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## Hartalika Teej, 2024 | Bihar | 06 Sep 2024

### Why in News?

Hartalika Teej Vrat is celebrated on the Tithiya of [Shukla Paksha](#) in the Bhadrapada month. In 2024, the observance falls on September 6.

### Key Points

- **Meaning of "Hartalika":** Derived from two Sanskrit words: "Harat" (abduction) and "Aalika" (female friend).
- **Background:** Goddess Parvati, devoted to Lord Shiva, was abducted by her friends to avoid her marriage to Lord Vishnu, as per her father's wish.
  - Parvati worshiped a clay idol of Lord Shiva, pleasing him, and they eventually married.
  - Women observe **Swarna Gowri Vratha** to seek blessings from Goddess Gowri for a happy married life.
- **Prominent in North Indian states:** Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Jharkhand.
  - Known as **Gowri Habba in South Indian states:** Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.
- **Teej Festivals:** One of three main Teej festivals, along with Hariyali Teej and Kajari Teej, celebrated in the Sawan and Bhadrapada months.

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# Haryana-Punjab Agricultural Divergence | Haryana | 06 Sep 2024

## Why in News?

Haryana's agriculture stands apart from Punjab due to its [diversified cropping](#) profile, contrasting with Punjab's environmentally and fiscally unsustainable [rice-wheat monoculture](#).

