



# STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

RAJASTHAN

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## Transgender Festival

### *Why In News?*

On November 30, 2022, Rajasthan Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Tikaram Jully inaugurated the state-level '**Transgender Festival**' at Pratap Auditorium in Alwar district of the state.

### *Key Points*

- Tikaram Jully said that the state government has constituted a transgender upliftment fund for the social security of the transgender community, in which a provision of Rs 10 crore is being made to provide a big relief to the transgender community.
- Rajasthan is probably the first State in the country to implement such a scheme.
- He informed that education, scholarship as well as self-employment scheme has been implemented for transgenders in the state. Apart from this, free medical facilities will be provided to transgenders, transgenders have been linked to Chiranjeevi scheme for gender change surgery and other medical facilities.
- The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment symbolically presented transgender IDs to 13 transgenders. Apart from this, transgenders from different places were welcomed by presenting them a memento of Saksham Alwar Campaign.
- He also announced to celebrate the next Transgender Festival in Kota on the demand of transgenders.

## Free Cochlear Implant in Chiranjeevi Scheme

### *Why In News?*

On November 30, 2022, Professor, Department of ENT, SMS Hospital, Jaipur, Rajasthan. Mohnish Grover said that under the '**Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana**' in the state, cochlear implants are now being made available completely free of cost in government hospitals.

### *Key Points*

- Prof. Dr. Mohnish Grover said that hearing and speech disabilities from birth is a serious problem, whose effect can last for life. Four out of every 1,000 children

born in India are born with such deformities. Cochlear implant technology has proved to be very effective in its treatment. Rajasthan in particular has emerged as the leading state in the country in providing treatment through this technology.

- He said that to perform a cochlear implant, it is necessary to have this cochlear nerve in the patient's brain. But in patients who do not have this nerve, the cochlear vein is developed and implanted through surgery, which the auditor calls brain stem. This is a state-of-the-art technology, which is currently used only in some private hospitals in Chennai and Delhi.
- Rajasthan is the first state in the country where this very expensive implant, which costs Rs 18 to 20 lakh, is being done free of cost in a government hospital.
- Rajasthan is the third state in the country after Andhra Pradesh and Kerala where cochlear implants are returning the hearing and speech ability of about 1,100 children up to five years of age.
- While in Andhra Pradesh and Kerala, this technology is available only in private hospitals, in Rajasthan it is available completely free of cost in government hospitals under the Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana.
- At present, free cochlear implant facility is available in government hospitals of five cities of the state. These include Jaipur, Ajmer, Bikaner, Udaipur and Jodhpur cities.
- So far 700 implants have been done in SMS Hospital, Jaipur, 95 in Jaipuria Hospital, 145 in Sardar Patel Medical College, Bikaner, 40 in RNT Medical College, Udaipur, 60 in SN Medical College, Jodhpur and 20 in JLN Medical College, Ajmer.
- Prof. Dr. Mohnish Grover said that the younger the age of the children for cochlear implants, the more benefits are available. According to the health policy, the age of nine months is approved for the implant, that is, only children older than at least nine months can be operated.
- Children below 4 years of age in Rajasthan can get free treatment. The operation of a cochlear implant is generally very expensive. Each operation costs at least eight to 10 lakhs.
- It is known that from April 1, 2022, cochlear implants have been included in the 'Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme'.

Note:



## 'Chief Minister's Small Commercial Vehicle Self-Employment Scheme'

### Why In News?

On December 1, 2022, Rajasthan Industries Minister Shakuntala Rawat launched the '**Chief Minister's Small Commercial Vehicle Self-Employment Scheme**' at the BIP Board Room at Udyog Bhawan .

### Key Points

- On this occasion, the Industries Minister said that this scheme has been launched on the ground to provide more and more self-employment opportunities for the youth. He informed that under the scheme, 3300 persons across the state will be given benefits on '**first come-first serve**' basis.
- Under the scheme, a maximum of 10 percent of the on-road price of the vehicle or 60 thousand (whichever is less) will be given from the state government and equivalent / more grant will be given by the concerned vehicle manufacturer on the purchase of small commercial vehicles up to Rs 15 lakh.
- The Industries Minister said that under the scheme, any Rajasthan resident between the age of **18 years to 45 years can apply through his SSO ID or through mlvsy.rajasthan.gov.in**.
- The submitted application will be sent to the concerned company after scrutiny by the District Industry and Commerce Center. The documents will be uploaded by the company and sent again to the district industry and commerce centers for testing. The grant will be sanctioned after testing there.
- He informed that three automobile companies - Tata Motors, Ashoka Leyland and Mahindra & Mahindra - have been made eligible for the scheme. This scheme will be applicable on 30 variants of Tata, 22 of Ashoka Leyland and 17 variants of Mahindra Rise.

## State's First Automatic Ropeway

### Why In News?

On December 2, 2022, Jaipur Collector Prakash Rajpurohit inspected the construction of the **state's first**

**automatic and Jaipur's largest passenger ropeway** to be built in the Hanuman Ji temple complex located in Jaipur city.

### Key Points

- Jaipur Collector Prakash Rajpurohit said that the name of this ropeway will be **Annapurna Mata Ropeway**, which will be the **fifth in the state and second** after Samod Hanumanji ropeway of Jaipur district.
- A 436-meter long ropeway is being built from Annapurna Mata Temple to Vaishno Mata Temple located on the hill of Hanuman Temple in Khole.
- An agreement has been signed between the firm and the Jaipur district administration for the construction of the ropeway, after which the firm will be issued a license under the Ropeway Act. The Collector has directed the manufacturer firm to construct the ropeway within two years.
- During the inspection, officials of the ropeway construction firm told Collector Prakash Rajpurohit that the height of the ropeway to be operated on the five towers would be 85 meters. The ropeway with 24 trolleys will have a capacity of 800 passengers per hour.
- The Collector said that the safety parameters of the ropeway will be regularly checked by the district administration during construction and even after the commencement of operation. In the construction of the ropeway, the heritage, craftsmanship and splendor of Jaipur will be seen.
- The collector said that the ropeway construction firm has been directed to provide free travel to children in the age group of 0 to 5 years and elderly people above 70 years of age as well as the disabled through the ropeway.
- The one-way journey of the ropeway will be completed in about 4.5 minutes, during which the trolley will be stopped twice in the middle of the journey to show passengers a panoramic view of Jaipur.

## Rajasthan IT Cricket League

### Why In News?

On December 3, 2022, the third edition of **Rajasthan IT Cricket League** was inaugurated at Bhavani Niketan Cricket Grounds by Ashish Gupta, Commissioner, Department of Information Technology and Communications, Rajasthan.

Note:

### Key Points

- The chief organizer of the cricket league, Ritesh Kumar Sharma said that this time **400 players, including 26 district** teams of officers and personnel posted in different districts of the department are participating in the league.
- It is noteworthy that the first edition of Rajasthan IT Cricket League was organized in 2019 and the second edition in 2021.

## Alwar District Collector got Best District Award

### Why In News?

On December 3, 2022, President Draupadi Murmu addressed a function organized at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi on the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities. **Jitendra Kumar Soni was awarded the Best District Award** for outstanding work for the empowerment of persons with disabilities for the year 2022.

### Key Points

- IAS officer and Alwar district collector, who is often known for his innovations in the Rajasthan cadre. **Jitendra Kumar Soni was given this award for the work done towards the empowerment of persons with disabilities** by connecting them with various public welfare schemes run by the state government for the welfare of the disabled people in the district and innovating for their welfare.
- It is worth mentioning that this award is given annually by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India to only one district of the country that has done the best work for the disabled.
- Before Dr. Jitendra Kumar Soni, in the year 2022, 6 more IAS officers of Rajasthan have also received awards at the national level. At present, there are about 248 IAS officers in the Rajasthan cadre, out of which about 10 officers have received awards from the President or the Prime Minister.
- IAS officer Gaurav Goel, who is currently posted as secretary of government in Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot's office (CMO), received the award from Prime

Minister Narendra Modi in 2016. This award was given in the name of '**Scroll of Honor**'. He was given this award for promoting cashless payments during demonetization.

- PK Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary of the Education Department, received the award in November-2022 from the World Book of Records for his success in enrolling about 90 percent of the children who had dropped out of government schools in Corona back to schools.
- Churu District Collector Siddharth Sihag has been given the '**National Excellence Award**' at the Prime Minister's level for making the Khelo India scheme a success in the district and for the stupendous performance of Churu district. This scheme is the flagship scheme of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Under this, work is being done to promote sports in the whole country.
- Sandeep Verma, Additional Chief Secretary in the Information and Technology Department, received the National Award in June-2022 from the Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management of the Central Government for making the public procurement process transparent in government departments.
- Rukmani Riar, currently the Collector of Hanumangarh district, was awarded the best work in e-governance by the Union Ministry of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievance Redressal in November 2022.
- Apart from these, the present collector of Karauli, Ankit Kumar Singh, has received the National Award twice this year. He has been given the National Award by the Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on behalf of the Ministry of Jal Shakti for water conservation in March-2022 and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for promoting small scale industries in the district in July-2022.

