



Chero Archers of Palamau | Jharkhand | 04 Oct 2025

Why in News?

The Jharkhand franchise in the upcoming **Archery Premier League (APL)** has been named **Chero Archers**, honoring the martial traditions and resistance legacy of the **Chero tribe of Palamau**.

- The APL, scheduled from 2nd-12th October, features teams like Prithviraj Yodhas, Kakatiya Knights, Mighty Marathas, Rajputana Royals, and Chola Chiefs, **blending modern sports with India's martial heritage**.

Key Points

- **Historical Background:** The Cheros rose to prominence in present-day Bihar and Jharkhand after the decline of the **Pala Empire (12th-13th century)**.
 - They later settled in **Palamau (western Jharkhand)**, where their bows became a symbol of tribal resilience.
 - Known for resisting both **Mughal imperial armies** and later the **British East India Company**, the Cheros consistently used guerrilla tactics from their forested strongholds.
 - **Key Figures & Events:**
 - **Sahbal Rai (17th century):** A contemporary of **Jahangir**, who disrupted Mughal supply lines along the **Grand Trunk Road (1613)**.
 - Captured and forced to fight a tiger before the Emperor, where he died—earning lasting tribal reverence.
 - **Medini Rai (Chero Napoleon):** The **most celebrated** Chero leader; Medininagar in Jharkhand is named after him.
 - Led resistance against **Aurangzeb's generals** like Daud Khan and Sha'ista Khan in 1660.
 - Praised by historian W.W. Hunter for his hardy archers.
 - **18th Century Resistance:** In 1730, Chero arrows scattered Mughal forces under Muazzam Khan in Palamau.
 - Later, Fakhruddaula settled for an uneasy tributary arrangement with them.
 - **Against the British:** In 1771, **Chitrajit Rai's Cheros defied Captain Jacob Camac** with bows and arrows.
 - Their resistance continued with mini-insurrections between 1817-1857.
 - **Revolt of 1857:** The **Chero brothers Nilamber and Pitamber** spearheaded tribal uprisings against the British alongside the Santals.
 - **Cultural Significance of Bows & Arrows:** For the Cheros, archery was not just a skill but a **way of life**, where **both men and women participated in warfare** and cultural practices like hunting and river-diving, with their simple bent bows symbolizing a heroic resistance against the stronger foes.
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MY Bharat Mobile Application Launched | National Current Affairs | 04 Oct 2025

Why in News?

Union Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya launched the **MY Bharat Mobile Application**, marking a significant step in **advancing youth leadership** and civic engagement through technology.

- He also announced the **integration of the Common Services Centres (CSCs)** with the **MY Bharat Portal**, marking a significant step towards ensuring wider access and deeper penetration of youth-centric initiatives across the country.

Key Points

- **About:** It is an **online Youth Leadership and Social Engagement Platform** under the Department of Youth Affairs (DoYA), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, which has been designed and developed by the **Digital India Corporation (DIC)**, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
 - It aims to provide youth with **volunteering, internships, mentorship, and learning opportunities** through a seamless mobile interface.
 - It is currently available in **Hindi and English**, with more Indian languages to be added gradually.
- **Key Features:**
 - **Verified Opportunities:** Volunteering, internships, mentorship, and experiential learning.
 - **Digital Recognition:** Badges, certificates, and personalised youth profiles.
 - **Career Empowerment:** Skill-building resources and **AI-enabled resume building**.
 - **Youth Campaigns:** Active participation in flagship programmes and civic initiatives.
 - **Interactive Learning:** Participation in the **Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) 2026 Quiz**.
- **Integration with CSCs:** By leveraging CSC's vast network of **over five lakh Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs)**, the MY Bharat portal will now extend to remote rural areas, enabling seamless youth registration and participation in initiatives like the VBYLD Quiz.
 - The **MY Bharat platform**, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 31st October 2023, has become **one of India's largest youth-centric ecosystems** with over 1.81 crore youth and 1.20 lakh organisations onboarded, serving as a digital backbone for youth engagement, leadership, and nation-building during the Amrit Kaal.