



Bihar Patrakar Samman Scheme

Why in News?

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar announced a hike in pensions for retired journalists under the Bihar Patrakar Samman Scheme (BPSS).

Key Points

- **About:** Under BPSS, the monthly pension has been increased from Rs 6,000 to Rs 15,000.
 - In the case of the pensioner's death, **dependents/spouse will now receive Rs 10,000 per month**, up from the earlier Rs 3,000.
 - The scheme recognised the **vital role of journalists as the fourth pillar of democracy** and reiterated the state's commitment to their dignity post-retirement.
- **Eligibility of Journalists Under BPSS:** The **revised pension applies to all eligible retired journalists** registered with the Bihar government who meet the following eligibility criteria under the scheme:
 - The applicant must be a resident of Bihar.
 - Retired journalists with **20 years of experience in journalism** are eligible.
 - The applicant must be **60 years of age** to avail the benefits of the scheme.
 - The journalist must be **recognized by the Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD)**, and the certificate must be **verified by the State Government**.

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/bihar-patrakar-samman-scheme>