

Testwale Current Affairs PDF

Current Affairs search results for tag: government-schemes

1. Indore adjudged the cleanest city in India for the consecutive sixth time: Swachh Survekshan Awards 2022 (Oct. 1, 2022)

The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs announced **Indore** as the cleanest city of India for the **consecutive sixth time** in its 7th Swachh Survekshan Awards 2022', announced on 1 October 2022.

The award was presented to the winner State and the cities by the President Droupadi Murmu at a function held in New Delhi on 1 October 2022.

The Madhya Pradesh City of **Indore** was followed by **Surat of Gujarat** and **Navi Mumbai of Maharashtra**, who were ranked second and third respectively.

Best Clean State

Madhya Pradesh was ranked the cleanest State followed by Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra at the second and third place respectively.

Cities having a population of less than one lakh

In the category of cities having a population of less than one lakh, Maharashtra's **Panchgani** was ranked number one, followed by Chhattisgarh's Patan (NP) and Maharashtra's Karhad.

Cities having a population of more than one lakh along Ganga River

Haridwar was adjudged the cleanest Ganga town in the category of more than 1 lakh population, followed by Varanasi and Rishikesh.

Cities having a population of less than one lakh along Ganga River

Bijnor of Uttar Pradesh adjudged the cleanest Ganga town in the category of less than 1 lakh population, followed by Kannauj and Garhmukhteshwar, all of Uttar Pradesh.

Cleanest cantonment board.

Deolali in Maharashtra was adjudged the cleanest cantonment board.

Cleanest State having fewer than 100 urban local bodies.

Tripura has bagged the top rank among the states having fewer than 100 urban local bodies.

SWACHH SURVEKSHAN

Swachh Survekshan is the world's largest urban sanitation and cleanliness survey which has been conducted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs **since 2016**. The aim of the Swachh Survekshan is to foster a spirit of healthy competition among towns and cities so as to improve their service delivery to citizens and towards creating cleaner cities.

In the **first Swachh Survekshan 2016**, 73 major cities were surveyed. However in the 7th edition of Swachh Survekshan 2022, 4,355 **cities** were surveyed making it the **world's largest urban cleanliness survey**

This year's survey with a "**People First**" theme received over an unprecedented 9 crores, feedback, a marked increase from last year's 5 crores.

Union Ministry for Housing and Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri

2. The Union Finance ministry raises the interest rates on select small saving schemes (Sept. 30, 2022)

The Union Ministry of Finance has increased interest rates on certain small saving schemes on 29 September 2022. It will be applicable **from 1 October 2022**. This is the first time small savings rates have been hiked since the January to March quarter of 2019.

The interest rates on the small savings scheme are revised after **every quarter**.

Small Saving Schemes are deposit schemes of the **government of India** where the people are assured of safety and return and the government uses the money for development purposes. These schemes are operated through **Post offices in India**.

Unlike Banks where interest rates are decided by the banks, the interest **rates in the small saving scheme are decided by the government of India**.

New Interest rates on Small Saving Schemes

Name of the Scheme	Interest Rates (from 1 October 2022)
Senior Citizens Savings Scheme	7.6% (earlier 7.4%)
Kisan Vikas Patra	7 % (earlier 6.9%). The amount will double in 123 months.
Monthly Income Schemes	6.7% (earlier 6.6%)
3 year Term deposit (fixed deposit) with Post Office	6.7% (earlier 6.6%)

No Change in Interest rates of the following Small Saving Scheme

Scheme	Interest rates
Public Provident Fund (PPF)	7.1%
National Savings Certificate (NSC)	6.8 %
one-year Term Deposit scheme of the Post Office	5.5%
Sukanya Samridhdhi Yojana	7.6%

Post Office Saving Account

4%

3. Union Government extends PMGKAY till December 2022 (Sept. 28, 2022)

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 28 September 2022 has extended the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY-Phase VII) for a further period of 3 months, **October to December 2022**. The phase VI of the scheme was to end on 30 September 2022.

This will cover nearly 80 crore beneficiaries across India.

The government has extended the scheme keeping in mind the coming festival season so that there is no additional burden on the poor.

PMGKY is the world's largest food security programme which was launched in April 2020 to provide relief to the poor and migrant population suffering due to the corona -19 induced lockdown and the consequent hardship faced by them.

Features of the PMGKAY

- PMGKAY is a part of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (**PMGKP**) to help the poor fight the battle against Covid-19.
- Its nodal Ministry is the **Ministry of Finance**.
- Under this scheme, the government provides additional free of cost **5 kg per person per month food-grains** (rice/wheat) to around 80 crore beneficiaries of National Food Security Act (NFSA) including the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) beneficiaries.
- The PMGKAY has now been linked with One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan where migrant workers can get the benefit of the scheme through any ration shops in India.

Financial burden on the central government

- The scheme is fully funded by the government of India
- The government of India has so far spent Rs 3.45 lakh Crore upto Phase-VI of PMGKAY. With the additional expenditure of about Rs. 44,762 Crore for Phase-VII of this scheme, the overall expenditure of PMGKAY will be about Rs. 3.91 lakh crore for all the phases.
- The total outgo in terms of food grains for PMGKAY Phase VII is likely to be about 122 Lakh metric tonnes. The aggregate allocation of food grain for phases I- VII is about 1121 lakh metric tonnes.

Phases of the PMGKAY Scheme

Phase 1 from April to June 2020

Phase II from July to November 2020

Phase III from December 2020 to May 2021 to June 2021

Phase IV from July 2021 to November 2021

Phase V from December 2021 to March 2021

Phase VI from April 2022 to September 2022

Phase VII from October 2022 to December 2022

Important Government Scheme

National Food Security Act (NFSA)

The Public distribution system in India is covered under the National Food Security Act 2013. **It was implemented on 10 September 2013.**

- It covers all the State and Union Territories in India.
- The scheme is administered by the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution.
- The Act provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about two-thirds of the population.
- Food Grains are provided to beneficiaries in two categories, Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Household (PHH).
- The Antodaya Anna Yojana beneficiaries get 35 kg of foodgrains per month and the Priority Household gets 5kg per person per month.
- The beneficiary gets rice/wheat or coarse cereals at a highly subsidized price.

4. Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry (MoHUAM) launch Swachh Toycathon (Sept. 26, 2022)

On 26 September, the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** launched **Swachh Toycathon**, a unique competition to make toys from waste.

Important facts

- The competition will be open to individuals and groups to bring innovation to the design of toys using dry waste.
- The focus will be on the design of those toys, on the basis of which a large number of toys can be made.
- These toys will have to comply with the minimum safety standards.
- The competition will be hosted on **MyGov innovate India portal**.
- Center for Creative Learning **IIT-Gandhinagar** will be the knowledge partner of this competition.
- Due to the economic development, income growth and many innovations in the country, the demand for toys has increased tremendously.
- The **National Toy Action Plan-2020** has been launched to establish India as a global toy hub and promote traditional handmade toys.

National Toy Action Plan-2020

- The government has prepared a National Toy Action Plan involving **14 ministries** to make the domestic toy industry competitive.
- It aims to make India self-reliant in the toy sector and increase the presence of domestic toys in the global market.
- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade and 14 Ministries are implementing various aspects of the scheme.

5. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates 'Arogya Manthan' to mark the anniversary of flagship health scheme of the government (Sept. 25, 2022)

The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya** inaugurated the two days (25-26 September 2022) Arogya **Manthan 2022** programme in **New Delhi** on 25 September 2022.

The Arogya Manthan has been organised by the National Health Authority (NHA) to celebrate the **4 years of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)** and **1 year of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)**.

NHA under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is the implementing agency of **AB PM-JAY and ABDM**.

Speaking on the occasion the minister said that presently 4.5 lakh Ayushman cards are being issued per day and the target is to increase it to 10 lakh Ayushman Cards every day. Ayushman card is issued to the beneficiaries of the AB PM-JAY.

Achievements of the AB PM-JAY

The minister released the annual report, National Health Authority 2021. The main points of the report regarding the two health schemes are as follows:

- The scheme is presently being implemented in **33 states and Union Territory;**
- Over 19 crore cards have been issued to the individuals till date of which **52 per cent of them were males** and 48 per cent females.
- Under the AB PM-JAY scheme, 3.8 crore of patients were admitted in hospitals across the country with **46% of them in public hospitals** and 54% in private hospitals. As much as 52% of these patients were males and **48% were females**.

Performance of the states in enrolling patients under AB PM-JAY

- **Goa**, Kerala, Haryana, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra were the top five states in which empanelled hospitals admitted the highest number of patients as per the AB PM-JAY.
- **Himachal Pradesh**, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Manipur and Mizoram were the top **Northeast/Hilly states**.
- **Puducherry**, Chandigarh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep and Ladakh were the top **Union Territories**.

Performance of the ABDM

The health minister also said that more than **24 crore ABHA** (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) has been generated in India.

One crore health records have been linked digitally under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).

National Health Protection Scheme or Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)

- Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on **23rd September, 2018 in Ranchi, Jharkhand**.
- It is the largest health assurance scheme in the world which provides a health cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per eligible family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization.

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)

- The Prime Minister launched the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) via video conferencing on **27th September 2021**.
- It aims to provide a **health ID (now called as ABHA)** to every citizen that will also work as their health account, to which personal health records can be linked and viewed with the help of a mobile application.
- The data will be available to doctors, hospitals, health insurance companies so that a seamless health care is provided to the patients.
- It is voluntary and no citizen can be forced to join it.

Chief Executive Officer of National Health Authority : **Dr Ram Sewak Sharma**

6. Government of India's flagship programme 'Make In India' completes 8 years (Sept. 25, 2022)

The flagship program of the Government of India, 'Make in India' completed 8 years **on 25 September 2022**. The programme was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014 to transform the country into a leading global manufacturing and investment destination.

The initiative is an effort of the government to attract foreign investors to invest in India.

Giving the accomplishment of the Make in India Initiative the Union Commerce Ministry highlighted the following accomplishment of the programme.

- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme across 14 key manufacturing sectors, was launched in 2020-21 as a big boost to Make in India initiative. The PLI Scheme incentivises domestic production in strategic growth sectors where India has comparative advantage.
- Recognising the importance of semiconductors in the world economy, the Government of India has launched a USD 10 billion incentive scheme to build a semiconductor, display, design ecosystem in India.
- The Ministry highlighted that India's export of toys increased to Rs 2601.5 crore in 2021-22 as compared to Rs 1612 crore in 2018-2019, an increase of 61%.
- The [Foreign Direct Investment](#) has increased from US \$ 45.15 billion in 2014-2015 to record \$83.6 billion in 2021-22.

7. Jitendra Singh announces the launch of the “Innovation Roadmap of the Mission Integrated Biorefineries” (Sept. 23, 2022)

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh announced the launch of the Innovation Roadmap of the Mission Integrated Biorefineries” developed by co-leads and active inputs from Brazil, Canada, EC and the United Kingdom.

He was speaking at the **1st Roundtable on “Sustainable Bioenergy and Bio-refineries”** at the Global Clean Energy Action Forum in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in the United States.

Under the [Global Clean Energy Action Forum](#) the 7th Mission Innovation and 13th Clean Energy Ministerial -2022 are being held jointly from 21-23 September 2022.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

India’s effort in furthering Biorefineries :

- **A bio refinery is a facility that integrates biomass conversion processes and equipment to produce fuels, power, and value-added chemicals from biomass. Biomass is renewable organic material that comes from plants and animals.**
- Dr Singh said that a pilot plant of 10 Tons/day capacity plant with integrated enzyme production is being set up at **Panipat Haryana**, which will be commissioned by December 2022. This will be the 1st indigenous technology for on-site enzyme production.
- The Minister pointed out that Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has also planned to supply this indigenous enzyme to a commercial 2G ethanol plant of 100 KL/day expected to be commissioned by 2024.
- He also said that India has established **5 Bioenergy Centers**, where an interdisciplinary team is working on advanced sustainable biofuels using modern biotechnology tools.

8. Chhattisgarh government to start ‘Hamar beti Hamar mann’ for women safety in the state (Sept. 23, 2022)

The Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in a tweet on 23 September 2022, has announced that the government will launch the Hamar beti Hamar Mann’ campaign for the safety of women, especially girls.

The state government will deploy a special women police patrol on girls’ schools, colleges and prominent places where women and girls visit. A mobile number will also be issued for the ‘Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan’ helpline, on which the girls will be able to register their complaints.

The state government has also decided to deploy women prosecutors for the investigation of crimes related to women.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

Chhattisgarh :

- It was known as **southern Kosala** in ancient times.
- The modern state of Chhattisgarh was created on **1 November 2000** by splitting Madhya Pradesh.
- The state shares boundaries with **6 states**. They are Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand to the north and northeast, Odisha to the east, Telangana to the south, and Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh to the west.
- Governor of Chhattisgarh: **Anusuiya Uikey**
- Capital : **Raipur**
- High Court seat : **Bilaspur**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

State symbol :

- State Animal : **Wild Water Buffalo**
- State Bird : **Hill Myna**
- State Tree : **Sal tree**
- State Flower : **Foxtails Orchid**

9. Union Ministry of Food Processing & Agriculture launches Convergence Portal (Sept. 22, 2022)

The Government launched a Joint Convergence Portal for various schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing and Agriculture on 21st September.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The portal has been jointly launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (**MoAFW**) and the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (**MoFPI**).
- The portal has been launched between the **Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF)**, **Pradhan Mantri Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Yojana** and **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)**.
- The portal was launched in the presence of Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Food Processing Industries Minister Pashupati Kumar Paras and Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Kailash Chaudhary.
- This initiative is going to add a new chapter in the life of micro units engaged in food processing.

Agriculture Infrastructure Fund :

- It was launched in 2020 as a stimulus package against the Covid-19 crisis.

- Its objective is to facilitate medium-long-term debt financing for investment in viable projects for post-harvest infrastructure management and community farm assets.

Pradhan Mantri Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Yojana :

- The Ministry of Food Processing launched the Centrally Sponsored PMFME Scheme on June 29, 2020.
- Its objective is to enhance the competitiveness of existing individual micro enterprises in the unorganized sector of the food processing industry and to promote formalization of the sector.
- Under this scheme, financial, technical and commercial assistance is provided for the up-gradation of micro food processing enterprises in the country.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana :

- It is a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- The objective of the scheme is to create modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet.

10. Union Minister Anurag Thakur launches capacity building training programme (Sept. 22, 2022)

Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Thakur on 21 September launched a capacity building training programme in New Delhi for 14,000 youth volunteers of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The aim of this ambitious online training program is to enhance the life skills of young volunteers so that they can contribute effectively to national development.
- The content of the training program has been carefully crafted and includes in-depth exercises on communication skills, leadership skills and decision making.
- This will help create the world's largest skilled workforce.

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan :

- It was established in 1972.
- Its objective is to provide rural youth avenues to take part in the process of nation building as well providing opportunities for the development of their personality and skills.
- It is working on various fronts of youth development with various youth programs of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and special programs in coordination and collaboration with other Ministries.

