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BIHAR

**FEBRUARY
2025**

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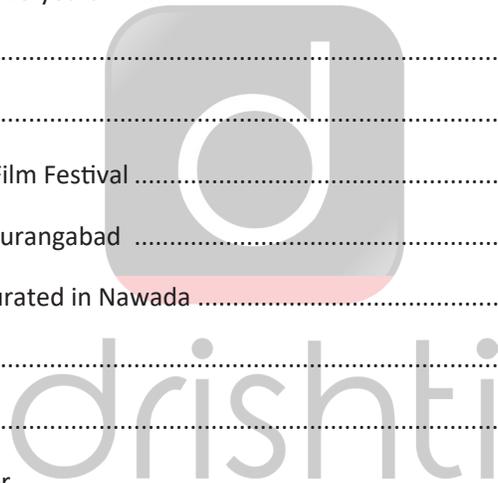
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PM-KISAN Scheme

Why in News?

On 24th February 2025, the Prime Minister released the 19th installment of **the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme** in **Bhagalpur, Bihar**. The scheme benefited more than 9.8 crore farmers including 2.41 crore women farmers across the country.

Key Points

- Under this scheme, **Rs 2000 were transferred directly to the farmers' accounts.**
- This will provide financial support to farmer families and increase their income and also help in meeting agriculture related expenses.
- In October 2024, the Prime Minister released **the 18th installment of the PM-KISAN scheme at Washim in Maharashtra.**
- **PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme:**
 - **About:**
 - It was **launched on February 24, 2019** to meet the financial needs of landholding farmers.
 - The financial benefit of **Rs. 6000 per annum** is transferred in three equal installments every four months into the bank accounts of farmer families across the country through **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.**
 - The scheme was **initially meant for small and marginal farmers (SMFs)** who owned land up to 2 hectares, but was later extended to cover all landholding farmers.
 - It is a centrally sponsored scheme, and **implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.**
 - **Objective:**
 - It aims to **meet the financial needs of small and marginal farmers** for purchasing various inputs to ensure proper crop health and yield in accordance with the expected agricultural income at the end of each crop cycle.
 - To save them from the clutches of money lenders to meet such expenses and to ensure their continuity in farming activities.

- **PM-KISAN Mobile App:**

- It is developed and designed by **the National Informatics Centre** in collaboration with **the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.**

Development Projects Inaugurated in Nalanda

Why in News?

The **Chief Minister of Bihar inaugurated** and laid the foundation stone of a total of 263 development projects worth Rs 820.72 crore in **Nalanda** during his **Pragati Yatra**.

Key Points

- **Major inaugurations and foundation stone laying**
 - These development projects include the inauguration of 177 projects worth Rs 361.66 crore and the laying of the foundation stone of 86 projects worth Rs 459.05 crore.
 - **The major projects are as follows:**
 - **Inauguration of pond and library:** During this, he inaugurated **the pond, beautiful park** and air-conditioned **digital library** built under **the Amrit Sarovar Yojana** in Naanand village of Silav block.
 - **Samajik Utthan Park** : Constructed at a cost of Rs 19-22 lakh, instructions to keep it clean
 - **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana** : Handed over newly constructed houses (with electricity, water and gardening facilities) to 12 Mahadalit families
 - Providing financial support to **Jeevika sisters.**
 - **Rajgir Kund Complex** : Inauguration of the newly constructed Yatri Vishram Bhawan
 - **Benar-Saksohra Road** : Widening and Strengthening
 - **Fish Hatchery** : Inspected
 - **Local playground** : inspection, players provided with blazer balls and sports kits
 - Interaction with beneficiaries of **Samajik Bhavan, Work Shed and Child Welfare Scheme**
- **Future Projects**
 - Construction of **Dinosaur Park in Rajgir**
 - **Panchane Irrigation Scheme** : Restoration and Development
 - Establishment of **Agricultural Research Center in Sarmera**

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Note:

Nalanda district

- Introduction:
 - Nalanda is a major district of Bihar whose headquarters is Bihar Sharif . Its area is 2,355 square kilometers (909 sq mi).
- Historical Significance:
 - Nalanda is **world famous for its ancient history**.
 - The remains of the world's oldest **Nalanda University** are still located here.
 - **Buddha and Mahavira** stayed at Nalanda several times.
 - Mahavira **attained salvation in Pavapuri (Nalanda)** .
 - Shariputra , the chief disciple of Buddha, was born in Nalanda .
 - The famous **Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang** spent a year here in the 7th century.
- Tourist Spots:
 - Ruins of Nalanda University
 - Nalanda Museum
 - Hieun Tsang Memorial Hall
 - Rajgir (Hot water springs – Brahmakund, Saraswati Kund, Langate Kund)
 - Pavapuri (place of Mahavira's nirvana)
 - **Bodh Gaya** and Gaya (Major centers of Buddhism)
- Major rivers:
 - Falgu
 - Charm

Printing of Counterfeit Indian Currency

Why in News?

On 21 February 2025, **the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)** arrested seven modules involved in printing **Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN)**.

