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# Madhya Pradesh Government to Introduce Strong Law to Prevent Exam Paper Leaks

#### Why in News?

The **Madhya Pradesh government** would enact a strong law to stop exam paper leaks.

#### **Key Points**

A stringent law will be made to ensure that no person, including the in charge of examination centres, involved in such malpractices, can escape.

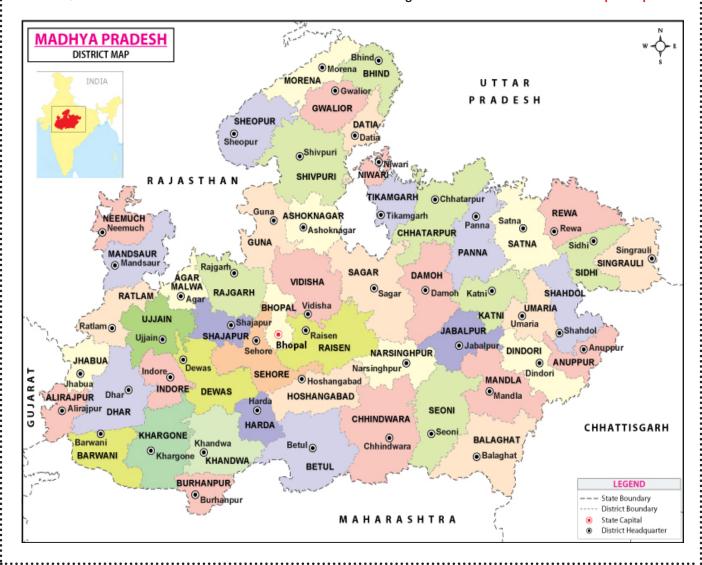
- No one will be able to make question papers available to students.
- If there is any issue in the government system, it will also come under the purview of this law. Such acts will come under the ambit of criminal activity.
- With this law, the MP School Education Department will ensure that students appear for exams in a "tension-free" atmosphere.

#### Mild Earthquake Strikes Singrauli

#### Why in News?

Recently, a mild earthquake struck the region of Singrauli in Madhya Pradesh.

> Singrauli is known for its coal mines and power plants.





#### **Key Points**

According to the National Center for Seismology, the earthquake's epicenter is located at a depth of 5 kilometers beneath the earth's surface.

Magnitude: 3.5Latitude: 24.55Longitude: 82.78

- ➤ Earthquake: An earthquake in simple words is the shaking of the earth. It is a natural event. It is caused due to release of energy, which generates waves that travel in all directions.
- > Epicenter: The point on the surface, nearest to the focus, is called epicenter. It is the first one to experience the waves. It is a point directly above the focus.
- Focus: The point where the energy is released is called the focus of an earthquake, alternatively, it is called the hypocentre. The energy waves traveling in different directions reach the surface.
- National Center for Seismology (NCS): It works under the Ministry of Earth Sciences. It is the nodal agency of the Government of India for monitoring of earthquake activity in the country.

## Super Speciality Hospital in Rewa & Parbati-KaliSindh-Chambal Link Project

#### Why in News?

Recently, Madhya Pradesh government has approved Rs 164 crores for the expansion of a super specialty hospital in Rewa.

#### **Key Points**

- This decision will benefit the people of Rewa and Shahdol divisions as it is the largest super specialty hospital in those divisions.
- The council of ministers also took an important decision about the startup policy in the state.
  - All the startup people who want to participate in national or international competitions will be given a reimbursement of Rs 50,000 by the state government for participating in national competitions and Rs 1.50 lakh for participating in international competitions.

- The amount will be given once in a financial year and up to twice in the entire tenure for a startup.
- The Parbati-KaliSindh-Chambal Link Project pending for almost two decades, would now be implemented with the initiative of the PM.
  - This would benefit 12 districts of Malwa and Chambal region in the state and 13 districts of eastern Rajasthan.
  - The availability of drinking water will increase in these areas and water will also be available for irrigation and industrial use.
  - The project worth Rs 75000 crore and the state would invest only 10%, the rest 90% of the amount would be provided by the central government.

#### Parbati-KaliSindh-Chambal Link Project

- It aims to harvest surplus water available during rainy season in rivers in Southern Rajasthan such as Chambal and its tributaries, including Kunnu, Parvati, Kalisindh, and use this water in southeastern districts of the state, where there is scarcity of water for drinking and irrigation.
- ➤ It is planned to meet drinking and industrial water needs of the southern and south eastern Rajasthan, for humans and Livestock till the year 2051.
- It proposes to provide drinking water to 13 districts of Rajasthan and provide irrigation water for 2.8 lakh hectares of land through 26 different large and medium projects.
  - 13 Districts: Jhalawar, Baran, Kota, Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, Ajmer, Tonk, Jaipur, Karauli, Alwar, Bharatpur, Dausa and Dholpur.

