



Chhattisgarh's Mahatari Vandan Yojana

Why in News?

The **Mahatari Vandan Yojana** is bringing significant changes in the lives of women in Chhattisgarh by empowering them economically and socially.

- Currently, over 69.19 lakh women across the state are benefiting from this initiative.

Key Facts About Mahatari Vandan Yojana

- **Objective:** The Mahatari Vandan Yojana aims to **empower women by addressing gender discrimination, inequality, improving health and nutrition levels**, promoting economic independence, and strengthening women's decision-making roles in families.
 - It aims to foster a long-term impact on the overall development and well-being of women in Chhattisgarh.
- **Launch:** The scheme was launched by the state government of Chhattisgarh in March 2024.
- **Eligibility Criteria:**
 - Married women who are local residents of Chhattisgarh.
 - Women must be at least 21 years old.
 - Widows, divorced women, and deserted women are also eligible for the scheme.
- **Assistance Provided:**
 - Eligible women will receive ₹1000 per month via **DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer)**.
 - Women receiving less than ₹1000 from social assistance programs or various pension schemes will be provided the balance amount to ensure they receive ₹1000.

State of Women's Health in Chhattisgarh as per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), 2020-21

- **Women with BMI Less Than Normal (<18.5 kg/m²):** **23.1% of women** aged 15-49 in Chhattisgarh have a BMI below the normal threshold.
- **Prevalence of Anemia:**
 - **All Women (15-49 years):** **60.8% are anemic.**
 - **Pregnant Women (15-49 years):** **51.8% are anemic.**