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Door-to-Door Parcel Product Scheme

Why In News?

In a meeting of officials and businessmen of the Indian Railways and Postal Department (Bihar Circle) held in Patna, the capital of Bihar, on January 1, 2023, it was told that now **businessmen of Patna will not have to travel to the railway station to send and receive their parcel (luggage) by train to any corner of the country.** For this, the Department of Posts and Indian Railways are jointly starting **door-to-door parcel product scheme.**

Key Points

- According to information received from officials, the door-to-door parcel product scheme will start in the second week of January on the **Patna-Howrah and Patna-Pune routes under a pilot project.** Under this, now the postman will deliver the parcel to the address given on it or will also go to take it.
- Under this scheme, the parcel will be delivered safely without wear and tear. For this, the Department of Posts has entered into an agreement with **Bajaj Allianz Insurance Company**, under which insurance can be done by paying **0.30 percent of the total cost of the parcel and GST premium.**
- Under this, 100 percent insurance benefits will be given to businessmen. Apart from this, the parcel of the traders will reach the booking place between **24 and 36 hours.** Under this scheme, parcels ranging from **35 to 100 kg** will be booked.
- According to the information received from sources, a number will also be issued for the use of this facility. Apart from this, parcel booking and tracking facility will also be provided through app and website.
- Under the Joint Parcel Product System, parcels will be picked up from the homes of traders. After booking, it will be transported by railway and then transported to the designated address. The postal department will do the work of lifting and booking the parcel from the businessmen's house. Then the parcel will be delivered to the railway station near the designated address. After this, the postal worker will pick up the parcel from the local railway station and deliver the parcel to the booked address.

Two Railway Stations of Begusarai will be Modernized

Why In News?

According to information received from the media on January 2, 2023, the Ministry of Railways has prepared a new policy called '**Amrut Bharat Station Scheme**' for modernization of stations, in which two stations of Begusarai in Bihar have been included in the list of 15 stations selected by Sonpur division.

Key Points

- Under the 'Amrut Bharat Station Scheme', **Lakhminia and Sahebpur Kamal stations** located on Barauni-Katihar section of Bihar will be developed under the Amrut Bharat Station Scheme, which will be upgraded with the availability of various types of high capacity new facilities as well as the existing facilities.
- According to the information, the Ministry of Railways has developed a new plan to modernize more than one thousand small stations in the coming year. The scheme will be part of the Railway Ministry's Station Redevelopment Mission and Amrut Bharat Station Scheme.
- The objective of the scheme is to prepare master plans of railway stations and implement master plans at various stages to enhance the facilities.
- With the introduction of new facilities at the station, the old facilities will also be upgraded under this scheme. Amrut Bharat Station Scheme envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long term vision.
- Under this scheme, efforts will be made to club the waiting rooms of different grades and provide good cafeteria and retail facilities as far as possible. High level platforms (760-840 mm) will be built at all categories of stations and the length of the platforms will generally be six hundred meters. **Free Wi-Fi facility** will be available at the station, for which towers of 5G network will be installed.
- Under the 'Amrut Bharat Station Scheme', special care will be taken of women and disabled people. For this, adequate number of toilets will be built for women and disabled people at all categories of stations. Arrangements will be made to ensure properly designed signage, walkways, well-planned parking areas, better

Note:

lighting by widening the roads, removing unwanted structures. Facilities for the disabled at the stations will be as per the guidelines issued by the Railway Board from time to time.

- Under this scheme, old or dilapidated buildings will be used for high priority passenger related activities. The waiting rooms will be divided through small divisions and there will also be spaces for executive lounges and small business meetings at the station. The station will be decorated with greenery and local art and cultural elements to make the passengers feel pleasant.

Bihar will Soon be Linked to TAF-COP Portal

Why In News?

On January 5, 2023, Senior Deputy Director General of The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) of Bihar, Girjesh Kumar Mishra, said that Bihar will be connected to **TAF-COP (Telecom Analytics for Fraud Management and Consumer Protection) portal** as soon as possible, so that mobile users of the state will be able to find out **how many mobile SIM connections are active in your name and how many of them were taken on fake IDs** and when. is being used.

Key Points

- Girjesh Kumar Mishra said that there are reports of the use of fake SIMs in cyber-crime and anti-national activities, especially in the border areas of Nepal, Raxaul, Purnea, Katihar, Kishanganj, Sitamarhi etc.
- He said that TAF-COP (Telecom Analytics for Fraud Management and Consumer Protection) portal has been specially linked to the North East State.
- The TAF-COP portal was launched in Andhra Pradesh in 2020. So far, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Rajasthan, Telangana, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Jammu and Kashmir and Tripura have been connected to TAF-COP.
- Senior Deputy Director General of DoT said that the data of the state where this portal has to be started is collected and tested. This process takes two to three months. It is being implemented by selecting one state each.

