



15 June, 2024

## Digital Health Incentive Scheme

**Context:** The central government has extended the Digital Health Incentive Scheme (DHIS) for a year to digitize health records and link them with Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Accounts (ABHA IDs).

### ➤ Launch Date and Objective

- Launched on January 1, 2023, as part of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission.
- Aims to digitize health records and link them to Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) numbers.

### ➤ Incentives and Eligibility

- Health facilities (hospitals, diagnostic labs) and digital solution companies can earn up to ₹4 crores.
- Financial incentives are based on the number of digital health records created and linked to ABHA numbers.
- Hospitals, diagnostic labs, and providers of digital health solutions (HMIS, LMIS) are eligible.
- Must be registered with ABDM's Health Facility Registry (HFR).

### ➤ Extension and Fund Utilization

- Initially launched on January 1, 2023, the scheme is now extended till June 30, 2025.
- The Centre has requested states and union territories to report on fund utilization.

### ➤ Payment Structure

- Government and private hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, diagnostic labs, and pharmacies receive ₹20 per additional digital record beyond 100 transactions per month.
- Applicable to both public and private entities.

### ➤ Reason for Extension

- The National Health Authority (NHA) extended the scheme to promote digital health transactions and support healthcare providers in adopting digital health.
- April 2023 updates reduced transaction limits to further incentivize digital adoption.

### ➤ Participation and Disbursements

- 4,005 healthcare facilities, including 1,085 private, and 41 DSCs, including 36 private companies, registered.
- 584 healthcare facilities and 12 DSCs have availed the scheme.
- ₹34.5 crore disbursed, with ₹24.91 crore to healthcare facilities and ₹9.59 crore to DSCs.
- Public DSCs include NIC and C-DAC, which provide eHospital and eSushrut solutions.
- Incentives apply to both public and private hospitals and digital solution companies.

### ➤ Government Support and Relaxations

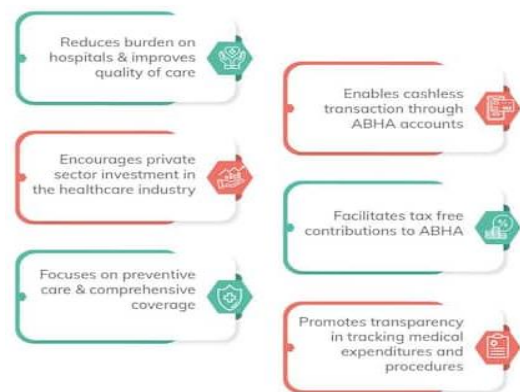
- NHA has introduced relaxations such as reduced transaction limits to make the scheme more accessible.
- Aims to provide affordable software solutions for digitization.

### ➤ Benefits for Patients

- **Improved Healthcare Services** - Enhances service quality and convenience with digitized health records.
- **Cost and Efficiency** - Reduces repeated tests and prevents hospitals from passing digitization costs to patients.
- **Enhanced Record Accessibility** - Allows patients to access their medical history from anywhere.
- **Continuity of Care** - Ensures seamless sharing of health records among different providers for better coordination.
- **Data Security and Privacy** - Secures digital records, giving patients control over access to their information.
- **Quality of Care** - Improves diagnostic accuracy and treatment with comprehensive records.
- **Efficiency in Healthcare Delivery** - Streamlines administrative tasks, enhancing overall efficiency.
- **Support for Healthcare Workers** - Reduces administrative burdens, allowing more focus on patient care.
- **Nationwide Impact** - Builds a comprehensive digital health infrastructure, supporting a digital India.
- **Boost to Health IT Industry** - Fosters innovation and growth in health information technology.



### Key benefits of ABHA: revolutionizing healthcare for all



## Clemency Powers of President

**Context:** President Draupadi Murmu has turned down the mercy petition of Pakistani national Mohammed Arif, who was convicted for the terrorist attack at the Red Fort on December 22, 2000.

