Open Data Week

January 20, 2022

In news– Recently, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), under Smart Cities Mission has announced the initiation of the Open Data Week.

About Open Data Week-

- It aims to encourage adoption of open data and promote innovation across India's urban ecosystem.
- It also aims to show the benefits of open data such as increased efficiency, transparency, a spur in innovation, and economic growth.
- It is being conducted during the third week of January, i.e., from 17th January 2022 to 21st January 2022.
- The Event will see participation from all 100 Smart Cities that will be publishing high quality datasets and data blogs on the Smart Cities Open Data Portal.
- As part of this event, a **Data Day will be observed nationally across all smart cities on 21st January 2022.**
- The idea is to provide a platform that offers ample opportunities on how to continue creating and promoting the use of data that addresses complex urban issues, such as the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- It is a part of a series of pre-event initiatives(undertaken by MoHUA) leading up to the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav – Smart Cities: Smart Urbanization' conference to be held in February 2022 .

What is Open Data?

- Open data is data that can be freely used, re-used and redistributed by anyone – subject only, at most, to the requirement to attribute and share alike.
- It is the idea that some data should be freely available to everyone to use and republish as they wish, without restrictions from copyright, patents or other

mechanisms of control.
- The term is recently gaining popularity with the rise of the Internet and World Wide Web and, especially, with the launch of open-data government initiatives such as Data.gov, Data.gov.uk and Data.gov.in.