

AUGUST 2024

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Inquiry (English): 8010-440-440 Inquiry (Hindi): 8750-187-501

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Jharkhand Cabinet Waives Power Dues

Why in News?

Recently, The **Jharkhand government** has decided to **waive Rs 3,584 crore in power dues for around 39.44 lakh consumers** benefiting from the 200-unit free electricity scheme.

Key Points

- The decision aims to alleviate the financial pressures on domestic consumers registered under the Mukhyamantri Urja Khushali Yojana.
- Other decisions that were approved by the state government are:
 - Ex gratia payment of Rs 10 lakh and a government job for the families of <u>Agniveer soldiers</u> from Jharkhand who die during duty or military operations.
 - **Ex-gratia payment** is the money which is paid due to moral obligation and not due to legal obligation.
 - Extending the remuneration period for <u>anganwadi</u> <u>poshan sakhis</u> and cooks from 10 to 12 months.
 - The re-appointment of 10,388 poshan sakhis in six districts Dhanbad, Dumka, Giridih, Chatra, Koderma, and Godda.

Agnipath Scheme

- The term "Agniveer" translates to "Fire-Warriors" and is a new military rank.
- It is a scheme of recruiting army personnel below officer ranks such as soldiers, airmen, and sailors who are not commissioned officers to the Indian Armed Forces.
- They are recruited for a period of 4 years, after which, upto 25% of these recruits (called Agniveers), can join the services on a permanent commission (another 15 years), subject to merit and organisational requirements.
- At present, all sailors, airmen, and soldiers, except the technical cadre of the medical branch, are recruited to the services under this scheme.

Panchayats in Jharkhand Declared TB Free

Why in News?

According to the sources, a total of **38** <u>panchayats</u> across Jharkhand have been declared <u>Tuberculosis (TB)</u>free under the <u>National Tuberculosis Elimination</u> <u>Programme (NTEP)</u>.

Key Points

- The information was declared by the State Tuberculosis Cell Jharkhand and the Resource Group for Education and Advocacy for Community Health (REACH).
- The NTEP in Jharkhand aims to eradicate tuberculosis (TB) by the year 2025 through diverse initiatives, including the <u>Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan</u> and the <u>adult BCG vaccination program.</u>

Tuberculosis

- > About:
 - Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis.
 - It commonly affects the lungs, but can also affect other parts of the body.
 - o It is a treatable and curable disease.
- > Transmission:
 - TB is spread from person to person through the air. When people with lung TB cough, sneeze or spit, they propel the TB germs into the air.
- Symptoms:
 - Common symptoms of active lung TB are cough with sputum and blood at times, chest pains, weakness, weight loss, fever and night sweats.
- Vaccine:
 - **Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG)** is a vaccine for TB disease.

Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan

- > About:
 - It's an initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) to accelerate the country's progress towards TB elimination by 2025.
- > Objectives:
 - Provide additional patient support to improve treatment outcomes of TB patients



- Augment community involvement in meeting India's commitment to end TB by 2025.
- Leverage <u>Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)</u> activities.

Jharkhand Mukhyamantri Maiyan Samman Yojana (JMMSY)

Why in News?

Recently, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren launched the Jharkhand Mukhyamantri Maiyan Samman Yojana (JMMSY).

Key Points

- Under the scheme, Rs 1,000 will be given to eligible women between 21 and 50 years of age from families living below the poverty line.
 - A total of Rs 12,000 will be sent to the bank accounts of all eligible women every year through Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme.
- The state government has launched many ambitious schemes for the all-round development of all classes and communities.
 - The state government has decided to waive off agriculture loans up to 2 lakhs instead of just Rs 50,000.
 - Girls in government schools are benefiting from the <u>Savitribai Phule Samridhi Yojana</u>, and model schools are being run to strengthen the education system.
 - Under the <u>Mukhyamantri Rojgar Srijan Yojana</u>, loans continue to be issued to people at subsidised rates.

Mukhyamantri Rojgar Srijan Yojana

- Under this, young citizens of the state between the ages of 18 and 45 are provided a loan of Rs 25 lakh at the lowest rate to start their own business. Along with this, 40% grant (subsidy) or Rs 5 lakh is provided by the government.
- Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Minority, Backward Class and women that are part of Sakhi Mandal can avail the benefit of the scheme.
 - Sakhi Mandal is a group of women who come together to improve their standard of living and socio-economic status.

Savitribai Phule Kishori Samridhi Yojana

- This scheme was started in the state with the aim of emphasising on girl education, ending child marriage and women empowerment.
- Under this scheme, the state government is giving assistance of a total of Rs 40,000 to adolescent girls for good education.

