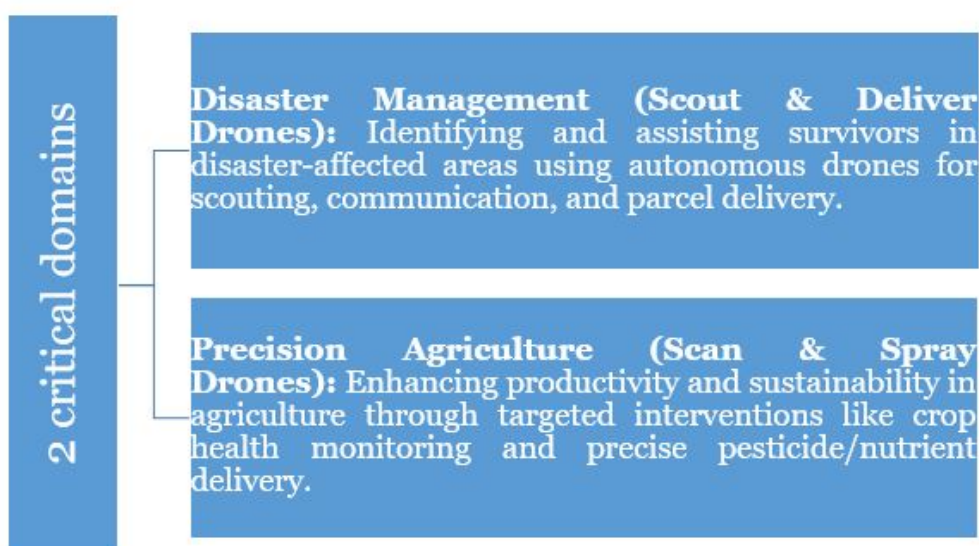


National Innovation Challenge for Drone Research (NIDAR)

Why in news?

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Drone Federation India has recently launched NIDAR to boost Talent, R&D and Skill Development in Drone Ecosystem.

- **Aim** - NIDAR is India's largest national drone innovation initiative that motivates students and researchers from academia to build collaborative autonomous drones across 2 critical domains:



- **Launched under** - The *SwaYaan Initiative*.
- **Benefits** - It offers a total prize pool of INR 40 Lakhs along with opportunities for startup incubation, cloud credits, software support, and internships with India's leading drone companies.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Significance | Spark interest among students about aerospace and drones. |
| | Enable students to solve real problems by connecting student projects to industry needs. |
| | Encourage teams to work together from different fields of study. |
| | Provide mentorship and industry experience for students. |
| | Teach students how to raise funds and promote their ideas. |
| | Make the competition a respected platform for drone innovation. |

SwaYaan Initiative

- SwaYaan is a National Initiative to develop and strengthen India's UAS/Drone ecosystem, aligning with the Government's vision to make India a global drone hub by 2030.
- **Aim** - The program empowers learners from undergraduates to faculty and open learners across five key technical areas through 1,500+ academic, research, and knowledge-sharing activities.
- **Ministry** - Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- **Implementation** - Through a network of *30 Premier Academic and R&D institutions*, including IIT, IISc, IIIT, NITs, IIITDM, C-DAC, and NIELIT Centres.

Drone Federation India (DFI)

- A *non-government, non-profit*, industry-led body representing 550+ drone companies and 5500+ drone pilots across the country.
- **Vision** - To make India a global drone hub by 2030, and it promotes the design, development, manufacturing, adoption and export of Indian drone and counter-drone technology worldwide.
- **Significance** - A premier industry *will support participating students in NIDAR* by providing mentorship and industry exposure.
- DFI *enables ease of doing business*, promotes the adoption of drone technology, and hosts several programs like Bharat Drone Mahotsav.

References

1. [PIB | NIDAR](#)
2. [Swayaan website | Swayaan](#)
3. [Nidar website | NIDAR](#)