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**Ministry of Shipping Schemes****Sagarmala:**

- ❖ The prime objective of the Sagarmala project is to promote port-led development and to provide infrastructure to transport goods quickly, efficiently and cost-effectively.
- ❖ Sagarmala, integrated with the development of inland waterways, is expected to reduce cost and time for transporting goods, benefiting industries and export/import trade.
- ❖ It focus on 3 pillars
  1. Supporting and enabling Port-led Development through institutional framework for ensuring inter-agency and ministries/departments/states' collaboration.
  2. Port Infrastructure Enhancement, including modernization and setting up of new ports and port led industrialization.
  3. Efficient Evacuation to and from hinterland.
- ❖ The project intends to enhance the capacity of major and non-major ports.
- ❖ It also strives to ensure sustainable development of the population living in the Coastal Economic Zone (CEZ).
- ❖ Community Development Fund will be created for projects and activities which strive to bring development for coastal communities.
- ❖ National Sagarmala Apex Committee (NSAC) is envisaged for overall policy guidance and high level coordination.
- ❖ At the state level, the State Governments is suggested to set up State Sagarmala Committee headed by Chief Minister/Minister in Charge of Ports.

**Jal Marg Vikas Project:**

- ❖ Jal Marg Vikas Project aims at capacity augmentation of National waterways projects.
- ❖ Government has recently approved phase –I of JVMP for enhanced navigation on the Haldia-Varanasi stretch of National Waterway-1 (NW-1).
- ❖ Ministry of Shipping designated Inland Waterway Authority of India (IWAI) as implementation agency.
- ❖ The phase-I of the project is being assisted technically and financially by World Bank (IBRD).
- ❖ The project falls in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.
- ❖ The project is expected to be completed by March, 2023 and will provide an alternative mode of environment- friendly and cost-effective transport.
- ❖ It will boost infrastructure development like multi-modal and inter-modal terminals, Roll on-Roll off (Ro-Ro) facilities, ferry services and navigation aids.
- ❖ However, one of the major problems for commercially viable, safe navigation on NW-1 is the low depth upstream of Farakka due to low discharges from tributaries and difficult hydro morphological characteristics of river Ganga.
- ❖ The nodal points along the National Waterway will be created by IWAI with the help of Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL).
- ❖ The project adopted River Information System for the first time in India.

- ❖ River Information System is an IT based system to optimised the resource management of waterborne transport chain by enabling information exchange between vessels, lock and bridges, terminals and ports, status of fairways, calamity abatement etc.
- ❖ IWAI is the apex statutory body created in 1986 for the development and regulation of inland waterways.

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