Special Development Packages (SDPs) for Assam and Tripura

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in News?

Recently, The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has approved 4 new components under the existing Central Sector Scheme of Special Development Packages (SDPs) for Assam and Tripura.

- **Special Development Packages (SDPs)** – It focused on ***regional or community development***, involving financial aid and projects for infrastructure, job creation, and social services.
- **Focus** – Towards the North Eastern States of Assam and Tripura.
- The initiative follows the ***Memoranda of Settlement (MoS)*** signed with various ethnic groups between 2022 and 2024.

> ***Memoranda of Settlement*** *is an agreement among government authorities and ethnic groups, to promote peace, inclusive development, and rehabilitation through infrastructure and socio-economic projects.*

- **Previous MoS-based packages** – These includes (e.g., for Bodo and Karbi groups) have shown positive outcomes in peace-building and development.
- **Approved new components –**State Governments of Assam and Tripura with respective ethnic groups of the concerned state as follows
  - **Adivasi Infrastructure –** Rs.500 crores for development of infrastructure in Adivasi inhabited villages/areas of Assam.
  - **Dimasa community infrastructure** – Rs. 500 crores for development of infrastructure in the North Cacher Hills Autonomous (NCHAC) area of Dimasa National Liberation Army.
  - **Development of ULFA- affected areas** – Rs. 3000 crores for development of infrastructure in the State of Assam.
  - **Development of Tripura**– Rs.250 crores for development of tribals of Tripura.
- **Benefits** – Promote equity by Improving the socio-economic condition of vulnerable & marginalized groups.
  - Provide health services.
  - Promote education and skilling and income through livelihood activities for youth and women.

    - Increase inflow of tourists, thereby creating additional livelihood opportunities.
- **Impacts**
    - Infrastructure & livelihood projects will create employment.
    - The scheme expected to bring stability and mainstream affected communities.

Reference

PIB| Special Development Packages (SDPs) for Assam and Tripura

