MP Revives Pittu: Street Sport

Why in News?

Recently, the Madhya Pradesh government has added Pittu to the sports calendar of all Madhya Pradesh colleges for the academic year **2024-25**.

Key Points

- Aim: To revive Pittu, a traditional Indian game, believed to have been played by Lord Krishna as mentioned in the Bhagavata Purana.
- Game Structure and Rules:
 - Pittu is played on a **26m x 14m** field with **two teams of six players each** (four substitutes allowed per team).
 - The game consists of two halves, each lasting 10 minutes.
 - The striker team knocks over a stack of seven coloured tiles (Pittu) and must reassemble it, while the defending team tries to prevent this.
- Significance:
 - Pittu is believed to have originated in the southern Indian subcontinent.
 - Revival of Pittu is part of the MP government's effort to teach students about Lord Krishna's life and connect them with **Madhya Pradesh's heritage.**
 - The game gained renewed attention after the Prime Minister mentioned it in his Mann ki Baat speech in January 2021.
 - Pittu was demonstrated during the <u>National Games</u> and even had a **Lagori World Cup** in 2015-16.

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