

Accelerate Vigyan Scheme

Why in News?

Recently, the **Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)**, has invited applications under **'ABHYAAS'**, a program of **'Accelerate Vigyan' scheme**, for summer season.

 SERB is an **autonomous body** of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Union Ministry of Science & Technology..

What is the Accelerate Vigyan Scheme?

- "Accelerate Vigyan" (AV) strives to provide a big push to high-end scientific research and prepare a scientific workforce, which can venture into research careers and a knowledge-based economy.
- AV aims to expand the research base in the country, with three broad goals consolidation / aggregation of all scientific training programs, initiating high-end orientation workshops and creating opportunities for training and skill internships.

What are the Components of the Accelerate Vigyan Scheme?

ABHYAAS:

- It is a program of AV scheme, is an attempt to boost research and development in the country by enabling and grooming potential postgraduate / PhD students by developing dedicated research skills in selected areas / disciplines / fields through its two components high-end workshops ("KAARYASHALA") and Training and Skill Internship ("VRITIKA").
 - This is especially important for researchers with limited opportunities to access such learning capacities / facilities / infrastructure.
- SAMMOHAN: It has been sub-divided into SAYONJIKA and SANGOSHTI.
 - **SAYONJIKA** is an open-ended program to catalogue capacity building activities in science and technology supported by all government funding agencies in the country.
 - **SANGOSHTI** is a pre-existing program of SERB for the organisation of workshops.

How are such Steps Helpful?

- **Capacity Building:** The database of skilled manpower developed across different disciplines through all the sub-components of the AV would help in capacity building.
- Social Responsibility: The scheme also seeks to garner the social responsibility of the scientific community in the country.

What are the Initiatives taken to boost S&T in Budget 2022-23?

An outlay of Rs 50,000 crore was announced spread over five years, for <u>National Research</u>

Foundation.

- It will ensure that the overall research ecosystem of the country is strengthened with focus on identified national-priority thrust areas.
- The budget also declared the setting up of umbrella structures in nine cities for building better synergies among R&D institutions, Universities and Colleges supported by the government while also retaining their internal autonomy.
 - This will be coordinated by the **Ministry of Education, and a Glue Grant** will be set aside for this purpose.
 - The **Department of Biotechnology** is implementing the **URJIT clusters** (University Research Joint Industry Translation Clusters) which are being set up in 10 locations as per the Budget Announcement in February 2020.
 - These will complement the activities of the Umbrella Structures.

Source: DTE

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