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PM Unveiled Development Projects in Jharkhand

Why in News?

Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled development projects worth Rs 35,700 crore in Jharkhand.

Key Points

- PM launched several **development initiatives** focused on **fertilizer, rail, power, and coal sectors**, collectively valued at Rs 35,700 crore in **Sindri, Dhanbad district** of Jharkhand.
 - **The Hindustan Urvarak & Rasayan Ltd (HURL) Sindri Fertiliser Plant**, developed at a cost of Rs 8900 crore aims to **boost indigenous urea production**, benefiting farmers across the country.
 - **It's the third fertilizer plant revived in India**, following similar efforts in **Gorakhpur** and Ramagundam.
 - Unit 1 of the **North Karanpura Super Thermal Power Project (STPP) in Chatra** developed at a cost of about Rs 7500 crore is also being inaugurated.
 - The project is expected to **enhance power supply, generate employment**, and foster development in the state.
- Several **railway projects** were inaugurated in Jharkhand worth more than Rs 17,600 crore, including the expansion of railway lines and new routes like **the Sone Nagar-Andal line and the Mohanpur-Hansdiha line**.
 - These projects are expected to enhance rail services and spur socio-economic growth in the region.
 - **During the event three trains are to be flagged off, including** the Deoghar – Dibrugarh train service, MEMU (Mainline Electric Multiple Unit) Train Service between Tatanagar and Badampahar (Daily), and the long-haul freight train from the Shivpur station.

Fishery Department Secretary Visits Getalsud Dam for Cage Farming Review

Why in News?

Recently, the Secretary of the Fishery Department, visited the **Getalsud Dam in Ranchi** to review the progress

of **cage farming**. The review was conducted in collaboration with the **Jharkhand Fisheries Department**.

Key Points

- **Getalsud Reservoir** serves as a **hub for the conservation of pangasius and tilapia fish species** through cage farming.
- The work on cage fish conservation began in 2012-13, witnessing significant success with the establishment of 365 cages under various schemes.
 - These cages have contributed to the increase in fish population, with an annual storage of over 25 lakh fingerlings (a small fish).
 - Market access is already established, with locally produced fish being sold in nearby markets at an average price of INR 120 per kilogram, contributing to the economic prosperity of the region.
- Under the **Central Sector Scheme (CSS)** related to **Blue Revolution**, the Fishery Department initiated the Integrated Development and Management Plan for Fisheries from 2015-16 to 2019-20.
 - A total of 14,022 cages were approved under this scheme, with a project cost of INR 420 crores.
 - Under the **Prime Minister's Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)**, approval has been granted for 44,908 cages, with a total project cost of INR 1292.53 crores.

Cage Aquaculture

- It involves the **growing of fishes in existing water resources while being enclosed in a net cage** which allows free flow of water.
- It is an aquaculture production system **made of a floating frame, net materials and mooring system (with rope, buoy, anchor etc.) with a round or square shaped floating net** to hold and culture large numbers of fishes and can be installed in reservoir, river, lake or sea.
- Cage farms are positioned in such a way **to utilize natural currents, which provide the fish with oxygen and other appropriate natural conditions**

Blue Revolution in India

- It was **launched in India during the 7th Five Year Plan (FYP)** that went from 1985 to 1990, during which the government sponsored the **Fish Farmers Development Agency (FFDA)**.

Note:



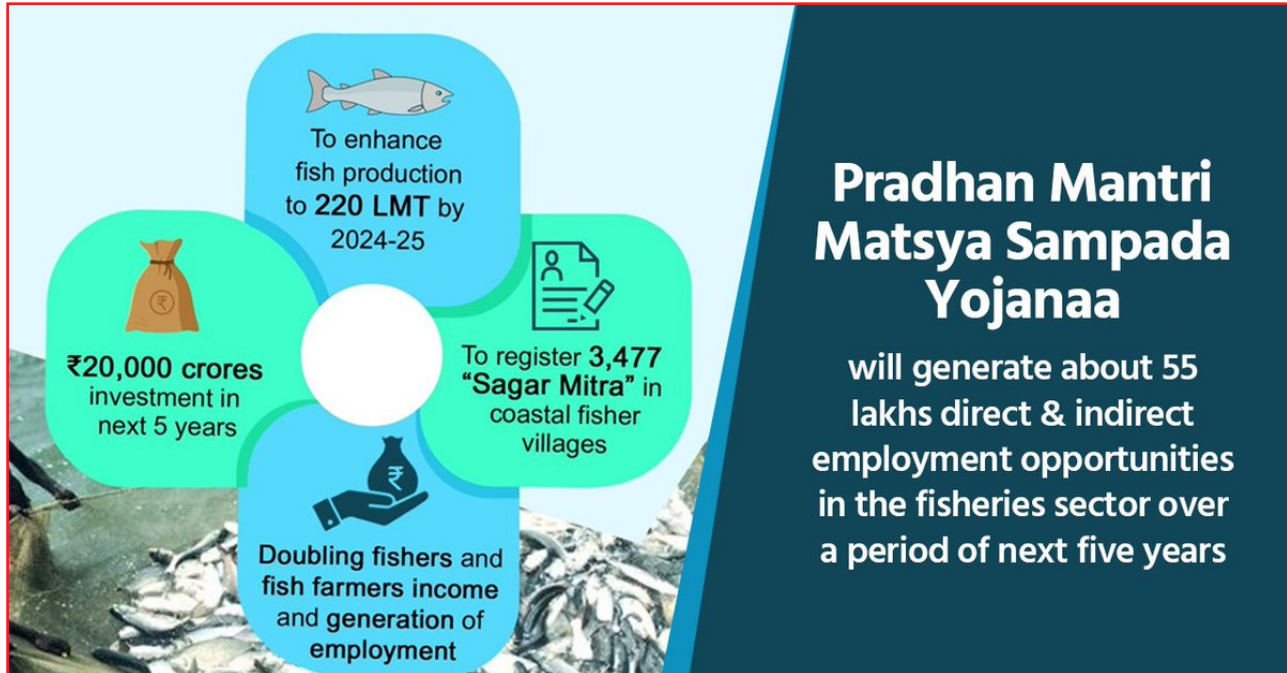
- During the 8th FYP, from 1992-97, the **Intensive Marine Fisheries Program** was launched in which collaboration with MNCs was encouraged.
- Over a period of time, **fishing harbours** in Tuticorin, Porbandar, Visakhapatnam, Kochi and Port Blair were established.

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

- PMMSY was introduced by the Government of India,

as part of the 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat' package with the investment of Rs. 20,050 crores, the highest ever investment in the Fishery sector.

- Fishermen are provided with **insurance cover, financial assistance and a facility of Kisan Credit Card as well.**



Regional Conference on Strengthening of PESA

Why in News?

Recently, the Second Two-Day Regional Conference on Strengthening of **Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas Act (PESA)**, 1996 was organised at Ranchi.

Key Points

- Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj Vivek Bharadwaj addressed the valedictory session and emphasized on the Government's commitment to prioritise the implementation of schemes like **PM-JAN MAN Yojana**.
- Engaging discussions on **Role of Non-Government Stakeholders in strengthening implementation of PESA and Enforcement of Forest Rights Act, 2006** in PESA areas were the highlights of the concluding

day of the Regional Conference to help facilitating knowledge-sharing among participants, fostering commitment towards achieving the objectives of PESA.

- The Conference **organised by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj** concluded focusing on the strengthening and effective implementation of the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, popularly known as the PESA Act.
- The Regional Conference garnered significant momentum towards the successful and targeted implementation of PESA and achieved its objectives, with active participation and insightful contributions from all participants, paving the way for further progress in the Act implementation.
- The participants from **five participating States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Telangana** left the valedictory session filled with enthusiasm and hope, anticipating positive changes

Note:



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at the grassroots level as a result of their collective efforts.