## State's First Collectorate to Implement e-Filing

### Why In News?

On December 3, 2022, Jaipur Collector Prakash Rajpurohit informed that the e-filing system has been implemented in the Jaipur Collectorate. Jaipur has become the first collectorate in Rajasthan to implement e-filing.

Note:



### Key Points

- Jaipur Collector Prakash Rajpurohit has implemented the e-filing system at the Jaipur Collectorate as part of an innovation. The e-filing system has been introduced from the installation branch and general branch of the Collectorate. Soon the e-filing system will be implemented in the entire collectorate.
- Additional District Collector (First) Dinesh Kumar Sharma said that the e-filing system will prove to be a milestone in making Jaipur district collectorate paperless. This decision will not only save paper but will also make it possible to monitor files online.
- Till now, the administrative work in the District Collectorate was being done through paper files, which not only consumed a large amount of paper, but also made it difficult to ensure safe maintenance of these files and files. Now all the government work will be done through the e-filing system with the government software prepared by the Information and Technology Department of the Government of Rajasthan.
- Under this, the correspondence will be in online format instead of physical. The file will be prepared on Raj-Kaj software only and will be forwarded to the concerned officer online. Officers will be able to login with their SSO ID and make office comments on the file or can approve the file through digital sign. Along with this, orders can also be issued online.
- With the implementation of the e-filing system, the entire process from office comments to correspondence approvals in the Jaipur Collectorate will be paper-equipped and online monitoring of files can be ensured.
- Due to no physical movement of files, paper, time and man-labour will be saved, as well as the concept of work from home and work anywhere, any time will also be possible. There will be simplicity and transparency in government work, as well as the operation and maintenance of files will be easier than before. e-filing system has also been implemented in the district offices of Information Technology and Communications Department.

## Rajasthan Rural Tourism Scheme

### Why In News?

On December 5, 2022, the 'Rajasthan Rural Tourism Scheme' announced by the state government to promote

tourism in rural areas has been implemented. Through the scheme, tourism units showcasing the life, art culture and heritage of villages will be promoted by the state government.

### Key Points

- It is known that Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot had announced 'Rajasthan Rural Tourism Scheme' in the state budget to promote tourism in rural areas.
- Through the scheme, tourism units will be established in rural areas to promote local folk art and preserve handicrafts. This will also provide employment opportunities for local people in rural areas.
- Benefits payable to rural tourism units under 'Rajasthan Rural Tourism Scheme'
  - Stamp duty will be exempted by 100 percent. Initially, 25 percent stamp duty will be payable, reimbursement will be done on submission of certificate of commencement of tourism unit.
  - 100 percent reimbursement of SGST payable and deposited will be done for 10 years.
  - Under the 'Chief Minister Small Industries Promotion Scheme', 9 percent interest subsidy will be given instead of 8 percent on loans up to Rs 25 lakh.
  - Rural tourism units will not require land conversion and building plan approval.
  - Promotion of rural tourism in the area under the Forest Department will be done as per the provisions of the State Eco Tourism Policy, 2021 .
  - Local folk artists and handicraftsmen and rural startups will be given priority in approval and benefits payable.
- **Features of 'Rajasthan Rural Tourism Scheme'**
  - **Rural Guest Houses:** Guest houses will be registered in rural areas, which will have 6-10 rooms. These rooms will be available on rent for tourists to stay. There will also be arrangements for food for tourists in the guest house.
  - **Agriculture Tourism Unit:** The approved tourism unit on agricultural land will be set up on a minimum of 2,000 square meters and a maximum of 2 hectares. In 90 percent of this, rural environment will be provided to tourists through activities like agriculture and horticulture work, camel farm, horse farm, bird and livestock, crop sowing, handicrafts, gardens etc.

Note:

- **Camping site:** Camping sites can be set up on a minimum of 1,000 square meters and a maximum of one hectare on agricultural land. Temporary accommodation will be arranged in tents on 10 percent of this. The remaining part will have activities like camel farm, horse farm, livestock, garden etc.
- **Caravan Park:** A caravan park can be set up on a minimum of 1,000 square meters and a maximum of 1 hectare on agricultural land. On this, basic facilities for parking of guests' vehicles will be developed.
- **Home Stay (Paying Guest House):** The home stay (Paying Guest House) scheme issued earlier by the Tourism Department is also applicable in rural areas. Under this, accommodation facility will be provided to tourists up to 5 rooms in their own accommodation by the housing owner.
- It is noteworthy that under this scheme, the project approval and registration of rural guest house, Agri-tourism unit, camping site, caravan park will be done by the concerned tourist reception center of the tourism department. Along with this, it will be necessary for rural tourism units to have 15 feet wide road.

## **Rajivika's MoU with India Post Payment Bank and Fino Payment Bank**

### **Why In News?**

On December 5, 2022, under the mission 'One GP-One BC' project by the Rajasthan Rural Livelihood Development Council (Rajivika), India Post Payment to engage trained and IIBF certified women of self-help groups as BC Sakhi in 17 districts of the state. MoU was signed with Bank and Fino Payment Bank.

### **Key Points**

- Apart from this, on November 25, 2022, an MoU was signed with 'Pay-Near Buy' fintech agency to install BC Sakhi in 8 districts. Thus far, MoU has been signed for setting up BC Sakhi in 25 districts and MoU will be signed with Airtel Payment Bank for the remaining 8 districts very soon.

- Along with this, 4825 BC Sakhi will be installed along with Bank of Baroda, Rajasthan Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Rajasthan Marudhara Gramin Bank, ICICI Bank and IDFC Banks to install 4825 BC Sakhi on State Level Women's Equality Day event on August 25, 2022. MoU has been done for this.
- It is notable that the BC Sakhi set up through various banks are providing free banking services to the residents of rural areas and families of self-help groups in the concerned Gram Panchayat. Due to this they are getting the benefit of doorstep banking facilities. Also, by becoming a good source of income for these BC friends, their empowerment, self-reliance and banking skills are increasing.
- Doorstep banking services mainly include opening of savings account, withdrawal of money, deposit of money as well as other products of banking services like enrolment in insurance and pension schemes along with pension disbursement, DBT money withdrawal facility. Huh.

## **Pali Tehsil Declared Severe Drought**

### **Why In News?**

On December 6, 2022, P.C. Kishan, Government Secretary, Department of Disaster Management, Relief and Civil Defence, Rajasthan, said that the state is facing problems related to lack of surface water and ground water availability, lack of rainfall, poor condition of crops and remote areas in Pali district. Keeping in view the information received from sensing, Pali tehsil has been declared as severe drought.

### **Key Points**

- P. C. Kishan said that the **Pali tehsil of Pali district has been declared as severe drought-hit under the Rajasthan Affected Areas (Suspension of Proceedings) Act 1952** by assessing the affected areas on the basis of drought management code 2016.
- It has been directed by the State Government that the provisions of Sections 5 to 10 of the Act shall remain in force in drought-hit villages of Pali Tehsil of Pali district for 6 months from the date of publication of the notification.

Note:



## **SBI Created QR Code for Governor's Relief Fund**

### **Why In News?**

On December 6, 2022, Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra launched a QR code created for the Governor's Relief Fund in the state. This QR code has been produced by the State Bank of India.

### **Key Points**

- The Governor said that this is an important initiative under '**Digital India**' and with the launch of this QR code, the **QR code for the Governor's Relief Fund will now be scanned** and the contribution amount can be deposited directly in the bank account.
- He said that it has been started to expand the scope of the **Governor's Relief Fund** and to provide all possible effective support to the needy.
- State Bank of India Chief Manager Dharendra Kumar Das said that with the creation of the QR code of the Governor's Relief Fund, people will now be able to donate their money to it in a completely safe form to help the needy. This amount will be transferred directly to the bank of the Governor's Relief Fund.

## **56 Bhog Utsav- 2022**

### **Why In News?**

On December 7, 2022, Rajasthan Industries Commissioner Mahendra Parakh released the poster of '56 Bhog Utsav-2022' to be organized under Rajasthan Haat in front of Jal Mahal located in Jaipur from December 9 to 12.

### **Key Points**

- Dr. Mahendra Parakh said that in the '56 Bhog Utsav-2022', delicious dishes of Rajasthan, famous spices, sweets, salty, special foods and traditional, natural and modern equipment related to the kitchen will be available at one place.
- He said that attractive dishes such as Gajak of Dholpur, Bharatpur and Sikar, Gulab Halwa of Pali, Kheer Mohan of Gangapur, Dovtha of Dausa, Mawa of Alwar, Tilpatti of Beawar, Namkeen of Bikaner, Kachori of Kota, Ghevar of Jaipur, Kulfi, Tandoori Tea and Paan etc. will be available in the festival.

