



# drishti

## Important Facts for Prelims (22nd February 2019)

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### Digital India Awards

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- The **National Informatics Centre (NIC)** to organize the fifth edition of **Digital India Awards on February 22, 2019**.
- The Digital India Awards recognizes the **digital presence and e-Governance efforts of various Government institutions across the country**.  
Central Government Ministries/ Departments/ Offices/ Institutions, State Government Departments/ Offices/ Institutions, District Administrations and Indian Missions Abroad are eligible to apply for the Digital India Awards.
- The awards **instituted in 2009** are one of a kind in India for honoring the efforts of different Government entities in the digital realm.
- Since its inception the Digital India Awards have seen **four editions, beginning from 2010**, and **biennially** being conferred in 2012, 2014, & 2016.

### National Portal of India

- The Portal has been developed as a **Mission Mode Project (MMP) under the National E-Governance Plan (NEGP)** of the Government. The portal was **launched in November 2005**.
- It is designed, developed and hosted by the **National Informatics Centre (NIC)**, a premier ICT organization of the Government of India under the aegis of the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.
- The objective behind the Portal is to provide a single window access to the information and services being provided by the Indian Government for citizens and other stakeholders.

### National Informatics Centre

National Informatics Centre (NIC) is a premiere S&T institution of the Government of India, **established in 1976**, for providing e-Government / e- Governance Solutions adopting best practices, integrated services and global solutions in Government

Sector.

## National E-Governance Plan (NEGP)

- The Government approved the **National e-Governance Plan (NeGP), comprising of 27 Mission Mode Projects** and 8 components in **2006**.
- In the year 2011, **4 projects - Health, Education, PDS and Posts** were introduced to make the list of 27 MMPs to **31 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs)**.
- Within NeGP, "mission mode" implies that projects have **clearly defined objectives, scopes, and implementation timelines** and milestones, as well as **measurable outcomes and service levels**.
- The 31 mission mode projects (MMPs) are **further classified as state, central or integrated projects**. Each state government can also define five MMPs specific to its individual needs.

## BharatNet

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- Recently the **Digital Communications Commission (DCC)**, the inter-ministerial panel of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), has given in-principle nod for **monetisation of fibre assets of BharatNet**.
- These assets will be offered to the **private telcos through auction, lease for 20 years or by outright sale**.
- This comes against the backdrop of concerns over poor utilization of digital infrastructure that has been created across more than 100,000 gram panchayats in the country.
- Earlier, the **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai)** had also urged the government to sell off these fibre assets to private players.
- BharatNet is a **flagship mission to connect 250,000 gram panchayats with broadband** being implemented by **Bharat Broadband Network Ltd (BBNL), a special purpose vehicle set up under DoT in February 2012**.
- **National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN)** which was launched in **October, 2011** was renamed as **Bharat Net Project in 2015**.