



Women in Haryana Assembly | Haryana | 23 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the upcoming Haryana Assembly elections highlighted the **persistent gender disparity** in political representation, reflecting the state's historical gender imbalance.

Key Points

- **Women in Haryana Politics:**
 - Since Haryana's formation in **1966**, only 87 women have been elected to the Assembly.
 - The state has never had a female chief minister.
 - Haryana's gender ratio remains skewed at **916 females per 1,000 males (2023)**.
 - Since **2000**, **47 women legislators** have been elected in Haryana.
 - In **2014**, **13 women won seats**, the highest number ever. This dropped to 9 in 2019.
- **33% Reservation for Women:** The Bill granting reservation to women in Parliament and assemblies, passed recently, will take effect from 2029.
- **Notable Women Contesting in 2024:**
 - **Arti Singh Rao** : Daughter of Union Minister Rao Inderjit Singh, contesting from Ateli.
 - **Shruti Chaudhary**: Granddaughter of former CM Bansi Lal, contesting from Tosham.
 - **Geeta Bhukkal** : Four-time MLA and former education minister.
 - **Vinesh Phogat** : Wrestling icon, contesting from Julana.
 - **Savitri Jindal**: Asia's richest woman, contesting as an Independent from Hisar.
 - **Chitra Sarwara**: Contesting independently from Ambala Cantonment after being denied a Congress ticket.

Women's Reservation Act, 2023

- The [Constitution \(106th Amendment\) Act, 2023](#), reserves one-third of all seats for women in [Lok Sabha](#), [State legislative assemblies](#), and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, including those reserved for [SCs and STs](#).
- The reservation will be effective after the publication of the census conducted following the Act's commencement and endures for a 15-year period, with potential extension determined by parliamentary action.
- The rotation of seats allocated for women will be governed by parliamentary legislation after each [delimitation process](#).
 - Currently, around **15% of the total members of the 17th Lok Sabha (2019-2024) are women** while in state legislative assemblies, women on average constitute 9% of the total members.

97% SC Atrocities from 13 States | Uttar Pradesh | 23 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, a government report revealed that **97.7% of atrocities against Scheduled Castes (SCs) in 2022** were concentrated in 13 states, with **Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh** recording the highest number of such cases.

Key Points

- **Atrocities Against Scheduled Castes (SCs) in 2022:**
 - 97.7% of all atrocities against SCs (51,656 out of 52,866 cases) were reported from 13 states.
 - Uttar Pradesh reported the highest number of cases (12,287 or 23.78%).
- **Atrocities Against Scheduled Tribes (STs) in 2022:**
 - 98.91% of all atrocities against STs were reported from 13 states (9,735 cases total).
 - Madhya Pradesh had the highest number of cases (2,979 or 30.61%).
 - Rajasthan followed with 2,498 cases (25.66%) and Odisha recorded 773 cases (7.94%).
- **Conviction Rate:**
 - The conviction rate for cases under the [SC/ST Act, 1989](#) declined to 32.4% in 2022, down from 39.2% in 2020.
- **SC/ST Protection Measures:**
 - SC/ST protection cells have been set up in states like Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and others.
 - Special police stations for handling SC/ST offences are established in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Kerala, and Madhya Pradesh.

Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989:

- [SC ST Act, 1989 is an Act of Parliament](#) enacted to prohibit discrimination against SC & ST communities members and prevent atrocities against them.
- The Act is also a recognition of the depressing reality that despite undertaking several measures, the [Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes](#) continue to be subjected to various atrocities at the hands of upper-castes.
- The Act has been enacted keeping in view the express constitutional safeguards enumerated in [Articles 15 \(Prohibition of Discrimination\)](#), [17 \(Abolition of Untouchability\)](#) and [21 \(Protection of Life and Personal Liberty\)](#) of the Constitution, with a twin-fold objective of protecting the members of these vulnerable communities as well as to provide relief and rehabilitation to the victims of caste-based atrocities.
- In the amended **SC/ST Act, 2018** preliminary inquiry is not a must and no prior approval is also required for appointing authorities for senior police officers to file FIRs in cases of atrocities on SC and ST.