Key Points

- **About the issue:**
 - Continuing its crackdown against modules involved in printing **Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN)** and import of security papers, the **Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)** conducted simultaneous

searches at **11 locations in Maharashtra, Haryana, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Bihar** .

- In this operation, seven modules active in printing FICN were arrested.
- Earlier also on February 8, 2025, the DRI had arrested two persons in **Ghazipur and Bengaluru who were found to be importers of papers with embedded security thread bearing the words 'RBI' and 'India' ('Security Papers')**.
- The team seized fake currency notes of Rs 50 and Rs 100 denominations and several machinery/ equipment.
- **Impact:**
- **Damage to the economy**
- The circulation of counterfeit currency could lead to **inflation and economic instability** .
- Mixing of real and fake currency **can cause chaos in the banking system** .
- **Escalation of crime**
- Fake notes are used for **black money and illegal activities** , which may lead to increase in terrorist activities.
- The trade of fake notes is linked to **cross-border smuggling and other illegal activities**.

Directorate of Revenue Intelligence

- It is India's premier **anti-smuggling intelligence, investigation and operations agency** .
- Apart from this, this agency works to stop the smuggling of goods including **drugs, gold, diamonds, electronics, foreign currency, and counterfeit Indian currency**.
- The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence functions under **the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs in the Department of Revenue , Ministry of Finance , Government of India**.

Security Officers Appointed to Help Women

Why in News?

The Bihar government has decided to appoint 140 full-time '**protection officers** ' in the state to provide more effective assistance to **women affected by domestic violence** .

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Note:

Key Points

- **About the issue:**
 - The Social Welfare Department has **decided to create a separate cadre** under which security officers will be appointed at the sub-division, district and state levels.
- **Objective:**
 - To effectively **deal with the rising cases of domestic violence**.
 - To provide protection to women from domestic violence and **ensure protection of the rights granted to them by the Constitution**.
- **Level of placement:**
 - Security officers will be appointed at the sub-division, district, and state levels.
 - **A total of 140 security officers will be appointed :**
 - 101 at sub-division level
 - 38 at district level
 - 1 State Level Security Officer.
- **Responsibilities of the Security Officer:**
 - To protect the rights of women under **the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005**.
 - To assist the Magistrate in his duties.
 - To get the physical injuries of the victim, the woman medically examined and send the report to the concerned police station and magistrate.
 - Ensuring compliance of economic relief orders under **Section 20 of the Domestic Violence Act, 2005**.

Domestic Violence Act, 2005

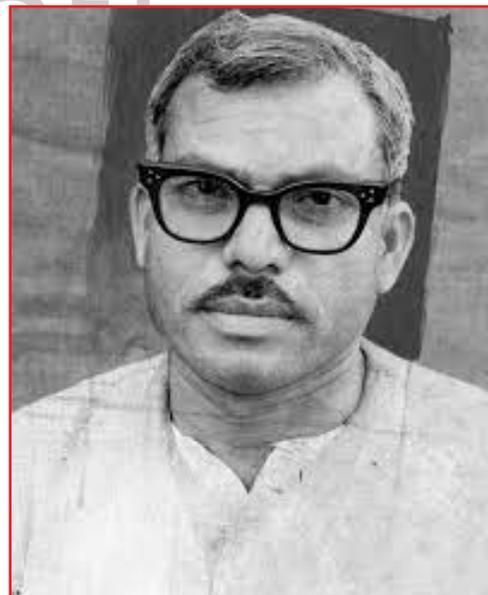
- Introduction:
 - This is an **important law to prevent domestic violence against women and provide them legal protection**.
- Objective:
 - The purpose of this Act is to **protect women from violence** in their homes or any other private place and to provide them protection of their rights.

- **Different types of domestic violence:**
 - Physical violence:
 - This includes physically hurting the woman.
 - Example: Slapping, pushing, hitting, etc.
 - Sexual violence:
 - This includes misdeeds like **sexual harassment or rape** of a woman.
 - Example: Forced intercourse, other sexual offences.
 - Emotional abuse:
 - This includes harming the woman's mental state and self-esteem.
 - Example: Insulting, betraying, intimidating, or making the woman feel mentally weak.
 - Social and economic control:
 - This includes isolating the woman from her family and friends, socially isolating her, or confining her against her will.

Death Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Karpuri Thakur

Why in News?

Bihar Chief Minister paid floral tribute to the statue of **Bharat Ratna Karpuri Thakur** on the occasion of his death anniversary in Patna .



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Note:

Key Points

- **On the occasion:**
 - The Department of Art, Culture and Youth organized an inter-faith prayer, and presented songs, bhajans, kirtans and Nirgun songs based on the life and works of **Bharat Ratna** Jananayak Karpuri Thakur.
 - The Chief Minister described Karpuri Thakur as the people's leader of Indian politics.
- About Karpuri Thakur:
 - Karpuri Thakur, popularly known as "Jan Nayak", was a prominent Indian politician who served as the 11th Chief Minister of Bihar twice from 1970–71 and 1977–79.
 - He was a freedom fighter and a staunch socialist who worked under the guidance of stalwarts like **Jayaprakash Narayan**, **Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia** and Ramanandan Mishra.
 - He represented the Nai community, listed as **Extremely Backward Class (EBC)** among OBCs.
 - He implemented wide-ranging policies, including promoting Hindi and Urdu as second official languages, waiving school fees, and strengthening **panchayati raj**.
 - He died in February 1988.
 - He was awarded the Bharat Ratna posthumously in the year 2024.

