

National and International Weekly Current Affairs 08 to 15 October 2023

Maharashtra State News**Shasan Aplya Dari - Women empowerment campaign****Context**

MH govt has announced a new women's empowerment campaign on the lines of 'Shasan Aplya Dari' (govt at your doorstep) campaign.

Key facts

- 1 crore women in the state will be benefited from this campaign
- All government departments implementing schemes for women will be brought under one roof.

Nodal agencies-

1. Commissioners in municipal areas
2. Chief Executive Officers of Zilla Parishads in rural areas

Events under campaign-

Health camps, training camps, employment fairs, Sakhi insect distribution, cultural programs, and giving incentive prizes

Each district has been given a target of benefiting 25 thousand women.

Funding-

1. 20 lakhs will be taken from the funds of each MLA for this campaign.
2. 5 percent of the reserved funds from Municipalities, Panchayat Samiti and Nagar Panchayats
3. 10 percent of the reserved funds from Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishads will be allowed to be used for this campaign.

Shasan Aplya Dari Campaign (Government at your doorstep)**About campaign**

- Shasan Aplya Dari campaign launched in May 2023 by Maharashtra government.
- The objective of "Shasan Aplya Dari" is to take government schemes to the doorstep of the common people so that they could be benefitted of different schemes without any hassle.
- For the initiative, a dedicated cell has been set up in the Chief Ministers Office (CMO).
- The 15,146 volunteers have been appointed across the state for the campaign.

Increase in Child mortality**Context**

Deaths of children aged 1 to 5 have increased in the districts of Amravati, Chikhaldara, Akola.

Key facts

- This reality has come to light through Right to Information.
- However, these deaths have reduced in Nagpur and pune.

About Chikhaldara

- The area comprises Melghat region, one of the backward regions in Maharashtra.
- The region comprises Melghat Tiger Reserve.
- Inhabitants of Melghat are predominantly scheduled tribes. These include 'Korku', 'Gond' and 'Nihal'.

Did you know?

Child mortality measures (also known as under-five mortality rate) refers to the probability of dying between birth and exactly five years of age expressed per 1,000 live births.

Think about

Infant mortality

Data about child mortality in Maharashtra

- ❖ Amravati 84 in 2021-22. But in 2022-23 this number increased to 92.
- ❖ Akola 45 deaths in 2021-21 to 54 child deaths in 2022-23.
- ❖ Chikhaldara, a backward area, recorded 15 deaths in 2019-20, 32 deaths in 2021-21, 17 deaths in 2021-22, 20 child deaths in 2022-23.

Melghat Tiger Reserve**About**

- Melghat Tiger Reserve is located on the southern offshoot of the Satpura Hill Range.
- It was established as a wildlife sanctuary in 1967, and was declared a tiger reserve in 1974
- It was among the first nine tiger reserves notified in 1973-74 under Project Tiger.
- It was the first tiger reserve of Maharashtra.
- It is still one of the biggest tiger reserves in the country in terms of area.
- The endangered and 'back from extinction' Forest Owlet is also found in various areas of Melghat.

Person in news: Ojas Devtale**Context**

He won the gold medal in the men's individual compound Archery final at the Asian Games.

About

- Ojas is the world's top-ranked international archer.
- Ojas is the first Nagpur native to win a gold medal in the Asian Games.
- He has also won gold for India in the archery mixed team compound event on Wednesday.
- He also won gold in the Archery Men's Compound Team event.
- He hails from Nagpur

Govt Schemes to benefit Women

In news:

- The Eknath Shinde government in Maharashtra is launching a "Chief Minister Women Empowerment Campaign" ahead of upcoming elections.

Key Points:

- The campaign aims to provide government scheme benefits to at least one lakh women in each district of the state.
- The campaign will be coordinated by the Chief Minister's secretariat, with a committee chaired by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, including various stakeholders.
- Monthly meetings will be held, and the State Women and Child Development Minister will review the campaign's progress.
- An IAS officer will serve as the state coordination nodal officer, and District Collectors will act as district coordinators for the campaign.

New Healthcare Vision 2035 after weeks of tragedy

In news:

- Tragedy in Nanded Hospital: 38 patients died within 72 hours due to staff shortage and lack of medical supplies.

