Samriddh Gram Initiative

Prelims: *Current events of national importance | Polity and Governance*

Why in News?

Recently, Samriddh Gram, has been selected as a nominee for the prestigious World Summit on the Information Society – Prizes 2026.

- **Samriddh Gram** – It is an initiative that delivers integrated ***"phygital" services (physical + digital) to rural citizens*** through Samriddhi Kendras, using BharatNet broadband.
- **Aim –** To demonstrate socio-economic impact by reducing costs, improving access, and empowering rural communities through unified service delivery and digital empowerment.
- **Nodal Ministry –** Ministry of Communications.
- **Implementing Agency –** Department of Telecommunications (DoT) with support from Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) and local administration.
- **Launched in –** 2025, Pilot phase under TTDF.
- **Duration –** 2 years (pilot period, extensions possible).
- **Objectives**
  - **Socio-economic impact –** Showcase how integrated phygital service delivery reduces costs, improves access, and empowers rural communities.
  - **Unified service delivery** – Consolidate fragmented e-governance and welfare services into a single assisted framework at the village level.
  - **Digital empowerment –** Expand Fiber to the Home (FTTH) connections, PM-WANI hotspots, and broadband adoption in pilot villages to strengthen rural digital inclusion.
- **Coverage –** Pan-village implementation through Samriddhi Kendras leveraging BharatNet FTTH and PM-WANI hotspots.

BharatNet *– The world's largest rural broadband project.*

Key Features	
Samriddhi Kendra Setup	Centralized hub (800–1000 sq. ft.) with trained personnel.
Education & Skills	Smart classrooms with AR/VR, vocational labs using Diksha & Swayam.
Agriculture & Healthcare	Internet of Things (IoT) – soil sensors, drone farming, e-Sanjeevani telemedicine, health kiosks.
Governance & Commerce	Assisted online applications, ONDC-based e-commerce, digital banking inclusion.
Connectivity Expansion	FTTH village area network + PM-WANI hotspots.
Monitoring & Sustainability	Real-time dashboards, IVRS surveys, financial sustainability plan post-pilot.

Quick Facts

- **World Summit on the Information Society Prizes** -These are global awards recognizing innovative Information and Communication Technology (ICT) driven projects that advance sustainable development.
- They are organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and awarded annually across multiple Action Lines.

References

1. PIB | Samriddh Gram
2. TTDF | Samriddh Gram

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