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# STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

JHARKHAND

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## Jharkhand Government Takes Action to Improve Education System

### Why in News?

Recently, the Jharkhand government laid the foundation stone of a degree college in **Potka area of East Singhbhum district**, paving the way for higher education in the region.

### Key Points

- The college is set up with the objective of providing **quality education to children of all sections and communities** including **tribals**, indigenous people, farmers, labourers, SC/ST, and minorities.
- For the development and promotion of the rich **tribal and regional languages of the state**, teaching in these languages will start from the primary schools.
  - Appointment of bell-based teachers of tribal languages including **Santali, Mundari and Oraon** will be done soon.
  - The government's priority is to start teaching **Bengali and Oriya languages** from primary schools in the state.
- The government reckons that only when the young generation gets a better education, will the condition and direction of the state change, with more people able to come out of poverty.
- The government is also helping students finance their education through the **Guruji Credit Card Scheme**.
  - Under this scheme, **education loans are being provided** as per the need for a higher education degree.
  - It is also giving **100% scholarships to the children of tribal and indigenous communities** who want to study in educational institutions abroad.
  - The **scholarship amount has been increased by three times** so that the children of farmers and labourers, and the children of every poor family in the state can get a better education.
- The state government is providing all the necessary facilities to ensure that the education of the students does not stop due to lack of funds.
- Work is being done to strengthen social, economic and educational systems in the state.

### Guruji Student Credit Card Scheme

- This scheme was **launched on 14th March, 2024** by the Jharkhand government.
- Under the Guruji Student Credit Card Scheme, students will get a **maximum loan of Rs 15 lakh**. **A maximum of 30%** of this amount will be available for non-institutional work (including living and food expenses).
- Students will have to pay a **simple rate of interest of 4%**. The rest of the interest will be paid by the state government in the form of interest subvention.
- Students will not need to give any kind of collateral security to take a loan. Students will be able to **repay the loan amount in 15 years**.
- The interest on the loan that the children will take will be calculated at the rate of simple interest. It will remain fixed for the entire tenure of the loan.

## Heatwave in States, including Jharkhand

### Why in News?

Recently, the **India Meteorological Department** forecast **heatwave conditions** in parts of Karnataka, Odisha, West Bengal, **Jharkhand**, Andhra Pradesh and Yanam over the next two-three days.

### Key Points

- The weather department has forecast a **harsh and arid summer** over a majority of regions of the country **during April-June 2024**.
  - There is a high probability of heatwave episodes lasting in a range of 10 to 20 days during the period.
- During April, the performance of the **pre-monsoon rainfall** shall be **below average**, mainly **over coastal India, eastern and south peninsular India**.
  - The rainfall forecast indicates that the dry weather since February 2024 would continue over these regions.
  - Aridity and shortage of water will aggravate during the summer season of 2024.

Note:



### Heatwaves

- Heatwaves are **prolonged periods of excessively hot weather that can cause adverse impacts on human health, the environment, and the economy.**
- India, being a tropical country, is **particularly vulnerable to heatwaves**, which have become more frequent and intense in recent years.
- IMD Criteria for Declaring Heat Wave in India:
  - Heat waves **need not be considered till the maximum temperature of a station reaches at least 40°C for Plains and at least 30°C for Hilly regions.**
  - If the **normal maximum temperature of a station is less than or equal to 40°C, then an increase of 5°C to 6°C from the normal temperature** is considered to be heat wave condition.
  - Further, **an increase of 7°C or more from the normal temperature** is considered a severe heat wave condition.
  - If the **normal maximum temperature of a station is more than 40°C, then an increase of 4°C to 5°C from the normal temperature** is considered to be heat wave condition. Further, **an increase of 6°C or more** is considered a **severe heat wave condition.**
  - Additionally, if the **actual maximum temperature remains 45°C or more** irrespective of **normal maximum temperature**, a heat wave is declared.

## Maoist-Hit Areas in Singhbhum to Witness Voting for First-Time

### Why in News?

Areas in the **Maoist den of Singhbhum** will witness voting for the first time, or after decades-long gap, as polling teams and materials will be air dropped from helicopters to enable people living in **Saranda, Asia's densest Sal forest**, to exercise their franchise.

