



# CURRENT AFFAIRS



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## VIBRANT VILLAGES PROGRAMME

*This article covers “Daily Current Affairs” and the topic details “Vibrant Villages Programme”. The topic “Vibrant Villages Programme” has relevance in the Governance section for the UPSC CSE exam.*

### **Relevance of Vibrant Villages Programme**

#### **For Prelims:**

*What is the Vibrant Villages Programme?*

#### **For Mains:**

*GS 2: Governance*

*What are the objectives of the Vibrant Villages Programme?*

*What is the significance of the Vibrant Villages Programme?*

*Way Forward*

#### **Why in the news?**

The Centre’s ambitious Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP), which aims to develop infrastructure and open up villages along the China border to tourists, will be integrated with the Prime Minister’s Gati Shakti mega project.

#### **What is the Vibrant Villages Programme?**

The **Union Budget 2022-23** (to 2025-26) announced a **centrally sponsored scheme** to develop villages located on the northern border, with the aim of improving the quality of life of people living in identified border villages.

The Vibrant Villages Programme is a village development scheme that was first announced in the 2022 Budget. The program aims to provide **comprehensive development of villages located on the border with China and improve the quality of life of people** living in identified border villages.

The scheme will cover the border areas of **Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Ladakh**, and will encompass a total of 2,963 villages, with 663 villages being covered in the first phase.

The scheme will cover **19 districts and 46 border blocks across 4 states and 1 union territory** along the northern land border of the country. In the first phase, **663 villages** will be taken up in the program.

#### **What is the significance of Vibrant Villages?**

- **Improve the quality of life of the people living in these areas:** The scheme aims to improve the quality of life of people living in identified border villages and encourage them to stay in their native locations in border areas.

- **Promote Inclusive Growth:** By providing funds for the development of essential infrastructure and creating livelihood opportunities, the scheme will help achieve inclusive growth and retain the population in the border areas.
- **Promote the security of the border:** The schemes aims to raise the standard of living which aims to increase the livelihood opportunities of the people and thereby improve the security of the border by reversing outmigration from these villages

#### **How does the Vibrant Villages Programme aim to achieve the above-said objectives?**

1. **Develop economic drivers:** To achieve its goals, the scheme will identify and develop economic drivers based on local natural, human, and other resources of the border villages.
2. **Creation of growth centers:** The scheme aims to create growth centers on a “hub and spoke model” by promoting social entrepreneurship and empowering youth and women through skill development and entrepreneurship.
3. **Leverage the tourism potential:** The scheme will leverage the tourism potential of the border villages by promoting local culture, traditional knowledge, and heritage.
4. **Sustainable eco-agro businesses:** It will also focus on developing sustainable eco-agribusinesses based on the concept of “one village-one product” through community-based organizations, cooperatives, self-help groups, NGOs, etc.

#### **How does the Vibrant Villages Programme aim to strengthen the security situation at the northeastern border?**

1. Better border management and surveillance.
2. Developed villages can be a training ground for the forces with better facilities.
3. Enhancement of the security architecture ear the LOC.

#### **Way Forward**

The Vibrant Villages Programme aims to improve the quality of life for residents living in identified border villages while providing comprehensive development in villages located along the China border.

The programme’s objectives include reducing migration by creating essential infrastructure and livelihood opportunities, ultimately contributing to the growth and development of these regions. This will also lead to increased security in these areas.

#### **Sources:**

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