

Infrastructure status to Convention centres

May 21, 2021

In news- The Finance Ministry has granted 'Infrastructure' status for exhibition and convention centres.

More information-

- 'Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre' is included in the Harmonised Master List of Infrastructure sub-sectors by insertion of a new item in the **category of Social and Commercial Infrastructure**.
- To qualify under the category, projects will require a **minimum built-up floor area of 100,000 square metres** of exclusively exhibition space or convention space.
- This includes primary facilities such as exhibition centres, convention halls, auditoriums, plenary halls, business centres, meeting halls etc..
- This move is expected to **ease bank financing for such projects**.
- The major projects under way in the sector are backed by the government – the **International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centres at Dwarka and Pragati Maidan in Delhi**.
- The infrastructure tag **no longer involves significant tax breaks**.
- In August, 2020, the government added affordable rental housing projects to the list of sectors recognised as infrastructure.

List of sectors recognised as infrastructure by Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance

- Communication
- Energy

- Social and Commercial Infrastructure
- Transport
- Water Sanitation