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(CONSOLIDATION)

JHARKHAND

**MARCH  
2025**

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## Free Water Connections for BPL Families in Jamshedpur

### Why in News?

The **Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee (JNAC)** has announced a significant initiative to provide **free water connections** to families living **below the poverty line (BPL)** in Jamshedpur.

- Additionally, these families will get a **50% discount** on **water tariffs**, making water more accessible for economically weaker households.

### Key Points

- **Objective:** This initiative aligns with the government's 'Har Ghar Swachh Jal' (Clean Water for Every Household) campaign, aiming to improve living standards and strengthen water management in the city.
- **Formation of Special Team:** To ensure effective implementation, JNAC has established a **five-member special team** comprising officials such as the **Special Officer, Assistant Engineer, Junior Engineer, Revenue Officer, and City Manager**. This team is tasked with identifying eligible BPL families and facilitating their enrollment in the scheme.
- **Door-to-Door Identification:** The special team will conduct **door-to-door visits** to identify and assist **eligible BPL families**, ensuring that the benefits reach the intended recipients.
- **Alleviate the Financial Burden:** This development is expected to significantly alleviate the financial burden on **low-income families** by providing them with **essential water services at reduced costs**.

**Note:** The Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee (JNAC) was established by the Bihar Government's notification no. 6068 on 25 June, 1924. It serves as the civic body for Jamshedpur town and is recognized as the best in Jharkhand for maintaining cleanliness.

## Mukhyamantri Maiya Samman Yojana

### Why in News

The Jharkhand government has announced that under the **Mukhyamantri Maiyan Samman Yojana**, women

whose bank accounts are **not linked with Aadhaar** will still receive a lump sum payment of **₹7,500** for the months of **January, February, and March 2025**.

### Key Points

- **Temporary Provision:** The provision permitting payments without Aadhaar linkage is temporary and will be valid only until **March 2025**.
  - To continue receiving assistance beyond this period, beneficiaries must link their bank accounts with Aadhaar and ensure they have a single account.
- **Cabinet Approval:** The **Jharkhand state cabinet**, led by **Chief Minister Hemant Soren**, approved this amendment during a meeting where 18 proposals were sanctioned.
- **Beneficiary Statistics:** Approximately **38 lakh women** have already received the **₹7,500 payment** for the **first quarter of 2025**. An additional **20 lakh women**, whose bank accounts are not yet **Aadhaar-linked** or who possess multiple accounts, are slated to receive their payments by **31<sup>st</sup> March, 2025**.
- **Future Compliance Requirement:** To continue benefiting from the scheme after March 2025, recipients must ensure their bank accounts are linked with Aadhaar and that they operate a single bank account.

### Mukhyamantri Maiyan Samman Yojana

The **Mukhyamantri Maiya Samman Yojana** is a welfare initiative launched by the **Jharkhand government** to provide **financial assistance** to economically disadvantaged women in the state.

#### Key Features of the Scheme:

- **Objective:**
  - The scheme aims to empower women by enhancing their **financial independence** and **improving their quality of life**.
  - Beneficiaries are encouraged to ensure their **bank accounts are linked with Aadhaar** to facilitate **seamless transfer of funds**.
- **Monthly Financial Assistance:**
  - Beneficiaries receive **₹2,500 per month**, totaling **₹30,000 annually**.
- **Eligibility Criteria:**
  - Only women who are **permanent residents of Jharkhand** can avail the benefits of this scheme.

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- The woman's age should not be less than **21 years** and not more than **50 years**. This age limit has been set to ensure that the benefits of the scheme reach women who are in the **working-age group**.
- The benefits of this scheme will be available only to women whose **family's annual income** is **less than ₹8 lakh**.
- The name of the woman's family must be registered under the **Jharkhand State Antyodaya Anna Yojana**. Only women holding **pink, yellow, white, and green** ration cards are eligible to apply under this scheme.
- The bank account of the applying woman must be **linked with Aadhaar**. This will ensure that the scheme's amount is directly deposited into the beneficiary's account.

➤ **Application Process:**

- **Offline:** Initially, applications were accepted offline through special camps organized at the panchayat level.
- **Online:** The government has introduced an **online portal** for applications. Interested women can apply by visiting the official website.