- He said that as soon as the Aadhaar number is entered on the portal, the mobile holder will know how many SIMs are active in his name. Through the portal, consumers can shut down the fraudulently operated SIM connection. For this, the company will have to make a request. After that, the case of the concerned consumer will be thoroughly investigated and if the case is found to be true, the fake connection will be closed.

Bihar's Arwal Women's Police Station Included in the Top Three Police Stations of the Country

Why In News?

On January 5, 2023, the Union Home Ministry has selected **Arwal Women Police Station of Bihar among the top three police stations in the country** for the year 2022.

Key Points

- Arwal Women Police Station has been selected on the basis of best performance in research and execution of cases, prevention of crime initiatives, fast pace of filing of charge sheets in cases etc.
- The top three police stations in the country include Aska police station in Odisha's Ganjam district and Banbasa police station in Champawat district of Uttarakhand .
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah will felicitate the station house officers of all these police stations at the Conference of Directors General of Police to be held in New Delhi on January 20, 2023. Who will get which ranking in the first three will also be announced on the same day.
- In September 2022, a team of the Union Home Ministry inspected the Arwal women's police station. During this time, the Home Ministry team examined the number of pending cases in the register of the police station, the facilities available and also took feedback from the local citizens.
- Arwal Mahila Police Station has all kinds of facilities for women to sit and play with women. This police station also has a ramp for the disabled and the elderly and there are separate women and men lock-ups.

Note:

- It is noteworthy that the Union Home Ministry defines the top police stations of the country on parameters such as crime control and treatment of common citizens.

Bhagalpur Sipped Four Ranks in INSPIRE Award

Why In News?

On January 8, 2023, Shiv Kumar, Additional Chief Program Coordinator of the Quality Treasury of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Bihar, said that **Bhagalpur's ranking has come down this time in the INSPIRE Award**, while in the last year Bhagalpur had secured the **third rank** in the state.

Key Points

- Coordinator Shiv Kumar said that this year **143 children of Bhagalpur district** were selected, even after this Bhagalpur got the seventh rank in the state.
- It is noteworthy that INSPIRE Awards are organized every year with the aim of motivating the children of government schools in the state to innovate.
- To participate in the INSPIRE Award competition, children have to register online. In this award scheme, any student can send new and creative ideas. Ideas are selected on the basis of innovation, practicality, social utility, environmental adaptability and improvement from current technology.
- 1926 children from Bhagalpur district sent ideas to INSPIRE Award. In this, the ideas of 143 children have been selected for the first phase of INSPIRE Award. The selected children will now be given Ten thousand rupees each by the Department of Science and Technology to create models based on ideas.
- Fourteen students from seven schools under the guidance of Natkhat Science Lab in the state have been selected for the first phase of INSPIRE Award. These include Utkrit High School Khaira Bhagalpur, Bhawani Kanya Middle School Khanjarpur, Middle School Rampur, Urdu Middle School Champanagar, Madanlal Kanya Middle School Bhagalpur, Middle School Nathnagar Number One etc.

61 Blocks of Bihar Included in Country's 500 Aspirational Block Programme

Why In News?

According to information received from media sources on January 10, 2023, the Central Government has started the Aspirational Block Programme on the lines of the Aspirational District Program. For this, **500 backward blocks of the country have been selected, including 61 blocks of Bihar.**

Key Points

- Niti Aayog has set a standard for the selection of blocks under the Aspirational District Programme launched to bring backward blocks forward on many scales of development. To select blocks, Niti Aayog has based per capita income and population, in which per capita income has been given 75% and population has been given **25% weightage**. On this basis, blocks have been selected from different states.
- Out of 27 backward districts of Bihar, 61 blocks have been selected. Similarly, 68 blocks have been selected from Uttar Pradesh, 34 from Jharkhand and 29 each from Odisha and West Bengal under the Aspirational Block Programme.
- Like the aspirational districts, special attention will be paid to indicators like health and nutrition, education, agriculture and water resources, financial inclusion and skill development in these blocks, which are backward on many parameters of development.
- Additional funds will also be managed by the Centre for these districts. The ranking of blocks will be done so that the competition to move forward in them can increase.
- The Aspirational District Programme implemented in 2018 includes 12 districts of Bihar - **Katihar, Begusarai, Sheikhpura, Araria, Khagaria, Purnea, Aurangabad, Banka, Gaya, Jamui, Muzaffarpur and Nawada.**
- The focus is on developing key sectors like health, nutrition, education, financial condition and infrastructure in these districts. Education mainly includes school education and library facilities, infrastructure in schools.