- The Regional Conference in Ranchi concluded with a resounding resolution to maintain the momentum for the successful, envisioned and effective implementation of PESA.

Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996

- To promote local self-governance in rural India, the **73rd constitutional amendment** was made in 1992.
- Through this amendment, a **three-tier Panchayati Raj Institution** was made into a law.
- However, its application to the scheduled and tribal areas under **Article 243(M)** was restricted.
- After the **Bhuria Committee recommendations** in 1995, **Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996** came into existence for ensuring tribal self-rule for people living in scheduled areas of India.
- The PESA conferred the **absolute powers to Gram Sabha**, whereas **state legislature has given an advisory role** to ensure the proper functioning of Panchayats and Gram Sabhas.
 - The power delegated to Gram Sabha cannot be curtailed by a higher level, and there shall be independence throughout.
- The PESA is considered to be the **backbone of tribal legislation in India**.
- PESA recognises the traditional system of the decision-making process and stands for the **peoples' self-governance**.
- Following powers and functions have been provided to the Gram Sabhas:
 - **Right to mandatory consultation in land acquisition**, resettlement and rehabilitation of displaced persons.
 - **Protection of traditional belief**, the culture of the tribal communities
 - Ownership of **minor forest products**
 - Resolution of the **local disputes**
 - Prevention of **land alienation**
 - Management of village markets
 - Right to control production, distillation, and prohibition of liquor
 - Exercise of control over money-lending
 - Any other rights involving the Scheduled Tribes.

PM-JANMAN Scheme

- PM JANMAN is a government scheme that aims to **bring tribal communities into the mainstream**.
- The scheme (comprising Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes) will be implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in collaboration with the State governments and the **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG)** communities.
- The scheme will **concentrate on 11 critical interventions overseen by 9 line Ministries**, ensuring the implementation of existing schemes in villages inhabited by PVTGs.
 - It encompasses various sectors, including safe housing under the **PM-AWAS Scheme**, access to **clean drinking water**, improved **healthcare, education, nutrition**, road and telecommunications connectivity, as well as opportunities for sustainable livelihoods.
- The plan also includes the establishment of **Van Dhan Vikas Kendras** for **trading in forest produce**, off-grid solar power systems for 1 lakh households, and solar street lights.
- The scheme is expected to **enhance the quality of life and well-being of the PVTGs**, by addressing their multiple and intersecting forms of **discrimination and exclusion**, and by recognizing and valuing their unique and valuable contribution to national and global development.

Nitin Gadkari Lays Foundation for Highway Projects

Why in News?

Recently, Union transport and highway minister Nitin Gadkari virtually laid the **foundation stones of highway projects worth Rs 2,500 crore**.

Key Points

- These projects include the construction of the **four-laning of Tupudana to Kundi Bartoli section (including Khunti bypass)** and the widening and **upgradation of the Bero to Khunti section**.
- These projects will **save time and fuel**, which will **reduce pollution**. Modern and high-quality roads will ensure **easy and safe transportation**.

Note:

- Economic activities will be encouraged and new opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship will be created.

Jharkhand Gets Third Vande Bharat Express

Why in News?

Recently, the PM inaugurated the third **Vande Bharat Express train**, which will operate between Jharkhand's capital Ranchi and Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi.

Key Points

- The semi-high-speed train was flagged off by the PM virtually from Ahmedabad along with the unveiling of several other railway projects in and across the country.
- According to the governor Rs 350 crore projects are underway in the state for the beautification and setting up of different facilities at the Ranchi station.
 - The **state's first Vande Bharat Express** started on the **Ranchi-Patna route**, which was flagged off on **June 27, 2023**.
 - The **second Vande Bharat Express** between Ranchi and Howrah was flagged off on **September 24 2023**.
- The PM also inaugurated the Ranchi-Bondamunda railway line and stalls under the **'One Station One Product' scheme** at Ranchi, Hatia, Govindpur Road, Itki, Muri, Piska, Silli, Tangarbasuli, Tatisilwai stations, Barkakana, Ranchi Road and Pradhan Khanta stations.

