



## Mera Gaon, Meri Dharohar Programme

**For Prelims:** [Mera Gaon](#), [Meri Dharohar Programme](#), [National Mission on Cultural Mapping](#), Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Promotion of Art and Culture, [Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs](#)

**For Mains:** Government policies in Promoting the cultural heritage of India, Significance of Mera Gaon Meri Dharohar, National Mission on Cultural Mapping.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

### Why in News?

The Government of India has decided to **map and document all villages under the [Mera Gaon, Meri Dharohar \(MGMD\) Programme](#)**.

- The program seeks to compile comprehensive information detailing the life, history, and ethos of Indian villages and make it available to virtual and real-time visitors.
- The Ministry of Culture is also implementing a **Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Promotion of Art and Culture** consisting of 8 components through which cultural organisations are given **financial assistance for the promotion of art and culture**.

### What is the Mera Gaon, Meri Dharohar (MGMD) Programme?

- The MGMD Programme is a national mission on cultural mapping conducted in coordination with [Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts \(IGNCA\)](#) under the **Ministry of Culture**.
  - A web portal on MGMD has also been launched. MGMD aims to compile comprehensive information about **Indian villages, covering aspects of life, history, and ethos, accessible to both virtual and real-time visitors**.
- Under the MGMD, information is **collected under seven broad categories**:
  - Arts and Crafts Village
  - Ecologically Oriented Village
  - Scholastic Village linked with Textual and Scriptural Traditions of India
  - Epic Village linked with Ramayana, Mahabharata and/or Puranic legends and oral epics
  - Historical Village linked with Local and National History
  - Architectural Heritage Village
  - Any other characteristic that may need highlighting such as fishing village, horticulture village, shepherding village etc.
- MGMD is a component of [National Mission on Cultural Mapping \(NMCM\)](#), undertaken as a part of [Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav \(AKAM\)](#).
- Under the MGMD **cultural mapping of 6.5 lakh villages is being carried out** and more than 2 Lakh villages have already been mapped and uploaded on the Mission portal that serves as the **National Cultural Work Place**.

### What is the National Mission on Cultural Mapping (NMCM)?

#### ▪ **About:**

- NMCM has been set up by the Ministry of Culture, to **identify and document India's cultural heritage** and its creative potential to regenerate and revitalise rural economies, thereby **making Village India self-reliant**.
- The Cultural Mapping will function at three levels:
  - **National Directories** of artists and living human treasures of cultural industries.
  - Creation of **National Digital Inventories/Registers** of art expression and artist communities/bearers of tradition.
  - Evolve **policies toward the preservation of art practices** and develop welfare schemes for their practitioners.

#### ▪ **Mission Mandate:**

- To create a national database through Cultural Mapping with the aid of extensive ground surveys and documentation.
- To **Preserve, safeguard, revitalise and disseminate** the rich cultural heritage of this country for future generations.
- To create a strong "Cultural Vibrancy" throughout the nation with the help of digital platforms and outreach activities.

## **What is the Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Promotion of Art and Culture?**

- It is a **central sector scheme**, that aims to support various cultural activities and organizations in the country. The scheme has **8 components**, each with a different objective and funding amount.
- The scheme for Financial Assistance for the Promotion of Art and Culture consists of 8 Components, they are:
  - **Financial Assistance to Cultural organizations with National Presence:**
    - Provide financial support to reputed **cultural organizations with a national presence** to disseminate and propagate art & culture.
    - This grant is given to such organizations that are properly constituted managing bodies **registered in India with an All India Character** and have adequate working strength and a track record of spending Rs. 1 crore or more during any 3 of the last 5 years on cultural activities.
    - **Maximum Grant:** Up to Rs. 1 crore.
  - **Cultural Function & Production Grant (CFPG):**
    - Provide financial support for **various cultural activities** including seminars, conferences, research, workshops, festivals, exhibitions, and productions.
    - **Maximum Grant:** Rs. 5 lakh, extendable up to Rs. 20 lakh under exceptional circumstances.
  - **Financial Assistance for the Preservation & Development of Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas:**
    - Promote and preserve the **cultural heritage of the Himalayas** through research, training, and dissemination.
    - Funding: Rs. 10 lakhs per year for an organization, extendable up to Rs. 30 lakhs in exceptional cases.
  - **Financial Assistance for the Preservation & Development of Buddhist/Tibetan Organisations:**
    - Support voluntary **Buddhist/Tibetan organizations**, including **monasteries**, in propagating and developing Buddhist/Tibetan cultural traditions.
    - **Funding:** Rs. 30 lakhs per year for an organization, extendable up to Rs. 1 crore in exceptional cases.
  - **Financial Assistance for Building Grants including Studio Theatres:**
    - Provide financial support for **creating cultural infrastructure** such as studio theatres, auditoriums, rehearsal halls, etc.
    - **Maximum Grant:** Up to Rs. 50 lakh in metro cities and up to Rs. 25 lakh in non-metro cities.
  - **Financial Assistance For Allied Cultural Activities:**

- Support organizations in creating assets to **enhance audio-visual spectacles for cultural activities** during festivals and major events.
- **Maximum Assistance:** Audio: Rs. 1 crore, Audio+Video: Rs. 1.50 crore.
- **Scheme for Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage:**
  - This scheme was launched **by the Ministry of Culture in 2013** to safeguard the **intangible cultural heritage** and diverse cultural traditions of India through revitalization and promotion.
- **Domestic Festivals and Fairs:**
  - The objective of this scheme is to assist in holding the **'Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs'** organized by the Ministry of Culture.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### Mains

**Q.1** Safeguarding the Indian Art Heritage is the need of the moment. Discuss. (2018)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/mera-gaon-meri-dharohar-programme>

