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## Government Denies Threat to Bhoj Wetland | Madhya Pradesh | 10 Aug 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, The Union Government has denied that the [Ramsar site, Bhoj Wetland](#) in Bhopal faces threat of delisting from the [Ramsar Convention list](#).

### Key Points

- According to the sources, a proposed road through the Bhoj wetland catchment prompted a local activist to file a complaint against the wetland to the Ramsar Conventions secretariat.
- [The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change \(MoEF&CC\)](#) is implementing the [National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems \(NPCA\)](#) for conservation and management of wetlands in the country, including Madhya Pradesh.
  - The scheme covers activities such as [wastewater treatment](#), **shoreline protection, in-situ cleaning, stormwater management, bioremediation, catchment area treatment, lake beautification, survey & demarcation, fisheries development, weed control, biodiversity conservation, education and awareness, and community participation.**

### Bhoj Wetland

- The **Bhoj Wetland**, also known as **Bhopal Lake** is a **designated Ramsar site** and hence, a **wetland of international importance (Ramsar Convention 1971)**.
- It consists of two contiguous human-made reservoirs -
  - "**Upper Lake**" - created in the 11th century by construction of an earthen dam across the Kolans River.
  - "**Lower Lake**" - constructed 200 years ago, largely from leakage from the Upper lake. It is surrounded by the city of Bhopal.

### National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA)

- NPCA is a **single conservation programme for both wetlands and lakes**.
- It is a **centrally sponsored scheme**, currently being implemented by the **Union Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF)**.
  - It was **formulated in 2015** by merging of the National Lake Conservation Plan and the National Wetlands Conservation Programme.
- NPCA seeks to **promote better synergy and avoid overlap of administrative functions**.

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## Neeraj Chopra Wins Silver at Paris Olympics | Haryana | 10 Aug

# 2024

## Why in News?

**Neeraj Chopra**, India's renowned **javelin thrower**, secured a **silver medal** at the [Paris Olympics 2024](#).

## Key Points

- Neeraj's **throw of 89.45m** placed him second on the podium.
  - **Gold medal was claimed by Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem** with a throw of 92.97m, setting a new Olympic record.
- Neeraj became only the **third Indian athlete, and the first in track and field, to win consecutive individual Olympic medals**.
  - Wrestler **Sushil Kumar** (2008 and 2012) and shuttler PV Sindhu (2016 and 2021) are the other Indians who have accomplished this achievement.



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## GI Tag for Five Iconic Products | Bihar | 10 Aug 2024

### Why in News?

The Bihar state agriculture department is working together with **Bihar Agricultural University (BAU)** in Bhagalpur to obtain [geographical indication \(GI\)](#) certification for at least 54 distinct region-specific products.

- Research is already in advanced stages for **five key items** as part of this collaborative effort.

### Key Points

- Five advanced stage products are '**litti chokha**' (Bihar's staple dish), **Sonachur rice and Gulshan tomato from Rohtas**, '**singhara**' (water chestnut) and **Digha Malda mango from Patna**.
- The states with the **most geographical indication (GI) tags** are **Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Kerala**.

- Bihar has **six GI-tagged products** - [Shahi litchi](#), [Bhagalpuri Zardalu mango](#), [Katarni rice](#), [Maricha rice](#), [Magahi paan \(betel leaf\)](#) and [makhana \(foxnut\)](#).
- The central government's commerce ministry is backing the drive for Geographical Indication (GI) tags, in accordance with India's commitments as a member of the [World Trade Organization](#) and under the [TRIPS \(Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights\) agreement](#).

## Geographical Indication (GI) Tag

- A GI tag is a **name or sign used on certain products** that correspond to a specific geographical location or origin.
- The GI tag ensures that only the **authorised users or those residing in the geographical territory** are allowed to use the popular product name.
  - It also protects the product from being copied or imitated by others.
- A registered **GI is valid for 10 years**.
- GI registration is overseen by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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## Rajya Shakti Tilu Rauteli Award | Uttarakhand | 10 Aug 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the **Uttarakhand government** recognized 13 outstanding women with the [Rajya Shakti Tilu Rauteli Award](#) in Dehradun, **commemorating their exceptional accomplishments in diverse domains**.

### Key Points

- The awardees included **Preeti Goswami, a para-swimmer** and athlete hailing from Almora; **Neha Devali, a taekwondo player** from Bageshwar; **Sangeeta Rana, a powerlifter** from Haridwar; and **Mandeep Kaur, a para-badminton player** from Udham Singh Nagar.
- Other honorees included [Padma Shri](#) awardee **Madhuri Barthwal** for her work in **folk singing**, **Soniya Arya** from Champawat for **promoting Hindi literature**, **Vinita Devi** from Rudraprayag for her bravery in saving her mother-in-law from a wild animal attack in June, **Narmada Rawat** from Chamoli for her efforts in **advancing handicrafts and handloom**, and **Sudha Pal** from Nainital for her **contributions to science**.

### Rajya Shakti Tilu Rauteli Award

- This award is **given every year by the Government of Uttarakhand** in the name of Veerbala Tilu Rauteli to **women who have done remarkable work in various fields**.
  - The state government had started the tilu Rauteli award for women and adolescent girls who have done remarkable work in the field of women empowerment since **2006 on the birth anniversary of Uttarakhand's heroine Tilu Rauteli**.
- Under this, the state government gives **31 thousand rupees and a citation**.