Flood in Bihar | Bihar | 23 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **Bihar** has been severely affected by floods, with **12 districts submerged** and over 12 lakh people impacted.

Key Points

- **Flood Situation:**
 - Heavy rainfall in Nepal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand has led to **rising water levels** in the rivers of **North** and **South Bihar**.
 - The situation has caused widespread flooding in Bihar, particularly along rivers like the **Ganga**.
- **Affected Areas:**
 - 12 districts are affected, including **Buxar, Bhojpur, Saran, Vaishali, Patna, Samastipur, Begusarai, Lakhisarai, Munger, Khagaria, Bhagalpur,** and **Katihar**.
 - A total of **12.67 lakh** people in low-lying areas have been impacted by rising water levels.
 - Affected trains include Patna-Dumka Express, Saraigarh Deoghar Special, Jamalpur-Kiul Memu Special, and Bhagalpur-Danapur Intercity Express.
 - The **Bihar Disaster Management Department (DMD)** reported that **361 panchayats** have been affected.

Floods

- **About:**
 - **Floods** are the most frequent type of natural disaster and occur when an overflow of water submerges land that is usually dry.
 - Between **1998-2017, 2 Billion** people have been affected worldwide due to floods.
- **Causes:**
 - These are often caused by heavy rainfall, rapid snowmelt or a storm surge from a **tropical cyclone** or **tsunami** in coastal areas.
- **Types of Floods:**
 - **Flash Floods:** These are caused by rapid and excessive rainfall that raises water heights quickly, and rivers, streams, channels or roads may be overtaken.
 - **River Floods:** These are caused when consistent rain or snow melt forces a river to exceed capacity.
 - **Coastal Floods:** These are caused by storm surges associated with tropical cyclones and tsunami.

Mukhyamantri Gramin Setu Nirman Yojana | Bihar | 23 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the Bihar government approved the "**Mukhyamantri Gramin Setu Nirman Yojana**" (**MGSNY**) to **boost rural infrastructure** through the construction of **small bridges in the state**.

Key Points

- **Objective of the Scheme:**
 - The "Mukhyamantri Gramin Setu Nirman Yojana" (MGSNY) aims to enhance connectivity in **rural Bihar**.
 - The scheme is focused on constructing **1,000 small bridges** across various rural areas.
- **Target Areas:**
 - The initiative prioritizes **remote and rural regions** that face difficulties due to inadequate infrastructure.
 - It is expected to address the issue of inaccessibility during **monsoon seasons**, when rivers and **streams overflow and disconnect villages**.

▪ **Expected Benefits:**

- The bridges will significantly **improve transportation** for rural populations, enabling easier movement of goods and people.
- Enhanced infrastructure will contribute to **economic development** in rural areas by connecting **farmers, traders, and service providers to markets**.
- It will also improve **access to education and healthcare**, ensuring quicker and more reliable transit for school children and patients in need of urgent medical care.

Bihar Tourism and Market Policy-2024 | Bihar | 23 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Bihar has approved the [Bihar Tourism and Market Policy-2024](#) to boost **tourism infrastructure and market integration** in the state, making it a hub for cultural, ecological, and heritage tourism.

Key Points

▪ **Objective:**

- To promote sustainable tourism development in Bihar, enhancing its appeal as a **tourist destination**.
- To boost local economies and **create job opportunities** through tourism-related activities.

▪ **Key Features:**

- **Infrastructural Development:** Focus on improving transportation, accommodation, and **amenities to support tourists**.
- **Heritage Promotion:** Emphasis on showcasing Bihar's rich cultural and historical heritage, including sites like [Bodh Gaya](#), [Nalanda](#), and [Rajgir](#).
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** It promotes private investments in tourism infrastructure and services.
 - It provides financial support and subsidies for tourism-related businesses and startups.

▪ **Marketing and Promotion:**

- Launch of **aggressive marketing campaigns** to highlight Bihar's unique attractions.
- Utilization of [digital platforms](#) and social media for broader outreach.

▪ **Famous Tourist Places in Bihar:**

- Mahabodhi Temple Complex in Bodhgaya
- Vishwa Shanti Stupa in Rajgir
- Nalanda, Ancient city of Patliputra
- Valmiki Nagar Tiger Reserve in the West Champaran
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