## PM Inaugurated Projects in Madhya Pradesh

#### Why in News?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of developmental projects worth Rs 7,500 crore in Madhya Pradesh's Jhabua district and addressed a conference of tribal communities.

#### **Key Points**

- > During the event, the Prime Minister:
  - Disbursed monthly installments to nearly two lakh women beneficiaries under the Aahar Anudan Yojana of the state.



- Under the scheme, Rs 1,500 per month are provided for nutritious food for women, especially from the backward tribes.
- Distributed 1.75 lakh 'adhikar abhilekh' (record of land rights) under the SVAMITVA scheme, which will provide documentary evidence to people for the right to their land.
- Transferred funds of Rs 55.9 crore to 559 villages under the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana, which will be utilized for various kinds of construction activities, including Anganwadi Bhawans, fair price shops, health centres, additional rooms in schools, internal roads, among others.
- > Laid the foundation stone of:
  - the Tantya Mama Bhil University which will cater to the youth from tribal-dominated districts of the state.
  - 'CM Rise School' in Jhabua which will integrate technology to provide modern facilities like smart classes, e-Library, among others to students.
  - 'Talavada Project', which is a drinking water supply scheme for more than one thousand villages of Dhar and Ratlam; and 14 urban water supply schemes under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0, benefitting more than 50,000 urban households across multiple districts of Madhya Pradesh.
  - 'Nal Jal Yojana' for 50 gram panchayats of Jhabua, which will provide tap water to about 11,000 households.
- The rail projects that will be dedicated to the nation include projects for doubling of Indore-Dewas-Ujjain C cabin railway line, Itarsi-North-South grade separator with yard remodelling and a third line connecting Barkhera-Budni-Itarsi.
- > The Prime Minister will also dedicate to the nation multiple road development projects costing more than Rs 3,275 crore in Madhya Pradesh.

#### **AMRUT 2.0**

- It is the continuation of the AMRUT mission launched in June 2015 to ensure that every household has access to a tap with the assured supply of water and a sewerage connection.
- AMRUT 2.0 aims to provide 100% coverage of water supply to all households in around 4,700 ULBs (Urban Local Bodies).

It also seeks to promote Atmanirbhar Bharat through encouraging Startups and Entrepreneurs (Public Private Partnership).

#### Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)

- It was launched during 2009-10. The Scheme aims at integrated development of Scheduled Castes majority villages.
- The objective of this Scheme is to ensure integrated development of the selected villages with more than 50% SC population:
  - Primarily through convergent implementation of the relevant Central and State/UT Government Schemes; and
  - ⊙ By taking up identified activities, which do not get covered under the existing Central and State Government Schemes, through 'Gap-filling' funds provided as Central Assistance to the extent of ₹20,00,000 per village.

## Madhya Pradesh Tables First State Budget Under CM Mohan Yadav

#### Why in News?

Recently, Madhya Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister, Jagdish Devda, presented the **interim budget (vote-on-account) for FY 2024-25** for approximately **Rs 1 lakh 45 thousand crore** in the assembly.

#### **Key Points**

- The first interim budget of CM Mohan Yadav is only for four months (1st April to 31st July, 2024) to manage its expenditure in various schemes.
  - The amount allotted in the interim budget will be merged with the full budget likely to be tabled in July 2024.
- The fiscal budget (full budget) of the state for FY 2024-25 is estimated to be approximately 3 lakh 48 thousand nine hundred and eighty-six crore.
- The interim budget for four-months is to take care of expenditure alone and there are no new items or fresh proposals in the budget.



#### **Vote on Account**

- A vote on account, as defined by Article 116 of the Indian Constitution, is a grant in advance for the central government to meet short-term expenditure needs from the Consolidated Fund of India, generally lasting for a few months till the new financial year kicks in.
  - During an election year the Government either opts for 'interim Budget' or for 'Vote on Account' as after the election the Ruling Government may change and so the policies.
  - No amendment can be proposed to an Appropriation Bill which will have the effect of varying the amount or altering the destination of any grant so made or of varying the amount of any expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India, and the decision of the Lok Sabha Speaker as to whether such an amendment is admissible is final.
  - It ensures the smooth functioning of the government and public services until the regular budget is approved.