Jharkhand Personnel to Receive Gallantry, Service Medals

Why in News?

According to the sources, as part of the <u>78th</u> <u>Independence Day celebrations</u>, 19 employees and officials from Jharkhand were honored for their exemplary service and bravery in a special ceremony in Delhi.

Key Points

- Garhwa Superintendent of Police (SP) Deepak Kumar
 Pandey to be awarded gallantry medal for eliminating rewarded Naxalite.
 - The other recipients of the gallantry medal includes Sub Inspector Vishwajeet Kumar Singh, Havildar Umesh Singh, Constable Subhash Das, Constable Gopal Ganjhu, Constable Ravindra Toppo, and Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI) Sachchidanand Singh.
- 11 police personnel from Jharkhand will receive the commendable service medal.
 - The recipients include Head Constable Salomi Minj, Constable Vimal Kumar Chhetri, Constable Randhir Kumar Singh, Constable Sanjeev Kumar Gupta, Constable Hema Rani Kullu, Head Constable Sanjay Oraon, Head Constable Arun Oraon, Constable Rekha Kumari, Head Constable Rituraj, Head Constable Rajendra Ram, and Head Constable Sanjay Kumar.

Gallantry Awards

- Gallantry Awards have been instituted by the Government of India to honour the acts of bravery and sacrifice of the officers/personnel of the Armed Forces, other lawfully constituted Forces and civilians.
- Post-independence, the first three gallantry awards namely <u>Param Vir Chakra</u>, Maha Vir Chakra and Vir Chakra were instituted by the Government of India on 26th January 1950 and were deemed to have effect from the 15th August 1947.



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- After that, other three gallantry awards i.e. Ashoka Chakra Class-I, Ashoka Chakra Class-II and Ashoka Chakra Class-III were instituted by the Government of India on 4th January, 1952, which were deemed to have effect from the 15th August, 1947.
 - These awards were renamed as Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra and Shaurya Chakra respectively in January, 1967.
- These gallantry awards are announced twice in a year, first on the occasion of the <u>Republic Day</u> and then on the occasion of the Independence Day.
- > Gallantry awards are categorized into **two types**:
 - Wartime Gallantry Awards
 - These awards are given for bravery in the face of the enemy.
 - o Peacetime Gallantry Awards
 - These awards are given for bravery other than in the face of the enemy.
- Order of precedence of these awards is the Param Vir Chakra, the Ashoka Chakra, the Mahavir Chakra, the Kirti Chakra, the Vir Chakra and the Shaurya Chakra.

CampaigntoendDiscrimination Towards HIV Patients

Why in News?

According to the sources, a **campaign will be started** in Jharkhand on 1st September, 2024 to create awareness for eliminating discrimination against <u>Human</u> <u>Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)</u> patients.

Key Points

- It was announced during the launch of an intensified IEC (information, education, communication) campaign at the Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee University auditorium.
- According to the Jharkhand State AIDS Control Society's Project Director the campaign will be conducted at district, block, and village levels.
 - Especially the youth will be made aware of HIV and <u>sexually transmitted diseases</u> through the campaign.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

> About:

- HIV is a virus that attacks the <u>immune system</u> in the human body.
- It primarily targets and damages CD4 immune cells, which are essential for the body's ability to fight infections and diseases.
 - Over time, HIV weakens the immune system, leaving the body vulnerable to opportunistic infections and cancers.

> Transmission:

 HIV is primarily spread through the exchange of certain bodily fluids such as blood, semen, vaginal fluids, and breast milk.

> Severity:

- If left untreated, the virus destroys a person's immune system and they are said to be in the <u>Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome stage</u> (<u>AIDS</u>) where they get several opportunistic infections that may result in death.
- > Cure:
 - Although there are no cures for the infection at present, the disease can be managed using <u>antiretroviral therapy.</u>
 - These medicines suppress the replication of the virus within the body, allowing the number of CD4 immune cells to bounce back.

Injured Vulture with 'Dhaka' Inscription Found in Jharkhand

Why in News?

Recently, an **endangered white-backed**<u>vulture</u> with an injury was discovered in a dam in Jharkhand's Hazaribagh district. The vulture had a metallic ring fitted to one of its legs, which was inscribed with the word 'Dhaka'.

Key Points

The police suspect that John Malot, a bird researcher from Dhaka who is associated with the UK-based Royal Society for Protection of Birds, released the vulture after fitting it with a <u>solar-powered radio tracking</u> <u>collar</u> in order to monitor the bird's movements from Dhaka to Jharkhand.





