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18 July 2024

### National and International News

#### PM SHRI (PM Schools for Rising India) Scheme

##### Why in the news?

- **Punjab, West Bengal, and Delhi** have refused to participate in the PM-SHRI scheme.
- As a result, the **Education Ministry has halted funds to these three states** under the **Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)**, the Centre's flagship education program.

##### About PM SHRI Scheme:

- **Objective:**

- Establish over **14,500 PM SHRI Schools**.
- Overseen by Central Government, State/UT Governments, local bodies, KVS, and NVS.
- Create an **inclusive and welcoming environment for all students**.
- Ensure well-being, security, and enriching learning experiences.
- Provide **good physical infrastructure and appropriate resources**.
- Nurture students into engaged, productive, and contributing citizens.

- **Alignment:**

- Aligns with **National Education Policy 2020**.
- Aims to **build a society characterized by equity, inclusivity, and pluralism**.

- **Features:**

- Focus on **cognitive development** and **holistic growth**.
- **Equip students with key 21st-century skills**.
- Experiential, holistic, integrated, play/toy-based pedagogy.
- Inquiry-driven, discovery-oriented, learner-centred, discussion-based, flexible, and enjoyable learning.
- **Upgraded with labs, libraries, and art rooms**.
- Developed as **green schools with water conservation, waste recycling, and energy-efficient infrastructure**.
- **Integration of organic lifestyle into the curriculum**.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Quality Assurance:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Development of a <b>School Quality Assessment Framework (SQAF)</b>.</li><li>○ Regular <b>quality evaluations</b> to ensure standards.</li><li>○ <b>Key performance indicators to measure outcomes.</b></li></ul></li></ul>
<b>ASMITA Project</b>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The <b>ASMITA Project</b>, recently <b>launched by the Ministry of Education</b> and the <b>University Grants Commission (UGC)</b>, aims to <b>enhance the availability of educational resources in Indian languages.</b></li></ul> <p><b>About ASMITA Project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Initiative:</b> ASMITA (<b>Augmenting Study Materials in Indian Languages through Translation and Academic Writing</b>)</li><li>● <b>Objective:</b> <b>Develop 22,000 books in Indian languages</b> within five years.</li><li>● <b>Collaborative Effort:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>UGC</b> (University Grants Commission)</li><li>○ <b>Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti</b> (High-powered committee under the Ministry of Education)</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Primary Goal:</b> <b>Promote and integrate Indian languages into the education system</b> to enrich learning and enhance inclusivity.</li><li>● <b>Standard Operating Procedure (SOP):</b> Created by UGC for the book-writing process in each assigned language.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Identification of nodal officers and authors.</li><li>○ Allocation of title, subject, and programme.</li><li>○ Writing and editing.</li><li>○ Submission of the manuscript.</li><li>○ Review and plagiarism check.</li><li>○ Finalisation.</li><li>○ Designing.</li><li>○ Proofreading.</li><li>○ E-publication.</li></ul></li></ul>



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<b>Srijan portal</b>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Department of Defence Production (DDP)</b>, Ministry of Defence, has recently <b>notified the fifth Positive Indigenisation List (PIL)</b>, which includes 346 items.</li><li>• These <b>items will be exclusively procured from the Indian industry</b> following the indigenisation timelines specified on the <b>Srijan portal</b>.</li></ul> <p><b>About Srijan portal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Indigenization Portal:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Developed by the <b>Department of Defence Production</b>.</li><li>○ <b>Provides information on items suitable for indigenization</b> by the private sector.</li><li>○ Allows DPSUs/OFB/SHQs to <b>display items currently imported or planned for import</b>.</li><li>○ Enables Indian Industry to <b>design, develop, and manufacture these items</b>.</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Nodal Ministry:</b> Ministry of Defence.</li></ul>
<b>Jerdon's Courser</b>	<p><b>Why in the news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The critically endangered <b>Jerdon's Courser has not been visually spotted in over a decade</b>.</li></ul> <p><b>About Jerdon's Courser:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Common Name:</b> Eastern Ghats Courser</li><li>• <b>Scientific Name:</b> <i>Rhinoptilus bitorquatus</i></li><li>• <b>Habitat:</b> Open patches within <b>scrub forests</b></li><li>• <b>Distribution:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Endemic to the Eastern Ghats</b> of India</li><li>○ <b>Found only in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana</b></li></ul></li><li>• <b>Diet:</b> Insectivorous, hunting invertebrates by sight</li><li>• <b>Conservation Status:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Rediscovery:</b> Considered extinct since the early 20th century, rediscovered in 1986</li></ul>



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ADDAPEDIA

## Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

### Bhojshala Complex

#### Why in the news?

- The **Archaeological Survey of India's (ASI) scientific survey report** states that the existing structure at the **Bhojshala complex was constructed using remains from an earlier temple at the site.**

#### About Bhojshala Complex:

- **Location:** Dhar district, **Madhya Pradesh.**
- **Construction:** Built by **Raja Bhoja** (1000-1055 A.D.) in 1034 AD, greatest monarch of the **Paramara dynasty.**
- **Purpose:** Served as a **university teaching music, Sanskrit, astronomy, yoga, Ayurveda, and philosophy.**
- **History:**
  - 1305 AD: **First attacked by Alauddin Khilji.**
  - 1514 AD: **Mehmudshah Khilji II attacked and attempted to convert the complex into a dargah;** built 'Kamal Moulana' Makbara encroaching on land outside Saraswati Temple.
- **Inscriptions Found:**
  - **Prakrit Hymns:** Two hymns of the Karmavatar or crocodile incarnation of Vishnu engraved in rocks.
  - **Sanskrit Grammar:** Two Sarpabandha pillar inscriptions, one with the Sanskrit alphabet and noun/verb endings, and the other with individual declensions of the ten tenses and moods.

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