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Chief Minister Inaugurated State Level Kabaddi Competition

Why In News?

On the occasion of birth anniversaries of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on October 2, 2023, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated the state-level one-day Kabaddi competition at Municipality Amaleshwardih in Durg district.

Key Points:

- It is worth mentioning that this competition has been organized under the joint auspices of Shiv Shakti Krida Mandal and Nagar Palika Amaleshwardih Chhattisgarh.
- About 64 teams are participating in the state level Kabaddi competition. Out of which 40 teams of men's category and 24 teams of women's category are included. Attractive prizes will also be given to the teams involved in the competition.
- Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that various sports academies including tennis, archery and hockey have been started in the state, which is providing an opportunity to the sports talent of Chhattisgarh. The players of the state are being selected for national and international level competitions.
- He said that in order to preserve the traditions, Chhattisgarh Olympics has been started and traditional sports like Bhoonra, Bati, Pithul, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Phugdi have been included in it.



The Team of State Sports Academy Bahtrai Bilaspur won the Final in the Major Dhyan Chand Cup All India Women Hockey Tournament.

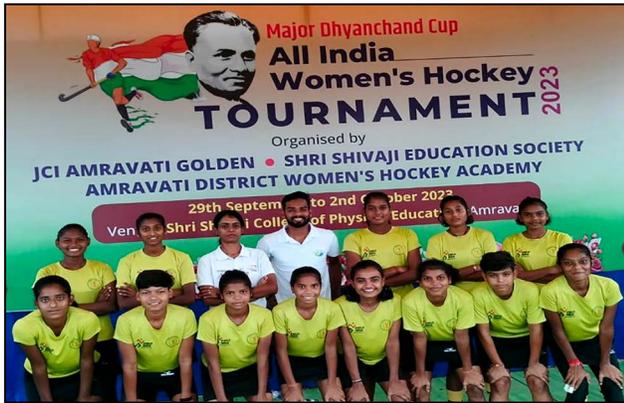
Why In News?

On October 2, 2023, Chhattisgarh team won the Major Dhyan Chand Cup All India Women's Hockey Tournament 2023. Yadav State Sports Academy Chhattisgarh (Residential Excellence Centre) Bahtarai Bilaspur won the final match by defeating Sai Mumbai by 5 goals against 4 in a thrilling match.

Key Points:

- In this tournament held in Amravati, Maharashtra, the Chhattisgarh team performed better from the beginning and reached the final. Geeta Yadav, Rukmani, Anita, Sampada and Mamta all scored 1-1 goals in the final match.
- In the previous match, late B.R. Yadav State Sports Academy Chhattisgarh (Residential Excellence Centre) Bahtarai Bilaspur defeated Patna 4-0, Kolkata 2-0 and entered the final by equalizing 1-1 goals from Steel Plant Delhi.
- In the first match, Geeta Yadav scored 2 goals, Jahnvi scored 01 goal in the second match and Madhu Seeder scored 01 goal in the semi-finals. Apart from this, other members of the team Sampradaya Nirmalkar, Mateshwari Lahare, Rukmani Khusro, Anita Khusro, Yashoda, Meenakshi Umri, Bhumika Dhankar, Damini Khusro, Karuna Sahu, Akshita Ahuja, Anjali Banjare, Twinkle, Doli, Smita also performed well throughout the tournament.

Note:



Prime Minister laid the Foundation Stone of Several Development Projects worth about Rs 27,000 crore in Jagdalpur and Dedicated to the Nation

Why In News?

On October 3, 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of several development projects worth about Rs 27,000 crore in Jagdalpur in Bastar district of Chhattisgarh and dedicated it to the nation.

Key Points:

- These projects include several projects in the railway and road sectors as well as the inauguration of the over Rs 23,800 crore steel plant of NMDC Steel Limited at Nagarnar in Bastar district.
- Built at a cost of over Rs 23,800 crore, the steel plant is a greenfield project, which will produce high quality steel.
- The steel plant of NMDC Steel Limited at Nagarnar will provide employment opportunities to thousands of people at the plant as well as in supporting and downstream industries.
- This will put Bastar on the steel map of the world and promote socio-economic development of the region.
- In line with the Prime Minister's vision of improving rail infrastructure across the country, the foundation stone of several rail projects was laid and dedicated to the nation during the event.
- The Prime Minister dedicated to the nation a new rail line between Antagarh and Taroki and a rail line doubling project between Jagdalpur and Dantewada.

