

# February 2022

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# MoU between Department of Labor Resources and Tata Technology

### Why in News

On January 31, 2022, the Labor Resources Department of Bihar tied up with Tata Technology to equip 149 government ITIs across the state with state-of-theart facilities and to connect students with better employment.

### **Key Points**

- Bihar's Labor Resource Minister Jivesh Kumar said that after this agreement, students studying in government ITI will be able to get employment in the country and the world on the basis of today's technology and the country will get better human resources.
- He said that Bihar has become the second state in the country to have such an agreement. Earlier such a program was started in Karnataka.
- After this agreement, the technology landscape of the state will change. Better skills and employment opportunities will be available to the youth of the state. It will also be established as a potential investment for those industry establishments in the state who are willing to adopt Industry 4.0 and smart technologies for manufacturing.
- Now ITI will facilitate 23 new technology advanced business courses. The total investment under this project will be Rs 4,606 crore.
- On this occasion, Additional Chief Secretary Vandana Kini said that the state government aims to train and empower the youth of Bihar so that they can find new technology solutions in Bihar and at the same time generate employment by attracting investment from companies.
- He said that in the first phase, 60 centers would be upgraded by December 2022. At the same time, the work of developing the remaining 89 centers will be started in January 2023, which will be completed by December 31, 2023. There are 16 companies as partners in this work, which will work to develop ITI.

# Punaura Dham

#### Why in News

On February 3, 2022, Tourism Minister G Kishan Reddy told the Rajya Sabha that Punora Dham of Bihar has been included in the Ramayana circuit of the Swadesh Darshan scheme and in the Prasad scheme.

### **Key Points**

- Maa Janaki Janmabhoomi Temple is located in Punaura Dham village of Sitamarhi district of Bihar, which is also known as Punaura Dham.
- It is worth mentioning that the PRASAD scheme was launched in the year 2014-15 with the objective of improving the facilities and infrastructure at pilgrimage centers of all religions.
- At the same time, Swadesh Darshan Scheme was started in the year 2014-15 for the theme based integrated development of tourist places like Ramayana Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Jain Circuit etc.
- In Bihar, development of Patna Sahib under Prasad scheme and development of Jain circuit under Swadesh Darshan scheme, development of Kanwariya circuit, development of Gandhi circuit, Ramayana circuit and Buddhist circuit are included.

# Mahaveer Cancer Institute's Agreement with Indian Cancer Society

# Why in News

On the occasion of World Cancer Day on 4th February, 2022, this institute has tied up with Indian Cancer Society to conduct early cancer screening at Mahavir Cancer Sansthan, the largest cancer hospital in Northeast India located near Patna Junction.

### **Key Points**

- Acharya Kishore Kunal, Secretary, Mahavir Mandir Trust Committee, inaugurated a free cancer counseling camp on the occasion. Specialist doctors of Mahaveer Cancer Institute will give free consultation in this camp till February 10, 2022.
- Acharya Kishore Kunal told that on seeing the symptoms of cancer, examination of up to 25 thousand rupees will be done free of cost in Mahavir Karar Sansthan with the help of Cancer Committee of India.



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- Medical Superintendent Dr LV Singh informed that Mahavir Cancer Institute has also been awarded for implementing Ayushman Bharat scheme.
- It is noteworthy that patients from neighboring states as well as Nepal and Bangladesh come to Mahaveer Cancer Institute for cancer treatment. This institute has become a center of faith for the poor cancer patients. The institute, started by the Dalai Lama in 1998, carries out chemotherapy and radiotherapy on an average of about 300 patients per day.

# World Class Genomic Lab Inaugurated at Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Research Center

### Why in News

On February 4, 2022, Bihar Health Minister Mangal Pandey inaugurated the world-class genomic laboratory for cancer screening at Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Research Center, Muzaffarpur.

