

NAKSHA PROGRAMME: ECONOMY

NEWS: Second Phase of NAKSHA Capacity Building Programme to be launched across five National Centres of Excellence from June 2

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

The NAKSHA programme, launched under the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme, aims to create standardised, high-precision digital land records using geospatial technologies. It will streamline land management, reduce disputes, and support urban planning, agrarian reforms, and climate resilience.

Context

- The Ministry of Rural Development launched the second phase of the NAKSHA (National geospatial Knowledge-based land Survey of urban HABitations) programme.
- NAKSHA is implemented under the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP).

NAKSHA Programme

Phase I: Pilot Implementation and Survey Operations

- Announced in the 2024-25 Budget to standardise land record-keeping, simplify land-related processes, and bring transparency in land transactions.
- Initially implemented across 152 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in 26 States and 3 Union Territories.
- Targets cities with an area of less than 35 sq km and a population under 2 lakhs.
- Goal is to cover the entire urban area of the country within a period of 5 years.
- Employed aerial surveys, drone technology, and Web-GIS platforms for high-precision mapping of urban land and property records.

Phase II: Capacity Building and Skill Enhancement

- Strong focus on training and capacity building for local officers.
- 304 ULB-level and district officers nominated from 157 Urban Local Bodies.
- Officers will undergo practical training to:
 - Leverage modern geospatial technologies for urban property surveys.

- Acquire technical and practical skills for supervising high-accuracy land surveys.
- Ensure effective implementation and long-term sustainability of the NAKSHA programme.

Why India Needs a NAKSHA-like Programme for Land Management

Fragmented Land Records System

- India has a fragmented, state-specific, and inconsistent land record-keeping system.
- Many records are outdated and maintained manually, leading to:
 - Ownership disputes.
 - Legal uncertainty for buyers, investors, and institutions.
 - Barriers to efficient land transactions and development.

Land Disputes and Litigation

- Over 66% of civil cases in Indian courts are related to land and property disputes.
- Absence of digitised, tamper-proof, and verifiable land maps is a key cause.
- Transparent digital records can help reduce litigation and ease judicial burdens.

Urbanisation and Infrastructure Push

- Nearly 40% of India's population is expected to reside in urban areas by 2030 (Economic Survey 2023-24).
- Rapid urbanisation requires:
 - Streamlined land and property record systems.
 - Efficient urban planning and zoning.
 - Facilitation of infrastructure development through clear land ownership and mapping.

Boost to Agrarian Reforms

- Digitised khasra maps linked with land records can support agricultural reforms:
 - Easy access to institutional credit for farmers.
 - Streamlined implementation of crop insurance schemes.
 - Enhanced delivery of PM-KISAN and other Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) initiatives.
 - Improved targeting and monitoring of agricultural subsidies.

Disaster Risk and Climate Resilience

- Geotagged and accurate land mapping supports disaster management and climate resilience planning.
- Helps in:
 - Identifying vulnerable zones.
 - Designing effective land use plans to mitigate disaster risks.
 - Ensuring climate-smart urban and rural land development.

Source:

[https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2133099#:~:text=The%20Department%20of%20Land%20Resources,of%20Excellence%20\(CoEs\)%20in%20the](https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2133099#:~:text=The%20Department%20of%20Land%20Resources,of%20Excellence%20(CoEs)%20in%20the)