### Key Points

- Despite improvement in the situation, West Singhbhum remains one of the worst **left-wing extremism**-affected districts of the country. It had also witnessed 46 **Maoist-related incidents** resulting in **22 deaths in 2023.**

- **Maoism** is a form of communism developed by **Mao Tse Tung**. It is a doctrine to **capture State power** through a combination of **armed insurgency, mass mobilization and strategic alliances.**
- Thalkobad and about two dozen other villages were earlier dubbed as **'liberated zones'** but the administration succeeded in establishing its presence through massive operations by security forces, including **Operation Anaconda.**
  - Operation Anaconda was **launched in 2011** in the Saranda forest area of **Chaibasa district** against the **Maoist extremists.**
  - This area is claimed as a **liberated area by the Maoists** and is functioning as the headquarters of their **Eastern Regional Bureau.**
- The administration is resorting to innovative ways, including putting up a giant sky balloon at a height of 100 feet, and running 1,284 **'Chunav Pathshala'** under the **Systematic Voter's Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP)** to make people aware of the need to exercise their franchise.
  - **118 remote booths** will be set up by personnel and materials dropped from choppers such as **Robokera, Binj, Thalkobad, Jaraikela, Roam, Rengrahatu, Hansabeda and Chhotanagra.**

### Left Wing Extremism (LWE)

- Also known as left-wing terrorism or radical left-wing movements, refers to political ideologies and groups that advocate for significant **societal and political change through revolutionary means.**
- LWE groups may target **government institutions, law enforcement agencies**, or private property to further their agenda.
- The LWE movement in India originated in a **1967 uprising in Naxalbari, West Bengal.**

### Systematic Voter's Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP)

- Started in **2009**, as the **flagship program of the Election Commission of India (ECI)** for voter education.
- **Primary goal** is to build an inclusive & participative democracy by encouraging all eligible citizens to vote and make an informed decision & ethical choice.

Note:

**Saranda: Asia's Densest Sal Forest**

- It is located along the Jharkhand-Odisha border, and is home to a large number of animal, bird and reptile species.
- The word saranda means elephants and the forest gets its name due to the large number of elephants that call it home.

## National Word Power Championship

### Why in News?

Recently, the **National Word Power Championship** was held in **Mumbai**. In this nationwide contest, **participants from eight states** showcased exceptional skills. Among them, four students from Jharkhand excelled in classes 2, 3, 4, and 5, earning the prestigious title of overall champions.

### Key Points

- **Eight states that participated in the competition were** Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh.
- Jharkhand secured the **top spot in the Class 2 category**, came **fifth in Class 3**, took the **fourth spot in Class 4**, and clinched **second place in Class 5**.
- The state won the competition by a margin of **0.23% against Tamil Nadu** and **Maharashtra**, who secured second and third places respectively.
- The Word Power Championship competition is organized on the lines of America's popular '**Spelling Bee Competition**'.
  - It is the **only English competition in India** conducted exclusively for students of regional linguistic schools.
  - The objective of which is to provide an exclusive platform to regional language school students to showcase their newly acquired English talent after participating in a highly rigorous 'English Literacy Programme'.
  - This develops a sense of enthusiasm and purpose for the English language among teachers and students alike.
  - This competition is **organized every year** by an organization called **Leap for Word and Mariko**.

## Manda Festival in Jharkhand

### Why in News?

On the last day of the week-long '**Manda festival**' in Jharkhand, a large number of devotees gathered on the streets to take part in the celebrations.

- A special person known as a '**Bhokta**' stood at a height of 25 feet and showered flower petals on the crowd below.

### Key Points

- **Tribals** celebrated Manda Puja, an age-old **annual ritual to appease gods** for good rainfall and bumper crops.
  - It typically occurs during the spring season and marks the culmination of the agricultural cycle.
- In Chutia region of Ranchi, the **Manda Puja Samiti** held the festival at the **Shiv temple** which was attended by **Ranchi Municipal Corporation deputy mayor**.
  - During the celebration, **followers participate in walking on fire and suspending themselves upside down** from a bamboo structure connected to their backs after observing a fast for seven to nine days.
  - A distinctive aspect of the Manda festival is the role of the '**Bhokta**,' typically male devotees who observe strict fasts throughout the festival.
  - These Bhoktas hold a revered position within the community and play a central role in the festival's ceremonies.
- After Chutia, the festival is observed across the state in **500 locations including in Rajaulatu, Sidroll, Tetri and Hundru Basti**.