### **Key Points**

- The Health Minister said that from this year the program of cancer screening will be started in all the districts of the state. It may be mentioned that last year a cancer screening program was started in 16 districts of the state.
- Day-care chemotherapy will be provided by the health department in six medical colleges and at the same time, treatment of pain caused to cancer patients will be made available at home in six districts.
- It is to be known that till 2020, the annual burden of cancer patients in Bihar was two lakh, which will increase to 2 lakh 32 thousand annually by 2025.
- Facilities have been made available at Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Research Center Muzaffarpur and Patna Medical College Hospital. Along with this, all facilities are being given to develop Mahaveer Cancer Institute in the private sector.
- Additional Chief Secretary of Health Department Pratyaya Amrit informed that in six districts of the state-Patna, Muzaffarpur, Begusarai, Bhagalpur, Siwan and Nalanda, the pain of cancer patients will be treated at home. Apart from this, day care chemotherapy has been arranged at NMCH, VIMS, Pawapuri, SKMCH, JLNMCH, DMCH and Purnea Sadar Hospital.

# Foundation Stone of Kalughat Intermodal Terminal on National Waterway-1 (Ganga River) at Saran, Bihar

# Why in News

On February 5, 2022, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH Sarbananda Sonowal laid the foundation stone of Kalughat Intermodal Terminal on National Waterway-1 (Ganga River) in Saran, Bihar. Along with this, he also flagged off the inland waterway vessel MV Lal Bahadur Shastri from Patna to Guwahati.

# **Key Points**

- Kalughat Intermodal Terminal will be constructed on river Ganga in Saran district of Bihar at a cost of Rs.78.28 crore. The terminal with one berth will have a capacity of 77,000 TEU per year and the terminal is designed to handle container traffic.
  - With the construction of this terminal, the pressure on road transport in North Bihar will be reduced and an alternative route will be available for the transport of cargo in this region, especially for Nepal.
- Inland waterways vessel MV Lal Bahadur Shastri is carrying 200 metric tonnes of food grains from Gaighat port in Patna to Pandu in Guwahati. It will reach the destination by early March 2022 via Bangladesh.
- The ship will travel on National Waterway-1 (Ganga River) via Bhagalpur, Manihari, Sahibganj, Farakka, Tribeni, Kolkata, Haldia, Hemnagar. Beyond this, it will cover a distance of 2,350 km via Khulna, Narayanganj, Sirajganj, Chilmari and National Waterway No. 2 of Dhubri and Jogighopa of Indo Bangladesh Protocol (IBP).
- The pilot movement of food grains on board from Patna (Bihar) to Pandu (Guwahati) will open a new door to the 'Gateway of North East' (Assam) and ensure uninterrupted waterway connectivity to the Northeast region through the Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers.
- With this historic achievement, a new era of development has started for all the states of North-East India. This waterway will pass through those landlocked areas, which have been backward in terms of development for a long time. This waterway not only removes the geographical barrier in the way of progress in this



area, but also provides a cheap, fast and convenient transport for trade and people of this region.

# Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojna

### Why in News

After completion of training period under 'Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana' (RKVY) on 7th February, 2022, 16 qualified trainees at Signal & Telecommunication Training Center, Danapur (Bihar) were awarded certificates by Chief Signal Engineer of East Central Railway. Gone.

### **Key Points**

- During this training the youth were given training in Diode, Transistor, IC, Power Supply, Soldering, Use and Repair of Multimeter, Transformer etc.
- It is noteworthy that for the skill development of the youth, the Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana was launched by the Minister of Railways and Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India on September 17, 2021.
- 'Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana' is an integral part of Skill India Mission adopted by Indian Railways under 'Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana' as part of Amrit Mahotsav of Independence.
- Under the 'Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana', 100 hours of training is being imparted in 18 working days in 75 training centers.
- This scheme will improve the employability of youth and upgrade the skills of self-employed youth.

# Fortified Rice Distribution Approved

### Why in News

On February 8, 2022, in the cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, the central government's scheme for distribution of fortified rice from government ration shops was approved.