#### **Consolidated Fund of India**

- It was constituted under Article 266 (1) of the Constitution of India.
- > It is made up of:
  - All revenues received by the Centre by way of taxes (Income Tax, Central Excise, Customs and other receipts) and all non-tax revenues.
  - All loans raised by the Centre by issue of Public notifications, treasury bills (internal debt) and from foreign governments and international institutions (external debt).
- All government expenditures are incurred from this fund (except exceptional items which are met from the Contingency Fund or the Public Account) and no amount can be withdrawn from the Fund without authorization from the Parliament.
- The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India (CAG) audits the fund and reports to the relevant legislatures on the management.

### Khajuraho Dance Festival Completes 50 Years

#### Why in News?

Recently, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister inaugurated the **golden jubilee (50th edition)** event of **Khajuraho Dance Festival.** 

On this occasion 1484 artists set a new world record for largest Kathak dance performance with the most number of performers.

#### **Key Points**

- The record setting (world record) performance of 'Kathak Kumbh' at the famous world heritage site is the 3rd successive one after the Ujjain and Gwalior events, also recorded and recognised by the Guinness World Record.
  - o In Ujjain 11 lakh 71 thousand and 78 diyas were lit.
  - While in Gwalior's Tansen Samaroh, a total number of 1600 tabla artists played in tandem during the Taal Darbar in Gwalior Fort.
- The CM announced the setting up of the country's first Gurukul for training tribal and folk arts in Khajuraho
- The Khajuraho Dance Festival (KDF) is being organized by the Cultural and Tourism Department under the guidance of Principal Secretary Sheo Shekhar Shukla.
- KDF has chosen to dedicate the event to Lord Natraj Mahadev, often referred to as the 'God of Dance'. This particular Shiva avatar represents how dance is a sacred medium of direct contact with God.
  - In the choreography of famous dance guru Rajendra Gangani, the artists from different cities of the state presented a mesmerizing performance in Raag Basant.
- All facilities will be made for aspirants training in traditional arts of tribal and rural communities with courses on teaching specialised crafts, leadership, singing, music, painting, regional literature with the help of senior experts and 'gurus' at the Gurukul.

#### **Khajuraho Dance Festival**

- It was started in 1975 and since then it has been successfully organised by Ustad Alauddin Khan Music and Arts Academy under the Department of Culture, Government of Madhya Pradesh. Since then, this dance ceremony has been held in the courtyard of well-known temples of Khajuraho.
- So far, young and senior artists of all the major classical dance styles of India like Bharatnatyam, Odissi, Kathak, Mohiniyattem, Kuchipudi, Kathakali, Yakshagana, Manipuri etc. have spread their aura in the Khajuraho Dance Festival.
- Through the festival, efforts have been made to innovate while maintaining the dignity of classical dance.





#### Madhya Pradesh Introduces 'Bag Less School' Initiative

#### Why in News?

The Madhya Pradesh government has announced 'bag less school' day once a week for students in classes 1 to 12, starting from the upcoming academic session in 2024-25. This decision applies to all government and private schools operating in the state.

#### **Key Points**

- The state government, aiming to alleviate the burden on students, has issued a notice outlining the maximum permissible weight of school bags for different classes.
  - The weight of school bags for students in classes 11 and 12 will be determined by the school management committee based on the students' respective streams.
- The initiative includes a designated 'bag less school' day each week, during which students are encouraged to engage in recreational activities such as games, sports, cultural programs, and music.
- The aim is to ensure that school is not perceived as a source of stress for students but rather a source of joy.
  - Strict instructions have been issued to schools to adhere to the new school bag policy from the commencement of the academic session in 2024-25.



#### Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board Received 'Best State Tourism Board' Award

#### Why in News?

Recently, Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board (MPTB) was honoured at the national level for the excellent innovations in promoting the tourist destinations of Madhya Pradesh.

#### **Key Points**

- MPTB has been given the 'Best Tourism State Board' award in the country's major travel exhibition SATTE (South Asian Travel and Tourism Exchange) held in Greater Noida.
  - The Board participated prominently in the three-day exhibition and promoted the tourism destinations and products of the state before the travel agents, tour operators, hoteliers and various stakeholders from the country and abroad.
  - The Board has been given this honor on the basis of high level performance in the field of tourism, infrastructure development, economic development of the local community, preservation of culture and heritage of the state.

