

→ NATIONAL AYUSH MISSION (NAM)

- The National Ayush Mission is a centrally sponsored scheme launched in 2014 by the **Department of Ayush, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.**
- The fundamental objective of the NAM is to promote the **AYUSH systems of medicine** through cost-effective services, boosting its educational systems, quality control of AYUSH drugs and ensuring the sustainable availability of AYUSH raw materials.
- AYUSH stands for Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy systems of medicine.

Vision

- Providing cost-effective and equitable AYUSH healthcare all over India by enhancing access to the services.
- Strengthening and revitalising the AYUSH systems enabling them to become prominent medical streams in the country in the healthcare sector.
- Improving educational institutions that can impart knowledge in AYUSH streams.
- Promoting quality control of AYUSH drugs by developing quality standards and ensuring the availability of AYUSH raw materials.
- Boosting institutional capacities at the state level for AYUSH systems by upgrading educational institutions, drug testing labs, AS&U pharmacies (Ayurveda, Siddhi and Unani), and also AS&U enforcement mechanism.
- Supporting the **cultivation of medicinal plants by adopting Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs)** so as to provide a sustained supply of quality raw materials for AYUSH drugs.
- Aiding the establishing of clusters through the convergence of cultivation, value addition, warehousing, marketing & developing infrastructure for entrepreneurs.

→ NEW SCHEMES for MSMEs

The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME) has launched three sub-schemes under the RAMP programme, aimed at bolstering the MSME sector in India.

MSME Green Investment and Financing for Transformation Scheme (MSME GIFT Scheme)

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- This scheme **intends to help MSMEs adopt green technology with interest subvention and credit guarantee support.**
- Implementing agency is **SIDBI.**

MSE Scheme for Promotion and Investment in Circular Economy (MSE SPICE Scheme)

- It is the first ever scheme in the Government to **support circular economy projects** which will be done through credit subsidy and will lead to realizing the dream of the MSME sector towards zero emissions by 2070.
- Implementing agency is **SIDBI.**

MSE Scheme on Online Dispute Resolution for Delayed Payments

- It is a first-of-its-kind scheme **to synergise legal support with modern IT tools and Artificial Intelligence** to address the incidences of delayed payments for Micro and Small Enterprises.
- **National Informatics Centre Services Inc. (NICSI)** is the Implementing Agency.

Other Initiatives under Existing Schemes

- The Support for **Commercialisation of IP Programme (MSME – SCIP Programme)** will enable the innovators in the MSME sector to commercialize their IPR.
- In addition, the **Zero Defect and Zero Effect (ZED) Scheme** of the Ministry has now been made completely free for women led MSMEs. The government guarantees payment of 100 percent financial support for the certification cost.

➔ NATIONAL URBAN HEALTH MISSION (NUHM)

- The National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) as a **sub-mission of National Health Mission (NHM)** will meet the **health needs of the urban population** with a focus on urban poor, by making available to them essential primary health care services and reducing out of pocket expenses for treatment.

Objectives and Components

- Availability of resources for addressing the health problems in urban areas, especially among the urban poor.
- Develop a health care system based on the specific health needs of the city. This system will take care of vulnerable and poor sections of the urban population and meet the diverse medical and health needs.
- Partnership with the community for more proactive involvement in planning, implementation and monitoring of health activities.
- Growth in urban population is directly proportional to their health risks. These challenges need to be fixed by a mechanism involving different institutions and management systems.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- Framework for partnership with NGOs, for profit and not for profit health service providers and other stakeholders.
- NUHM would cover all cities/towns with a population of more than 50000. Towns below 50000 populations will be covered under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

Components of NUHM

Population Policy

- The National Population Policy (2000) not only focused on the unmet needs of contraception but also stressed the need for integrated service delivery for basic reproductive and child health care.
- Accordingly, the long term goals set under this policy envisaged a reduction in

- Total Fertility Rate (TFR) to replacement levels,
- Infant Mortality Rate of less than 30/1000 live births and
- Maternal Mortality Ratio to less than 100/100,000 live births by 2010

Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh (JSK)

- The National Population Stabilisation Fund was constituted under the **National Commission on Population in July 2000**.
- Subsequently, it was transferred to the **Department of Health and Family Welfare** in April 2002.
- It was renamed and reconstituted as **Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh (JSK) under the Societies Registration Act (1860)** on June 2003.

Geographical Information System (GIS) Mapping

- As part of this initiative, JSK mapped 450 districts in India through a unique amalgamation of GIS maps and Census data.
- The mapping gives a picture of each district, its subdivisions and the population of every village along with the distance to the health facility.
- The maps highlight inequities in coverage down to the village level to enable resources to be targeted where they are needed the most.

Funding Pattern of NUHM

- The Funding necessary for this scheme is split between the Central government and the State government.
- The **centre-state funding is split in 75:25 ratio** for all the States except North-Eastern states including Sikkim and other special category states like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and J&K.
- For these states, the centre-state funding will be split in 90:10 ratio.
- The Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) sent by the states are appraised and approved by the Ministry.

➔ NANO MISSION (NANO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MISSION – NSTM)

- The Government of India launched the Nano Mission in 2007 under the Department of Science and Technology.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- The Ministry of Science and Technology allocated up to Rs 1000 crores to this mission to fulfill its following objectives:

- Basic Promotion of Nanotechnology
- Infrastructure Development
- Establishment of R&D in Nanoscience Applications
- Establishment of Development Centre for Nanosciences
- Human Development in Nanotechnology
- International Collaborations

- India has been able to rank amongst the top 5 countries in the world for Scientific Publications in Nanoscience & Technology due to the efforts led by the Nano Mission.
- The Nano Mission has established national dialogues to promote R&D in the development of standards for nanotechnology and for laying down a National Regulatory Framework Road-Map for Nanotechnology (NRFR-Nanotech).

➔ ICONSAT

- The International Conference on NanoScience and NanoTechnology (ICONSAT) is a series of biennial international conferences held in India under the aegis of the Nano Mission, Department of Science and Technology (DST).

Objectives

- Bringing out Cutting-Edge Nano Technology for the development of Physics, Chemistry, and Material domains.
- Integration of **5Ms – Mechanical, Material, Machines, Manufacturing, and Manpower** with the help of NanoScience and NT.
- Integration of NT with Sustainable Development.
- Emphasizing the need to create a network of experts in nano-science and to collaborate the knowledge across sectors like energy, agriculture, transport, health, and so on.
- Providing a potential platform for young researchers and students from within the country and abroad to keep pace with the latest development in the emerging areas of Nano Science and Technology.

➔ AWSAR

- It is the Augmenting Writing Skills for Articulating Research scheme, launched by the DST.
- It is aimed at tapping the potential of 20,000 Ph.D. scholars to communicate and popularise their research through blogs, newspapers, social media, magazines, etc.
- It gives a monetary incentive to encourage popular science writers. The AWSAR scheme was highlighted at the ICONSAT event.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ NATIONAL BEEKEEPING & HONEY MISSION (NBHM)

- The National Beekeeping and Honey Mission was announced by the Union Government as part of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat package in 2020.
- The scheme is implemented by the **National Bee Board (NBB)** and is approved for three years from 2020 to 2023.
- The scheme is aimed at the overall development and promotion of scientific beekeeping in India to achieve the objectives of the **Sweet Revolution**.
- The scheme is under the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, GOI**.
- It is a **central sector scheme** (100% central government funding).
- The scheme will work in tandem with the various other schemes related to beekeeping such as KVIC's Honey Mission, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), and the ministries of rural development, MSME, AYUSH, commerce and industry, tribal affairs, etc.

Objectives

- Foster the **holistic growth of the beekeeping industry** for income & employment generation for farm and non-farm households.
- Augment horticulture/agriculture production.
- Develop **infrastructural facilities** including establishing Integrated Beekeeping Development Centre (IBDC)s/CoE, bee disease diagnostic labs, honey testing labs, custom hiring centres, nucleus stock, Api-therapy centres, bee breeders, etc.
- **Empower women** via beekeeping.
- Develop blockchain/traceability system for traceability of the source of honey & other beehive products; and employing IT tools in beekeeping, including online registration, etc.
- **Create and enable honey corridors** in potential areas.
- Encourage agri-entrepreneurs & agri-startups in beekeeping/honey production.
- **Promote trade agreements** between traders/exporters and beekeepers.
- Foster, develop and diffuse the latest and state-of-the-art technologies and skill development in the beekeeping industry for the production of honey & other high-value beehive products.
- Boost beekeepers through an institutional framework for a **collective approach like SHCs, FPOs, etc.**
- Magnify the economic, social and ecological benefits by diversification through beekeeping by producing a higher quantity & good quality of honey and other high-value beehive products such as beeswax, bee pollen, royal jelly, propolis, comb honey, bee venom, etc. for domestic and global markets.

National Beekeeping & Honey Mission Sub-Missions

The NBHM has three sub-missions or sub-schemes, namely, Mini Mission – I, II and III.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

Mini Mission I

- Here, the focus is on the production and productivity enhancement of different crops through pollination aided by adopting scientific beekeeping.
- It aims to create awareness about scientific beekeeping.
- States will be assisted in the setting up of state bee boards/state beekeeping and honey missions.

