



Haryana Big Move on Lal Dora Properties | Haryana | 23 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, The **Haryana government** has launched a **comprehensive registry initiative** to resolve long-standing **issues related to Lal Dora properties** in urban areas.

- Under the **Chief Minister Urban Body Ownership Scheme**, both property owners and long-term tenants are set to benefit.

Key Points

- **Lal Dora delineations** were **established in 1908** during British rule, marking areas outside formal settlements for agriculture.
 - These lands have been **exempt from building bylaws and municipal regulations**, but **owners often faced challenges in proving ownership**, hindering property transactions and access to financial services.
 - The state government implemented **measures to free villages from Lal Dora restrictions**, allowing occupants to obtain property rights.
- The **Svमित्वा Scheme** aims to **streamline property ownership rights** and boost economic activities in Lal Dora areas.
- The **Chief Minister** will **distribute property certificates and registries to beneficiaries** at a **state-level function in Gurugram**, marking a pivotal moment for urban development in Haryana.

Mukhymantri Shehri Nikay Swमित्वा Yojana

- It is **designed to give ownership of Commercial Land of Municipalities running on rent or lease for more than 20 years in the State**.
- Under this Scheme, individuals who have been occupying the land for 20 years through rent or lease are being given Ownership Rights on payment of up to 80% of the Collector Rate.
- Similarly, according to the limit of years occupied by the land, **the Collector Rate will have to be paid at different rates**, such as 75% of the Collector Rate for 25 years, 70% for 30 years, 65% for 35 years, 60% for 40 years, 55% for 45 years. **There is a provision to give Ownership Rights on payment of 50% for 50 years.**

Svमित्वा Scheme

- **SVAMITVA** stands for **Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas**.
- It is a **center sector scheme** which was **launched nationally** on the occasion of **National Panchayati Raj Day** on 24th April 2021.
- It aims to provide an integrated property validation solution for rural India.
- The **demarcation of rural inhabited areas** would be done using **Drone survey** and **CORS (Continuously Operating Reference Stations) Networks** which provides mapping accuracy of 5 cm.
- This would provide the **'record of rights'** to village household owners possessing houses in inhabited rural areas in villages.
- It **will cover around 6.62 Lakh villages** of the entire country **during 2021-2025**.

Doon Silk | Uttarakhand | 23 Jul 2024

Why in News?

[Doon Silk](#) is a label under the **Uttarakhand Cooperative Resham Federation (UCRF)** that is committed to maintaining and restoring the **ancient silk-weaving traditions of Uttarakhand**.

Key Points

- The brand offers a range of products made from **natural fibers** such as **silk, wool, cotton, bichhua (nettle), and hemp**, all selected for their minimal environmental impact.
 - Doon Silk's products are a testament to the talent and artistry of Uttarakhand's farmers, reelers, weavers, craftspeople, and dyers.
 - The brand's **dedication to quality and craftsmanship** has helped it achieve a **strong foothold in both national and global markets**.
- By concentrating on handloom methods, Doon Silk **maintains traditional techniques and provides sustainable job prospects** to more than 6,000 people in Uttarakhand.
- Doon Silk's **100% natural fiber guarantee** reflects its dedication to purity.

Uttarakhand Cooperative Resham Federation (UCRF)

- It was **founded in the year 2002, in Dehradun** with the purpose of carrying out the **post-cocoon activities of the Sericulture Department** of Uttarakhand.
- With over 20 years of experience, the organization has **revitalized the traditional silk weaving of Uttarakhand**, focusing on using wool and silk blended fabrics.
- UCRF and its brand Doon Silk **prioritize handloom production using natural fibers** like silk, wool, cotton, nettle, and hemp to **minimize harm to the environment and ecosystem**.

Kanwar Yatra | Uttar Pradesh | 23 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, [the Supreme Court](#) halted the controversial orders from the **governments of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Madhya Pradesh**, which required the **display of owners' names** at hotels, shops, eateries, and dhabas along the route of the **'Kanwar yatra' (holy expedition)**.

Key Points

- The Kanwar Yatra is a **Hindu pilgrimage** in the **month of Shrawana**, by **Lord Shiva devotees**.
- The devotees **travel to pilgrimage places** like **Haridwar, Gaumukh, Gangotri** in Uttarakhand, **Sultanganj** in Bihar, **Prayagraj, Ayodhya, and Varanasi** in Uttar Pradesh, and

return by carrying **Ganga** water in kanwars to seek the blessings of Shiva.

- The water is offered to Shiva temples, including the **12 Jyotirlingas** across India and other shrines like the Pura Mahadev Mandir and Augharnath in Uttar Pradesh, the famous **Kashi Vishwanath temple**, and the **Baba Baidyanath Temple** in Deoghar, Jharkhand. The ritual is known as **Jal Abhishek**.