#### Note:

- Some Famous Tourism Destinations:
  - Bhopal- Gohar Mahal, the lakes, Birla Mandir, Van Vihar National Park, etc.
  - Bhedaghat- Chaunsath Yogini Temple, Dhuandhar Falls, Marble Rock.
  - Jabalpur- Madan Mahal, Kachnar City Shiva Temple, Dumna Nature Park.
  - Tamia- Waterfalls, Pench Tiger Reserve.
  - Pachmarhi- Satpura national park, Chhota Mahadeo, Dhoopgarh.
- Some One District One Product (ODOP) of Madhya Pradesh:
  - Sheopur- Guava
  - Gwalior- Sandstone Tiles
  - o Datia-Jaggery
  - Panna- Gooseberry/Amla
  - o Ujjain- Batik Print
  - o Bhopal- Zari Zardozi & Jute Product
  - o Raisen- Basmati Rice
  - Seoni- Custard Apple

#### PM Unveils Railway Projects

#### Why in News?

Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced railway projects worth Rs 3,276 crore, including the renovation of 33 stations for Madhya Pradesh.

#### **Key Points**

- > The stations marked for redevelopment include Bhopal, Indore, Ujjain, Jabalpur, Sehore, Bina, Sanchi, Mandsaur, Chhindwara, Datia and Bhind.
- Under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, these stations will be beautified with elements of local art and culture.
  - Indore railway station will be converted into a seven-storied building in a Rs 492 crore project. The revamped station will be operational by 2027.
  - With the allocated amount, the redevelopment works at 33 stations, including 11 in **Bhopal division**.
- The foundation stone of **133 road overbridges and underpasses** will be laid. These works will include redevelopment of five stations and construction of four road overbridges and two underpasses in the Bhopal division.

#### **Amrit Bharat Stations Scheme**

- The Amrit Bharat Station Scheme aims to redevelop 1309 stations nationwide.
- The redevelopment will provide modern passenger amenities along with ensuring well-designed traffic circulation, inter-modal integration, and signage for the guidance of passengers.
- The Scheme was launched in February 2023 by the Ministry of Railways.

#### PM to Address 'Viksit Bharat Viksit Madhya Pradesh' Programme

#### Why in News?

According to the sources, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the 'Viksit Bharat Viksit Madhya Pradesh' programme on 29th February, 2024 via video conferencing.



#### **Key Points**

- During the programme, the Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone and dedicate to the nation multiple development projects worth over Rs 17,500 crore across Madhya Pradesh.
  - O The projects cater to a number of important sectors including irrigation, power, road, rail, water supply, coal, industry, among others.
  - o The Prime Minister will also launch the **Cyber Tehsil project** in the state.
- ➤ He will lay the foundation stone of irrigation projects worth more than Rs 5500 crore in Madhya Pradesh.
  - o These projects include Upper Narmada Project, Raghavpur Multipurpose Project, Basaniya **Multipurpose Project.**
  - O The Prime Minister will also dedicate to the nation two micro irrigation projects worth more than 800 crore which includes Parasdoh Micro Irrigation project and Aulliya Micro irrigation project.
- ➤ He will also dedicate to the nation three railway projects constructed at a cost of more than Rs 2200 crores.
- > Multiple industrial projects will be inaugurated which include Mega Leather, Footwear and Accessories Cluster at Sitapur in Morena district; Plug and Play Park for garment Industry in Indore; Industrial Park Mandsour (Jaggakhedi Phase-2); and upgradation of Industrial Park Pithampur in Dhar district.
- Foundation stone will be laid for various projects worth about Rs 880 crore under AMRUT 2.0 and other schemes for augmentation and strengthening of water Supply systems in several districts across the state.

#### Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban **Transformation (AMRUT 2.0)**

- It is the continuation of the **AMRUT mission** launched in June 2015 to ensure that every household has access to a tap with the assured supply of water and a sewerage connection.
- > AMRUT 2.0 aims to provide 100% coverage of water supply to all households in around 4,700 ULBs (Urban Local Bodies).
- It also seeks to promote **Atmanirbhar Bharat** through encouraging Startups and Entrepreneurs (Public Private Partnership).

#### Madhya Pradesh to **Develop Sites Associated** with Lord Krishna

#### Why in News?

After announcing plans to develop the 'Ram Van Gaman Path', the Madhya Pradesh government will also develop places in the state associated with Lord Krishna.

'Ram Van Gaman Path' is the route believed to be taken by Lord Ram when he headed for exile in the forest.

