



STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

RAJASTHAN

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Content

● Cooking Gas Cylinder Subsidy Yojana	3
● Failure of Contingency Plan For SCs and STs	3
● Proposal to Develop Wetlands as Ramsar Sites	3
● New Chief Secretary of Rajasthan	5
● Rajasthan to Merge Chiranjeevi Scheme with Ayushman Bharat	5
● Modern Update of Traditional Tankas	5
● Cooking Oil for Sita Rasoi in Ayodhya	6
● NABARD Sanctions Rs 1,974 Crore to Rajasthan	6
● Wetland City Accreditation	7
● Good Governance in Rajasthan	7
● Rajasthan's Baran Gets Benefit of Centre's Road Scheme	8
● Rajasthan Declares Half-Day Holiday for Pran-Pratishtha Ceremony	8
● All India Conference of Director Generals of Police	9
● Harvest Festivals	9
● Review Meeting Ahead of Macron's Jaipur Visit	10
● Clarity on the Old Pension Scheme	11
● Rajasthan Tableau for R-Day Parade	11
● Rajasthan Governor Announces Economic Revival Task Force	12
● Padma Shri for 5 Persons from Rajasthan	12
● Rajasthan Launches Drone Survey Against Illegal Mining	13

Cooking Gas Cylinder Subsidy Yojana

Why in News?

Recently, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma announced that **Ujjwala gas cylinders will now be available at Rs 450** in the state from 1st January 2024.

Key Points

- The subsidy would be transferred into the account of the beneficiary women, who come under the **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)** and those who hold the **Below Poverty Line (BPL) card**.
 - The scheme name is now changed from **Indira Gandhi Cylinder Subsidy Scheme** to **Cooking Gas Cylinder Subsidy Yojana**.
- The beneficiaries can avail the cheap cylinder by getting themselves registered at the **Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yojana**.

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)

- The scheme was **launched on 1st May 2016** in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- It was **introduced by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOPNG)**, as a flagship scheme **with an objective to make clean cooking fuel such as LPG available to the rural and deprived households** which were otherwise using traditional cooking fuels such as firewood, coal, cow-dung cakes etc.
 - **Usage of traditional cooking fuels had detrimental impacts** on the health of rural women as well as on the environment.

Failure of Contingency Plan For SCs and STs

Why in News?

The Rajasthan High Court has taken a serious view of the State government's failure to implement a contingency plan under the **Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995**, prepared by a Drafting Committee in 2017.

- 15 states, including **Bihar, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Odisha**, have formulated comprehensive contingency plans and implemented them.

Key Points

- In 2017, **Dalit Manavadhikar Kendra Samiti (DMKS)**, a **non-government organisation**, submitted a draft contingency plan to the State government with the provisions for relief and rehabilitation, additional **financial assistance to the victims of caste-based violence, protection of witnesses and monitoring mechanism for helping out the victims**.
- While hearing a public interest writ petition moved by the DMKS, the High Court observed that the intended objective of creating a contingency plan to address the needs of these communities is being **hindered by the delay in the finalization and implementation process**.
- The State government at present provides relief to the victims of atrocities under **Rule 12(4) of the 1995 Rules** laying down that the persons belonging to SC/ST and their family members and dependents will **get the relief in cash or kind within seven days of registration of the First Information Report (FIR)**.
- The contingency plan to be **implemented under Rule 15 of the 1995 rules** should specify the role and responsibility of various departments.
- The **package should include** mandatory compensation to the victims, rehabilitation, government employment and strengthening their socio-economic conditions.

Proposal to Develop Wetlands as Ramsar Sites

Why in News?

Recently, the Rajasthan government has sent a proposal to the Union environment ministry to develop 5 **Wetlands** in the state as **Ramsar sites**.

- Before this, **Sambhar Lake** was declared as a Ramsar site in march 1990 and **Keoladeo Ghana National Park** declared in October 1981.

Key Points

- The State Wetland Authority has proposed **Khinchan bird sanctuary in Jodhpur, Chandlai in Jaipur, Kanwas**

