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(CONSOLIDATION)

HARYANA

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Initiative of 'Festival of Becoming a Voter – Come Participate and get Attractive Gifts' started in Haryana

Why In News?

On October 3, 2023, Haryana's Chief Electoral Officer Anurag Agarwal said that an initiative named 'Festival of becoming a voter has started - come participate and get attractive gifts' has been started to give gifts to the youth and women of the state for voting.

Key Points:

- Those who cast their votes from October 1 to December 9 will be given laptops, smartphones and pen drives in a draw taken from the voter list published on January 5, 2024. Apart from this, T-shirts will be provided to the voters who make new votes during this period.
- The Chief Electoral Officer said that those who were born between January 2, 2004 and January 1, 2006 and have not cast their vote can become voters by filling online Form 6 on the Voter Helpline. Along with this, you can also get attractive rewards.



Chief Minister inaugurated Police Wrestling Cluster

Why In News?

On October 4, 2023, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal inaugurated the five-day 72nd All India Police Wrestling Cluster held at the stadium of Madhuban Police Academy in Karnal district.



Key Points:

- A total of 2561 players from 36 teams of paramilitary forces from different states across the country are participating in the All India Police Wrestling Cluster Competition.
- Speaking on the occasion, Director General of Police Shatrugit Kapoor said that Haryana Police personnel have made pride by winning 648 medals in the All India Police Sports Competition so far.
- Apart from this, 56 awards of Major Dhyan Chand, Padma Shri Bhim Award were also named after Haryana Police. Haryana is at the forefront of the country by connecting 380 police stations through CCTNS to maintain records of police stations and civic services.
- It is known that in the ongoing 19th Asian Games in China, out of 71 medals received by the country so far, players from Haryana have brought 17 medals and made the state proud.
- Haryana Chief Minister, Mr. Manohar Lal said that a cash award of Rs. 6 crore is given to the gold medal winner in the Olympic Games in Haryana. Players are also being prepared at block and village level.

Asian Games: Sunil Malik wins Medal in Greco-Roman Wrestling after 13 Years

Why In News?

On October 4, 2023, wrestler Sunil Malik from village Dabarpur in Sonapat district of Haryana won a medal for the country in the Greco-Roman 87 kg weight category in the ongoing Asian Games in Hangzhou, China after 13 years.

Note:

Key Points:

- Sunil Malik defeated Kyrgyzstan's Atabek Azisbekov 2-1 to win his first medal at the Asian Games.
- The Indian wrestler started his campaign with the Round of 16 at the Asian Games 2023, where he defeated China's Fei Peng 4-3.
- He then registered a big 9-1 win over Tajikistan's Sukhrob Abdulkhev. However, the reigning Asian champion suffered a 5-1 defeat against Iran's Nasser Alizadeh.
- Gyanendra of Fatehpur village in Sonipat, who is representing the country in the competition, lost to the wrestler of Iran and Neeraj of village Juan lost to the wrestler of Uzbekistan.
- The bronze medal won by Sunil was India's first medal in Greco-Roman wrestling since Ravinder Singh and Sunil Kumar Rana won bronze in Guangzhou, China 13 years ago. After that, in the year 2014 and 2018, no medal could be won in Greco-Roman.
- Earlier, Sunil had won a gold medal in the Romania Cup in August this year and a bronze medal in the Senior Asian Wrestling Championship held in Astana, Kazakhstan in April.
- Sunil Kumar had also won a gold medal at the 2020 Asian Championships in Delhi, ending India's 27-year wait.
- Sunil has also made the country proud by winning a gold medal in the Commonwealth Games in 2018, a silver in the World Ranking Series in 2019 and a silver medal in the Senior Asian Championship in 2019.

**Atom on Wheels Campaign****Why In News?**

On October 5, 2023, RS Barwal, Project Director of the Corporation, launched the Atom on Wheels campaign under the Rural Integration Program run by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India from the Gorakhpur Haryana Atomic Project Plant located at village Gorakhpur in Fatehabad district of Haryana.

Key Points:

- It is known that various types of misconceptions are spread among the general public regarding nuclear energy. This nationwide campaign has been launched to remove these misconceptions.
- The main objective of the Atom on Wheels campaign is to remove the misconceptions of the common people regarding nuclear energy. For this, a bus named Atom on Wheels has been prepared, in which an exhibition has been set up to explain the production of nuclear energy and its benefits. This exhibition bus will go from village to village. There will be a three to four member team in the bus, which will also answer the questions of the villagers.
- Atom on Wheels campaign will be run in Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh. The campaign will run for four months in each state, covering 60 to 70 villages every month.
- First of all, this bus will make people aware about nuclear energy in 240 villages of Fatehabad district for four months. The bus will be parked outside the Panchayat building, schools, medical centres, community centers of every village. After Haryana, the bus will be sent to Rajasthan.
- In the air-conditioned bus prepared by the corporation, information related to the production, consumption, characteristics of nuclear energy, plants running in the country and the use, effects and safety of nuclear energy has been displayed through exhibits and panels.
- Apart from this, LEDs and projectors have been installed on the outside of the bus, in which a lot of interesting information will be visible.
- According to corporation officials, construction of two units of 700-700 MW each is underway in the first phase at the plant located in village Gorakhpur in Fatehabad district. The work of the first unit will be completed by the year 2028.

Note:

- It is noteworthy that in the year 2014, the foundation stone of the nuclear project plant in village Gorakhpur was laid by the then Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh.
- A total of 2800 MW electricity will be produced in this plant of completely indigenous technology. Four units of 700-700 MW will be built here. The entire work will be completed by the year 2036. Rs 50 thousand crore will be spent on the construction of this plant.



Asian Games 2023: Last Panghal Wins Bronze Medal in Wrestling

Why In News?

In the Asian Games-2023 being held in Hangzhou, China on October 5, 2023, the female wrestler from Hisar district of Haryana has won the bronze medal in the 53 kg weight category of the final Panghal.

Key Points:

- Panghal defeated Tokyo 2020 Olympics bronze medalist Bolortuya Bat-Ochir of Mongolia 3-1 to win her first medal at the Asian Games and India's second wrestling medal in Hangzhou.
- Panghal is the first female wrestler to win a medal at the Asian Games 2023.
- Female wrestler Final Panghal had also won a bronze medal in the World Championship before the Asian Games.
- Reigning U-20 world champion Antal Panghal started with a medal in his Asian Games debut. With this he won the first wrestling medal of the day for India and the first medal in the freestyle events in Hangzhou.

- The 19-year-old Indian wrestler had to face defeat from Japan's Akari Fujinami in the quarterfinals of the 19th Asian Games. However, Panghal ultimately secured a bye in the repechage round and made it to the bronze medal match.
- It is noteworthy that Panghal had also won the bronze medal in the World Wrestling Championship in Serbia last month.
- **Achievements of last Panghal-**
 - Gold medal in Under-20 Asian Championship in 2022
 - Silver medal in Under-23 Asian Championship in 2022
 - Gold medal in Under-20 Junior Women National Championship in 2022
 - Bronze medal in Sub Junior National Championship in 2021



Haryana Agricultural Development Fair 2023

Why In News?

On October 8, 2023, the country's Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurated the three-day 'Haryana Agricultural Development Fair' at Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar. This fair will be organized till October 10, 2023.

Note:

Key Points:

- It is known that the Haryana Government organizes various programs from time to time to provide information about new agricultural techniques to the farmers and to showcase the agricultural products of the farmers. In this series, 'Haryana Agricultural Development Fair' is being organized.
- Farmers, entrepreneurs, agricultural scientists, researchers, students, politicians and other stakeholders from across the country and abroad are participating in this three-day fair.
- In the Haryana Agricultural Development Fair-2023, farmers will get a chance to win a lucky draw, progressive farmers will be honoured, agricultural equipment, technologies and innovations will be exhibited.
- Scientists will give information related to the cultivation of grains and will be given information about new seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, agricultural machines, instruments and their working methods. Haryana cultural programs will also be organized in the fair.



First Annual Pathology Conference of Haryana Section of Indian Association of Pathologists and Microbiologists organised

Why In News?

On October 7, 2023, the first annual pathology conference of the newly formed Haryana section of the Indian Association of Pathologists and Microbiologists (IAPM) was held at the Employees' State Insurance Corporation Medical College and Hospital, Faridabad, Haryana.

