

Implementing the Street Vendors Act 2014 | Uttar Pradesh | 03 May 2024

Why in News?

A decade has passed since the <u>Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending)</u>
<u>Act. 2014</u> came into effect on 1st May 2014, marking a significant milestone after nearly four decades of legal jurisprudence and the tireless efforts of street vendor movements across India.

Key Points

- The Act was enacted in order to legalise the vending rights of <u>street vendors (SVs)</u>.
- It aimed to protect and regulate street vending in cities, with State-level rules and schemes, and execution by <u>Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)</u> through by-laws, planning, and regulation.
- The Act clearly delineates the roles and responsibilities of both vendors and various levels of government.
- It commits to accommodating all 'existing' vendors in vending zones and issuing vending certificates (VCs).
- The Act establishes a participatory governance structure through Town Vending Committees (TVCs).
 - It mandates that street vendor representatives must constitute 40% of TVC members, with a sub-representation of 33% of women SVs.
 - These committees are tasked with ensuring the inclusion of all existing vendors in vending zones.
- Additionally, the Act outlines mechanisms for addressing grievances and disputes, proposing the
 establishment of a Grievance Redressal Committee chaired by a civil judge or judicial
 magistrate.
- It provides that the States/ULBs conduct a survey to identify SVs at least once every five years.

Government's Initiatives for Street Vendors

- SVANidhi Scheme:
 - SVANidhi Scheme was launched to benefit over 50 lakh street vendors who had been vending in urban areas including those from surrounding peri-urban/rural areas.
 - It also aims to promote <u>digital transactions</u> through cash-back incentives up to an amount of Rs. 1,200 per annum.
- National Association of Street Vendors of India:
 - NASVI is an organization working for the protection of the livelihood rights of thousands of street vendors across the country.
 - The main objective was to bring together the **street vendor** organizations in India so as to collectively struggle for macro-level changes.