

Bihar Government Revamps Mid-Day Meal Menu | Bihar | 31 Jan 2025

Why in News?

The **Government of Bihar** has announced significant changes to the <u>mid-day meal (PM Poshan</u>) <u>Shakti Nirman or PM Poshan</u> menu across all government schools in the state, aiming to enhance the <u>nutritional value</u> and <u>variety of meals provided to students</u>.

Key Points

- Changes to the meal are designed to ensure that children receive balanced and wholesome nutrition, thereby promoting better health and learning outcomes.
- This updated menu emphasizes the inclusion of protein-rich foods like soybeans and lentils, as well as a variety of seasonal vegetables, to ensure a balanced diet for the students.
- The mid-day meal scheme is a pivotal initiative by the government to provide nutritious meals to schoolchildren, thereby encouraging higher attendance rates and supporting the overall development of students.
- These changes are set to be implemented across all government schools in Bihar, reflecting
 the state's dedication to fostering a healthier and more conducive learning environment for its
 children.

Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS)

- About:
 - It is the largest school feeding programme of its kind in the world, covering students enrolled in government schools from Classes 1 to 8.
 - The **basic objective** of this scheme is to **enhance enrolment** in schools.
- Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Education
- Background: The programme was first introduced in 1925 for disadvantaged children in Madras Municipal Corporation.
 - The Union government launched as a <u>centrally sponsored scheme</u> on a pilot basis in **1995** for children in **Classes 1 to 5**, and by October 2007, **MDMS** had been scaled up to **Class 8**.

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