



Poor Infrastructure of Government Schools in Madhya Pradesh | Madhya Pradesh | 07 May 2024

Why in News?

Madhya Pradesh is the **first state in the country to have implemented the [National Education Policy \(NEP\) 2020](#)**. However, there is poor infrastructure and the absence of teachers in the classrooms.

Key Points

- The **NEP 2020** seeks to tackle the evolving development needs of India.
 - It calls for a **comprehensive overhaul of the education system**, including its regulations and management, to establish a modern system that aligns with 21st-century educational goals, including [Sustainable Development Goal 4 \(SDG 4\)](#), while respecting **India's cultural heritage and values**.
 - It replaces the thirty-four year old **National Policy on Education, 1986, modified in 1992** (NPE 1986/92).
- The high school results in Madhya Pradesh have been consistently poor for six years, with a significant number of students failing in Mathematics and English in 2023.
- While a lot has been done to improve the schools on the supply side with [Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan](#) and subsequent efforts, there is a need for rejuvenating and re-imagining learning in schools.
 - **Samagra Shiksha subsumes the three Schemes** of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE).

Swiss Military to Invest in Haryana | Haryana | 07 May 2024

Why in News?

Global lifestyle brand **Swiss Military** announced that it will set up its first fully owned **manufacturing unit in Haryana** with an initial **investment of Rs 56.5 crore**.

Key Points

- The company plans to set up its **first fully owned manufacturing unit** for luggage and travel gear in **Faridabad, Haryana**.
 - Spread over **1.21 acres and a built-up area of about 85,000 sq ft**, the proposed plant will have a production capacity of **10 lakh pieces per year**.
- The **targeted completion** for the manufacturing unit will be within **8 months by 31st Dec, 2024**.
 - With **domestic and international leisure and business travel** bouncing back aggressively, the company has seen very vigorous growth in the luggage and travel gear segment.

- This new venture by Swiss Military is aligned to the future vision of expansion in India and abroad while being part of ['Make in India' movement](#).

'Make in India' Movement

- **Launched in 2014**, Make in India aims to **transform the country into a leading global manufacturing and investment destination**.
- It is being led by the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry**, Government of India.
- The initiative is an open invitation to potential investors and partners across the globe to participate in the growth story of 'New India'.
- Make in India has **substantial accomplishments across 27 sectors under Make in India 2.0** which include strategic sectors of manufacturing and services as well.

Bihar Environment Secretary Addresses Jakarta Futures Forum | Bihar | 07 May 2024

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.
 - 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.

Solar Energy to Meet Power Demand | Rajasthan | 07 May 2024

Why in News?

The Rajasthan government is looking to **increase dependence on solar energy** from the current 12-14% to over 40% of consumption by 2030 to bridge the power gap.

Key Points

- With urbanisation and industrial growth, electricity demand in the state may increase by 8 to 10% every year.
 - In the next five years, the **scheme for promoting solar production centres** among the government and private sector and the **rooftop solar plants scheme** will be promoted.
 - These efforts will also **reduce dependence on coal-based plants**.
- According to the plan, **subsidised rooftop systems are to be installed at 500,000 houses** in the first phase of **PM Suryaghar Yojana** in the state.
 - In 2023-24, Rajasthan's commissioned **solar capacity was over 1,296 megawatt (Mw)**, according to the state's renewable energy website, with the best year being **2021-2022** when the commissioned solar energy was over 5,398 Mw. The state had over 15,195 Mw of aggregate **solar capacity till December 2023**.
- Rajasthan's **solar energy generation potential** has been assessed at **142 Gw**.
 - The state has vast untapped potential in terms of intense solar radiation with one of the highest number of sunny days in a year and availability of vast unutilised government and private land.
 - This has the potential to make **Rajasthan a highly preferred destination for solar energy production**.

PM Surya Ghar Yojana

- It is a pioneering government initiative aimed at **installing rooftop solar power systems in one crore households** across the nation.
- Rooftop solar panels are **photovoltaic panels** installed on the roof of a building that is connected to the main power supply unit.
- It reduces the consumption of **grid-connected electricity** and saves electricity costs for the consumer.
 - Surplus solar power units generated from the rooftop solar plant can be exported to the grid as per the metering provisions.
 - The consumer can receive monetary benefits for the surplus exported power as per the prevailing regulations.

Rajasthan CM Felicitates Candidates Selected in Central Civil Services | Rajasthan | 07 May 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Rajasthan Chief Minister felicitated candidates from the State selected in the Central Civil Services after passing out the **2023 Union Public Service Commission's examination**.

- He **greeted the young officers** at a function in Jaipur by **dressing them in turbans and shawls, and presenting mementos to them**.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister called upon the youths to work with **honesty and dedication in all positions** where they are appointed.
- The young officers who attended the function at the Chief Minister's official residence shared their views on issues such as [women's empowerment](#), [improving the education system](#), [promoting tourism in Rajasthan](#), and [improving the State's ranking in the Centre's Swachh Survekshan](#) or cleanliness survey.

Swachh Survekshan (SS) 2023

- It was **introduced by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in 2016 as a competitive framework to encourage cities to improve the status of urban sanitation** while encouraging large scale citizen participation.
 - Over the years, Swachh Survekshan has emerged as the largest Urban sanitation survey in the world.
- In SS 2023, **additional weightage has been given** to source segregation of waste, enhancement of waste processing capacity of cities to match the waste generation and reduction of waste going to the dumpsites.
 - Indicators have been introduced with **additional weightage on emphasizing the need for phased reduction of plastic**, plastic waste processing, encourage waste to wonder parks and zero waste events.
- **Ranking of Wards** within the cities is also being promoted through SS 2023.
- The cities would also be assessed on dedicated indicators on the issues of **'Open Urination' (Yellow Spots) and 'Open Spitting' (Red Spots)**, being faced by the cities.
- MoHUA will be promoting **cleaning of back lanes** of the residential and commercial areas.