Security Camps on Tribal Properties

Why in News?

According to a Citizen's report, most of the security camps in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, post 2019, have been set up on private or community properties of <u>tribals</u> without their consent and in severe violation of existing laws.

Key Points

The proliferation of paramilitary camps set up without the consent of tribal communities in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, which are meant to facilitate mining operations and corporate interests at the cost of Adivasi lives and constitutional rights.

- The **peaceful democratic protests against the camps have been ignored** or suppressed using brutal methods, such as lathi-charge, burning the sites, and firing on the protestors.
- Most of these camps have been set up in areas that currently fall in the conservation or no-mining zone as per<u>the Management Plan for Sustainable Mining</u> 2018.
- The report calls for the implementation of the <u>Panchayat</u> (<u>Extension to Scheduled Areas</u>) Act, 1996 and <u>the</u> <u>Forest Rights Act, 2006</u> to respect the law and end human rights violations.

Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996

> About:

- The PESA Act was enacted in 1996 "to provide for the extension of the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution relating to the <u>Panchayats</u> to the Scheduled Areas".
 - Part IX, comprising Articles 243-2432T of the Constitution, contains provisions relating to municipalities and cooperative societies.

Provisions:

- Under the Act, Scheduled Areas are those referred to in Article 244(1), which says that the provisions of the <u>Fifth Schedule</u> shall apply to the Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes in states other than Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.
- The Fifth Schedule provides for a range of special provisions for these areas.
- Ten states Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana have notified Fifth Schedule areas that cover (partially or fully) several districts in each of these states.

Forest Rights Act, 2006

The Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 was introduced to formally recognise and grant forest rights and occupation in forest lands to forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have resided in these forests for generations, even though their rights had not been officially documented.



- It aimed to address the historical injustices faced by forest-dwelling communities due to the forest management policies of colonial and post-colonial India, which failed to acknowledge their longstanding symbiotic relationship with the forests.
- Additionally, the Act sought to empower forest dwellers by enabling them to access and utilise forest resources sustainably, promote biodiversity and ecological balance, and protect them from unlawful evictions and displacement.

Jharkhand HC Warns About Illegal Immigration from Bangladesh

Why in News?

Recently, The Jharkhand <u>High Court</u> directed the state government to take **immediate action against illegal Bangladeshi immigrants** entering the state through the <u>Santhal Parganas</u>.

Key Points

- The court noted that <u>illegal immigration</u> is likely to increase due to the current unstable situation in Bangladesh.
- The bench ordered the director of the intelligence bureau, director general of the Border Security Force (BSF), Chief Election Commissioner of India, and director general of the Unique Identification Authority of India to be made parties in the case.
 - The court, while issuing notices, instructed them to submit a response in the matter.
 - Additionally, the court recommended that the government conduct surprise inspections of <u>Aadhaar cards</u> and <u>voter identity cards</u>.

Current Situation in Bangladesh

- Protests and Unrest: Bangladesh has been engulfed in protests over job quota issues fueled by authoritarian policies and suppression of opposition, leading to significant unrest, the largest seen since Sheikh Hasina's tenure began in 2008.
- Economic Challenges: Sheikh Hasina's departure raises concerns about the country's economic recovery from the <u>Covid-19 pandemic</u>, which has already been strained by rising <u>inflation</u> and <u>currency depreciation</u>.

- Political Landscape: The Bangladesh Army is set to form an interim government, emphasising the fluidity of the situation.
 - The potential return of radical Islamist forces could threaten Bangladesh's secular governance.
- Disruption in Export Flow: <u>Bangladesh's textile</u> <u>sector</u>, which significantly contributes to its export revenue, is facing major disruptions. The ongoing unrest has led to a breakdown in supply chains, affecting the movement of consignments and production schedules.
 - Bangladesh is a major player in the global clothing industry, accounting for 7.9% of global trade in clothing. The country's USD 45 billion garment sector, which employs over four million workers, represents more than 85% of its merchandise exports.
 - The country has a significant market share in the <u>European Union</u>, the UK and the US, with a 10% share in the US market.
 - International buyers are reassessing their supply sources due to the uncertainty in Bangladesh.
 This could result in a shift of orders to alternative markets, including India.
 - India stands to gain substantially if it captures a portion of the displaced orders from Bangladesh.
 - Industry experts estimate that India could see an additional USD 300-400 million in monthly business if 10-11% of Bangladesh's textile exports are redirected to Indian hubs such as Tiruppur.

Jharkhand Tribal Festival

Why in News?