Note:

3D Dome Screen Imported from Germany Reached Patna

Why In News?

On January 11, 2023, the new **3D Dome Screen Planetarium imported from Germany reached Patna**. With this, soon the people of Patna will get an opportunity to see and understand the world of stars on the **3-D screen in the planetarium**.

Key Points

- The responsibility of modernizing the planetarium of Patna has been given to the German company Carl Zeiss. From next week, the team of Carl Zeiss and NCSM will install separate panels of 3-D dome screens. With this, the projection system of the planetarium will be completely digitized.
- With the modernization of about Rs 34 crore, you will be able to watch world-class films made on the solar system here. Along with this, the laser projector will mix RGB rays through the computer to create real colors for 3-D shows.
- The seating arrangement will also be changed for the convenience of the spectators, which will be even more comfortable than before.
- Ananth Kumar, project and programming director of The Planetarium, said that the installation of 3-D screens will start from next week. After this, side walls and seating arrangements will be arranged. By the first week of April 2023, viewers will be able to get acquainted with the world of stars in a new style here.
- Along with the modernization of the planetarium, a separate Space and Astronomy Gallery will be prepared for the visitors coming here. The new gallery will be constructed on the first floor of the planetarium building in about 600 square feet at a cost of Rs 2 crore. In this gallery, people will be given detailed information about space, galaxy, star and solar system through multimedia panels and interactive exhibits.
- The Space and Astronomy Gallery has been designed by a team from the National Council of Science Museums. The gallery will be built using the latest technology using LED screens, laser-based projectors and updated display techniques.

Indications of Ancient Pataliputra Remains Found in Patna City in GPR Survey

Why In News?

Recently, the Bihar state government has started a survey with **Ground Painting Radar (GPR) to find the remains of ancient Pataliputra**. In which there are signs of finding the remains of ancient Pataliputra.

Key Points

- The GPR survey is currently being conducted by a team from IIT Kanpur in the areas around Gulzarbagh. The team said that there are signs of a brick wall between 490 BC-180 BC around Gulzarbagh.
- In this survey, there are signs of remains being found below 80 centimeters to 2.5 meters, which are in different directions. There are also signs of remains under Begum's mansion and BNR Training College.
- In fact, before the archaeological excavation, the GPR survey finds a symbolic signal of the historical remains. Based on this indication, the Archaeological Survey of India conducts excavations.
- According to the survey team, there are signs of multi-structure residue one meter below the ground of BNR Training College. According to experts, evidence of a tunnel that may be going towards the River Ganga is being found. In the 3D profile of this survey, structures ranging from one meter to three meters of Mauryan period are visible.
- Significantly, GPR is a geophysical method, which uses radar for surface image. It is a way of surveying subsurface to check underground utilities such as sites of archaeological importance. With this state-of-the-art survey technique, all the information up to 15 meters below the ground is easily available without digging. Excavations at important places, where historical heritage can be buried, are more prone to their destruction, but there is no damage in this survey.

Former Union Minister Sharad Yadav Passed Away

Why In News?

On January 12, 2023, former Union Minister and former **National President of Janata Dal (United) Sharad Yadav passed away** at a hospital in Gurugram at the age of 75.

Note:

Key Points

- Born on July 1, 1947 in Babai village of Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh, Sharad Yadav was first elected to the Lok Sabha in 1974 in a by-election from Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh.
- Sharad Yadav was a minister in the V P Singh-led government in 1989. He took charge as the Union Minister handling the portfolio of civil aviation and food and civil supplies in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee-led government in the late 90s.
- He was the first JD (U) president and held the post from 2003 to 2016 . In May 2018, he launched the Loktantrik Janata Dal (LJD) after parting ways with the JD(U) due to an alliance with the BJP in Bihar. In March 2022, he merged his party Loktantrik Janata Dal with the Rashtriya Janata Dal.
- A ten-time MP (seven times in Lok Sabha and three times in Rajya Sabha), Sharad Yadav was regarded as a socialist leader for a long time. He was inspired by the philosophy of Ram Manohar Lohia and was one of the prominent faces of the JP movement.
- Sharad Yadav won the Lok Sabha elections from three states - twice from Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh, once from Badaun in Uttar Pradesh and four times from Madhepura in Bihar.

PK Shahi became the New Advocate General of Bihar

Why In News?

According to information received from the media on January 13, 2023, the Bihar government has appointed **former state minister and senior advocate of Patna High Court Prashant Kumar Shahi as the new Advocate General of the state**. The notification for their appointment has been issued.

Key points

- It is noteworthy that Prashant Kumar Shahi will replace former advocate Lalit Kishore. Lalit Kishore was appointed as the 21st Advocate General of the Patna High Court on July 31, 2017.
- Advocate Prashant Kumar Shahi has also been the Advocate General of Bihar in the past. From 2005 to 2010 , he was the Advocate General of the state government. He was also made education minister

in Nitish Kumar's government. After stepping down from the post of minister, he again started practicing in the Patna High Court.

