Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants

Prelims **-** *Current events of national and international importance | Government policies and interventions.*

Why in News?

Recently, government has approved projects under integrated Component of Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants.

- It is a *central sector scheme* that was approved by the cabinet in 2008.
- **Aim** – To provide *project-based support* throughout the country for different activities.
- **Implemented by** - National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of Ayush.
- **Coverage** – All across India.
- **Support** – Both *financial and technical support* are provided.
- Technical support was provided *to farmers including tribal farmers*.
- **Integrated component** – ***Forward and backward linkage in supply chain*** of medicinal plants.
- It includes activities like
  - Infrastructure for Quality Planting Material
  - Information Education Communication (IEC) activities
  - Infrastructure for Post-Harvest Management and Marketing
  - Quality Testing and Certification of raw material
- **Importance** – It provided *local employment* through project activities approved under integrated component.
- It provided *short-term income* especially to women.
- These efforts led to direct income generation and promoted *inclusive economic growth at the grassroots* level.

Other Government Support for Medicinal Plants

Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)	Provide *financial assistance for area expansion* of short duration medicinal plants.
Ministry of Tribal Affairs	It supports *value addition, processing and marketing* of forest and agricultural produce gathered by tribal communities under • PM Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM) • PM- Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN) scheme

> ***Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture*** *is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root & tuber crops, mushrooms, spices.*

National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)
• **Set up in** – 2000. • **Nodal ministry** - Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy). • **Aim** - To promote coordination between various ministries, departments and different organizations. • To enhance overall conservation, cultivation, trade and export growth of medicinal plants sector both at the Central, State & International level.

References

1. PIB| Conservation of Medicinal Plants
2. NMBP| National Medical Plants Board

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