- The Industries Commissioner said that the people of Jaipur will get a golden opportunity to buy special vegetables of the state like Bikaner's - Kair, Sangri, Kachari, other dry traditional Vegetables, Nagauri Methi, Kota's Mushroom products and edible oil in this Haat.
- The Industries Commissioner said that in this Haat, the people of Jaipur will get a golden opportunity to buy state-specific vegetables such as Kair-Sangri of Bikaner, Kachari, other dry traditional Vegetables, Nagauri Methi, Mushroom products of Kota and edible oil.
- Kabira Brand Edible Oil, Shyam Kitchen Spices and Rajasthan Food Trade Association have participated in the fair. During the event, food competition, painting competition, talk show, quiz competition and various cultural programs will also be organized.

## **'Revenue Decision Special Issue'**

### **Why In News?**

On December 8, 2022, Rajasthan Revenue Board Chairman Rajeshwar Singh released the '**Revenue Decision Special Issue**' of Ravira Patrika.

### **Key Points**

- In the 'Revenue Decision Special Issue' published by the Revenue Board, an important article on **passing lawful, quality and error-free decisions in the Revenue Courts, the best decisions passed at the level of State Revenue Board and Subordinate Courts** and the functioning of the Revenue Courts organized at the state level. The best entries selected under the five-class essay writing competition on the subject of suggestions for improvement have been included.
- Apart from this, articles written on important topics through subject experts related to revenue administration, important circulars issued by the government, notifications have also been published prominently.

## **Signs of Potash Deposits in Satipura and Lakhasar**

### **Why In News?**

On December 8, 2022, Additional Chief Secretary of Rajasthan Mines Department Dr. Subodh Agarwal said

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that there are **signs of abundant storage of potash at a depth of only 500 to 700 meters in Lakhasar of Bikaner district and Satipura of Hanumangarh district** of the state.

### Key Points

- It is noteworthy that in countries with potash reserves of the world, potash availability is seen at a depth of one thousand meters or more.
- Dr. Subodh Agarwal said that due to the **signs of Sylvite and Polyhalite potash in Bikaner and Hanumangarh of the state**, potash can be mined with conventional mining and solution mining techniques.
- He said that 26 borewells have been made in the 99.99 square meter area of Lakhasar in Bikaner, out of which 22 bore have been done by MECL and 4 bore by Geological Survey of India. There are signs of both types of Sylvite and Polyhalite potash.
- Apart from this, indications of potash have also been found in the exploration done by GSI in an area of 300 square meters in Satipura of Hanumangarh.
- It is known that at present the country is dependent on imports from abroad for potash fertilizer, while the process of potash mining in the state will reduce the dependence of imports from abroad and save foreign exchange.
- MECL CMD Ghanshyam Sharma said that Sylvite potash requires solution mining, whereas Polyhalite potash can be traditionally mined and both types of mining possibilities have emerged in the state.
- He said that the indication of potash exploration in the state is a growing step towards self-reliant India. Potash mining in Rajasthan will now meet the requirement of potash fertilizer for cultivation in the country to a great extent.

## '56 Bhog Utsav- 2022'

### Why In News?

On December 9, 2022, Rajasthan Industries Minister Shakuntala Rawat inaugurated the four-day food festival '**56 Bhog Utsav- 2022**' at Rajasthan Haat (Jal Mahal).

### Key Points

- The Industries Minister said that this event organized by the **Industries Department and The Institute of Promotion of Enterprises** will do an important job of improving the image of the products of the state.

- In the festival, **delicious dishes of Rajasthan, famous spices, sweets, snacks, special foods and traditional, natural and modern appliances related to the kitchen** will be available at one place.
- The Industries Minister said that this special event is being organized to introduce the local people and tourists to the cuisine, excellence of spices and regional diversity from all over the state. He said that the objective of the department is to provide a better platform to the cuisine running in the districts and to bring their fame to the national and international level.
- Rajasthan Industries Commissioner Mahendra Parakh said that the best dishes from almost all the districts of the state are being selected and displayed for the visitors. The department plans to organize such food festivals every year, so that the producers can get better customers with quality flavors to the people.
- He said that during the **event, food competition, painting competition, talk show, quiz competition and various cultural programs** will also be organized.
- It is noteworthy that in the year 2019, the '**Rasoi-2019**' food festival was started by the Industries Department under the leadership of IAS K.K Pathak, which was also very successful and popular.

## Separate Agriculture Budget will be Presented Every Year

### Why In News?

On December 9, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot while addressing a pre-budget interaction with farmers, cattle rearers, office bearers of dairy associations and representatives of tribal sector at the Chief Minister's Office said that a separate budget will be presented for agriculture every year so that maximum benefits can be given to the farmers.

### Key Points

- The Chief Minister said that agriculture, animal husbandry and allied sectors are the backbone of the state's GDP and economy. The state government is making all efforts to make necessary provisions for the prosperity and prosperity of the farmers and cattle rearers of the state through this year's budget.
- The state government has taken a **historic decision to bring a separate agriculture budget for the first time**.

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- The state government will make every effort to include all the useful suggestions in the agriculture budget.
- He said that despite the adverse geographical conditions and lack of water, about two-thirds of the population of the state always makes meaningful efforts to keep the state at the forefront in the field of agriculture with their hard work. The state government is trying its best to make such provisions in the budget, so that the income of farmers and cattle rearers of the state increases and they become prosperous.
  - The Chief Minister said that for the welfare of farmers, in the past years, the state government has taken many important decisions like **Mukhyamantri Kisan Mitra Urja Yojana, formation of Farmers Welfare Fund, Mukhyamantri Milk Producer Sambal Yojana, Loan Waiver, Cooperative Crop Loan Online Registration and Distribution Scheme, Rajasthan Agricultural Processing, Agri-Business and Agricultural Export Promotion Policy.** Which are bringing positive changes in the agriculture sector. Agriculture and dairy sectors can be developed rapidly through technology and innovations in Rajasthan.
  - The Chief Minister said that today the farmers of the state are moving towards advanced agriculture by adopting new techniques and innovations. In view of the scarcity of water in the state and the falling ground water level, the drip and fountain irrigation system brought by the state government is getting a boost. The government has implemented a scheme to meet the energy needs of farmers by installing solar panels in the fields.

## **Rs 120.80 Crore Approved for Works Related to Construction of New Green Field Airport in Kota district**

### **Why In News?**

On December 11, 2022 Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a proposal of Rs 120.80 crore for works related to the **construction of the proposed new green field airport in Kota district of the state.**

### **Key Points**

- The Chief Minister has also approved a financial provision of about Rs 40 crore for shifting the EHV power lines in the new Green Field Airport area.

- According to the proposal, Rs 120.80 crore has been sanctioned for the works related to the construction of new green field airport in Kota, out of which Rs 45 crore will be borne by the Kota Urban Development Trust and the remaining Rs 75.80 crore by the state government.
- In addition, the work of shifting of EHV power lines coming in the airport area will be done by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited. About Rs 40 crore will be spent for this work from the ROE of Rajasthan State Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited.
- With this decision of the Chief Minister, Kota, as an educational and industrial city, will be connected by interstate air route.

## **Inauguration of Yogsadhana Bhavan and Foundation Stone of Constitution Park and Navagraha-Nakshatra Vatika in Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Rajasthan Sanskrit University**

### **Why In News?**

On December 10, 2022 Rajasthan Governor and Chancellor Kalraj Mishra inaugurated the **Yogsadhana Bhavan and laid the foundation stone of Navagraha-Nakshatra Vatika** being prepared on the basis of Constitution Park and scientific basis by unveiling the plaques at Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Rajasthan Sanskrit University in Jaipur.

### **Key Points**

- Bhopal: Governor Kalraj Mishra has called for connecting the new generation with yogic routine to avoid the ill effects of modern lifestyle and said that yoga is the biggest medium of self-development, yoga is most useful for mental peace and contentment in the era of materiality .
- He said that after coming to Rajasthan, it has been his priority to set up Constitution Parks in all the funded universities of the state, so that future citizens are connected to the life values given by the Constitution and they are aware of the fundamental duties along with the rights.

Note:



- He informed that the newly constructed Yogsadhana Bhavan in the university will be developed as a center for classical study of yoga, where modern knowledge related to the scriptures related to yoga and the great heritage of yoga Hindi can be translated from Sanskrit and made available in other languages.
- Navagraha-Nakshatra Vatika being built in the university will easily explain mythological research and findings related to astrology and will also connect students with the culture of environmental protection.
- On this occasion, the Governor also released the book of Navagraha-Nakshatra Vatika.
- Sanskrit Education Minister Dr. B.D. Kalla said that India's prestige in the world is due to Sanskrit language and our culture and the state government is making extensive efforts to upgrade Sanskrit language in Rajasthan.

