



1 MPLAD (Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme)

It is a scheme for the Member of Parliament to recommend development projects in their constituencies.

Provisions of the scheme

- The MP may recommend capital works projects in sectors such as infrastructure development, public health, sanitation, and water.
- Lok Sabha MPs can recommend projects in their constituencies while Rajya Sabha MPs can apply funds for projects anywhere in their state.
- Nominated MP's can use anywhere in India.
- Each MP gets ₹5 crore under the MPLAD funds.
- Emphasis is on creating durable assets as per the local needs.
- The MP's discretion has been removed.
- The scheme was launched in 1993 and is fully funded by the central government and under the administrative control of Ministry of statistics.
- The scheme puts special focus on the development of areas with Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe populations.

2 START Treaty

Treaty between USA and Russia towards reductions of strategic nuclear weapons.

- The original treaty signed in 1991 before dissolution of USSR.
- Presently New START treaty is been followed since 2011.
- The treaty calls for mutual verification of each other's nuclear sites.

3 Balochistan

The Balochistan region is split among : *Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan.*

Facts about region

- The region in Pakistan is presently in news due to internal turmoil.
- The region is known for being resource rich.
- Considered critical by China for its one belt one road initiative.