The two-day "<u>Jharkhand Tribal Festival</u>," celebrating <u>World Tribal Day</u>, was started **in Ranchi** highlighting tribal culture, food, and lifestyle.

Key Points

- > Tribal groups from various states showcased their traditional dances and songs.
 - They also engaged in discussions about the challenges facing tribal communities and other contemporary issues.
- The Chief Minister urged tribal people to grow together in unity. He highlighted that tribal communities have suffered the pain of displacement.



World Tribal Day

- The day recognizes the first meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations in Geneva in 1982.
 - It has been celebrated every year since 1994, in accordance with the declaration by the <u>United</u> <u>Nations.</u>
- To date, numerous indigenous peoples experience extreme poverty, marginalization, and other human rights violations.

Jharkhand Increases Loan Waivers Limit for Farmers

Why in News?

Recently, The Jharkhand cabinet decided to widen the farm loan waiver scheme by increasing the limit of credit from Rs 50,000 to Rs 2 lakh.

Key Points

- Under the Jharkhand Agricultural Loan Waiver Scheme, loans worth Rs 1,900.35 crore of 4.73 lakh farmers were waived from the financial year 2020-21 to 2023-24.
- In another initiative, the state government has decided to double the honorarium payment to traditional village heads.
 - Mankis and Parganaits will be given an honorarium of Rs 6,000 per month, Munda and Gram Pradhan will be given Rs 4,000 and other traditional Gram Pradhans will be given Rs 2,000 per month.

Jharkhand Agricultural Loan Waiver Scheme

- It was launched by the Jharkhand state government on 1st February 2021.
- The objective of the scheme is to relieve the farmers of the State of short-term agricultural credit from the debt burden, improve the credit worthiness of the crop loan holder, ensure credit for the new crop, prevent migration of the farming community and strengthen the agricultural economy.
- > The following are the required entitlements for the beneficiary of the loan waiver scheme:
- > The ryot farmers who do their own farming on their land.

- Non-ryot farmers who do agricultural work on the land of other ryots.
- The applicant should be a short-term crop loan holder and the crop loan should be issued from a qualified bank located in Jharkhand.
- A farmer from the State of Jharkhand, who is above the age of 18 years and the farmer should have a valid Aadhaar number, Kisan Credit Card holder and a valid ration card holder.
- Members holding the same crop loan from one family will be eligible. The applicant should have a standard crop loan account.

NDRF Rescues Villagers in Jharkhand Floods

Why in News?

- The <u>National Disaster Response Force (NDRF</u>) rescued 26 villagers stranded in flood waters in Garhwa district, Jharkhand.
 - Incessant rain over the past few days led to the flooding

Key Points

- The villagers were trapped in the flood waters of the <u>Sone River</u> near Hariharpur police outpost.
 - The **Son River**, also known as the **Sone River**, is a perennial river that flows through central India.
 - It is the **2nd-largest southern (right bank) tributary** of the **Ganges** after the **Yamuna River.**
 - It originates near Amarkantak Hill in the Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi district of Chhattisgarh and finally merges with the Ganges River near Patna in Bihar.

National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)

> About:

- NDRF is a specialised force constituted for the purpose of specialized response to **natural** and **man-made disasters** in India.
- Formation and Purpose: The NDRF was formed in 2006 under the <u>Disaster Management Act</u>, <u>2005</u>. Its primary purpose is to respond quickly and effectively to natural and man-made disasters.



- Structure: The NDRF consists of battalions from the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) including the Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).
 - Each battalion has specialized training and equipment for disaster response.

Alert issued in Jharkhand

Why in News?

Recently, The **East Singhbhum district in Jharkhand** issued an alert for people living in the low-lying areas due to the swelling of rivers following heavy rainfall.

The water levels in the Kharkhai and <u>Subarnarekha</u> rivers have been increasing due to the persistent rain in the state.

Key Points

Approximately 3,500 cusecs of water was discharged

into the Subarnarekha river from the Chandil Dam located in the neighboring Seraikela-Kharswan district.

- The residents living in the affected areas have been instructed to avoid going near the rivers and to adhere to the directives provided by the authorities.
 - The relentless rainfall has resulted in numerous road diversions being washed away, trees being uprooted, houses being damaged, and a bridge collapsing.

Subarnarekha River

- Subarnarekha (Line of gold) river flows through the states of Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha.
- Major Tributaries: Kanchi River and Kharkai river

Kharkai River

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- It is one of the major tributaries of the Subarnarekha River.
- > It flows through the Adityapur region of Jamshedpur.
- > It arises in Mayurbhanj district, Odisha.



Key Points	Details

Summary

Key Points	Details
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Summary

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