### Tribes of Jharkhand

- **The Scheduled Tribe (ST) population of Jharkhand State is 7,087,068** as per the 2001 census, constituting **26.3%** of the total population (26,945,829) of the State.
- The Scheduled Tribes are primarily rural as **91.7%** of them reside in villages.
- District wise distribution of ST population shows that Gumla district has the highest proportion of **STs (68.4%)**.
- The STs constitute more than half of the total population in Lohardaga and Pashchimi Singhbhum districts whereas Ranchi and Pakaur districts have 41.8 – 44.6% tribal population.
- Kodarma district (0.8%) preceded by Chatra (3.8%) has the lowest proportion of the STs Population.

Note:





➤ Jharkhand has 32 tribal groups:

- Munda
- Santhal
- Oraon
- Kharia
- Gond
- Kol
- Kanwar
- Savar
- Asur
- Baiga
- Banjara
- Bathudi
- Bedia
- Binjhia
- Birhor
- Birjiali
- Chero
- Chick-Baraik
- Gorait
- Ho
- Karmali
- Kharwar
- Khond
- Kisan
- Kora
- Korwa
- Lohra
- Mahli
- Mal-Paharia
- Parhaiya
- Sauria-Paharia
- Bhumij

## Pahariya Tribe

### Why in News?

Jharkhand's **Pahariya tribe** aims to **achieve seed independence** by depositing native varieties in **community-led banks**.

### Key Points

- In 2019, four community-led seed banks were set up

in the **hilly districts of Pakur and Godda**. The banks cater to more than **1,350 households in 90 villages**.

- They are operated under four panchayats: **Bara Paktari, Bara Sindari, Kunjbona and Karma Tarn**, and are managed by women-led committees.
- To register with the seed banks, members must deposit 2.5 kg of indigenous seeds. Seeds are also provided through state government programmes.
  - During sowing season, the committees decide distribution on a case-by-case basis. So far, they have distributed 3,679 kg of seeds.
  - Members currently provide 0.5 kg of seeds after every harvest to replenish the stocks.
- With immediate demands fulfilled, the residents are now focusing on improving crop yield and becoming self-sufficient in food.

### Pahariya Tribe

- They live mainly in the states of **Jharkhand and West Bengal**. They are the **original inhabitants of the Rajmahal Hills**, known today as the Santal Parganas division of Jharkhand.
- They are listed as a **Scheduled Tribe by the governments of West Bengal, Bihar and Jharkhand**.
- They **speak Malto**, a Dravidian language.
- They **practice jhum or shifting cultivation** which involves clearing land by burning vegetation for farming for a few years.

## Properties Seized In Jharkhand MGNREGA Scam

### Why in News?

The **Enforcement Directorate (ED)** has provisionally attached four immovable properties having a value of ₹ 22.47 lakh belonging to the accused in case of the **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)** scam in Jharkhand.

### Key Points

- The probe agency had initiated an investigation on the basis of 16 FIRs registered by Jharkhand Police in reference to embezzlement of ₹ 18 crore in MGNREGA work in **Jharkhand's Khunti district**.
- ED had conducted several searches under the provisions of **Prevention of Money Laundering Act 2002 (PMLA)** in 2022 during which huge cash of ₹ 19.58 crore was recovered and seized.

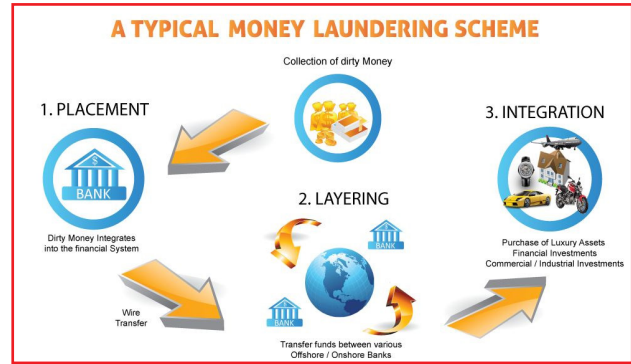
Note:



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### Prevention of Money Laundering Act 2002 (PMLA)