Bharat Ratna

- Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award of the country. It is awarded in recognition of exceptional service/highest performance in any field of human endeavour.
- It is announced at a different level from the Padma Awards. Recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister to the President of India.
- The number of Bharat Ratna awards can be up to three in a particular year.

Bihar State Women's Wushu Championship 2025

Why in News?

Bihar State Women's Wushu Championship 2025 was inaugurated at the Sports Bhawan located in **Muzaffarpur** district of Bihar between 22-23 February 2025.

Key Points

- **Objective of the event:**
 - The main objective of this championship was to promote Wushu sport among women in the state and to prepare talents for the national level.
- **Events:**
 - This competition was organized under the joint auspices of the District Sports Department and Bihar Wushu Association.
- **Participation:**
 - More than 300 women players participated in the championship from various districts of Bihar, indicating the enthusiasm and participation towards the sport across the state.
- **Performance of players:**
 - The Muzaffarpur team won the overall title, which reflects the dedication and level of sports in the city.
- **Wushu Events:**
 - The championship featured various Wushu events such as Sanda and Taolu, highlighting the diversity of the sport of Wushu.

Wushu

- Wushu is a Chinese martial art that is performed in two forms (Taolu and Sanda) and is becoming increasingly popular.
- Wushu is also sometimes called kung fu, and both names generally refer to the Chinese martial art.
- Many players from Bihar have made their mark in this game at the national and international level.

New Airport Approved in Bihar

Why in News?

Recently, approval has been given by **the Airports Authority of India (AAI)** for the construction of a new airport at Bihta, Bihar.

Key Points

- About Bihta Airport:
 - It will be constructed at a cost of approximately **Rs 459 crore**.
 - The work of construction of the airport has been assigned to a Russian company.

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Note:

- The target has been **set to complete this airport by the year 2026**.
- The Bihar government has allotted about 108 acres of land for the construction of the airport.
- Along with this, **Danapur-Bihta elevated corridor** is being constructed at a cost of about Rs 2000 crore, which is likely to be completed by the year 2026.

➤ Benefits:

- This airport will be **connected to Patna city** and will also become a **new air traffic hub** for the entire Bihar and surrounding areas.
- This will **enhance air connectivity** between major cities, driving growth in business and **tourism**.
- The airport's construction will **boost local employment**, enhance passenger facilities, and **make travel more affordable**.

Airports Authority of India (AAI)

- AAI is a **statutory body**, constituted by an **Act of Parliament on April 1, 1995**.
- Its **headquarters is in New Delhi**.
- This authority **constructs, upgrades, maintains and manages civil aviation infrastructure** both on ground and in airspace.
- At present, the AAI manages **137 airports, including 23 international airports, 10 customs airports, 81 domestic airports and 23 domestic civil enclaves** in defence airfields.
- It also **provides air navigation services and operates a training institute** for aviation professionals.

- A **Buddhist film festival** was also organized. For this, big filmmakers, writers etc. from many countries were invited.
 - This film festival and arts festival was organised at **Mahabodhi Convention Centre**.

Buddhist Festival

- Buddhist Festival is an **annual cultural and spiritual event**, celebrated mainly in Bodh Gaya, Bihar.
- This festival celebrates the teachings of **Lord Gautam Buddha**, Buddhism and its rich cultural heritage.
- The Buddhist Festival was **first organised in the year 1998**.
 - **Bodhgaya** is the place where **Lord Buddha attained enlightenment (Bodhi)**, hence this place is very sacred for the followers of Buddhism.
- This festival promotes the basic principles of Buddhism like **non-violence, compassion, peace and meditation**.
- Thousands of devotees and tourists from India as well as Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Japan, China, Thailand, Myanmar and other countries participate in it.

Stone art of Gaya district got GI tag

Why in News?

Recently, the 300 year old stone art of Gaya district of Bihar has been granted GI tag.

Key Points

- **About Stone Art:**
 - **Patharkatti village** of Neemchak Bathani block of Gaya district of Bihar is famous for stone art.
 - In stone art, apart from the statues of **Lord Buddha** and **Mahavira**, statues of various art works are also made.
- **Global Recognition:**
 - There are more than **650 artisans** associated with stone art in **Patharkatti village** of Gaya district.
 - By getting the **GI tag**, not only these artisans but also the sculpture will get a new identity abroad. This will also increase their income.

Buddhist Festival 2025

Why in News?

A three-day **Buddhist Festival 2025** was organized at the Kalachakra Ground in **Gaya district of Bihar**.

Key Points

- About the Festival:
 - A glimpse of **spiritual, cultural and tourism activities** was seen in this Buddhist festival.
 - Apart from local artists, **artists from 6 countries including Indonesia, Laos and Japan participated in it**.