## Rajasthan IT Cricket Tournament-2022

### *Why In News?*

On December 11, 2022 the final match of the third edition of the Rajasthan IT Cricket Tournament was held at the Bhawani Niketan ground in Jaipur, in which **IT Devils (Yashpal Lions) won by performing well against Jodhpur Royals.**

### *Key Points*

- The winning team was awarded the IT Cup by Sunil Chhabra, Joint Secretary and Technical Director, Department of Information Technology and Communication.
- Ritesh Kumar Sharma, the main organizer of the cricket league, said that the league was inaugurated on December 3 by Ashish Gupta, Commissioner, Department of Information Technology and Communication. As many as **26 teams** from different districts participated in the competition, under which **400 players** showcased their talents.
- In the final match, IT Devils captain **Devarshi Sharma** was awarded the Man of the Match award for his brilliant performance.

## 'Integrated Software Solution with e-Prison' Program

### *Why In News?*

On December 13, 2022, Chief Justice of Rajasthan Pankaj Mittal e-launched the '**Integrated Software Solution with e-Prison**' program in the auditorium of Jaipur bench of Rajasthan High Court.

### *Key Points*

- Chief Justice Pankaj Mittal said that '**Integrated Software Solution with e-Prison**' will enable all information of undertrial prisoners related to court cases to be obtained from the e-prison software of the jail administration.
- Under the guidance of Steering Committee Chairman Justice Arun Bhansali, the technical team of the Rajasthan High Court has designed this program for all the courts of the High Court and district judiciary in a short span of time.
  - This program has been created by integrating the e-prison software program created for the detainees in various jails of the state with the case information system software running in the court.
  - In the program, the judge has also appealed to all the judicial officers of the state to ensure maximum attendance of undertrial prisoners in the remand and trial through video conferencing and speedy disposal of such cases.
- Speaking at the e-launch event, the Chief Justice said that the Rajasthan High Court has become the first High Court in the entire country to do so. Since the covid-19 pandemic, there has been a technological revolution in the functioning of the judiciary through computerization, digitization, e-filing, paperless courts and virtual hearings.
- Administrative Judge of Rajasthan High Court Sandeep Mehta said that through this program, if any accused is facing judicial custody in jail in any case, then all his information will be available to the court immediately. This information will prove to be very useful for the just and speedy decision of that case.
- Apart from this, the accused in jail will also get full information about the progress of his case, which is also his constitutional right.

Note:



## The Chief Minister approved the Construction of Stadiums in Rajgarh, Ladnun, Peepalda, Sultanpur & Chauth's Barwada.

### Why In News?

On December 13, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved the grant of Rs 1.85 crore as state share for the construction of stadiums in **Rajgarh, Ladnun, Peepalda, Sultanpur and Chauth's Barwada** under the **Major Dhyan Chand Stadium Scheme**.

### Key Points

- According to the proposal, Rs. 1 crore for construction of stadium in Rajgarh (Churu), Rs. 25 lakh each for construction of stadium in Ladnun (Nagaur), Peepalda and Sultanpur (Kota) and Rs. 25 lakh for construction of stadium in Chauth's Barwada (Sawai Madhopur). 10 lakh has been sanctioned for this.
- With the construction of the stadium, better sports facilities will be available to the players of the state at the local level for regular practice.
- It is noteworthy that in the budget for the year 2021-22, the chief minister had announced the construction of the stadium at the block level under the '**Major Dhyan Chand Scheme**'.
- Under this scheme, a provision was made to give a contribution equal to the amount received from MP or MLA fund, public representatives, public cooperation, local body or CSR fund for the construction of stadiums at various places.

## 'National Energy Conservation Award (NECA) 2022'

### Why In News?

- On December 14, 2022 Rajasthan was awarded a '**Certificate of Merit**' by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Ministry of Power) under the '**National Energy Conservation Award 2022**' for efficient use of available resources for energy conservation and energy saving.

### Key Points

- Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy R.K. Singh presented the award to Anil Dhaka, Managing Director, Rajasthan Akshay Urja Nigam at a national level function at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.
- On this occasion, Ashutosh A.T. Pednekar, Chairman, Rajasthan Akshay Urja Nigam, said that this award has been given by the Ministry of Power, Government of India every year for excellence in energy conservation in **industry, building, municipal, traffic, agriculture, power transmission and cross-sector sectors**. The work is provided to the State Designated Agency/Agencies of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency.
- Anil Dhaka, Managing Director of Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation, said that due to the efficient leadership of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and the special compassion of **Minister of State for Energy Bhanwar Singh Bhati towards energy conservation**, the state has been awarded the '**National Energy Conservation Award (NECA) 2022**' this year as well as last year.

## Industries Minister Inaugurated the Handloom Exhibition

### Why in discussion

On December 14, 2022 Rajasthan Industries and Commerce Minister Shakuntala Rawat inaugurated a **five-day handloom exhibition** at the premises of Rajasthan State Handloom Development Corporation Limited at Handloom Bhawan, Chomu House, C-Scheme.

### Key Points

- CMD of Rajasthan State Handloom Development Corporation Manisha Arora said that this five-day handloom exhibition--sale is being organized from December 14 to 18 to give proper marketing incentives to the handicrafts and handicraft textile industry of the state.
- In the exhibition, various types of garments prepared by state's national awardees and excellent weavers and artisans such as designer **Kota Doria, Zari, hand block printed and silk sarees, dress material, Sanganeri, Bagru printed bedsheets, Barmeri Ajrak bedsheets, artistic Dohar, Jaipuri Products like quilts,**

Note:

rugs, fashionable kurtas, palazzo, shirts etc. will be kept for sale and display.

- Along with this, attractive handicraft products of Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (Rajsthali) are also being kept for display and sale. Live demonstration of Doria saree weaving on manual loom by Weavers Service Center.
- Speaking on the occasion, Rajasthan Industries and Commerce Minister Shakuntala Rawat called upon the common people to adopt handloom products and garments. He said that the use of products made by their own (local artisans) for their loved ones (people of the state) will save traditional handicrafts.
- He said that the handicraft policy has been implemented recently by the state government for the upliftment of handicrafts, which will benefit the artisans. Textiles are being made by artisans using pure natural colors and threads, which are also beneficial from the point of view of health.
- RAJSICO President Rajiv Arora said that Rajasthani costumes are the identity of the people of the state. A pavilion of handloom and textile products will be built in the International Expo to be held in Jodhpur.
- He said that GI tagging of more and more products of handloom is also being done, so that art can be promoted and preserved. He said that the **One District-One Product** Mission will give special boost to exports in the coming days.
- Additional Chief Secretary Veenu Gupta said that the state government has always strived for the upliftment of traditional arts. In view of this, handicraft policy has been brought by the government. Under this, directorates of handicrafts and handlooms are being set up. Its purpose is to encourage artisans associated with the arts and preserve art.

## Cooperative Minister Inaugurated Rajsahakar Website

### Why In News?

On December 14, 2022 Rajasthan Cooperation Minister Udailal Anjana launched the website of the Cooperation Department <https://rajsahakar.rajasthan.gov.in> at Sahakar Bhawan. Information related to cooperatives has been broadened by creating the Raj

Sahakar website in a new way for the convenience of the general public.

### Key Points

- Departmental information can be obtained in a simple way through the new website of the cooperative. Registration of complaints related to various societies/ institution registration, credit societies can also be done in an easy manner.
- Principal Secretary, Cooperation, Shreya Guha said that common citizens will be able to get information about the schemes in a simple way. He said that schemes of top institutions, database of departmental officers, information of public information officers, rules, acts and circulars issued from time to time have also been made available on the website.
- Registrar, Cooperatives Meghraj Singh Ratan said that the achievements and information of the department will also be easily available on this website and any citizen will be able to get information by sending his questions related to cooperatives through e-mail.

## 'The Indian Responsible Tourism State Awards 2022- Rajasthan'

### Why In News?

On December 14, 2022 'The Indian Responsible Tourism State Awards 2022-Rajasthan' was organized by the Tourism Department at Clarks Amer Hotel to reward the entrepreneurs who promote responsible tourism in the state.

### Key Points

- In this programme, prizes were given in various categories to the participants who promoted responsible tourism in the state's tourism sector. Gayatri Rathore, Principal Secretary, Tourism, Dr Rashmi Sharma, Director, Tourism, Anil Orwa, Regional Director, Northern Region, Ministry of Tourism, Apoorva Kumar, Managing Director, Hotel Clarke Amer and K Indranil Rai, CEO, Outlook presented the awards.
- Speaking on the occasion, Principal Secretary, Tourism Department, Gayatri Rathore said that this award ceremony is an important step taken in the direction of becoming extraordinary from ordinary.

