



Implementing the Street Vendors Act 2014

Why in News?

A decade has passed since the [Street Vendors \(Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending\) Act, 2014](#) 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 [street vendors \(SVs\)](#).
- It aimed to **protect and regulate street vending in cities**, with State-level rules and schemes, and execution by [Urban Local Bodies \(ULBs\)](#) 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 digital transactions** 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.