One Station One Product Scheme

- It is an initiative by the Indian Railways, under the **Ministry of Railways**.
- It was launched with a vision to **promote 'Vocal for Local' on March 25, 2022**.
- It provides uniquely designed sale outlets for locals to **sell indigenous products nationwide**.
- This scheme is designed by **the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad**.
- It aims to build each railway station as a promotional hub and showcasing local and indigenous manufacturing products.

Vande Bharat Trains

- It is an **indigenously designed and manufactured semi high speed**, self-propelled train that is touted as the next major leap for the Indian Railways in terms of speed and passenger convenience since the introduction of Rajdhani trains.
- The first Vande Bharat was **manufactured by the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai** as part of the **'Make in India' programme**, at a cost of about Rs. 100 crore.
- The Vande Bharat was **India's first attempt at adaptation of the train set technology** compared with conventional systems of passenger coaches hauled by separate locomotives.
- The train set configuration, though complex, is faster, easier to maintain, consumes less energy, and has greater flexibility in train operation.

Jharkhand Introduces Schemes For Higher Education

Why in News?

At the inauguration ceremony held at Ranchi's Tana Bhagat Stadium, Jharkhand Chief Minister introduced **two schemes** aimed at **enhancing students' access to higher education**.

- The two schemes are the **Guruji Student Credit Card and the Manki Munda Scholarship**.

Key Points

- Under the **Guruji Student Credit Card** scheme, students can avail **collateral-free education loans of up to Rs 15 lakh** with an **annual interest rate of 4%**.
 - Repayment of the loan begins one year after the completion of the course, with the government serving as the guarantor.
- Under the **Manki Munda Scholarship** scheme, **girl students will receive Rs 15,000 per annum for diploma courses and Rs 30,000 per annum for engineering courses**.
- He also mentioned the **Mukhyamantri Shiksha Protsahan Yojna**, a scheme providing a **monthly stipend of Rs 2,500 to students**.
 - This stipend aims to **alleviate living expenses during coaching**, ensuring that financial constraints do not impede educational pursuits.

Note:

- The chief minister **inaugurated a newly built 3D theatre at the regional science centre in Ranchi**, further stressing on the government's commitment to promoting education and innovation in the state.

Mukhyamantri Shiksha Protsahan Yojna

- This Scheme offers free coaching for students preparing for **National Level Competitive Examinations** like JEE, NEET, CLAT, NHMCET, NIFT-CET etc.
- The students will also receive a **monthly assistance amount of Rs. 2500/-** for the entire course period.
- Selection of students will be based on their Class 10th marks and admission to coaching institutions will be on a first come first serve basis.

Jharkhand Announces Free Bags For Students

Why in News?

Recently, the Jharkhand government announced to provide school bags to around 37 lakh students enrolled in Classes I to VIII in the **state-run schools besides the books and other logistics provided to them** as part of the school kit each year.

Key Points

- The announcement was made after the Chief Minister chaired a Cabinet meeting before the **Election Commission** announced the schedule for the Lok Sabha elections.
- A total of 53 proposals were taken up during the Cabinet meeting, most of which comprised road projects, irrigation and water supply works, rural development.
 - The Government will provide a one-time refilling of gas cylinders per anganwadi every three months.
 - To set up the **Jharkhand Millet Mission** Rs. 50 crore was approved.
 - The government aims to expand the area under **millet cultivation** from the present, 40,000 hectares to 5,00,000 hectares over the next five years.
 - Rs. 80 crore were sanctioned under the **Kisan Samridhhi Yojana**, which aims to provide solar based irrigation facilities to the farmers.