Mini Mission II

- Here, the focus is on post-harvest management of beekeeping, beehive products, including collection, processing, storage, marketing, value addition, etc.

Mini Mission III

- Here, the focus is on the generation of research and technology for different states/regions and agro-climatic and socio-economic conditions.

→ NIRVIK

- The NIRVIK Scheme (also known as **Niryat Rin Vikas Yojana**) is a scheme implemented under the **Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC)** with a view to ease lending of loans and enhance credit availability to small-scale exporters.
- Announced by the Finance Minister during the Union Budget on 2020-2021, the NIRVIK Scheme will boost the export segment of the Indian economy.

Features

- Insurance **coverage will be up to 90%** of the principal amount and interest
- The extended coverage will make sure that foreign export credit interest rates are below 4%. The rupee export credit interest rates will be limited to 8%.
- Both **pre and post-shipment credit** will be covered under the new scheme
- Borrowers from the gems, jewellery and diamond with a limit of over Rs 80 crore will have a higher premium rate as compared to those from other sectors as the loss ratio is high.
- Those accounts that have limits below Rs. 80 crore, the premium rates will be moderated to 0.60 per annum. For those whose limits are beyond Rs. 80 Crore, the rates will be 0.72 per annum.
- In the event that there will be losses exceeding Rs. 10 Crores, the exporter will be subjected to inspection by the ECGC Banks shall pay a premium to the ECGC on a monthly basis as the principal and interest are covered for both outstandings.

Benefits

- The NIRVIK Scheme will play a crucial role in improving accessibility and affordability of credit for exporters making Indian exports more competitive
- It will dispense with the usual red-tape and other procedural hurdles in order to become exporter friendly.
- The extended insurance cover is likely to bring down the cost of credit with factors such as capital relief, better liquidity and quick settlement of claims in play.
- MSME's (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) will stand to benefit as well due to improvement in the ease of doing business and making ECG procedures much more simplistic.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ NATIONAL TECHNICAL TEXTILES MISSION (NTTM)

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the setting up of the National Technical Textiles Mission with an aim to make India a leader of technical textiles globally.
- The Mission would have a four year implementation period from FY 2020-21 to 2023-24
- A Mission Directorate will be operational in the Ministry of Textiles
- The mission has been set up in lines with the Make in India initiative by the Government of the country

Technical Textiles

- Technical textiles are textiles materials and products manufactured primarily for technical performance and functional properties rather than aesthetic characteristics.
- India shares nearly 6% of world market size of 250 Billion USD.
- There are 12 broad categories under which the Technical textiles can be divided, depending upon their application areas:

- Agrotech, Buildtech, Clothtech, Geotech, Hometech, Indutech, Mobiltech, Meditech, Protech, Sportstech, Oekotech, Packtech

→ NATIONAL SKILLS QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (NSQF)

- The NSQF is a quality assurance framework.
- It is a nationally **integrated education and competency-based skill framework** that will provide for multiple pathways, horizontal as well as vertical, both within vocational education and vocational training, and among vocational education, vocational training, general education and technical education, thus linking one level of learning to another higher level.

Provisions

- The NSQF linkage of different levels **allows the students to acquire desired levels of competency, job market transitions** and allow further acquisitions of added skills to further enhance their competencies with suitable time. The NSQF will also provide the following:

- **International Equivalency:** This will be achieved by providing national policies for identifying skill proficiency and competencies at different levels.
- NSQF will also provide facilities for **multiple entry and exit between skill training, vocational education, job markets, general and technical education.**
- Provisions of progressive pathways which are within the framework of the skill qualifications.
- Provide opportunities that encourage lifelong training and education as well as skill development.
- Tie-ups with the industries and markets to understand the job market requirements.
- Creating a mechanism that is credible, transparent and accountable for the skill development over multiple sectors.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- Providing better potential that recognises early learning.

Objectives

- **Accommodation of the diversity** found in the Education and Training Systems of the country.
- Allowing the **development of a set of qualifications for every level** which are accepted all over the nation.
- Providing a **structure for the maintenance and development of all the progressive pathways**. These pathways allow access to qualifications and support people to move effortlessly between different sectors of training and education as well as between these sectors and the labour market.
- Giving individuals options to progress through training and education as well as helping them gain recognition for their previous experiences and learnings.
- Enhancing and supporting the international and national mobility of people with qualifications that are compliant with NSQF through enhanced recognition of the value and comparability of Indian qualifications.

➔ NATIONAL HEALTH ASSURANCE MISSION (NHAM)

- National Health Assurance Mission (NHAM) was a Government of India plan in the year 2014, to reduce out-of-pocket expenditure on healthcare by the common man.
- In India, 6 crore individuals move Below Poverty Line (BPL) every year because of expenses related to unforeseen illnesses placing substantial constraints on the individual welfare and nations economic growth.
- Health is a state subject and the states ownership and thrust on governance determines its success. Health assurance needs to be understood from a much wider perspective; nutrition, clean water, clean air, sanitation, primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare.

Proposals

- **Institutionalise a regulatory authority** with vast powers to oversee enforcement of all-round quality standards
- Consumer protection
- **Universal Health insurance** was supposed to be a major component of this scheme.
- Providing free drugs to patients.
- Providing free diagnostic services.
- Insurance cover for expensive and serious ailments which required heart surgery or organ failure was mooted.

➔ NATIONAL DIGITAL HEALTH MISSION

- National Digital Health Mission was launched in 2020.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- The mission **aims to create an integrated healthcare system linking practitioners with patients digitally** by giving them access to real-time health records. This will promote prompt and structured healthcare across the country.
- It is implemented by the **National Health Authority (NHA) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**
- To create a national digital health ecosystem that supports universal health coverage.

Background

National Health Policy 2017 envisions:

- Highest level of health and wellbeing for all at all ages.
- Preventive and promotive health care orientation in all development policies
- Universal healthcare access
- MoH&FM set up a committee under **J. Satyanarayana** to develop an implementation framework for the National Health Stack
- The **Satyanarayana committee recommended drafting a National Digital Health Blueprint** to lay down the building blocks and action plan for a digital health mission.
- National Digital Mission Blueprint recommended the establishment of an entity called National Digital Health Mission to provide for a digital healthcare ecosystem for healthcare services across the country.
- National Health Authority that is the apex authority to implement the National Digital Health Mission is also the implementing authority of Ayushman Bharat.

Components of National Digital Health Mission

There are four components:

- **National Health Electronic Registries**
- **A Federated Personal Health Records (PHR) Framework** – It will fight twin challenges of:
Access to healthcare reports/data by the patients and the healthcare provider for treatment
Making the data available for medical research
- **A National Health Analytics Platform**
- **Other Horizontal Components like:**

- | |
|--------------------------------------|
| ▪ Unique Digital Health ID, |
| ▪ Health Data Dictionaries |
| ▪ Supply Chain Management for Drugs, |
| ▪ Payment gateways |

Salient Features

- | |
|--|
| ○ The institutional framework of the mission runs at different levels starting from the apex level, followed by the board of directors, CEO, and operations. |
| ○ It is an IT-enabled healthcare infrastructure system |
| ○ Health ID – It will be a repository of all health-related information. Every participating stakeholder including healthcare providers and Indian citizens will be part of this health ID system |

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

on a voluntary basis. A unique health ID will be created by every citizen interested to access the benefits of this mission.

- **Health data consent managers** will be linked with unique health IDs of the patients; who will aid the seamless exchange of the health records between the patient and the doctors.
- The **healthcare services** will be provided through a mobile app or through an official website.
- **Digi Doctor** – He/she will be the one who will be responsible for providing healthcare services across the country. An interested healthcare professional can act as a digital doctor to provide prescriptions to patients sitting in a different location altogether. He/she will be assigned free digital signatures which can be used to prescribe medicines.

→ NATIONAL CHILD LABOUR PROJECT

- It is a Central Government Scheme which has been devised to tackle the issue of child labor in a more effective manner by focussing on specific target ideas, identifying the victims, withdrawing them from hazardous situations, focussing on their rehabilitation and meanwhile spreading awareness on the functionalities of NCLP and the other agencies on child labour to the families of the child labourers.

Objectives

It aims at the expulsion of child labour in all forms possible through a sequential basis of:

- Identification of children in child labour in the project area.
- Withdrawing the identified children.
- Preparation of the withdrawn children for introduction to mainstream education by providing necessary vocational training.
- Ensuring that they're benefitted by the multitude of services provided by the different governments and agencies.
- It aims at the withdrawal of adolescent children from hazardous situations or occupations by
- Identifying all adolescents and withdrawing them from the project area.
- Facilitating training programmes for such adolescents through the skill development schemes which are currently existing.
- It aims at raising awareness amongst the target communities and the other stakeholders regarding child labour about the functionality of NCLP.
- To create a Child Labour Monitoring, Tracking and Reporting System to stay updated with the situation.