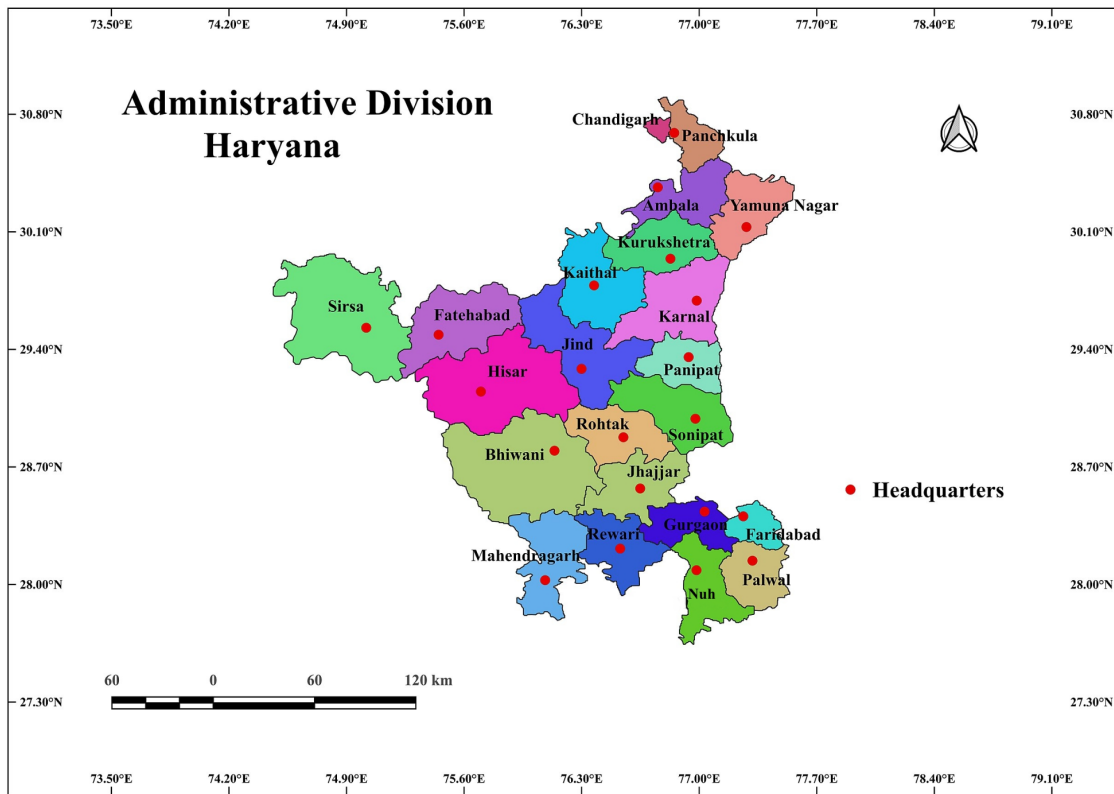
## Key Points

### ▪ Punjab:

- **Monoculture Cropping:** Punjab's agriculture is characterized by a [rice-wheat monoculture](#), with farmers growing only these two crops **during the [kharif \(monsoon\) and rabi \(winter-spring\) seasons, respectively](#)**.
  - Area under rice cultivation increased from 28.9 lakh hectares (lh) in 2014-15 to 31.9 lh in 2023-24.
- **Output Rankings:** Punjab **ranks 3<sup>rd</sup>** in both wheat and rice output in India.
  - India has eight major wheat-producing states compared to 16 for rice.
- **Water and Environmental Issues:** Rice is [water-intensive crop](#) and requires about 25 irrigations, whereas wheat requires only 4-5 irrigations.
  - Excessive rice production contributes to [groundwater depletion](#) and **high fiscal costs for [grain procurement and stocking](#)**.

### ▪ Haryana:

- **Less Monoculture:** Haryana features a more diversified cropping pattern compared to Punjab, avoiding the rice-wheat monoculture.
  - **Kharif Season:** Includes [rice](#), [cotton](#), [bajra \(pearl millet\)](#), and [guar \(cluster bean\)](#).
  - **Rabi Season:** Includes wheat, rapeseed-mustard, chana (chickpea), and sunflower.
- **Rice Varieties:** [Basmati Rice](#) in Haryana accounts for 56.2% of the rice area (2019-20 to 2023-24).
  - Basmati rice **consumes less water compared to non-basmati varieties**.
  - Basmati is planted in July, benefiting from monsoon rains and cooler temperatures, enhancing its fragrance.
- **Canal Network:** Extensive canal network of **1,594 channels, 14,814 km long**.
  - [Irrigates](#) northeast, central, and northwest districts of Haryana.
  - Southern districts (Charkhi Dadri, Jhajjar, etc.) have limited irrigation access.
- **Crop Distribution:**
  - **Southern Haryana:** Farmers typically grow [bajra](#), [guar](#), and [jowar](#) in kharif and wheat, mustard, chana, and [barley in rabi](#).
- **Challenges:**
  - **Increased Rice Area:** Record levels of rice cultivation in 2024, with 16.4 lakh hectares planted.
  - This increase has led to a decrease in **cotton acreage** (4.8 lakh hectares).
    - Decreased cotton acreage from 6.7 lakh hectares in 2023 due to low prices and [pink bollworm pest attacks](#).
- **Diversification Efforts:** Efforts under the [Bhavantar Bharpai Yojana \(BBY\)](#) to promote crop diversification.
  - [MSP](#) procurement and price deficiency payments for **bajra, mustard, sunflower, and other crops**



## Centre Approved 8 Lakh PMAY Houses | Chhattisgarh | 06 Sep 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the Centre has sanctioned the construction of over 8 lakh houses under the [Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana](#) for rural areas in Chhattisgarh.

### Key Points

- The Centre sanctioned **8,46,931 houses** for construction under **PMAY** in Chhattisgarh.
- '[Niyad Nellanar](#)' scheme: launched earlier **this year to ensure basic amenities** and benefits of welfare projects reach [Naxal-affected](#) villages.
  - Under this scheme development work is being carried out in interior villages falling within a **5-km radius** of security camps.
- [PM Janjati Adivasi Nyay Maha Abhiyaan](#): aimed at improving the quality of life for [PVTGs \(Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups\)](#), 24,064 houses were sanctioned in the state and most of them have been completed.

