

## Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF) Scheme

**Prelims** - *Current events of National and International Importance| Economic and Social sector initiatives.*

### Why in News?

Recently, The Government has undertaken a mid-term evaluation of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme.

- **Launch** - It is a **Central Sector scheme** launched in 2020.
- **Nodal ministry** - Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- **Expanded in** - August 28, 2024, to expand scope & inclusivity
- **Objectives** - To strengthen agricultural infrastructure nationwide and provide robust support to the farming community.
- To broaden the scope of eligible projects, introduce additional supportive measures, and foster a more comprehensive agrarian infrastructure ecosystem.



- **Impact - Infrastructure Development** - It has facilitated the development of infrastructure by establishing warehouses, cold storage facilities, and silos across the country.
- **Storage Capacity** - A total additional storage capacity of 500 Lakh Metric Tonnes (LMT) has been created under the scheme.

- **Crop Preservation** - It enhanced crop preservation to save large quantities of food grains and horticultural produce annually.
- **Progress - *Agro Economic Research Centre (AERC)***, Pune evaluated the scheme's progress and performance, gathered and the scheme's positive impact.
  - Increased farmers income
  - Increased agriculture storage capacity
  - Growth of post-harvest and value addition infrastructure for agriculture produce.
  - Generation of employment
  - Encouraging agriculture entrepreneurship.

## References

1. [PIB| Agricultural Infrastructure Fund](#)
2. [PIB| Evaluation of AIF](#)

**Related News - [AIF Significance](#)**