Target Group

- The scheme focuses on all the child workers **below the age of 14** in the target areas, **adolescent workers below 18 years of age** engaged in hazardous occupations and also on the families of the child workers in that specific target areas.
- The children would be eased into local schools after providing necessary bridging programmes.
- The adolescent children in hazardous work would be given skill enhancement training and shifted to non-hazardous work.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- The delivery of income/stipend, employment or social security to the families of child workers will be ensured by the government. The tracking of the rescued child workers will be done to follow up for evaluation of impact.
- The child labour laws will be stepped up according to the requirement in the required area.

NCLP Highlights/Features:

- The Government contributes to the identification, classification, eradication, and withdrawal of children and adolescents from hazardous occupations.
- Successfully mainstreaming the rescued children into proper local schools and affiliating them with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).
- The adolescents will be provided with other skill enhancement training and transferred to permitted occupations.
- Better awareness programs for the education of communities and the Indian public as a whole with the help of enhanced abilities.
- Compensatory measures for the families who are releasing their children from working and allowing them to attend training or schools.
- Mothers of such victimized children are often organized into self-help groups (SHG's).

→ NATIONAL GREEN HYDROGEN MISSION

- The Union Cabinet in **2023** approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- The initial outlay for the mission is Rs.19,744 crore, comprising an outlay of Rs.17,490 crore for the **Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT)** programme,

Aim and significance

- The mission intends to facilitate the production of hydrogen from renewable energy.
- Hydrogen is an important industrial fuel that has multiple uses ranging from producing ammonia, making steel and cement, to powering fuel cells. However, the least expensive way to manufacture Hydrogen is through fossil fuels like coal and natural gas.
- Global warming and climate change concerns have gradually highlighted the use of alternative fuels like solar and wind energy for producing hydrogen.
- The **mission aims to create an enabling environment for developing the infrastructure** to produce and transport green hydrogen for various industrial applications.
- Under the ambit of the Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition Programme (SIGHT) programme, two distinct financial incentive mechanisms will be facilitated:
 - Targeting domestic manufacturing of electrolyzers
 - Production of Green Hydrogen
- Areas capable of supporting large-scale production and/or utilization of Green Hydrogen will be identified and developed as Green Hydrogen Hubs.
- A robust green hydrogen policy framework would be established to sustain and promote Green Hydrogen Ecosystem.
- Moreover, a public-private partnership framework for R&D (Strategic Hydrogen Innovation Partnership – SHIP) will be supported.
- A coordinated skill development programme will also be established under the proposed mission.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- iI' aims to achieve the following targets by 2030:

| |
|---|
| ▪ Development of green hydrogen production capacity of at least 5 MMT (Million Metric Tonne) per annum with related renewable energy capacity addition of nearly 125 GW in India. |
| ▪ Total investments of more than Eight lakh crores |
| ▪ Employment generation for around Six lakhs people |
| ▪ Overall fossil fuel import reduction by approximately Rs. One lakh crore |
| ▪ Abatement of nearly 50 MMT of annual greenhouse gas emissions |

➔ NAMASTE SCHEME

- It was launched in **2022 as a Central Sector Scheme**.
- The scheme is being undertaken jointly by the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJE)** and aims to eradicate unsafe sewer and septic tank cleaning practices.

Objectives

| |
|--|
| ○ Zero fatalities in sanitation work in India. |
| ○ All sanitation work is performed by skilled workers. |
| ○ No sanitation workers come in direct contact with human faecal matter. |
| ○ Sanitation workers are collectivised into Self Help Groups (SHGs) and are empowered to run sanitation enterprises. |
| ○ Strengthened supervisory and monitoring systems at National, State and Urban Local Body (ULB) levels to ensure enforcement and monitoring of safe sanitation work. |
| ○ Increased awareness among sanitation services seekers (individuals and institutions) to seek services from registered and skilled sanitation workers. |

Key Features of the Scheme to be Implemented in all ULBs

| |
|---|
| ○ Identification: NAMASTE envisages identifying the Sewer/Septic Tank Workers (SSWs). |
| ○ Occupational Training and distribution of PPE Kits to SSWs. |
| ○ Assistance for Safety Devices to Sanitation Response Units (SRUs). |
| ○ Extending Health Insurance Scheme Benefits to identified SSWs and their families under the Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY). |
| ○ Livelihood Assistance: The Action Plan will promote mechanization and enterprise development by providing funding support and subsidy (capital +interest) to the sanitation workers, to procure sanitation related equipments. |
| ○ IEC (Information Education and Communication) Campaign: Massive campaigns would be undertaken jointly by the ULBs & NSKFDC (National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation) to spread awareness about the interventions of NAMASTE. |

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

➔ PENCIL PORTAL

- A unique online portal was launched in 2017, by the government, called PENCIL (Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour).
- It had been created under the NCLP scheme:
 - To ensure effective and easy implementation of the scheme.
 - It consists of a **Child Tracking System** and a Complaint corner.
 - The portal can connect the Central Government to respective State Governments, districts, to all project societies and finally to the general public.
 - The portal allows anyone to file a complaint **regarding child labour**.
 - The received complaints are automatically assigned to the concerned Nodal officer by the system immediately upon receiving the complaint to take further actions which might be necessary.

➔ LAWS AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

- The government has laid down multiple rules governing the enforcement of child labour and is taking active measures to eradicate this practice.

Gurupadswamy Committee

- It was a statutory committee formed by the Government of India in 1979, which found that the inextricable reason behind child labor in India was linked directly to Poverty.
- The committee's findings and analysis were then utilized to enact the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 by the union government.

Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, of 2016

- It is an amendment of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 which has placed a complete prohibition on the employment of underage children, especially in hazardous situations or occupations.
- It has also interconnected the prohibition of employment with access to free education as per the Right to Education Act of 2009.
- India was the 170th member of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to agree with **Convention No. 138**. This convention requires member parties to set a minimum age under which no person should be employed.
- India also agreed with **Convention No. 182** which requires state parties to eliminate and prohibit any forms of extreme child labour activities such as trafficking, use of children in armed conflict, prostitution and in illicit activities.

INDUS Project

- Government of India and the US Department of Labour had jointly collaborated to form the INDUS Project which aimed at preventing and eliminating child labourers, especially from hazardous occupations.
- It was developed under **ILO-IPEC(International Labour Organization- International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour)**.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme

- This is a scheme by the central government of India to facilitate rehabilitation of child labourers and to aid their introduction to formal education with vocational training at NCLP Centres.

➔ NATIONAL BIOPHARMA MISSION

- National Biopharma Mission was launched in 2017.
- World Bank would provide 50% of the funds.
- This program was launched with an **objective of promoting entrepreneurship and developing indigenous manufacturing capability in the sector.**
- This mission has been designed to give a boost to the 'Make in India' and 'Start-Up India' missions launched by the Government of India.
- The aim of this mission is to capture 5% of the global biopharmaceutical industry.
- It will build sustainable networks for collaboration between the industry, academia and in turn support the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Objectives and Nodal Agency for Implementation

- The pharmaceutical industry holds a promising future for India, and the National Biopharma Mission is anticipated to be the game-changer for Indian Pharmaceutical Industries.
- The mission aspires to create a conducive ecosystem to encourage entrepreneurship and indigenous manufacturing in the sector by strengthening technology transfer capabilities in the private and the public sector.
- It aims to make India a hub for design and development of affordable, novel and effective biopharmaceutical products and solutions.
- The mission strives to encourage entrepreneurship to transform the health standards of the people of India through affordable medicines.
- A Public Sector Undertaking of Department of Biotechnology – **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)** is involved in the implementation of the mission.
- It is expected to integrate expertise from national and international corridors to provide strategic guidance and direction to yield promising results through the product development value chain.

➔ NATIONAL NUTRITION MISSION

- **Poshan Abhiyaan**, also known as the National Nutrition Mission (NNM), was launched in 2018 (although the programme was being implemented in 2017) by the Government of India with the aim of tackling the malnutrition problem prevalent in India.
 - The **chief objective of the mission** is to reduce the level of under-nutrition and also enhance the nutritional status of children in the country.
- | |
|--|
| ○ The mission is a multi-ministerial initiative and aims at removing malnutrition from the country by 2022. |
| ○ Poshan Abhiyaan is India's flagship scheme to improve the nutritional outcomes of adolescents, children, pregnant women and lactating mothers. |
| ○ The mission leverages technology and convergence between various modules and departments. |

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

○ The term 'Poshan' in the name of the programme stands for **'Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition.**

○ The programme has specific targets for reducing stunting, anaemia, under-nutrition and low birth weight.

○ According to **'Mission 25 by 2020'**, the National Nutrition Mission aims to achieve a reduction in stunting from **38.4% to 25% by 2022.**

○ The mission also encompasses mapping of various other schemes related to malnutrition and enabling synergies through ICT-based real-time monitoring system, robust convergence between the schemes, incentivising states and UTs for meeting the set targets, and optimising Anganwadi centres' functioning, apart from conducting social audits.

○ These other schemes include the **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), Janani Suraksha Yojana, Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG), Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, PDS, National Health Mission, etc.**

○ For Anganwadi centres, the mission envisages the following:

- Giving incentives to Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) for using IT-based tools.
- Elimination of registers used by AWWs.
- Measuring the height of children at Anganwadi centres.

○ Another component of the mission is the gradual scaling up of the interventions under the World Bank assisted Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Systems.

