

require clearance from the Central Government before establishment; Under the EPA, 1986, the Central Government has also made Biomedical and Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989; Environmental Audit report for each financial year ending 31st March in a prescribed form to the State Pollution Control Board.

GREEN INDIA MISSION (GIM)

- **Introduction:** GIM is one of the eight missions launched under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) aimed at protecting, restoring and enhancing India's diminishing forest cover and responding to climate change by a combination of adaptation and mitigation measures.
- **Objectives Of The GIM:** To protect, restore and enhance India's falling forest cover; To respond to climate change through a combination of adaptation as well as mitigation measures; To increase forest-based livelihood incomes; To enhance annual Carbon sequestration by 50 to 60 million tonnes in the year 2020.
- **Goals Of GIM:** Improvement in quality of forest cover and ecosystem; Eco-restoration/afforestation; Improvement in forest and tree cover; Management of public forest/ non-forests areas; Adoption of improved fuelwood-use.

GREEN CREDIT SCHEME

- **Context:** The Forest Advisory Committee has approved the 'Green Credit Scheme' that could allow "forests" to be traded as a commodity.
- **Significance Of The Scheme:** Proper monitoring of plantations; Encouraging plantation; Meeting environmental goals.
- **Features Of Green Credit Scheme:** For identification of land; Transfers approach; Free trade for participating agency; Accrediting private or public-private partnership companies; Discretion for the companies, If the company raising the plantation doesn't wish to trade it, it can retain it and harvest the timber once ready.
- **Concerns In Regard To The Scheme:** The threat to agricultural land; Uncontrolled circulation of money; Issues of ambiguity; Destruction would lead to the privatisation of forests and give impetus to their destruction.

COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION FUND AND COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION FUND MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING AUTHORITY (CAMPA)

- **Introduction:** The Supreme Court of India ordered for the establishment of the CAMPA in 2001. In 2006, ad-hoc CAMPA was established for the management of the Compensatory afforestation fund.
- **CAMPA Act, 2016:** To compensate for the loss of forest area and to maintain the sustainability; National Compensatory Afforestation Fund; Alternative land or diverting forest land must provide to take up compensatory afforestation; For afforestation the company should pay to plant new trees in the alternative land provided to the state.
- **Issues With CAMPA:** Funds under-utilised; At several places, the loss of natural species is compensated with plantation of non-native species in the name of the artificial plantation. It serves as a threat to even the existing ecosystem.
- **Way Forward:** The proposed objective of the Act must be fulfilled and should efficiently be used only for afforestation and wildlife conservation activities; The central government should adopt the concept of outcome budgeting for allocation of funds to the state government in which funding will be done on instalment basis by checking the outcome of previous funds; Restore existing forests.
- **Case Study: Haritha Haram Programme:** Haritha Haram is a flagship programme of the Telangana government to increase the green cover of the State from the present 25.16 to 33% of the total geographical area.

NARMADA LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROJECT (NLRP):

- **About NLRP:** NLRP is a collaborative project with a participatory approach that demonstrates the interdependence of the upstream sustainably managed forest and farm practices on downstream water resources.
- **Advantages Of The NLRP:** The project would aid in the improvement of the river water; Forest and farm support system; Helpful for Smart city mission.