Note:

- The Principal Secretary said that 'The Indian Tourism State Award 2022' has been given to those who are connected to the ground in the tourism sector. He said that this award ceremony will become a role model for the people associated with the tourism sector in the coming time.
- He said that the Tourism Department is trying to increase the movement of tourists in tribal and tribal areas like Dungarpur and Banswara through the tourism policy of the state government and local products there should be recognized at the national and international level.
- The Principal Secretary informed that the Rajasthan Tourism Department contributes 13% to the state's economy and efforts are being made to increase it further through the new tourism policy.
- Indranil Roy of Outlook said that this award is being given by his organization for the last 8 years. The first such event was organized in Rajasthan.
- Awards were given in the categories of Sustainable Leadership - Hotels, Sustainable Leadership - Homestay, Sustainable Enterprises in Eco Fragile Landscape, Sustainability Champion in Pathfinder & Grassroots Heroes, Heritage Conservation and Wildlife Conservation.
- **Winners of different categories are-**
  - Sustainable Leadership - Homestay
    1. Gold : Raptor Inn
    2. Silver : Rawla Bisalpur
    3. Special Mention : Country Retreat
  - Sustainable Leadership: Hotels
    1. Gold : Taj Aravali
    2. Special Mention: Aman-e-Khas
  - Sustainable Enterprises in Eco-French Landscapes
    1. Gold : Vedic Walk
    2. Silver : Heritage Experience
  - Heritage Conservation
    1. Overall + Gold Winner : Kankarwa Haveli, Udaipur
    2. Silver Award : Indra Vilas, Alsisar
    3. Special Mention : Ram Krishna Mission, Khetri
  - Wildlife Conservation
    1. Silver: Jagnath Wildlife Safari, Jalore- Ravindra Singh - Asiatic Wild Cat

- Sustainability Champions in Grassroots Heroes
  1. Silver : Aniruddha Shukla - Vedic Speech
  2. Silver: Dr. Rao Ajit Singh
  3. Special Mention : Brigadier Nandlal Verma
- Sustainability Champion in Pathfinder
  1. Gold : Manvendra Singh Shekhawat
  2. Silver : Sanjay Kaushik
  3. Special Mention: Daulat Singh Shaktawat

## License Issued for Construction of State's First Automatic 'Rope-Way'

### Why In News?

On December 14, 2022, the Jaipur district administration issued a license under the Ropeway Act to the firm for the construction of the state's **first automatic 'ropeway'** in the Hanuman Ji temple complex.

### Key Points

- With the issuance of the license, the construction work of the **state's first automatic ropeway with a height of 85 meters** will be expedited and soon passengers will be able to get the gift of passenger ropeway from Annapurna Mata Temple to Vaishno Mata Temple located on the hill of Hanuman Temple.
- It is noteworthy that on the initiative of Jaipur Collector, the construction work of the **state's first automatic and Jaipur's largest passenger ropeway** has started in the Hanuman Ji Temple complex of Khole in the city.
- The name of the ropeway will be Annapurna Mata Ropeway, which will be the **fifth in the state and second after Samod's Hanumanji ropeway** of Jaipur district.
- A 436-meter-long ropeway is being built from Annapurna Mata Temple to Vaishno Mata Temple located on the hill of Hanuman Temple in Khole, which will be the largest ropeway in Jaipur.
- An agreement has been signed between the firm and the Jaipur district administration for the construction of the ropeway, after which the firm will be issued a license under the Ropeway Act.
- The height of the ropeway to be operated on the five towers will be 85 meters. The 24-trolley ropeway will have a capacity of 800 passengers per hour. The Collector has directed the manufacturer firm to construct the ropeway within two years.

Note:

- The collector said that the safety parameters of the ropeway will be regularly checked by the district administration during construction and even after the commencement of operation. In the construction of the ropeway, the heritage, craftsmanship and splendor of Jaipur will be seen.
- The collector said that the ropeway construction firm has been directed to provide free travel through ropeways to children in the age group of 0 to 5 years and elderly people above 70 years of age as well as the disabled. The one-way journey of the ropeway will be completed in about 4.5 minutes, during which the trolley will be stopped twice in the middle of the journey to show passengers a panoramic view of Jaipur.

## 1187 CNG Stations will be Established for CNG Gas Distribution

### Why In News?

- On December 15, 2022, Rajasthan's Additional Chief Secretary, Mines and Petroleum, Dr. Subodh Agarwal told in a review meeting of the representatives of all the 14 institutions working in the state that 1187 stations will be set up for CNG gas distribution, while 37824 inch km. Pipeline will be laid.

### Key Points

- ACS Dr. Subodh Aggarwal told in the meeting that under the City Gas Distribution System, 96 lakh domestic gas connections will be made available through pipelines in 8 years.
- He instructed 14 gas companies working in 33 districts of the state to make gas distribution system through pipeline and CNG distribution system effective within the stipulated time.
- He informed that 10,000 connections will be issued by March 2023 in Kalwar Road, Jhotwara, Vidyadhar Nagar and Mahendra SEZ of Jaipur.
- ACS Dr. Subodh Aggarwal said that at present one lakh 877 domestic gas connections have been issued through pipeline in the state. At the same time, with the establishment of 221 CNG stations, 7767 inch km. The work of laying the pipeline has been completed.
- Dr. Subodh Aggarwal told that work has started in Jodhpur, Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bharatpur, Sirohi, Jalore,

Banswara, Dungarpur, Alwar, Jaipur, Dhaulpur, Kota, Rawatbhata, Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Pratapgarh, Bhilwara, Bundi, Ajmer, Pali, Jaisamand are done.

- MD RSGL Ranveer Singh informed that AZAP in Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur, Alwar (except Bhiwadi), Jaipur (except Kota city) Baran and Chittorgarh (only Rawatbhata) torrent, Bhilwara, Bundi, Chittorgarh except Rawatbhata, Adani Gas in Udaipur and Pratapgarh, Essel in Dhaulpur, Ajmer, Pali, Indraprastha Gas in Rajsamand, Gujarat Gas in Jalore, Sirohi, Banswara, Dungarpur, Rajasthan Gas in Kota, Gail Gas in Bharatpur, Haryana Gas in Bhiwadi, Bikaner, Churu, Dinesh Engineering in Jhunjhunu, Sikar, Indian Oil in Nagaur, Hindustan Petroleum in Dausa, Karauli, Sawai Madhopur and Tonk, Bharat Petroleum in Ganganagar and Hanumangarh, infrastructure by Megha Engineering in Jhalawar, and gas distribution through pipeline and CNG. Work is being done.

## Inauguration of State Level Development Exhibition

### Why In News?

On December 17, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the **state-level development exhibition organized at Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur** on the completion of four years of the state government.

### Key Points

- On this occasion, the Chief Minister visited all the stalls of 25 departments and inspected the development work, achievements and innovations done by the departments and instructed all the departmental officers to spread maximum awareness about the schemes and extend the benefits to the last person.
- In the development exhibition giving the message of '**Seva Hi Karma, Seva Hi Dharma**', he told about the development works and schemes carried out in various areas during the tenure of the present government, including photos, sketches, models and publications.
- In this development exhibition, he also launched the Sujas App, Sujas Bulletin, **Sujas e-Bulletin and Sujas Podcast 'Awaaz'** of the Information and Public Relations Department.
- He said that about one crore people are being given pension for social security in the state. The work of establishing an accountable and transparent good governance in the state using IT has also been done.

Note:



Under the '**Indira Raso Yojana**', nutritious food is being served to the general public with respect for Rs 8.

- Free sanitary napkins are being distributed through the Rs 800 crore '**UDAN scheme**' for menstrual health management of women and girls in the state.
- At present, the electricity bill of 46 lakh domestic consumers and farmers in the state is coming down to zero due to government schemes. Relief is being given to the unemployed in urban areas through the '**Indira Gandhi Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme**'.
- He said that '**Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana**' has been implemented to free the common man from expensive treatment. It offers free treatment up to Rs 10 lakh. The state government is bearing all the expenses by removing the limit of Rs 10 lakh in expensive treatments like kidney, heart, liver transplant. Apart from this, accident insurance up to Rs 5 lakh is also being provided.
- All types of treatment have been made free of cost in IPD, OPD by the state government. CT Scan of the common man in the state. R. Mother. Expensive tests like scans are being done free of cost. With these historic decisions, Rajasthan has emerged as a model state in the field of health.
- He said that the state government has implemented the old pension scheme (OPS) from the humanitarian point of view in the state, in which the financial management has been excellent, due to which all the schemes are being successfully implemented in the state.
- The '**East Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP)**' is very important for the common man and farmers in 13 districts of the state. This scheme will ensure the supply of drinking water and irrigation water to a large area of Rajasthan.
- The Chief Minister said that in the last budget, a provision of Rs 9600 crore has been made by the state government for ERCP. The state government will take it forward with its limited resources until ERCP gets the status of a national project.