Jio True 5G Service Launched in Patna and Muzaffarpur

Why In News?

On January 14, 2023, Reliance Jio launched its **True 5G services in Bihar's capital Patna and Muzaffarpur city**.

Key points

- The urban area of Patna from Patna Sahib to Danapur and the urban area of Muzaffarpur will now get coverage of Jio True 5G.
- The company claims that by December 2023, Jio True 5G will be available in every town and every village of Bihar and Jharkhand.
- According to the company, Jio users in Patna and Muzaffarpur are being invited under the Jio Welcome Offer. Invited users will get unlimited data at 1 Gbps speed at no additional cost.
- On the launch, a Jio spokesperson said that we have accelerated the speed of True 5G rollout across the country, because we want every Jio user to benefit from Jio True 5G technology in the year 2023 .
- The cities where True Jio has been launched are among the important tourist, business and industrial centers of the country.
- With the launch of Jio's True 5G services, consumers in the region will not only get the best of the best telecom network but also growth opportunities in the areas of e-governance, education, automation, artificial intelligence, gaming, healthcare, agriculture, IT.

Former DGP Singhal Became the Chairman of the Central Selection Council

Why In News?

On January 14, 2023, Bihar state government has **appointed former DGP SK Singhal as the new chairman of the Central Selection Council**. The Home Department issued a notification for this.

Note:



Key points

- The extended term of the Council's current chairman KS Dwivedi will end on January 20, 2023. After this, Singhal will take over as the new chairman.
- The government has appointed SK Singhal as the chairman of the selection council for the next three years. On December 19, 2022, SK Singhal retired from the post of DGP.
- It is noteworthy that the current president KS Dwivedi was also given this responsibility by the government after retiring from the post of DPP of Bihar. He was also given a six-month extension.
- Apart from the post of constable in Bihar Police, the Central Selection Council also conducts examinations for appointments in other departments.
- Sanjeev Kumar Singhal is a 1988 batch officer of the Indian Police Service. As the chairman of the Central Selection Council, SK Singhal will continue to get salary and all facilities as per government provisions.

Union Ministry of Mines and Coal Allots Seven Blocks for Mining of Various Minerals in Bihar

Why In News?

Recently, Union Ministry of Mines and Coal has allotted seven blocks to Bihar State Government for mining of Gluconite (Potash), Chromium, Nickel including Platinum Group of Elements, Magnetite (Iron), Bauxite and Rare Earth metals in Bihar.

Key points

- The mining of these minerals will start this year itself. For this, the proposal for approval of mining in all these will be presented in the meeting of the State Council of Ministers on behalf of the Department of Mines and Geology. In this, guidelines will also be set regarding the income from mineral elements to the state government and the mining agency.
- As soon as the approval of the State Council of Ministers is received, the auction process of the mines present in the four districts will start. It includes Rohtas, Gaya, Aurangabad and Jamui. The government is taking the services of 'SBI Caps' to prepare its report.

- It may be noted that the Department of Mines and Geology has sought a detailed report from SBI Caps-Investment Bank and Project Consultant. After the report is received, the state government will start the process of allowing mining of glauconite and iron ore deposits worth about Rs 20,000 crore on lease basis in all districts.
- Earlier in the survey, about 25 sq. km in Rohtas district. Gluconite was found in the area. In this, 10 sq. km in Nawadih block of the district, eight sq. km in Tipa. And 7 sq. km in Shahpur block. area is included.
- Along with this, Gaya and about eight square kilometers in Danjana and surrounding areas of Madanpur block on the border of Aurangabad district. Nickel and chromium have been found in the area.
- It is notable that Gluconite (Potash) is widely used in medicine and chemical fertilizers. Nickel is used to coat iron and other metals to protect them from rusting. It is an element having ferromagnetism and magnets made from it are used in many industries.
- Apart from this, nickel is added to steel to make it 'stainless' (corrosion-proof), while chromium is used to make alloys. To make steel harder, it is used in tanning. It is also effective in controlling glucose in the human body. It is effective in green tinting of glass, chrome plating and other works. It is used in the oil industry as a catalyst, electrical engineering and as a corrosion inhibitor.

Koel Canal will be Constructed in Bihar at a Cost of Rs 1364 Crore

Why In News?

On January 16, 2023, Umesh Kumar, executive engineer of Bihar's Nabinagar Water Resources Department, said that the way for the reconstruction of North Koel Canal in Bihar has been cleared. DPR has been prepared in this regard.