- He laid the foundation stone for the redevelopment of Jagdalpur station under the Boridand-Surajpur Railway Line Doubling Project and Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.
- The Prime Minister also flagged off the Taroki-Raipur DEMU train service.
- These rail projects will improve connectivity in the tribal areas of the state. The improved rail infrastructure and new train service will benefit local people and help the economic development of the area.
- The Prime Minister also dedicated to the nation a road upgradation project from 'Kunkuri to Chhattisgarh-Jharkhand border section' of National Highway-43. The new road will improve road connectivity, which will benefit the people of the area.



Note:



Chief Minister launches 'Swami Atmanand Coaching' Scheme

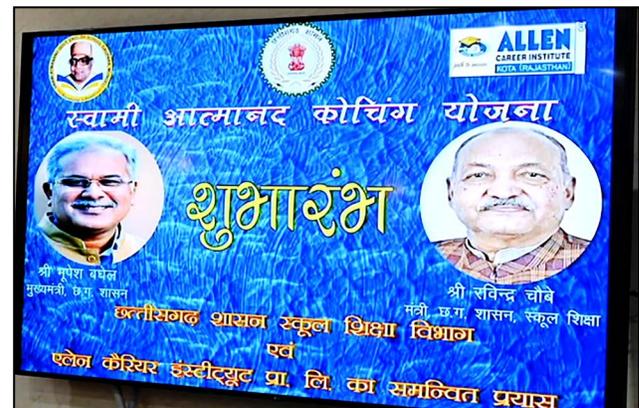
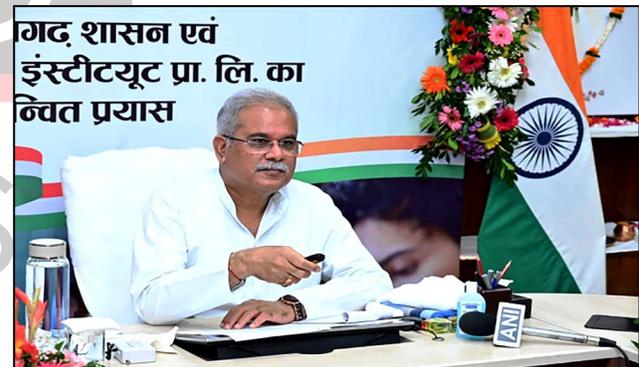
Why In News?

On October 3, 2023, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched the School Education Department's innovative 'Swami Atmanand Coaching' Scheme online from his residence office for competitive examinations of engineering and medical.

Key Points:

- Under this scheme, free coaching will be given to class 12th students in government schools through 146 development block headquarters of the state and 150 coaching centers including four cities - Raipur, Durg, Bilaspur and Korba.
- In front of Chief Minister Baghel and School Education Minister Ravindra Choubey, an MoU was signed between Samagra Shiksha, Chhattisgarh TextBook Corporation and Allen Career Coaching Institute Private Limited under the School Education Department for running the Swami Atmanand Coaching Scheme.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister released a brochure prepared by the School Education Department regarding the Swami Atmanand Coaching Scheme.
- The Chief Minister said that 753 Swami Atmanand excellent English and Hindi medium schools are being run in the state to provide excellent education to the children including rural and remote areas. Swami Atmanand Coaching Scheme launched today in the state will prove to be a revolutionary decision and an important step in the field of education.

- The Chief Minister said that under this scheme, proper arrangements have been made for coaching as well as teachers. Separate nodal teachers have been identified for Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics subjects in a coaching center.
- There will be regular observation of teaching work in coaching centers and feedback from parents will also be taken. There will be two-way communication in online classes, that is, students will be able to ask questions to subject teachers. During this period, students will be continuously assessed.
- Regarding the Swami Atmanand Coaching Scheme, Principal Secretary School Education Dr. Alok Shukla said that 150 coaching centers including 146 development blocks and four cities of the state - Raipur, Durg, Bilaspur and Korba have been connected with internet connections and computers.
- Here, coaching will be given to the students studying in the Faculty of Mathematics and Biology in class 12th. This free coaching will be given to Hindi and English medium students.
- So far 9 thousand 13 children have been registered under this scheme. Of these, 6 thousand 553 have registered for NEET and 2 thousand 460 have registered for JEE coaching.



Note:



Chief Minister's Big Decision in the Interest of Candidates of Chhattisgarh Public Service Commission

Why In News?

On October 3, 2023, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel gave instructions to bring changes in the system of destruction of documents of the Commission's examinations, keeping in mind the interest of the candidates of Chhattisgarh Public Service Commission.

Key Points:

- In compliance with the instructions of the Chief Minister, the State Government has sent a proposal to the Public Service Commission to increase the period for destruction of answer sheets and documents of the Commission's examinations to two years.
- It is noteworthy that the rules and regulations regarding destruction of answer sheets and documents of PSC exams have been in practice in the state of Chhattisgarh for a long time. The Chief Minister has given necessary instructions to bring changes in this.