### **Key Points**

Under this scheme, 85 percent of the population of rural areas and 75 percent of the population of urban areas will get nutritious rice, which will be rich in iron, fluoric acid and vitamin B-12.

- Significantly, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced fortification of rice distributed under various government schemes including Public Distribution System (PDS) and Mid-Day-Meal Scheme by the year 2024.
- According to the Food Ministry, fortification of rice is a cost-effective and complementary strategy to increase the vitamin and mineral content of the diet.
- According to FSSAI, food fortification refers to the intentional increase in the content of essential micronutrients in food, so as to improve the nutritional quality of food and provide public health benefits with minimum risk to health.

# Inauguration of Access Road Project of Rail-Cum-Road Bridge Built on River Ganga in Munger

# Why in News

On February 11, 2022, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the approach road project of 'Rail-cum-Road Bridge' over river Ganga at Munger in Bihar state.

# **Key Points**

- A 14.5 km long approach road has been developed at Munger for a rail-cum-road bridge constructed over river Ganga on National Highway 333B at a total cost of Rs.696 crore.
- This 'Rail-cum-Road Bridge' is the third rail-cum-road bridge built over the river Ganga in Bihar, which will connect the cities of Munger-Jamalpur with Begusarai, Khagaria and various districts of North Bihar.
- In 2002, the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee laid the foundation stone of the rail-cum-road bridge. The current CM of Bihar, Nitish Kumar, was the Railway Minister in the Vajpayee government at that time.
- This bridge was being demanded for a very long time, which can be seen as follows-
  - In 1953, the first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru also promised the people of Munger that a bridge would be built over the river.
  - Indira Gandhi reiterated similar assurances during an election campaign in 1971.



• The rail-cum-road bridge finally got a token allocation (through supplementary grants) in the 1997-98 Railway Budget.

# Chief Minister Rural Solar Street Light Scheme

### Why in News?

On February 10, 2022, in a meeting organized by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar through video conferencing, the progress of 'Mukhyamantri Rural Solar Street Light Scheme' under 'Mukhyamantri 7 Nishchay Yojana-2' was reviewed.

### **Key Points**

- In the meeting, the officers were instructed to start the implementation of Mukhyamantri Gramin Solar Street Light Scheme from April 15.
- On a pilot basis, it will be started in at least one panchayat in all the districts.
- Under this scheme, solar lights will be installed on the village roads and other important places.
- Responsibility of conducting a survey in this regard was given to the head of each village. In this survey it was asked to select the villages and the places where solar lights would be installed.
- The following schemes are included under the Mukhyamantri Seven Nishchay Yojana
  - o Bihar Student Credit Card Scheme
  - o Har Ghar Bijli Yojana
  - o Ghar tak Pakki Gali-Naliyan
  - o Awsar Badhe, Aage Padhein
  - o Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal Scheme
  - o Aarakshit Rozgar, Mahilaon ka Adhikar Scheme
  - o Shauchalay Nirman Ghar ka Samman

# Tallest Statue of Mata Sita in Sitamarhi

### Why in News

On February 13, 2022, Mahamandaleshwar Swami Virendranand Ji Maharaj, National Coordinator of the Ramayana Research Council and Juna Akhara, announced the establishment of the world's tallest (251 m) statue of Mother Sita in Sitamarhi.

### **Key Points**

- For its implementation, the council has constituted Shri Bhagwati Sita Teerth Kshetra Samiti, which has been chaired by local Sunil MP Sunil Kumar Pintu.
- 108 statues of Bhagwati Sita will also be installed in a circular form around the 251 meter high statue of Mata Sita which will express her philosophy of life. This place will be developed like a boating for the darshan of these idols.
- A digital museum, research institute and study center will also be built here based on the philosophy of life of Bhagwati Sita.
- Statues of major characters of Ramayana including Tulsidas, Valmiki, Kewat will also be installed here.
- On this occasion Mata Sita.com website has been launched on which the information about the work related to the construction of the temple will be updated from time to time.
- Sita Kund is a Hindu pilgrimage site located in Punora village near Sitamarhi town in the state of Bihar. Punaura Dham Janki Kund (Punaura Dham Janki Mandir) was famous as the ashram of Pundarik Rishi in mythological times. Goddess Sita was born in Punaura itself.