Key Points:

- Following public outcry, the state government launched a program called Vision 2035 to address healthcare issues.
- The Chief Minister instructed the public health department to create a plan to establish government hospitals in 25 districts and fill staff vacancies.
- The state aims to align existing district hospitals with medical colleges and build new state-of-the-art hospitals to improve healthcare infrastructure.
- 18000 crore worth health projects including setting up and upgrading existing ones.

Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi Yojana

In news:

- Maharashtra Govt disbursed 1720 cr as the first tranche of funds under this scheme.

Key Points:

- As part of this scheme Rs.6000(paid in instalments) will be transferred to farmer accounts in addition to the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana which is a centrally sponsored scheme.

Lek Ladki Scheme

In news:

- The state cabinet has approved a scheme called 'Lek Ladki' to promote girl childbirth and support the education of girls from low-income families.

Key Points:

- Families with an annual income up to ₹1 lakh are eligible for this scheme, which provides financial assistance of ₹1,01,000 in phases until the girl reaches the age of 18.
- Under the scheme:
- families having yellow and orange ration cards will get
 - ₹5,000 at the time of birth,
 - ₹6,000 when she enters Class 1,
 - ₹7,000 after entering Class 6, ₹8,000 after entering Class 11 and
 - ₹75,000 after completing 18 years of age.
- Max- 2 girls in a family will be benefitted who are born after April 1 2023.

Majhi Kanya Bhagya Scheme

- In this scheme, the Government used to keep a fixed deposit of ₹25,000 for one time, and the maturity amount was given to the girl at the age of 18.

Spirit of Juvenile Justice: Nullified

In news:

- The Bombay High Court highlights the backlog of over 40,000 cases in Maharashtra related to juvenile justice boards (JJBs) and CWCs under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

Key Points:

- Justices Nitin Jamdar and Manjusha Deshpande expressed worry - having 10,008 cases pending before JJBs and 30,043 cases before CWCs(Child welfare committies) undermines the spirit of the Act.

- This issue was brought to the court's attention through a public interest litigation (PIL) submitted by the NGO Bachpan Bachao Andolan

Key facts:

- Juvenile justice is a legal framework that addresses crimes committed by minors, typically under the age of 18.
- A/c to 2015 act JJBs and CWCs have a 4 month time for inquiries with a max potential extension of 2 months.

Amended IT rules against Fake news on social media

In news:

- The Bombay High Court concerns that amended Information Technology (IT) Rules related to fake news on social media has no clear guidelines and safeguards.

Key points:

- The court questioned the need for a separate Fact Checking Unit (FCU) when the Press Information Bureau (PIB) already conducts fact-checking on social media.
- The government argued that the PIB was inadequate.

Key facts:

On April 6, 2023, the Union government promulgated certain amendments to the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, including a provision for a Fact Checking Unit to flag fake, false or misleading online content related to the government.

Arogya Vardhini Kendras

In news:

- Govt orders local bodies for setting up 1300 Arogya Vardhini Kendras.

Key points:

- Funds to be allotted from 15th Finance Commission.
- 400 AVK's to be set up by Nov 1.
- Result of Nanded death tragedy.
- 50 to 60 centers will be set up for a municipality depending on population.
- These are similar to clinics.
- Govt already has a scheme called Aapla Dawakhana for health care.

Aapla Dawakhana

- Aapla Dawakhana Yojana is the major health care scheme of Maharashtra Government. Scheme was announced in Oct 2022.

- It was started in the name of Late Sh. Balasaheb Thackery to pay tribute to him.
- 1 hospital for the general population of 25 thousand to 30 thousand.
- Aim: provide basic medical facilities free of cost to people of Maharashtra.

IOC and Reliance sign deal to boost Olympic sports

In news:

- The International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Olympic Museum, and Reliance Foundation have announced an agreement to promote Olympic values among children in Mumbai.

Key Points:

- **The agreement will involve**
 - grade-specific activities in selected schools,
 - sessions between athletes and students
 - to encourage physical activity, and initiatives to raise awareness about Olympism and Olympic values.
- This initiative primarily benefits underprivileged children, offering them access to sports for the first time, and
- This marks a significant step in implementing major IOC projects in India, such as the Olympics Value Education Program (OVEP) launched in Odisha last year.

A new Railway station between Badlapur-Ambarnath

In news:

- New railway station called Chikhholi on the Kalyan - Badlapur route in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region has received approval.

Key points:

- The Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation (MRVC) will build the Chikhholi station at a cost of ₹82 crore.