○ The implementing agency is the **Ministry of Women and Child Development, GOI.**

○ The NITI Aayog also plays a pivotal role in the mission.

○ The **National Council on India's Nutritional Challenges**, which has been set up under the Poshan Abhiyaan, has the **Vice Chairperson of NITI Aayog as its Chairperson.**

○ The council is also called the **National Council on Nutrition or NCN.**

○ The NCN offers policy directions to address nutritional challenges and review programmes for the same.

○ It is a national-level coordination and convergence body on nutrition.

Specific Targets of NNM

The National Nutrition Mission aims at achieving the following:

- Reduce stunting by 2% annually.
- Reduce under-nutrition by 2% annually.
- Reduce anaemia by 3% annually.
- Reduce low birth weight by 2% annually.

➔ NATIONAL WATER MISSION - JAL JEEVAN MISSION

○ The **National Water Mission** was launched in **2011.**

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- With the per capita availability of water-reducing every year, reducing groundwater tables, prolonged droughts, floods due to excess rains; water conservation and storage is a cause of very significant concerns for every nation.

Objective

- Increase water use efficiency by 20% through regulations, differential entitlements and pricing.
- A considerable share of water needs of urban areas is to be met through recycling of wastewater.
- Water requirements of coastal cities are to be met through the adoption of low-temperature desalination technologies.
- Consult with states to ensure that basin-level management strategies are made to deal with variability in rainfall and river flows due to climate change.
- Enhance storage above and below ground, implement rainwater harvesting.
- Adopt large scale irrigation programmes which rely on sprinklers, drip irrigation and ridge and furrow irrigation.
- National Water Mission document consists of 2 volumes.
- **One volume deals with funds** required for the mission, Research and Development that would be required for this mission, monitoring of the mission and the composition of the various committees to run this mission.
- **Volume 2 of the mission document** deals with the reports generated by 6 different sub-committees. The sub-committees are:-

| |
|--|
| ▪ Sub-Committee on “Surface Water Management committee” |
| ▪ Sub-Committee on “Efficient use of water for various purposes committee” |
| ▪ Sub-Committee on “Domestic and Industrial Water management committee |
| ▪ Sub-Committee on “Policy and Institutional framework committee” |
| ▪ Sub-Committee on “Groundwater management committee” |
| ▪ Sub-Committee on “Basin level planning and management” |

WRIS

- An important milestone of this mission was the establishment of a Water Resources Information System (WRIS).
- This fulfils the mission’s goal to have an extensive database on water resources in the public domain.

→ NAI ROSHNI

- Nai Roshni – The **Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women** was implemented in 2012-13.
- It comes under the **Ministry of Minority Affairs**.
- It is a welfare scheme for the development of minority women in order to inculcate confidence and empower them by providing knowledge and techniques.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

Objectives

- Nai Roshni Scheme is a Government welfare scheme launched to empower minority women with knowledge, basic techniques and tools which would help them interact with government banks and other institutions on all levels.
- The scheme has been implemented through NGOs, civil societies and government institutions.
- Minority women can apply for the scheme online as well.
- The scheme helps in fighting different social stigmas such as poverty, as women and children are the worst sufferers of poverty.
- It empowers the minority women to stand up for their rights and help them grow economically thus strengthening civil society.

Target Group

- Muslim, Sikh, Christian, Buddhist, Zoroastrian (Parsi) and Jain women notified under Section 2 (c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 come under the target group.
- However, to further increase the strength of the mosaic of plurality in society and bring about solidarity and unity through their own efforts to improve their lot, the scheme permits a mix of women from non-minority communities not exceeding 25% of a project proposal.
- Efforts should be made by the organization so that a representative mix of women comes up from SCs/STs/OBCs.
- Also, women with disabilities and other communities are included within this 25% group.

➔ NUTRIENT BASED SUBSIDY SCHEME

- Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Programme for Fertilizers was initiated in the year **2010**.
- Under the scheme, a fixed amount of subsidy decided on an annual basis is provided on each grade of **subsidized Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers**, except for Urea, based on the nutrient content present in them.
- The scheme is administered by the **Department of Fertilizers under the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers**.
- The continuation of the Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme will ensure that an adequate quantity of P&K is made available to the farmers at a statutory controlled price.

Provisions

- In India, urea is the only controlled fertilizer and is sold at a statutory notified uniform sale price.
- Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme (NBS) allows the manufacturers, marketers, and importers to fix the MRP of the Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers at reasonable levels.
- The domestic and international cost of P&K fertilisers is considered along with the country's inventory levels and the currency exchange rate in order to decide the MRP.

Aims

- The scheme aims at ensuring that a sufficient quantity of P&K is at the farmer's disposal at statutory controlled prices so that agricultural growth can be sustained and balanced nutrient application to the soil can be ensured.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- It aims at ensuring the balanced use of fertilizers, improving agricultural productivity, promoting the growth of the indigenous fertilizer industry, and also reducing the burden of subsidy.
- Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme has been implemented with the expectation that it will promote balanced fertilization of the soil, which will lead to increased agricultural productivity and consequently better returns to the farmers.

→ NATIONAL MISSION FOR CLEAN GANGA

- The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) was implemented by the National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga also known as the National Ganga Council.
- This mission was established in 2011 under the **Societies Registration Act, 1860** as a registered society.
- The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under National Ganga Council is supported by the State level Programme Management Groups (SPMGs) in the state of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal. It is an initiative taken by the Government of India to address the pollution of the river Ganga by providing financial and technical assistance.
- Some of the **major objectives** of the Nation Mission for Clean Ganga are:
 - The mission incorporates rehabilitating and boosting the existing STPs and instant short-term steps to curb pollution at exit points on the riverfront in order to check the inflow of sewage.
 - To maintain the continuity of the water flow without changing the natural season variations.
 - To restore and maintain the surface flow and groundwater.
 - To regenerate and maintain the natural vegetation of the area.
 - To conserve and regenerate the aquatic biodiversity as well as the riparian biodiversity of the river Ganga basin.
 - To allow participation of the public in the process of protection, rejuvenation and management of the river.

Initiatives towards Clean Ganga

- **Ganga Action Plan:** It was announced in 1985 by the Ministry of Environment & Forests. This was the first River Action Plan that was introduced for the improvement of water quality through interception, diversion and treatment of domestic sewage. The plan aimed in preventing the entry of toxic and industrial chemical wastes to the river.
- **National River Conservation Plan:** This conservation plan was developed as an extension for the Ganga Action Plan with an aim to cover all the major rivers of India.
- **National River Ganga Basin Authority (NRGBA):** Controlled by the Prime Minister of India, the National River Ganga Basin Authority was formed under Section-3 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 by the Central Government in 2009. It declared the Ganga as 'the National River' of India.
- A Government clean-up campaign was started in 2010 to prevent the entry of untreated municipal sewage or industrial runoff into the river.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

➔ NATIONAL SPORTS TALENT SEARCH SCHEME

- The National Sports Talent Search Scheme (NSTSS) has been formulated for talent identification in the age group of 8-12 years and nurturing of identified talented sports persons. The scheme is being implemented by **Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India**.
- Identification of sporting talent among students in the age group of **8–12 years** (for admission in Class IV to Class VI) who possess inborn qualities such as anthropometric, physical and physiological capabilities without any anatomical infirmities.
- Nurturing of the Sporting Potential / talent in District level Sports schools / Central Sports Schools / National Sports Academies etc., to make them excel at the National and international sports competitions. This will help broaden the pool of Sportspersons in the Country.

Benefits that have accrued or will accrue

- Identification of talented sportspersons in the age group of 8 – 12 years in schools all over the country through a battery of tests and nurturing of identified talented sportspersons in sports schools will help broaden the pool of sportspersons in the country.
- The Scheme will facilitate development of Indian sports, particularly rural sports. Any success in National/International sports events will bring honour to the country as well as to the respective States which the sportspersons represents.
- The scheme envisages to cover all schools in different States / UTs throughout the country (both rural and urban) for a period of five years from 2015-16 to 2019-20.

➔ NATIONAL MISSION FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE (NMSA)

- It is one of the major missions of the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). Change in agricultural practices also plays a crucial role in the mitigation of climate change effects.
- This mission tries to comprehensively revamp the agricultural practices so that the desired objectives of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC's) can be achieved.

