



Bihar's First Transgender Sub-Inspectors | Bihar | 11 Jul 2024

Why in News?

- Recently, three [transgenders](#) qualified the Bihar Police Subordinate Services Commission (BPSSC) exam to become police sub-inspectors.

Key Points

- Following a Patna [High Court](#) judgment in 2021, the State government had asked BPSSC to recruit third genders into police services.
- According to the [2022 caste survey conducted in Bihar](#), the transgender population is reported to be **825 (0.0006%)**.
 - This figure contrasts sharply with the [2011 census](#), which recorded **40,827 transgenders in the state**.

Transgender

- According to the [Transgender Persons \(Protection of Rights\) Bill 2019](#), transgender means a person **whose gender does not match with the gender assigned to that person at birth**.
- It includes trans-person with intersex variations, gender-queer and people having such socio-cultural identities as **kinnar, hijra, aaravani and jogta**.
- India's **2011 Census** was the **first census in its history to incorporate the number of 'trans' population** of the country. The report estimated that **4.8 million Indians identified as transgender**.

Census

- **Origin of Census:**
 - The origin of the Census in India **goes back to the colonial exercise of 1881**.
 - Census has evolved and been used by the government, policymakers, academics, and others to capture the Indian population, access resources, map social change, [delimitation exercise](#), etc.
- **First Caste Census as SECC (Socio-Economic and Caste Census):**
 - [SECC](#) was **conducted for the first time in 1931**.
 - SECC is meant to canvass every Indian family, both in rural and urban India, and ask about their:
 - **Economic status**, so as to allow Central and State authorities to come up with a range of indicators of deprivation, permutations, and combinations of which could be used by each authority to define a poor or deprived person.
 - It is also meant to ask every person their **specific caste name** to allow the government to **re-evaluate which caste groups** were economically worse off and which were better off.

Uttar Pradesh Dismiss Permit for Pruning Mango | Uttar Pradesh | 11 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the Uttar Pradesh government took a decision to **exempt state farmers from the requirement of getting permission** from any government department **for pruning [mango trees](#)**.

- Mango producers can simply prune the trees and reduce their height to enhance their productivity.

Key Points

- This decision simplifies [canopy management](#) for old mango orchards. It will **rejuvenate old mango orchards**, making them as productive as new ones.
 - In older orchards, **the growth of new leaves and branches which is crucial for flowering and fruiting has declined**.
 - Instead, **thick and tangled branches dominate, blocking sufficient light** from reaching the interior.
- These conditions result in **greater insect and disease infestations** and **complicate effective [pesticide application](#)**.
 - As a result, the sprayed pesticides often fail to reach the inner parts of the trees, causing increased pesticide use and environmental pollution.
- To tackle these problems, the **Central Institute of Subtropical Horticulture (CISH)** has developed an effective pruning technique for rejuvenating mango trees.
 - This method, called [pruning of tertiary branches](#) or table-top pruning, opens the tree's canopy, reduces its height, and **fosters a healthier environment**.
 - This pruning technique **enables trees to yield up to 100 kg per tree within just 2-3 years**, while also **reducing the need for excessive pesticide use**.

The Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture (CISH)

- It was **started as Central Mango Research Station on September 4, 1972** under the aegis of the [Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore](#).
 - The Institute, later renamed as Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture (CISH) on June 14, 1995, is **servicing the nation on all aspects of research on subtropical fruits**.
 - **Headquarter** of CISH is situated at **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**.
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Surge in Sarus Crane Population | Uttar Pradesh | 11 Jul 2024

Why in News?

According to a census conducted by the State forest department, the population of [Sarus cranes](#) in Uttar Pradesh is rising.

Key Points

- The survey revealed that the [Etawah Forest Division](#) recorded the highest number of Sarus cranes at 3,289, an increase of 500.
 - While the **Mau Forest Division spotted six Sarus cranes for the first time in a decade.**
- In Uttar Pradesh, Sarus crane numbers have consistently risen over the years from 17,329 in 2021 to 19,188 in 2022, 19,522 in 2023, and 19,918 in 2024.

