



International Conference on Gyan Bharatam

Why in News?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the **International Conference on Gyan Bharatam** in New Delhi and launched the **Gyan Bharatam Portal**, a **dedicated digital platform** aimed at advancing the digitisation, preservation, and public access to **India's vast manuscript heritage**.

International Conference on Gyan Bharatam

- **Objective:** The conference sought to **rejuvenate India's manuscript heritage** and position it at the heart of global knowledge discussions.
- **Event Duration:** The three-day conference, held from 11th to 13th September 2025, with the theme "**Reclaiming India's Knowledge Legacy through Manuscript Heritage**," concluded with the adoption of the **Delhi Declaration**.
 - The inaugural international conference coincided with the 132nd anniversary of **Swami Vivekananda's** historic address at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago in 1893.
 - An **exhibition of rare manuscripts** was held, alongside scholarly presentations on conservation and digitisation.
- **Focus Areas:** Working groups addressed key topics such as **decipherment of ancient scripts**, survey and documentation, digitisation tools, conservation and restoration, and legal and ethical issues.

Gyan Bharatam Project

- **About:** Launched as the **Gyan Bharatam Mission**, it will be headquartered in New Delhi under the Ministry of Culture.
- **Objective:** It aims to establish an institution similar to the **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** but for **manuscript preservation and interpretation**.
 - It also aims to digitise over one crore manuscripts and establish regional centres across all states for seamless coordination.
- **Replacement:** Gyan Bharatam will succeed the **National Manuscripts Mission**, launched in 2003, with the goal of **institutionalizing manuscript** preservation in India and establishing a sustainable framework.
- **Funding:** Announced in the **2025-26 Union Budget**, the project has an initial funding of Rs 400 crore.