Key points

- Executive Engineer Umesh Kumar said that Aurangabad's Superintending Engineer Virendra Prasad was made the nodal officer for preparing the DPR.
- He informed that the canal will be reconstructed from 103 RD of Jharkhand and Bihar border to 357.9 RD

Note:

till the end of the canal located in Gaya district at a cost of Rs 1364 crore.

- He told that from the month of March-April, the work of distributary bridge-culvert and fall to culvert etc. of all divisions will start from North Koel Canal. With the lining and reconstruction of the canal, the farmers of the district will be able to irrigate paddy and rabi crops.

Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2022

Why In News?

According to the **Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2022** released on January 18, 2023, the English and mathematics abilities of children studying in schools in Bihar have increased, as well as the interest of children in private coaching has increased.

Key points

- According to this report, the attendance of students and teachers in primary schools of Bihar has also increased, while the proportion of unaccounted girls in the age group of 15-16 years has decreased.
- According to the report, the ability to read English among class 5 children in Bihar has increased by 4.3% between the year 2016 and 2022. The number of such children was 18.1 in the year 2018, which has increased to 22.4% in 2022.
- The ability to read English in Class 8 is stable at 43.8% in 2022, the same as in 2014. Similarly, 11.4% of class 3 students in the state were able to read simple sentences of English and 54.5% of the children were able to convey their meaning.
- According to this report, the efficiency of attending class 5 children of government or private schools in the state has increased by 5.5% compared to the year 2018 to 35.4% in 2022. The number of such children in class 5 in government schools has increased by 5.9% and in class 8 by 2.4%.
- The trend of private coaching among children up to class 8th has increased by 9.5%. Under this category, 62.2% of children used to take private tuition in 2018, now this figure has increased to 71.7%.
- It is noteworthy that the trend of private coaching in Bihar is the highest in the country.

- Enrolment has increased by 4.1% even after the closure of government schools during Covid. By the year 2022, the enrolment of children aged six to 14 in government schools in Bihar is 82.2%. The total enrolment in private and government schools in the same age group has been 98%.
- During the year 2022, the number of unaccredited girls in the age group of 11-14 years in Bihar has come down to 1.8%. The proportion of unaccompanied girls aged 15-16 years has come down to 6.7%. The average attendance of pupils in primary schools has increased from 56.5% in 2018 to 59.3% in 2022. 30.2% of primary and 34.9% of upper primary schools had text books.
- Children enrolled up to pre-primary three years in Bihar schools – 77.1%
- Primary government schools with 60 or fewer students in Bihar – 5.8%
- Attendance of teachers in Bihar 68 in 2018. Increased compared to 5% - 80.9%
- It is worth mentioning that a non-governmental organization 'Pratham' releases this report.

PG Girl Students in Bihar will get Full Scholarship for Maternity Leave

Why In News?

On January 19, 2023, the National Medical Commission issued a notice to all medical colleges in Bihar, according to which now **students pursuing post-graduate (PG) in medical colleges** will also be given scholarships for the time taken to complete their studies after maternity leave.

Key points

- Now if the post graduate (PG) students of medical colleges of Bihar stay in maternity leave, then they will not suffer financial loss. Now these students will get scholarships for the period of time taken to complete their studies after maternity leave.
- It is known that earlier such students used to get the benefit of maternity leave only on humanitarian grounds, but they were not given any scholarship during the completion of their three-year course later.

Note:

- Significantly, scholarships are given to the students who have done post-graduation as junior residents. After maternity leave, she has to complete three years of education. The longer she is on leave, her training has to be completed later. They are given degrees only after three years of training.
- It is known that there is a three-year post graduate course in government medical college hospitals of Bihar. In this, students are given a scholarship of Rs 68,545 per month in the first year, while in the second year, Rs 75,399 per month is given as scholarship. Similarly, during the third year of training, a scholarship of Rs 82,000 per month is given to the girl students who do post-graduation.

200 Farmers Cultivating Lychee with Organic Method will get Geo Tag

Why In News?

On January 20, 2023, Dharmendra Singh, General Manager of Muzaffarpur District Industry Center, Bihar, told during a workshop at the District Industry Center that 200 farmers producing Lychee from organic farming in Muzaffarpur will be linked with geo tags, on which their production will be linked. There will be a complete record.

Key points

- Dharmendra Singh, General Manager of District Industries Center, said that when the farmers producing Lychee are linked to the geo tag, people from anywhere in the country and abroad can contact the farmer directly with the help of the geo tag. For this, a team has also been formed by the District Industries Department for the record of farmers producing Lychee under 'One District One Product'.
- It is known that the main purpose of 'One District One Product' is to market the product. In such a situation, a complete action plan has been prepared for the marketing of Lychee.
- During the workshop of District Industries Center, farmers were motivated to promote organic farming of Lychee under 'One District One Product'.
- Nachiketa of Invest India said that organic cultivation of Lychee will provide maximum benefit to the farmers.