## **Rajasthan Wins National Award for Digital Innovations**

### **Why in discussion?**

On December 19, 2022, digital innovations and public welfare schemes led by Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot received the **SKOCH Award** at the National Level.

### **Key Points**

- The State Government's Public Welfare Portal and e-Mitra have been given the SKOCH Gold Award for the year 2022 in the **e-governance category**. Through the Public Welfare Portal, the websites of all departments and districts are created by the state government, so that all the information related to the state government can be available to the common people on a single platform.
- Apart from this, more than 600 services of the state government are being made available online to the general public through e-Mitra.
- In the e-governance category, RajKaj, a digital platform created for state government employees, has been given the SKOCH Silver Award.
- The SKOCH Gold Award has been given to The Rajasthan Housing Board for outstanding work in the housing category. At the same time, Indira Gandhi Matritva Poshan Yojana has been given the SKOCH Silver Award in the Women and Child Development category.
- It is noteworthy that Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot is constantly working towards giving a transparent and accountable good governance to the state through IT.
- On behalf of the state government, IT Commissioner Ashish Gupta, Officer in charge of the Chief Minister's Office (IT) Rajesh Kumar Saini and Project Officer Neha Chaudhary received the award.

## **National-Level 'SKOCH Award' to Indira Gandhi Matritva Poshan Yojana**

### **Why in discussion?**

On December 19, 2022, 'Indira Gandhi Matritva Poshan Yojana', aimed at meeting the nutritional needs of pregnant women in Rajasthan, was awarded the SKOCH Award at the National Level at a function held at The India Habitat Centre in New Delhi.

### **Key Points**

- The second prize (silver medal) was given to this scheme at the prize distribution ceremony. Director of Integrated Child Development Services Ramavtar Meena and Divya Santhanam, representative of IPE Global, which is providing technical support to the scheme, received the award.

Note:





- It is noteworthy that in 2020-21, this scheme was started by the state government in 5 tribal districts baran, Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh and Udaipur, which has been implemented in all 33 districts of the state in the year 2022-23.
- Under this scheme, an amount of six thousand rupees is provided to the pregnant woman on the birth of the second child.
- Indira Gandhi Matritva Poshan Yojana is a completely paperless scheme in which the beneficiary does not have to apply in any way, he is paid online on the basis of data recorded in the Health Department. The scheme aims to benefit about 3.30 lakh women.

## Additional Budget for Nirbhaya Fund

### *Why in discussion?*

On December 19, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a provision for additional budget of Rs 60 crore in the Nirbhaya Fund for 45 POCSO courts running in the state for the safety of women.

### *Key Points*

- The state government is very sensitive about the safety of women in the state and necessary steps are being taken continuously in the state regarding women's safety. In this sequence, additional budget provision has been approved in the Nirbhaya Fund.
- It is noteworthy that under the National Mission (Fast Track Special Courts) Nirbhaya Fund, there are 45 POCSO courts operating in the state, out of which 40 percent is funded by the state government.
- For this fund, the Gehlot government has approved an additional budget provision of Rs 40.27 crore in state fund and Rs 19.73 crore in central share, so that the employees/officers posted in these POCSO courts will get uninterrupted withdrawal of the next month's salary.

## 'Shilpgram Utsav', A Unique Festival of Folk Culture

### *Why In News?*

On December 21, 2022, Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra inaugurated '**Shilpgram Utsav**', a unique festival

of folk culture in Udaipur, popularly known as the city of lakes of the state.

### *Key Points*

- At the beginning of the program, the Governor inaugurated the exhibition of documented paintings by the West Zone Cultural Center in Sangam Auditorium by photographing the paintings contained in the clothes of **Sant Mavji Maharaj of Beneshwar Dham**.
- The Governor said that this craft village of Udaipur is famous all over the country. Here the rural and indigenous culture of Rajasthan, Goa, Gujarat and Maharashtra can be experienced simultaneously. The culture, lifestyle and traditions of different ethnic communities of all these states are depicted in the huts here.
- 400 craftsmen and 700 folk artists are participating in the Shilpgram Utsav. In Shilpgram, the paintings contained in the chops of Sant Mavji Maharaj of Beneshwar Dham have been photographed and documented, which is the heritage of the country.
- Governor Kalraj Mishra congratulated Jaipur-based tamasha artist and theatre personality Dilip Kumar Bhatt and Ahmedabad-based culture workers and tribal artists who have done remarkable work in the upliftment of tribal art. Bhagwan Das Patel to receive Padma Bhushan Komal Kothari Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award was presented.
- On the inaugural day of The Shilpgram Festival, 225 artists from 9 states exhibited their art as part of the 'Samagam' organized at the main stage. The programe started with a prolog in which the light of the festival was spread with lamps. After this, the program started with Shree khol dance of West Bengal. This was followed by Jammu and Kashmir Roff, Assam's Bodai Shikhala, Orissa's Gotipua, Maharashtra's Lavani, Goa's Samai, Jharkhand's Chhau Gujarat's Dang and Punjab's Bhangra.

## Chief Minister's Rehabilitation Home Scheme

### *Why In News?*

On December 21, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a financial provision of Rs 28.23 crore for the '**Mukhyamantri Rehabilitation Home Scheme**' for proper housing of homeless, old age, working women and helpless/ destitute persons of the state.

Note:



### Key Points

- According to the proposal, the homes will be operated in available government buildings and rented buildings in case of non-availability of government buildings till the departmental building is constructed for the homeless, elderly, working women and helpless/ destitute persons of the state.
- With this approval of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, a large number of construction work of Chief Minister's rehabilitation homes will be done as well as clothes, beds and food items will be purchased for residential buildings. This amount will also be used in rent, tax rate, royalties and grants for assistance.
- It may be mentioned that the Chief Minister had announced to set up **45 Chief Minister Rehabilitation Homes of 75 residential capacity** each in the budget for the year 2022-23. This financial approval has been given in the order of this announcement.

## Rajiv Gandhi Urban Olympic Games-2023 Registration Portal

### Why In News?

On December 21, 2022, Ashok Chandna, Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs of Rajasthan, launched the registration portal of **Rajiv Gandhi Urban Olympic Games-2023 at the Government Secretariat in Jaipur**. With this, registrations for the urban Olympic Games scheduled from January 26 next year have started.

### Key Points

- Speaking on the occasion, Minister of State Ashok Chandna said that Rajasthan is the first state to provide government jobs to national players along with a unique event like rural Olympic Games, which is being discussed all over the country. Rajasthan is continuously emerging as a **'Trend Setter'** for other states in the sports sector.
- He informed that after the unprecedented success of Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympic Games, these games are also being started in cities. He said that **30 lakh athletes participated** in the Rural Olympic Games, which is a world record.
- He said that as per the announcement of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, Rajiv Gandhi Urban Olympic Games-2023 are proposed to be held in the month of January.

- The games will be held in all the 240 urban bodies of the state, including 10 municipal corporations, 36 municipal councils and 194 municipalities. For this, a total of 628 clusters have been created, locally.
- A cluster has been formed in the Municipal Corporation and Municipal Council for every 20-25 thousand population on the basis of the 2011 census. However, due to the high population in the Municipal Corporation Jaipur Greater and Jaipur Heritage, a cluster has been created per 30-35 thousand population. At the same time, each municipality has been treated as a unit and a cluster.
- The Minister of State for Sports informed that 7 types of sports will be organized under urban Olympics. These include Kabaddi (Boys and Girls Category), Tennis Ball Cricket (Boys and Girls Category), Kho-Kho (Girls Category), Volleyball (Boys and Girls Category), Athletics (100 m, 200 m and 400 m). The competition will be held in football (boys and girls category) and basketball (boys and girls category). Competitions will be organized at the municipal, district and state levels.
- Sports and Youth Affairs Department Secretary Naresh Kumar Thakral said that players of all age groups can participate in these games. The registration of players can be done through the online portal **rajolympic.rajasthan.gov.in** till January 21. Registration can be done in individual or group categories.
- These games will be organized in coordination with the Sports Department, Autonomous Government Department, Education Department, Higher Education Department and Local Administration.
- The Secretary said that the division of clusters in each municipal corporation will be zone-wise, whose controlling officer will be the Deputy Commissioner-Zone and all urban bodies will choose the civic-wise venue for organizing the games.

## High-level Committee Constituted to Review Implementation and Progress of Police Modernization Scheme

### Why in discussion

According to the information given by the Information and Public Relations Department on December 21, 2022,

Note:

the Rajasthan government has issued an order constituting a **high-level committee under the chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Government Secretary**, Home to review the implementation and progress of the Police Modernization Scheme in the state.

### Key Points

- The committee will have four members and a convener, including Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Government Secretary-Finance, Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Government Secretary-Planning, Director General Police, Additional Director General Police, State Crime Records Bureau Member and Joint Government Secretary-Home (Police). Will remain convener.
- This committee will be permanent and the administrative department of the committee will be the Home Department.

