



Central Advisory Board on Archaeology

Why in News?

Recently, the Government has re-constituted the **Central Advisory Board on Archaeology (CABA)**.

What is CABA?

- It has been constituted to **strengthen contacts between the [Archaeological Survey of India \(ASI\)](#) and those in the field of archaeological research.**
- The board will include **“five persons nominated in their personal capacities by the Government of India”** and former **Director-Generals of ASI.**
- The board will meet **once a year and its functions would include advising the Centre on “matters relating to archaeology”** referred to by its members.
- It will promote **closer contacts of the Archaeological Survey of India with Indian Universities** conducting Archaeological Research.
- It will promote the studies related to application of archaeological principles, training future Archaeologists, and closer association of **learned societies in India and of the State Governments with the activities of the ASI.**

What is the Archaeological Survey of India?

- Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), under **the Ministry of Culture**, is the **premier organization for the archaeological research and protection of the cultural heritage** of the nation.
- It administers more than 3650 ancient monuments, archaeological sites and remains of national importance.
- Its activities **include carrying out surveys of antiquarian remains, exploration and excavation of archaeological sites, conservation and maintenance** of protected monuments etc.
- It was **founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham**- the first Director-General of ASI. Alexander Cunningham is also known as the **“Father of Indian Archaeology”**.

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