Note: The Government of Jharkhand is promoting Millets specially Ragi (Finger Millet) which is grown in the state in a very scattered manner. Due to the high nutritive value the State Government is promoting millets under State livelihood Policy which is under the Department of Panchayat, and is mostly served in midday meal for school children & hospitals.

Jharkhand CM Lays Foundations of Degree Colleges

Why in News?

Recently, Jharkhand Chief Minister inaugurated the foundation stone laying for a new degree college in Chaibasa's Hatgamharria and Bandgaon, enhancing education in West Singhbhum under Kolhan University.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister laid the **foundation stone of 135 schemes** at a cost of over **Rs 2 billion, 31 crore**, while the inauguration of **27 schemes worth over Rs 1 billion 7 crore** was completed.
 - Assets worth over **Rs 1 billion 72 crore** were **distributed among beneficiaries**.
- The introduction of the **degree colleges under Kolhan University** is expected to significantly impact the region's educational landscape.
 - This initiative aligns with the state's broader objectives of promoting higher education and facilitating accessible educational opportunities for its youth.
 - Teaching of **tribal and regional languages** like Kudukh, Ho, Mundari and **Santhali** is being started from primary schools.
- According to the Chief Minister many schemes have been started by the government to strengthen the education system of the state.
 - To ensure that children's education is not interrupted due to financial constraints, the scholarship amount has been increased three times.
 - Girl students are being linked to **Savitribai Kishori Savitri Yojana**.
 - Through the **Guruji Credit Card Scheme**, education loans up to Rs 15 lakh are being given to students for pursuing courses like medical engineering.

Note:

- Under the **Manki Munda Scholarship Scheme**, financial assistance is being given to girl students for technical education.
- The state government is giving **100% scholarship** to the tribal, Dalit, minority and backward class students for **higher education abroad**.

Savitribai Kishori Savitri Yojana

- It aims to **emphasize on girl education, ending child marriage and women empowerment**.
- Under this scheme, adolescent girls have to be enabled to take **independent decisions** regarding their lives.
- Under this the state government is giving **assistance of Rs 40,000 to adolescent girls** for good education.
 - Rs 2500 will be given to **girl students in class 8, Rs 2500 in class 9, Rs 5000 in class 10, Rs 5000-5000 in class 11th and 12th and Rs 20,000 to adolescent girls on completion of 18 to 19 years**.
 - In this way, a total of 40 thousand rupees will be given to the adolescent girls.

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.

Manki Munda Scholarship Scheme

- This scheme was **launched on 14th March, 2024**, by the Jharkhand government

- Under the Manki Munda Scholarship scheme, girl students will receive Rs 15,000 per annum for diploma courses and Rs 30,000 per annum for engineering courses.

Union Minister Lays Foundation Stone of Tribal Culture Centre

Why in News?

Recently, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs; Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Arjun Munda, virtually laid the foundation stone of '**Centre for Preservation and promotion of Tribal Culture & Heritage**' at Seraikela Kharsawan district, Jharkhand.

Key Points

- The museum is an effort to **depict and preserve the rich legacy of the tribal community** in the State of Jharkhand, while **showcasing the rich tribal way of life and culture**.
 - The Union Ministry for Tribal Affairs has approved this initiative by allocating a budget of Rs. 10 crores for the establishment of the Centre.
 - The centre is aimed to be developed in future as a live centre, with **space for artisans to demonstrate their skills** and to serve as a **hub for tourism**.
 - It would be showcasing the physical and intangible tribal culture, its history and heritage of the region.
- At another event, he also **inaugurated** the recently renovated **National Unique Tribal Museum, e-Library and ST Girls' hostel** funded by the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs at **Bharatiya Adim Jati Sevak Sanghathan (BAJSS)**, in New Delhi.
 - The BAJSS was established in the year **1948** by **Amritlal Vithaldas Thakkar**, popularly known as Thakkar Bapa, an Indian social worker **who worked for the upliftment of tribal people**.



Note:

Key Points

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Summary

Key Points

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