



## Bhuvan Panchayat 3.0

### Why in News

Recently an **upgraded geo-imaging web portal, Bhuvan Panchayat 3.0** was launched during the National Workshop on **"Space-based Information Support for Decentralised Planning-2"**.

- The launch is part of the advanced **Space-based Information Support for Decentralised Planning (SISDP) project**.
  - The SISDP was launched in 2011 and its first phase of making databases was completed in 2017.

### Key Points

- The portal uses high-resolution data from recent earth observation satellites and offers detailed information to **panchayats** about their key assets.
- For the first time, the thematic maps of 1:10,000 scale have been generated based on high-resolution data given by **Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO)** new earth observation satellites.
- It is jointly implemented by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Department of Space, ISRO.

### Advantages

- **Decentralised Planning:** "Bhuvan Panchayats" is facilitating decentralised planning at grassroot level. **E.g.:** It is possible for rural planners to plan and locate a healthcare unit, water harvesting, rural communication network even as they sit in panchayat offices.
- **Empowering the Panchayats:** The workshop addressed modalities and mechanisms that would be adopted to empower the local bodies in utilizing the space technology in the form of simple-to-use maps, location based services through **Navigation in Indian Constellation (NavIC)** and high resolution space images based local tools to enable the panchayats with modern technology for sustainable development.
- **Technology and Governance:** The Panchayati Raj institutions could effectively use space technology for planning, implementation, monitoring and management of resources, including governance.
- **Digital India:** It can also prove to be an important component for "Digital India" platform for reaching digital thematic maps to about 2.56 Lakh Gram panchayats in the country.

### Bhuvan Portal

- **Bhuvan (Sanskrit for Earth)** is a Geoportal of ISRO , allowing host of services covering visualization, free data download, thematic map display and analysis, timely information on disaster and project specific GIS applications.
- The portal was **launched in 2009** and is available in English, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.
- Bhuvan, as a platform, is open and can be used by a diverse user community such as Central and State Governments Departments, Academia and Industry. Few examples are:
  - **Bhuvan-Bhujal:** Ground Water Prospects Information System

- **School Bhuvan:** An e-learning portal for the students
- **ENVIS program** of Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
- **Bhuvan Ganga:** Enables people participation in providing vital information for Clean Ganga project
- **Srishti-Drishti:** An Integrated Watershed Development Program

### ENVIS Program

- Environmental Information System (ENVIS) program was started in December, 1982 to provide environmental information to decision makers, policy planners, scientists and engineers, research workers, etc. all over the country.
- ENVIS has started implementing the **World Bank** assisted Environment Management Capacity Building Technical Assistance Project (EMCBTAP) since January, 2002 which aims at structuring the ENVIS scheme by extending its reach through involvement of Institutions/Organizations in State Governments, academia sector, corporate sector, NGO sector, etc.

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