Estates Management Scheme

Prelims: *Current events of National and International Importance| Schemes*

Why in News?

The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Central Sector ***Estates Management Scheme*** *for the Department of Posts with a ₹1,491 crore outlay over the five-year 16th Finance Commission cycle from FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31.*

- **Timeline & Funding–** Runs from FY 2026–27 through FY 2030–31 as a 100% centrally funded scheme under the Ministry of Communications.
- **Combined Push–** Paired with the ₹1,141 crore **Postal Operations Scheme**, bringing total approved infrastructure and operational modernisation funding for India Post to ₹2,632 crore.

Major Infrastructure Components

- **New Construction & Rebuilding–** Builds 190 new departmental post offices on vacant plots (₹280 crore) to cut recurring rental costs and reconstructs 50 dilapidated buildings (₹108 crore).
- **Renovation & Uniform Branding–** Upgrades and brands 2,550 departmental Sub-Post Offices and 2,500 rented post offices.
- **Employee Housing–** Renovates 150 residential postal colonies across India.
- **Heritage & Tech Hubs–** Preserves 20 heritage postal buildings, adds green and accessible features (such as solar power, rainwater harvesting, ramps, Braille signage, and gender-inclusive facilities), and establishes a permanent facility for the Centre for Excellence in Postal Technology (CEPT) in Bengaluru

Reference

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