# Digitization of Bihar Legislative Assembly

# Why in News

On February 14, 2022, Speaker of the Vidhan Sabha, Vijay Kumar Sinha told in the context of digitization of the Bihar Legislative Assembly that for the first time on February 18, the personal secretaries of the MLAs would be trained in this regard by the Vidhan Sabha.

# **Key Points**

- A training center will be set up in the Vidhan Sabha, through which all officers and personnel will be made digitally literate.
- > A digital museum will also be built in the assembly.
- It is worth mentioning that on February 17, an enlightenment program will be organized in the Central Hall of the Legislature, which will be inaugurated by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. The theme of this program is 'Orientation and Responsibility of MLAs in the Journey of Democracy'.



# **Tarapur Martyrs Memorial**

### Why in News?

Recently, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated a martyrs' park and also unveiled a memorial comprising statues of 13 martyrs at Tarapur in Munger district.

### Key Points

- 34 people were martyred simultaneously in Tarapur of Bihar in the freedom struggle. In their memory, now a State Festival will be organized every year on 15th February at Tarapur Martyrs Memorial, so that the new generation can know about the martyrs and people should feel proud of them.
- In 1932, the then acting president of Congress Sardul Singh Kavishar had given a call for hoisting the Tricolour on all the government buildings on February 15. This decision was taken on February 13, 1932 in Jamua village of Supaur and a raid team of 5 volunteers was formed under the leadership of Madan Gopal Singh.
- On February 14, people reached Tarapur and on February 15, 1932, these people raided. Everyone started running away due to lathi charge by the police, but Madan Gopal Singh hoisted the flag at the police station and people started shouting 'Jhanda Uncha Rahe Hamara'.
- The District Magistrate, who was injured by the stone pelting on the police by the people, ordered an open fire, in which 34 people were martyred, but the names of only 13 people could be traced. This incident of Tarapur is important for the freedom struggle.

# Rajgir Zoo Safari

### Why in News

On February 16, 2022, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated a Zoo Safari in Rajgir.

### **Key Points**

- It is worth mentioning that the zoo safari, spread over an area of 480 acres, has been constructed with an investment of Rs 176 crore. Its foundation was laid in the year 2016.
- An Interpretation Center and 180 degree 3D Theater have also been constructed in Safari. In the Interpretation Center, a statue related to the evolutionary sequence of humans and the life cycle

of wildlife has been installed. The film '**The Ocean Bioscope'** was screened in front of the Chief Minister in this theater.

- It has been decided to keep tigers, lions, leopards, bears and deer in this zoo safari for which five different large enclosures have been made.
- It is noteworthy that to promote tourism in Rajgir,
   Glass Sky Walk has also been constructed.

# Orientation Program in Bihar Legislature

#### Why in News

On February 17, 2022, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar addressed an Orientation Program organized for the members of the Legislature in the Central Hall located in the extended building of the Bihar Legislature.

### **Key Points**

- The theme of the Orientation Program was 'Orientation and Responsibility of Legislators in the Journey of Democracy'.
- This program has been organized under the joint aegis of Parliamentary Democracy Research and Training Institute, Lok Sabha and Bihar Vidhan Sabha, Secretariat on the occasion of centenary year and foundation day of Bihar Vidhan Sabha building.
- The first Orientation Program was held in 2006, in which the then Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee Margate Alva participated. At that time the Speaker of the Bihar Legislative Assembly was Uday Narayan Choudhary.
- The second Orientation Program organized in 2011, was attended by the then Lok Sabha Speaker Meira Kumar and Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Arun Jaitley. The Third Orientation Program was attended by Parliamentary Affairs expert JC. Malhotra.
- It is worth mentioning that on March 22, 1912, Bihar and Orissa were separated from Bengal and in 1920 it got statehood. The first meeting of the Legislature was held on February 7, 1921. Several programs were organized recently to commemorate the completion of 100 years of the Legislature Building.
- President Ram Nath Kovind attended the program organized in October 2021. He had laid the foundation stone of the Shatabdi Smriti Stambh (Centenary



**Memorial Pillar)** in the Bihar Assembly Complex and planted a baby sapling of the sacred Bodhi tree brought from Bodh Gaya.