Sarus Crane



- The **scientific name of Sarus Crane** is *Grus Antigone*.
- It is the **tallest flying bird in the world**, standing 152-156 cm tall with a wingspan of 240cm.
- The Sarus crane has **predominantly grey plumage with a naked red head and upper neck and pale red legs.**
- It is **known to mate for life with a single partner**, and its breeding season coincides with heavy rains during the [monsoon season](#).
- These are known to live in association with humans and **well watered plains, marshland, ponds, and wetlands** (like [Dhanauri wetland in UP](#)) which are suitable for their forage and nesting.
- **Conservation Status:**
 - [IUCN red list](#): **Vulnerable**
 - [Wildlife \(Protection\) Act, 1972](#): **Schedule IV**

Haryana to remove Shambhu border Barricades | Haryana | 11 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **The Punjab and Haryana High Court** directed the Haryana government to remove barricades

set up at the [Shambhu border](#) near **Ambala**, where farmers have been camping since 13th February, 2024 in support of their demands.

Key Points

- The Haryana government had set up barricades on the Ambala-New Delhi National Highway in February.
 - It was after the [Samyukta Kisan Morcha \(non-political\)](#) and [Kisan Mazdoor Morcha](#) announced plans to march to Delhi, advocating for various demands, including a legal guarantee of [Minimum Support Price \(MSP\)](#) for crops.
- Since February, **farmers have been stationed at the Shambhu and Khanauri border** points between Punjab and Haryana **after their march was halted by security forces.**
 - However, the number of farmers at the site has steadily decreased over time.



MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE (MSP)

The rate at which the govt. purchases crops from farmers; based on a calculation of at least 1.5x the cost of production incurred by the farmers

RECOMMENDED BY

Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) (recommends MSPs for 22 mandated crops and Fair and Remunerative Price for Sugarcane)

22 MANDATED CROPS

(14 Kharif, 6 Rabi and 2 Other Commercial crops)

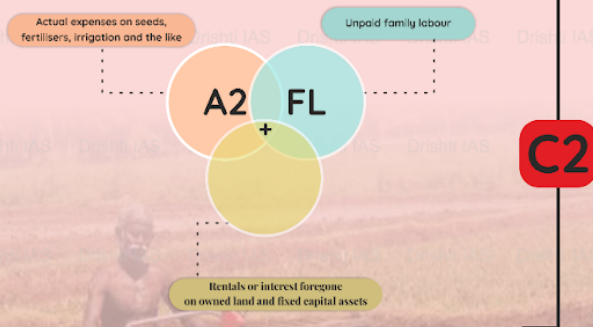
- 7 CEREALS** Paddy, Wheat, Barley, Jowar, Bajra, Maize And Ragi
- 5 PULSES** Gram, Arhar/tur, Moong, Urad And Lentil
- 7 OILSEEDS** Groundnut, Rapeseed/mustard, Soyabean, Sunflower, Sesamum, Safflower And Niger Seed
- RAW COTTON** **RAW JUTE** **COPRA**

MSP is the price at which the govt. is supposed to procure the mandated crops from farmers if the market price falls below it

FACTORS FOR RECOMMENDING MSP

- ▷ Cost of cultivation
- ▷ Demand-Supply situation for the crop
- ▷ Market price trends
- ▷ Inter-crop price parity
- ▷ Implications for consumers (inflation)
- ▷ Environment (soil and water use)
- ▷ Terms of trade b/w agri and non-agri sectors (ratio of farm inputs and outputs)

Considers both A2+FL and C2 costs



MSP has no statutory backing — a farmer cannot demand MSP as a matter of right

National e-Vidhan Application | Madhya Pradesh | 11 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the **Madhya Pradesh cabinet** has given approval to the implementation of the **centrally sponsored scheme** '[National e-Vidhan Application](#)' (NEVA) in the state Legislative Assembly.