Key Points:

- During the conference, Director General of Employees' State Insurance Corporation, Dr. Rajendra Kumar said that Employees' State Insurance Corporation is successfully running one of the largest social security schemes in the world with approximately 13.5 crore service recipients.
- He discussed the recent technology based initiative taken by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation to improve the delivery of services to the beneficiaries of the scheme.
- Dr. Rajendra Kumar said that the revised AAA+ app for patient appointments, e-Sanjeevani 2.0 app for telemedicine facility, medicine delivery and sample collection at beneficiaries' homes, etc. are some of the recent initiatives taken by ESIC with the aim of providing easy medical care. Technology based initiatives have been taken.
- He clarified that now the cash benefits available under the scheme can be claimed online from the comfort of home without the need to visit the offices of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation.



Northern Region Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute signs MoU with Mahindra

Why In News?

On October 6, 2023, Northern Region Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute (NRFMTTI), Hisar, Haryana, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, along with Mahindra & Mahindra Limited, Mumbai (one of India's leading manufacturers of tractors and farm machinery) Signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Note:

Key Points:

- This strategic partnership aims to promote skill development among the youth, equipping them with the necessary expertise for careers in the field of agricultural mechanization.
- The MoU outlines a collaborative effort to offer comprehensive training programs that will prepare youth for the challenges and opportunities in the agricultural machinery industry.
- The primary objective of this partnership is to bridge the gap between the industry requirements and the skills possessed by the youth and ultimately strengthen the workforce in the agriculture mechanization sector.
- **Key Features of the MoU:**
 - Skill Development Programme: NRFMTTI and leading agricultural machinery manufacturers will jointly design and implement skill development programs tailored to the specific needs of the agricultural machinery industry.
 - State-of-the-Art Facilities: Mahindra will develop world-class training facilities, laboratories and experienced faculty to ensure high quality training for the enrolled students.
 - Industry Linked Curriculum Training: The curriculum will be designed to closely align with industry demands, ensuring that graduates are ready for jobs upon completion of their training.
- **Internship and Placement Assistance:** The partnership will facilitate internship opportunities for students within a manufacturing company, giving them practical exposure to real-world industry operations. Additionally, the manufacturers will actively participate in the placement efforts of NRFMTTI, assisting in job placement for graduates.



Karnal CSSRI Discovered Three New Varieties of Mustard Seeds

Why in the News?

On October 10, 2023, Dr. Jogendra Singh, Principal Scientist (Mustard Breeding), Central Soil and Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI), Karnal, told that CSSRI has developed three varieties of mustard for the saline (alkaline and saline) land areas of Haryana, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Key points

- Dr. Jogendra Singh said that the seeds of these three varieties of mustard will be made available to the farmers in 2024. Due to this, the mustard crop will flourish even in those areas where not even a single grain of mustard is produced. However, there are already some salt tolerant varieties of mustard, which the Seed Institute has started distributing.
- It is noteworthy that along with some parts of Haryana and Punjab, a large area of Uttar Pradesh, especially Etawah, Hardoi, Pratapgarh, Kaushambi, Awadh region, Lucknow, Kanpur etc. is alkaline, where mustard is not grown at all. In such areas, seeds of salt tolerant varieties will prove to be very beneficial.
- CSSRI scientists have prepared CS-61, CS-62 and CS-64 for sodic i.e. alkaline land areas. Two species have been recommended by the Uttar Pradesh government for farmers. The third variety CS-64 has been released by the Central Agricultural Release Committee.
- Soon all three varieties can be released for the farmers by many other states including North India. At present, seeds of these varieties will be available to farmers in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana in 2024.

Note:

- However, the salt resistant varieties CS-56, CS-58 and CS-60 developed at the institute have already been released for many states including Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. The seeds of these varieties have been prepared and the institute has also started distribution of seeds.
- Dr. Jogendra Singh said that under normal circumstances the yield of these new varieties will be 27 to 29 quintals per hectare, while in sodic (alkaline land) areas the yield will be 21 to 23 quintals per hectare. The oil content in these new varieties will be 41 percent and in others it is 38 percent.
- All three new varieties of mustard (CS-61, CS-62 and CS-64) are tolerant up to pH value of 9.4. 6.5 to 7.5 pH value is normal.



Ambala leads with 56 Cases in Stubble Burning in the State, Kurukshetra at Second Place.

Why In News?

On October 10, 2023, Haryana Agriculture Department Deputy Director Jaswinder Singh said that Ambala has reached number one in stubble burning remains in Haryana. Kurukshetra is second.

Key points:

- Till October 8, 56 cases of stubble burning have been reported in Ambala. Similarly, 49 cases of stubble burning have been reported in Kurukshetra. Farmers in 14 out of 22 districts in the state are burning stubble.
- The Agriculture Department is creating awareness to stop stubble burning. Apart from this, fines are also being imposed by issuing challan. Ambala is facing the biggest problem regarding issuing challan. Bharatiya Kisan Union Shaheed Bhagat Singh is continuously protesting against the issue of challan.

- The union says that if the administration picks up the stubble from their fields then it will be fine, otherwise they will burn the stubble. After this warning of the union, the administration has also become strict. Challans are being issued continuously in the team field.

Important Decisions of Haryana Cabinet

Why In News?

On October 11, 2023, In the Haryana Cabinet meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Manohar Lal, many other important decisions were taken along with approving the Haryana Municipal Urban Built-up Planning Reform Policy 2023.

Key Points:

- Under the Haryana Municipal Urban Built-Planning Reform Policy 2023, permission will be given to convert residential plots into commercial use in the unplanned area of Haryana. The condition is that the colony should have been built at least 50 years ago.
 - This policy will be applicable in the residential areas situated within the core areas of the municipality limits except the areas of Haryana Urban Development Authority (HSVP), Housing Board (Haryana), Haryana State Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation and Town and Country Planning Department.
 - This scheme will also be applicable to those plots who have divided their plots. Parameters like floor area ratio (FAR), ground coverage and plot height will remain in line with the original housing plan. The building line of the original plan will also be maintained.
 - The application process will be facilitated through an online portal developed by the Urban Local Bodies Department. To apply, property owners will have to pay a conversion fee of Rs 10 per square meter and a development fee of five per cent of the commercial collector rate.
 - They will also have to pay composition charges of Rs 160 per square meter on the converted area. For this, the applicant will have to apply by March 31, 2024. If the plot owners do not apply during this time period, action will be taken against them.

Note:



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- A survey will be conducted to identify illegal commercial buildings and map the rights of way and affected plots. If a property is rejected or an application for regularization is not made, municipalities can demolish the illegal construction and restore the building to its original condition or cancel the license.
- The Cabinet meeting approved construction of the first floor or basement or both on single booths, shops and service booths allotted by municipalities and urban improvement trusts. The Cabinet has approved the policy for this also.
 - To regularize the existing unauthorized construction on the first floor or basement or both at the booth, application will have to be made by March 31, 2024.
 - There is no fixed time limit for new permission for construction of the first floor or basement or booth. This policy will not be applicable to controlled areas which require Change of Land Use (CLU) permission.
 - This also does not include the licensed schemes approved by the Town and Country Planning Department within the municipal limits.
 - Further the policy does not cover any temporary structures allotted by shops or municipalities under Tehbazari or Khoka.
 - A fee of Rs 10 per square meter will be charged from the applicants on the total proposed built up area. The fee for regularization of existing first floor or basement construction is Rs 10 per square meter, but this is applicable to both the proposed and existing built up area on the plot including the structure on the ground floor.
- Haryana Digital Media Advertisement Policy was approved in the meeting. This policy has been brought to include social media news channels and social media influencers.
 - The existing policy of the year 2007 and 2020 was limited only to print media, electronic media and websites. Under the new policy, five categories have been created for empanelment of social media news channels taking into account the number of subscribers, followers and posts on their social media accounts.
 - DIPR Haryana will list social media news channels according to these categories. The Panel Advisory Committee will decide the rates from time to time for each category, ad format and social media platform.

- The Cabinet has also approved increasing the pension of journalists of the state from Rs 10,000 to Rs 15,000.
- The Cabinet has approved rounding off the fares of State Carriage buses up to Rs 5 for the convenience of passengers. For traveling up to seven and a half kilometers, Rs 5 will be charged and for traveling between eight to 10 kilometers, Rs 10 will be charged. With this, the general public as well as the conductors will no longer have to face problems like coins and change.



Chief Minister Laid the Foundation Stone of the Land of Domestic Airport in Ambala

Why In News?

