

Current Affairs (2023): Eastern India At a Glance

Bihar

- * **Bihar Business Connect' Summit-** Bihar Business Connect' Summit was organized by the Industries Department of Government of Bihar at ITC Maurya, New Delhi. Objective is to highlight the investment potential of Bihar with special focus on four key sectors – textiles and leather, food processing, IT/ITeS and ESDM and general manufacturing.
- * **Bihar Passes Bills Raising Caste-Based Quota-** 75% of Government jobs and Education seats in Bihar shall be reserved for people from marginalised castes and Economically weaker sections, the state's legislative assembly decided.
- * **Patna is the 2nd Polluted City-** According to the report of Respirator Living Sciences released on October 4, 2023, Bihar's capital Patna is the 2nd most polluted city in the country, while Muzaffarpur is at number three
- * **Non-Residential Sports Training Scheme-** On October 17, 2023, Bihar's Art Culture Minister Jitendra Kumar Rai launched the 'Non-Residential Sports Training Scheme' to nurture the talent of sportspersons.

Chhattisgarh

- * **Cherchera festival-** The festival is celebrated on the full moon night of 'Paush' Hindu calendar month in the happiness of taking the crops to their homes after cultivation.
- * **Hamar Beti Hamar Maan' campaign-** Chhattisgarh govt has announced the 'Hamar Beti-Hamar Maan' campaign in the state keeping in mind the concern for women's safety and their empowerment in society. Under this campaign, the girls will be taught about various necessary subjects, including their legal rights, good touch-bad touch, and sexual crimes.
- * **Millet Mission-** Millet Mission has been undertaken to give the farmers the right price for small cereal crops and provide input assistance, procurement arrangements and processing so that it can benefit them. The Millet Mission has been launched to increase the yield of millets like Kodo, Kutki and Ragi in the view of increasing demand in both India and abroad. The crops are rich in nutrition and are sold at good prices in urban areas.
- * **GodhanNyay Yojana-** The state will procure cow dung from livestock owners at a fixed procurement rate. The scheme aims to make animal husbandry commercially profitable, prevent open grazing by cattle and solve the problem of stray animals on roads and for environment conservation.

Jharkhand

- * **Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas-** The PM of India launched a Rs 24,000-Crore project for vulnerable tribal groups on the birth anniversary of tribal icon Birsa Munda ('Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' – Nov 15) from Jharkhand's Khunti district. The PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan is meant to ensure last-mile welfare scheme delivery and protection for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
- * **Champai Soren** has been elected as the Chief Minister of Jharkhand, following the resignation of Hemant Soren. Champai Soren has been a stalwart in Jharkhand politics, serving as a legislator from the Serikela assembly constituency since 1991

Odisha

- * **Pallas fish eagle/ Band-tailed fish eagle,** is a large, brownish sea eagle. It can be seen near lakes, marshes and large rivers, from lowlands to 5,000 metres of elevation. It breeds usually near water in a large nest placed in a tall tree.
Distribution: It is found in east Palaearctic in Kazakhstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Mongolia, China, India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Myanmar.
IUCN Red List: Endangered
Threats: Humans contribute to the decline of this species through habitat degradation, pollution, and draining or overfishing lakes.
- * **World's first 'black tiger safari'** near the Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) unveiled by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik
- * **Similipal Kai Chutney-** The savoury chutney is popular in Mayurbhanj region for its healing properties and also deemed important for nutritional security of the tribal people. The "Kai Chutney," which is made from red weaver ants, has recently bagged the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

West Bengal

- * **West Bengal Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2023-** Enhance the State's Revenue. West Bengal stands among the states advocating for the highest taxation on online gaming and related activities.
- * **Matua Maha Mela-** It is an important event which showcases the vibrant culture of the Matua community. The **Matua Dharma Maha Mela** is a celebration of the community's traditions and way of life, which were established by Shree Harichand Thakur and developed by Guruchand Thakur and Boro Ma. The Matua community has a significant presence in West Bengal and Bangladesh. The Matua Community, a subset of lower-class AVARNA Hindus who belong to the Namasudra Scheduled Caste group and are also referred to as "Chandalas," celebrates this holiday.
- * **West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee** has recently introduced a comprehensive social welfare scheme named "Yogyasree." The initiative aims to provide free training modules for Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) students in West Bengal