He informed the small farmers of the district about the cultivation of Lychee together or by forming an FPO and also told about the benefits of turmeric, mustard, ginger etc. crops in Lychee orchards.

Patna University Student Jabir Ansari Wins Gold in All India Karate Competition

Why in News?

On January 22, 2023, Jabir Ansari, a student of Patna University, created history and won the gold medal in the 75 kg. weight category in the All India Inter University Karate Competition held at Atal Bihari Vajpayee University, Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh).

Key Points

- A five-day All India Inter-University Karate Women's and Men's Competition was held at BR Yadav Indoor Stadium Bahtarai from January 17-22, 2023 under the aegis of Association of Indian Universities and Atal Bihari Vajpayee University, Bilaspur.
- 2500 players from about 200 prestigious universities of the country participated in this competition.
- Renowned karate player Jabir Ansari is a resident of Tumbapahar in Jhajha block under Jamui district. He is currently pursuing his graduation from Patna University.
- It is known that in the Bihar State Karate Championship 2023 held in Patna recently, Jabir Ansari created history by winning the gold medal for the seventh consecutive time. After winning the gold medal, Jabir has been selected for the national competition, which is to be held in Dehradun Uttarakhand from February 17 to 19, 2023.
- Apart from this, Jabir also won a gold medal in the 75 kg. weight category in the 12th All India Open National Karate Competition held from December 22 to 25, 2022 in Bhubaneswar, the capital of Odisha.
- On the basis of outstanding performance in the field of karate, the Bihar government has also honored Jabir with the National Level Sports Honor 3 times. On December 11, 2022, Jabir has been honored with Mahatma Buddha Samman organized by Sankat Haran Sahyog Samiti at Bihar Industries Association, Patna.

Note:



Bihar Caste Based Survey Portal Launched

Why In News?

The Bihar caste-based survey portal was launched by Bihar Chief Secretary Amir Subhani on January 23, 2022. This portal will be useful for all types of digital management in ethnic survey work.

Key points

- The first phase of caste census in Bihar has been completed. All the data collected in the first phase will now be uploaded on this portal and these data will be available to the enumerators and observers at the time of second count on the mobile app. Based on this, the second phase will be calculated.
- In the first phase of caste census, about 2 crore 58 lakh 90 thousand 497 families across the state were reached by the counting staff and numbering houses.
- In the first phase, the name of the head of the family and the number of members living there were recorded. More than 5.18 lakh workers were engaged in the first phase of caste census that began on January 7.
- In the second phase, caste census will be conducted from April 1 to 30. In this phase, 26 types of information will be taken from people. The names of people living outside the state will also be recorded.
- Tola Sevak, Talimi Markaz, Mamta, Asha worker, Jeevika Didiyan, Teacher, Agriculture Coordinator, MNREGA worker, Rozgar Sevak and Vikas Mitra have been given the responsibility for caste enumeration.

State's First Self-Moot and Digital Court Made in Bhagalpur

Why In News?

On January 24, 2023, senior advocate Anil Jha said that a self-moot and digital court has been set up in Nath Nagar, Bhagalpur for the people of the state to hear the

High Court and the Supreme Court. Now from here, court hearings across the country can be done digitally.

Key points

- It is noteworthy that it has been built by senior advocate Anil Jha in Noorpur of Nath Nagar. Senior advocate Anil Jha claims that this is the first court in Bihar. So far, no advocate has made such a system. This court has been built in 10 decimals i.e., four kathas of land, in which a large hall has been built.
- In this, an arrangement has been made for the judge to sit. A witness box has been made for the appearance of witnesses. Apart from this, a 65-inch LCD has been installed. Computers, cameras and other digital machines have been installed. Now advocates will be able to sit here and argue for any court case.
- It is known that the first case in this moot court was fought online in a case related to cheque bounce pending in Rohini Court of Delhi. The case was filed by Bhagalpur-based complainant Prakash Sharma in Delhi's Rohini court, which was heard. Apart from this, the case of a big robbery of Two crore rupees by entering Axis Bank in Murshidabad, Bengal, is being fought on behalf of the accused, its trial is going on online through the Moot Court.
- Advocate Anil Jha said that this digital court will be used by any advocate who fights high court and Supreme Court cases. It's a free service for them. For this, an association will be formed, in which active advocates will be added.
- **Self-moot and digital court – For** the last three to four years, the hearing of high court and Supreme Court cases has started to be done digitally i.e., online. Advocates join the hearing by downloading the app in mobile or laptop sitting at home. To solve the problems faced in hearings on laptops and mobiles, lawyers build digital courts with private funds in their own or rented houses. Due to this, advocates and people associated with the case do not have to go to the High Court and the Supreme Court.
- Law Consultant Rajesh Kumar Tiwari said that new lawyers get a good opportunity to learn in the moot court. New lawyers learn a good style of arguing, remove hesitation and make it easier to fight a case from a distant court.