4 Major Programmes of NMSA

- **Rainfed Area Development (RAD)**
 - Develops an area-based approach for the development and conservation of natural resources along with farming systems. It is a combination of various aspects of agriculture such as crops, fishery, livestock, horticulture, forestry and other agro-based activities which will act as a source of generating revenue.
 - Implement practices that will regulate soil nutrient based on soil health card, development of farming lands.
 - Using an approach that is cluster-based, with an area of 100 hectares or more
 - Develop new property resources which would be common, like a bank for grains, fodder, shredders for biomass, combined marketing initiative.
- **On-Farm Water Management (OFWM)**

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- The primary focus is optimum utilisation of water by promoting advanced on-farm water conservation equipment and technologies.
- Emphasis on efficient harvesting and management of rainwater.
- Water conservation on the farm itself by digging farm ponds utilising funds from MGNREGA mission.
- **Soil Health Management**
 - Promote sustainable practices which preserve the health of soil based on a specific location and the type of crops that could be grown in those locations by taking the help of various techniques like management of residue, organic farming by making new maps with details on soil fertility and linking them with macro-management and micromanagement of nutrients, optimum land use, right utilisation of fertilisers and reducing degradation & erosion of soil.
 - Use of thematic maps generated with the help of Geographical Information System (GIS) technology and the databases created on soil and land with the help of scientific surveys.
 - State Government, Soil and land Use Survey of India (SLUSI), National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF), Central Fertilizer Quality Control and Training Institute (CFQC&TI).
- **Climate Change and Sustainable Agriculture: Monitoring, Modeling and Networking (CCSAMN)**
 - Create and disseminate knowledge and updated information on climate change.
 - Support pilot blocks for spreading rainfed technologies and co-ordinate with other schemes or missions like MGNREGS, NFSM, RKVY, IWMP, Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Program (AIBP), NMAET.

➔ SUB-MISSION ON AGRO-FORESTRY SCHEME

- SMAF stands for Sub-Mission on Agro-Forestry which is a scheme being run under National Mission for Sustained Agriculture since 2016-17.
- It was recommended under **National Agroforestry Policy 2014** to promote plantations on farmlands.
- Aim of the SMAF – The Sub-Mission on Agro-Forestry aims to expand the tree coverage on farmland in complementary with agricultural crops. The focus of the SMAF lies on:

| |
|--|
| ▪ To achieve the quantifiable benefits such as increase tree cover to enhance carbon sequestration |
| ▪ Enrichment of soil organic matter |
| ▪ Availability of quality planting material |
| ▪ Improvement in livelihood |
| ▪ Productivity enhancement of crop and cropping systems |
| ▪ Development of an information system |

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

Objectives of SMAF

- **Productivity, Employment, Income of Rural Household** – The mission aims to promote tree plantations integrating them with crops and livestock so as to help the rural household with better income and employment opportunities.
- **Availability of Quality Materials** – Planting materials like seeds, seedlings, clones, hybrids, improved varieties are made accessible to rural households especially small farmers.
- Bring awareness to types of agroforestry practises depending upon different agro-ecological regions and land use conditions.
- To provide capacity-building support to the agroforestry sector.

Important Facts about SMAF

- The scheme is implemented only in the states having liberalized transit regulations for the transport of timber and will be extended to other states as and when such relaxations are notified by them.
- The scheme promotes endemic species or tree species that come with medicinal value. Exotic species are not promoted by the scheme.
- Farmers must have a soil health card to get the benefit under the programme.
- The convergence of SMAF with the following schemes:

| |
|--|
| ▪ National Food Security Mission |
| ▪ Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) |
| ▪ National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm |
| ▪ Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture |
| ▪ Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sichayee Yojana (PMKSY) |

→ AGRI UDAAN

- Agri Udaan is a flagship program for Food and Agribusiness Accelerator in 2015.

Agri Udaan 2.0

- 'AGRI UDAAN'- Food and Agribusiness Accelerator 2.0 was announced by the ICAR-NAARM Technology Business Incubator (TBI), a-IDEA and the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad's (IIM-A) incubator Center for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE).
- The objective of this programme was to help the selected innovative startups to scale up their operations in the agricultural value chain for any effective improvement in the field of agriculture. Agri Udaan 2.0 was a six-month program for mentoring the shortlisted agricultural startups to scale up their operations.

Agri Udaan 3.0

- Agri Udaan 3.0 launched in Hyderabad in August 2019 to receive applications from startups that are trying to scale up in the agri-tech field and thus providing them support by bringing out innovations from across the country.
- **The major focus areas of Agri Udaan 3.0 are as follows:**

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

| | |
|--|--|
| ▪ sustainable inputs | ▪ Farm Mechanization & Post Harvest Technology |
| ▪ Animal Husbandry | ▪ Fisheries & Farm Fresh Retail |
| ▪ Innovative Food & Supply Chain Technology | ▪ Urban/Vertical Farming |
| ▪ Smart Agriculture, Agri Fintech & Agri Biotech | ▪ ICT & IoT in Agriculture |
| ▪ Soil, Water & Weather technology | ▪ Farm Mechanization & Post Harvest Technology |
| ▪ sustainable inputs | |

Agri Udaan 4.0

- Agri Udaan Food and Agribusiness Accelerator 4.0 is the 4th edition of the flagship accelerator program of a-IDEA (Association for Innovation Development of Entrepreneurship in Agriculture)
- It is supported by **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** of GoI.
- The Program focuses on catalyzing scale-up stage Food and Agribusiness startups through rigorous mentoring, industry networking and investor pitching.
- Agri Udaan 4.0 brings on board a range of diverse partners to create an inclusive and collaborative ecosystem focusing on catalyzing scale-up stage Food and Agribusiness startups through rigorous mentoring, industry networking and investor pitching
- **Focus Areas**

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ▪ Sustainable inputs | ▪ Soil, Water & Weather tech. |
| ▪ Animal Husbandry | ▪ Farm Mechanization |
| ▪ Innovative Food Technology | ▪ Post Harvest Technology |
| ▪ Supply Chain Technology | ▪ Fisheries |
| ▪ Precision/Smart Agriculture | ▪ Farm Fresh Retail |
| ▪ Agri Fintech | ▪ Urban/Vertical Farming |

→ OPERATION GREENS

- Operation Greens was announced by the Finance Minister in the Union Budget 2018-2019.
- Currently, Operation Green is currently housed in the **Ministry of Food Processing Industries or MoFPI**.
- **NAFED is the Nodal Agency** to implement price stabilisation measures.
- The scheme Operation Greens is on the **line of Operation Flood** and aims to promote FPO – Farmer Producers Organizations, processing facilities, agri-logistics, and professional management of agricultural produce.
- Operation Greens is a **scheme to fix the right prices for farmers' produce**.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- It aims to ensure that farmers are given the right price for the resource created by them.
- The program focuses on organized **marketing of TOP vegetables** i.e. Tomatoes, Onions, and Potatoes by connecting the farmers with consumers.
- Through Operation Greens government plans to provide financial assistance to Farmer Producer Organizations, State Agriculture and other Marketing Federations, cooperatives, companies, food processors, Self-help groups, etc.
- The **E-NAM platforms** will be connected to the Agriculture Produce Market Committee so as to help in the structural and infrastructure part of Operation Greens scheme. The government has also decoded help in the development of 22,000 agricultural markets under this scheme.
- The **e-National Agriculture Market (E-NAM)** is an important initiative of the Government of India to use **electronic trading portal pan-India for bidding and network the existing APMC mandis** to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.

Objectives

- Stabilisation of prices for consumers and producers by proper planning in the production of TOP clusters and introduction of dual use varieties.
- Improving value realisation of TOP farmers by targeted interventions to strengthen FPOs and TOP production clusters and linking them with the market.
- Reducing after harvest losses by creating farm gate infrastructure, appropriate storage capacity, developing suitable agro-logistics and linking consumption centres.
- Increase in food processing capacities and value addition in the TOP value chain with firm linkages with production clusters.
- Setting up a market intelligence network to collect real-time data on price and demand and supply of TOP crops.

➔ PAAT-MITRO APP

The Ministry of Textiles launched "Paat-Mitro", a mobile application, developed by the Jute Corporation of India Limited (JCI) during the Jute Symposium.

- The application is **available in 6 languages** and all the functionalities are made available to the users free of cost.
- The **app also offers agronomic practices, Minimum Support Prices (MSP) details, Jute Gradation Parameters, 'Jute-ICARE' schemes, weather forecasts, Jute Corporation of India (JCI's) Purchase Centers' locations, and Procurement Policies.**
- It enables farmers to **track their jute payments** and uses a **Chatbot** for queries.

Production and trade

- **India is the largest producer** of jute followed by Bangladesh and China.
- However, **in terms of acreage and trade, Bangladesh takes the lead** accounting for three-fourth of the global jute exports in comparison to India's 7%.
- It is mainly concentrated in eastern India because of the rich alluvial soil of Ganga-Brahmaputra delta.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- **Major jute producing states** include West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya, and Tripura.
- **Uses:** It is known as the **golden fibre**. It is used in making gunny bags, mats, ropes, yarn, carpets, and other artefacts.

Related Initiatives for the Jute Sector

- **Golden Fibre Revolution and Technology Mission** on Jute and Mesta are two of the government initiatives to boost jute production in India.

Jute Packaging Materials Act, 1987

- Through the Jute Packaging Materials (JPM) Act, the Government is protecting the interests of about 4 lakh workers and 40 lakh farm families.
- The Act **provides for the compulsory use of jute packaging material in the supply and distribution of certain commodities** in the interests of production of raw jute and jute packaging material, and of persons engaged in the production thereof, and for matters connected therewith.

Jute Geo-Textiles (JGT)

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved a **Technical Textiles Mission** which includes **Jute Geo-Textiles**.
- JGT is one of the most important diversified jute products. It can be applied in many fields like civil engineering, soil erosion control, road pavement construction and protection of river banks.

Jute SMART

- It is an **e-government initiative** which was launched in December 2016 to promote transparency in the jute sector.
- It provides an **integrated platform for procurement** by Government agencies.