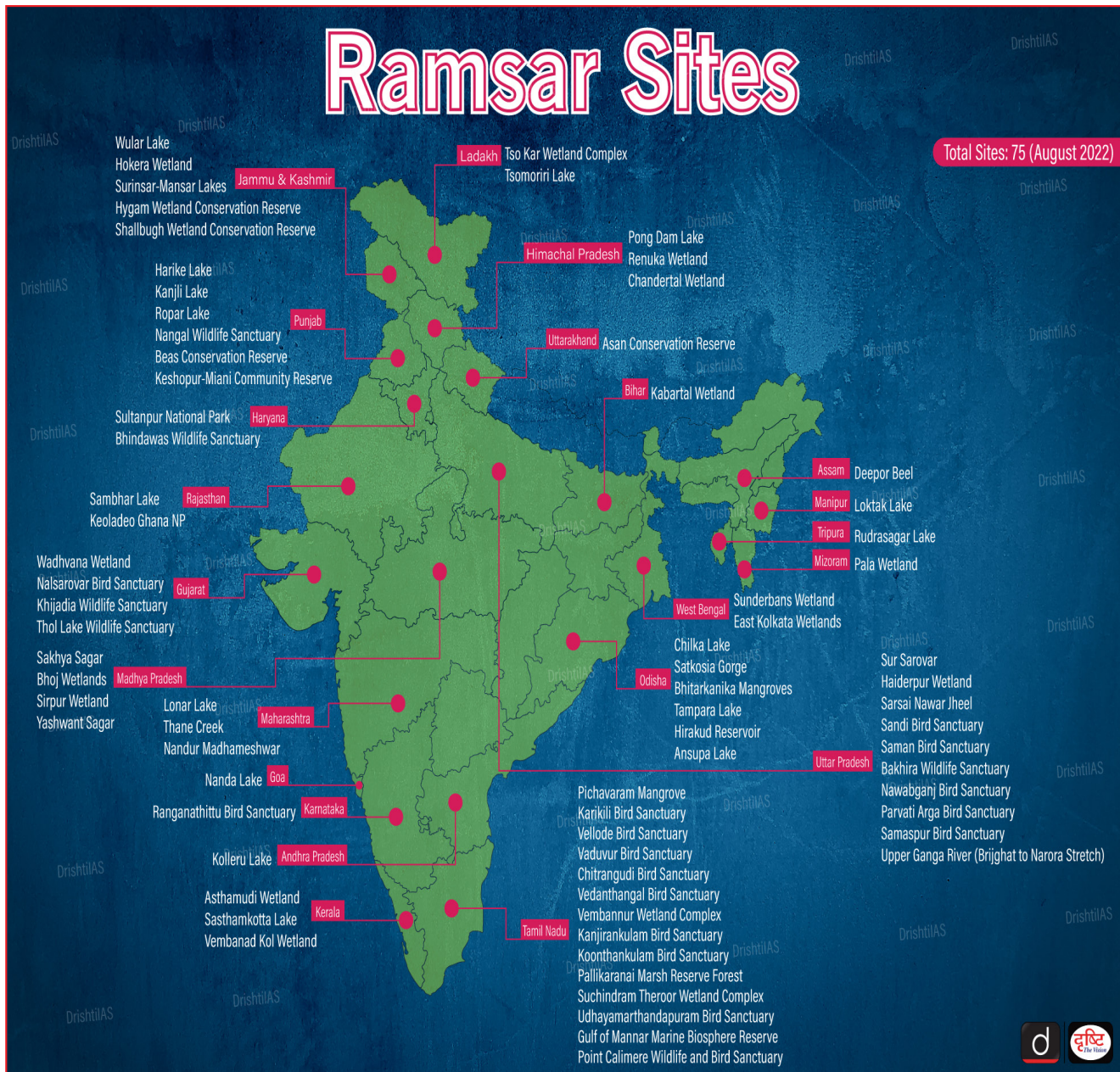
Note:

Pakshi Vihar in Kota, Lunkaransar in Bikaner, and Menar Lake in Udaipur district.

- According to the officials, all 5 wetlands fall into the Central Asian Flyway, which is **used by migratory birds that start flying to this region from November onwards till February** for warmer temperatures.
- At these sites, the **state pollution control board is taking action to stop industrial effluents from being released into the water**. Efforts to stop encroachment are also being done.

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

- It is an **intergovernmental treaty**, adopted on **February 2, 1971**, in the Iranian city of Ramsar, on the southern shore of the **Caspian Sea**.
- **In India**, it came into force on **February 1, 1982**, under which wetlands of international importance are declared as Ramsar sites.
 - As of 2023, **the total Ramsar sites in India are 75**.
- The Ramsar tag **helps in better maintenance and management of a wetland** and aids tourism for the region.



Note:

New Chief Secretary of Rajasthan

Why in News?

Recently, **Sudhansh Pant**, an IAS officer of the 1991 batch, was appointed as the new chief secretary of Rajasthan.