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Note:

- **History:**
 - It is believed that **Queen Ahilyabai Holkar** named this village Pattharkatti.
 - It was here that the craftsmen discovered a hill of black granite stones. The Vishnupad temple was built from the black granite stones of Patharkatti.
- **Other GI tagged products from Bihar**
 - Bihar's Jardalu mango, Shahi litchi, Karatani rice, Magahi paan and Madhubani painting have also received the GI tag.

GI Tag

- The full form of GI tag is Geographical Indication, which is called geographical indicator in Hindi. This tag is given to those products whose uniqueness, quality or reputation is associated with a particular geographical area.
- By getting the GI tag, the product gets recognition at national and international level.
- At the international level, GIs are regulated under the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS).
- At the national level, this work is done under the Geographical Indications of goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999, which came into force from September 2003.
- 'Darjeeling Tea' is the first Indian product to receive the GI tag in the year 2004.
- Registration of Geographical Indication is valid for 10 years.

Bihar won the gold medal after 25 years

Why in News?

Bihar won the **gold medal** after **25 years** in the **38th National Games 2025** held in Uttarakhand.

Key Points

- On February 08, 2025, in the 38th National Games 2025 held in Uttarakhand, Bihar's women players **Khushboo Kumari, Nikhat Khatoon** and **Payal Preeti** won the gold medal in the triple women's lawn ball event.

- Bihar has won this gold medal in **National Games** after **25 years**.
- In the final match, Bihar team defeated **West Bengal** by a close margin of **15-14**.
- In the 38th National Games 2025, Bihar stood at **29th position** with a total of **12 medals including 1 gold, 6 silver and 5 bronze medals**.

38th National Games

- The 38th National Games 2025 was organized in Uttarakhand from 28 January 2025 to 14 February 2025. It was inaugurated at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Dehradun.
- The mascot of the Games **was Molly**, inspired by **the Monal**, the state bird of Uttarakhand.
- **32 sporting events were included** in the National Games.
- Maharashtra secured first position with **54 gold, 71 silver and 76 bronze medals**. While Haryana secured second position by securing **48 gold, 47 silver and 58 bronze medals**.

39th National Games

- **The 39th National Games** will be held in **Meghalaya** in 2026.

Madhubani Painting

Why in News?

The Prime Minister of India gifted a wooden railway toy set and a jigsaw puzzle based on **Indian folk art** to **US Vice President J D Vance's Kids** in France during his two-day visit to the European country.

Key Points

- **About the Gifts:**
 - Wooden Railway Toy:
 - Crafted from **natural wood and painted with eco-friendly vegetable dyes**, this toy ensures child safety and environmental awareness.
 - This wooden railway toy was **described as "a timeless classic"** that combines nostalgia with sustainability.

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Note:

➤ **Jigsaw Puzzle:**

- It depicts the rich art heritage of India by incorporating various folk painting styles like [Kalighat art of West Bengal](#), [Santhal paintings of Santhal tribe](#) and [Madhubani paintings of Bihar](#).

➤ **Wooden Alphabet Set:**

- It is a durable, safe, and engaging learning tool, which enhances skills and cognitive abilities.

Madhubani Art



➤ **Origin:**

- Madhubani painting originated in the **Mithila region of Bihar**.
- This painting is **one of the oldest and most famous Indian art forms**, which is also practiced in Nepal.
- Traces of Madhubani art can also be seen in [the Indian epic Ramayana](#).
- It is also known as **Mithila or Madhubani art**.

➤ **Features:**

- These paintings are popular due to their **tribal motifs and use of bright earthy colours**.
- Traditionally **village women** used to draw these paintings on the walls of their homes as a display of their feelings, hopes and thoughts.

➤ **Style:**

- It includes **geometric patterns, floral, animal and bird motifs**.

➤ **Colours:**

- The colours used in the paintings are **made from natural extracts obtained from plants and other natural sources**.
- **For example:** black colour is made by mixing soot with cow dung; blue colour is made from indigo; white colour is made from rice powder; orange colour is made from palash flowers, etc.

Tremor in Bihar

Why in News?

According to [the National Center for Seismology](#), a **4.0-magnitude earthquake** struck Siwan, Bihar, on 17th February 2025.

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Note:

Key Points

- National Centre for Seismology (NCS):
 - This is the agency responsible for **monitoring and reporting the seismic activity** in India and its neighbourhood.
 - It **operates a network of seismological observatories** across the country, and provides real-time data and information on earthquakes and **tsunamis**.
 - It also **maintains a website and a mobile app, called BhooKamp**, to provide earthquake alerts and updates to the public.

EARTHQUAKE



ABOUT

- Shaking of the earth; caused due to release of energy, generating **seismic waves in all directions**

EARTHQUAKE WAVES

- **Body Waves:** Move in all directions travelling through the body of the earth
 - **P Waves:** Move faster, First to arrive at surface, Similar to sound waves, Travel through gaseous, liquid and solid materials
 - **S Waves:** Arrive at surface with some time lag, Travel only through solid materials
- **Surface Waves:** Last to report on seismographs, More destructive, Cause displacement of rocks
 - **Love Waves:** Same motion as S-waves (horizontal) without vertical displacement, Sideways motion perpendicular to the direction of propagation, Faster than Rayleigh waves
 - **Rayleigh Waves:** Cause the ground to shake in an elliptical pattern, Spread out the most of all seismic waves, Move vertically and horizontally in a vertical plane

CAUSES OF EARTHQUAKES

- Release of energy along a **Fault/Fault Zones** (break in the crustal rocks)
- Movement of **tectonic plates** (most common)
- **Volcanic eruption** (stress changes in rock-injection/withdrawal of magma)
- **Human activities** (mining, explosion of chemical/nuclear devices etc.)

MEASURING EARTHQUAKE

- **Seismometers** - Measures seismic waves
- **Richter Scale** - Measures magnitude (energy released; range: 0-10)
- **Mercalli** - Measures intensity (visible damage; range: 1-12)

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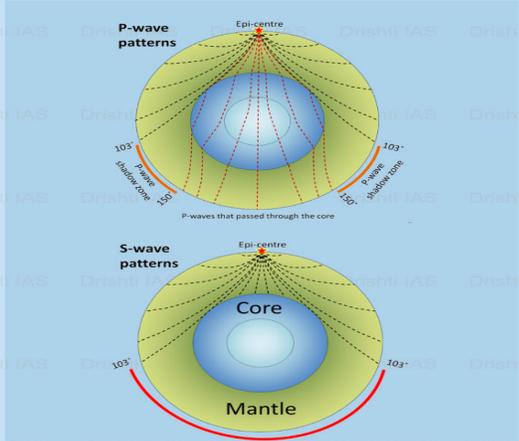
- **Circum-Pacific Belt** - 81% of earthquakes
- **Alpide Earthquake Belt** - 17% of the largest earthquakes
- **Mid-Atlantic Ridge** - Mostly submerged underwater

HYPOCENTER

- Location where the earthquake starts (below earth's surface)

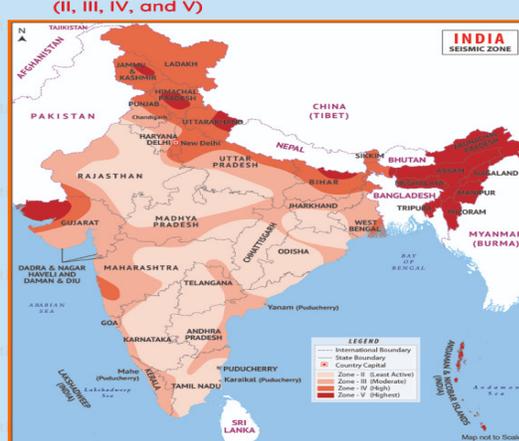
EPICENTER

- Location right above the Hypocenter (on the earth's surface)



EARTHQUAKE IN INDIA

- India is **one of the highly earthquake affected countries** due to the presence of technically active mountains - the Himalayas.
- India has been divided into **4 seismic zones (II, III, IV, and V)**





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Note:

12th Darbhanga International Film Festival

Why in News?

The [12th Darbhanga International Film Festival 2025 \(DIFF\)](#) was organised in Darbhanga district of Bihar from 7th to 9th February, 2025.

Key Points

- About the Film Festival:
 - The festival was **organised in the premises of Delhi World Public School, Darbhanga.**
 - 45 films from India and abroad **were screened in this festival**, providing a **global platform to cinema lovers and filmmakers.**
 - **Youth cultural presentations and cinema quiz competitions** were also organized in which students from various schools of Darbhanga participated.
 - **65 awards were presented in various categories** at the closing ceremony of the festival.
 - The closing film of this three-day prestigious film festival was the film “**Dada Lakhmi**” directed by **Bollywood actor Yashpal Sharma.**

Darbhanga district

- It is located on the banks of the **Bagmati River** in the **Mithila region of Bihar.**
- **Madhubani is to the north of Darbhanga, Samastipur to the south, Saharsa to the east and Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi district to the west.**
- The word Darbhanga is the result of the localization of the Sanskrit word ‘Dwar-Bang’ or the **Persian word ‘Dar-e-Bang’** meaning the **gate of Bengal into the Maithili language** over many years.
- It is said that the city was founded by Darbhangi Khan during the Mughal period.
- The total area of Darbhanga district is 2,279 square km.

New Schemes Inaugurated in Aurangabad

Why in News?

Recently, the **Chief Minister of Bihar** inaugurated and laid the **foundation stone of 195 schemes in Aurangabad district.**

Key Points

- The Chief Minister **inaugurated 79 schemes** costing Rs 127.43 crore and **laid the foundation stone of 116 schemes** costing Rs 426.76 crore.
- **Key Announcements and Infrastructure Developments:**
 - Medical College in Aurangabad to be established.
 - Construction of a sports complex and stadium.
 - Greenfield link road from Surya Mandir to SH-101 to be developed.
 - Check dam on **the Keshar river** in Chand Bigha village.
 - **Riverfront development on the Adri river** in Aurangabad town.
 - Trauma centre along the national highway to be built.
 - Bishunpur canal construction planned.
 - Ring road in Deo Nagar Panchayat to be constructed.
- Site Visits and Scheme Reviews:
 - Visited **Bedhani panchayat (Deo block)** to inaugurate:
 - Panchayat Bhavan.
 - New model hospital building in **Aurangabad Sadar Hospital complex.**
 - Bhimrao Ambedkar Residential School (Kushi).
 - Reviewed progress of **‘Saat Nischay’ schemes.**
- Distribution of Benefits by the Chief Minister:
 - Provided symbolic cheque and key under **the Chief Minister Block Transport Scheme.**
 - Distributed **Ayushman Cards** to beneficiaries.

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Note:

- Handed over a symbolic cheque of Rs 2.94 crore as the first installment to 147 selected beneficiaries under [the Chief Minister Udyam Yojana \(2024-2025\)](#).
- Presented symbolic cheques to beneficiaries of [the Chief Minister Disabled People Marriage Incentive Grant Scheme](#).

Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY

- About:
 - PM-JAY is the world's largest health insurance scheme fully financed by the government.
 - **Launched in 2018**, it offers a **sum insured of Rs.5 lakh per family** for secondary care and tertiary care.
 - Health Benefit **Packages covers surgery, medical** and day care treatments, cost of medicines and diagnostics.
- Beneficiaries:
 - It is an entitlement-based scheme that targets the beneficiaries as identified by latest [Socio-Economic Caste Census \(SECC\) data](#).
 - [The National Health Authority \(NHA\)](#) has provided flexibility to States/UTs to use non- Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) beneficiary family databases with similar socio-economic profiles for tagging against the leftover (unauthenticated) SECC families.

More than 100 schemes inaugurated in Nawada

Why in News?

The **Chief Minister of Bihar** laid the foundation stone and inaugurated **more than 142 schemes** during the **Pragati Yatra** in Nawada, Bihar.

Key Points

- During his Pragati Yatra, the Chief Minister presented several **development schemes** to Nawada district.

- The Chief Minister inaugurated **142 schemes** worth **Rs 138.06 crore** out of **202 schemes** worth **Rs 211.96 crore** and laid the foundation stone of **60 schemes** worth **Rs 73.89 crore**. He also reviewed other development schemes in the district.
- **Major Development Schemes:**
 - Medical college and hospital will be constructed in Nawada.
 - A degree college will be established in Rajauli sub-division.
 - A multi-purpose auditorium will be constructed in Nawada district.
 - **Ganga water** will be supplied to the remaining **27 wards in Nawada Municipal Council**.
 - Industrial area will be developed in Rajauli of Nawada.
- **Significance:** These development schemes will accelerate social and economic development in Nawada district and provide better facilities to the local people, which will improve the fields of education, health and employment.

Nawada District

- The history of Nawada district is associated with the **Magadha Empire** and the people of this region speak Magahi.
- Due to being covered in forest in ancient times, it was also mentioned during the **Pandavas' exile**.
 - Even today many blocks of Nawada are surrounded by forests, like **Rajauli, Kauakol, Govindpur** etc.
- The word Nawada is made up of two words "**Nav**" and "**Aabad**", that is, the human settlements that developed to the north of the **Khuri River** were newly inhabited.
- Presently, Nawada district is bordered by **Koderma district of Jharkhand** in the south.
- This district, which came into existence on **26 January 1973**, was earlier a **sub-division** under **Gaya district**.
- Nawada district has many major tourist places like **Kakolat Falls, Prajatantr Dwar, Sitamarhi, Narada Museum, Sekhodevra and Guniaji Tirtha** etc.

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Note:

Maner Sharif

Why in News?

The Bihar Chief Minister attended the **756th Urs of Hazrat Makhdum Shah Kamaluddin Ahmed Yahya Maneri at Maner Sharif**.

- Urs is an annual festival that commemorates the death anniversary of a Sufi saint.



Key Points

- **About Maner Sharif:**
 - It is located in Patna district of Bihar. The old name of this city was Maniyar Mathan which means musical city.
 - The town contains the tombs of the Sufi saints Makhdum Yahya Maneri and Makhdum Shah Daulat, known as the Badi Dargah (Great Shrine) and Chhoti Dargah (Small Shrine).
 - Makhdum Shah Daulat was buried here in 1616, and in 1619, Ibrahim Khan, the ruler of Bihar, constructed a small dargah at the site.
- **Urs:**
 - The annual Urs is organized at the birthplace of Makhdum Shah in the Maner Dargah complex with the cooperation of the Tourism Department of the Government of Bihar and the District Administration.

Makhdum Yahya Maneri

- He is also known as Makhdum-ul-Mulk Bihari and Makhdum-e-Jahan. He was born in July 1264 AD in Maner, a village near Patna.
- He had a deep understanding of Arabic, Persian, logic, philosophy, religion and Tasawwuf (Sufism).
- His father, Makhdum Kamaluddin Yahya Maneri bin Israel bin Taj, who belonged to the Firdausi sect, was a Sufi saint of Maner (Palestine), who was a Sufi saint of Maner.

Lakhisarai Museum

Why in News?

On 6 February 2025, the **Chief Minister of Bihar inaugurated the Lakhisarai Museum** built at a cost of Rs 35.8 crores.

Key Points

- **About Lakhisarai Museum:**
 - This is the **second largest museum** of Bihar.
 - The ancient statues, **inscriptions, pottery, Buddhist stupas** and **precious stones** recovered from excavations in various areas of Lakhisarai district which were kept at **Ashokdham temple** and other places will now be preserved in this museum.
 - It will promote **tourism**, which will help people know the history and culture of the state and will **benefit the local economy**.
 - The museum can help in **showcasing the cultural and historical importance of Lakhisarai**.

Lakhisarai District

- The district was **established on 3 July 1994**. Earlier Lakhisarai was a subdivision in Munger district.
- Some of the important temples and religious places within the district are **Ashokdham, Bhagawati Temple of Barhiya, Shringi Rishi, Jalappa Sthan, Abhaynath Sthan, Abhipur Mountain, Maharani Sthan of Abhipur, Govind Baba Sthan (Mandap) Rampur and Durga Sthan Lakhisarai etc.**
- Lakhisarai is bordered by Munger, Sheikhpura, Begusarai and Patna on the east, south, west and north.

Book Release by Bihar Governor

Why in News?

Recently, Bihar **Governor** released the book **"Street Vendor se Bureaucrat"** written by Manoj Kumar at Raj Bhawan.

Key Points

- **About the Book:**
 - The author gave a **struggle-filled and inspiring description** of his journey from **Koshi region of Bihar to Delhi**.
 - In spite of poverty and hardships, with his hard work and dedication he succeeded in the **Civil Services Examination** and reached a high position.

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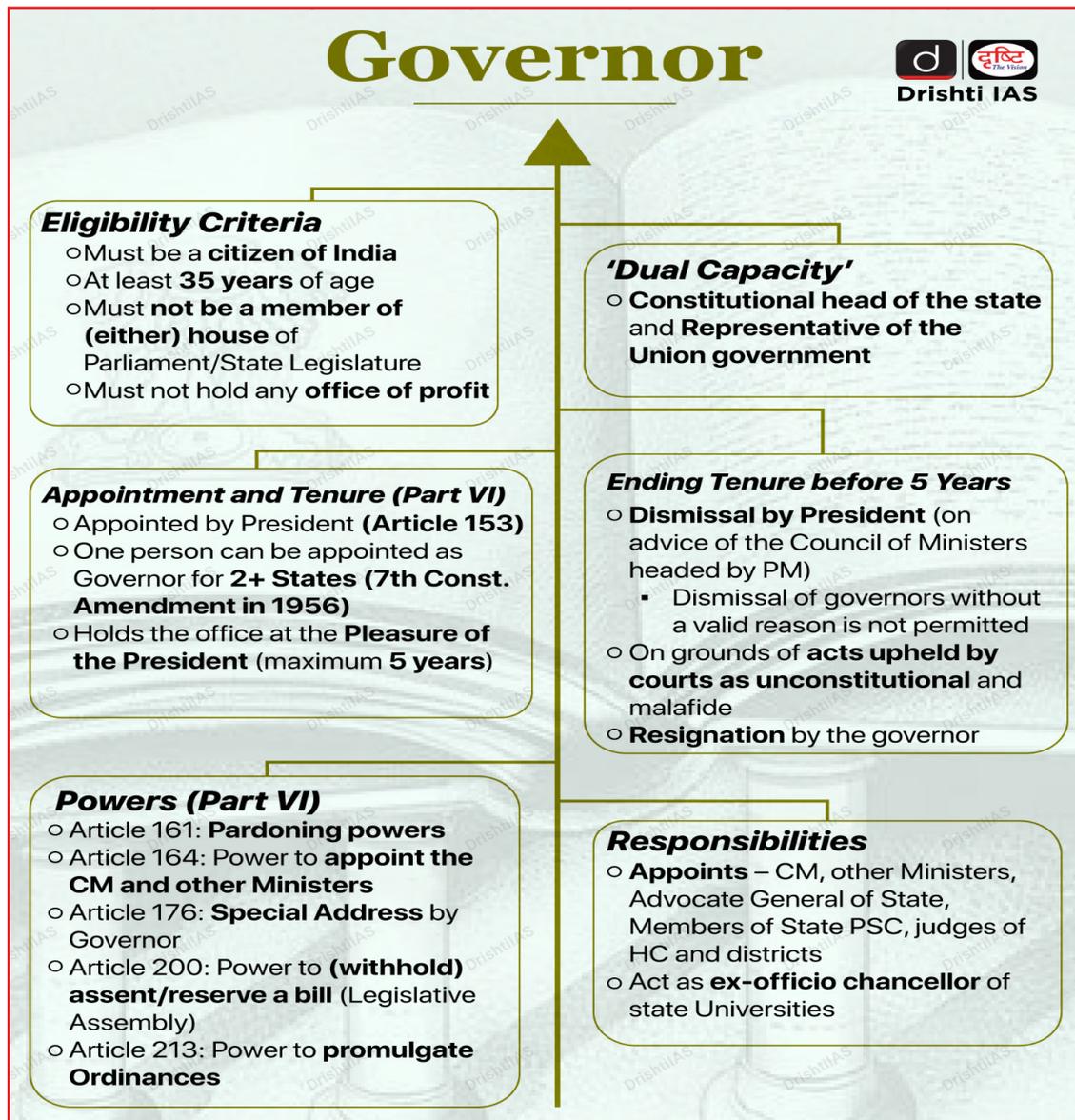


