



drishti

**STATE
PCS CA
(CONSOLIDATION)**

BIHAR

**MAY
2024**

**Drishti, 641, First Floor, Dr. Mukherjee
Nagar, Delhi-110009**

Inquiry (English): 8010-440-440

Inquiry (Hindi): 8750-187-501

Website: www.drishtias.com

Email: help@groupdrishti.in

Content

- Achievement of Bihar Alcohol Ban 3
- Rajaji Tiger Reserve 3
- Bihar Lok Sabha Elections Phase 5..... 4
- Kanwar Lake 4
- Bihar Ex- Deputy CM Passes Away 6
- Bihar Lok Sabha Elections..... 6
- Bihar Environment Secretary Addresses Jakarta Futures Forum 7
- Village in Bihar Refuses to Vote..... 8



Achievement of Bihar Alcohol Ban

Why in News?

According to new research published in the Lancet Regional Health Southeast Asia journal, Bihar's alcohol ban in **2016** prevented **2.4 million cases** of daily and weekly consumption, and 2.1 million cases of intimate partner violence.

- The ban is also estimated to have prevented **1.8 million** men in the state from becoming overweight or obese.

Key Points

- A team of researchers, including those from The **International Food Policy Research Institute**, Poverty, Health and Nutrition Division, US, analysed data from national and district level health and household surveys.
- **Strict alcohol regulation policies** may yield significant population level **health benefits** for frequent drinkers and many victims of intimate partner violence.
- In April 2016, the **Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act, 2016** brought about a near complete halt on the manufacture, transport, sale, and consumption of alcohol throughout the state.
 - It's strict enforcement made the ban an "attractive natural experiment to estimate the true causal impacts of a strict alcohol restriction policy on health and domestic violence outcomes".
- According to **National Family Health Surveys-3, 4, and 5** before the ban, males in Bihar increased their frequent alcohol intake from **9.7 % to 15 %**, while in neighbouring states, it increased from **7.2 % to 10.3 %**.
- "After the ban 4.6 % points decrease in emotional violence and a 3.6 % points decrease in sexual violence have been observed.

Constitutional Provisions Related to Intoxication

- **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) (Article 47):**
 - **Article 47** mentions that "in particular, the State shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption except for medicinal purposes of intoxicating drinks and of drugs which are injurious to health."
 - While DPSPs are not in themselves legally enforceable, they set goals that the state should aspire towards to establish conditions under which citizens can lead a good life.

- Thus, alcohol is seen by the Constitution and by extension, the Indian state, as an undesirable evil that needs to be regulated.

➤ Seventh Schedule:

- According to the **Seventh Schedule of the Constitution**, alcohol is a state subject, i.e., state legislatures have the right and responsibility to draft laws regarding it, including "the production, manufacture, possession, transport, purchase and sale of intoxicating liquors."
- Thus, laws regarding alcohol differ from state to state, falling in the whole spectrum between prohibition and private sale.

Domestic Violence Against Women

Domestic violence refers to any form of abuse, whether physical, emotional, sexual, or economic, within the confines of the home, family or domestic unit.

National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS), 2019-2021

- ① 29.3% of married women experienced domestic/sexual violence
- ② 3.1% of pregnant women suffered physical violence during pregnancy
- ③ 87% of married women who are victims of marital violence do not seek help



Legal Frameworks in India

Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (PWDVA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Covers physical, emotional, sexual, and economic abuse ■ Provides various orders for protection, residence, and relief
Indian Penal Code, 1860	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Section 498A deals with cruelty by a husband or his relatives ■ Criminalises acts of cruelty, harassment, or torture
Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Makes giving or receiving dowry a crime
Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Section 354A amended the IPC to include new offenses related to sexual harassment in cases of domestic violence
National Commission for Women Act, 1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Safeguards women's rights and plays a key role in addressing domestic violence
The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Prevent child marriages and prohibit domestic violence against child brides.

Global Initiatives

- ① **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW):** Adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly
 - ② Eliminating discrimination against women in all areas of life
- ① **UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (DEVAW):** First international instrument explicitly addressing violence against women
 - ② Provides a framework for national and international action
- ① **Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces:** Flagship program by UN Women
 - ② Preventing and responding to sexual harassment and other forms of violence in public spaces
- ① **Beijing Platform for Action (1995):** Identifies specific actions for governments to take to prevent and respond to violence
 - ② **SDG 5 (Gender Equality):** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere



Rajaji Tiger Reserve

Why in News?

According Chief Wildlife Warden, a tigress translocated to the **Rajaji Tiger Reserve** from the **Corbett Tiger Reserve** has given birth to four cubs.

Key Point

- The tigress is **one of three tigresses** translocated from the **Corbett Tiger Reserve** to the **Rajaji Tiger Reserve**.