➔ PRODUCTION LINKED INCENTIVE (PLI)

- Production Linked Incentive or PLI scheme is a scheme that **aims to give companies incentives on incremental sales from products manufactured in domestic units**.
- The scheme **invites foreign companies to set up units** in India, however, it also **aims to encourage local companies** to set up or expand existing manufacturing units and also to generate more employment and cut down the country's reliance on imports from other countries.
- It was launched in April 2020, for the Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing sector, but later towards the end of 2020 was introduced for 10 other sectors.
- This scheme was introduced in line with India's Atmanirbhar Bharat campaign.
- Based on the ten sectors to which the Production Linked Incentive scheme was expanded to, the government aims at achieving the following targets:

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- The government aims to make **India an integral part of the global supply chain** and enhance exports
- India is expected to have a USD 1 trillion digital economy by 2025 as it expects the demand for electronics to increase under its projects like Smart City and Digital India
- The **PLI scheme will make the Indian automotive Industry more competitive** and will enhance the globalisation of the Indian automotive sector
- The Indian Textile Industry is one of the largest in the world and with this scheme, it shall attract large investment in the sector to further boost domestic manufacturing, especially in the manmade fibre (MMF) segment and technical textiles
- India, being the second-largest producer of steel in the world, introducing it under the PLI scheme will benefit the country as it may expand export opportunities
- Similarly, telecom, solar panels, pharmaceuticals, white goods, and all the other sectors introduced can contribute to the economic growth of the country and make India a manufacturing hub globally.

➔ ONE NATION ONE RATION CARD

- The **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution** rolled out a pilot scheme titled, One Nation One Ration Card Scheme in four states on a pilot basis in 2019.
- It is a national ration card that will enable migrant workers and their families to access the public distribution system (PDS) benefits from any fair price shops across the country.
- The characteristics of the ONORC are:

| |
|--|
| ▪ Existing ration cards will be turned as one nation one ration card. |
| ▪ It will be a universal ration card allotted to each beneficiary registered under NFSA. |
| ▪ Using the ONORC, a beneficiary who migrates from one place to another can buy subsidized food grains from the fair price shop located in the destination city regardless of the origin of the beneficiaries. |
| ▪ The beneficiaries will be identified through biometric authentication on electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices. These devices will be installed at each fair price shop. |

The national portability will work using the:

- **Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS) portal** – It will provide the technological platform for the ration cards portability.
- **Annavitran portal** – It will host the data of the food grains distribution through ePoS devices within a state. This will help a beneficiary to access subsidized food grains within a state (inter-district.)
- Aadhar Cards will be seeded with ration cards which will help beneficiaries get the ration using the same ration card.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ PRASAD

- Under the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India launched the PRASAD Scheme in the year **2014-2015**.
- The full form of PRASAD Scheme is **Pilgrimage Rejuvenation And Spirituality Augmentation Drive**.
- It aims at **integrated development of pilgrimage destinations** in a prioritised, planned, and sustainable manner in order to provide a complete religious tourism experience.
- The 12 cities identified under the scheme at first are as mentioned below:

▪ Kamakhya (Assam), Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), Dwaraka (Gujarat), Gaya (Bihar), Amritsar (Punjab), Ajmer (Rajasthan), Puri (Odisha), Kedarnath (Uttarakhand), Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu), Velankanni (Tamil Nadu), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), Mathura (Uttar Pradesh)

Objectives

- To enhance **tourism attractiveness** in a sustainable manner
- To harness pilgrimage tourism so that it directly affects and multiplies the employment generation and economic development.
- To promote local art and culture, handicraft and cuisines etc.
- To develop world-class infrastructure in religious destinations
- The development of **infrastructure under PRASAD Scheme includes** the development of lighting and illumination with renewable energy sources, eco-friendly modes of transport, first aid centres, drinking water, waiting rooms, toilets, parking, craft bazaars/souvenir shops / haats / cafeteria, rain shelters, telecom facilities, internet connectivity etc.
- Development of basic tourism facilities like road, rail and water transport, last-mile connectivity, like Information and interpretation centers, Money exchanges and ATMs.
- To implement the PRASAD scheme a **Mission Directorate is set up** in the Ministry of Tourism. The Ministry provides Central Financial Assistance to State Governments for the promotion of tourism at identified destinations.

→ PRADHAN MANTRI ROJGAR PROTSAHAN YOJANA (PMRPY)

- In order to incentivise the employers for new employment generation, the Government of India designed the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) Scheme.
- Under the scheme, the employers would be paid the **EPS contribution of 8.33%** for every new employment created, by the government.
- The scheme has been operational since **August 2016**.
- The scheme is being implemented by the **Ministry of Labour and Employment**.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

Eligibility Criteria

- All establishments registered with Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) under EPF Act 1952 can apply for availing benefits under the scheme.
- They need to have a valid Labour identification Number (LN) allotted to them under the Shram Suvidha Portal.

Benefits

- This scheme offers social security benefits of the organised sector to workers. Apart from this, there are the following twin benefits of implementing this scheme:

- The employer is incentivised for increasing the employment base of workers in the establishment.
- A huge number of workers would find jobs in such establishments.

→ PRADHAN MANTRI KAUSHAL VIKAS YOJANA

- The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship launched the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) in **2015** administered by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
- The Government of India aims to provide the country's youth with training that will help them achieve meaningful, industry-relevant skills.
- PMKVY is a **Skill Certification Scheme** that aims to encourage the youth population of the country to take up training which is Industry- Relevant and builds them in Skill Development.
- The scheme was launched with an intention to provide secure livelihoods for the individuals participating in the training.
- PMKVY will also certify the previous learning experiences or skills of the individuals under the **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)**.

Implementation

- PMKVY is administered and implemented by the **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- Along with this, the training providers affiliated with the State or Central government will also provide training under the PMKVY scheme.
- The training providers have to register themselves on the Skill Management & Accreditation of Training Centre (SMART) portal to participate and provide training under the scheme.
- PMKVY training is scrutinized by the **Sector Skills Councils and State Governments**.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

- Recognition of Prior Learning commonly known as RPL largely refers to an assessment process used to evaluate a person's existing skill sets, knowledge and experience gained either by formal, non-formal or informal learning.

RPL – 5 step process

- Mobilization
- Counselling and Pre-Screening

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- Orientation
- Final Assessment
- Certification, mark sheet and pay-out distribution to candidates

PMKVY 1.0

- **Launch:** India's largest Skill Certification Scheme - Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) - was launched on 15th July, 2015 (World Youth Skills Day).
- **Aim:** To encourage and promote skill development in the country by providing free short duration skill training and incentivizing this by providing monetary rewards to youth for skill certification.
- **Key Components:** Short Term Training, Special Projects, Recognition of Prior Learning, Kaushal & Rozgar Mela, etc.

PMKVY 2.0

- **Coverage:** PMKVY 2016-20 (PMKVY 2.0) was launched by scaling up both in terms of Sector and Geography and by greater alignment with other missions of the Government of India like Make in India, Digital India, Swachh Bharat, etc.
- Implementation Through Two Components:
 - **Centrally Sponsored Centrally Managed (CSCM):** This component was implemented by National Skill Development Corporation. 75% of the PMKVY 2016-20 funds and corresponding physical targets have been allocated under CSCM.
 - **Centrally Sponsored State Managed (CSSM):** This component was implemented by State Governments through State Skill Development Missions (SSDMs). 25% of the PMKVY 2016-20 funds and corresponding physical targets have been allocated under CSSM.

PMKVY 3.0

- **Coverage:** Launched in 717 districts, 28 States/eight UTs, PMKVY 3.0 is a step towards 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.
- **Implementation:** It will be implemented in a more decentralized structure with greater responsibilities and support from States/UTs and Districts.
- District Skill Committees (DSCs), under the guidance of State Skill Development Missions (SSDM), shall play a key role in addressing the skill gap and assessing demand at the district level.

Features

- It will be **more trainee- and learner-centric**. The focus is on bridging the demand-supply gap by promoting skill development in areas of new-age and Industry 4.0 job roles.
- It will be a propagator of vocational education at an early level for youth to capitalize on industry-linked opportunities.
- The National Educational Policy 2020 also puts focus on vocational training for holistic growth and increased employability.
- By taking the bottom-up approach to training, it will identify job roles that have demand at the local level and skill the youth, linking them to these opportunities (Vocal for Local).
- It will encourage healthy competition between states by making available increased allocation to those states that perform better.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ PM FME

- The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has launched the **PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Scheme** in 2020.
- The PM FME scheme intends to provide financial, technical and business support to upgrade existing micro food processing enterprises.
- The idea behind PM FME scheme is to bring unorganized micro food enterprises into an organized framework.
- There are approximately 25 lakhs unorganized food processing units.
- These units contribute to 74 percent of employment in the food processing sector.
- 66 percent of such units are located in rural areas.
- The government has earmarked Rs. 10000 crores to benefit two lakh micro food processing enterprises. The scheme aims to support:

- Micro Food Entrepreneurs
- FPOs
- SHGs
- Co-operatives

Salient facts

- It is a part of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.
- It is a **centrally sponsored scheme**. The share of expenditure under the PM FME scheme is as follows:

- 60:40 between the central government and state governments
- 90:10 between central and North Eastern and Himalayan states
- 100 percent central assistance for UTs without legislatures.

