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## State-wise Talks by Union Minister of Agriculture | Chhattisgarh | 02 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan started **consultations with states on the farm sector**, holding meetings with agriculture ministers of two states- **Chhattisgarh and Assam**.

### Key Points

- During the discussion various **topics related to agriculture and farmers' welfare were discussed**, including the **promotion of pulses, oilseeds, horticulture, etc.**
- The **Centre will continue to provide all possible assistance to Chhattisgarh.**
- There will be adequate availability of inputs like **fertilizers, seeds in the Kharif season.**

### Kharif Season

- Crops are **sown from June to July** and **Harvesting is done in between September- October.**
- **Crops are:** Rice, maize, jowar, bajra, tur, moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut, soyabean etc.
- **States are:** Assam, West Bengal, Coastal regions of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Maharashtra

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## Scheme for Mango Cultivation | Bihar | 02 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the state government has introduced a scheme designed specifically for **mango cultivation** to **provide targeted assistance and support to farmers** engaged in mango production.

- **Bihar** produces 15.84 lakh Metric Tons (MT) of mango and **ranks third in the country** in mango production.

### Key Points

- **Mango Development Scheme** is introduced for **enhancing mango's area expansion with a 50% subsidy** at the unit cost of Rs 60,000 per hectare.
  - The state is facilitating a **micro irrigation scheme** extending **80% support on Drip, Mini, and Micro sprinkler** to **small and marginal farmers (70% for other farmers)** and **80% support on community borewells.**
- Bihar is home to many unique flavours of mango, including **Dudhia Malda, Jardalu, and**

### Amrapali.

- Proper **marketing and branding** can make a significant difference in how fruits from the state are perceived and valued in the market.
- With support from the [Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority \(APEDA\)](#), Bihar exports around more than 1200 MT of fresh mango to the UK, Middle East, and New Zealand.

## Zardalu Mango

- Zardalu is a **unique mango variety** from **Bhagalpur**.
- It is known for its **light yellow skin and distinct special aroma**.
- It was accorded the [Geographical Indication \(GI\) tag](#) in 2018.

## Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)

- It was established by the Government of India under the [Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985](#).
- It functions under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**. The Authority has its **headquarters in New Delhi**.
- In 2020, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with [Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium \(SFAC\)](#) to bring in better synergy in agricultural activities.

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## Private Hospital Stop Patients Over Pending Dues | Haryana | 02 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

The private hospitals in various parts of Haryana stopped admitting patients under the central government's [Ayushman Bharat free treatment scheme](#) and state government's [Chirayu Haryana scheme](#), for **non-clearance of the payments worth over ₹200 crore by the state government**.

### Key Points

- According to the [Indian Medical Association \(IMA\)](#), nearly 600 private hospitals across the state are empanelled under the Ayushman scheme and had **requested the state government to release payment of bills**.
  - In Haryana, **74.33 lakh beneficiaries** are covered **under the Chirayu scheme and 28.89 lakh under the Ayushman scheme**.
  - Under these schemes, **every family gets health coverage of upto ₹5 lakh per year** for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation.

## Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri- Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)

- **About:**
  - PM-JAY is the world's largest health insurance scheme fully financed by the government.
  - **Launched in 2018**, it offers a sum insured of **Rs.5 lakh per family** for secondary care and tertiary care.

- Health Benefit Packages covers surgery, medical and day care treatments, cost of medicines and diagnostics.

- **Beneficiaries:**

- It is an entitlement-based scheme that targets the beneficiaries as identified by latest [Socio-Economic Caste Census \(SECC\)](#) data.
- The National Health Authority (NHA) has provided flexibility to States/UTs to use **non-Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC)** beneficiary family databases with similar socio-economic profiles for tagging against the leftover (unauthenticated) SECC families.

## Chirayu Haryana scheme

- It aims to provide **free treatment facilities to the needy** of the state.
- The expenditure of these families up to **Rs 5 lakh will be borne by the state government.**
- More than **28 lakh families in the state will get the benefit of this scheme**. With the expansion of the scheme, more than 12 lakh new Below Poverty Line (BPL) families have been added to it.