# Skibul Gani

# Why in News

On February 18, 2022, Sakibul Ghani of East Champaran created history by scoring a triple century in his debut match in the Ranji Trophy match being played at the Jadavpur University ground in Kolkata.

# Key Points

- Sakibul Ghani played a brilliant innings of 341 runs (56×4 and 2×6) in 405 balls while playing against Mizoram for the Bihar team.
- Due to his brilliant innings, Bihar made a huge score of 609 runs in 148.5 overs in the first innings. This is the first time in the history of Ranji Trophy when a batsman has scored a triple century. Along with this, Sakibul Ghani also took the national record for the highest score in the debut match of Ranji Trophy.
- Earlier this record was in the name of Madhya Pradesh batsman Ajay Roheda. Ajay scored an unbeaten 267 against Hyderabad in his debut match in 2018.
- 22 year old Sakibul Gani is a resident of Mohalla Agwara in Motihari city. His father is Mohd. Mannan Gani. He has consistently performed well in the competitions organized by the BCCI for the last two-three seasons. He has performed well in Under-14 in 2015, Under-19 in 2016-17 and Bihar Under-23 in 2017 and 18, Vijay Hazare Senior Trophy in 2019 and 2021, Mushtaq Ali (20-20) held in Chennai in 2020 and Vijay Hazare (50-50) trophy held in Delhi in 2021.

# Youth Parliament Competition

# Why in News

 Eight students of Nalanda were selected at the district level in the Youth Parliament Competition held in Bihar recently.

# Key Points

These selected students will represent the district in the state level competition to be held from February 23 to 27, 2022.

- The selected students will get an opportunity to participate in the National Youth Parliament to be held in Delhi on 8th and 9th March, 2022.
- This competition was conducted online by Patliputra University NSS. Out of these, four boys and four girls have been selected.
- Dr. Bineet Lal, Program Officer of Nalanda College NSS and the judge of the competition, said that the selected students had expressed their views on one of the six subjects prescribed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- Mansi Kumari, Amit Kumar, Amar Raj from Nalanda College and Arpita Raj, Shobha Kumari from Nalanda College of Women and Sapna Kumari, Sunny Prashant, Sunny Kumar from Kisan College have been selected in this competition.
- It is noteworthy that on January 12, 2018, at the inauguration of the 22nd National Youth Festival, Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed the idea of organizing a District Youth Parliament. After this, the first National Youth Parliament Festival was organized in January-February 2019.
- The main objective of organizing the Youth Parliament is to know about the opinion of youths of 18 to 25 years for the New India Vision of 2022 and involve them in it.

# Book Launch of "CM's Address in Bihar Legislative Council"

# Why in News

On February 18, 2022, Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha Harivansh released a book that has a collection of speeches given by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in Bihar Legislative Council.

# **Key Points**

- The Deputy Chairman said that after Nitish Kumar became the Chief Minister in 2005, the image of Bihar as a Sick State has been changed and he made national and international recognition through his work.
- > The name of the book released is "Published Collection of CM's Address in Bihar Legislative Council".
- In this book the speeches of the Chief Minister given during the 151<sup>st</sup> to 195<sup>th</sup> session of the Legislative Council have been compiled.



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> The program was organized in the auditorium located in the annexe of the Legislative Council.