Release of 'SDG Baseline and Progress Report, 2022 Chhattisgarh'

Why In News?

On October 4, 2023, Chhattisgarh State Planning Commission Chairman Dr. Preme Sai Singh Tekam released the 'SDG Baseline and Progress Report, 2022 Chhattisgarh' prepared by the respective State Planning Commission of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at Yojana Bhawan, Nava Raipur.

Key Points:

- According to the report, significant achievements have been made by the state in various SDG targets. Of the 40 indicators included in the State Indicator Framework, the target of 2030 has been achieved in 2022 itself. The target of 84 indicators by 2030 is also likely to be achieved in the next 2-3 years.
- **Based on the available data from the indicator related to 'SDG Goal 1 (No Poverty)',** it was clear that according to the 'Multidimensional Poverty Score' (MPI score), an indicator that measures this goal, 40 lakh people in the state have been above the poverty line.
 - In this, the major schemes of the state - Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, Godhan Nyay Yojana, Narva, Garuwa, Ghuruwa, Bari, Mukhyamantri Haat Bazar, Urban Slum Health Scheme, Mukhyamantri Suposhan Yojana, Padhai Tuhaar Dwar etc. contributed significantly.
 - The MPI score is basically an index of 12 indicators related to nutrition, health, standard of living, education and financial inclusion. Chhattisgarh has also performed very well in the indicator 'Health Scheme and Insurance Coverage'. In this, the major schemes of the state, such as Khubchand Baghel Health Assistance Scheme, Mukhyamantri Dawapeti Yojana, Mukhyamantri Bal Shraavan and Hriday Yojana, Dai-Didi and Mahtari Jatan Yojana have contributed significantly.
- **The state's performance in the 'beneficiaries included in the Food Security Act', which has made remarkable progress under 'SDG Goal 2 (Zero Hunger)',** has been significantly contributed by the state's flagship schemes - distribution of food grains at Rs 1 under

Note:

Antyodaya Yojana, Mukhyamantri Suposhan Yojana, iodized amrit salt, chana and sugar supply scheme etc.

- Chhattisgarh has also performed very well in the indicator 'Gross Value Addition in Agriculture'. In this, the main contribution of the state's major schemes, such as Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, progressive increase in the agricultural budget, bringing maximum crops under the ambit of minimum support price is the main contribution.
- The state's performance in indicators of significant progress under 'SDG Goal 4 (Quality Education)' is noteworthy in indicators 'Dropout Rate and Gender Parity Index in Secondary Education', 'Gross Enrolment of Elementary Education', 'Proportion of Trained Teachers', in which the state's flagship schemes - Padhai Tuhar Dwar, Swami Atmanand English Medium School, Uniform Delivery Scheme, Mid-Day Meal Delivery Scheme have contributed significantly.
- **Under 'SDG Goal 5 (Gender Equality)',** the state has achieved the first position in the entire country by performing remarkably. The state's performance in the key indicators of progress such as 'Representation of Women in Local Self-Government', 'Crime against Women' is noteworthy, in which the major schemes of the state - Sabla Yojana, Pauni Pasari Yojana, Mahtari Jatan Yojana, Mukhyamantri Kanyadan Yojana, Sakhi Forest Staff Scheme, Mahila Kosh Yojana etc. have contributed significantly.
- **Under 'SDG Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation)',** the state has made remarkable progress. The state's performance in key indicators of progress such as 'ODF Goal Achievement', 'Sewage Treatment', 'Piped Water Supply', 'Improved Drinking Water Source Users', 'Toilet Facility to Urban and Rural Population' is remarkable, in which the state's flagship schemes - Rural Water Supply Scheme and Swachh Bharat Mission etc. have contributed significantly.
- **Under 'SDG Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economy Growth)',** the state has achieved remarkable progress. The state's performance in key indicators of progress such as 'Ease of Doing Business Score', 'Bank Account Holder Family' is remarkable, in which the state's flagship schemes - Ripa Yojana, Chief Minister's Urban and Rural Livelihood Mission, Mukhyamantri Yuva Swarojgar Yojana etc. have contributed significantly.
- **Under 'SDG Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)',** the state has achieved remarkable progress. The state's performance in key indicators

of progress such as 'Waste Collection, Maintenance and Treatment', 'Houses completed under Housing Scheme' is remarkable, in which the state's major schemes - Mission Clean City Scheme, Chief Minister's Housing Scheme etc. have contributed significantly.