## 104 Modified Small Drinking Water Schemes (OTMP)

### Why In News?

On December 22, 2022, in the meeting of the **Finance Committee of Rajasthan Water Supply and Sewerage Management Board (RWSSMB)** under the chairmanship of Dr. Subodh Agarwal, Additional Chief Secretary, Public Health Engineering Department of Rajasthan, the department approved **104 modified small drinking water schemes worth Rs. 1055 crore 99 lakh**. Administrative and financial approval was given to the schemes (OTMP).

### Key Points

- Dr. Subodh Agarwal said that the department is taking rapid steps towards achieving the target set by the **Jal Jeevan Mission**. Through these Small Drinking Water Schemes (OTMP), water connections will be provided to **1 lakh 18 thousand 588 every household** in the state.
- In the meeting, the tender for **Tinwari-Mathania-Osian-Baori-Bhopalgarh water supply project worth Rs 183.83 crore** was approved in Jodhpur district. Apart from this, tender for Narmada based water supply project to Barmer and Ramsar tehsils worth Rs 131.97 crore was also approved. Under the project, water connections, construction of clean reservoirs

and pumping stations will also be done in 217 villages of these two tehsils.

- In the meeting, a tender of a project worth Rs 34.34 crore was approved to provide drinking water from Lhasi Dam to more than 20 villages of Chhabra and Chhipa Badaud areas of Baran district. Under this, works like high reservoir, pumping station, water connection will be done.
- Apart from this, a tender worth Rs 11.79 crore was approved to provide water connections in 11 villages of Badgaon Panchayat Samiti of Udaipur district.
- A tender worth Rs 6.05 crore was also approved for works like water connection and pipeline in villages under the Desert Development Program (DDP) of Bhopalgarh Panchayat Samiti of Jodhpur district.

## Women and Child Development Minister inaugurates Rashtriya Amrita Haat

### Why in News?

On December 23, 2022, Rajasthan Women and Child Development Minister Mamta Bhupesh inaugurated the Rashtriya Amrita Haat at Shilpagram on Jawahar Kala Kendra campus in Jaipur.

### Key Points

- Women and Child Development Minister Mamta Bhupesh said that this fair will be held from December 23 to January 1, 2023, in which Jaipur will be able to buy their favorite products.
- Speaking on the occasion, he said that the products made by Women from Rural Areas are an example of excellent Workmanship and skills and Jaipur Rights can also contribute to the State Government's Campaign for Women Empowerment by purchasing their products.
- The State Government is providing opportunities to women to grow as Entrepreneurs by providing loans granted by banks to them through Schemes like IM Shakti Udyog Protsahan Yojana.
- Mamta Bhupesh said that the Directorate of Women Empowerment of the Women and Child Development

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Department provides a market to the women of Self-Help Groups through the National Amrita Haat, while the people of Jaipur get an opportunity to exhibit and buy handmade products from all over the State at one place.

- It is known that The National Amrita Haat is organized every year.
- In Rashtriya Amrita Haat, products of Women Self-Help Groups of all districts of Rajasthan State are being exhibited and sold. In this, Women have got the opportunity to sell the best workman's products at more than 140 stalls, including Handicrafts, Embroidery, Lakh Bangles, Papermaking Items, Salwar-Suits, Terracotta, Artificial Jewellery, Chicken and Zari work, Glass and Patch Work, Favorite Pickles, Marmalade, Spices and other handmade attractive products are available.

## Raj Sakhi Cafe inaugurated in Sriganganagar district

### Why in News?

On December 23, 2022, Govind Ram Meghwal, Sri Ganganagar district in-charge and Disaster Management Minister of Rajasthan, launched Raj Sakhi Cafe to provide food products made by Women of Rajivika Self Help Group under one roof.

### Key Points

- Speaking on the occasion, District Collector Saurabh Swami said that the Women have joined the group and are taking training from PNB RSETI and starting Self-Employment in their village and making handmade products. Raj Sakhi Cafe has been started by Rajivika to promote the livelihood of these group members.
- He said that food items prepared by Self-Help Group Women in Government Offices will be encouraged to order during training and meetings, so that the livelihood of women can be increased.
- Rajivika District Project Manager Dr. Deepali Sharma describing this initiative as auspicious for the area, said that the general public should also come to Rajivika Raj Sakhi Cafe and encourage them by eating food products made by these Women. In this, food products made by Women of Self-Help Groups like Tea, Kachori, Samosa, Cookies, Bhelpuri, Sandwich, Veg Burger, Pakoda etc. will be available for sale.

## Gail India will do Exploration of Mineral Oil and Natural Gas in 486.39 Square Kilometer Area of Barmer-Jaisalmer

### Why In News?

On December 25, 2022, Dr. Subodh Agarwal, Additional Chief Secretary, Mines and Petroleum Department, Rajasthan, informed that exploration of oil and natural gas in **486.39 square km area of Barmer-Jaisalmer** in the state will be done by Gail India, a Government of India undertaking.

### Key Points

- Dr. Subodh Agarwal said that Gail India has been allotted a block for **3 years plus 9 months for exploration of oil and natural gas in Barmer-Jaisalmer** area. Gail India has been allotted this block in the seventh cycle under the **Open Acre Licensing Policy**.
- He said that this petroleum exploration license has been issued on the recommendation of the Ministry of Petroleum and Gas of the Central Government. GAIL India will explore mineral oil and natural gas in the region.
- It is known that Rajasthan ranks first in mineral oil production in the on land sector in the country. At present, petroleum and gas are being produced by ONGC and Oil India in Barmer and Jaisalmer fields in the state. For this, ONGC has been given 9 licenses and Oil India has been given 2 licenses.
- Apart from this, exploration work is being done by issuing 16 petroleum exploration licenses in the state, out of which Vedanta is issuing 9 licenses, Oil India 5, ONGC and GAIL India 1 each. Exploration work is also being done in Barmer-Jaisalmer as well as Bikaner and Sriganga Nagar areas.
- Dr. Subodh Agarwal said that GAIL Gas has been allocated **RJ-ONHP-2021/1 block** in Barmer and Jaisalmer. In this area, GAIL India will explore and produce mineral crude oil, natural gas, coal bed methane CBM and shale gas.
- He said that information about operation, boring and production will be given by GAIL every six

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months. Similarly, if other minerals are found during exploration, it will also be informed immediately. Exploration, survey and digging activities will not be allowed in the area associated with the Army during exploration by GAIL.

- Increasing the productivity of mineral oil and gas will also increase investment, employment and revenue in the state. At present, about one lakh barrels of crude oil per day and about 41 to 44 lakh cubic meters of gas are being produced in the state.

## All India Presiding Officers Conference

### *Why In News?*

On December 26, 2022, in a high-level meeting chaired by State Assembly Speaker Dr. CP Joshi in Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, Jaipur, it was told that the conference of Presiding Officers and Secretaries of Lok Sabha and various state assemblies of the country will be held in Rajasthan Legislative Assembly from January 10 to 13. Will happen.

### *Key Points*

- State Assembly Speaker Dr. CP Joshi informed that this is the **83<sup>rd</sup> All India Presiding Officers Conference**, which will be held on January 11 and 12 in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly. The 59th conference of secretaries of state assemblies will also be held on January 10.
- He said that there will be meaningful discussions on various points in this conference and former Assembly Speakers, former MPs, former MLAs and former Assembly Secretaries will also be specially invited to this conference.
- Chief Secretary Usha Sharma said that all arrangements for the conference will be strong and all the officers have been instructed to perform the responsibilities assigned in this regard with sincerity.
- Mahaveer Prasad Sharma, Principal Secretary of the Legislative Assembly, said that Rajasthan has got the opportunity to hold this conference after 11 years. Earlier, the Presiding Officers' Conference was held in Rajasthan in the year 2011.

## Revised Financial Proposal of Rs 4279.70 Crore Approved for the Construction of 16 State Highways

### *Why In News?*

On December 26, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot revised Rs 4279.70 crore for the construction of **16 state highways (14 state highways and 02 MDR roads)** in order to develop a strong road network in the state. Approved the financial proposal.

### *Key Points*

- Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said that the state government is developing state highways with external assistance such as financial assistance from the World Bank and Asian Development Bank. In this sequence, financial approval of Rs 2452.36 crore was issued earlier for the construction of 16 state highways under **Asian Development Bank Trench-I**, which has now been revised to Rs 4279.70 crore.
- He informed that Rs 2300.40 crore has been spent on the said works so far. Out of this, 4 roads have been constructed through **Engineering-Procurement-Construction Mode (EPC) and 12 roads have been constructed on annuity basis**, in which 100 percent amount is paid for EPC works and 50 percent amount for annuity based works during construction work.
- It is worth mentioning that for the development of state highways, a PPP section has been constituted under the Public Works Department, through which development works of state highways are being done on PPP/EPC mode. Till now 3577 kms. The development works of 58 state highways of length have been approved, whose approved cost is Rs 11604 crore.
- Out of 58 state highways sanctioned in the state, construction of 24 state highways has been completed so far, work on 14 roads is in progress, contracts for 5 roads have been finalized, LOA of 7 roads has been completed. ongoing/under process and tender for 8 roads is under process.

