

Daily Current Affairs

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PM Dhan- Dhaanya Yojana



- Union Cabinet approved the **Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana** (PMDDKY) in 2025. This new agricultural scheme aims to **develop 100 districts through the convergence of 36 schemes across 11 ministries**. It has an annual **budget of Rs 24,000 crore** and will run for six years starting from the financial year 2025-26. The scheme focuses on improving agricultural productivity, sustainability, and credit availability in selected districts.

CABINET DECISION 16 - 07 - 2025

DHAN-DHAANYA KRISHI YOJANA

Cabinet approves 'Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana' for a period of 6 years beginning 2025-26 to cover 100 districts

- To be implemented through convergence of 36 existing schemes across 11 Departments, other State schemes and local partnerships with the private sector
- 100 districts to be identified based on 3 key indicators - low productivity, low cropping intensity, and less credit disbursement
- Committees to be formed at District, State and National level for effective planning, implementation and monitoring of Scheme

- Each district under PMDDKY will prepare a Master Plan called the **District Agriculture and Allied Activities Plan**. This plan is created by the District Dhan Dhaanya Samiti led by the District Collector and includes progressive farmers as members. The **plan aligns with national goals such as** crop diversification, water conservation, soil health, self-sufficiency, and promotion of organic farming.

District, state, and national committees will oversee the scheme's execution. Central Nodal Officers will conduct field visits and monitor progress. Agriculture universities will act as technical partners for knowledge support.

- **PMDDKY integrates 36 schemes from 11 ministries** to ensure convergence and avoid duplication. This approach is inspired by the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) launched in 2018, which focused on transforming 112 underdeveloped districts. **Like ADP, PMDDKY emphasises collaboration** between central and state nodal officers and district collectors. It also promotes competition among districts through ranking based on performance indicators.



- **The scheme will track progress using 117 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** across agriculture and allied sectors. A digital dashboard will be developed for real-time monitoring. **District rankings will be updated monthly**, encouraging healthy competition and accountability. NITI Aayog will provide guidance and capacity building to ensure effective implementation.
- **PMDDKY has five main goals** – enhance agricultural productivity, promote crop diversification and sustainable farming, improve post-harvest storage at local levels, expand irrigation facilities, and increase availability of both long-term and short-term credit. The scheme aims to raise productivity and value addition in agriculture, generate local livelihoods, and contribute to Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India). Improvement in these 100 districts is expected to positively impact national agricultural indicators.
- **Selection of the 100 districts is based on three parameters** – low agricultural productivity, moderate cropping intensity, and below-average credit access.

Cropping intensity measures the number of crops grown per year on a piece of land.



- **The scheme ensures at least one district from each state or Union Territory is included.** The number of districts per state depends on net cropped area and operational holdings. This targeted approach aims to uplift regions with potential for agricultural growth.

AI- Integrated Traditional Knowledge Digital Library

- World Health Organization (WHO) has acknowledged **India as the first country to launch a Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL)** and praised its leadership in using **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** to modernize traditional medicine systems like Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, and Homoeopathy.



- The recognition came in WHO's technical brief titled **"Mapping the Application of Artificial Intelligence in Traditional Medicine"**, developed following India's proposal and leading to WHO's first-ever AI roadmap for traditional medicine.



- The WHO report highlights AI-driven tools such as diagnosis support systems that blend traditional techniques like pulse reading, tongue analysis, and Prakriti assessment with machine learning and deep neural networks.
- **A key highlight is Ayurgenomics, an emerging field that combines genomics and Ayurveda to detect disease markers and deliver personalized health advice by analyzing a person's Ayurvedic constitution using AI.**

Kalinga Ratna Award

- President Droupadi Murmu presented the **Kalinga Ratna Award-2024** to Union **Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** at an event in Cuttack, Odisha. The award ceremony was held during the **600th birth anniversary celebrations of Adikabi Sarala Das**, a revered 15th-century Odia poet, organized by the Sarala Sahitya Sansad.
- The event highlighted the literary contributions of **Sarala Das and celebrated the promotion of Indian languages** and culture. Sarala Das, often referred to as Adikabi (first poet) of Odia literature, is credited with composing the Odia Mahabharata, a pioneering work that brought **classical Indian literature into the regional linguistic fold.**



