

Adarsh Smarak scheme

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In news- Monuments at Nagarjunakonda, Buddhist remains at Salihundam and Veerabhadra Temple at Lepakshi are identified as 'Adarsh Smarak' in Andhra Pradesh for providing additional facilities.

About the scheme-

- The Adarsh Smarak scheme was launched in 2014 for providing improved visitor amenities, especially for the physically challenged.
- The scheme comes under the **Ministry of Culture**.
- A total of 100 Monuments protected by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) are being developed and maintained as Adarsh Monuments under the scheme.
- The civic amenities are being augmented at these sites.
- **Objectives** of the Scheme-
 - To make the monument visitor friendly.
 - To upgrade/provide washrooms, drinking water, signages, cafeteria, and wi-fi facility.
 - To provide interpretation and audio-video centers.
 - To streamline wastewater and garbage disposal and a rainwater harvesting system.
 - To make the monument accessible to differently-abled people.
 - To implement Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

Conservation, Preservation and environmental development in and around Centrally Protected Monuments/Sites is taken up according to an annual conservation programme drawn on the basis of need and priority.