- **Under 'SDG Goal 12 (Responsive, Consumption and Production)',** the state has achieved remarkable progress. The state's performance in key indicators of progress such as 'reduction in use of chemical fertilizers in agriculture sector', 'setting up of waste plants', 'reduction in crop stock and distribution loss', 'per capita food availability', in which the state's major schemes - Universal PDS Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, various irrigation schemes, solar pump distribution scheme and agricultural equipment distribution scheme etc. have contributed significantly.
- State Planning Commission Chairman Dr. Premsai Singh Tekam said that the 'SDG Baseline and Progress Report, 2022 Chhattisgarh' prepared by the State Planning Commission will act as a guide towards achieving the set goal. The report will enable the concerned departments to identify their local implementation commitments and play a pivotal role in ensuring all-round development of their stakeholders.
- Chhattisgarh UNICEF chief Job Zakaria said that very few states have released SDG related frameworks and reports based on them, out of which Chhattisgarh's achievement is special. A remarkable achievement has been achieved by the state in the Multidimensional Poverty Index. States are the least in providing district-level SDG related data.



Devgudis and Matagudis of Bastar were Written Down

Why In News?

According to the information given by the Chhattisgarh Public Relations Department on October 5, 2023, as per the intention of the state government, the center of faith in the heritage of the tribals of the tribal-dominated Bastar

Note:

region of Chhattisgarh, Devgudis-Matagudis, is being developed by the Bastar Region Tribal Development Authority in the direction of preserving and promoting These Devgudis and Matagudi have been written down.

Key Points:

- It is known that many tribal communities have been living in the tribal dominated Bastar region of Chhattisgarh for centuries. These tribal communities have their own distinct cultural heritage. The center of faith in tribal heritage is Devgudis -Matagudis, which has its own importance in the tribal communities.
- Bastar Area Tribal Development Authority has taken a comprehensive initiative to renovate and beautify these Devgudis and Matagudi with the convergence of various items.
- Most of the tribal community groups are nature worshippers, they believe that their gods and goddesses reside in trees and plants and as a result of this belief, they are playing an important role in saving the forests. This is the reason why trees and plants are found in abundance at these places of worship.
- Fruitful and shady trees are being planted on a large scale in the premises of these temples. Along with this, by providing a Community Forest Rights Recognition Certificate of the said temples, the land has been registered in the revenue records in the name of the respective Gods and Goddesses for the purpose of preserving the land of Gotul and ancient deceased monuments including Devgudis and Matagudi.
- At the same time, community forest rights recognition letters have been issued in their names to these Devgudis-Matagudis and Gotul and ancient dead monuments, so that these cultural-social heritage complexes can be protected from illegal encroachment. Also, participation of the local tribal community can be ensured towards the conservation and promotion of these heritages.
- For the first time in the country, Chhattisgarh state and Bastar division is such a division of the country, which is committed to the conservation, promotion and preservation of Matagudi, Devgudi, Gotool, ancient deceased memorials, service-application sites etc., the centers of faith and living traditions of tribal communities. .
- Under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2453 community forest rights letters have been provided to the Gram Sabha in the name of gods and goddesses. Of these, a total of 2607.20 hectares (6466 acres) of land for 7075 Matagudi, Devgudi, Gotool and ancient dead memorials have been preserved by making entries in the revenue records.
- In Bastar division, a total of 22884 Baiga, Sirha, Manjhi, Gunia, Gaita, Pujari, Bajnia, Atpahariya etc. are being registered under Rajiv Gandhi Landless Farmer Labor Justice Scheme and being provided Rs 7000 every year.
- A booklet named 'Purkhathi Papers' (Part One) has been prepared by compiling the community forest rights forms issued to the area-wise tribal communities in Bastar by recording the prevalent beliefs in the oral traditions of the Gods and Goddesses. There is a compilation of Khasras preserved in 'Purakhti Papers' (Part-II), in which the revenue records have been preserved by mentioning the names and area of Mataguri, Devguri in the Kaifiat column of Khasra through Bhuiya.
- In the direction of conservation and promotion of faith and cultural heritage of Bastar region, approval has been given for renovation of 3244 out of 6283 Devgudis and Mataguri and till now the renovation work of 2320 Devgudi and Mataguri has been completed. Out of the approved 297 Gotul construction works, 200 works have been completed.
- Under Bastar division, out of total 7075 Devgudis and Mataguri including Gotul and ancient deceased monuments, 3619 Devgudi-Mataguri and Gotul and deceased monuments are located on revenue, non-forest land, private land and other items, due to which 898 hectares of land is protected.
- At the same time, about 1709 hectares of land has been protected by providing community forest rights recognition letters to all the remaining 3456 Devgudis-Matagudis and Ghotul and oriental dead memorials. About 6466 acres of revenue land has been preserved as Deva-Matagudi.
- **Bastar Area Tribal Development Authority-**
 - Bastar Area Tribal Development Authority was constituted by the state government on February 27, 2019. Its president and vice-president and local public representatives have been made members.
 - The main objective of the authority is to preserve, promote and protect the culture of the tribals in Bastar region, under this authority other works are being approved for the development of the area and rural economy.