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## Effective Government Communication Award to Rajasthan DIPR

### Why In News?

On 27 December 2022, Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel presented the **Effective Government Communication Award** by the Government of Rajasthan for bringing public welfare schemes in the field of digital media to the common man and beneficiaries.

### Key Points

- Arun Joshi, Additional Director, Information and Public Relations Department of the state received the award at the 44<sup>th</sup> annual convention organized by PRSI in Bhopal.
- It is noteworthy that the Information and Public Relations Department has created WhatsApp groups in all 33 districts and has connected about 20 lakh people by creating WhatsApp groups at all Gram Panchayats and ward levels of the state, who are being sent publicity material on mobile phones every day.
- In order to reach out to the public about government schemes, the department has introduced innovations like Information e-Bulletin, Sujas Video Bulletin and Sujas Awaaz (Podcast), through which daily news, interviews of beneficiaries and information about important government decisions are being made available.
- Apart from this, the Department has also launched the **Sujas Mobile App** in which all press notes, special articles, success stories, important photographs, e-bulletins, video bulletins, Sujas Awaaz and live programs of welfare scheme are displayed on mobile, which are being well liked by the general public, especially the youth.

## 'Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship for Academic Excellence' Scheme

### Why In News?

On December 27, 2022 Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved an additional budget provision of Rs 65 crore for the financial year 2022-23 in the **'Rajiv Gandhi**

**Scholarship for Academic Excellence'** scheme in order to fulfill the dream of the youth of the state to pursue higher education abroad.

### Key Points

- It is notable that the Chief Minister has given the former Prime Minister late for free study in prestigious institutions abroad. The 'Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship for Academic Excellence' scheme was launched on Rajiv Gandhi's birth anniversary (August 20, 2021). In this, every year there is a provision to provide free education to 200 students abroad.
- Under this scheme, the opportunity to study in the top **150 universities/ institutes** of the world including Oxford University, Stanford University, Harvard University, California Institute of Technology, Cambridge University, Princeton University, Toronto University is being given.
- Under the 'Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship for Academic Excellence' scheme, priority is being given to students with a family income of less than **Rs 8 lakh**. Students with family income up to Rs 25 lakh can also apply. In this, **30 percent seats are reserved for girl students**. For this, the student must be a native of Rajasthan.

## Kagal Government Upper Primary School in Jodhpur now upgraded to Higher Secondary School

### Why In News?

On December 28, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a proposal to upgrade the Government Upper Primary School in Kagal Pipar town, gram panchayat of Jodhpur district, into a Government Higher Secondary School.

### Key Points

- With this approval of the Chief Minister, students of the gram panchayat Kagal as well as the surrounding villages, especially girl students, will not have to go to Ratkudiya or Bhundana village far away from the village for higher education.
- It is worth mentioning that due to the continuous efforts of the state government, there has

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been a qualitative improvement in the level of education in government schools of the state. As a result, the enrolment of children in the age group of 6-14 years in government schools in the state has increased by about 20 per cent as compared to the year 2018.

- Keeping in mind the need to continuously upgrade government schools, the Gehlot government had announced in the budget for the year 2022-23 to upgrade all 3,820 secondary schools in the state to senior secondary schools.
- Apart from this, for the strengthening and development of basic education in rural and remote areas of the state, it was also announced to upgrade primary schools located at gram panchayat headquarters to upper primary schools and upper primary schools directly to senior secondary schools as per the standards set by the Education Department and as required.

## **An Additional Budget of Rs 31.50 crore has been Allocated for Setting up 'State-of-the-Art Gym and Fitness Center' and 'Open Gym' in the state.**

### **Why In News?**

On December 28, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved Rs 31.50 crore for setting up a 'State-of-the-Art Gym and 'Fitness Centre' and 'Open Gym' in order to provide world-class facilities for practice and training to the players in the state.

### **Key Points**

- According to the proposal, gyms and fitness centers with modern facilities will be opened at Sawai Mansingh Stadium Jaipur, Barkatullah Khan Cricket Stadium Jodhpur and all divisional headquarters. Apart from this, open gyms will be set up at all district headquarters of the state.
- It may be mentioned that the Chief Minister had announced in the budget for 2022-23 to open state-of-the-art gyms and fitness centers in all divisions and open gyms at district headquarters.

## **10<sup>th</sup> Zonal Level Tribal Talent Award Ceremony**

### **Why In News?**

On December 29, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot felicitated many tribal talents at the **10<sup>th</sup> Zone Level Tribal Talent Award Ceremony and Sarva Samaj Shikshak Gaurav Ceremony-2022** held at Mohanlal Sukhadia University in Udaipur, Rajasthan.

### **Key Points**

- Speaking at the 10<sup>th</sup> Zonal Level Tribal Talent Award Ceremony and Sarva Samaj Shikshak Gaurav Ceremony-2022, the Chief Minister said that the state government is committed to the all-round development of the tribal area. For this, schemes are also being prepared by the government keeping in mind the interest of the tribal area.
- Speaking on the occasion, he said that every family has been given health insurance of Rs 10 lakh through Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme in the state, which is the first example in the country. Twenty thousand students are being given coaching work through Anuprati Yojana in the state. Similarly, through the UDAN Scheme, the government is providing 12 sanitary napkins every month to women.
- Ashok Gehlot said that considering the importance of English in the world today, Mahatma Gandhi English Medium Schools have been opened in different places in the state, due to which children of poor families are also getting education in English medium.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister honored Udaipur Collector Tarachand Meena with 'Shri Mangarh Dham Gaurav Puraskar'. Durgaram Muwal and Mahendra Kumar Meena were awarded the 'Nana Bhai Khant Teacher Gaurav Award'. Adikavi Maharshi Valmiki Gaurav Award to Dr Kiran Meena, Mewar Veer Rana Punja Bhil Pratibha Award to Deepika Meena etc. , Pawan Putra Free Coaching Institute Director Ranveer Tholiya was given 'Veer Shaheed Nanak Bhai Bhil Social Leadership Award'. Sunil Meena was awarded the 'Veer Balak Eklavya Award', Raj Kalasua was awarded the 'Shaheed Tribe Veer Bala Kalibai Award' and Lalit Meena, who proved his mettle in blind cricket, was awarded the 'Archer Shri Limbaram Award'.

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## **Khemraj Committee Submits Final Report to CM**

### **Why in News?**

On December 30, 2022, the Khemraj Committee, constituted by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot to study and analyze the demands of various employee organizations, submitted its final report.

### **Key Points**

- The state government will examine the report submitted by the committee and take appropriate action keeping in mind the interests of the employees. The Committee had earlier submitted its interim report on 2nd February, 2022, which has been implemented.
- It is noteworthy that in the budget for the year 2021-22, the Chief Minister had announced the formation of a high-level committee to study and analyze the demands of various employees and officers organizations. In the implementation of the said budget announcement, the Employees' Pay Discrepancy Testing Committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Khemraj Chaudhary (retired IAS).

## **Minister Ashok Chandna receives 'Leader of Decade' award from Women Economic Forum**

### **Why in News?**

On December 30, 2022, Ashok Chandna, Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs and Public Relations,

Rajasthan, was awarded the 'Leader of Decade' honor at a program organized by the global organization 'Women Economic Forum' in New Delhi.

### **Key Points**

- Ashok Chandana has been given this honor by the organization working for the upliftment and empowerment of women globally for the programs being run by the Government of Rajasthan for the upliftment and empowerment of girls and women under his leadership.
- Addressing the session 'Power of Networking: Towards a More Just and Equitable World' on the second day of the three-day 'Annual WEF-2022, Bridge the Gap: Agenda for G-20' event held at Hotel JW Marriott in New Delhi, Minister Ashok Chandna said that ensuring women's participation in all spheres is essential for the just and inclusive development of the country and the world.
- Chandana said that in the modern era, all enlightened people, institutions and governments need to learn from each other, so that the stage of development and prosperity can be achieved soon. He said that the role of networking in this era of technology is very powerful. Local institutions are able to achieve development by networking with global institutions.
- Chandana said that many important programs are being run by the Rajasthan government for girl education, safety and participation in all areas of the society. He said that recently the rural Olympic Games were organized by the state government, in which 30 lakh people from all over Rajasthan participated. The participation of women and girls in these Rural Olympic Games was also encouraging.



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**Key Points**

**Details**

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