# BSNL to Launch 4G Services in Bihar

### Why in News

On February 19, 2022, BSNL Board of Director Sushil Kumar Mishra said that 4G services will be launched in Bihar on upcoming 15th August.

# **Key Points**

- For this, 4000 towers of BSNL 4G will be installed in Bihar.
- It is worth mentioning that BSNL has 4G spectrum. Bihar currently has 2,800 mobile towers for 2G and 3G. All will be upgraded to 4G. Along with Bihar, BSNL's 4G review service will also start in Delhi and Mumbai.
- BSNL will launch 4G service mobile with fully 2G indigenous ventures. TCS is making indigenous 4G venture. Along with the launch of 4G, the trial of 5G will also start.
- BSNL Chief General Manager Devendra said that other telecom companies are increasing their tariff, but BSNL is providing mobile services at concessional rates. In the last month, two lakh subscribers are connected in BSNL Bihar Lee Circle.

# Maithili Duck

# Why in News

Recently the name of Maithili duck found in North Bihar has been registered in National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resource Karnal. Maithili ducks have now become the identity of Bihar.

# **Key Points**

- It is noteworthy that the team of scientists from the Eastern Research Complex of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has named it after six years of research on the duck.
- These ducks are being liked across the country. Dr Reena Kamal, who works on Maithili duck, said that indigenous names of ducks have been given in Purnia, Katihar, Araria, Kishanganj and Motihari regions.

- It survives because of its attractive colour, light weight and climate. Their treatment costs less. Not only this, they can be reared on less land. Their meat is full of medicinal properties. There are 50-60 thousand Maithili ducks in the state. Maithili ducks are also becoming companions in fisheries. They are being saved from being eaten by ducks of other exotic breeds. These ducks lay fewer eggs, so farmers feed them with other ducks. This is threatening the existence of Maithili ducks. ICAR is trying to save the farmers from extinction by making them aware.
- With the identification of Maithili duck in the institute, work is being done to increase its development and egg capacity.

# Valmiki Tiger Reserve

# Why in News

On February 19, 2022, Madanpur forest area of forest division 2 of Valmiki Tiger Reserve was deliberately set on fire by some people, causing great damage to the grass and trees that the VTR administration has kept every year for eating herbivorous animals...

# **Key Points**

- The Valmiki Tiger Reserve is the only tiger reserve in Bihar, which forms the easternmost extent of the Himalayan Terai forests in India.
- Situated in the Gangetic plains bio-geographic region, the vegetation of this Tiger Reserve is a combination of Bhabar and Terai regions.
- According to the Tiger Census, 2018, the number of tigers in Valmiki Tiger Reserve is 32.
- According to the Forest Survey of India Report 2021, 85.71% of its total area is covered by forest cover.
- Wild mammals found in the forests of Valmiki Tiger Reserve include tiger, sloth bear, leopard, wild dog, bison, wild boar etc.

# Patna's State-Of-The-Art Planetarium

# Why in News

Recently, a 6-member team from Kolkata inspected the planetarium located in Patna, after which the work of digitizing this planetarium has started.



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#### **Key Points**

- Patna Planetarium will be the first such planetarium in the country, where 6 Red, Green and Blue (RGB) Pure Laser Projectors will be installed. There are many types of colors in these projectors.
- These projectors will combine RGB rays through a computer to create the actual colors for the show, giving the audience a feeling of being in space.
- This projection system will be equipped with suitable and modern technology according to the 16 meter diameter dome area. Its total cost will be Rs 36 crore 13 lakh 20 thousand.
- This projector will provide the facility to watch 2D and 3D shows.
- Significantly, there are 22 planetariums in the country, out of which Kolkata Science City and Karnataka Pilikula Swami Vivekananda Planetarium have 3D projectors. All other planetariums have 2D projectors.
- It is known that apart from Patna in Bihar, the construction work of planetarium in Gaya and Bhagalpur is also in progress.
- RGB Pure Laser Projector has a lifespan of more than 40 thousand hours. It has a cooling system. There is no harmful effect on the eyes from this projector. It has a higher brightness than a digital projector.