Note:

- Bastar, Kondagaon, Narayanpur, Kanker, Dantewada, Bijapur and Sukma districts of the division are included under the authority.



Transport Minister Inaugurated the State's First Registered Vehicle Scrapping Centre

Why In News?

On October 5, 2023, Chhattisgarh Transport Minister Mohammad Akbar inaugurated the state's first registered vehicle scrapping center in village Dhaneli under Raipur district.

Key Points:

- It is worth noting that it has been decided to compulsorily scrap all vehicles older than 15 years of the government department.
- During this, the Transport Minister said that the state government is working towards establishing Chhattisgarh as a vehicle scrapping hub for Central

India, this center has been completely digitized to promote scrapping facilities.

- Under Chhattisgarh Industrial Policy 2019-24, notification has been issued to keep the Registered Vehicle Scrapping Center (RVSF) in the category of high priority industries. RVSFs being set up in the state can also avail the benefits of relaxations prescribed for high priority industries.
- The state's first registered vehicle scrapping center will be operated by Metal Corporation of India.
- After getting the vehicle scrapped from a registered scrapping centre, the benefit of 25 percent tax exemption will be given for purchasing a new vehicle. For exemption, an online certificate will be issued by the registered scrapping center, which will be called Certificate of Deposit.
- The Certificate of Deposit will be issued online, which will be displayed in the vehicle software of the Transport Department and will be valid in all the automobile dealerships across Chhattisgarh.
- Apart from this, those vehicles which pay monthly or quarterly tax and have outstanding tax and want to get scrapped will also be given exemption in the tax, penalty and interest of the last one year outstanding on the vehicle.
- Scraping Process: When a vehicle reaches the scrap center, it is destroyed scientifically. Talking about the different stages, tires and engine kits are removed at the station. In the next step the batteries and free-on gas kits are destroyed. The vehicle's seats, steering, engine and radiator are then removed, leaving a hollow metal structure. Bale press machines are used to convert the metal into blocks, which are then supplied to various companies. Other components of the car are recycled and sold to private companies.



Note:



Bee and Silkworm Farmers will get Interest Free Loan

Why In News?

On October 5, 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture Department of Chhattisgarh issued an order to provide interest free loan facility to beekeeping and silkworm farming in the state in compliance with the announcement of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel.

Key Points:

- Under the order issued by the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Agricultural Welfare and Department of Biotechnology, institutional short-term and medium-term agricultural loans will be provided to bee and silkworm farmers in Chhattisgarh on the basis of 'Interest Subsidy on Cooperative Loans to Farmers of the State Rules 2021'.
- It is noteworthy that under the centrally promoted Integrated Horticulture Mission, the unit cost of one unit of beekeeping has been fixed at Rs 2.31 lakh, in which 40 percent subsidy is given to the beneficiaries.
- In case of 100% fulfillment of the targets of beekeeping under the Integrated Horticulture Mission in the financial year, short-term agricultural loans will be given by banks and financial institutions to the pending applications as per the prescribed loan scale.
- The interest on cooperative loans to farmers of the state on the loans received by beekeepers through banks and other financial institutions will be borne by the Cooperative and Finance Department under the Subsidy Rules 2021. The maximum limit of interest subsidy payable will be the same as in the main scheme.

- Similarly, silkworm farmers will get interest subsidy on institutional medium agricultural loans and subsidy on electricity charges like the farmers of the state.
- In the order issued, it has been clarified that under the Silk Samagra-2 scheme run by the Government of India, a total of 90 percent grant, including central share and state share, will be given to small and marginal category farmers rearing silkworms and 70 percent grant to other farmers.
- Loan approval will be given on the basis of loan scale of Rs 5 lakh per acre for rearing silkworms on mulberry plants.
- In addition to the prescribed loan scale, the farmer category wise beneficiary share of the grant payable in Silk Samagra-2 will be approved as medium term agricultural loan through banks and other financial institutions in the form of institutional loan at zero percent interest like agricultural crops.
- In case of 100% fulfillment of the targets given to the state under Silk Samagra-2 Scheme in the financial year, the pending applications will be provided medium term agricultural loan facility by the banks and financial institutions as per the prescribed loan scale and the loan received will be financed for 03 years. Nutrition will be borne by the Cooperative and Finance Department under the Interest Subsidy Rules 2021 on cooperative loans to the farmers of the state.
- All banks and financial institutions will sanction loans to farmers as per the norms set by the Government of India under the Silk Samagra-2 Scheme. The maximum limit of interest subsidy payable will be equivalent to the main scheme.