- Courts apply the "rarest of rare" standard in death sentence cases, established by the Supreme Court in 1980 (Bachan Singh v. State of Punjab).
- The 262nd Law Commission Report in 2015 recommended "absolute abolition" of the death penalty for all crimes except terrorism-related offenses and waging war.

## Face to Face Centres





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## Pardoning Power in India:

### ➤ Definition and Purpose:

- Pardoning Power, a critical component of the Criminal Justice System, refers to the authority vested in the government executive, typically the President or Governor, to grant clemency or leniency to individuals convicted of a crime or facing punishment.
- Its primary purpose is to intervene in the administration of justice to mitigate punishment severity, rectify potential miscarriages of justice, and address humanitarian concerns.

### ➤ Objectives in India:

- Correct judicial errors.
- Provide relief from sentences deemed unduly harsh by the President or Governor.

### ➤ Constitutional Provisions:

- **Article 72** – Pardoning Power of President: Empowers the President to pardon, commute, or relieve sentences for offenses against Union Law, Court Martial, or death sentences.
- **Article 161** – Pardoning Power of Governor: Grants Governors similar authority for offenses against State laws.

### ➤ Types of Pardon:

- **Pardon:** Removes both sentence and conviction, absolving the convict from all sentences, punishments, and disqualifications.
- **Commutation:** Substitutes a harsher punishment with a milder one.
- **Remission:** Reduces the sentence period without changing its character.
- **Respite:** Awards a lesser sentence due to special circumstances.
- **Reprieve:** Temporarily stays execution to enable the convict to seek further action.

### ➤ Comparison:

- **Death Sentence:** President can pardon, reprieve, respite, remit, suspend, or commute a death sentence, while Governors can only suspend, remit, or commute it.
- **Court Martial:** President can grant pardon, reprieve, respite, suspension, remission, or commutation with respect to punishment or sentence by a court martial (military courts), whereas the Governor does not possess such authority.

### ➤ Key Judicial Precedents:

- **Maru Ram vs Union of India Case (1980):** The Supreme Court held that Pardoning Powers of President and Governors are not entirely subject to judicial review.
- **Kehar Singh vs. Union of India Case (1988):** Established guidelines for the President's exercise of power, outlining circumstances where judicial review is permissible.

## Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) Results

**Context:** MoSPI has released key results of ASUSE for April 2021 to March 2022 and October 2022 to September 2023.

### ➤ Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE):

- Conceptualized by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) to measure economic and operational characteristics of unincorporated non-agricultural establishments in manufacturing, trade, and other services sectors (excluding construction).
- Data from ASUSE helps in compiling National Accounts Statistics and gauging demand-side employment scenarios.
- Essential for various Ministries such as MSME, Textile, Labour and Employment, and policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders to understand and support this sector.

### Key Findings from ASUSE 2021-22 and ASUSE 2022-23:

#### ➤ Resilient Growth Amid Pandemic Impact:

- Total establishments increased from 5.97 crore in 2021-22 to 6.50 crore in 2022-23, demonstrating a notable 5.88% annual growth rate.
- Despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the unincorporated sector showed resilience, with the number of establishments gradually rising.

#### ➤ Sector-wise Expansion:

- Other services sector witnessed a robust annual growth of 15.12%, indicating a significant expansion.
- Manufacturing establishments also increased by 2.22% annually, reflecting a gradual recovery and opening up post-pandemic.

#### ➤ Labour Market Growth:

- Employment in the unincorporated non-agricultural sector increased from 9.8 crore to 11 crore workers between October 2022 and September 2023, showing a healthy annual growth rate of 7.84%.
- The highest growth in employment was observed in the other services sector at 13.42%, followed by manufacturing at 6.34%.

