

## **6. Eklavya Model schools**

**Prelims Syllabus:** Governance - Health & Education

**Mains Syllabus:** GS-II Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector or Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.

### **Why in News?**

- The scheme of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) is a Government of India scheme for model residential school for Indian tribals (ST, Scheduled Tribes) across India and was introduced in the year 1997-98.

### **Objectives:**

- To provide quality middle and high-level education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in remote areas in order to enable them to avail of reservation in high and professional educational courses and get jobs in government and public and private sectors.
- Comprehensive physical, mental and socially relevant development of all students enrolled in each and every EMRS.
- Focus differentially on the educational support to be made available to those in Standards XI and XII, and those in standards VI to X, so that their distinctive needs can be met.
- Support the construction of infrastructure that provides education, physical, environmental and cultural needs of student life.

### **Implementation:**

- The scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Tribal affairs.
- **Provisions:**
  - ✓ EMRSs are set up in States/UTs with grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India.
  - ✓ As per budget announcement 2018-19, every block having 50% or more ST population and at least 20,000 ST persons is to have an EMRS by the year 2022.
  - ✓ The government gives one time ₹30 lakh grant for establishing the school, thereafter up to ₹30 lakhs per school annually. Additional cost is borne by state governments.
  - ✓ A total number of 438 EMRSs have so far been sanctioned by the Ministry, out of which 285 are functional.
  - ✓ As per existing guidelines, the total number of EMRSs being set up upto the year 2022 is 740.

• **Structure:**

- ✓ Admission to these schools will be through selection/competition with suitable provision for preference to children belonging to Primitive Tribal Groups, first generation students, etc.
- ✓ Sufficient land would be given by the State Government for the school, play grounds, hostels, residential quarters, etc., free of cost.
- ✓ The number of seats for boys and girls will be equal.

### Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India [Articles 244(2) and 275(1)]

- **20. Tribal areas.**—(1) The areas specified in Parts I, II, IIA and III of the table below shall respectively be the tribal areas within the State of Assam, the State of Meghalaya, the State of Tripura and the State of Mizoram.
- (2) Any reference in Part I, Part II or Part III of the table below to any district shall be construed as a reference to the territories comprised within the autonomous district of that name existing immediately before the day appointed under clause (b) of section 2 of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971

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- In these schools, education will be entirely free.
- Every class can have maximum 60 students preferably in 2 sections of 30 students each and the total sanctioned strength of the school will be 480 students.
- At the Higher Secondary level (class XI & XII), there will be three sections per class for the three streams in Science, Commerce & Humanities.