On October 15, 2023, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar laid the foundation stone of Ambala's first domestic airport. Speaking on the occasion, he said that with the construction of the airport at Ambala, investment and industry will increase in this area, which will create more employment opportunities.

Key Points:

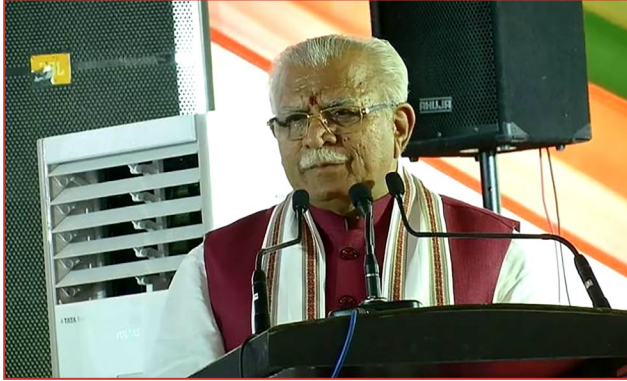
- The Chief Minister said that the terminal will be built on 20 acres of land at a cost of about Rs 20.5 crore. After the construction of this terminal, it will not take much time for air activities to start, because the runway and the rest of the system are already in place.
- He said that till now this air force station of Ambala was not a civil airport, but with the construction of a civil airport here, small airports will get the benefit.
- The Chief Minister said that the Haryana government has applied for routes under the 'UDAN Scheme', permission will be received soon. Some routes like

Note:



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Dehradun, Lucknow, Amritsar, Jaipur, Shimla are expected to be approved immediately. This will greatly benefit the people of Ambala and its surrounding districts.



Chief Minister Laid the Foundation Stone of Medical College in Sampan Khedi Village of Kaithal

Why In News?

On October 16, 2023, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal laid the foundation stone of Lord Parshuram Medical College to be built at a cost of about Rs 950 crore in Sampan Khedi village of Kaithal.

Key Points:

- A target has been set to complete the construction work of Lord Parshuram Medical College on 20 acres of land in the next two and a half years.
- With the construction of a medical college in Kaithal, the people of the district as well as neighboring districts and Punjab will also benefit from it. At present, except the nearby district of Karnal, there is no medical college in any other neighboring district. After the construction of the medical college in Sampankhedi, people of Jind, Kurukshetra and Khanauri and Patra areas of Sangrur district of Punjab will also get its benefits.
- It is noteworthy that at present there is a severe lack of facilities in the District Civil Hospital. The biggest problem here is the absence of doctors. Here, out of 56 sanctioned posts, doctors are working only on 24

posts. Due to shortage of doctors, patients do not get better treatment here.

- After the completion of the construction work of the medical college in the district, there will be a lot of improvement in health services here. A 500 bed hospital will be built in the medical college itself. After getting 100 MBBS seats here, the children of the district will be able to become doctors.
- After the construction of this hospital, a large number of people will be able to come here for treatment, while the students studying in the medical college will be able to serve the public by providing better services in the hospital itself.
- On this occasion, Chief Minister Manohar Lal said that not only Haryana but the surrounding states will benefit from this college and hospital. The construction of this college was announced at the Brahmin Mahakumbh held on December 11, 2022 in Karnal.
- He said that the previous governments had created six medical colleges before 2014, which had 700 MBBS seats, but at present there are 15 medical colleges in the state and 2185 MBBS seats. In the coming time, eight new medical colleges will be established including Fatehabad, Sirsa, Charkhi Dadri, Palwal and MBBS seats will increase five times to 3500 in the next four years.



Note:

The Famous Historical City Agroha will be Developed as a World Heritage and Tourist Destination.

Why In News?

On October 15, 2023, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal said that a prestigious museum will be established at the historical archaeological site of Agroha Dham in Haryana. Also, the historical place Agroha will now be developed on the lines of Rakhigarhi.

Key Points:

- Chief Minister Manohar Lal gave this information while addressing a press conference after offering prayers at the Mata Mansa Devi temple complex on the occasion of the first Navratri in Panchkula.
- Manohar Lal said that the archaeological site of Agroha is considered to be the capital of Maharaja Agrasen. With the development of this place, not only will this center of faith make its mark in the world, but this place will also become famous as a tourist destination.
- The Central Government has given approval for the overall development of Agroha archaeological site and the surrounding area through MoU according to the Rakhigarhi model.
- He informed that the excavation of Agroha archaeological site will be done jointly by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and Haryana State Archeology Department. Before starting the excavation, a GPR survey will be conducted in the prospective areas by the state government. After that there will be a joint MoU between ASI and Haryana Government.
- It may be noted that Chief Minister Manohar Lal had written a letter to Union Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy in the month of August regarding the excavation at the centrally protected site Agroha in Hisar district of Haryana. The Chief Minister had expressed the desire that the Haryana Government wants to highlight the archaeological heritage in the famous historical city of Agroha, Tehsil Adampur, District Hisar, so that an important chapter can be added to the historical and cultural field of the state.
- He has also requested to initiate a project to convert this site into a grand heritage site in Haryana and establish an archaeological site museum.

- The discovery of coins of Agroha district (republic) during excavation and the appearance of its ancient name 'Agradoka' in ancient literature including Mahabharata are enough evidence of it being the headquarters of the republic.
- The city of Agroha was situated on the ancient trade route between Taxila and Mathura and hence remained an important center of commerce and political activity. Earlier excavations proved the potential of the site and revealed five distinct cultural periods ranging from approximately the fourth century to the fourteenth century AD.
- The Chief Minister said that more than 100 archaeological sites have been identified across Haryana. These are being developed jointly by the central and state governments. Just as about Rs 23 crore is being provided by the Central Government to preserve the heritage of Rakhigarhi, similarly funding will be provided for Agroha also. Apart from this, the state government will also provide an adequate budget.

Former President Ramnath Kovind laid the Foundation Stone of the Hospital being Established with the Basic Mantra of No Profit No Loss.

Why In News?

On October 15, 2023, former President Ramnath Kovind laid the foundation stone of Samarpan Heart and Cancer Hospital being established in L-Block of TDI City Kundli with the basic mantra of No Profit No Loss.

Key Points:

- While inaugurating its model, former President Ramnath Kovind congratulated the birth anniversary of Maharaja Agrasen, who gave the message of 'One Rupee One Brick'.
- The hospital will be started with a 50-bed facility, which will be converted into a 500-bed facility in the near future.
- The former President said that Samarpan Sanstha has exemplary fulfilled its responsibilities towards providing medical services to the people, which also includes blood donation camps, helping people with

Note:

food and oxygen cylinders during the Corona period, operation of medicine banks etc.

- The former President said that Samarpan Sanstha has exemplary
- He said that every year lakhs of people are suffering from cancer and heart disease, for the prevention of which awareness is necessary. The lives of such patients can be saved by proper first aid. This hospital will also provide medical services free of cost and at concessional rates.

President Draupadi Murmu honored Ateli's Manish Saini with National Film Award

Why In News?

On October 17, 2023, President Draupadi Murmu presented the National Film Award to Manish Saini, a resident of Mandi Ateli town in Mahendergarh district of Haryana, at the 69th National Film Awards ceremony held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.

Key Points:

- President Draupadi Murmu presented awards to the winners of the year 2021 at the 69th National Film Awards ceremony in various categories in New Delhi. He also honoured Waheeda Rehman with the Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award for the year 2021.
- Manish Saini, a resident of Ateli town in Mahendergarh district of Haryana, has been awarded the National Film Award for his Gujarati film 'Gandhi and Company'. This is his second film as a writer and director.
- His film 'Gandhi & Co' is a Gujarati comedy children's film, which tells a story with the backdrop of Gandhian values of honesty and harmony in an entertaining way. The film is a coming-of-age family drama for the family audience.
- It is worth mentioning that Manish Saini is a writer and director, who has been awarded the National Award earlier too. Manish Saini also directed the Gujarati film 'Dhah'. It was also awarded the National Film Award. Apart from this, Manish Saini has also been honored for many films at the international level.
- Manish Saini is originally from Ateli assembly constituency of Haryana. Manish Saini completed his education from National Institute of Design Ahmedabad.



Agroha will Develop as a Global City

Why In News?

On October 16, 2023, Haryana Urban Local Bodies Minister Dr. Kamal Gupta told a press conference that Agroha will be developed as a Global City after getting permission to excavate the archaeological site of Agroha.

Key Points:

- Dr. Kamal Gupta said that this city will be developed within a radius of 20 kilometers of Agroha, which will make its identity like Singapore, Mauritius.
- Agroha will work to give cultural tourism recognition at the world level. Maharaja Agrasen Airport will also play an important role in this.
- Urban Bodies Minister Dr. Kamal Gupta while sharing his vision document about Agroha with the media said that Agrasen Global City is a very important location in terms of connectivity, which can become a center of international level religious tourism. A 108 feet high temple of Abhya Mahalakshmi is being built here, which will cost Rs 100 crore.
- Due to the archaeological and religious importance and the association of Harappan culture, there is immense potential for tourism here. Apart from Indus Saraswati sites, Rakhigarhi, Banawali, Birdana, Kunal, Hisar as well as Agroha will also be one of the largest circuits in the world in terms of tourism.
- Dr. Gupta said that the state government is planning to develop a big museum here on the lines of Rakhigarhi. The excavation work of the agroha archaeological

Note:

site will be done jointly by the Excavation Branch (ASI) of the Survey of India and the Haryana State Archaeology Department.

- Minister Dr. Kamal Gupta informed that the Central Government has given approval regarding the excavation of Agroha Mound. He said that in 1888-89, the mound was excavated for the first time during the British era. The second time was carried out in 1938-39 and the third time in 1978-79. Now the excavation work will start for the fourth time.
- Under the government's ambitious plan, Agroha will be developed as a world-class tourist center, in which Maharaja Agrasen Airport will play an important role. Hisar airport is being developed in 7200 acres in Phase 2. In future, about 10 thousand acres of land adjacent to it will also be used for an integrated aviation hub.



Employees Engaged in HKRN will get the Benefit of Health Services

Why In News?

On October 16, 2023, Haryana Chief Secretary Sanjeev Kaushal while presiding over a meeting to extend the benefits of medical services to the employees engaged in urban local bodies said that the employees engaged

in various departments of the state under the Haryana Kaushal Rojgar Nigam (HKRN) will be given the benefit of health services in the Chirayu Scheme.

Key Points:

- In the meeting, the Chief Secretary said that now the employees of urban local bodies who are not covered under the ESI scheme and are earning a salary of more than Rs 21,000 will be given the benefit of medical services.
- If the employees engaged in municipal councils, municipalities and municipal corporations have an accident while on duty, then the cost of their treatment will also be borne by the government.
- If a sanitation worker, sewerman, fireman, fire driver dies suddenly, then he is provided insurance of Rs 5 lakh under the Chief Minister's Employees Accident Insurance Scheme. Along with this, financial assistance of up to Rs 3 lakh is also provided to ad hoc, daily wage and contract employees.
- The Chief Secretary said that health benefits were also considered for employees who are out of the skill employment scope. Permission will soon be taken from the Chief Minister to give the benefit of health services to such employees, so that all the employees of urban local bodies and other departments can get the benefit of health services.

Haryana's Anganwadi Worker Mrs. Sudesh Yadav honored with Best Anganwadi Worker Award

Why In News?

According to information received from the Directorate of Information, Public Relations and Languages of Haryana on October 16, 2023, Anganwadi worker Smt. Sudesh Yadav has been awarded the Best Anganwadi Worker Award for feeding 100 percent data on nutrition tracker application, setting up nutrition vatika and organizing more activities during nutrition month.

Key Points:

- Sudesh Yadav was given this honor at the protocol launch program for management of malnutrition in children held in New Delhi recently under the

Note:

chairmanship of Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani.

- The state women and child development and AYUSH minister as well as secretaries of the ministry of women and child development and health and family welfare also participated in the programme. On behalf of Haryana, Commissioner and Secretary of Women and Child Development Department Amanit P Kumar along with other district officials, 165 Anganwadi workers participated.
- Women and Child Development Department Commissioner Amanit P Kumar said the protocol is a kind of detailed guideline for identification and management of malnourished children at the community level, including focus on referral, nutrition management and follow-up. This guideline will be helpful in training anganwadi workers for management of malnutrition in the state of Haryana.
- Senior officials from women and child health departments from across the country, members of international and other organisations like UNICEF, Indian Medical Association (IMA), International Pediatrics Association, Indian Academy of Pediatrics, World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank and Bill Melinda Gates were also present at the event.

Home Minister laid the Foundation Stone of the Foot Escalator Overbridge in the Civil Hospital Complex along Ambala-Saha Road.

Why In News?

On October 17, 2023, Haryana Home and Health Minister Anil Vij laid the foundation stone for the construction work of foot escalator overbridge in the Civil Hospital complex along Ambala-Saha Road. This foot escalator overbridge will be built at a cost of Rs 2 crore.

Key Points:

- After laying the foundation stone, Home and Health Minister Anil Vij said that the foot escalator overbridge in the Civil Hospital complex of Ambala along Ambala-Saha Road will probably be the first escalator to be installed on any road in Haryana.

- He said that the Civil Hospital has an OPD of more than three thousand every day and in view of the increasing traffic on Ambala-Saha Road, a foot escalator overbridge has been sanctioned here.
- He said that people will be able to reach Civil Hospital by climbing the bridge directly from Hill Road without going on the road. Escalators will be installed here to climb the bridge, which will benefit the people coming to the hospital.



Sainik Schools will be opened in other Districts of Haryana also in PPP Mode .

Why In News?

On October 17, 2023, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal said in the closing ceremony of All India Sainik School National Games-2023 organized at Sainik School, Kunjpura in Karnal that Sainik Schools will be opened in PPP mode in other districts of Haryana also.

Key Points:

- Chief Minister Manohar Lal said that this will increase the participation of Haryana's youth in the army and a large number of fire warriors will be prepared. He announced a grant of Rs 10 crore for infrastructure to Sainik School, Kunjpura.
- It may be noted that for the first time, All India Sainik School National Sports Competitions were organized in Haryana, in which 650 players from various Sainik Schools of the country participated.

Note:

- By organizing this competition, many of the participating players will get a chance to be selected for national and international competitions.
- The Chief Minister said that for the first time, girls cadets also participated in these competitions, which is synonymous with women empowerment. It also embodies the spirit of 'Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao'. In 2015, the Prime Minister had given the slogan of 'Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao' from Haryana itself.
- The Chief Minister said that the government has developed sports culture to make Haryana a sports powerhouse. Excellent sports infrastructure has been created from village to state level. Recently, in the 19th Asian Games held in China, players from Haryana have won 30 out of 107 medals.
- He said that Sainik Schools in the country were established in 1961, since then they have been making commendable contributions in inducting cadets into NDA, IMA, OTA, IANA, AFA and other prestigious defense institutes. Students educated from these schools have earned names in Indian Administrative Services, Judiciary, Medical, Engineering Services as well as in Politics.
- The Chief Minister honored the teams standing first and second in basketball, volleyball and hockey of the All India Sainik School National Sports Competition by giving them trophies.
- Apart from this, Ikhtlaq Hasan of Nagrota Sainik School was honored as the best player in volleyball, Aman Malik of Kunjpura in basketball, Shubham Kumar of Tilaiya was honored as the best player in hockey and Sachin from Tilaiya was honored as the best goalkeeper.
- He also awarded the trophy to Sainik School Tilaiya as Overall School and D Group in Overall Group.
- Trophy was awarded to the team of Kunjpura Sainik School for the cultural program. Around 650 players from more than 30 Sainik Schools participated in the games. Before this, the participants marched past.



Note:

Haryana Government Approves 13 New Projects under Rural Promotion and Mahagram Scheme

Why In News?

On October 17, 2023, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal gave administrative approval to 13 new projects to be implemented by the Public Health Engineering Department under the Rural Promotion Program and Mahagram Scheme.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that the Haryana Government has taken important steps towards bringing positive changes in the lives of the rural population of the state and has decided to implement 13 new projects worth more than Rs 284 crore.
- These projects will be implemented in 4 districts, namely Hisar, Jind, Sonapat and Rewari by the Public Health Engineering Department with loan assistance from NABARD under Rural Enhancement Program and Mahagram Scheme.
- The state government has approved canal based water supply projects for villages Pranapura and Mamaria Assampur of district Rewari under the Rural Promotion Programme. Apart from this, additional storage and sedimentation tanks will also be ensured for the water supply scheme in village Mamaria Thather.
- Apart from these, the existing water works of district Rewari include canal based water supply scheme, sedimentation tanks at 2 villages Makhariya and Chimnawas of Khori group, additional storage and sedimentation tanks for the existing water supply scheme of Jatuwas group of 8 villages at Bharwas of district Bhiwani, Renovation and additional storage for raw water in canal based water works in rural areas of Rewari district, Additional storage and sedimentation tank will be constructed for the existing water supply scheme of Bolni group of 4 villages at Khedi Motla in Rewari district.
- **Projects approved under Mahagram Yojana-**
 - District Hisar – Providing drinking water scheme (cost Rs 36.52 crore) and sewerage system in village Gangwa (cost Rs 36.21 crore), providing sewerage



system in village Sadalpur (cost Rs 25.72 crore) and expansion of water supply scheme (cost Rs 22.72 crore). .

- District Jind – Providing sewerage system in village Chattar (cost Rs 30.95 crore) and expansion of drinking water supply (cost Rs 18.36 crore).
- District Sonapat - Providing sewerage system in village Khewra (cost Rs 19.86 crore) and expansion of drinking water supply (cost Rs 6.61 crore).
- Giving information in this regard, the government spokesperson said that after the renovation of these canal based water works, the construction of new works will directly benefit a potential population of 1.63 lakh in 15 years.
- The spokesperson further said that Haryana has already become the first state to ensure supply of Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every household under Jal Jeevan Mission. Under this mission, the Central Government had set a target of providing clean drinking water from tap to every rural family by 2024, whereas the State Government has achieved this target much earlier.

National Health Mission Haryana Successfully Completes all three Phases of IMI 5.0

Why In News?

On October 17, 2023, Mission Director of National Health Mission, Haryana, Rajnarayan Kaushik said that National Health Mission, Haryana has successfully achieved 100% target in all three phases of Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0 vaccination.

Key Points:

- Mission Director Rajnarayan Kaushik said that children and pregnant women who were not vaccinated for some reason have been covered under the campaign IMI 5.0. 44895 pregnant women and 195268 children were vaccinated by the department under the campaign.
- He informed that after the successful implementation of Covin vaccination, the Government of India has

linked U-WIN (Winning over Universal Immunization) with Health Care Professional Registration, Health Care Facility Registration and Ayushman Bharat Health Account as per ABDM.

- Its main objective is to make 100% vaccination coverage available on the digital platform. With this, records of beneficiaries visiting both government and private health centers will be linked.
- Once the records are digital, the Health Department will have information about the complete vaccination given to pregnant women and their children at any place in India. At the same time, information about the vaccination to be given at the prescribed time period is also sent to the beneficiary through message, so that no pregnant woman or child is left out of vaccination.
- Dr. Kuldeep, Director, National Health Mission, Haryana, said that India's MR eradication target is 2023, but recently there has been an increase in measles cases. To recapitulate the country's progress on the measles and rubella elimination roadmap and achieve 95 percent coverage of two doses of measles and rubella vaccine in the country through IMI 5.0 as per the target given in the 5th meeting of MR-IEAG. More coverage is being given priority.
- To achieve these objectives, three rounds of Intensive Mission Indradhanush were conducted, covering all the districts. Beneficiaries All children up to 05 years of age and pregnant women who missed any dose are targeted.
- State Nodal Officer Dr. Virendra Ahlawat said that the third phase is pending in Nuh and Palwal, which will be organized soon. During the first phase in August, a target of 66463 children was set for vaccination, under which 58135 children were covered. In the second phase, 67036 children were covered against the target of 72591 and in the third phase, 70097 children were covered against the target of 69841, i.e. in the third phase, the department achieved 100.1 percent of the target.
- Similarly, pregnant women were covered in the first phase by vaccinating more than the target of 15472 against the target of 13660. In the second phase, 15712 pregnant women were covered by vaccination against the target of 13752 and in the third phase, 13711 pregnant women were covered by vaccination against the target of 13720.

Note:

Chief Minister Approves 10 New Works under the Rural Promotion Program

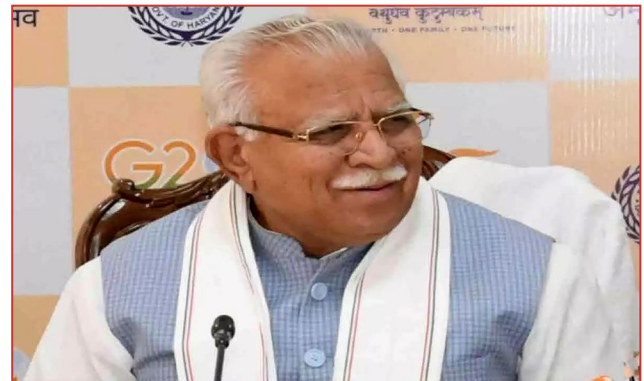
Why In News?

On October 18, 2023, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal gave administrative approval to 10 new works worth more than Rs 113 crore under the Rural Enhancement Program in 4 districts Kaithal, Sirsa, Rohtak and Jind as part of efforts to improve water supply in the state.

Key Points:

- In this regard, a government spokesperson said that the sanctioned works include the works of canal based water supply scheme for three villages (Thobriya, Mirzapur and Talwara Khurd) and 4 Dhani (Moju ki Dhani, Tibba ki Dhani, Daya Singh Thed, Bazigar Dhani).
- Also, the works include construction of water works at Moju ki Dhani in various villages of district Sirsa, expansion of the existing water supply scheme in village Khari Sureran and providing fresh water from Sheranwali distributary to 9 existing water works by building common pumping stations.
- Apart from these, canal based water works at Sant Nagar, Dalip Nagar, Tigri and Sahrani in district Sirsa, expansion of water supply scheme in village Dhand block of Kaithal district and upgradation of distribution system have also been approved.
- The spokesperson said that JLN along with construction of canal based water works at village Mauldin and village Ottu in district Sirsa, boosting station at village Baland in district Rohtak along with laying of DI pipe from Rohtak Pump House to second water works and first water works. The work of ensuring provision of fresh water from the canal was also approved.
- The Chief Minister also approved laying of sewer lines in various colonies of Jind city and replacement of all damaged existing sewer lines.
- The spokesperson said that a sewerage system has been provided in 90 percent area of Jind city, in which the total length of sewer lines is 465 kilometers. 16 sewer pumping stations have been established for sewer pumping to sewage treatment plants. Three sewage treatment plants with 27 MLD capacity have also been established for sewage treatment as per the norms prescribed by Haryana State Pollution Control Board.

- Sewer lines at many places in various colonies are very old and badly damaged, which cannot be repaired or the cost of repair is equivalent to new lines. Therefore, provision of new sewer lines has been approved at a cost of Rs 8.21 crore.



15 Khelo India Centers Inaugurated in Haryana

why in discussion

A total of 15 Khelo India Centers (KICs) were launched in Haryana on October 20, 2023 by Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khater in the virtual presence of Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) Anurag Singh Thakur.

Key Points:

- Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur, while addressing the event virtually, said that the Government of India has already notified 1000 Khelo India Centers (KIC) across the country.
- He said that these 15 Khelo India centers started in Haryana will help in preparing future champions. These centers will include 15 former champion athletes, who will train the next generation of athletes who are eager to win medals.
- Through the 'Khelo India' scheme, while the Government of India has provided support to the athletes in the best possible way, the Chief Minister of Haryana is also playing a commendable role in motivating the athletes through financial and job related assistance.
- At KIC, former champion athletes become coaches and mentors of youth, run sports training centers autonomously and earn their livelihood. Under the 'Khelo India' scheme, initial and annual financial

Note:



drishti

assistance is also provided to these former champions as well as these centers for sports training, coaching and operations.

- Mini Khelo India Centres help in strengthening the sports ecosystem at the grassroots level by enhancing the utilization of existing sports infrastructure available in schools, organizations and other eligible agencies at the block or district level.



Haryana Government makes Record Increase in Monthly Pension of Journalists

Why In News?

On October 19, 2023, Dr. Amit Agarwal, Director General, Information, Public Relations and Languages Department, Haryana, during a meeting with the members of the Press Council of India (PCI) informed that the state government has increased the monthly pension being

given to journalists from Rs 10,000 to Rs 15,000, which is the highest in the country.

Key Points:

- Haryana Government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Manohar Lal, is continuously implementing unique and pioneering schemes for the welfare of journalists. In this series, recently the monthly pension given to journalists has been increased from Rs 10,000 to Rs 15,000.
- Additionally, under the Haryana Media Personnel Welfare Fund Administration Scheme, financial assistance amounting to Rs 161.74 lakh has so far been provided to their dependents or legal heirs in cases of critical needs such as illness, death, accident or other unexpected emergencies.
- Dr. Amit Aggarwal said that keeping in mind the welfare of journalists, the Haryana government is also implementing a term/group insurance scheme of Rs 10 lakh for 1,269 accredited journalists in the state. This insurance scheme provides the necessary financial security to journalists.
- It may be noted that the Journalists Welfare Fund has been established in the state, under which financial assistance is provided for the treatment of serious illnesses.



Mahendragarh District Ranks First in Ayushman Bharat Chirayu Haryana Scheme.

Why In News?

On October 22, 2023, District Information Manager of Chirayu Haryana Yojana Umesh Saini informed that Mahendragarh district ranks first in the state in providing health services to the citizens under Ayushman Bharat Chirayu Haryana Scheme.

Note:

Key Points:

- It may be noted that last month a team of IIM Rohtak had visited District Mahendragarh health facilities and empaneled hospitals of Ayushman Bharat Chirayu Haryana Scheme and District Mahendragarh health facilities have been ranked first in their survey.
- District Information Manager Umesh Saini said that a review meeting of Ayushman Bharat Chirayu Haryana Yojana related to primary health center panelization and patient registration in transaction management system (TMS) was held in all the government facilities of all the districts of the state.
- In order to give the benefit of this scheme to more and more citizens of the state, the Haryana Government has launched the portal for the expansion of Chirayu Ayushman Bharat Yojana. Now families with an annual income of Rs 1.80 lakh to Rs 3 lakh in the state will get the benefit of this scheme.
- The Haryana government has already included families with an annual income of up to Rs 1.80 lakh under the Chirayu Ayushman Bharat Yojana. These families can get free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh in government or panel private hospitals.
- Under the Chirayu Ayushman Bharat Scheme, families with an annual income of up to Rs 1.80 lakh do not have to pay any kind to join the scheme.
- The Haryana government has now expanded it to include families with an income of up to Rs 3 lakh under the scheme. The beneficiary will have to pay Rs 1500 on Chirayu Ayushman Haryana.in to register.
- So far, 1763 families have registered themselves after the implementation of extended Chirayu Haryana in Mahendragarh district. Under this scheme, 346192 citizens have made their Ayushman Chirayu card so far. So far this year, more than 22,000 beneficiaries have availed free treatment worth more than Rs 30 crore in various empanelled private hospitals and government hospitals.

State Level Sanjhi Utsav-2023**Why In News?**

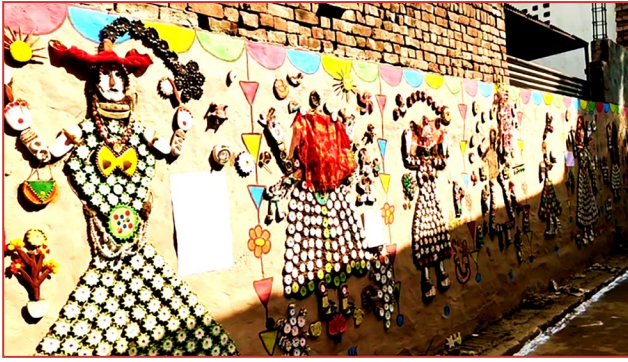
As part of a concerted effort to preserve and propagate Haryanvi culture, the Haryana Art and Cultural Affairs Department in collaboration with Haryana Folk Arts Association, Rohtak jointly organized the state-level Sanjhi Utsav- 2023 program in Rohtak.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that this program is an initiative to acquaint the younger generation with the rich Haryanvi culture as well as to preserve it. Under this, various competitions were organized from October 15 to 24, which saw the participation of rural women as well as school and college students from every corner of the state.
- The first prize of Rs 51,000, second prize of Rs 31,000 and third prize of Rs 21,000 and two consolation prizes of Rs 11,000 each were given to the winners of the state-level joint festival and competition.
- Recognizing the dedication and talent of the women participants in the common competition, the department has decided to award six incentive prizes, each of which will be given a prize of Rs 5100.
- Apart from this, each woman and student participating in the state level competition will get a citation and a prize of Rs 1100. Around 200 women from across the state participated in the competition.
- In the state-level Sanjhi Mahotsav and competition, Manju of Rohtak was given the first prize, Sangeeta second, Sneh Dhul third, Rekha of Jind fourth and Sunita Rani got the fifth prize.
- The recipients of the incentive awards include Anjali and Shilam from Jhajjar, Indu Bhavna from Rohtak, Amita Dhanda from Panchkula and Sita and Suman from Sonapat.
- It is noteworthy that the festival of Navratri in the country is celebrated in different regions with different names and different ways. Sanjhi festival is celebrated in most areas of north Indian states like Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Here Maa Durga is worshiped as Sanjhi Mata.
- In the Sanjhi festival, the women and girls of the house bring soil from the pond or river in the village and the village and carve the figure of Sanjhi Mata on the wall in the house itself and then worship them for 10 days.



Note:



30 Water Supply and 9 Sewerage Projects Approved for 15 Districts

Why In News?

Haryana Chief Minister, Mr. Manohar Lal on October 23, 2023 has given administrative approval to 30 water supply and 9 sewerage projects worth more than Rs. 1300 crore for 15 districts with a view to strengthen water supply and sewerage system.

Key Points:

- In these 15 districts, 30 water supply projects costing Rs 1018 crore and 9 sewerage projects costing Rs 283 crore will be implemented by the Public Health Engineering Department under 'AMRUT 2.0'.
- These districts include Ambala, Hisar, Kaithal, Kurukshetra, Jind, Panchkula, Rohtak, Fatehabad, Sirsa, Charkhi Dadri, Yamunanagar, Karnal, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh and Palwal.
- The Chief Minister said that 18 water supply projects worth more than Rs 425 crore of Public Health Engineering are in the pipeline, which will be approved soon.

- The Chief Minister gave administrative approval of Rs 14.15 crore for the purchase of land through e-Bhoomi portal for construction of canal-based water works for Rania town of Sirsa district.

'Safe Journey' is a New Initiative in Haryana-112 Regarding Women's Safety.

Why In News?

In a meeting held on October 25, 2023 under the chairmanship of Haryana Director General of Police Shatrugit Kapoor, it was informed that the police department is soon going to launch a new initiative 'Safe Journey' i.e. 'Safe Journey' on Haryana-112 regarding women's safety using state-of-the-art technology.

Key Points:

- The new initiative 'Safe Journey' being launched by the Police Department for women safety will further strengthen the sense of security among women and they will be able to feel safe while traveling.
- Director General of Police Shatrugit Kapoor said that Haryana-112 is now coming up with the concept of 'safe journey' for women passengers with the aim of making women feel safe even outside their homes.
- Under this, women will now be able to register themselves by dialing 112 and share their travel information with the team of Haryana-112 in advance. For this, women will share their details, such as name, mobile number, place of departure, place of arrival, expected time of departure and arrival etc. After this, the Haryana-112 team will be in touch with the woman. During this time, the location will be tracked by the team members.
- In the meeting, ADGP Telecom-IT informed that work is also being done on the WhatsApp number to provide a safe environment to women and through this, the people of the state will be updated about Haryana-112 from time to time.
- Through this number, information about the facilities and services of Haryana Police will also be made available to the general public, so that people can take advantage of them as per the need.
- Along with this, stickers are also being put up by the Haryana Police on public transport, such as Ola, Uber

Note:

and Auto, to provide a safe environment for women in the state, in which other information including the name of the auto driver, mobile number, vehicle number etc. has been provided.

- ADGP Telecom-IT said that by October 31, a database of auto drivers and public transport of most districts in the state will be prepared.
- It was informed in the meeting that in September 2023, more than 5 lakh 22 thousand calls have been received through Haryana-112. The Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) has been fixed from 8 minutes to 15 minutes in urban and rural areas.



124 PM Shree Schools of the State Inaugurated

Why In News?

On October 25, 2023, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan along with Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal inaugurated 124 PM Shree Schools in the state in the first phase at Tagore Auditorium of Maharshi Dayanand University in Rohtak.

Key Points:

- During this time, he also launched the School App of the Education Department and the mobile application of the Nipun Program from Tagore Auditorium of Maharshi Dayanand University, which will greatly benefit the students.
- On this occasion, Chief Minister Mr. Manohar Lal said that 4000 playway schools started in the state will now be known as 'Bal Vatika School'. Similar schools will also be started by the government in the future. Anganwadi centers have also been converted into these schools to give education to children in sports.

- He said that in order to further improve the level of education in the state, 124 PM Shree schools will be started from the new session in the first phase and with the inauguration of 128 schools in the second phase, the number of these schools will increase to 252.
- Haryana Education Minister Kanwar Pal said that the number of Model Sanskriti Schools has been increased from 22 to 147 by the state government. In the first phase, an amount of Rs 85 crore has been provided by the Central Government for 124 schools of PM Shree. In the second phase, the process of selection of 128 PM Shree schools has been started.
- Referring to the meaningful results of the Super 100 scheme launched in the state, he said that so far 252 poor children have been selected in NEET, 127 children in IIT and 26 children in MBBS courses. Nda coaching is also being started soon by the government.



Significant Increase in the Honorarium of Members including Mayor and Chairman of Municipal Corporation, Municipal Council and Committees.

Why In News?

On October 26, 2023, Haryana Chief Minister, Mr. Manohar Lal, while addressing a press conference to mark the completion of nine years of the state government, announced a significant increase in the honorarium of members including mayors and chairman of municipal corporations, municipal councils and committees. The increased honorarium will be given from October 1, 2023.

Note:



Key Points:

- Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said that the monthly honorarium of the Mayor has been increased from Rs 20,500 to Rs 30,000. Similarly, the honorarium of senior deputy mayor has been increased from Rs 16,500 to Rs 25,000, deputy mayor's honorarium from Rs 13,000 to Rs 20,000 and councilors' honorarium from Rs 10,500 to Rs 15,000.
- Apart from this, he announced an increase in the pension of Hindi movement satyagrahis and emergency victims from Rs 10,000 to Rs 15,000 and a 4 percent increase in the DA of government employees.
- He said that the honorarium of municipal council president has been increased from Rs 10,500 to Rs 18,000, vice-president from Rs 7,500 to Rs 12,000, councilors' honorarium from Rs 7,500 to Rs 12,000.
- The honorarium of president of municipal committees has been increased from Rs 6,500 to Rs 10,000, vice-president from Rs 4,500 to Rs 8,000 and councilors' honorarium from Rs 4,500 to Rs 8,000.
- The honorarium of zila parishad presidents has been increased from Rs 10,000 to Rs 20,000, vice-presidents from Rs 7,500 to Rs 15,000 and members from Rs 3,000 to Rs 6,000.
- Apart from this, the honorarium of panchayat samiti presidents has been increased from Rs 7,500 to Rs 15,000, the honorarium of vice-presidents from Rs 3,500 to Rs 7,000 and the honorarium of members from Rs 1,600 to Rs 3,000.
- The Chief Minister said that the present state government is providing a monthly pension of Rs 10,000 to the mother tongue satyagrahis and emergency victims and widows of the Hindi movement-1957. This pension amount is also increased to 15 thousand rupees.
- He said that on the basis of family identity card data, an old age samman pension has been made for 42,431 people who have completed 60 years of age. With the formation of PPP, people no longer have to visit offices to get the benefits of government facilities.
- The Chief Minister has announced a 4 percent increase in the DA of government employees. He said that the central government has increased the DA of government employees from 42 percent to 46 percent. Now from July 1, 2023, about 3.5 lakh employees of Haryana will also get the benefit of additional 4 percent DA.



Now 'Aadhaar Card' Based Attendance will be done at Skill Development Training centers

Why In News?

On October 25, 2023, Director of Haryana Skill Development Mission Dr. Vivek Agarwal informed that the state government has decided to start 'Aadhaar card' based attendance at all the training centers of the state being run for the training of youth under the Haryana Skill Development Mission.

Key Points:

- In the first phase, a pilot scheme was started at three training centers, which has been successful. In view of this success, now the 'Aadhaar Card' based attendance of youth is being started at all training centers across the state.
- Director Dr. Vivek Agarwal informed that short-term skill development training is organized at training centers in collaboration with training partners in all districts of the state. These trainings are of three to four months duration in various NSQF aligned courses.
- Many training courses like Assistant Electrician, Data Entry Operator, Beautician, Warehouse Packer, Operator, Junior Analyst, Self Employed Tailor, Yoga Instructor, Installation Technician, Craft Baker are conducted at these training centers.
- Dr. Agarwal said that on some complaints about the presence of youth undergoing training at various training centers running under Haryana Skill Development Mission, the mission acted and started Aadhaar card based e-verification system in three training centers Kurukshetra, Indri (Karnal) and Rewari as a pilot project. Its result was found satisfactory, so the mission will implement it soon at all the centers of the state in the future.

Note:

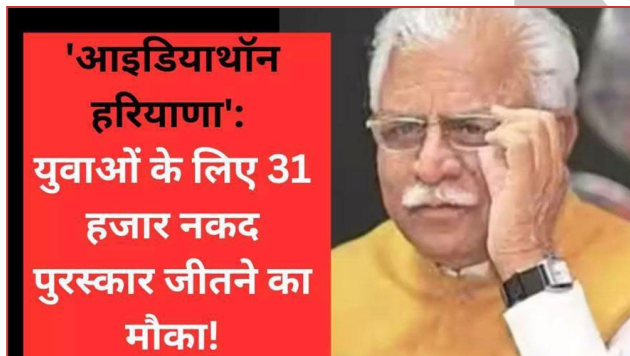
Ideathon Haryana

Why In News?

On October 26, 2023, a spokesperson of Haryana Skill Development Mission (HSDM) said that the department is organizing 'Ideathon Haryana' competition, for which registration has started from October 20 and it will be open till November 5, 2023.

Key Points:

- A spokesman of the Mission (HSDM) said that youth studying in ITIs and polytechnic institutes and having passed diploma can participate in the 'Ideathon Haryana' competition.
- This competition has been started for the youth of the said institutes of all 22 districts of Haryana. All the districts have been divided into seven zones for ease of registration.
- A total of 21 awards, including three winners, will be given in each zone. The award ceremony will carry cash prizes of Rs 31,000, Rs 21,000 and Rs 11,000 in the form of gold, silver and bronze prizes for each zone.



Chief Minister launched 'Prana Vayu Devta Pension Scheme'

Why In News?

On October 26, 2023, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal formally inaugurated the pension scheme for 3,810 trees under the 'Prana Vayu Devta Pension Scheme'. Under the scheme, all these trees will be given a pension of Rs 2750 annually.

Key Points:

- The Chief Minister launched the Prana Vayu Devta Pension Scheme during a press conference organized to commemorate the completion of 9 years of the state government.
- It is noteworthy that Haryana is the first state in the country to implement such a scheme, the objective of which is to conserve healthy trees older than 75 years.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister said that if there is a tree of 75 years or more in the courtyard of someone's house, then he can apply for pension by going to the forest department office of his respective district. The application will be evaluated by a committee and pension will be given to the beneficiary after verification of all the conditions.
- Under this scheme, 3,810 eligible trees of 75 years of age or more were identified by the district level conservation committees in the state. The annual pension amount of these Prana Vayu Devta Pension trees is Rs 2750. This amount will be deposited in the account of the tree protector for the maintenance and care of the tree. There will also be an annual increase in this pension amount in line with the old age respect allowance.
- The selected Prana Vayu Devta trees include about 40 species, of which Peepal, Banyan, Neem, Mango, Jaal, Gular, Krishna Kadamba, Pilkhan etc. are prominent. All these trees are Indian and have immense ecological importance.
- These old trees stand on various lands, such as private, panchayat, institutional and government properties. Trees standing on forest land are not included in this scheme.



Amendment in 'Deployment of Contract Personnel'

Why In News?

On October 26, 2023, Haryana Chief Secretary Sanjeev Kaushal issued a notification regarding important amendments made by the Haryana Government in the

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'Deployment of Contract Personnel Policy, 2022'. These amendments in the selection criteria are aimed at making the recruitment process more inclusive and efficient.

