

Jharkhand Government Waives Farm Loans | Jharkhand | 27 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the **Jharkhand government** has announced the <u>waiver of agricultural loans</u> worth **Rs. 400.66** crore.

This decision, which benefits 1,76,977 farmers, was implemented through <u>Direct Benefit Transfer</u> (<u>DBT</u>) on September 26, 2024.

Key Points

- Addressing Farmers' Challenges:
 - The loan waiver aims to alleviate these burdens by canceling debts up to Rs. 2 lakh per farmer.
 - The waiver is a **response to the significant difficulties experienced by farmers** in Jharkhand, where 80% of the population relies on agriculture for their livelihood.
- Promoting Self-Reliance and Alternative Farming:
 - Government urged farmers to adopt alternative farming techniques alongside traditional methods to cope with the changing climate.
 - The government of Jharkhand stressed the importance of self-reliance for the state's development, despite Jharkhand's rich mineral and forest resources.

Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme

- Aim: It has been visioned as an aid for simpler/faster flow of information and funds to the beneficiaries and to reduce the fraud in the delivery system.
- Implementation: It is a mission or an initiative by the government of India started on 1st January 2013 as a way to reform the government delivery system.
 - Central Plan Scheme Monitoring System (CPSMS), the earlier version of the <u>Public</u> <u>Financial Management System (PFMS)</u>, of the **Office of Controller General of Accounts**, was chosen to act as the common platform for routing of the **Direct Benefit Transfer**.
- Components of DBT: Primary components in the implementation of DBT schemes include Beneficiary Account Validation System, a robust payment and reconciliation platform integrated with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), Public & Private Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks (core banking solutions of banks, settlement systems of RBI, Aadhaar Payment Bridge of NPCI) etc.

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