



## Formation of Chhattisgarh

### Why in News?

**Chhattisgarh is celebrating its Silver Jubilee year, marking 25 years since its formation.** As part of its **Silver Jubilee celebrations**, the **Public Relations Department** organized a photo exhibition and quiz competition in Raipur.





## Key Facts About Chhattisgarh

- **History:** The history of Chhattisgarh dates back to the 4th century C.E., when it was known as **Dakshin Kosala**. The name "Chhattisgarh" means "thirty-six forts," referring to the **Hehaya dynasty of Ratanpur**.
  - The **Kalachuri dynasty** ruled the region from the 9th to 18th century, with **Ratanpur** as their capital.
- **Formation as a State:** Chhattisgarh was **formed on 1st November 2000**, after being **carved out of Madhya Pradesh**.
  - Its **capital is Raipur**, with **Naya Raipur (Atal Nagar)** being developed as a modern smart city.
- **Geographical Significance:** It is the **9th largest state in India** with an area of 135,192 square kilometers. The state is rich in natural resources, especially coal, iron ore, and bauxite, making it a key hub for power, steel, and cement industries.
  - Chhattisgarh is also **known as the 'Rice Bowl of India'** due to its high rice

production. **More than 40% of its land is forested.**

## Unique Facts About Chhattisgarh

- **Both the Tropic of Cancer and the Indian Standard Time (IST) meridian pass through Chhattisgarh**, with their **intersection located in Surajpur**.
- The **Indian Standard Time meridian runs through several districts in Chhattisgarh**, including Surajpur, Korba, Janjgir-Champa, Balodabazar, Mahasamund, Gariaband, and Balod.
  - **This meridian, which is based on the 82.5° E longitude**, is used to calculate IST.
  - The **standard meridian of India also passes through other states**, such as Uttar Pradesh (Mirzapur, village Kharavada), Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh.
- The **Tropic of Cancer, situated at 23° 26' North latitude**, crosses through **eight Indian states**: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, **Chhattisgarh**, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura, and Mizoram.
  - In **Chhattisgarh, the Tropic of Cancer passes through** the districts of **Korea (Koriya), Surajpur, Balrampur, and Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur**.

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