- His contributions laid the foundation for the growth of literary tradition in Odisha and **enriched India's linguistic diversity**. The **Sarala Sahitya Sansad**, a literary organization, commemorates his legacy through awards and scholarly events. The event was aimed at paying homage to **Sarala Das's life and literary work while promoting the values of linguistic inclusiveness** and cultural pride.
- President Murmu emphasized the unity found in India's linguistic diversity and highlighted how literature serves as a powerful bridge connecting culture, language, and education. She noted the significance of the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which promotes** education in the mother tongue, enabling children to better connect with their roots and traditions.
- The Kalinga Ratna Award, presented annually by the **Sarala Sahitya Sansad**, recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions in the fields of education, literature, culture, or public service. This year's recipient, **Dharmendra Pradhan, was honoured** for his commitment to educational reforms and efforts to elevate Indian languages.

India's First Aqua Tech Park In Assam

- Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated **India's first Aqua Tech Park in Sonapur, near Guwahati, Assam**. The park will help fish farmers learn about new technologies like aquaponics, biofloc, and ornamental fish breeding. This initiative aims to **boost fish production and increase farmers' income** in the state. The Aqua Tech Park has been set up by **NGO Kolong Kopili** with help from **NABARD, ICAR-CIFA, Selco Foundation**, and the Fishery Department.



- It showcases modern ways to raise fish using less water, faster methods, and new systems. **These include aquaponics**, which grows fish and plants together, and the biofloc system, which improves fish health and growth. Speaking at the event, **CM Himanta Biswa Sarma** said that **although** Assam has many rivers, it still depends on other states **like Andhra Pradesh** to meet its fish demand.



- The park, he added, will help change this situation. Kolong Kopili, the NGO behind the project, **for its work over the past 17 years in training farmers** and youth in fish farming.
- **The new Aqua Tech Park will be a boon for fish farmers** and help create more income and job opportunities. **Also between 2019 and 2024**, Assam doubled its

fish production to 4.99 lakh metric tonnes, making it the fourth-largest fish-producing state in India.

Swachh Survekshan 2024-25 Awards

- President Droupadi Murmu will confer the **prestigious Swachh Survekshan 2024-25 Awards** in New Delhi. This event will felicitate **the cleanest cities of urban India**, recognising the tireless efforts of cities driving the **Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) forward**.



- This year, the awards will be presented across four categories, including **Super Swachh League Cities and the top three clean cities** in five population categories. Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry said, a total of 78 Awards will be presented this year. The Ministry said, **Swachh Survekshan 2024-25 adopted** a smart, structured approach to assess **urban cleanliness and service delivery**, offering a complete view of sanitation and waste management in cities.
- **Swachh Survekshana landmark initiative under the SBM-U**, has become a defining force in urban India's journey toward cleanliness. Starting with **73 Urban Local Bodies in 2016**, the latest edition now **encompasses 4,500+ cities**.
- This year, the awards not only celebrate the top Swachh Shehar but also recognise and encourage small cities showing strong promise and progress. This year, the awards spotlight **the theme of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle"**.



- **Over 3,000 assessors conducted thorough inspections** in every ward across the country over a **period of 45 days**. With an unwavering commitment to inclusivity and transparency, the initiative encompassed the assessment of over **11 lakh households, reflecting a comprehensive** and far-reaching approach to understanding urban living and sanitation on a national scale

NESTS And UNICEF India Launch TALASH

- **Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in collaboration with UNICEF India, has launched the TALASH initiative** (Tribal Aptitude, Life Skills and Self-Esteem Hub) to promote holistic development among students of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs).

**TALASH
INITIATIVE**

- **TALASH focuses on enhancing** self-awareness, life skills, and career clarity among tribal youth, aiming to nurture both educational and personal excellence.
- It is the **first national-level program of its kind specifically** dedicated to tribal students, representing a focused effort to empower and uplift tribal communities through targeted educational support.

Poligras Magic Skill Award

- **Indian women's hockey forward Deepika** has won the Poligras Magic Skill Award 2024-25 for her spectacular solo goal against the world No. 1 Netherlands in **the FIH Hockey Pro League**. The award, decided by a global fan vote held from July 4 to 13, celebrates moments of individual brilliance in hockey.