#### ➤ Improvement in Informal Worker Earnings:

- Average annual earnings for informal workers rose from Rs. 1,06,381 in 2021-22 to Rs. 1,10,982 in 2022-23, indicating an improvement in wage conditions.
- This reflects positive trends in income growth and livelihoods for informal workers in the sector.

#### ➤ Enhanced Productivity:

- Gross Value Added (GVA) per worker increased to Rs. 1,41,769 in 2022-23 from Rs. 1,38,207 in 2021-22, showcasing improved labor productivity.
- Gross Value of Output (GVO) per establishment also increased, indicating more efficient resource utilization and productivity gains.

## Face to Face Centres







## NEWS IN BETWEEN THE LINES

### Raj Parb Festival



Recently, the President of India attended the Raja Parb celebration at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

#### About the Raj Parb Festival:

- The Raja Parb is one of the most **celebrated festivals of Odisha**.
- The festival's name, **Raja Parba**, comes from "Raja" referring to "Rajaswala," a term for **menstruating women** and "Parba," meaning festival.
- The **three-day-long agricultural festival** is celebrated **during the onset of monsoons**, dedicated to celebrating **womanhood**.
- During the festival, women are revered as embodiments of Mother Earth and receive special care and attention.
- Women are encouraged to rest and refrain from **walking barefoot**, symbolizing their honored status.
- During Raja Parba, **Bhudevi, the wife of Lord Jagannath, is worshipped**; women wear sarees or new clothes on the first day called **Pahili**; and the second and third days are known as **Mithun Sankranti** and **Basi Raja**, respectively.

### Mayurbhanj Chhau Dance



Various cultural performances, including Raja geet, Mayurbhanj Chhau dance, Sambalpuri dance and Karma dance were performed recently on the occasion of Raj Parb Festival.

#### Mayurbhanj Chhau Dance:

- Mayurbhanj Chhau is a **martial arts dance** form from Mayurbhanj district in Odisha.
- It's a **dramatic, rhythmic dance** that combines dance and is **performed by men at night in open spaces**.
- The dance is set to **traditional folk music** played on the shehnai and **mohuri reed pipes**.
- Mayurbhanj Chhau has its **own distinct style** and has influenced other dance forms, including **Kathak, Bharat Natyam, Kathakali, Phar Khanda Kela, Amdalia Jamdalia, Jhumar and Udaya Shankar**.
- Chhau exists in **three distinct styles**, each named after its place of origin: the **Purulia Chhau of Bengal, the Seraikella Chhau of Jharkhand** and the **Mayurbhanj Chhau of Odisha**.
- A notable difference among these **subgenres is the use of masks**.
- While the **Seraikella** and **Purulia styles incorporate masks** in their performances, the Mayurbhanj Chhau does not use any.
- In **2016**, the state government launched **Project Chhauni** to revive Mayurbhanj Chhau by establishing a performing unit and selecting 100 dancers through auditions.

### United Nations Security Council



Recently, the UN Security Council demanded that Sudanese paramilitary forces end their eight-week siege of El Fasher in Darfur.

#### About the United Nations Security Council:

- The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is an **organ of the United Nations (UN)** and is **responsible for maintaining international peace and security**.
- It was **established by the UN Charter in 1945** and is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.
- It **can make decisions** that member states are required to implement, such as **establishing peacekeeping operations**, enacting international sanctions and **authorizing military action**.
- Besides the UNSC, the United Nations has five other principal organs, which are the **General Assembly (UNGA)**, the **Trusteeship Council**, the **Economic and Social Council**, the **International Court of Justice** and the **Secretariat**.
- The UNSC **consists of 15 members** including **five permanent members (P5)** and **ten non-permanent members** elected for **two-year terms** and **each member has one vote**.
- The five permanent members are **China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom** and the **United States** and **they have veto power**.
- Its headquarter is in **New York, USA**.

### Kheer Bhawani Temple



Recently, in Jammu and Kashmir, thousands of Kashmiri Pandits thronged the revered Kheer Bhawani temple dedicated to Ragnya Devi on the occasion of Mela Kheer Bhawani festival.

