



Foundation Day of AREAS

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Why in News

On the 6th Foundation Day (27th August 2020) of the **Association of Renewable Energy Agencies of States (AREAS)**, the government has launched a website and telephone directory for AREAS.

Key Points

- **Agenda Behind AREAS: State Nodal Agencies (SNAs) for Renewable Energy (RE) interact** and learn from each other's experiences and also share their best practices and knowledge regarding technologies and schemes/programmes.
- **Members:** The **Union Minister for New & Renewable Energy (NRE)** is the **Patron** of the Association and **Secretary, MNRE** is the ex-officio **President** of the Association. All **SNAs** are members of the Association.
- **Formation:** It got registered under **Society Registration Act, 1860** on 27th August 2014.

Renewable Energy Initiatives in India

- The **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)** is the nodal Ministry of the Government of India for all matters relating to new and renewable energy.
New and Renewable Energy sources include solar energy, geothermal energy, wind power, hydropower, biomass, etc.
- In September **2019**, at the **United Nations Climate Action Summit**, India announced increasing the **renewable energy target to 450 GW by 2030** from 175 GW by 2022.
- In its **Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC)**, India has pledged to increase the **share of non-fossil fuels-based electricity to 40% by 2030**.

- The **Green Energy Corridor Project** aims at synchronizing electricity produced from renewable sources, such as solar and wind, with conventional power stations in the grid.
- Recently, **Indian Railways** has contacted solar power developers to meet the net zero carbon emission target by 2030.
- **Sector Specific Initiatives:**
 - **Solar Energy:**
 - **International Solar Alliance**
 - **One Sun, One World, One Grid (OSOWOG)**
 - **National Solar Mission** (a part of National Action Plan on Climate Change)
 - **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan (PM KUSUM)**
 - Atal Jyoti Yojana
 - Suryamitra Skill Development Programme
 - Solar Park Scheme and Grid Connected Solar Rooftop Scheme
 - **Rewa Solar Power Plant**
 - **Wind Energy:**
 - National Wind Resource Assessment programme
 - **National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy 2018**
 - National Institute of Wind Energy, Tamil Nadu
 - **Waste to Energy:**
 - Programme on Energy from Urban, Industrial, Agricultural Wastes/Residues and Municipal Solid Waste
 - **Bio Energy:**
 - Biomass power & cogeneration programme
 - Biogas Power Generation (Off-grid) and Thermal energy application Programme (BPGTP)

Source: PIB