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Three Personalities of Bihar Selected for Padma Shri

Why In News?

On January 25, 2023, the President announced the country's highest civilian awards 'Padma Awards' for the year 2023 on the eve of Republic Day. Among these, three personalities from Bihar have been selected for the Padma Shri award.

Key points

- The President has approved the conferment of 106 Padma Awards including three dual cases (in a dual case, the award is counted as one) for the year 2023.
- The list includes 6 Padma Vibhushan, 9 Padma Bhushan and 91 Padma Shri awardees. The list of awardees includes 19 women and 2 persons from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI and 7 posthumous awardees.
- The three personalities from Bihar selected for the Padma Shri award are Subhadra Devi, Anand Kumar and Kapil Dev Prasad.
- Subhadra Devi and Kapil Dev Prasad have been selected for the Padma Shri award for distinguished service in the field of art, while Anand Kumar has been selected for the Padma Shri award for distinguished service in the field of literature and education.
- Subhadra Devi of Madhubani is a Paper Massy artist. He brought this art to the people. At the same time, Kapildev Prasad of Nalanda has given an identity to Bawan Buti art, sarees made from this art are very much liked by him. Super 30 founder Anand Kumar has been a mathematician as well as editor of many national and international level journals.
- Significantly, Padma award is included in the highest civilian awards of the country. The Padma awards are given in three categories - Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri. The awards are announced on Republic Day every year.
- The awards, social work public affairs science and engineering are given in the fields of various disciplines trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service etc/activities such as art.
- 'Padma Vibhushan' is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service, 'Padma Bhushan' for distinguished service of high order and 'Padma Shri' for distinguished service in any field.

- These awards are presented by the President of India in ceremonial ceremonies which are usually held at Rashtrapati Bhavan around March/April every year.

President's Vishisht Seva Medal to Two Bihar Police Personnel and Meritorious Police Service Medal For 17

Why In News?

According to information received from the media on January 26, 2023, two personnel of Bihar Police have received The President's Distinguished Service Medal and 17 have received the Meritorious Police Service Medal. The Union Home Ministry has issued a notification in this regard.

Key points

- This is the third year in a row that no one has received the Police Gallantry Medal from here.
- The recipients of the Vishisht Seva Medal include **Vinay Kumar Sharma, SDPO of Neemchak Bathani** in Gaya district, and Inspector Vinay Krishna of the Economic Offences Unit (EOU).
- Apart from this, 17 personnel from IG to Havaldar have been awarded the Meritorious Police Service Medal. These include IG (Headquarters) Vinay Kumar and others.
- The list of recipients of this medal includes the largest number of CID and Dumraon-based BSAP (Bihar Special Armed Police) personnel.
- These 17 received meritorious police service medals
 - Vinay Kumar, IG (Headquarters), Police Headquarters, Bihar
 - Alamnath Bhuiya, Havaldar, Kishanganj
 - Awadhesh Kumar Singh, Havaldar, B-SAP - 4, Dumraon, Buxar
 - Akshay bar Nath Pandey, Constable, BSAP Headquarters, Patna
 - Sanjay Kumar Shekhar, ASI, ATS, Patna
 - Santosh Kumar Dixit, ASI, CID, Patna
 - Alok Kumar, Constable, SCRB, Patna
 - Devendra Kumar, ASI, CID, Patna
 - Dharamraj Sharma, Constable, Police Headquarters

Note:



- Dhnanjay Kumar, Constable - 107, CID, Patna
- Baijnath Kumar, Constable, Kishanganj
- Sanjay Kumar, Constable - 69, CID, Patna
- Mukhtar Ali, Constable - 217, CID, Patna
- Boas Aind, Havaladar, BSAP - 4, Dumraon, Buxar
- Panchratna Prasad Gond, Havaladar, BSAP - 4 Dumraon
- Sikandar Kumar, Havaladar, BSAP - 4, Dumraon
- Satyendra Kumar, Havaladar, BSAP - 4 Dumraon
- Vinay Kumar Sharma, who was awarded Vishisht Seva Medal, is currently posted as SDPO in Neemchak Bathani subdivision of Gaya district. He has been awarded this medal for his outstanding performance during his 28 years of service. Earlier, 2017 the Meritorious Police Service Medal in 2018 and the Internal Security Medal in, the Bravery Award in 2019 for outstanding work in the field of Naxalism have been awarded.

