

# SEPTEMBER 2024

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### Content

•	Jharkhand Government Waives Farm Loans	. 3
•	1.78 lakh PVTGs Enrolled	. :
•	CoBRA Battalion Soldier Injured in IED Blast	. 4
•	Jharkhand Lowers Age Limit for Maiyan Yojana	. :



### Jharkhand Government **Waives Farm Loans**

### Why in News?

Recently, the **Jharkhand government** has announced the <u>waiver of agricultural loans</u> worth **Rs. 400.66 crore**.

> This decision, which benefits **1,76,977 farmers**, was implemented through **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** on September 26, 2024.

### **Key Points**

- Addressing Farmers' Challenges:
  - O The loan waiver aims to alleviate these burdens by canceling debts up to Rs. 2 lakh per farmer.
  - o The waiver is a response to the significant difficulties experienced by farmers in Jharkhand, where 80% of the population relies on agriculture for their livelihood.
- Promoting Self-Reliance and Alternative Farming:
  - Government urged farmers to adopt alternative farming techniques alongside traditional methods to cope with the changing climate.
  - o The government of Jharkhand stressed the importance of self-reliance for the state's **development**, despite Jharkhand's **rich mineral** and forest resources.

### **Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme**

- Aim: It has been visioned as an aid for simpler/faster flow of information and funds to the beneficiaries and to reduce the fraud in the delivery system.
- **Implementation:** It is a mission or an initiative by the government of India started on 1st January 2013 as a way to reform the government delivery system.
  - Central Plan Scheme Monitoring System (CPSMS), the earlier version of the Public Financial Management System (PFMS), of the Office of Controller General of Accounts, was chosen to act as the common platform for routing of the **Direct Benefit Transfer.**

Components of DBT: Primary components in the implementation of DBT schemes include **Beneficiary** Account Validation System, a robust payment and reconciliation platform integrated with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), Public & Private Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks (core banking solutions of banks, settlement systems of RBI, Aadhaar Payment Bridge of NPCI) etc.

### 1.78 lakh PVTGs Enrolled

### Why in News?

Recently, the **Election Commission of India** has taken significant steps to ensure inclusive, participative elections in Jharkhand, focusing on the enrollment of Particularly **Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).** 

### **Key Points**

- 100% Enrollment of PVTGs: 1.78 lakh voters from eight **PVTGs** have been fully enrolled in the electoral roll.
- **Electoral Roll Statistics:** A total of **2.59 crore electors** are registered, including 1.28 crore women voters and over 11.05 lakh first-time voters (18-19 years).
- Special Summary Revision (SSR): The second SSR for the State was completed and the electoral roll was published on 27th August, 2024.
- Election Commission's Directive: Emphasis on zero tolerance for the use of money power, as conveyed during meetings with enforcement agencies, political parties, and security forces.

#### Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

- > In India, tribal population makes up for 8.6% of the total population.
- PVTGs are more vulnerable among the tribal groups. Due to this factor, more developed and assertive tribal groups take a major chunk of the tribal development funds because of which PVTGs need more funds directed for their development.

Note:



- In 1973, the <u>Dhebar Commission</u> created Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category, who are less developed among the tribal groups. In 2006, the Government of India renamed the PTGs as PVTGs.
- ➢ In this context, in 1975, the Government of India initiated to identify the most vulnerable tribal groups as a separate category called PVTGs and declared 52 such groups, while in 1993 an additional 23 groups were added to the category, making it a total of 75 PVTGs out of 705 Scheduled Tribes.
- PVTGs have some basic characteristics i.e., they are mostly homogenous, with a small population, relatively physically isolated, absence of written language, relatively simple technology and a slower rate of change etc.
- Among the 75 listed PVTG's the highest number are found in Odisha.

## CoBRA Battalion Soldier Injured in IED Blast

### Why in News?

Recently, an **IED blast** injured a jawan from the **CoBRA** battalion during an ongoing search operation in **Jharkhand's Chaibasa (Singhbhum district).** 

### **Key Points**

Details of the Operation: The operation is targeting Maoist leader, who has a Rs. 1 crore reward announced by the State Government.

- The search operation involving Chaibasa police,
   209 CoBRA battalion, and CRPF teams is ongoing in the region to apprehend the Maoist leaders.
- COBRA: COBRA is a special operation unit of the Central Reserve Police Force of India proficient in guerrilla tactics and jungle warfare. Originally established to counter the Naxalite movement,
  - CoBRA is deployed to address insurgent groups engaging in asymmetrical warfare.
- Singhbhum district: Singhbhum district was established in 1990 when the original Singhbhum district was bifurcated into East Singhbhum (with Jamshedpur as the district headquarters) and West Singhbhum (with Chaibasa as the district headquarters).
  - In 2001, West Singhbhum was further divided, leading to the creation of the Saraikela-Kharsawan district, leaving West Singhbhum with 15 blocks and 3 sub-divisions.
  - The district is characterized by hilly terrain, steep mountains, and dense forests, including renowned Sal forests and the globally recognized Saranda forest area.
  - It is home to diverse wildlife, including elephants, bison, tigers, panthers, and various deer species, although their populations are declining near human habitation.
  - The name "Singhbhum" is believed to originate from either the Singh Rajas of Porahat or a corrupted form of "Singh Bonga," the principal deity of the local tribal population.

	Common uses	Common form	Known IED use
High explosives			
Ammonium nitrate and fuel oil (ANFO)	Mining and blasting <sup>2</sup>	Solid	Oklahoma City bombing
Triacetone Triperoxide (TATP)	No common uses; mixed from other materials	Crystalline solid	2005 bombings in London
Semtex, C-4	Primarily military	Plastic solid	Irish Republican Army bombings
Ethylene glycol dinitrate (EGDN)	Component of low- freezing dynamite	Liquid	Millennium Bomber, intended for Los Angeles airport, 1999
Urea nitrate	Fertilizer	Crystalline solid	World Trade Center 1993
Low explosive			
Smokeless powder	Ammunition	Solid	Olympic Park bombings

Note:



#### **Improvised Explosive Device**

- An improvised explosive device (IED) is a homemade bomb designed to destroy or incapacitate targets, commonly used by criminals, terrorists, and insurgents in various forms.
- IEDs can be delivered through multiple means, including vehicles, placement by individuals, or roadside concealment, and gained prominence during the Iraq War that began in 2003.

## Jharkhand Lowers Age Limit for Maiyan Yojana

### Why in News?

Recently, the Jharkhand cabinet approved a reduction in the age limit for the Mukhyamantri Maiyan Samman Yojana (MMSY).

### **Key Points**

- The minimum age limit for the Mukhyamantri Maiyan Samman Yojna (MMSY) has been reduced from 21 to 18 years, aiming to extend the benefits to an additional 800,000 women.
- MMSY: The scheme was launched on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2024.
  Under the scheme, Rs 1,000 will be given to eligible women 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 <u>Direct</u> <u>Benefit Transfer Scheme</u>.

### **Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme**

- Aim: It has been visioned as an aid for simpler/faster flow of information and funds to the beneficiaries and to reduce the fraud in the delivery system.
- Implementation: It is a mission or an initiative by the government of India started on 1st January 2013 as a way to reform the government delivery system.
  - Central Plan Scheme Monitoring System (CPSMS), the earlier version of the <u>Public Financial</u> <u>Management System (PFMS)</u>, of the Office of <u>Controller General of Accounts</u>, was chosen to act as the common platform for routing of the Direct Benefit Transfer.

#### 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.





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