- About:
  - The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA) is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted to prevent money laundering and provide for the confiscation of property derived from money laundering.
  - It aims to combat money laundering related to illegal activities such as drug trafficking, smuggling, and terrorism financing.
- Key Provisions of PMLA:
  - **Offences and Penalties:** PMLA defines money laundering offences and imposes penalties for such activities. It includes rigorous imprisonment and fines for offenders.
  - **Attachment and Confiscation of Property:** The Act allows for the attachment and confiscation of property involved in money laundering. It provides for the establishment of an Adjudicating Authority to oversee these proceedings.
  - **Reporting Requirements:** PMLA mandates certain entities, such as banks and financial institutions, to maintain records of transactions and report suspicious transactions to the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU).
  - **Designated Authority and Appellate Tribunal:** The Act establishes a Designated Authority to assist in the investigation and prosecution of money laundering offences. It also provides for the establishment of an Appellate Tribunal to hear appeals against orders of the Adjudicating Authority.
- Amendments to PMLA, 2002 in 2023:
  - **Clarification about the Position of Proceeds of Crime:** Proceeds of the Crime not only includes the property derived from scheduled offence but would also include any other property derived or obtained indulging into any criminal activity relate-able or similar to the scheduled offence.
  - **Money Laundering Redefined:** Money Laundering was not an independent crime rather depended on another crime, known as the predicate offence or scheduled offence. The amendment seeks to treat money laundering as a stand-alone crime.



## Notice on Jharkhand Mukti Morcha's Plea Against Lokpal Order

### Why in News?

The Delhi High Court issued notice on a plea moved by **Jharkhand Mukti Morcha** against an order passed by the **Lokpal of India** directing **the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)** to investigate two properties which are under the party's name.

### Key Points

- The order was passed on a complaint against Rajya Sabha MP. The Lokpal had directed CBI to probe the alleged benami properties linked to the MP within six months.
- It was submitted that the impugned order is beyond the jurisdiction of the Lokpal of India under the **Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013**.

### Lokpals

- About:
  - The **Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013** provided for the establishment of Lokpal for the Union and Lokayukta for States.
  - These institutions are **statutory bodies without any constitutional status**.
- Functions:
  - They perform the function of an **"ombudsman"** and inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for related matters.

Note:

### Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

- It is the premier investigating police agency in India.
  - It provides assistance to the **Central Vigilance Commission and Lokpal**.
- It functions under the superintendence of the Deptt. of Personnel, Ministry of Personnel, Pension & Public Grievances, Government of India - which falls under the prime minister's office.
  - However, for investigations of offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act, its superintendence vests with the Central Vigilance Commission.
- It is also the nodal police agency in India which coordinates investigation on behalf of **Interpol Member countries**.
- Its conviction rate is as high as 65 to 70% and it is comparable to the best investigation agencies in the world.

## Bird Flu Outbreak

### Why in News?

Recently, The **Jharkhand government** sounded an alert after multiple cases of **bird flu**, also called **Avian flu**, were reported in a state-run **poultry farm in Ranchi**.

### Key Points

- Around **4000 birds, including chickens, were culled, and hundreds of eggs were also destroyed** after the cases were confirmed at the **Regional Poultry Farm in Hotwar** in the state capital.
- An order detailing **Standard Operating Procedures**, issued by the government stated that the culling of

remaining poultry at the Regional Poultry Farm will be conducted in the coming days and will be disposed of **through scientific methods**.

- Officials have been directed to conduct a **survey within a radius of 1 kilometre from the epicentre to find infections and proceed with culling**. They have also been asked to make a map of the 10 km area and mark it as a surveillance zone.
- The **Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying** has asked the state to take all measures to contain its spread.

### Avian influenza

- Often referred to as **bird flu**, is a highly contagious viral infection that primarily affects **birds**, particularly **wild birds and domestic poultry**.
- In 1996, highly **pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 virus** was first identified in domestic waterfowl in Southern China. The virus is named **A/goose/Guangdong/1/1996**.
- Transmission to Humans and Related Symptoms:
  - Human cases of **H5N1 avian influenza** occur occasionally, but it is difficult to transmit the infection from person to person. As per **World Health Organisation(WHO)**, when people do become infected, **the mortality rate is about 60%**.
    - It can range from **mild flu-like symptoms**, including **fever, cough, and muscle aches**, to severe respiratory issues like **pneumonia, difficulty breathing, and even cognitive problems** such as altered mental status and seizures.



Note:





**Key Points**

**Details**

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**Summary**

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