# National Mission for Inter-disciplinary Cyber Physical System

### Why in News

- On February 21, 2022, Divya Sampark Innovation Hub of IIT Roorkee was designated as a Technology Innovation Hub.
  - This designation was given for imparting training in technology development, skill development, entrepreneurship and startup subjects under the Multidisciplinary Cyber Physical System Scheme (NM-ICPS) of the Government of India in all the state engineering colleges of the state.

### **Key Points**

NM-ICPS is an umbrella mission, which will address the issues of technology development, human resource development, entrepreneurship and startup development and related technologies in cyber physical systems.

- The mission aims to create 15 technology innovation centres, 6 investment innovation centers and 4 technology based innovation centres.
- This mission was approved by the Central Government in 2018 for a term of 5 years.

# Swine Fever

# Why in News

Recently, more than a thousand pigs have died in Saran district of Bihar, for which prima facie swine fever is believed to be responsible.

#### **Key Points**

Swine fever is a contagious animal disease. There are mainly two types of it:

#### 1. African Swine Fever (ASF)

- It is a highly contagious and fatal animal disease, which infects domestic and wild boars and leads to an acute form of hemorrhagic fever.
- ASF does not pose a threat to humans, as it only spreads from animal to animal.

#### 2. Classical Swine Fever (CSF)

- CSF is also known as Hog Cholera.
- It is caused by a virus of the genus Pestivirus (family Flaviviridae), which is closely related to the viruses that cause bovine viral diarrhea in cattle and border disease in sheep.
- ICAR-IVRI has developed a cell culture CSF vaccine (live attenuated) using lapinized vaccinia virus from a foreign strain.

# **BIHAR DIGIPEX, 2022**

#### Why in News

On February 24, 2022, Bihar Governor Fagu Chauhan inaugurated the first state-level virtual postage stamp exhibition 'Bihar Digipax'.

### **Key Points**

The exhibition is being organized by Bihar Postal Circle from February 24 to 27 with the theme 'Rich Cultural Heritage of India'.



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- The objective of this philately exhibition is to promote the hobby of philately as well as provide an opportunity to philatelists, especially budding and young philatelists and students to showcase their collections.
- In order to encourage philately, the Department of Posts under the Ministry of Communications of the Central Government had started 'Deen Dayal Sparsh Yojana'.
- This is a scholarship scheme for school children from all over India. Under this scheme, scholarships are given annually to those children of classes VI to IX, who have good academic results and who have chosen philately as an interest.

# 100 APHCs of the State Will Become Model Mospitals

# Why in the News

Recently, the Health Department, Government of Bihar has decided to make 100 additional Primary Health Centers (APHCs) as model hospitals, taking initiative to improve health facilities in remote rural areas in the state.

### **Key Points**

- By making 100 APHCs as model hospitals in the financial year 2022-23, people will get the facility of diagnosis of serious diseases and initial treatment of all diseases.
- In these 100 APHCs, arrangements will be made for strengthening the infrastructure, construction of rooms as per requirement, testing equipment etc. under the National Health Mission.
- The State Health Committee has expressed the need to develop APHC as a model hospital under the proposed plan budget proposal for the year 2022-23 before the Union Ministry of Family and Health Welfare, Government of India. Implementation will start after the Central Government approves this proposal and allocates the amount.
- Health Sub Centers and APHCs are being upgraded and converted into Health and Wellness Centers. At the same time, by strengthening the infrastructure in the model APHC, facilities for initial treatment will be provided to the patients there.

- One doctor, two ANMs will be deployed in APHC. Along with this, all facilities related to non-communicable diseases, diabetes, blood pressure and other diseases, telemedicine facilities including vaccination facility will also be made available in these hospitals.
- Apart from this, other facilities will also be available along with pregnancy and childbirth care, newborn and child health care, child and adolescent health care, family planning, contraceptive services, communicable disease management, non-communicable diseases screening and referral and follow-up arrangements.