Chief Minister Launches 'Chhattisgarh Yuva Mitan Parivahan Yojana'

Why In News?

On October 7, 2023, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel launched the 'Chhattisgarh Yuva Mitan Parivahan Yojana' in a program organized at his residence office. Under this, the students studying in the college will get free transport facility to go from home to college.

Key Points:

- It is noteworthy that this scheme has been launched following the announcement made by the Chief

Note:

Minister. This scheme will benefit more than one lakh students studying in colleges and universities.

- On this occasion, the Chief Minister said that under this scheme, more than 1 lakh regular students studying in government colleges and government universities will benefit.
- The financial expenditure on this scheme will be approximately Rs 110 crore, out of which half will be borne by the state government and half of the expenditure will be borne by the bus operators as a rebate.
- To avail the benefits of this scheme, students can apply for bus pass along with college and route on the website. The college will approve or reject the application after logging in and checking all the details. Approved students can log in and download their bus pass with QR code and keep its printout safe with them. The bus will be taken from home to college and from college to home after checking the pass by the bus conductor.
- Under 'Chhattisgarh Yuva Mitan Parivahan Yojana', students will have the facility to travel from home to college. Free transport will make it easier for students to pursue higher education. This scheme will also be financially helpful for the students. This scheme will save time for students and promote social inclusion among students.



Launch of 9 New National Programs under National AYUSH Mission

Why In News?

Nine new national programs were launched in Chhattisgarh under 'National AYUSH Mission' in a program organized in the auditorium of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Raipur on October 7, 2023.



Key Points:

- Under the National AYUSH Mission, new national Programs were started like 'Supraja Ayush Maternal and Newborn Care', 'Vayomitra', 'Karuna', 'Ayurvedya', 'Anemia' and 'Lymphatic Filariasis' for 'Disease Management' and 'Disability Control' have been launched in the state.
- In the inauguration program organized in the auditorium of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Raipur, an orientation workshop was also organized for the doctors by the AYUSH department of the state government.
- During the orientation workshop, departmental officials and doctors held detailed discussions on further strengthening the health system. The department will soon organize detailed training regarding the new programs started.



Note:

'Chhattisgarh Poultry Farming Promotion Scheme' Started

Why In News?

According to the information given by Chhattisgarh Public Relations Department on October 7, 2023, 'Chhattisgarh Poultry Farming Promotion Scheme' has been started to encourage poultry farming in the state of Chhattisgarh.

Key Points:

- Chhattisgarh State Livestock Development Department has given advance approval from the contingency fund of Rs 1 crore in compliance with the announcement made by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on August 15, 2023 to start this new scheme.
- Under the scheme, entrepreneurs starting poultry farming will be provided a permanent capital investment grant for 5 years, if they establish a business unit through self-financing or bank loan.
- In this scheme, which was started to provide new opportunities for employment and self-employment in the state, 25 to 40 percent capital investment grant will be given for the establishment of poultry farming units in developed and developing development blocks.
- For establishment of broiler, native poultry and colored poultry units, 25 percent grant will be given to general category beneficiaries in 'uncategorized' areas and 30 percent grant on permanent capital investment to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and EWS beneficiaries.
- Similarly, 35 percent subsidy will be given to the general beneficiaries of 'B' category area and 40 percent grant will be given to the beneficiaries of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and EWS on permanent capital investment.
- For poultry layer and parent poultry units, 25 percent subsidy will be given to general category beneficiaries in 'uncategorized' areas and 30 percent subsidy will be given on permanent capital investment to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and EWS beneficiaries.
- Similarly, 35 percent subsidy will be given to the general beneficiaries of 'B' category area and 40 percent

grant will be given to the beneficiaries of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and EWS on permanent capital investment.

4th Chhattisgarh State Women's Football League Championship from 8 October to 30 November

Why In News?

According to the information given by Chhattisgarh Public Relations Department on October 7, 2023, the fourth State Women's Football League Championship will be organized from October 8 to November 30, 2023 in Raipur, Bilai and Dallirajhara under the auspices of Chhattisgarh Football Association.

Key Points:

- Director of Sports and Youth Welfare Department, Shweta Srivastava Sinha distributed sports kits to 60 girl players selected in this league at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Hockey Stadium, Raipur.
- The teams qualifying in this State League Championship will participate in the Indian Women's League Championship.
- 50 girl players of Girls Football Academy Raipur of Sports and Youth Welfare Department have also been selected in the State Women Football League Championship.