#### About the Kheer Bhawani Temple:



- The Kheer Bhawani Temple, also known as the **Ragnya Devi temple**, is a **Hindu shrine** in the village of Tulmulla, Ganderbal, Jammu and Kashmir.
- It is **dedicated to the goddess Kheer Bhavani** and is built above a sacred spring.
- The temple is **built in the middle of a waterfall**, surrounded by large stones and has a floor of smooth stones.
- The temple area is also home to **ancient chinar trees**, where pilgrims can sit or sleep on grass mats.
- The current structure of the temple, pond and spring was **built in the 1910s under Maharaja Pratap Singh of Jammu and Kashmir** and was later **renovated by Maharaja Hari Singh**.
- References to Kheer Bhawani can be found in ancient texts such as **Kalhana's Rajtarangini** and the **Bhriгу Samhita**.

## Face to Face Centres





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| <p><b>Environmental DNA</b></p>  | <p>Recently, a 2022 World Wildlife Fund report highlighted an 83% decline in global freshwater vertebrate populations since 1970, emphasizing the urgent need for enhanced monitoring and conservation efforts using environmental DNA (eDNA) analysis.</p> <p><b>About the Environmental DNA:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental DNA (eDNA) refers to the DNA fragments <b>shed by organisms</b> into their environment through sources like <b>mucus, feces, mucus and tissue particles</b>.</li> <li>It provides <b>detailed insights into ecosystem</b> biodiversity and health without causing harm to the environment.</li> <li>It is <b>collected by filtering water samples</b> to capture the DNA fragments.</li> <li>It extracted from filters is analyzed for specific <b>taxonomic groups</b>, sequenced and <b>cross-referenced</b> with databases to identify the organisms present.</li> <li>Its analysis is easily standardized and automated, can detect a wide range of organisms, involves citizen scientists, and is non-destructive to the environment.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Place in News</b></p> <p><b>Armenia</b></p>  | <p>Recently, NASA Administrator Bill Nelson welcomed Armenia as the newest signatory to the Artemis Accords during a ceremony at NASA Headquarters in Washington</p> <p><b>Armenia: (Capital: Yerevan)</b><br/> <b>Location:</b> Armenia is a <b>landlocked country</b> situated in the Armenian Highlands of West Asia.<br/> <b>Political Boundaries:</b> Armenia shares its borders with <b>Azerbaijan</b> (East), <b>Turkey</b> (West), <b>Georgia</b> (North) and <b>Iran</b> and the <b>Azerbaijani exclave of Nakhchivan</b> (South).<br/> <b>Physical Features:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The highest point in Armenia is <b>Mount Aragats</b>.</li> <li>Armenia's major rivers include the <b>Aras, Debed, Hrazdan, and Vorotan</b>, each playing significant roles in the country's geography and water resources.</li> <li>Armenia possesses various minerals, including <b>copper, molybdenum, gold</b>, etc.</li> </ul> <p><b>Membership:</b> Armenia is a member of various international organizations, including the <b>United Nations</b>, the <b>Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)</b> and the <b>Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)</b>.</p>  |

## POINTS TO PONDER

- Recently, which city-based company introduced Zero-knowledge Proofs (ZKP) blockchain technology in India for the first time? – **Hyderabad**
- The Empowered Programme Committee of the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) recently approved 7 startup proposals under which scheme? – **GREAT scheme**
- Recently, the winners of the 2024 Kavli Prize were announced for their contributions to which fields? – **Astrophysics, neuroscience and nanoscience**
- According to a study released on June 11, 2024, which ozone-depleting substances (ODS) have shown the first significant decrease in atmospheric concentrations? – **Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs)**
- Scientists recently discovered frost on which prominent feature of Mars, indicating an active water cycle on the planet? – **Olympus Mons**

## Face to Face Centres

