

Current Affairs search results for tag: government-schemes

### 1. Karnataka's Anna Bhagya Scheme ( June 20, 2023 )

Karnataka's-Anna-Bhagya-Scheme

The **Karnataka government** is currently facing challenges in implementing the **Anna Bhagya scheme** starting from **July 1** due to the unavailability of the required amount of rice.

#### An overview of the news

- The **Food Corporation of India (FCI)** has halted the sale of rice to state governments, including Karnataka, since June 12.
- This discontinuation of rice supply has created difficulties for the implementation of the **Anna Bhagya scheme**.
- However, **Punjab** has in principle agreed to supply rice to Karnataka in the required quantity.
- FCI initially agreed to provide the required **2.28 lakh tonnes** of rice, but later refused to do so.
- **Telangana and Andhra Pradesh** expressed their inability to supply, while the Chhattisgarh government offered to supply **1.5 lakh tonnes**.

#### About Anna Bhagya Scheme

- The state government intends to increase the allocation of free rice from **5 kg to 10 kg per person on Below Poverty Line (BPL)** cards under the Anna Bhagya scheme.
- The aim of this increase in free rice allocation is to provide more support and **food security** to the persons belonging to **BPL category**.
- The implementation of this revised allocation is scheduled to begin from **July 1**.
- The increased allocation of free rice will cost the state government an estimated ₹840 crore per month.
- Annually, the scheme is expected to cost **Rs 10,092 crore** to the state exchequer.

### 2. Centre discontinues sale of rice, wheat under OMSS Scheme ( June 19, 2023 )

Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS)

The **central government has discontinued the sale of rice and wheat** from the central pool under the **Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS)** to state governments.

#### An overview of the news

- This decision will affect some states, including **Karnataka**, that provide free grains to the poor through their own schemes.

- The **Food Corporation of India (FCI)** has issued an order stating that the sale of **wheat and rice** under the OMSS for state governments is discontinued.
- However, the sale of rice under the OMSS will continue for **northeastern states, hilly states, and states facing law and order** situations or natural calamities at the existing rate of **Rs 3,400 per quintal**.
- FCI may sell rice under the OMSS to private parties from the **central pool stock to moderate market prices**.
- The central government had previously allowed states to buy rice and wheat from the FCI for their own schemes without participating in e-auctions as part of the **OMSS policy for 2023**.

### **Rice prices**

- Rice prices have been increasing due to the slow progress of the monsoon and have risen by up to **10% in the last year** at the mandi level.
- The monsoon rains are crucial for rice production as about **80% of the country's total rice production** is grown during the kharif season.

### **Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS)**

- **Nodal Agency-** Food Corporation of India (FCI)
- **Purpose-** To sell foodgrains, especially wheat and rice, at predetermined prices in the open market.
- **Mode of Selling-** Weekly auctions by FCI on the platform of the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited.
- **Quantity allowed in a bidding** - A bidder can purchase in a single bid range from 10-100 tonne.
- OMSS comprises **2 schemes**
- -Sale of wheat to bulk consumers/private traders through e-auction.
- -Sale of Raw Rice Grade 'A' to bulk consumers/private traders through e-auction.

### **About Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS)**

- It is a government initiative launched with the aim of **reducing the excess stock of food grains**.
- **Nodal Agency-** Food Corporation of India (FCI)
- Its objective is to sell food grains, especially **wheat and rice**, in the open market at pre-determined prices.
- The sales are carried out through weekly auctions by FCI on the platform of **National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited**.

- Under this a bidder can buy in a single bid range of **10-100 tonnes**.
- Schemes for sale of wheat to bulk consumers/private traders through e-auction and sale of grade 'A' raw rice to bulk consumers/private traders through e-auction are included under OMSS.