# Bihar Economic Survey 2021-22

# Why in News

Recently, Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister Tarkishore Prasad presented the state's 16th Economic Survey 2021-22 on the floor of the House on the first day of the budget session of the Bihar Legislative Assembly.

# Key Points

- According to the Economic Survey, Bihar's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) grew by 2.5 percent in 2020-21 and the growth rate is better than the national average, despite the effect of the 'lockdown' imposed to prevent the Covid-19 epidemic.
- According to the survey, the per capita income in Bihar stood at Rs 50,555 during 2020-21 at the current market price as compared to the per capita income of India at Rs 86,659.
- During the last five years 2016-17 to 2020-21, Bihar grew at the highest rate of 2.3 per cent in primary sector, 4.8 per cent in secondary sector and 8.5 per cent in tertiary sector.
- Agriculture and allied sectors have grown at the rate of 2.1 percent in the state during the last five years 2016-17 to 2020-21.
- The total expenditure of the state government in 2020-21 increased by 13.4 percent over the previous year to Rs 1,65,696 crore, which includes Rs 26,203 crore as capital expenditure and Rs 1,39,493 crore as revenue expenditure.
- Agriculture and allied sectors have grown at the rate of 2.1 per cent during the last five years. The growth rate of livestock and fisheries was 10 percent and 7 percent respectively.



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- The urbanization of the state has increased very rapidly in the last ten years. According to the 2011 census, the level of urbanization in Bihar was just 11.3%, which has increased to 15.3% at present.
- In the year 2011, Bihar had only 3.1 percent of the total urban population of the country. The state government has expressed hope that the level of urbanization in Bihar will be very high in the next decade in view of the urban economy growing at a high rate.
- Like the economic disparity among the districts of Bihar, the survey has also pointed out a great disparity in urbanization. Patna district has the highest level of urbanization (44.3 percent), apart from this, only two districts- Munger (28.3 percent) and Nalanda (26.2 percent) have more than 25 percent urbanization.
- According to the figures for the year 2019-20, Patna district tops in terms of per capita income with Rs 131.1 thousand. Begusarai district is at the second place, whose per capita income is Rs 51.4 thousand. In terms of per capita income, they are followed by Munger (44.3 thousand), Bhagalpur (41.8 thousand), Rohtas (35.8 thousand), Muzaffarpur (34.8 thousand), Aurangabad (32 thousand), Gaya (31.9 thousand), Bhojpur (31.6 thousand) and Vaishali (Rs 30.9 thousand).
- The districts with low per capita income are Sheohar (Rs 19.6 thousand), Araria (20.6 thousand), Sitamarhi (22.1 thousand), East Champaran (22.3 thousand), Madhubani (22.6 thousand), Supaul (22.9 thousand), Kishanganj (23.2 thousand) and Nawada (Rs 23.4 thousand).

# Bihar Police Reforms

# Why in News

During the closing ceremony of Police Week on February 27, 2022, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said that the state government is aimed at increasing the number of policemen in the state from 165 to 170 per one lakh population.

# **Key Points**

- It is worth mentioning that the sanctioned strength of policemen per lakh persons in India is 195.39 while the actual number is 155.78. At the same time, Bihar still has only 100 policemen per one lakh population.
- According to the NCRB 2020 data, Bihar is ranked 23rd in terms of crime rate, while in terms of crimes itself, it has been ranked third in terms of population and 12th in terms of area.
- Modern policing in Bihar began in 1862 with the enactment of the Indian Police Act, 1861.
- Post-independence Bihar Police inherited a rich tradition with the introduction of innovative policing and welfare practices such as the creation of the Police Welfare Fund, Police Hospital and Police Information Cell (PIR) in 1952.
- A Police Commission was also set up in 1958, whose task was to bring the police closer to the people.

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Key Points	Details
Key Points	Details

# Summary

Key Points	Details

# Summary