

## **Prelim Bits 07-02-2019**

### **Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme**

- Under the scheme, each MP of Lok Sabha has the choice to suggest to the District Collector for works upto Rs.5 crores/annum to be taken up in his/her constituency.
- The responsibility of implementation of MPLADS is taken care by the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Division.
- The division is under the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation, which has issued guidelines including implementation and monitoring of the scheme.
- The **Rajya Sabha MP** can recommend works in one or more districts in the **State** from where he/she has been elected.
- The **Nominated Members** of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may select any one or more Districts from any one State in the Country for implementation of their choice of work under the scheme.

### **Agri-Market infrastructure fund**

- The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs gave its approval for the creation of a corpus of Rs.2000 crore for Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund (AMIF).
- The fund is to be created with National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development.
- The fund is for development and up-gradation of agricultural marketing infrastructure in Gramin Agricultural Markets and Regulated Wholesale Markets.
- States may also access AMIF for innovative, integrated marketing infrastructure projects, including Hub and Spoke mode and in the Public Private Partnership mode.

### **Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for establishment of Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog for Conservation protection and development of cows and their progeny.
- The scheme was announced in the Interim Budget 2019-20.
- It will provide the policy framework and direction for the cow conservation

and development programs in the country.

- It is for ensuring proper implementation of laws with respect to the welfare of cows.
- It will result in increased growth of livestock sector, which is more inclusive, benefitting women, and small and marginal farmers.

### **Indo-Saracenic Architecture**

- It represents a synthesis of Islamic designs and Indian materials developed by British architects in India.
- The style was prevalent during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- The architecture style is characterized by a combined diverse architectural elements of Hindu and Mughal with cusped arches, domes, spires, tracery, minarets and stained glass.
- Chepauk Palace in Chennai designed by Paul Benfield is said to be the first Indo-Saracenic building in India.
- The other outstanding examples are Muir college in Allahabad, Napier Museum in Thiruvananthapuram, Gateway of India in Mumbai, the Palaces at Mysore and Bangalore.

### **Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)**

- The meeting of Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Cluster Group on Disaster Risk Management (DRM) to strengthen cooperation in disaster response concluded recently.
- It is an intergovernmental organization which was established on 1997.
- It is a dynamic organisation of 22 Member States and 9 Dialogue Partners.
- All sovereign States of the Indian Ocean Rim are eligible for membership of the Association.
- India is a member.
- IORA's apex body is the Council of Foreign Ministers (COM) which meets annually.
- The Republic of South Africa assumed the role of chair for 2017-2019.

### **World Economic Situation and Prospect 2019**

- The report is a joint product of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the 5 United Nations regional commissions.
- According to the 2019 report, Global growth is expected to remain at 3% in 2019 and 2020.
- However, the steady pace of expansion in the global economy masks an increase in downside risks that could potentially exacerbate development

challenges in many parts of the world,

- The global economy is facing a confluence of risks, which could severely disrupt economic activity and inflict significant damage on longer-term development prospects.
- These risks include
  1. An escalation of trade disputes
  2. An abrupt tightening of global financial conditions
  3. Intensifying climate risks
- India will continue to remain the world's fastest-growing large economy in 2019 as well as in 2020.
- India's GDP growth is expected to accelerate to 7.6% in 2019
- China, it said the growth is expected to moderate to 6.3% in 2019 from 6.6% in 2018.

**Source: PIB, The Hindu, The Indian Express**