Nepal to Introduce New Currency Note Featuring Indian Territories | Uttarakhand | 07 May 2024

Why in News?

Nepal recently announced the **printing of a new Rs 100 currency note** featuring a map that includes the Indian territories of **Lipulekh, Limpiyadhura, and Kalapani**.

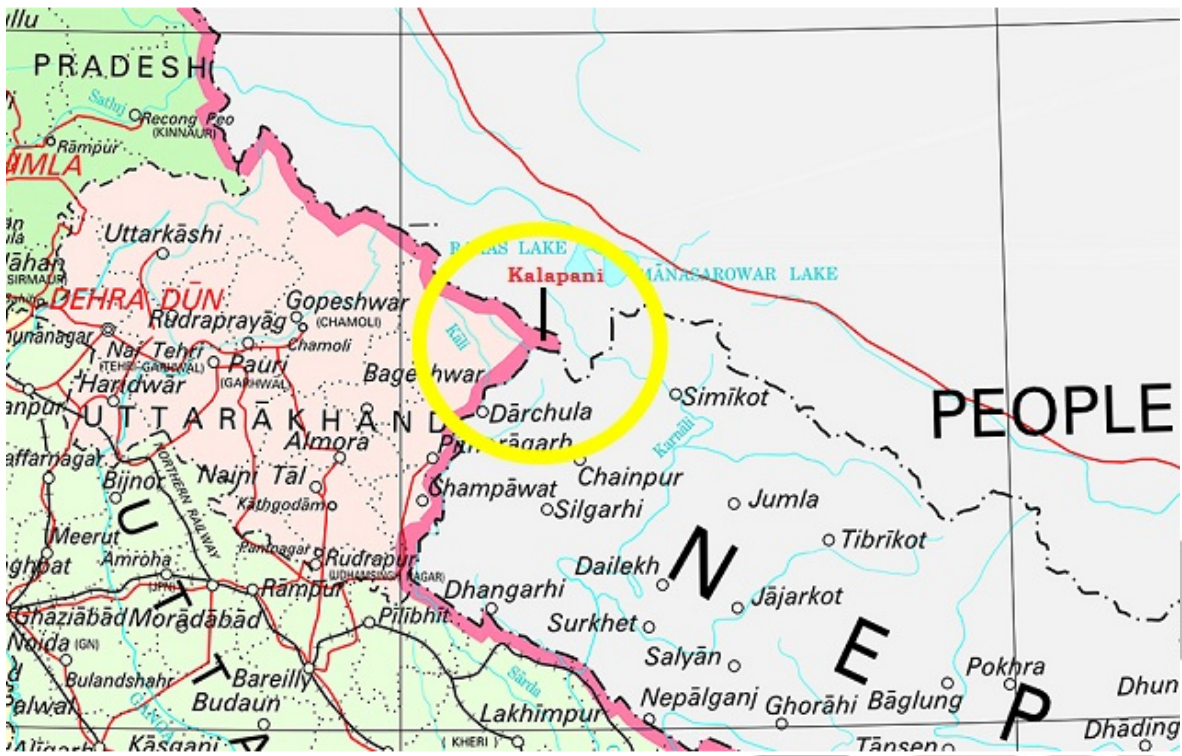
- The Nepal government has authorized the **Nepal Rastra Bank** to replace the current map with the updated version on the currency note.

Key Points

- Lipulekh, Kalapani and Limpiyadhura, which India earlier had **included in its November 2019 map**.
 - **Tensions between New Delhi and Kathmandu** emerged after Nepal issued a **political map in May 2020**, which **included the same territories**.
 - Diplomatic relations came under further strain when Nepal handed over a diplomatic note to India **objecting to the inauguration of a road linking Kailash Mansarovar via Lipulekh** in 2020.
 - India's **Ministry of External Affairs** had responded to Nepal's objection, stating that the road, passing through **Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh district**, fell entirely **within the Indian territory**.
- Nepal has asserted its claim based on [the Sugauli Treaty of 1816](#). According to the treaty **all territories east of the Kali (Mahakali) river, including Limpiyadhura, Kalapani, and Lipulekh, belong to Nepal**.
 - The **Sugauli Treaty, signed on 4th March 1816**, between the **East India Company and Guru Gajraj Mishra**, delineated the boundary line of Nepal following the **Anglo-Nepalese War of 1814-16**.
 - India, however, has stated that the **1950 Treaty of Peace and Friendship between India and Nepal annulled the Sugauli Treaty**.
 - Nepal argues that treaties such as the **1923 Nepal-Britain Treaty of Friendship reaffirmed its sovereignty during the era of British rule**.

Border Dispute Between India and Nepal

- India and Nepal have border disputes over **Kalapani - Limpiyadhura - Lipulekh trijunction** between [India-Nepal](#) and **China and Susta area (West Champaran district, Bihar)**.
- **Kalapani Region:**
 - Kalapani is a valley that is administered by India as a part of the Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand. It is situated on the Kailash Mansarovar route.
 - Kalapani is advantageously located at a height of over 20,000 ft and serves as an observation post for that area.
 - The **Kali River** in the **Kalapani region** demarcates the border between India and Nepal.
 - The **Treaty of Sugauli** signed by the **Kingdom of Nepal and British India** (after **Anglo-Nepalese War**) in **1816** located the Kali River as Nepal's western boundary with India.
 - The discrepancy in locating the **source of the Kali** river led to boundary disputes between India and Nepal, with each country producing maps supporting their own claims.



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