Note:

- Rajaji National Park is a key link to other potential tiger habitats, including those in **Himachal Pradesh** and **Haryana**.
- In western **Rajaji Tiger Reserve**, **four tigers, three females and a male** were translocated in **December 2020, January 2021, May 2023**.

Rajaji Tiger Reserve

- **Location:** Haridwar (Uttarakhand), along the foothills of the Shivalik range. It is part of **Rajaji National Park**.
- **Background:** Rajaji National Park was established in the year 1983 after amalgamating three sanctuaries in the Uttarakhand i.e., Rajaji, Motichur and Chila.
 - It was named after the famous freedom fighter C. Rajgopalachari; popularly known as "Rajaji".
 - It was declared a **Tiger Reserve** in 2015 as the 48th tiger reserve of the country.
- **Salient Features:**
 - **Flora:** Broadleaved deciduous forests, riverine vegetation, scrubland, grasslands and pine forests form the range of flora in this park.
 - Sal (*Shorea robusta*) is the characteristic dominant tree species.
 - **Fauna:** The reserve is home to more than 50 species of mammals including tiger, elephant, leopard, Himalayan black bear, sloth bear, jackal, hyena, spotted deer, sambhar, barking deer, nilgai, monkeys and over 300 species of birds.
 - **Rivers:** The Ganga and Song rivers flow through this.

Bihar Lok Sabha Elections Phase 5

Why in News?

Bihar witnessed a **voter turnout of 52.35%** in five **Lok Sabha** constituencies that voted in the **fifth phase of general elections**.

Key Points

- According to **the Election Commission**, 55.30% of voters have exercised their franchise in **Muzaffarpur**, 53.81% in **Hajipur**, 53.13% in **Sitamarhi**, 50.46% in **Saran** and 49.01% in **Madhubani**.
- More than 95 lakh voters in these five seats will decide the electoral fate of 80 candidates at 9,436 polling stations.

- Out of these voters, 45.11 lakh are women, 21 lakh are under 29 years of age and 1.26 lakh are in the age group of 18-19 years.

Lok Sabha (House of the People)

- It is the lower house (first house or popular house) and represents the people of India as a whole.
- **Composition:** The maximum number of Lok Sabha members has been fixed at 550, out of which 530 members are representatives of the States and 20 members are representatives of the Union Territories.
 - Presently the Lok Sabha has 543 members, out of which 530 members represent the states and 13 represent the Union Territories.
 - Earlier, the President had also nominated two members of the Anglo-Indian community, but by the 95th Amendment Act, 2009, this provision was valid only till 2020.
- **Election of Representatives:** Representatives of the states are directly elected by the people of the territorial constituencies of the states.
 - According to the Union Territories (Direct Election to the House of the People) Act, 1965, members of the Lok Sabha are directly elected in Union Territories.
- **Function:** One of the most important functions of the Lok Sabha is to select the executive, a group of individuals who work together to implement the laws made by the Parliament.
 - When we use the word government the executive often comes to our mind.

Kanwar Lake

Why in News?

Once a haven for **migratory birds**, Asia's largest **freshwater oxbow lake** and Bihar's only **Ramsar site**, Kanwar is gradually disappearing.

Key Points

- An **oxbow lake** is a **curved lake formed alongside a winding river** as a result of erosion and sediment deposition over time.
 - Oxbow lakes are typically **crescent-shaped** and are common features in floodplains and low-lying areas near rivers.

Note:



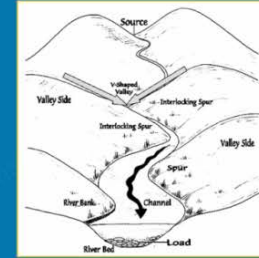
- Kanwar lake, which used to be a popular tourist spot, has **fallen victim to encroachments** and is now battling for its existence.
 - The uncontrolled expansion of land and building of embankments along the nearby **Burhi Gandak river** has **blocked the main water entry point to the wetland.**
- There is a shared belief that with **governmental initiatives to restore the lake**, it has the potential to reclaim its past grandeur and transform into a significant tourist destination, **offering new job prospects for residents.**

RIVER LANDFORMS

Different types of landforms formed at different courses of a river - Upper, Middle & Lower

UPPER (MOUNTAIN) COURSE

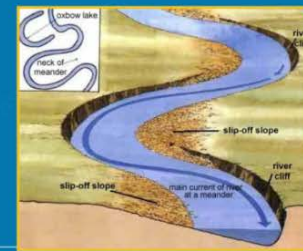
- Starts at **source** of river (usually a mountain range)
- **Very fast speed** of river due to steep slope
- **Main action of river** is vertical corrasion
- Landforms -
 - V-shaped Valleys (formed due to vertical corrasion)
 - Lao Valley, Hawaii
 - Interlocking Spurs
 - West Liddar valley above Pahalgam, Kashmir
- Gorges (formed where rocks are too hard and resistant)
 - Indus Gorge, Kashmir
- Canyons (formed where rainfall is very low)
 - Bryce Canyon, US
- Rapids and Waterfalls
 - Lava Falls Rapid, US and Niagara Falls, Canada