Note:

Direct Air Service Facility from Bilaspur to New Delhi will start soon

Why In News?

On October 11, 2023, the Central Government and Alliance Air announced plans to run direct air service from Bilaspur to Delhi three days a week on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday in the winter schedule. This air service will start from October 31.

Key Points:

- Now direct air service from Bilaspur to Delhi will be available three days a week on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Air service to Prayagraj will also be available during these days, because only one aircraft will connect Bilaspur to both these cities.
- According to the schedule issued for the air service, the plane going from Bilaspur to Delhi will take off from here at 3.15 pm and will land in Delhi at 5.25 pm. This plane will take off from Delhi at 9 am and reach Bilaspur at 11.15 am. In this way, Delhi can be reached from Bilaspur in two and a quarter hours.
- The plane coming from Delhi to Bilaspur will take off for Prayagraj at around quarter to 12 noon and reach there at 1 pm. On return, this plane will take off from Prayagraj at 1.30 pm and reach Bilaspur at 3.45 pm.
- It may be noted that Alliance Air Company had started the trial for direct air service from Bilaspur to Delhi from 4 to 8 October, which was successful.
- It is noteworthy that the residents of the region had been demanding direct air service from Bilaspur to metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad for a long time. At present only one flight is running from Bilaspur via Jabalpur-Prayagraj. Meanwhile, air service was started for Indore and Bhopal. It was closed citing low number of passengers, and is still closed.



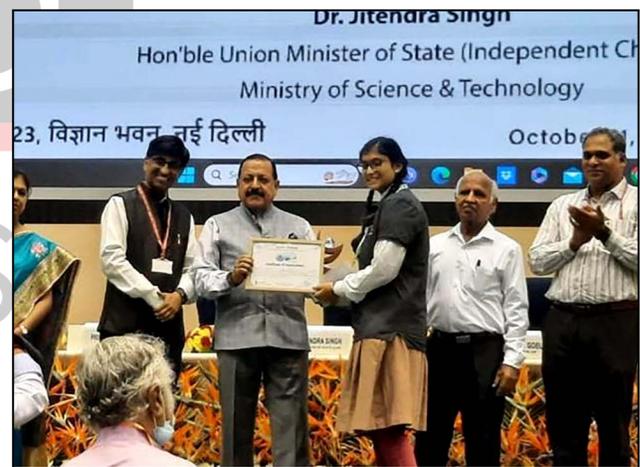
Himangi Haldar Received National Award for Innovation

Why In News?

Himangi Haldar, a student of Bharat Mata Anglo Medium School, Bilaspur, has received the National Inspire Award in the 10th National Inspire Standard Competition held at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi on October 14, 2023.

Key Points:

- Himangi Haldar has designed an anti-milt spilling device to prevent milk falling while boiling. With its help, the milk does not fall down while boiling. Himangi has received the National Inspire Award for this innovation.
- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh presented the award to Himangi at a felicitation ceremony held at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium Rajghat (Vigyan Bhawan) in New Delhi.



Note:

- Himangi will now present her prototype to the President at the Festival of Innovation Rashtrapati Bhavan. After this, Sakura will represent India in Japan under the program.
- The price of this device has been fixed at Rs 80. Its design patent is in the name of Himangi.
- Organized by the National Innovation Foundation and the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, the main objective of this competition is to provide a platform to the innovations made by school students and to promote original ideas/ innovations rooted in science and social applications to promote a culture of creativity and innovative thinking among school children.
- This year, 441 students from all over the country were invited to the national competitions with their ideas and prototypes from seven lakh ideas received from the district level. Himangi Halder, a student of Bharat Mata Anglo Medium School, Bilaspur, won the title of winning the anti-milk spilling device at the national level.

Notification issued for First Phase of Voting in the State

Why In News?

On October 13, 2023, notification was issued for the first phase of assembly general elections in Chhattisgarh. With this, the nomination process started.

Key Points:

- In the first phase, nomination papers will be filed for 12 assembly constituencies of Bastar division, including 08 assembly constituencies of Rajnandgaon, Mohla-Manpur Ambagarh Chowki, Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai and Kabirdham districts.
- Filing of nominations for the first phase of the two-phase elections in the state is scheduled to take place on October 20.
- Scrutiny of nominations will take place on October 21 and candidates can withdraw their nominations till October 23.
- The first phase of polling will be held on November 7, while the counting of votes for both the phases will take place on December 3.

- In the first phase, polling will be held in Konta, Bijapur, Dantewada, Chitrakot, Jagdalpur, Bastar, Narayanpur, Kondagaon, Keshkal, Kanker, Bhanupratappur, Antagarh, Mohla-Manpur, Khujji, Dongargaon, Rajnandgaon, Dongargarh, Khairagarh, Kawardha and Pandaria assembly constituencies.