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## Madhya Pradesh Extends All Schemes Until the Next Budget | Madhya Pradesh | 02 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

According to the **Madhya Pradesh** Deputy Chief Minister Jadish Devda, the **ongoing schemes will be continued** in the forthcoming **Budget, on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024.**

### Key Points

- According to the officials the session will feature 14 sittings, beginning on 3rd July and concluding on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2024.
- Various issues are expected to be discussed including the **alleged nursing college scam** and the [Minimum Support Price \(MSP\)](#) for crops.
  - The [Central Bureau of Investigation \(CBI\)](#) is probing the alleged nursing college scam pertaining to gross irregularities in the functioning of several nursing colleges that lacked infrastructure while some existed only on paper.

### Minimum Support Price

- MSP is the **guaranteed amount paid to farmers** when the **government buys their produce.**
- MSP is based on the recommendations of the [Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices \(CACP\)](#), which considers **various factors such as cost of production, demand and supply**, market price trends, inter-crop price parity, etc.
  - CACP is an attached office of the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.** It came into existence in January 1965.
- The [Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs \(CCEA\)](#) chaired by the Prime Minister of India takes the **final decision (approve) on the level of MSPs.**
- The MSP is aimed at ensuring **remunerative prices to growers for their produce** and encouraging [Crop Diversification.](#)

### 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 **Department 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, 1988](#) its superintendence vests with the Central Vigilance Commission.
- It is also the nodal police agency in India which coordinates investigations 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.

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## Chief Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana | Rajasthan | 02 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma launched **Chief Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana**. The state government announced an **additional annual financial assistance of Rs 2,000 to farmers** who are already **beneficiaries of the** [Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana](#).

### Key Points

- Under this scheme, the **first installment of Rs 1,000** has been disbursed, followed by **two installments of Rs 500 each**.
  - The **Cooperative Department** has been designated as the **nodal department for the effective implementation of the scheme**.
- More than 65 lakh farmers in Rajasthan received over Rs 650 crore directly into their bank accounts as part of this first installment.
- The CM also distributed Rs 3 lakh each to 51 women-run village service [Cooperative Societies](#).
  - These societies, managed exclusively by women, aim to develop leadership skills and empower women to make decisions for their own development and welfare.

### Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)

- It is a **Central Sector Scheme** with 100% funding from the Government of India.
- It is being implemented by the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**.
- Under the scheme, the **Centre transfers an amount of Rs 6,000 per year, in three equal installments**, directly into the bank accounts of the **all landholding farmers irrespective of the size of their land holdings**.
- It intends to **supplement the financial needs of the Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs)** in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income at the end of each crop cycle.
- The entire responsibility of **identification of beneficiary** farmer families rests with the State / UT Governments.

### Cooperative Society

- Cooperatives are organizations **formed at the grassroots level by people to harness the power of collective bargaining** in the marketplace.
  - This can mean **different kinds of arrangements, such as using a common resource**

**or sharing capital, to derive a common gain** that would otherwise be difficult for an individual producer to get.

- In agriculture, cooperative dairies, sugar mills, spinning mills etc. are formed with the **pooled resources of farmers who wish to process their produce.**
  - **Amul** is perhaps the **best-known cooperative society in India**

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## Rajasthan New Draft Township Policy | Rajasthan | 02 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the Rajasthan government has come up with a fresh **draft township policy and building by-laws** and has invited suggestions from people and all the stakeholders.

### Key Points

- According to the new draft policy, a developer will be accountable for the upkeep of units sold in their township for a **period of seven years.**
  - These **townships will solely be constructed in areas designated by the authorities**, who will ensure that **all necessary amenities** - such as water and electricity - **are accessible in that region.**
- According to the new building by-laws, a tall building would not be allowed to be constructed on a small plot in the housing schemes and colonies of the cities.
- **Key Highlights:**
  - Only eight-storey buildings can be built on plots of more than five hundred to 750 square metre area.
  - The construction of green buildings or eco-friendly buildings is being made mandatory on plots of more than 2500 square meters in cities.
  - In group housing, multi-residential units, now space for one car parking will have to be left for every unit.