### **About Food Corporation of India (FCI)**

- It is a prominent **Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)** under the **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution in India**.
- It was **established in 1965** to ensure food security and support the **nation's public distribution system**.
- FCI's primary mandate is to **procure, store, and distribute food grains** across the country.
- It aims to maintain an adequate buffer stock of essential commodities and provide timely and affordable food grains to the vulnerable sections of society.
- FCI undertakes the procurement of food grains from farmers at **Minimum Support Prices (MSPs)** declared by the government.
- It procures crops such as wheat, rice, and coarse grains directly from farmers through designated procurement centers.

### **3. Janaushadhi scheme has helped citizens to save around Rs 20,000 cr ( June 18, 2023 )**

According to **Ravi Dadhich**, CEO of the **Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India**, the **Jan Aushadhi scheme** has helped citizens save around **Rs 20,000 crore** on their medicine bills in the last **9 years**.

#### **An overview of the news**

- Over the past nine years, the number of **Janaushadhi Kendras** has increased significantly, growing by **100 times**.
- The sales of Janaushadhi Kendras have also experienced a remarkable increase, surpassing **150 times**.
- The government has set a target to further expand the number of Janaushadhi Kendras to **10,000 by the end of the current year**.
- Currently, there are over **9,400 functional Janaushadhi Kendras** across the country, where medications are sold at discounted rates ranging from **50 to 90 percent compared to branded medicines**.
- The product range of the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana includes **1,800 drugs and 285 surgical equipment** options.

### **About Jan Aushadhi Yojana**

- The Jan Aushadhi scheme was started by the **UPA government in 2008**.
- The scheme was **relaunched in the year 2015** by the Prime Minister of India, **Narendra Modi**.
- This campaign was started across the country by selling generic medicines through "**Jan Aushadhi Medical Stores**".
- In 2015, the name of 'Jan Aushadhi Yojana' was changed to '**Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Yojana**' (**PMJAY**), but in **November 2016** it was changed to "**Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Yojana**".
- The Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Yojana (PMBJP) scheme was launched by the **Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers**, Government of India, with the objective of making quality generic medicines available to all at affordable prices.

#### **4. Government of Madhya Pradesh launched Mukhyamantri Ladli Bahna Yojana ( June 12, 2023 )**

##### **Mukhya Mantri Ladli Bahna Yojana**

**Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** launched the '**Mukhya Mantri Ladli Bahna Yojana**'.

##### **An Overview of the News**

- The Ladli Bahna Yojana 2023 was officially inaugurated by **CM Chouhan**, who took the initiative to deposit the first instalment of **Rs 1,000 in the accounts of eligible women beneficiaries**.
- This scheme was launched in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh with the primary objective of empowering women and providing financial assistance to them.
- The chief minister outlined plans to increase the **monthly support to Rs 1,200, Rs 1,500, Rs 1,700** and eventually Rs 2,000, thereby increasing the financial assistance provided to beneficiaries.

##### **About Ladli Behna Scheme**

- It was started on **March 15** by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**.
- This scheme provides financial assistance to women in Madhya Pradesh.
- Under the scheme, an amount of **Rs 12,000 per year** ie **Rs 1,000 per month** is sent directly to the bank accounts of eligible women.
- The state government has allocated a budget of **Rs 60,000 crore** for the implementation of the scheme.
- The scheme is open to women belonging to various categories including **general, OBC, SC, ST, abandoned, or widowed women**.

- Eligible women will have to fulfill certain criteria including being economically weak and owning less than five acres of land.
- The scheme targets women with an annual income of **less than Rs 2.5 lakh**.
- The age of the woman should be between **23 to 60 years to be eligible for the scheme**.

### **About Madhya Pradesh**

- It is the **second largest state** of India by area after Rajasthan.
- **Forests occupy 25.14 percent** of its area.
- Governor - **Mangubhai Patel**
- Chief Minister - **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**
- Capital - **Bhopal**

### **5. Centre sets up 733 One Stop Centres for women security across the country so far ( June 8, 2023 )**

733-One-Stop-Centres-for-women-security

According to Union Minister **Smriti Irani** the government has set up **733 One Stop Centres** across the country so far and also sanctioned a budget for **300 more such centers for women security**.