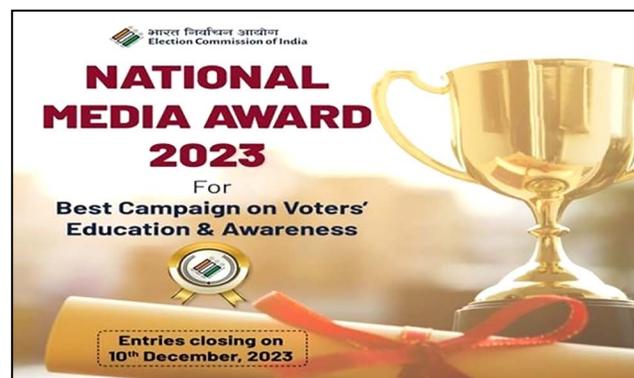
Media Institutions will be honored with 'National Media Award-2023' for Voter Awareness.

Why In News?

According to the information given by the Chhattisgarh Public Relations Department on October 24, 2023, the Election Commission of India will award 'National Media Award-2023' to media institutions doing excellent work in the field of voter awareness.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that the Election Commission of India confers the National Media Award every year by selecting media institutions for their outstanding work in the field of voter awareness. The Election Commission of India has invited applications from media houses for the National Media Award year 2023 by December 10, 2023.
- Election Commission of India has invited nominations for the award from media houses in four categories namely Print Media, Electronic (Television) Media, Electronic (Radio) Media and Online (Internet)/ Social Media.
- Media institutions interested in receiving the award can send their applications to Rajesh Kumar Singh, Under



Note:

Secretary (Communication), Election Commission of India within the said time period. The applications and recommendations received till the last date will be placed before the jury constituted by the Commission. The institutions selected by the jury will be felicitated at the National Voters' Day on January 25, 2024.

'Meri Maati Mera Desh-Amrit Kalash Yatra' will be organised at Raj Bhavan.

Why In News?

- According to the information given by the Chhattisgarh Public Relations Department on October 25, 2023, the CRPF has been deployed in the state. A state-level programme of 'Meri Maati Mera Desh- Amrit Kalash Yatra' will be organised at Raj Bhavan in coordination with Nehru Yuva Kendra.

Key Points:

- Under the Amrit Mahotsav of independence, soil has been collected in kalash from all gram panchayats by going from house to house in honor of the martyrs of India. The soil collected from every village will be brought to Raj Bhavan under 146 development blocks of 33 districts of the state.
- To celebrate the 75th year of Independence, the Amrit Kalash will be transported to the duty path of the capital New Delhi. Where Amrit Vatika will be constructed in honor of martyrs from soil brought from different states.
- To mark the occasion, a state-level programme is being organized at Raj Bhavan on October 27, 2023. CRPF officials met Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan at Raj Bhavan and invited him for the event. The Governor gave instructions to organize a grand program.



Only Green Firecrackers will be Sold and Used in the State

Why In News?

According to the information given by the Chhattisgarh Public Relations Department on October 26, 2023, only the use and sale of green fire-crackers will be allowed in the state. Also, a two-hour period has been fixed for bursting fire-crackers on the occasion of Deepawali, Chhath, Guru Parv, New Year/ Christmas.

Key Points:

- The district administration officials have been directed to strictly follow the directions regarding the use of firecrackers as per the guidelines of the Supreme Court and the National Green Tribunal.
- A two-hour period has been fixed for bursting firecrackers on the occasion of Deepawali, Chhath Puja, Guru Parv, New Year/Christmas. The timings for Deepawali have been fixed from 8 pm to 10 pm, Chhath Puja from 6 am to 8 am, Guru Parv from 8 pm to 10 pm. The time for Christmas/New Year has been fixed from 11.55 pm to 12.30 pm.
- In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section 5 of section 19 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the state government has prohibited the burning of firecrackers in urban areas of Raipur, Bilaspur, Bhilai-Durg, Raigarh and Korba from December 1 to January 31.
- According to the order passed by the Supreme Court on November 23, 2018, some other instructions have also been given regarding the use of firecrackers. Instructions have been given to sell improved and green firecrackers that cause less pollution only by licensed traders.
- Also, only those firecrackers can be sold in the market for use, whose level of sound is within the prescribed limit. The sale, use and manufacture of series firecrackers or sticks has been banned.
- Directions have also been issued to cancel the license of manufacturers of firecrackers who have used lithium, arsenic, antimony, lead and mercury in firecrackers. The sale of firecrackers online, i.e. e-commerce websites, such as Flipkart, Amazon etc. will be prohibited.

Note:

