

Government Schemes

Major New Scheme / Significant Update (India)

Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY): This is the biggest news on July 18, 2025.

The Union Cabinet has approved this comprehensive agricultural program, which merges **36 existing schemes** from **11 different ministries** into a single, cohesive framework.

- **Outlay:** ₹24,000 crore annually for six years, starting 2025-26.
- **Goals:** Enhance agricultural productivity, promote sustainable farming practices, improve post-harvest storage (at panchayat and block levels), enhance irrigation facilities, and facilitate credit availability (short-term and long-term).
- **Target:** Initially, 100 districts will be identified based on indicators like low productivity, low cropping intensity, and less credit disbursement, with at least one district from each State/UT.
- **Implementation:** Through convergence of existing schemes, state-level initiatives, and private sector partnerships. District, State, and National level committees will monitor progress using a digital dashboard tracking 117 KPIs.
- **Impact:** Expected to benefit 1.7 crore farmers, lead to higher productivity, value addition, local livelihood creation, and increased domestic production, contributing to Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Ongoing / Updated Government Schemes & Initiatives (India)

Rural Development Focus (from Union Budget 2025-26):

- **Jal Jeevan Mission:** Continues with a focus on achieving 100% rural water supply coverage and infrastructure maintenance, extended until 2028.

- **Bharatnet Project:** Expansion to provide broadband connectivity to all government secondary schools and primary health centers in rural areas.
- **Rural Prosperity and Resilience Program:** A new multi-sectoral program in collaboration with states, targeting under-employment in agriculture through skill development, technology adoption, and investments.
- **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G):** Continued focus on providing housing for the poorest segments, with mandatory ownership in the name of female members for women empowerment.
- **Mission Amrit Sarovar:** Ongoing objective to conserve water by developing/rejuvenating ponds.
- **Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) Phase 2:** Focus on maintaining Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and managing solid/liquid waste.
- **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM):** Empowering rural poor women through Self Help Groups (SHGs).
- **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS):** Continues to provide guaranteed wage employment.

Healthcare Schemes

- **Ayushman Vay Vandana Scheme:** Over 58 lakh senior citizens enrolled, providing accessible healthcare (especially for 70+ age group) with Aadhaar registration.
- **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM):** Continues to build a digital backbone for healthcare, with over 78 crore Ayushman Bharat Health Accounts (ABHAs) created. Aims for seamless, paperless access to health services.
- **Pradhan Mantri - Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM):** Major Centrally Sponsored Scheme with significant outlay for health infrastructure.

- **National Health Mission (NHM):** Flagship program with sub-missions (NRHM, NUHM) and various components for RMNCH+A, communicable, and non-communicable diseases.
- **Nikshay Poshan Yojana:** Continued support for TB patients, with monthly support doubled to ₹1,000 from November 2024.
- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY):** World's largest health assurance scheme, providing ₹5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization.

Education Schemes

- **SHRESHTA (Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas):** Continues to provide seats for meritorious SC boys and girls in top private residential schools (expected 3000 students annually).
- **Bharatiya Bhasha Pustak Scheme:** Proposed scheme to offer digital Indian language books for schools and higher education.
- Various **scholarship schemes** for Scheduled Castes (SC), Other Backward Classes (OBC), Economically Backward Classes (EBC), and De-notified Tribes (DNT) students (e.g., National Fellowship, National Overseas Scholarship, Post-Matric Scholarship).

Women Empowerment Schemes

- Many existing schemes continue to focus on women, including **Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP)**, **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)**, **One-Stop Centres (OSCs)**, **Lakshmi Didi Scheme** (empowering 2 crore SHG women), **Drone Didi Scheme** (training 15,000 SHG women as drone pilots), **Mudra Yojana** (increased focus on women-led enterprises), **Ujjwala Yojana** (LPG connections), and **PMAY** (housing ownership for women).
- **Model Women-Friendly Gram Panchayats Initiative:** Launched March 2025, selecting one

Gram Panchayat per district for leadership training among women.

Youth & Skilling

- **PM-YUVA 3.0:** Launched March 2025, selecting 50 young authors (under 30) for a scholarship and mentorship program on themes like "Contribution of Indian Diaspora," "Indian Knowledge System," and "Makers of Modern India (1950-2025)." Evaluation of proposals is ongoing, with results expected July 31, 2025.
- **New Scheme for First-Time Private Sector Job Seekers:** PM announced central government grant of ₹15,000 for youth getting their first private company appointment, starting August 1, with ₹1 lakh crore expenditure.
- **Mudra Yojana:** Continues to promote self-employment.
- **Youth Spiritual Summit - Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat:** Starting July 19, 2025, in Varanasi.

