

# STATE PCS CA CONSOLIDATION JHARKHAND



APRIL 2025



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## India's First Wolf Sanctuary in Jharkhand

#### Why in News?

The Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary in Jharkhand's Latehar district is India's first and only sanctuary dedicated to wolves.



#### **Key Points**

- About Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary:
  - ★ The Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary lies within a landscape inhabited largely by Sarna Dharmafollowing tribal communities.
  - ◆ Over 80% of the local population practices <u>Sarna Dharma</u>, a <u>nature-worshipping faith</u> that venerates forests, rivers, and natural elements.
  - ★ Traditional Beliefs Supporting Wolf Conservation:
    - One striking cultural practice involves seasonal avoidance of <u>Sal forests</u> during winter months (November to February), coinciding with the Sal tree's sacred blooming season.
    - This cultural reverence unintentionally creates periods of minimal human disturbance, aligning perfectly with the wolves' critical breeding and denning season.
- Insights from Scientific Research:
  - ★ A recent study published in Nature's Scientific Reports, titled "Den site selection by Indian

- gray wolves in tribal landscapes of Mahuadanr Wolf Sanctuary considering ecological and cultural factors", examined how wolves choose den sites in this unique cultural-ecological setting.
- Researchers hypothesised that wolves would prefer physically challenging terrains for dens while also benefiting from culturally imposed human avoidance zones.

#### Future of Indian Wolves:

- ★ The future of the Indian gray wolf and other lesser-known carnivores may hinge on blending scientific understanding with respect for traditional knowledge.
- Conservation strategies must move beyond mere legal frameworks to engage cultural values that have long safeguarded ecosystems naturally.

#### **Indian Grey Wolf**

- About: Indian grey wolf (Canis lupus pallipes) is a subspecies of grey wolf found across Southwest Asia and the Indian subcontinent.
  - ★ It lives in smaller packs and is less vocal compared to other wolf subspecies.
  - ★ It is primarily nocturnal, hunting from dusk to dawn.
- Habitat: It is an apex predator in India's scrublands, grasslands and semi-arid agroecosystems. Thrives in regions with warmer temperatures.
- Conservation Status:
  - ★ <u>IUCN</u>: Endangered (population in India: 2,000 3,000 individuals).
  - ★ CITES: Appendix I.
  - ★ Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I.

#### **Bokaro Forest Land Scam**

#### Why in News?

On 22 April 2025, the <u>Enforcement Directorate (ED)</u> raided multiple locations across Jharkhand and Bihar in connection with **the Bokaro forest land scam.** 

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#### **Key Points**

#### Nature of the Case:

- ★ The raids are linked to a major money laundering probe involving illegal acquisition of 74.38 acres of forest land in Bokaro district.
- ★ Allegations suggest that the land mafia colluded with administrative officials to transfer the disputed land to a private company.
- ★ ED is investigating individuals associated with Umayush Multicom Private Limited, the company that purchased the land.
- ★ The land remains under legal dispute, with the Forest Department claiming it is protected forest land, while buyers argue it was legally acquired in a 1933 auction under British rule.
- ★ ED launched raids across 15 locations in Jharkhand and Bihar which includes Manmohan Construction, Bokaro Forest Department, Deputy Commissioner's Office, Zonal Registration Office in Bokaro.

#### **Bokaro Forest Land**

#### Location and Area:

Bokaro Forest Division is entirely within Bokaro District in eastern Jharkhand. It encompasses **543.933** sq km of forestland.

#### **Historical Context:**

Prior to independence, the forests were part of the Ramgarh Raj and were later managed by other divisions before becoming Bokaro Forest Division in 1997.

#### Geographic Features:

The forests are located within the Chota Nagpur plateau and are geographically diverse, with various types of forest ecosystems.

#### Significance:

★ The division plays a crucial role in the conservation and management of forest resources in the Bokaro region.

#### **Enforcement Directorate (ED)**

#### About:

★ The ED is a multi-disciplinary organization mandated with investigation of offences of money laundering and violations of foreign exchange laws.

- It functions under the Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance.
- ★ As a premier financial investigation agency of the Government of India, the ED functions in strict compliance with the Constitution and Laws of India.

#### Structure:

- ★ Headquarters: ED with its headquarters at New Delhi, is headed by the Director of Enforcement.
  - Mumbai, Chennai, Chandigarh, Kolkata and Delhi headed by Special Directors of Enforcement.
- **Recruitment:** Recruitment of the officers is done directly and by drawing officers from other investigation agencies.
  - It comprises of IRS (Indian) Revenue Services), IPS (Indian Police Services) and IAS (Indian Administrative Services) such as Income Tax officer, Excise officer, Customs officer, and police.
- ★ **Tenure:** Two years, but directors' tenure can be extended from two to five years by giving three annual extensions.
  - The Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946 (for ED) and the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) Act, 2003 (for CV Commissioners) have been amended to give the government the power to keep the two chiefs in their posts for one year after they have completed their two-year terms.

#### Final Phase of Anti-Naxal Operations in Jharkhand

#### Why in News?

Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren has stated that the battle against Left Wing Extremism (LWE) in the state is now in its last phase, indicating significant progress in counter-insurgency operations.

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State	2022	2023	2024
Andhra Pradesh	3	3	1
Bihar	11	4	2
Chhattisgarh	246	305	267
Jharkhand	96	129	69
Kerala	0	4	0
Madhya Pradesh	16	7	11
Maharashtra	16	19	10
Odisha	16	12	6
Telangana	9	3	8
West Bengal	0	0	0
TOTAL	413	485	374

His remarks came after an <u>Improvised Explosive</u> <u>Device (IED)</u> blast in West Singhbhum, which claimed the life of a Jharkhand Jaguar jawan, Sunil Dhan.

**Note:** Jharkhand Jaguar was established in **2008 to eliminate LWE** in the state.

#### **Key Points**

- Some of the Government Initiatives to Control Naxalism:
  - Special Central Assistance (SCA):
    - This Scheme was approved in 2017 and is being implemented as a sub-scheme of the umbrella scheme 'Modernization of Police Forces'.

- The main objective of the Scheme is to fill the critical gaps in Public Infrastructure and Services in most LWE-affected districts.
- ★ Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme:
  - The central government reimburses costs related to security operations, training, ex-gratia payments, and rehabilitation of surrendered Naxalites in affected districts like Latehar and West Singhbhum.
- **★** Construction of Fortified Police Stations:
  - As part of strengthening local law enforcement, several fortified police stations have been constructed in sensitive districts of Jharkhand under the Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS).
- State-wise Details of LWE Perpetrated Violence (number of deaths recorded) (Last 3 Years):

#### **Improvised Explosive Device**

- An improvised explosive device (IED) is a homemade bomb designed to destroy or incapacitate targets, commonly used by criminals, terrorists, and insurgents in various forms.
- IEDs can be delivered through multiple means, including vehicles, placement by individuals, or roadside concealment, and gained prominence during the Iraq War that began in 2003.

### Campaign for NAFLD in Jharkhand

#### Why in News?

Ranchi is set to become the first district in Jharkhand to implement a large-scale campaign for the screening and management of Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD).

#### **Key Points**

- Objective and Implementation:
  - Ranchi will launch Jharkhand's first large-scale screening and management campaign for NAFLD under the <u>National Programme for</u> <u>Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable</u> <u>Diseases (NP-NCD).</u>

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	Common uses	Common form	Known IED use
High explosives			
Ammonium nitrate and fuel oil (ANFO)	Mining and blasting <sup>2</sup>	Solid	Oklahoma City bombing
Triacetone	No common uses; mixed	Crystalline solid	2005 bombings in London
Triperoxide (TATP)	from other materials		
Semtex, C-4	Primarily military	Plastic solid	Irish Republican Army bombings
Ethylene glycol	Component of low-	Liquid	Millennium Bomber, intended for
dinitrate (EGDN)	freezing dynamite		Los Angeles airport, 1999
Urea nitrate	Fertilizer	Crystalline solid	World Trade Center 1993
Low explosive			
Smokeless powder	Ammunition	Solid	Olympic Park bombings

★ The initiative focuses on early detection, capacity building, and strengthening healthcare infrastructure to combat the rising burden of fatty liver disease.

#### Launch and Significance:

- ★ The campaign will be launched on 19th April 2025, World Liver Day.
- ★ Two-Phase Implementation:
  - Phase 1 (April–June 2025):
- Targets high-risk individuals—those with obesity, diabetes, and hypertension.
- Includes screening of 30,000 general population members.
  - Phase 2 (July–November 2025):
- Expands screening to all adults over 18 years across Ranchi district.
  - ★ The Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS), New Delhi, will provide technical support.

