

## Bihar Specific Current Affairs December 2021

### **Dr. Rajendra Prasad's 137<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary : 3 December 2021**

- First President of India Dr. Rajendra Prasad's 137<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary was observed on 3 December 2021.
- Rajendra Babu was born on 3 December 1884 in a village called Jiradei in the then Saran district (now Siwan) of Bihar.
- Apart from being involved in politics, he was also a freedom fighter, teacher, and lawyer.
- He was known to be an ardent follower of Mahatma Gandhi.
- Dr. Rajendra Prasad served as the President from 1950 to 1962.
- In 1962, for his political and social contribution, he was awarded "Bharat Ratna", India's best civilian award.
- He remains the longest-serving president of the country to date.

### **Parliament passes pharmaceutical education amendment Bill**

- Parliament on 9 December 2021 passed the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2021.
- It seeks to accord the status of institute of national importance to six more institutes of pharmaceutical education and research, and also set up an advisory council for them.
- These institutes are in Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Guwahati (Assam), Hajipur (Bihar), Hyderabad (Telangana), Kolkata (West Bengal) and Raebareli (Uttar Pradesh).

### **BLFA ties up with Bihar govt's livelihood programme JEEViKA**

- The Better Life Farming Alliance (BLFA), led by global life sciences firm Bayer, has tied up with JEEViKA, the Bihar govt's livelihood programme for poverty alleviation.
- The partnership aims to empower the state's small and marginal farmers.
- Under this partnership, about 500 Agri Entrepreneur Service Centers will be set up to support 2,500 villages and over 2.5 Lakh farmers across the state.

### **Centre grants Geographical Indication (GI) tag to Mithila Makhana**

- The Geographical Indications Registry (GIR) under the Central Ministry of Commerce has accepted the plea to rename GI-tagged Bihar Makhana as Mithila Makhana.
- It has also suggested amendments in the brand logo to better reflect its origins apart from protecting the product's GI rights.
- Mithila region is known for a specific type of aquatic crop fox nut, which is identified with its culture.

### **NHPC plans clean energy projects of 27GW in 9 states and Nepal**

- NHPC Ltd has decided to set up new hydro and solar projects of more than 27,000 MW capacity in nine states and Nepal.
- The new capacities would come up in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.
- This was informed by NHPC CMD Abhay Kumar Singh.

- NHPC, under the Ministry of Power, is the largest hydropower company in India.

### **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan accounts surpass the 44 crore mark**

- Centre's financial inclusion scheme, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), has crossed the 44 crore mark.
- As per Government data, the total number of accounts opened under PMJDY stood at 44.05 crores, with a total balance of ₹1,47,812 crore.
- Uttar Pradesh tops the state's list with the highest number of accounts followed by Bihar.
- PMJDY scheme was launched on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

### **Seven-term Rajya Sabha MP Mahendra Prasad passes away**

- Rajya Sabha MP from the Janata Dal(United) and industrialist Mahendra Prasad passed away in December 2021.
- Estimated to be one of the richest members of Parliament, the founder of Aristo Pharmaceuticals was a seven-term Rajya Sabha MP from Bihar and was also elected to the Lok Sabha once.
- Prasad was first elected to the Lok Sabha on a Congress ticket in 1980.

### **CESL achieves 50 lakhs LED bulbs distribution under Gram Ujala program**

- Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL), a subsidiary of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), has achieved a remarkable milestone of distributing 50 lakhs LED bulbs under the Gram Ujala programme.

- CESL achieved this target under Project Crore of their Gram Ujala scheme which is being implemented in rural households in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Telangana.

### **Bihar's Carrom player Rashmi Kumari wins her third Federation Cup**

- The two-time World Champion Rahmi Kumari has won her third Federation Cup title in Varanasi.
- Rashmi Kumari is the most accomplished woman carrom player in the country.
- It was her third Federation Cup trophy, after the earlier triumph in 2012 and 2010.
- Rashmi beat the reigning World Champion S. Appoorwa in the final.
- Rashmi has also won the World Cup twice, and four times SAARC champion.