

Chhattisgarh Implements Pay Raise and Women Empowerment Scheme

Why in News?

Recently, the Chhattisgarh government decided to increase the **remuneration of tendu patta collectors from Rs 4000 per standard bag to Rs 5500** and implement the **Mahtari Vandan Yojana**.

Key Points

- The Cabinet has approved the Mahtari Vandan Yojana, under which married women will receive financial assistance of Rs 1000 per month, totaling Rs 12,000 annually, directly credited to their bank accounts through <u>Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT)</u>.
 - The objective of this scheme is to eliminate gender discrimination, inequality, and lack of awareness among women in the state, and to improve their health and nutrition levels.
 - The benefits will be available to married women who are residents of Chhattisgarh and are aged 21 or above as of 1st January, 2024. Widowed, divorced, and abandoned women are also eligible for the scheme.
- To ensure the social security of tendu patta collectors, a new scheme will be implemented, with 75% of the financial assistance provided by the government and the remaining 25% by the Chhattisgarh State Minor Forest Produce (Trading and Development) Cooperative Federation.
- The Cabinet has also decided to implement the Bharat (BH) series vehicle registration in the state of Chhattisgarh.
 - Under the BH series implemented by the Government of India, two-wheeler and fourwheeler vehicles will have to pay tax for two years at one go.
- The draft of the <u>Chhattisgarh Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill-2024</u> was also approved.

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