#### **An overview of the news**

- These one stop centers are providing a range of integrated services including police facilitation, medical aid, legal aid, counseling and temporary shelter to women affected by violence or in distress.
- In the last nine years, more than **34 women helplines** are working in the country for the welfare of women in the country.

#### **Anganwadi services**

- Anganwadi services have been strengthened in the country and all **Anganwadi centers** have been linked through smart phone mobiles.
- So far **11 lakh smartphones** have been distributed to Anganwadi workers.

#### **Poshan Tracker**

- A system called Poshan Tracker has been set up and more than nine crore beneficiaries are taking advantage of it.

#### **Maternity Benefit Scheme**

- Maternity Benefit Scheme- Under the **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana**, about **3 crore 32 lakh women** in the country have received Rs 13,650 crore in their bank accounts through **DBT**.

### **Fast-track courts**

- The government has set up **1,023 fast-track courts** in the country, of which **418 are exclusively POCSO courts**.
- More than **780 district-wise anti-human trafficking units** are functioning in the country.

### **Nirbhaya Fund**

- In the last nine years, the NDA government has taken forward projects worth **Rs 12,000 crore**, including the Nirbhaya Fund.

### **One Stop Centres Scheme**

- One Stop Center is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD)** to address the problem of violence against women.
- It is a sub-scheme of the **National Mission for Empowerment of Women scheme**.
- One Stop Centers have been set up across the country to provide integrated support and assistance under one roof to women affected by violence in private and public spaces.
- The scheme is funded through **Nirbhaya Fund**.

## **6. Uttar Pradesh government launches Nand Baba Milk Mission scheme ( June 8, 2023 )**

In a bid to make Uttar Pradesh a leading state in the field of milk development and milk production, the state government has launched the **Nand Baba Milk Mission scheme** on 6th June at a cost of **Rs 1,000 crore**.

### **An overview of the news**

- The mission is implemented to facilitate milk producers to sell their milk at reasonable prices in villages through **dairy cooperatives**.
- Under this mission, it is proposed to form a **Dairy farmer producer organisation (Dairy FPO)** in order to facilitate sale of milk in producers' villages itself.
- There is a plan to set up **five dairy FPOs** in five districts of the state as a pilot project in the financial year 2023-24, in which women will also play a major role.

- Besides the opening of office of the Nand Baba Milk Mission at **Gomtinagar**, a '**Dairy Development Portal**' and **logo of Nand Baba Mission** has also been unveiled by Cabinet Minister, Livestock and Dairy Development Department, **Dharampal Singh**.

### **Indian Dairy Sector**

- **India ranks first in milk production** and contributes **24% to global milk production**.
- The top 5 milk producing states are: **Uttar Pradesh (14.9%), Rajasthan (14.6%), Madhya Pradesh (8.6%), Gujarat (7.6%) and Andhra Pradesh (7.0%)**.
- Dairy is the single largest agricultural item **contributing 5% to the national economy**, which has been **6.4% in the last 5 years**.
- About **8 crore people** are directly or indirectly employed in the dairy industry.

### **Some important facts related to milk and milk products**

- **India is the world's largest milk producer**, accounting for **23 percent of global production**. It is followed by the **United States, China, Pakistan and Brazil**.
- **Uttar Pradesh is the largest milk producing state** in India and accounts for more than **17% of the total milk production in India**.
- The per capita availability of milk in India is **406 grams per day**.
- Ordinary milk contains **85 percent water** and the remaining part consists of solid elements ie minerals and fat.
- Milk contains **protein, calcium and riboflavin (vitamin B-2)**.
- Milk also contains **vitamins A, D, K and E** including **phosphorus, magnesium, iodine** and many minerals and fat and energy.
- The purity of milk is measured by **lactometer**.
- National Milk Research Institute is located at **Karnal (Haryana)**.
- An organic compound called **lactose** is found in milk.
- The **pH value of fresh milk is 6**. When milk changes into curd, its **pH value becomes less than 6**.
- **Lactobacillus bacteria** help in curdling of milk.

### **7. MP Govt to launch CM Learn and Earn scheme ( June 7, 2023 )**

In **Madhya Pradesh**, the **Chief Minister's Learn and Earn scheme** is set to be launched with the aim of providing employable skills to the youth.

### **An overview of the news**

- Chief Minister's Learn and Earn scheme in Madhya Pradesh focuses on providing **training, financial support, and employment opportunities to the youth.**
- By identifying numerous work areas and involving various industries, the scheme aims to equip the young workforce with the necessary skills to enhance their employability and contribute to the state's development.

## **Salient Features of the Scheme**

### **Work Areas Identification**

- A total of **703 work areas** have been identified for training purposes under this scheme.
- These work areas cover a wide range of industries and sectors, ensuring diverse opportunities for skill development.

### **Allowance Provision**

- A significant aspect of the Learn and Earn scheme is that it not only focuses on skill acquisition but also provides financial support to the youth.
- Participants in the scheme will receive a monthly allowance ranging from **Rs 8,000 to 10,000.**
- This allowance aims to assist the youth in meeting their financial needs while they learn and work.

### **Government's Commitment**

- Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has expressed the government's continuous efforts to bridge the gap between youth and employment.
- The Learn and Earn scheme is a proactive measure taken by the government to address the issue of unemployment by equipping young individuals with necessary skills.

### **Training Opportunities**

- The scheme targets the training of **at least one lakh youth.**
- To facilitate this, the registration process will commence for establishments providing **training to the youth, starting today.**
- Simultaneously, registration for the youth interested in acquiring work-related skills will commence from 15th June.
- The selected youth will commence their work from 1st August, thereby creating a structured timeline for skill development and subsequent employment.

### **Madhya Pradesh**

- In terms of area, it is the **second largest state of India after Rajasthan.**



- According to the Indian Forest Status Report-2021, Madhya Pradesh has the maximum forest cover in the country in terms of area.
- **25.14% of its area is covered by forests.**
- Governor - **Mangubhai Patel**
- Chief Minister - **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**
- Capital - **Bhopal**

## **8. Union Cabinet approves continuation of 'Exploration of Coal and Lignite Scheme' ( June 7, 2023 )**

'Exploration-of-Coal-and-Lignite-Scheme

The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs**, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 7 June, has approved the continuation of the **Central Sector Scheme called "Exploration of Coal and Lignite scheme."**

### **An overview of the news**

- The scheme will be implemented from **2021-22 to 2025-26**, aligned with the **15th Finance Commission cycle**, and will require an estimated expenditure of Rs 2980 crore.
- The scheme focuses on the exploration of coal and lignite through two main stages: **Promotional (Regional) Exploration and Detailed Exploration in Non-Coal India Limited (CIL) blocks.**
- The approved funding includes **Rs 1650 crore** for Promotional (Regional) Exploration and **Rs 1330 crore for Detailed Drilling in Non-CIL areas.**
- The scheme aims to cover approximately **1300 sq. km under Regional exploration and approximately 650 sq. km under Detailed exploration.**

### **Significance of the scheme**

- Exploration for **Coal and Lignite** is essential to ascertain and estimate the available coal resources in the country.
- It plays a crucial role in preparing **detailed project reports** required to initiate coal mining operations.
- The geological reports generated through these exploration activities are utilized in the **auctioning of new coal blocks.**
- The cost of exploration is subsequently recovered from successful allocatees.
- The continuation of the Exploration of Coal and Lignite scheme will contribute to the assessment and **identification of coal and lignite reserves**, facilitating future coal mining operations.

- It ensures the availability of reliable geological data for the **auctioning process, promoting transparency and efficiency in the allocation of coal blocks.**

## **9. PM Modi launches Amrit Dharohar and MISHTI schemes for wetland, mangrove conservation ( June 7, 2023 )**

-Modi-launches-Amrit-Dharohar

On the occasion of **World Environment Day (5 June)**, PM **Narendra Modi** launched **two schemes--Amrit Dharohar and MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes)**--aimed at reviving the country's wetlands and mangroves.