#### **Key Points**

- The Chief Minister told officials of the Tourism and **Culture Department** that necessary arrangements should also be made for pilgrims at the places visited by Lord Krishna in the state.
  - o Lord Krishna went to Ujjain in the state from Mathura and stayed at sage Sandipani's Ashram where he learned various arts and studied the Vedas.
  - Narayan Dham at Amjhera in Dhar district and the Mahidpur tehsil of Ujjain district also have special religious significance.
    - Amjhera has many ancient temples of Shaiva and Vaishnava sects and is associated with Lord Krishna and Rukmani.
    - Narayan Dham has the only temple in the world where Lord Krishna is seen with his friend Sudama.
- Better facilities and infrastructure will increase the flow of tourists and devotees to these places.
- International Gita and Ramayana Mahotsav (festival) can be held in the near future by involving the common people, and manufacturing of miniature statues of gods and goddesses should be encouraged for helping the local economy.

#### CAG Flags Faults in Madhya Pradesh PM Awas Yojana

#### Why in News?

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India has flagged irregularities in the implementation of the **Pradhan** Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G) in Madhya Pradesh.



#### **Key Points**

- The public housing programme was introduced by the Centre in 2016 as an instrument of poverty alleviation. Its aim was to provide pucca houses with basic amenities to those living in kutcha and dilapidated houses in rural areas by 2022.
  - In the Interim Budget 2024, the Ministry of Finance announced the construction of 2 crore additional houses over the next 5 years under the PMAY-G.
- ➤ The CAG report looks into the scheme's implementation from 2016-21, when 26,28,525 houses were sanctioned and Rs 24,723 crore was paid to beneficiaries.
- > The report states that:
  - Out of the sanctioned houses, 82.35% were completed.
  - Though the scheme mandates that households with a vehicle or fishing boat be excluded, 2,037 beneficiaries had two/three/four wheeler before sanction of a house in the 10 audited districts.
  - PMAY-G assistance of Rs 15.66 crore to 1,555 out of 2,037 ineligible beneficiaries.
  - Houses were sanctioned twice to the same beneficiary in 64 cases. In 98 cases, one house was

- sanctioned to the actual beneficiary and another to his/her family members who were not identified for the scheme.
- There is no system to alert in the portal to identify duplication of beneficiaries.
- Out of a total 18,935 sanctioned cases, 8,226 beneficiaries superseded the more deprived beneficiaries in the priority list.
- The report also noticed delays in disbursing installments to beneficiaries which led to a delay in constructing the homes.
- In 90 cases PMAY-G house was sanctioned to minors and benefit was provided to their relatives.
- Awaas Soft data was scrutinized as names of the beneficiaries were not mentioned in 1,246 instances and in 950 cases, the benefit was released.
  - Awaas Soft, a web-based transactional electronic service delivery platform, used in implementation and monitoring of the scheme.
- The framework of the scheme stipulates that "allotment of house shall be made jointly in the name of husband and wife except in the case of a widow/ unmarried/separated person" was also violated.

#### Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G)

- To achieve the objective of "Housing for All" by 2022, the erstwhile rural housing scheme Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) was restructured to Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) with effect from 1st April, 2016.
- > The Ministry Involved is the **Ministry of Rural development.**
- > It aims to provide a pucca house with basic amenities to all rural families, who are homeless or living in kutcha or dilapidated houses by the end of March 2022.
- It aims to help rural people Below the Poverty Line (BPL) in construction of dwelling units and upgradation of existing unserviceable kutcha houses by providing assistance in the form of a full grant.
- > Beneficiaries include the people belonging to SCs/STs, freed bonded labourers and non-SC/ST categories, widows or next-of-kin of defence personnel killed in action, ex servicemen and retired members of the paramilitary forces, disabled persons and minorities.
- > The cost of unit assistance is shared between Central and State Governments in the ratio 60:40 in plain areas and 90:10 for North Eastern and hilly states.

#### **Comptroller and Auditor General of India**

- > Article 148 provides for an independent office of the CAG. It is the supreme audit institution of India.
  - Other Provisions Related to CAG Include: Articles 149-151 (Duties & Powers, Form of Accounts of the Union and the States and Audit Reports), Article 279 (calculation of net proceeds, etc.) and Third Schedule (Oath or Affirmation) and Sixth Schedule (Administration of Tribal Areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram).
- CAG is the head of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department which was created in 1753.
- > Guardian of the public purse and controls the entire financial system of the country at both the levels—the Centre and the state.
- > Appointed by the **President of India** for a period of **six years** or upto the **age of 65** years, whichever is earlier.
- > CAG can be removed by the President on the basis of a **resolution** passed to that effect by both the **Houses of Parliament with special majority**, either on the ground of **proved misbehavior or incapacity**.

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