Corrasion (or abrasion) is the erosion of a rock surface by rock fragments transported over it by water, wind, or ice

MIDDLE (VALLEY) COURSE

- Here, lateral corrasion overtakes vertical
- Confluence of tributaries → More volume of water → **More loaded river**
- **Transportation** main event in the region
- **Interlocking spurs** also formed on both sides of the valley
- Landforms -
 - Meanders
 - Owens River, SE California, US
 - River Cliffs and Slip-off slope
 - White Cliffs of Dover, UK



LOWER (PLAIN) COURSE

- River now **heavy** with material brought down from upper courses
- Vertical corrasion almost negligible, lateral corrasion still active
- **Deposition** plays key role in formation of riverbeds and extensive flood plains
- More volume in water; finer material carried to the mouth of river
- Landforms -
 - Floodplains and Levees
 - Ganga-Yamuna floodplain
 - Deltas
 - Sunderbans Delta



Note:

Kanwar Lake

- It is also known as **Kabartal jheel**.
- It is a residual oxbow lake, **formed due to the meandering of Gandak river**, a tributary of Ganga.
- It is covering the majority of the **Indo-Gangetic plains** in northern Bihar.
- The Wetland is an important stopover along the **Central Asian Flyway**, with 58 migratory waterbirds using it to rest and refuel.
- It is also a valuable site for fish biodiversity with over 50 species documented.
- **Five critically endangered species** inhabit the site, including **three vultures** – the **red-headed vulture (Sarcogyps calvus)**, **white-rumped vulture (Gyps bengalensis)** and **Indian vulture (Gyps indicus)** – and two **waterbirds**, the **sociable lapwing (Vanellus gregarius)** and **Baer's pochard (Aythya baeri)**.
- **Threats:** Major threats to the site include water management activities such as drainage, water abstraction, damming and canalization.

Bihar Ex- Deputy CM Passes Away

Why in News?

Recently, Senior Political leader and **former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi passed away** in New Delhi at the age of 72. He was suffering from cancer.

Key Points

- He was a Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar as well as the Finance Minister of Bihar from 2005 to 2013 and 2017 to 2020.
- He was a lifelong member of the **Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh**.
- He was appointed the **Chairman of the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers** for the Implementation of **Goods and Service Tax** in July 2011.

Deputy Chief Minister

- The post of Deputy Chief Minister in India is **not a constitutional post**, but a political arrangement to **appease allies** or factions within a party.

- He is **equivalent to a Cabinet Minister** in terms of rank and perks but **does not have any specific financial or administrative powers**.
- The Deputy CM has to report to the Chief Minister and seek his or her approval for any decision related to his or her portfolio.
- The Deputy CM does not have access to the files or matters that are meant for the Chief Minister.
- Neither **Article 163** nor **Article 164(1)** explicitly mentions the position of Deputy Chief Minister.
 - **Article 163(1)** establishes a Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister at the head to aid and advise the Governor.
 - **Article 164(1)** outlines the appointment process, with the Chief Minister appointed by the Governor, and other Ministers appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister.

Bihar Lok Sabha Elections

Why in News?

Bihar recorded over **54% of voting across five constituencies** in the **fourth phase of Lok Sabha elections 2024**.

Key Points

- **Begusarai** registered the highest polling percentage at 58.40, followed by **Samastipur** at 58.10, **Darbhanga** at 56.63, **Ujiarpur** at 56% and **Munger** at 55%.
- The fate of 55 candidates was decided by over 95.85 lakh voters in 5,398 polling stations during the fourth phase of the polls in the state.

Facts and Figures by Election Commission of India (ECI)

- The Lok Sabha Election 2024 will happen in **seven phases**.
- The Lok Sabha 2024 election will witness a **total of 96.8 crore electors**.
- There are **1.8 crore first-time voters** and 19.47 crore voters between the ages of 20-29 for the Lok Sabha election in 2024.
- In 12 states, the **ratio of female voters is higher than that of male voters**.
 - Over 85 lakh **first-time female voters will participate** in the 2024 general election.

Note:

- This will be the first general election after landmark events such as the **abolition of Article 370**, the creation of the Temple of Lord Ram in Ayodhya and the implementation of the **Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019**.
- The Legislative Assembly elections in the states of **Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, and Sikkim** will be held simultaneously with the general election, along with the by-elections for 35 seats among 16 states.
- The **result of the 2024 general elections**, also known as the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, will be **announced on 4th June 2024**.

Bihar Environment Secretary Addresses Jakarta Futures Forum

Why in News?

Recently, **Secretary of the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bihar**, spoke at **Jakarta Futures Forum in Indonesia** to raise global awareness about the initiatives taken in both India and Bihar for **promoting renewable sources of energy**.

Key Points

- The panel discussion titled **'International Cooperation for Facilitating a Just and Inclusive Energy Transition'** included **Indra Mani Pandey, Secretary General of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)**, and **Professor Eniya Listiani Dewi, Director General of New Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Indonesia**.
 - The secretary emphasized significant milestones, such as **India reaching 40% of its electric-generation capacity from non-fossil fuels** by November 2021, and Bihar pioneering the development of a **'Climate Resilient and Low Carbon Development Pathway'** for the State.
 - India has exceeded its commitment made at the **United Nations' Conference of Parties (COP) 21 - Paris Summit** by achieving 40% of its power capacity from non-fossil fuels several years ahead of schedule (originally targeted by 2023).

- The country ranks **fourth globally in renewable energy installed capacity** (including large hydro), **fourth in wind power capacity**, and **fifth in solar power capacity** (according to **REN21 Renewables 2023 Global Status Report**).
- India's proactive steps towards **clean energy transition**, including commitments to achieve **50% cumulative electric power** installed capacity from non-fossil sources by 2030, energy independence by 2047, and net-zero emissions by 2070 were emphasized during the forum.
 - Bihar has successfully implemented various programs and schemes to mitigate climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in alignment with national objectives.
 - Flagship programmes such as **Jal Jeevan Hariyali Mission** which aims to rejuvenate water bodies, promote biodiversity conservation, and enhance green cover is being implemented in the state.
 - **Bihar Renewable Energy Development Agency (BREDA)** is developing an updated **Renewable Energy Policy-2024**.
 - Bihar is the **first state** in the country to **develop a Climate Resilient and Low Carbon Development Pathway** for the state.
 - The state is also on the edge of finalizing the **Bihar State Action Plan on Climate Change**. The policies also advocate energy transition in the state.
- The secretary urged the nations to **strengthen international collaboration frameworks, increase support for developing countries**, and ensure that the energy transition addresses the needs of affected workers and communities.

Jakarta Futures Forum: Blue Horizons, Green Growth 2024

- The Embassy of India in Jakarta, in partnership with **Observer Research Foundation (ORF)**, and the **Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia** hosted the inaugural **Jakarta Futures Forum (JFF) on 2nd and 3rd May 2024**.
- JFF is a realization of a long-standing vision and a commitment from both countries to build a meaningful and inclusive future together.
- The success of this pilot project stands as a testimony to the fact that **collective effort and innovative solutions** can indeed bring the world not only together, but closer as well.

Note:



- India and Indonesia have the ability and credentials to redefine what inclusion means across various sectors and issues, thereby, ensuring a fairer and more equitable world.
 - Inclusion must be at the forefront of the agenda, as reflected in the Indonesian and Indian G20 communiqués.

Village in Bihar Refuses to Vote

Why in News?

For the past two elections, residents of **Khokhanaha village in Supaul's Kosi region** have boycotted the 2019 Lok Sabha polls and the 2020 Bihar Assembly polls in anger against all political parties over **lack of government initiative to mitigate their sorrows from Kosi river**.

- Due to this Khokhanaha village is also **refusing to vote in the 2024 elections**.

Key Points

- The Kosi River **caused significant damage to the village** a few years ago, and a year ago it isolated the village and four others from Supaul.
- These villages are now **located on an island between two streams of the Kosi**. Despite being only five kilometers away on the map, it takes an **entire day to travel to Supaul for basic necessities**.
- Residents of Khokhanaha and neighboring villages in the Kosi belt **feel neglected** by the government.
- They endure **recurring floods**, which **devastate their lives and livelihoods** without proper compensation or measures to control the river. Essential services like **electricity and healthcare are also lacking in these areas**.



The Kosi River

- The Kosi is a **trans-boundary river** which flows through **Tibet, Nepal and India**.
- It has its **source in Tibet** that includes the **world's highest upland**, it then **drains a large part of Nepal before emerging onto the Gangetic plains**.
- Its **three major tributaries, the Sun Kosi, Arun and Tamur** meet at one point just upstream of a 10 km gorge cut through the **Himalayan foothills**.
- The river crosses into **northern Bihar, India** where it branches into distributaries before joining the **Ganges near Kursela in Katihar district**.
- The Kosi carries **the maximum amount of silt and sand after the Brahmaputra in India**.
- It is also known as the **"Sorrow of Bihar"** as the annual floods affect about 21,000 sq. km. of fertile agricultural lands thereby disturbing the rural economy.



Note:

Key Points

Details

Blank area for Key Points.

Lined area for Details.

Summary

Blank area for Summary.