- It will run for **five years – 2020-21 to 2024-25**. The central government will bear the expenditure for the first year irrespective of who incurs it; later will be adjusted in the ratio mentioned above; in the next four years.
- The central government will provide funds to the state based on the approved Project Implementation Plan (PIP).
- **One-District One-Product Approach (ODOP) plan** to be implemented to encompass input procurement, common services availability, and product marketing.
- The Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee (IMEC) is established at the national level. The structure of IMEC under PM FME is:

- Chairman – Minister of Food Processing Industries
- Vice-Chairman – Minister of State of Food Processing Industries
- Member-Secretary
- Members

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

Objectives

- Capacity Building of Micro Food entrepreneurs
- They will be provided with **technical knowledge**
- **Skill training** is another component
- Hand holding support services to be given
- Technology up-gradation of the existing Micro Food Processing Enterprises by increasing access to credit to the entrepreneurs.
- Enable microenterprises to avail common services through supporting Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs), Producers Cooperatives & Cooperative Societies along their entire value chain
- A regulatory framework to encompass existing unorganized micro food processing enterprises to bring them into a formally compliant framework.
- Branding and marketing to be strengthened in order to support the integration of existing enterprises with organized supply chains.

Four Main Components of PM FME

- | |
|---|
| ○ Support to individual and groups of micro-enterprises |
| ○ Branding and Marketing support |
| ○ Support for strengthening of institutions |
| ○ Setting up a robust project management framework |

➔ PRADHAN MANTRI MATRITVA VANDANA YOJANA (PMMVY)

- The Pradhan Mantri Matritva Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) was launched in 2017 as a flagship maternity benefits programme of the Government of India.
- Earlier it was known as the **Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana** and is run under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- The scheme is **aimed at pregnant or lactating women aged 19 years or above for the first live birth**. The programme provides partial compensation for wage loss during childbirth and afterwards during childcare.
- It also **aims to provide information on good feeding and nutrition** for mother and child pursuant to the National Food Security Act, 2013.
- PMMVY is implemented through a centrally deployed Web Based MIS Software application and the main point of implementation would be the Anganwadi Centre (AWC) and ASHA/ ANM workers.

Objectives

- | |
|---|
| ○ Providing cash compensation against wage loss so that the mother can take adequate rest before and after the birth of the first living child. |
| ○ Promoting good nutrition and feeding practices to reduce infant mortality and malnutrition. It would also promote healthier behaviour among pregnant/lactating mothers. |

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- Promoting the use of health services and institutional care to reduce the risk of disease.

Beneficiary List

- Pregnant/Lactating Mothers except those who are employed with the Central Government, Public Sector Units or State Governments or those who receive similar benefits from similar laws for the time being.
- Women whose pregnancies commenced after 01.01.2017 and this would be the first child in the family.

Provisions

- Rs 5000 in three instalments on fulfilling the respective conditionality, viz. early registration of pregnancy, ante-natal check-up and registration of the birth of the child and completion of the first cycle of vaccination for the first living child of the family.
- The PM Matritva Vandana scheme also asks mothers to:
 - Breastfeed for the first six months and give the child complementary food after that
 - Vaccinate the child with DPT and Polio vaccine
 - Attend two counselling sessions when the child is between 3-6 months old.
- The mechanism through which the Government of India finances this scheme is as grant in aid funding to state governments, which in turn handle the actual implementation of the scheme. It was relaunched in 2014 as Matritva Sahyog Yojana in 2014 and took its present form in late 2016.

Other Schemes Focussing on Nutritional and Health Aspects of Women:

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme

- The scheme provides specific interventions targeted towards the vulnerable groups including children below 6 years and women.
- It is being implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Poshan Abhiyaan

- Launched in March 2018, the goal of Poshan Abhiyaan is to achieve improvement in the nutritional status of Children (0-6 years) and Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers in a time-bound manner.

Kudumbashree in Kerala

- It was launched in Kerala in 1998 to wipeout absolute poverty through community action.
- It is the largest women empowering project in the country.
- It has three components i.e., microcredit, entrepreneurship and empowerment.

Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojna (IGMSY)

- The scheme aims to contribute to a better enabling environment by providing cash incentives for improved health and nutrition to pregnant and lactating mothers.
- It is being implemented by the **Ministry of Women and Child Development**.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ PM SVANidhi

Salient Features

- It is a **central sector scheme**
- It will provide affordable working capital loans to street vendors who are left affected by the novel coronavirus pandemic.
- A vendor will get an interest subsidy at 7 per cent at early or timely repayment of loans.
- There is a provision of monthly cash-back incentive on digital payments.
- A vendor has the high probability to be eligible for a higher loan if he/she repays the first loan on time.
- A vendor does not have to provide any collateral security to access the loan.

Objectives

- To give vendors access to affordable working capital loans which can help them to resume their livelihood activities post-countrywide lockdown (due to the pandemic.)
- To incentivize regular repayment of loans by provisions like cash-back, higher loans on subsequent demands etc.
- To promote digitalization by rewarding vendors who opt for digital repayments of loans.

Lending Institutions under PM SVANidhi

- Scheduled Commercial Banks
- Regional Rural Banks
- Cooperative Banks
- Non-Banking Financial Companies
- Micro-Finance Institutions
- Self Help Groups (SHG) Banks

Eligibility of States/UTs

- The Scheme is available for beneficiaries belonging to only those States/UTs which have notified Rules and Scheme under Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.
- Beneficiaries from Meghalaya, which has its own State Street Vendors Act, may, however, participate.

Implementation Partner

- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) will be the implementation partner of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for scheme administration.
- SIDBI will leverage the network of lending Institutions including the SCBs, RRBs, SFBs, Cooperative Banks, NBFCs & MFIs for scheme implementation.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

→ PM-KISAN SAMMAN NIDHI YOJANA

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi is a central sector scheme under the government of India which provides income support to the farmers and their families.
- PM-KISAN scheme was first implemented as the Rythu Bandhu scheme by the Government of Telangana where a certain amount was handed directly to the eligible farmers.

Objectives

- To **provide income support to all eligible land-holding farmers** and their families.
- PM-KISAN scheme also **aims to supplement the financial needs of the farmers** in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income.
- The scheme is expected to increase the coverage of PM-KISAN to around 14.5 crore beneficiaries. It aims to cover around 2 crores more farmers.

Eligibility

- Any small or marginal farmer should not fall under the following criteria to be eligible under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana.
- Below are some of the categories of beneficiaries who are not eligible for benefit under this scheme:

| |
|---|
| ▪ Any institutional land-holders. |
| ▪ The farmer as well as any member of the family belonging to the following categories: |
| ▪ Former and present holders of constitutional posts |
| ▪ Former and present Ministers/ State Ministers |
| ▪ Former or present members of Lok Sabha/ Rajya Sabha/ State Legislative Assemblies/ State Legislative Councils |
| ▪ Former and present Mayors of Municipal Corporations |
| ▪ Former and present Chairpersons of District Panchayats. |
| ▪ Any serving or retired officers as well as employees under the Central/ State Government Ministries /Offices/Departments. |
| ▪ All retired pensioners who get a monthly pension of Rs.10,000/-or more and belonging to the above category. |
| ▪ Any individual who paid their income tax in the last assessment year is not eligible under this scheme. |
| ▪ Professionals like Doctors, Engineers, Lawyers, Chartered Accountants, and Architects registered with Professional bodies and carrying out profession by undertaking practices. |

The farmers eligible under the scheme are required to produce the below-mentioned documents for their verification:

- Citizenship certificate
- Landholding papers

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- Aadhaar card
- Bank account details

Advantages of PM-KISAN Scheme

- The direct transfer of funds is one of the biggest advantages of this scheme.
- All the records related to farmers is registered officially on a digital platform which has made the registration and fund transfer easy. The digitalised records have brought about a new start to this welfare scheme
- This scheme eases liquidity constraints of farmers
- PM-KISAN yojana is a big step towards the Government's initiatives of modernisation of agriculture
- There is no discrimination in choosing the PM-KISAN beneficiaries.

→ PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN SAMPADA YOJANA

- PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojana is a central sector scheme introduced by **Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI)**.
- The PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojana is a revised name of **“Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters.”**
- It has an **outlay of 6000 crores.**
- The scheme was implemented in the year 2019-20.
- The scheme **aims at integrating existing and new schemes** targeted at reducing food wastage, provide quality food to consumers at reasonable prices, and at the same time doubling farmer's income.
- SAMPADA is an umbrella scheme with its period coterminous with the cycle of the 14th finance commission. It has various schemes within its gamut.
- **Ministry of Food Processing Industries in February 2020 sanctioned 32 projects** under PM Kisan Sampada Yojana. The projects are stated to be spread across 17 states in India and are to leverage an investment worth Rs. 406 crores. Other details are:

- **Employment Generation** – The 32 projects under PMKSY will create direct/indirect employment with a special focus on employment opportunities in rural areas.
- **Modern Processing Techniques** – The ministry has introduced modern food processing techniques improving the shelf-life of agricultural produce and ensuring stable revenue for the farmers.
- **Value of Food Processing Market in India** – The food processing market in India was valued at approximately Rs. 26 billion in FY 2018 and is expected to reach approximately Rs. 53 billion by FY 2024.