12 Jyotirlingas

- A Jyotirlinga is a **shrine where Lord Shiva is worshipped** in the **form of a Jyotirlingam**.
- Each Jyotirlinga is a **different manifestation of Lord Shiva**.
- There are currently **12 main Jyotirlingas in India**. These are:
 - **Somnath Jyotirlinga** in Gir, Gujarat
 - **Mallikarjuna Jyotirlinga** in Srisailam, Andhra Pradesh
 - **Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga** in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh
 - **Omkareshwar Jyotirlinga** in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh
 - **Baidyanath Jyotirlinga** in Deoghar, Jharkhand
 - **Bhimashankar Jyotirlinga** in Maharashtra
 - **Ramanathaswamy Jyotirlinga** in Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu
 - **Nageshwar Jyotirlinga** in Dwarka, Gujarat
 - **Kashi Vishwanath Jyotirlinga** in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
 - **Trimbakeshwar Jyotirlinga** in Nasik, Maharashtra
 - **Kedarnath Jyotirlinga** in Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand
 - **Ghrishneshwar Jyotirlinga** in Aurangabad, Maharashtra

Mukhyamantri Behan-Beti Swavalamban Protsahan Yojana | Jharkhand | 23 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the **Jharkhand** Chief Minister announced that the government would soon organize **village-level camps to enroll women in a financial assistance scheme**, which provides **Rs. 1,000 per month**.

Key Points

- The announcement was made while **inaugurating and laying the foundation stone of various development schemes** worth Rs. 88 crore at Rajmahal in **Sahibganj district**.
 - The '**Aapki Sarkar-Aapke Dwar**' programme is going to be launched again soon in which the **state government will give Rs. 1,000 to eligible women above 21 years and below 50 years of age** from families **living below the poverty line**.
 - About **40 lakh women will come under the purview of this scheme** and they will get the benefits of the scheme.
 - The scheme is renamed as **Mukhyamantri Behan-Beti Swavalamban Protsahan Yojana**.
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Bihar's 'Special Category' Status Denied | Bihar | 23 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, The **Centre rejected the** request for **'special category' status for Bihar** during the all-party meeting.

Key Points

- No new states are being awarded 'special category' status at present, as **the Indian Constitution** does not accommodate such classification.
 - **Bihar is requesting both special state status and a distinct financial package.** The call for special status for Bihar has persisted since the state was split into Bihar and Jharkhand.
- **The Gadgil formula:**
 - The issue of special category status was **first discussed in a National Development Council (NDC) meeting in 1969.** During this session, the **DR Gadgil Committee** proposed a **formula for distributing central assistance to state plans** in India.
 - **Prior to this, there was no specific formula** for fund allocation, and grants were allocated based on individual schemes.
 - The Gadgil Formula, which received NDC approval, **prioritized the needs of special category states** like Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, and Nagaland in the allocation of Central assistance.
 - In 1969, the **5th Finance Commission** acknowledged the historical challenges faced by certain regions and **introduced the special category status.**
 - This **designation granted specific disadvantaged states special benefits**, including central assistance and tax relief.
 - The National Development Council then allocated Central Plan Assistance to these states based on this status.
 - Until the **financial year 2014-2015**, the **11 states with special category status** enjoyed various benefits and incentives.
 - However, with the **dissolution of the Planning Commission** and the **establishment of the NITI Aayog in 2015**, the recommendations of the **14th Finance Commission** resulted in the cessation of grants based on the Gadgil Formula.
 - Consequently, the share of the **divisible pool allocated to all states was increased from 32% to 42%.**

Ujjayini Meridian | Madhya Pradesh | 23 Jul 2024

Why in News?

According to a new Class-6 NCERT textbook for social science, **India had a prime meridian of its own** much **ahead of the Greenwich meridian** and it was called "madhya rekha", which **passed through** the city of **Ujjain** in Madhya Pradesh.

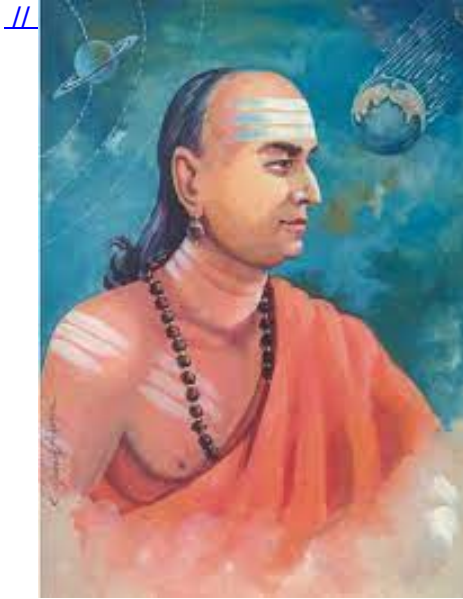
Key Points

- Madhya rekhā (or 'middle line') passed through the city of Ujjayinī (today Ujjain), which was

a reputed centre for **astronomy** over many centuries.

- **Varāhamihira**, a famous astronomer, lived and worked there some 1,500 years ago.
- Indian astronomers were aware of the concepts of **latitude and longitude**, including the need for a **zero or prime meridian**.
- The **Ujjayinī meridian** became a reference for calculations in all Indian astronomical texts.

Varahamihira (505-587 CE)



- He was a renowned **astronomer, mathematician, and astrologer**.
- **Notable works:**
 - **Brihat Samhita** (comprehensive work on astronomy, astrology, architecture, gemology, agriculture, mathematics, and gemology).
 - He wrote about **chief aspects of Jyotisha (astrology)** like horoscopy.
 - He was the first to state **Panchasiddhantika** (book on mathematical astronomy) that the **ayanamsa** (precession of the equinoxes) lasted for 50.32 seconds.
 - He first described **gravity** as an attractive “Force”, which binds various things together.