



Chevening-Atal Bihari Vajpayee Scholarship Scheme

Why in News?

The Uttar Pradesh government has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)** for the **Chevening-Atal Bihari Vajpayee Uttar Pradesh State Government Scholarship Scheme**.

Key Points

- **About:** The MoU was signed in Lucknow by **Lindy Cameron**, the British High Commissioner to India, in the presence of **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath**.
 - The UP Cabinet recently approved the scheme, with the state government **allocating Rs 2 crore** for the program in the current financial year (2025-26).
 - The scheme will provide **five meritorious students** from Uttar Pradesh with the opportunity to **pursue master's degrees at leading UK universities** every year.
- **Objective:** The scholarship aims to **empower meritorious students** from Uttar Pradesh by enabling them to achieve excellence in education, research, and leadership at the international level.
 - It is designed to **transform the state's education system** and prepare students for global leadership roles.
- **Program Timeline:** The program will begin in the **2025-26 academic session** and run for **three years**, with the potential for renewal from the **2028-29 session**.
- **Financials:** The scholarship will **cover tuition, examination** and research fees, living allowances, and airfare to and from the UK.
- **Cost:** The estimated total cost per student is between **£38,048 to £42,076** (Rs 45-48 lakh).
 - **State Contribution:** Approximately **£19,800** (Rs 23 lakh).
 - **FCDO Contribution:** The remainder of the funding.
- **Student Selection:** **Five students** will receive full scholarships **each year** to study at prestigious UK universities, including the **University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge, the University of Edinburgh, and the London School of Economics and Political Science**.
- **Strategic Importance:** The scheme reflects the growing collaboration between India and the UK, particularly after Prime Minister **Narendra Modi's** recent visit to the UK, where he signed the [Trade Agreement](#) and [Vision 35](#), opening new avenues for business and education.