→ PRADHAN MANTRI MATSYA SAMPADA YOJANA

- Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) was launched in 2020.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- The **aim of the scheme is to bring about Blue Revolution** through the sustainable development of the fisheries sector over a period of five years (2020-2025.)
- PMMSY was announced in the union budget 2019-20.
- It is an umbrella scheme to develop the fisheries sector with a total outlay of Rs. 20050 crores.
- PMMSY will cover three broad sub-components:

- | |
|---|
| ▪ Enhancement of Production and Productivity |
| ▪ Infrastructure and Post-harvest Management |
| ▪ Fisheries Management and Regulatory Framework |

It intends to work on:

- | |
|--|
| ○ Fish production |
| ○ Fisheries productivity |
| ○ Quality of fisheries and aquaculture sectors |
| ○ Post-harvest infrastructure and management |
| ○ Modernization of value chain |
| ○ Welfare of the fishers and fish farmers |
| ○ Fisheries management framework |

→ PRADHAN MANTRI FASAL BIMA YOJANA

- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana is the flagship scheme of the government for agricultural insurance in India in line with the One Nation-One Scheme theme.
- **Annual Commercial / Annual Horticultural crops, oilseeds, and food crops** (Cereals, Millets, and Pulses) are covered under the scheme.
- PMFBY is optional for the farmers who have not availed institutional credit, while all the farmers who have borrowed institutional loans from banks are covered under the scheme mandatorily. This was **modified and enrolment was made voluntary post-Kharif season 2020**.
- The scheme is administered by the **Ministry of Agriculture**.

Revamping the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

- To address the challenges in the implementation of the crop insurance scheme, the Union Cabinet has approved to revamp the PMFBY and to bring modifications to its existing provisions.
- Therefore, the revamped PMFBY 2.0 aims to ensure quick computation and payment of claims to the farmers, proportionate to the crop loss through a series of technological interventions and implement more modifications to the scheme by the government.
- For north-eastern states, the centre's share in premium subsidy to be increased to 90% from 50% earlier.
- Information, Communication and Education (ICE) Activities – 0.5% of the total premium collected by the insurance companies to be spent on ICE activities.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

Flexibility to states:

- States/UTS to be given an option to choose their scale of finance for any district crop combination.
- States/UTs given option to run the scheme with the selection of additional risk covers.

Cap on Centre's Premium Subsidy:

- For unirrigated areas/crops, the central subsidy to be limited for premium rates up to 30%
- For irrigated area/crops, the central subsidy to be limited for premium rates up to 25%.
- Those districts that will have an area under irrigation for more than 50% will be considered as an irrigated district.

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana being revamped

- To make farmers' self-sufficient to manage risk in agriculture production.
- To stabilise the farm income.
- To enable farmers of North-Eastern states to manage agriculture risks.
- Enable faster claims settlements through quick and accurate yield estimation.

What is covered under PMFBY?

- Local natural calamities like landslides, hailstorms, etc.
- Calamities leading to loss of yield like floods, dry spells, droughts, etc. Pest infestation that causes yield loss is also covered by PMFBY.
- Losses that occurred after harvesting crops can also be covered under this scheme. These circumstances may befall due to cyclones, unseasonal rains, cyclonic rains, etc.

Nevertheless, PMFBY does not provide any safety against the following circumstances:

| |
|---|
| ▪ Losses occurred due to war or similar hazardous activities. |
| ▪ Loss of yield due to the act of enmity or riots. |
| ▪ Yield destruction caused by domestic and/or wild animals |
| ▪ Contamination due to nuclear risks. |
| ▪ Malicious damage leading to yield carnage. |
| ▪ It is proposed by the scheme to use remote sensing technology, smartphones, or drones to expedite crop loss estimation. |

Features

- **Complete Insurance** coverage provision against crop loss due to unpreventable reasons. The purpose of this is to stabilize the farmer's income and promote innovative agricultural practices.
- **Improved and increased risk coverage** for the insurance of crop cycle for losses occurred during pre-sowing and post-harvesting.
- To settle claims for widespread damage, PMFBY uses an **Area Approach wherein an Insurance Unit is reduced to Village or panchayat level** for major crops.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- PMFBY facilitates the farmers to get their claim of the full sum insured without any reduction by taking off capping on premium provisions as well as other reductions on the sum insured.
- Along with landslide and hailstorm, even inundation (flooding) has been incorporated as a localized calamity for the assessment at the individual farm level.
- Assessment at the individual farm level is now provided for post-harvest losses by the PMFBY. This involves losses caused due to unseasonal and cyclonic rains throughout the country which destroy the crops kept for drying up to two weeks.
- Prevented Sowing is now provided with claims up to 25% of the sum insured.
- A group of districts will be allotted an insurance company. This kind of Cluster approach will result in effective implementation of the policy. The insurance company allocation will be through a bidding process for a longer duration of up to 3 years.
- Innovative technologies for faster and efficient estimation of crop losses are used. Usage of Drones, Smartphones, and Remote Sensing Technologies will ensure early settlement of insurance claims.
- An online portal for Crop insurance has been launched to ensure improved administration, better transparency and coordination, and dissemination of information.
- The insurance sum is directly credited electronically in the farmer's bank account.
- Also, a **Unified Package Insurance Scheme (UPIS)** has also been approved for implementation on a pilot basis in 45 districts of the country from Kharif 2016 season to cover the other assets/activities like machinery, life, accident, house and student safety for farmers along with their notified crops (under PMFBY/ Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme – WBCIS)

→ PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN MAAN-DHAN YOJANA (PM-KMY)

- The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana was launched at Ranchi.
- This a Central Sector Scheme which is administered by the **Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare**, and the Government of India in partnership with Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).
- **LIC is the Pension Fund Manager for PM Kisan Maan-Dhan Yojana** that provides an assured monthly pension of Rs. 3000/- to all the small and marginal farmers (who own cultivable land up to 2 hectares) after the age of 60 years.
- This scheme was introduced with an aim to secure the lives of small and marginal farmers in India.
- PM-KMY Scheme in India is a central sector scheme for farmers aged between 18 to 40 years.
- The members are thus required to make a monthly contribution to the Pension Fund between Rs.55/- to Rs.200/-, depending on their age with the provision of equal contribution by the Central Government.
- This scheme is applicable to all the small and marginal farmers. The ratio of the contribution that must be made by them and the Union Government under this Yojana is 1:1.
- Government contribution under the PM-KMY Scheme is equal to the monthly contribution made by the farmer.
- However, farmers falling under the below-mentioned criteria are not eligible for the scheme:
 - Small and marginal farmers who are already registered under other schemes such as the National Pension Scheme (NPS), Employees' State Insurance Corporation scheme, Employees' Fund Organization Scheme, etc. will not be eligible for the PM-KMY Scheme.

IMPORTANT GOVT. SCHEMES

- Farmers who have opted for Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan Dhan Yojana (PMSYM) administered by the Ministry of Labour & Employment as well as for Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyapari Maan-Dhan Yojana (PM-LVM) under the Ministry of Labour & Employment are also not eligible for this scheme.

Benefits

- Along with the beneficiary, the spouse is also eligible for the scheme and can get a separate pension of Rs.3000/- by making separate contributions to the Fund.
- If the beneficiary dies before the retirement date, the spouse may continue this scheme by paying the remaining contributions. But if the spouse does not wish to continue, then, the total contribution made by the farmer along with interest will be paid to the spouse.
- If there is no spouse, then the total contribution along with interest will be paid to the nominee.
- If the farmer dies after the retirement date, the spouse will receive 50% of the pension as Family Pension. After the death of both the farmer and the spouse, the accumulated corpus shall be credited back to the Pension Fund.

→ PMJAY

Women account for approximately 49% of the total Ayushman cards created and approximately 48% of total authorised hospital admissions.

- PM-JAY is the world's **largest health insurance scheme fully financed** by the government.
- Launched in 2018, it offers a **sum insured of Rs.5 lakh per family for secondary care and tertiary care.**
- Health Benefit Packages covers surgery, medical and day care treatments, cost of medicines and diagnostics.

Beneficiaries

- It is an **entitlement-based scheme** that targets the beneficiaries as identified by latest Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data.
- The National Health Authority (NHA) has provided flexibility to States/UTs to use non- Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) beneficiary family databases with similar socio-economic profiles for tagging against the leftover (unauthenticated) SECC families.

Funding

- The funding for the scheme is shared – **60:40 for all states and UTs with their own legislature, 90:10 in Northeast states and Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal, and Uttarakhand and 100% Central funding for UTs without legislature.**

Nodal Agency

- The National Health Authority (NHA) has been constituted as an **autonomous entity** under the **Society Registration Act, 1860** for effective implementation of PM-JAY in alliance with state governments.
- The State Health Agency (SHA) is the apex body of the State Government responsible for the implementation of AB PM-JAY in the State.

