



drishti

SCO Agreement on Mass Media Cooperation

 drishtias.com/printpdf/sco-agreement-on-mass-media-cooperation

Why in News

The Union Government approved the signing and ratification of an Agreement on **'Cooperation in the field of Mass Media'** between all the Member States of **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)**.

The Agreement was **signed in June 2019**. It will provide an opportunity for the Member States **to share new innovations and best practices** in the field of Mass Media.

Key Points

- **Main Areas of Cooperation:**
 - Creation of a **favorable system for mutual and wide distribution of information via Mass Media** in a bid to **deepen the knowledge about the lives of the people of their States**.
 - **Cooperation** among the **Editorial Offices of the Mass Media** of their States as well as between the **relevant Ministries, Agencies, and Organizations** in the field of Mass Media.
 - Promoting equal and mutually beneficial **cooperation between professional associations of journalists** of the States.
 - **Aiding broadcast of television and radio programs** and those distributed legally within the territory of the State.
 - Encouraging the exchange of specialists and experience in the field of Mass Media, offer **mutual assistance in training media professionals**, and promote cooperation between **scientific research** and educational institutions in the field of Mass Media.

- **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):**

- **About:**

- **SCO** is a **permanent intergovernmental international organisation**.
- It's a **Eurasian** political, economic and military organisation aiming to maintain peace, security and stability in the region.

- **Formation:**

- It was **created in 2001**.
- The **SCO Charter** was signed **in 2002**, and entered **into force in 2003**.

- **Official Language:**

The SCO's official languages are **Russian and Chinese**.

- **Members:**

Eight countries are part of SCO, **which are:** Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan.

- SCO has **two Permanent Bodies:**

- **SCO Secretariat in Beijing (China)**, and
- Executive Committee of the **Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS)** in **Tashkent (Uzbekistan)**.

- The **Chairmanship of SCO** is **by rotation for a year by Member States**.

The **Republic of Tajikistan** has assumed **chairmanship of SCO for 2021-22**.

- The **20th Summit of the SCO** took place **in 2020**.

- Recently, the Vice President of India has launched the **first ever SCO Online Exhibition on Shared Buddhist Heritage**.

Source: TH