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Note:

- o The book has been edited by Dr. Harshvardhan Kumar .



Kiul River

Why in News?

Recently, the Bihar Chief Minister laid the **foundation stone of a bridge** to be built on the **Kiul River** at a cost of **Rs 49 crore**.

Key Points

- **About the Bridge:**
 - o The **length of this bridge** is 390 meters and width is 12 meters.
 - o This bridge connecting **Kiul-Lakhisarai** is completely constructed by the **Road Construction Department** .

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Note:

➤ Kiul River:

- The Kiul River is a **tributary of the Ganges**, whose origin is the mountain of northern Chhota Nagpur.
- This river falls from the ranges located in Giridih district of Jharkhand and reaches Lakhisarai through Jamui and merges with **the Haruhar River**.
 - After this it merges with the Ganges in Munger district.

Union Budget 2025: Major Allocations for Bihar

Why in News?

Recently, the Union Finance Minister **announced a series of projects for Bihar** in [Budget speech 2025](#).

Key Points

- Boost for Foxnut Farmers:
 - The newly announced **Makhana Board** will enhance production, processing, value addition, and marketing of **foxnuts**.
 - **Mithila Makhana** received a **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** in 2022, with Bihar contributing 80% of India's total production.
 - The initiative is expected to **benefit over five lakh farmers**, particularly in Darbhanga, Madhubani, Sitamarhi, Saharsa, Katihar, Purnia, Kishanganj, Araria, Supaul, and Madhepura.
- Expansion of Aviation Infrastructure:
 - **New greenfield airports** in Bihar to meet future demands.
 - Capacity expansion of Patna airport and the development of a brownfield airport at Bihta are also planned.
- Investment in Education and Infrastructure:
 - Additional funds will be allocated for capital investments, and Bihar's requests for external assistance from multilateral development banks will be fast-tracked.
 - A **National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Management** will be set up under the Purvodaya initiative to develop eastern India.
 - Infrastructure expansion, including hostels, is planned for **the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Patna**.
- Temple and Tourism Development:
 - The Budget pledges support for the comprehensive development of the **Vishnupad and Mahabodhi temple corridors**, modeled after **the Kashi Vishwanath temple corridor**.
 - Nalanda will be developed as a major tourist center, with efforts to restore **Nalanda University** to its historical prominence.

Vishnupad Temple and the Mahabodhi Temple

➤ Vishnupad Temple at Gaya:

- It is situated on the banks of the Phalgu/Falgu river in Gaya district of Bihar. The temple is dedicated to **Lord Vishnu**.
- **Legend:**
 - According to local mythology, a demon named **Gayasur requested the gods to grant him the power** to help others attain moksha (liberation from the cycle of rebirth).
 - However, after misusing this power, Lord Vishnu subdued him, leaving a footprint in the temple, believed to be a mark of that event.

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Note:

- Architectural Features:
 - The temple stands about 100 feet tall and features 44 pillars constructed from **large gray granite blocks** (Munger Black stone) joined with **iron clamps**.
 - The **octagonal shrine** is oriented towards the east.
- Construction:
 - It was constructed in **1787** under the orders of **Queen Ahilyabai Holkar**.
- Cultural Practices:
 - The temple is particularly significant during **Pitra Paksha**, a period dedicated to honoring ancestors, attracting many devotees.
 - The **Brahma Kalpit Brahmins**, also referred to as Gayawal Brahmins, have been the traditional priests of the temple since ancient times.
- Mahabodhi Temple at Bodh Gaya:
 - It is believed to be the **site where Gautam Buddha attained enlightenment** under the Mahabodhi Tree.
 - Construction of Temple:
 - The original temple was built by **Emperor Ashoka** in the 3rd century BC, with the current structure dating back to the **5th–6th centuries**.
 - Architectural Features:
 - It comprises the **50 m high grand temple (the Vajrasana)**, **sacred Bodhi Tree** and other 6 sacred sites of Buddha's enlightenment.
 - It is surrounded by numerous ancient **Votive stupas**, well maintained and protected by inner, middle and outer circular boundaries.
 - It is one of the earliest **brick temples** from the **Gupta period**, influencing later brick architecture.
 - The **Vajrasana (the Diamond Throne)** was originally installed by **Emperor Asoka to mark the spot where Buddha sat and meditated**.



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Note:

Key Points

Details

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Summary

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