- **Deepika's winning goal came in February during the Bhubaneswar leg of the Pro League.** In the 35th minute, she dribbled down the left flank, skillfully weaving past Dutch defenders, lifted the ball over a stick, and scored from a tight angle to level the match at 2-2.
- **India later won the match in a shootout at the Kalinga Stadium.** Other women nominated for the award included Spain's Patricia Alvarez for her impressive 3D skills and goal **against Australia**, and **the Australian women's team** for a well-coordinated team goal against England that involved five quick passes before a sharp finish. In the men's category, Belgium's Victor Wegnez won the award for his excellent midfield play that led to a stunning team goal against Spain.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Kalinga Ratna Award Is Awarded To

- A. Dharmendra Pradhan
- B. Piyush Goyal
- C. Amit Shah
- D. Nitin Gadkari

ANSWER: A

2. NESTS & _____ India Launch TALASH

- A. WHO
- B. UNICEF
- C. IMF
- D. World Bank

ANSWER: B

3. Who Became First Indian To Be Featured On The TIME100 Creators List In 2025

- A. Lilly Singh
- B. Kusha Kapila
- C. Prajakta Koli
- D. Bhuvan Bam

ANSWER: C

4. Which Organization Is Responsible For Implementation Of Carbon Credit Trading Scheme

- A. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
- D. Bureau of Energy Efficiency

ANSWER: D

5. Which Ministry Launched 'Safai Apnao, Bimaari Bhagao' Campaign

- A. Ministry of Urban Development
- B. Ministry of Rural Development
- C. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- D. Ministry of Panchayati Raj

ANSWER: C

6. Which State Became Leading Producer Of Processed Potatoes In 2024–25

- A. Punjab
- B. Gujarat
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Haryana

ANSWER: B

7. Which State Approved A Bill For Strict Action Against Sacrilege Of Holy Texts

- A. Haryana
- B. Punjab
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: B

8. Who Won The Wimbledon 2025 Men's Doubles Title

- A. Julian Cash and Lloyd Glasspool
- B. Rinky Hijikata and David Pel
- C. Pat Hughes and Raymond Tuckey
- D. Andy Murray and Joe Salisbury

ANSWER: A

9. Who Became The First Indian To Be Featured On The TIME100 Creators List

- A. Lilly Singh
- B. Kusha Kapila
- C. Prajakta Koli
- D. Bhuvan Bam

ANSWER: C

10. Which Country Reached Historic Agreement To Grant More Autonomy To New Caledonia While Keeping It Within Its Republic

- A. United Kingdom
- B. Australia
- C. Canada
- D. France

ANSWER: D

11. Where Is 75th Pradhan Mantri Divyasha Kendra Inaugurated In Uttar Pradesh

- A. Badaun
- B. Kanpur
- C. Lucknow
- D. Varanasi

ANSWER: A

12. Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary Is Located In Which State

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Goa
- D. Maharashtra

ANSWER: C

13. Which State Won The 15th Hockey India Sub Junior Women National Championship 2025

- A. Odisha
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Mizoram
- D. Haryana

ANSWER: B

14. Behdienkhlam Festival Is Primarily Celebrated In Which State

- A. Assam
- B. Sikkim
- C. Tripura
- D. Meghalaya

ANSWER: D

15. World Youth Skills Day Is Observed Every Year On Which Day

- A. 14 July
- B. 15 July
- C. 16 July
- D. 17 July

ANSWER: B

16. Which Country Signed A 5-year DAP Fertilizer Supply Agreement With India

- A. United Arab Emirates
- B. Oman
- C. Saudi Arabia
- D. Qatar

ANSWER: C

17. Which Country Became First In World To Launch A Traditional Knowledge Digital Library Using AI To Preserve Ancient Medicine

- A. India
- B. China
- C. Japan
- D. South Korea

ANSWER: A

18. Who Appointed As New Chairperson Of National Medical Commission

- A. Dr B N Gangadhar
- B. Dr Abhijat Sheth
- C. Dr D P Singh
- D. Dr Randeep Guleria

ANSWER: B

19. Which Indian State Recently Approved A Set Of Welfare Schemes, Including The Gaja Mitra Scheme And A Stipend For Monks

- A. Odisha
- B. Kerala
- C. Assam
- D. Jharkhand

ANSWER: C

20. Who Among The Following Was The Author Of Kiratarjuniya

- A. Bharavi
- B. Dandin
- C. Varahmihira
- D. Kalidasa

ANSWER: A