Bridge Inventory and Condition Rating System (BICRS)

Prelims – *Current events of national and international importance; Economic and Social Development.*

Mains (GS IV) – *Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.*

Why in News?

- **Launched by** – National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).
- It is a ranking mechanism ***to rate NHAI's infrastructure assets*** to determine their *structural safety* and look for remedial measures for their upkeep and regular monitoring.

> ***National Highway Authority of India*** *was set up NHAI Act, 1988 to provide for the constitution of an Authority for the development, maintenance and management of national highways and for matter connected therewith.*

- **Aim** – To prepare a *unified repository* of all its structures, and each property will be assigned a *union assessment identification number*.
- **Development** – Based on input from its design division to ensure the systematic management and safety of infrastructure assets.
- **Mandate** – Comprehensive documentation, assessment, and *inspection of bridges twice a year*.
- **Key features** – Systematic evaluation of health based on predetermined rating parameters.
- Identification of structures that require immediate remedial measures, including the *imposition of traffic restrictions* or suspension of heavy vehicle traffic.
- **Functions** – It will record comprehensive structural specifications, geographical coordinates, AS-IS drawings, and other related documentation.

> ***AS-IS*** *is documentation of the measurements and elements of an existing building.*

- This data is used in the context of renovation.
- **Implementation** – The engineers will record structural specifications and details of all projects, and the first inspection of structures must be completed before the monsoon.
- The project director will cross-check the data prepared by the engineers during their monthly inspections and make observations if discrepancies are found in records and

the physical state.

- **Importance** – It ensures *systematic management and safety of infrastructure assets.*

Reference

The New Indian Express| Launch of Bridge Inventory and Condition Rating System (BICRS)

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