Key Points

- Under the [Digital India initiative](#), the Government of India has launched the centrally sponsored '**National e-Vidhan Application**' scheme to **transition all Legislative Assemblies of the country to a paperless format** and unify them on a single platform.
 - The scheme implementation **costs will be shared with 60% funded by the Government of India and 40% by the state governments.**
- The rationalisation of students residing in hostels, ashrams, and community welfare centres operated under the [Denotified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Tribe Welfare Department](#) as per the scholarship rates determined by the [Scheduled Caste Welfare/Tribal Affairs Department](#).
 - The present monthly scholarship for boys will be increased from Rs 1230 to Rs 1550 and for girls from Rs 1270 to Rs 1590 a month.
- The council of ministers also gave its nod to invite tenders for seven **projects of [Narmada Valley Development Department](#)** worth Rs 9,271.96 crore.

Digital India Programme

- The Digital India program, **launched in 2015, aims to transform India into a digitally empowered society** and a knowledge-based economy.
- Its **key objectives include** strengthening digital infrastructure, delivering services digitally, and promoting digital financial inclusion.

De-Notified, Nomadic And Semi-Nomadic Tribes

- These are communities that are the **most vulnerable and deprived.**
 - DNTs are communities that were '**notified**' as being '**born criminals**' during the British regime under a series of laws starting with the **Criminal Tribes Act, 1871**.
 - These Acts were repealed by the Independent **Indian Government in 1952, and these communities were "De-Notified"**.
 - A few of these communities which were listed as **de-notified were also nomadic**.
 - **Nomadic** and semi-nomadic communities are defined as **those who move from one place to another rather than living in one place all the time.**
 - Historically, Nomadic Tribes and De-notified Tribes **never had access to private land or home ownership.**
 - While most DNTs are spread across the [Scheduled Castes \(SC\)](#), [Scheduled Tribes \(ST\)](#) and [Other Backward Classes \(OBC\)](#) categories, some DNTs are not covered in any of the SC, ST or OBC categories.
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Chhattisgarh Development Schemes Reviewed | Chhattisgarh | 11 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, The **Union Minister for Power and Housing & Urban Affairs**, Manohar Lal reviewed ongoing schemes and proposals in the **power and urban development sector** for Chhattisgarh in Raipur.

Key Points

- At the meeting, the Union Minister emphasized that **improved coordination between the state and central governments** will accelerate Chhattisgarh's development.
- The schemes that were reviewed are [Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana](#), [PM SVANidhi](#), [AMRUT Mission](#), [Swachh Bharat Mission](#), [PM e-Bus Sewa](#), [Smart City Mission](#), and [National Urban Development Mission under Housing and Urban Affairs](#).

PM-SVANidhi

- It was **launched on 1st June, 2020**.
- It is a **Central Sector Scheme** i.e., **fully funded by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** with the following objectives:
 - To facilitate working capital loan;
 - To incentivize regular repayment;
 - To reward digital transactions
- Introduction of 3rd term loan of **up to Rs 50,000 in addition to 1st & 2nd loans of Rs 10,000 and Rs 20,000** respectively.
- The loans would be without collateral.

AMRUT Scheme

- **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)** was launched on 25th June 2015 in 500 selected cities across the country, covering around **60% of the urban population**.
- The mission targets enhancing **basic infrastructure** and implementing urban reforms **for selected cities**, encompassing **water supply, sewerage, drainage, green spaces, non-motorised transport, and capacity building**.

Smart Cities Mission (SCM)

- It is a [Centrally Sponsored Scheme](#), launched in June 2015 to transform **100 cities** to provide the necessary **core infrastructure** and clean and **sustainable environment** to enable a decent quality of life to their citizens through the application of "**Smart Solutions**".
- It aimed to improve the quality of life for citizens through **sustainable and inclusive development**.