Key Points:

- The notification said that the merit list of the candidates will now be prepared on the basis of scoring parameters like annual family income, age and socio-economic criteria of the candidate, skill qualification, common eligibility test, prior state experience etc.
- Maximum 40 marks will be based on the annual family income of the candidate as verified by Haryana Family Identification Authority, which includes 40 marks up to Rs 1,00,000, 30 marks between Rs 1,00,001 to 1,80,000, 20 marks between Rs 1,80,001 to Rs 3,00,000. Points, there will be scoring of 10 points from Rs 3,00,001 to Rs 6,00,000.
- Based on the age of the candidate at the time of job recommendation A benefit of 10 marks will be given in the age group of 24 to 36 years and 5 marks in the age group of 36 to 42 years.
- Candidates will get maximum of 5 marks if they have a skill certificate from NCVT, SCVT, SVSU University recognized ITI relevant to the job. If the qualification is higher than the basic qualification in the same field, additional 5 marks will be given, in which minimum 8th pass will be mandatory.
- Candidates will be given weightage of 10 marks based on socio-economic criteria, including 10 marks in case of orphan status, 5 marks are given in case of widow and 5 marks are also given for those candidates who do not have a father.
- Candidates who successfully qualify the Common Eligibility Test will receive 10 marks.
- Candidates who are residents of the same Block Municipal Corporation will get 10 marks and 5 marks will be given to those who are residents of adjacent Block, Municipal Corporation for which the job is notified, each Municipal Corporation will be treated as a separate block and Municipalities, Municipal councils will be considered part of the block.
- Additional 10 marks will be given to candidates having prior experience of working in any Department, Board, University, Public Sector Undertaking, Mission or Authority under the control of Haryana Government. Candidates will get 1 mark for each year of experience.

- The purpose of these amendments is to create a more comprehensive and fair selection process for contracts in Haryana. These changes are effective immediately and will be implemented for all future recruitments under this policy.
- Haryana Government offices in Chandigarh will be treated at par with District Panchkula. Haryana Government offices in New Delhi will be treated at par with districts Gurugram, Faridabad, Sonapat and Jhajjar.
- The Board of Directors of Haryana Skill Employment Corporation Limited (HKRN) has been authorized to make changes in the scoring criteria in Clause 8.8 of the Contract Persons Deployment Policy, 2023.
- Under the revised policy, contract workers will be entitled to various types of leave, including casual and medical leave. Specifically, these employees will be entitled to avail one day of casual leave and one day of medical leave during each calendar month on a proportionate basis.
- This entitlement is valid up to a maximum of 10 days of casual leave and 10 days of medical leave during a calendar year. Additionally, women contract workers are eligible for maternity leave as per the provisions of the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961.
- There is age relaxation up to 42 years for contract employees and 5 years relaxation in upper age limit for reserved category candidates. Candidates with prior experience in Haryana Government organizations can avail age relaxation up to a maximum of 5 years.



Chief Minister Announced Closure of Six Toll Plazas in the State

Why In News?

Taking an important decision, on October 26, 2023, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal announced the closure of six toll plazas located on the state highways. Due to closure of these toll plazas, the public will save Rs 13.50 crore annually.

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Key Points:

- Addressing a press conference in Chandigarh, The Chief Minister said that three toll plazas - Village Bashirpur (Narnaul-Nizampur Road) near Rajasthan Border on State Highway-17, Village Tatiana (Kaithal-Patiala Road) near Punjab Border on State Highway-11, Village Gujjarwas (Subana-Kosli-Nahar-Kanina Road) on State Highway-22 will be closed from November 1, 2023.
- Similarly, the toll plaza on Punjab Border State Highway-8 near village Sangatpura on Kaithal-Khanauri road will be closed on November 10. The toll plaza located on Himachal Pradesh Border State Highway-4 near village Ashgarpur on Kala Amb-Sadhara-Shahabad road and Delhi Border State Highway-18 near village Ferozepur on Rohtak-Kharkhoda-Delhi road border will be closed on December 1, 2023.
- The chief minister said the decision to close these toll plazas was taken in view of the demands of the people living in the surrounding areas. The government has recognized the financial burden and inconvenience caused to the public by these toll plazas and has taken this step to provide relief to the public.

Chief Minister Announced Regularization of 190 Colonies in 10 Districts

Why In News?

On October 26, 2023, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal made a big announcement to regularize 190 colonies of 10 districts, moving towards institutional urban development in Haryana.

Key Points:

- The purpose of this decision of Chief Minister Manohar Lal is to give legal status to these colonies and ensure comprehensive infrastructure development.
- Addressing the press conference, the Chief Minister said that the state government will allocate approximately Rs 1400 crore for the overall development of these colonies.
- He said that out of 190 colonies being regularized, 100 colonies come under the jurisdiction of the Town and Country Planning Department, while the remaining 90 are under the purview of urban local bodies.

- With the announcement of regularization of these colonies, a total of 594 colonies have been successfully regularized this year.
- He said that the development works within the colonies managed by the Town and Country Planning Department will be supervised by the Haryana Urban Development Authority.
- Manohar Lal said that a total of 1673 colonies have been successfully regularized since 2014, whereas only 874 colonies were regularized during the tenure of the previous government.

CSSRI Karnal Developed Sulphur Based Soil Improvement Technology

Why In News?

On October 30, 2023, Dr. Arvind Kumar Roy, Chairman, Department of Crop and Soil Improvement, Central Institute of Soil and Salinity Research (CSSRI), Karnal, informed that after six years of research, CSSRI has developed Sulphur-based soil improvement technology.

Key Points:

- Dr. Arvind Kumar Roy said that at present, gypsum from the mines of Rajasthan is used for soil improvement, but it is continuously decreasing, due to which scientists have been looking for an alternative for many years.
- The study was conducted at several locations in Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan along with CSSRI for the results of sulphur based soil improvement technique. Also, it was used on various crops such as paddy, wheat, cotton, berseem etc.
- Using this technique, a large area of the country can be made fertile again, in which crops will be produced and the country's food grains will increase.
- At present, 3.78 lakh hectares of land in the country is affected by alkalinity. The land whose PH value exceeds 8.3 is considered alkaline land. Apart from this, the production of crops gradually falls due to the use of alkaline water. In 10 to 15 years, the situation becomes such that the yield of crops in that land stops and the land starts becoming barren.

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- Scientists at CSSRI started research work on preparing an alternative. This research work was started by CSSRI in collaboration with Reliance Industries. After six years of hard work and research, the institute has now developed a Sulphur-based soil improvement technique.
- It is noteworthy that the sulphur used in this technique is obtained from the petroleum refinery, which is unusable. The gases that come out of it will be removed by going through a process and sulphur. Its biggest advantage is not only the improvement of alkaline land, but the second biggest benefit will also be that pollution from these gases will also be reduced.



Anish Banwala Achieved Olympic Quota with Two Bronzes

Why In News?

- On October 30, 2023, Karnal-based shooter Anish Banwala qualified for the Asian Shooting Championships, winning a bronze medal in the individual and team event as well as securing a quota for the Paris Olympics 2024.

Key Points:

- The 15th Asian Shooting Championships will be held in Changwon, South Korea from October 23 to November 3.

- Anish Banwala achieved this feat in the 25m rapid fire pistol. He has secured a ticket to Paris on the basis of score. He scored 588 out of 600 marks in the competition.
- Anish will now showcase his talent at the ongoing 37th National Games in Goa. Their event in Goa will be held on November 5-6. Apart from this, Anish will participate in the World Cup shooting to be held in Doha, Qatar in November.
- It is worth mentioning that in the Asian Games held in China this month, Anish played an important role in winning the bronze medal in the team event. Earlier, Anish had also won a gold medal in the Khelo India University Games. In May too, Anish participated in the Senior World Cup held in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan.
- Anish had won the bronze medal in the 25m rapid fire event at the 2023 Senior Shooting World Cup after 12 years. Prior to that, a team gold was won in the Senior World Cup in 2022. In 2018, Anish won gold in the 25m rapid fire event at the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane, Australia. At that time, he was studying in 10th class.
- Anish's elder sister Muskan is also a shooter. In February 2018, Muskan and Anish won the gold medal together in the Junior World Cup held in Sydney. Muskan competed in the 25m sport pistol and Anish in the 25m rapid fire.
- Anish has so far won 70 medals at the national and around 33 at the international level.



Jind Becomes Second Most Polluted City Among 13 Cities of the Country

Why In News?

According to a statement issued by the Central Pollution Control Board on October 30, 2023, Jind city of

Note:

Haryana is the second most polluted city in the country. The city's average AQI was recorded at 416.

Key Points:

- Six cities of Haryana were included in the 13 polluted cities of the country. The air quality index (AQI) in six districts of Haryana has crossed 300. An AQI above 300 means the city's air is in a very poor condition.

- At the same time, Hanumangarh in Rajasthan was the most polluted city in the country. The city's average AQI was recorded at 428.
- Among the 13 polluted cities in the country, six cities in Haryana are Jind (416), Jhajjar/Bahadurgarh (362), Kaithal (332), Bhiwani (330), Rohtak (314) and Karnal (303).



Note:

Key Points

Details

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Summary

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