An overview of the news

- PM said in the **last nine years**, the number of **wetlands and Ramsar sites** in India has increased **almost three times** as compared to earlier
- India currently has **75 Ramsar sites** which are wetlands of international importance and have been designated under the norms of the **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.**
- India also has about **3% of South Asia's mangrove population.**
- Apart from Sundarbans in **West Bengal, Andaman region, Kutch and Jamnagar regions** in Gujarat have substantial mangrove cover.

### **Amrit Dharohar Yojana**

- The scheme was first announced by the Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the **2023-24 Union budget.**
- The scheme will be implemented over the next three years to encourage optimum use of wetlands and enhance **biodiversity, carbon stock, ecotourism opportunities and income generation for local communities.**
- It will emphasise on the importance of **lakes and their conservation.**
- Amrit Dharohar aims to achieve **sustainable ecosystem development** over the next three years with the help of local communities.

### **MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes)**

- The scheme was first announced by the Union finance minister **Nirmala Sitharaman in the 2023-24 Union budget.**
- This will facilitate **mangrove plantation on salt lands** along the sea coast of India.
- The scheme will operate through “**convergence between MGNREGS, Campa Fund and other sources**”.
- It aims at intensive afforestation of coastal mangrove forests.

- There are such forests on both the **east and west coasts of India**, with the **Sundarbans in Bengal** being one of the largest mangrove forests.
- Initially the mangrove cover will be restored in **nine states across the country**.
- The scheme envisages the development of mangroves covering nearly **540 sq km**, spreading **across 11 states and two union territories** over five years, starting from FY2023-24.
- The **Centre will cover 80%** of the project cost, while **state governments** will contribute the **remaining 20%**.

## **10. UP govt launches 'Elder Line' service to give shelter to elderly homeless ( June 6, 2023 )**

Uttar Pradesh Social Welfare Department.

The '**Elder Line**' **14567 service** was recently **launched by the Uttar Pradesh Social Welfare Department**.

### **An overview of the news**

- The initiative is the brainchild of Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Social Welfare **Aseem Arun**, who earlier headed the emergency **helpline 112**.

### **Objective of the initiative**

- The objective of the helpline is to rescue destitute old persons and provide them **shelter in old age homes**.
- 'Elder Line' 14567 service has been activated, actively responding to **distress related to older persons**.

### **Reporting destitute elderly**

- Citizens can report about destitute elderly persons on **roadsides, bus stations, railway stations, or similar places**.
- The team of the Social Welfare Department immediately responds to the reports and ensures that the elderly person is shifted safely to the old age home with dignity.

### **Availability of Old Age Homes**

- Uttar Pradesh currently has **75 old age homes**, one in each district.
- These homes accommodate both **male and female residents**, providing them with necessary amenities and care.

### **Facilities and Services**

- Inmates of the old age homes receive **free food, healthcare facilities, and entertainment options**.

- Health check-ups are conducted **every 15 days** by doctors from the Chief Medical Officer's office.
- Each old age home is equipped with an ambulance to address emergency medical needs.

### **Enriching Lives**

- Old age homes organize outings and recreational activities for the residents.
- Trips to places like Akshardham temple in Delhi are arranged, providing a refreshing experience for the elderly.
- Such initiatives enhance their quality of life and create opportunities for enjoyment.

### **Benefits and Allowances**

- The state government has increased the **breakfast allowance** for elderly individuals in old age homes from **Rs 75 to Rs 114 per day**.
- Inmates also receive an annual amount of **Rs 2,500** for new clothes, **Rs 200 per month** for additional medicines, and **Rs 150** for entertainment purposes.

### **Pension Scheme Integration**

- The social welfare department plans to link the over **6,000 elderly individuals** residing in old age homes to the 'Rashtriya Vridhavastha Pension' scheme.
- This integration aims to provide additional financial support to the elderly, offering them some extra pocket money.