Bihar Ranks First in the Country in Prime Minister's Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME)

Why In News?

On 27 January 2022, Sandeep Poundrik, Principal Secretary, Bihar Industries Department, informed that Bihar ranks first in the country in implementing the Prime Minister's ambitious entrepreneur scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Formulation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME)'.

Key points

- According to Principal Secretary Sandeep Poundrick, Bihar has so far approved the highest number of loan cases in the country at 450. In the last two financial years (2020-21 and 2021-22), only 20 loan cases were approved across Bihar. In the current financial year, the target is to get 2050 loans approved in Bihar.
- Compared to Bihar, 205 loan cases have been approved in Maharashtra and in Telangana 296 so far in the current financial year. The situation in the rest of the States is even weaker.

- Bihar had sent the 16-23 highest number of applications to banks under the PMFME scheme in the week of January 2023. However, the acceptance rate is weak compared to applications.
- Under the PMFME scheme, more attention is given to food processing such as Mini Rice Mill, Flower Mill, Pickle Unit, Papad Unit, Makhana Unit, Noodle/Pasta Unit etc. In this also, up to 35 percent subsidy is given.
- The five districts of Bihar accounted for the highest number of cases in PMFME — Samastipur (46), Nalanda (30), Patna (24), Muzaffarpur (22) and Siwan (18).
- The objective of the scheme is to promote the competitiveness of existing individual micro enterprises in the unorganized sector of food processing industry. It also aims to provide support to farmer producer organizations, self-help groups and producer cooperatives.
- This scheme has been implemented for a period of five years, i.e., from 2020-21 to the financial year 2024-25.

Patna's Four Government Superspeciality Hospitals will be Autonomous

Why In News?

According to the information given by the Health Department of Bihar on January 30, 2023, four government super speciality hospitals of the state will get autonomy on the lines of Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences.

Key points

- Giving autonomy to government superspeciality hospitals will reduce the dependence of these institutions on the government and develop the capacity to provide better treatment, educational activities, and development.
- The institutions to which the initiative has been taken to give autonomy include Indira Gandhi Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (IGIC), Rajendra Nagar Ophthalmology Hospital, New Gardiner Road Hospital and Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan Orthopaedic Hospital, Shastri Nagar.
- Sources say that its draft is being prepared in the Health Department. First paperwork is being done, in which the department is defining super specialty

Note:



hospitals.

- Apart from this, the power in autonomous institutions is being defined, so that the power to operate the institute will be assigned, in what manner the director will be appointed and how the board of directors of all these autonomous institutions will be formed, what will be the power of the board of directors and what will be the role of the director etc.
- After giving autonomy to these superspeciality hospitals, how will the appointment of specialists, appointment of staff, method of buying medicines, sanitation and outsourcing of security agencies be done. What will be the power of the institute to determine fees, such as patient registration, pathology, and radiology check-up, OPD fee or IPD fee? This fee will be charged from the patients or free treatment facilities will be given, etc. is being drafted.
- The DNB course will be conducted in all the four hospitals of the capital. Work has started at the departmental level by the Health Department on all these things, what will be the seat in the DNB course and what will be the arrangement for their training.

Bihar Tops ISRO's Night-Time Light Atlas

Why In News?

On 30 January 2023, two senior ISRO officials said that the report released by the National Remote Sensing Center has claimed that Bihar has now not only come out of darkness but has also become the first among the shining states of the country.

Key points

- The report said that night-time lights in India have 43 percent increased by within a decade.

- Senior officials said there could be three major reasons for the rise in night-time lights, including Saubhagya yojana, Ujjwala yojana and construction of national highways.
- It is known that night light is used by economists to track the economic development of regions around the world.
- last decade (According to 2012 to 2021 prepared by ISRO's National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) for the Night-time Light (NTL)), Atlas 45% there has been an average growth of at the national level, while in the state of Bihar this increase has been 47.4%. Which are far ahead of other states of the country. This extraordinary achievement of the State is certainly the result of the extensive work done for strengthening and expanding the power sector in the last decade.
- In the big states, this increase in the last decade is followed by Bihar in Kerala by 119%, Madhya Pradesh by 66%, Uttar Pradesh by 100% and Gujarat by 58%.
- Sanjeev Hans, Principal Secretary, Department of Energy and Chairman--Managing Director of BSPHCL, said that the dictal change of lifetime light (NTL) issued by ISRO has been prepared after scientific analysis from 2012 to 2021.
- He informed that the 47.4% growth shown by the State of Bihar clearly shows that power companies are constantly striving for 24x7 power availability in the state.
- The above indices have been prepared by RSC based on data from NASA and National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration. In the NRSC report, scientists have conducted an in-depth study about the change in light at the national level and district level from 2012 to 2021.



Note:

