



---

## Rs 450 Gas Cylinders to Ladli Behna Beneficiaries | Madhya Pradesh | 31 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

The **Madhya Pradesh government** announced that beneficiaries of the [Ladli Behna scheme](#) will receive **gas cylinders** at a subsidized rate of **Rs 450** throughout the year.

### Key Points

- **Scheme Background:** The **Ladli Behna scheme** was initially launched by former **Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan**.
- **Beneficiaries:** This subsidy is aimed at women beneficiaries, particularly those under the [Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana \(PMUY\)](#).
  - Beneficiaries will receive **Rs 250** for the **Rakhi festival**.
  - In a written response to the Rajya Sabha, the **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas** stated that the central government is providing a targeted subsidy of **Rs 200 per 14.2 kg LPG cylinder** for beneficiaries of the **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)**, applicable for up to **12 refills per year**.
  - The Centre increased the **targeted subsidy to Rs. 300 per 14.2 Kg LPG cylinder** for all **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)** beneficiaries.

### What is Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)?

- **About:**
  - The **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOPNG)**, introduced the '**Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana**' (PMUY) as a flagship scheme with the objective of making **clean cooking fuel** such as **LPG** available to the rural and deprived households which were otherwise using traditional cooking fuels such as **firewood, coal, cow-dung cakes** etc.
    - Usage of traditional cooking fuels had detrimental impacts on the health of rural women as well as on the environment.
- **Objectives:**
  - Empowering women and protecting their health.
  - Reducing the number of deaths in India due to unclean cooking fuel.
  - Preventing young children from a significant number of acute respiratory illnesses caused due to indoor air pollution by burning fossil fuel.

---

## Shah Jahan's Daughter-in-law's Tomb Not Waqf Property | Madhya Pradesh | 31 Jul 2024

## Why in News?

Recently, **Madhya Pradesh High Court** ruled that three ancient monuments in Burhanpur, including the **tomb of Mughal emperor Shah Jahan's daughter-in-law, Begum Bilqis**, are not **Waqf property**.

## Key Points

- **Archaeological Survey of India's (ASI) Argument:** The ASI argued that these sites - **Shah Shuja monument, Tomb of Nadir Shah, and Bibi Sahiba's Masjid** are ancient and protected monuments under the **Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904**.
- **Court's Observation:**
  - Justice **GS Ahluwalia** noted that the properties are ancient and protected monuments, and the CEO of the M.P. Waqf Board committed material illegality by declaring them as Waqf property.
  - The ASI submitted that "as per **section 11 of Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904**, Commissioner would be a guardian of the monument and for the purposes of maintaining such monument shall have access to the monument at all reasonable times by himself and by his agents.
  - "Unless and until guardianship is relinquished under Section 14 of Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, the same cannot be declared as a waqf property."
- **Details of the Monuments:**
  - **Shah Shuja Monument:**
    - The Shah Shuja monument houses the **tomb of Begum Bilqis, wife of Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan's son, Shah Shuja**.
    - She was buried in **Burhanpur** after she died giving birth to her daughter.
    - The tomb also known as **Kharbuza Mahal** is "crowned with a dome." The site "stands on a raised **fluted circular plinth**" and "**built of stone and plastered with shell mortar and decorated with paintings.**"
  - **Tomb of Nadir Shah:**
    - The **tomb of Nadir Shah** is a "**massive tomb, built on a raised platform**" and "supported on eight archways." The chamber is occupied by three graves.
  - **Bibi Sahiba's Masjid:**
    - **Bibi Saheba's mosque** alias **Bibi ki Masjid** was completed by **queen Begum Rokeya**, daughter of **Gujarat Sultan Muzaaffar Shah II**, around **1529**.

---

## Shaheed Udham Singh Martyrdom Day | Haryana | 31 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, The Haryana government has announced that **July 31<sup>st</sup>** will be a **gazetted holiday** in honor of [Shaheed Udham Singh Martyrdom Day](#).

### Key Points

- **Holiday Declaration:** The Haryana government has declared **July 31<sup>st</sup>**, as a gazetted holiday to observe **Shaheed Udham Singh Martyrdom Day**.
- **School Closures:** This declaration results in the closure of all government and private schools throughout the state, including in Gurgaon and Faridabad.
- **Public Holidays Announcement:** In December of the previous year, the Haryana government announced the public holidays for 2024, which included the closure of all public offices, schools,

and colleges on **July 31, 2024**, to honor **Shaheed Udham Singh** and other martyrs.

- **Significance of Shaheed Udham Singh:** Shaheed Udham Singh is recognized for avenging the [Jallianwala Bagh massacre](#) by assassinating its mastermind, [Michael O'Dwyer](#).

## Udham Singh

- Born in **Sunam** in Punjab's **Sangrur district** in **1899**, also referred to as **Shaheed-i-Azam Sardar Udham Singh** which means '**Great Martyr**'.
- He is regarded as one of the foremost revolutionaries of the **Indian Freedom Struggle**.
- Following the **Jallianwala Massacre** on **13<sup>th</sup> April 1919**, he got profoundly involved in revolutionary activities and politics. He was deeply influenced by **Bhagat Singh**.
- He joined the **Ghadar Party** in **1924** to organize overseas Indians with the purpose of overthrowing colonial rule.
- In **1927**, while returning to India with associates and weapons to carry out revolutionary activities, he was arrested for **illegal possession of firearms** and sentenced to five years in prison.
- On **13<sup>th</sup> March, 1940**, Singh shot **Michael O'Dwyer** instead of **General Dyer** at a meeting of the **East India Association and the Royal Central Asian Society** at **Caxton Hill**.
- He was sentenced to death and was hanged on **31<sup>st</sup> July, 1940** at **Pentonville Prison in London**.

---

## Punjab, Gujarat, Haryana Lead in H1N1 Deaths | Haryana | 31 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, Punjab, Gujarat, and Haryana have reported the highest number of **H1N1** deaths in India, with **41, 27, and 26** deaths respectively.

### Key Points

- **Total Cases:** India has recorded over **7,000 H1N1** cases so far.
- **Top States for Cases:** Delhi (1,563), Gujarat (1,049), and Rajasthan (1,008) have the highest number of cases.
- **Health Ministry Guidelines:** The Health Ministry has issued guidelines on **screening, categorization, laboratory diagnosis, infection control, home care, and clinical management**.
- **Prevention Measures:** Public awareness campaigns emphasize **hand washing, covering the mouth while coughing or sneezing, and avoiding crowded places**.
- **Vaccination:** Vaccination is highlighted as the best preventive measure against influenza.

### H1N1

- **H1N1 influenza** causes a **respiratory illness** that can affect the **respiratory tracts of pigs**.
- Humans are at risk of **swine flu**, a **zoonotic disease**, through close contact with infected pigs.
- **Swine influenza viruses** can infect humans if their antigenic properties change due to reassortment with other influenza strains.
- This genetic shift can improve the virus's ability to replicate and spread, making it easier for human transmission.
- Such changes have led to pandemics, as seen in **1918** and **2009**, when the virus gained the ability

## Uttarakhand Mandates Garbage Bags in Vehicles | Uttarakhand | 31 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the **Uttarakhand Government** has implemented a new rule mandating that all vehicles entering the state must be equipped with **garbage bags** or **dustbins**.

- This measure aims to promote **responsible tourism** and preserve the **pristine environment of Uttarakhand**.

### Key Points

- **Inspections:** The transport department will conduct inspections at entry points to ensure compliance.
- **Trip Cards:** Vehicles will be issued **trip cards** only if they have the **required garbage disposal facilities**.
- **Documentation:** Vehicle owners must present **valid documents** like **registration certificates, fitness certificates, insurance papers, and pollution certificates** to receive a trip card.
- **Broader Strategy:** This initiative is part of a larger effort to **protect Uttarakhand's natural beauty**, especially along popular tourist routes.
- **Cooperation:** The transport department is seeking cooperation from neighboring states to enforce this rule.
- **Collective Responsibility:** The regulation emphasizes the shared responsibility of residents and tourists in maintaining the state's cleanliness.