### PMAY-G

- **Launch**: April 1, 2016, restructured from **Indira Awas Yojana** to provide pucca houses with basic amenities to rural families.  
**Selection of Beneficiaries**: Based on [Socio Economic Caste Census 2011](#), Gram Sabha, and geo-tagging.

## PMAY-U

- **Launch:** June 25, 2015, to provide housing for all urban poor by **2022**.
- **Features:** Includes basic amenities like toilets, water supply, electricity, and promotes women empowerment by providing house ownership in the name of female members or joint names.

## PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN)

- **Objective:** Protect and nurture tribal groups, especially those on the verge of extinction, by providing necessary support, development, and connectivity to mainstream services and opportunities.
- **Coverage:** Includes **75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)** across 18 states and union territories, in **22,544 villages and 220 districts**.
- **Population:** Approximately 28 lakh people belong to these identified tribal groups.
- **Significance:** Highlights the government's commitment to uplifting and safeguarding tribal communities, preserving cultural heritage, and integrating them into mainstream development while bridging gaps in essential services and socio-economic empowerment.

## Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

- **Tribal Population:** Constitutes 8.6% of India's total population.
- **Vulnerability:** PVTGs are more vulnerable compared to other tribal groups and require more directed funds for their development.
- **Historical Context:**
  - 1973: Dhebar Commission categorized Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as less developed.
  - 2006: Renamed PTGs to PVTGs by the Government of India.
  - 1975: Government identified and declared 52 PVTGs.
  - 1993: An additional 23 PVTGs were added, totaling 75 out of 705 Scheduled Tribes.
- **Characteristics of PVTGs:**
  - Mostly homogenous with small populations.
  - Relatively isolated geographically.
  - Absence of written language.
  - Use of simple technology and slower rate of change.
- **Geographic Distribution:** Highest number of PVTGs are found in Odisha.

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## Jammu and Kashmir | Jammu & Kashmir | 06 Sep 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the Army enhanced counter-infiltration in [Jammu and Kashmir](#) with redeployed troops and increased security along the [LoC](#).

### Key Points

- **Recent Terror Attacks:**
  - Jammu and Kashmir have experienced a rise in terror attacks, resulting in security force fatalities.
  - **Common factors in these attacks include:**
    - Predominantly occurring in areas south of the [Pir Panjal range](#).
    - Use of advanced communication equipment by militants.

- Possession of modern rifles.
  - Enhanced psychological and physical training of militants.
  - Involvement in [narcotics trade](#).
- **Surveillance and Security Measures:** Troops are stationed along the **LoC, LoC fence, and permanent operating bases year-round.**
- New check posts, including mobile vehicle ones, will be established at population centers and roads.
  - [Drones](#) will be used for increased surveillance and area domination.

## SHIFT IN TERROR

### SOUTH OF PIR PANJAL\* TERROR INCIDENTS

2021	2
2022	10
2023	3

### CIVILIAN CASUALTIES

2021	1
2022	7
2023	7

### NORTH OF PIR PANJAL\* TERROR INCIDENTS

2021	129
2022	100
2023	7

### CIVILIAN CASUALTIES

2021	36
2022	23
2023	1

(2023 data as of May 30)

### NO. OF TERRORISTS (■ Local Terrorists ■ Foreign Terrorists ) SOUTH OF PIR PANJAL

May 2022	83	78
May 2023	36	78

### NORTH OF PIR PANJAL

May 2022	14	2
May 2023	13	2

\* South of Pir Panjal: Poonch, Rajouri and Jammu districts in Jammu region \*\* North of Pir Panjal: Valley districts

## Line of Control

- The Line of Control (LoC) emerged from the 1948 ceasefire line negotiated by the [United Nations \(UN\)](#) after the Kashmir War.
- It was designated as the LoC in 1972, following the Shimla Agreement between the two countries.



- LoC is demarcated upto the [Siachen Glacier](#) (Point NJ9842)- the world's highest battlefield.
- LoC is delineated on a map signed by the Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of both armies and has the international sanctity of a legal agreement.