#### Mobile Screening Vans:

- ★ State-of-the-art mobile vans, equipped with Fibro-Scan technology, will conduct free screenings in urban and rural areas.
- ★ Each van costs Rs 1 crore and ensures accurate diagnosis through advanced liver screening methods.

#### Health Impact and Need for Early Detection:

★ Nearly 50% of OPD patients in Ranchi suffer from liver-related ailments.

- ★ On average, 25 patients are diagnosed daily, with five requiring hospitalization.
- In the past year, five liver disease-related deaths were recorded, highlighting the need for early intervention.

#### **Data Collection and Monitoring:**

- Screening data will be recorded in a tracking system until the national NCD portal integrates NAFLD-specific records.
- The programme aims to strengthen referral systems to ensure patients receive specialized medical care.
- ★ This initiative positions Ranchi as a pioneer in NAFLD management, setting an example for nationwide liver disease prevention and control.

#### **Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease**

- About: NAFLD is a condition where fat accumulates in the liver without alcohol involvement.
  - ★ It includes two types: nonalcoholic fatty liver(NAFL) and nonal coholic steat ohe patitis (NASH).

#### Types of NAFLD:

- ★ NAFL: Characterized by fat buildup in the liver with minimal to no inflammation or damage.
  - It typically doesn't lead to liver complications but can cause liver enlargement and discomfort.

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- NASH: This form includes both fat buildup and liver inflammation, which can lead to liver damage, fibrosis (a condition where the liver develops an excess of scar tissue), and potentially cirrhosis, a condition that increases the risk of liver cancer.
- Symptoms and Causes: NAFLD is often symptomless, but conditions like obesity, metabolic syndrome (a cluster of metabolic abnormalities), and type 2 diabetes increase its
- Diagnosis: NAFLD is diagnosed through medical history, physical exams, and tests such as blood tests, imaging, and liver biopsy to distinguish between NAFL and NASH.
- Treatment: Weight loss is key to managing NAFLD, as it can reduce fat, inflammation, and liver fibrosis (a condition where the liver develops an excess of scar tissue, or collagen, due to chronic inflammation).
- Prevention: A healthy diet and maintaining a healthy weight can help prevent or manage NAFLD. Diet changes and weight loss are recommended for those affected.

#### Sarhul Festival

#### Why in News?

On 1st April 2025, adivasis in Jharkhand and the larger **Chhotanagpur region** celebrated the new year and the arrival of spring with the Sarhul festival.

#### **Key Points**

- Worship of Nature and the Sal Tree:
  - Adivasis venerate Sal trees (Shorea robusta), believing them to be the abode of Sarna Maa, the deity who protects villages from natural calamities.
  - Sarhul, meaning "worship of the Sal tree," is one of the most revered Adivasi festivals, symbolizing the union of the Sun and the Earth.
    - The pahan (village priest) represents the Sun, while his wife (pahen) symbolizes the Earth.

- ★ This sacred union is considered essential for sustaining life, as it signifies the Sun's rays meeting the soil to enable growth.
- ★ Adivasis begin ploughing their fields, sowing crops, and collecting forest produce only after completing the Sarhul rituals.
- ★ The festival is celebrated by the Oraon, Munda, Santal, Khadia, and Ho tribes, each with distinct traditions.
- **Property** Evolution of Sarhul and Its Political Significance:
  - ★ In the 1960s, Adivasi leader Baba Karthik Oraon started a Sarhul procession in Ranchi, advocating for social justice and tribal identity preservation.
  - ★ Over the past 60 years, festive processions have grown into a crucial aspect of Sarhul, with Siram Toli Sarna Sthal in Ranchi becoming a major gathering site.
  - The festival has also become politically significant, serving as a platform for asserting Adivasi identity.

#### Sal Tree



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#### • About:

- ★ Shorea robusta, the sal tree, is a species of tree in the family Dipterocarpaceae.
- ★ The tree is native to India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Tibet and across the Himalayan regions.

#### • Description:

- ★ It can grow up to 40 metres tall with a trunk diameter of 2 metres.
- ★ The leaves are 10-25 cm long and 5-15 cm broad.
- ★ In wetter areas, sal is evergreen; in drier areas, it is dry-season deciduous, shedding most of the leaves from February to April, leafing out again in April and May.
- ★ The sal tree is known also as sakhua in northern India, including Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Jharkhand.
- ★ It is the state tree of two Indian states Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand.



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