## Bird Flu Outbreak in Bokaro

### Why in News?

An official reported a **bird flu outbreak** in Jharkhand's Bokaro district, nearly a month after the disease led to the culling of 5,500 birds in Ranchi.

- The Centre confirmed the outbreak, caused by the **H5N1 strain of avian influenza**, on 7th March 2025 by issuing a letter to Jharkhand's chief secretary.

### Key Points

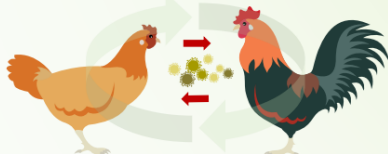
- **Origin of the Outbreak:**
- Officials traced the outbreak to a government poultry farm in Bokaro's Sector 12, where around **250 birds** had already died.
- **Containment Measures:**
- On 8th March 2025, the **Bokaro administration** culled **46 birds** and **destroyed 506 eggs** following directives from the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying.

## About Bird Flu

### WHAT IS BIRD FLU?

Bird flu is an infectious disease in birds caused by avian influenza type A viruses. It may cause mild to severe illness or sudden death in birds. Domestic poultry like chickens are particularly vulnerable.

Avian influenza viruses do not usually infect humans but may sometimes be transmitted to humans who have contact with infected poultry and their secretions and faeces, or contact with contaminated surfaces.



### HOW DOES BIRD FLU SPREAD BETWEEN BIRDS?

- Direct contact with nasal and respiratory secretions from infected birds
- Direct contact with infected bird faeces
- Contamination of feed and water
- Contact with contaminated equipment and humans

### KEEPING PET BIRDS SAFE

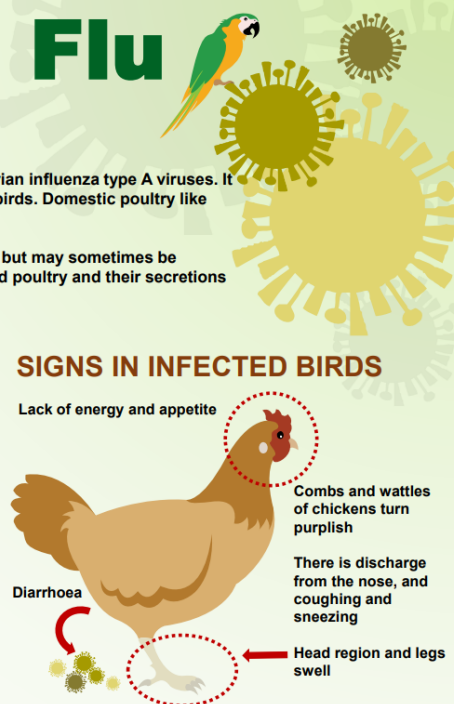
- Keep your pet birds away from wild birds and their droppings.
- Use a bird-proof cage or enclosure with fine wire mesh netting preferably with a roof over the aviary.
- Separate all new birds from existing ones for at least 21 days to monitor for signs of illness.
- Adopt hygiene practices such as washing hands thoroughly with soap after handling birds and their cage(s).
- Do not bring birds back to Singapore without a valid import permit from NParks/Animal & Veterinary Service.

### WHAT IF MY PET BIRD FALLS SICK OR DIES?

- Immediately bring your sick bird to see a vet.
- Keep it away from healthy birds.
- Wash and disinfect the cage regularly while wearing a mask and gloves.
- Wear a mask and gloves when disposing of dead birds. Place the bodies in a plastic bag tightly sealed with a rubber band or cable tie.
- Adopt hygiene practices such as washing hands thoroughly with soap and water after handling the bird and its cage.

### IS IT SAFE FOR ME TO COME INTO CONTACT WITH FREE-ROAMING CHICKENS IN SINGAPORE?

- As a precaution, please avoid touching or feeding free-roaming chickens.
- If you come into contact with free-roaming chickens, you should practise good hygiene habits and wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.