Infrastructure & Governance

- **Commitment to World-Class Road and Transport Infrastructure for Viksit Bharat@2047.**
- **National Conference on "Good Governance Practices":** Held July 17-18, 2025, in Bhubaneswar, showcasing replicable models in public service delivery, digital governance, and citizen engagement. Highlighted repeal of over 1,600 obsolete laws and success of initiatives like UPI.
- **PM Gati Shakti:** Continues to drive integrated planning for infrastructure projects.
- **UDAN - Regional Connectivity Scheme:** Modified scheme to enhance regional connectivity to 120 new destinations.

Social Justice

- Various schemes by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment for SC, OBC, DNT

communities, including educational fellowships, scholarships, and economic empowerment schemes (e.g., PM-DAKSH, NAMASTE, SMILE).

- **PM-AJAY (Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojna) and PM-YASASVI (PM YOUNG ACHIEVERS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SCHEME FOR VIBRANT INDIA FOR OBCs AND OTHERS)** are active.
- **Janman Yojana:** For the most marginalized tribal communities, with ₹25,000 crore allocated.

Impact and Outlook

- The overarching theme is a strong push towards "**Viksit Bharat@2047**" through integrated, outcome-oriented schemes, particularly focusing on agriculture, rural development, social justice, and digital empowerment.
- The merging of schemes under PMDDKY reflects a strategy to reduce fragmentation and improve efficiency and convergence in program implementation.
- Increased budget allocations for rural development and social security highlight the government's commitment to inclusive growth.
- Digitalization (e.g., ABHA, digital dashboards for monitoring) remains a key enabler for scheme delivery and transparency.

MCQs

1. The new Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY) merges how many existing schemes from different ministries into a single framework?

- A) 11
- B) 24
- C) 36
- D) 100

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The news states, "The Union Cabinet has approved this comprehensive agricultural program, which merges 36 existing schemes from 11 different ministries into a single, cohesive framework."

2. What is the annual outlay approved for the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY), starting from 2025-26?

- A) ₹11,000 crore
- B) ₹24,000 crore
- C) ₹36,000 crore
- D) ₹100,000 crore

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: The news specifies the "Outlay: ₹24,000 crore annually for six years, starting 2025-26."

3. The Jal Jeevan Mission, focusing on rural water supply, has been extended until which year?

- A) 2025
- B) 2026
- C) 2028
- D) 2030

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The news indicates that the "Jal Jeevan Mission: Continues with a focus on achieving 100% rural water supply coverage and infrastructure maintenance, extended until 2028."

4. The Ayushman Vay Vandana Scheme primarily provides accessible healthcare to which age group of senior citizens?

- A) 60 years and above
- B) 65 years and above
- C) 70 years and above
- D) 75 years and above

Correct Answer: C



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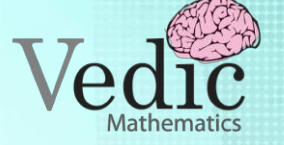
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Explanation: The news states, "Over 58 lakh senior citizens enrolled, providing accessible healthcare (especially for 70+ age group) with Aadhaar registration."

5. What is the monthly support amount for TB patients under the Nikshay Poshan Yojana, after it was doubled from November 2024?

- A) ₹250
- B) ₹500
- C) ₹750
- D) ₹1,000

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: The news mentions, "Nikshay Poshan Yojana: Continued support for TB patients, with monthly support doubled to ₹1,000 from November 2024."

6. The PM-YUVA 3.0 scheme, launched in March 2025, is a scholarship and mentorship program for young authors focusing on which of the following themes?

- A) Indian Mythology, Ancient Civilizations, and Global Economy
- B) Contribution of Indian Diaspora, Indian Knowledge System, and Makers of Modern India (1950-2025)
- C) Future Technologies, Space Exploration, and Climate Change
- D) Traditional Arts, Folk Music, and Rural Development

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: The news explicitly lists the themes as: "Contribution of Indian Diaspora," "Indian Knowledge System," and "Makers of Modern India (1950-2025)."

7. What is the central government grant announced for youth getting their first private company appointment, starting August 1?

- A) ₹5,000
- B) ₹10,000

- C) ₹15,000
- D) ₹20,000

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The news states, "PM announced central government grant of ₹15,000 for youth getting their first private company appointment, starting August 1..."

8. The National Conference on "Good Governance Practices" held on July 17-18, 2025, took place in which city?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Bengaluru
- C) Bhubaneswar
- D) Mumbai

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The news states, "National Conference on 'Good Governance Practices': Held July 17-18, 2025, in Bhubaneswar..."

9. The International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) officially became a treaty-based intergovernmental organization in which month of 2025?

- A) January
- B) March
- C) May
- D) July

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The news states, "The International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) also officially became a treaty-based intergovernmental organization in January 2025..."

10. Maharashtra became the first state in India to grant "agricultural status" to which specific sectors?

- A) Fisheries and Aquaculture
- B) Sericulture and Apiculture





- C) Livestock and Poultry Farming
D) Horticulture and Floriculture

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: One of the articles mentioned in the search results states, "Recently, Maharashtra became the first state in India to give agricultural status to livestock and poultry farming."