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- Authorities also destroyed 1,717 kg of poultry feed and sanitised the entire farm to prevent further spread.
- **Restricted Zones Declared:**
  - The 1-km radius around the affected farm has been designated as an infected zone, where all birds will be culled.
  - A 10-km radius has been declared a surveillance zone, prohibiting the sale and purchase of poultry.
  - Authorities have launched an awareness campaign to inform the public.
- **Previous Bird Flu Case in Jharkhand:**
  - Earlier in February 2025, a bird flu outbreak was reported at Birsa Agriculture University (BAU) in Ranchi, leading to the culling of 5,488 birds.

## Jharkhand Government Budget for FY 2025-26

### Why in News?

The Jharkhand Government tabled a Rs 1.450 lakh crore **Budget** for the 2025-26 financial year in the State Assembly.

### Key Points

- **Budget Allocation and Key Scheme:**
  - Rs 13,363.35 crore has been allocated for **the Jharkhand Mukhyamantri Maiya Samman Yojana (JMMSY)** to provide financial aid to women.
- **Economic Growth and Fiscal Deficit:**
  - The State's economy is projected to grow at 7.5% in 2025-26.
  - The **fiscal deficit** is estimated at Rs 11,253 crore for the coming financial year.
  - Rs 62,844 crore has been allocated for the social sector.
  - Jharkhand's **Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)** was approximately Rs 4.6 trillion in 2023-24.
  - The government aims to increase the GSDP to Rs 10 trillion by 2029-30.
- **Healthcare and Education Initiatives:**
  - The budget includes the establishment of **seven new medical colleges** in: Ranchi, Khunti, Giridih, Jamshedpur, Dhanbad, Deoghar, and Jamtara.

- The government also announced plans to open new universities in: Jamshedpur, Gumla, and Sahibganj.
- **Financial Disputes with the Centre:**
  - The State Government plans to initiate legal action to recover Rs 1.36 lakh crore in pending dues from the Central Government.

### Jharkhand Mukhyamantri Maiya Samman Yojana (JMMSY)

- The scheme was launched on **3rd August, 2024**. Under the scheme, **Rs 1,000 will be given to eligible women** from families living **below the poverty line**.
- A total of Rs 12,000 will be sent to the bank accounts of all eligible women every year through **Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme**.
- From December 2024, the financial assistance was increased to **Rs 2,500 per month**.

## Jharkhand Government Supplementary Budget

### Why in News?

The Jharkhand government presented supplementary demands of Rs 5,508 crore in the Assembly during the ongoing 20-day **budget session**.

### Key Points

- **Key Allocations in the Supplementary Budget:**
  - The **Energy Department** is set to receive the highest allocation of Rs 971.80 crore.
  - The **Rural Works Department** follows with an allocation of Rs 873.29 crore.
  - The **Home, Jail, and Disaster Management Department** is allocated Rs 502.61 crore.
  - The **Pension Department** is proposed to receive Rs 500 crore.
  - The **School Education and Literacy Department** is likely to get Rs 393.93 crore.
- **Maiyan Samman Yojana Debate in the Assembly:**
  - The Assembly witnessed a heated debate during **Question Hour** over **the Maiyan Samman Yojana**.
    - The delay in benefit transfers under the scheme was questioned.

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- It was assured that payments for January and February 2025 would be credited by 15th March 2025.

➤ **Maiyan Samman Yojana: Scheme Details and Concerns**

- The **Jharkhand government provides Rs 2,500 per month to over 56 lakh women** beneficiaries under the **Maiyan Samman Yojana** which was **launched in August 2024**.
  - However, **beneficiaries have not received payments for January and February, 2025**.
- It was questioned if **widows and physically challenged women**, who receive **Rs 1,000 per**

**month as pension**, would also be included under this scheme.

- It was pointed out a disparity, as **only women aged 18-50 years benefit from Maiyan Samman Yojana**, while **widows and disabled women receive only Rs 1,000 per month**.

➤ **Support for Widows:**

- It was highlighted that the state government introduced a **widow remarriage incentive scheme** called **Vidhwa Punarvivah Protsahan Yojana**.
- Under this scheme, **widows receive a one-time incentive of Rs 2 lakh**.



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# Summary

## Key Points

## Details

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## Summary