- It is the **third successive appointment of Sudhansh Pant in a year.**

Key Points

- He was brought to the Centre in October 2022 as **Officer on Special Duty (OSD)** in the shipping ministry and was later made secretary.
 - After six months, he was shifted to the health ministry as secretary.
- According to Senior bureaucrats, **there is an expectation of reshuffling at the secretary level in the near future.**
- IAS officer D S Mishra got a six-month extension as **Uttar Pradesh Chief secretary.**
- Veera Rana, a 1998 batch IAS officer is holding **additional charge of chief secretary of Madhya Pradesh.**

Rajasthan to Merge Chiranjeevi Scheme with Ayushman Bharat

Why in News?

The Rajasthan government has sought the union health ministry's approval to integrate the state's **Chiranjeevi health insurance scheme** with the Centre's **Ayushman Bharat programme** into **Ayushman Bharat Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme.**

Key Points

- The **Ayushman Bharat Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme**, is expected to retain the **existing benefits of the state scheme**, including a **₹25 lakh insurance cover in both private and government hospitals.**

- The state government has directed districts to issue new cards by 26th January, 2024, aligning with national efforts to cover all Ayushman Bharat beneficiaries.
- The **Chiranjeevi scheme**, introduced by former chief minister Ashok Gehlot, **offers higher coverage** compared to the Ayushman Bharat's ₹5 lakh.
- Since its **launch in May 2021**, the Chiranjeevi scheme has **provided universal health coverage** to all Rajasthani families. Its coverage was recently **increased from ₹10 lakh to ₹25 lakh, with an additional ₹10 lakh for accident coverage.**
- More than 100 million families have at least one Ayushman card with **Uttar Pradesh** leading in the number of **beneficiaries at 46 million. Madhya Pradesh** follows with **37 million, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh with 20 million each** and **Maharashtra with 19 million beneficiaries.**

Modern Update of Traditional Tankas

Why in News?

To battle **water scarcity** in the arid region, the Centre has adopted western Rajasthan's **traditional rainwater harvesting system 'tankas'** by constructing a large number of such **storage tanks** with reinforced concrete cement.

- **Traditional 'tankas'** are earthen rainwater storage tanks constructed by the people of Barmer district and other parts of western Rajasthan to **collect water received during showers between July and September.**

Key Points

- The water stored in the traditional **'tankas'** gradually **becomes contaminated due to its earthen structure and does not last for the entire year.**
- The Centre has adopted the method under **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act MGNREGA (Rural) scheme** by **constructing water storage spaces made of reinforced concrete cement** to provide uncontaminated water to the people for a longer period of time.
 - A total of **1,84,766** such tanks have been **constructed since 2016**, with **41,580 built in the current 2023-24 fiscal.**

Note:



- Each tank, measuring 13.5 ft by 13.5 ft, has the capacity to store 35,000 liters of water and is constructed at a cost of ₹3 lakh.
- The district has 2,971 villages, locally called 'dhanis', and respective gram panchayats are the implementing agencies.
- Other measures are also being adopted to ensure water supply to far-flung villages in the district such as the supply of water from the Indira Gandhi Canal and the **Narmada Project** along with the **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) scheme**.
- The target is to reach out to 4.25 lakh households under the JJM scheme. Of these, 1.25 lakh households are already covered.

The Indira Gandhi Canal

- It is the longest canal in the country.
 - It starts from Harike Barrage, a few kilometers below the confluence of the Satluj and Beas rivers in Punjab, flows through Ludhiana and terminates in the Thar Desert in northwest Rajasthan.
- The canal is a source of drinking and irrigation in the north and western Rajasthan.
 - It provides water to 1.75 crore people living in 7,500 villages across eight districts in the state.
- The water in the Indira Gandhi canal has apparently turned black due to the presence of pollutants in it.
 - The pollution has caused several health complications among people such as skin diseases, gastroenteritis, indigestion and loss of eyesight.

Cooking Oil for Sita Rasoi in Ayodhya

Why in News?

Recently, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma sent 2,100 cooking oil drums and a 'Ram Durbar' procession, to 'Sita Rasoi' (Sita's kitchen) in Ayodhya.

- The oil will be used for cooking the food to be served to the devotees attending the consecration ceremony at the Ram temple on January 22 and afterwards.

Key Points

- The programme was organised jointly by Dharma Yatra Mahasangh-Rajasthan and Shri Shyam Bhajan Sandhya Parivar Seva Samiti.
- The Jaipur Greater Municipal Corporation declared a holiday on January 22 to enable its staff to celebrate Ram temple's consecration at their home.
 - The meat shops in the city would remain closed, five lakh oil lamps would be lit, and prizes given for the best decoration in the markets in the city on the day of the consecration.

NABARD Sanctions Rs 1,974 Crore to Rajasthan

Why in News?

Under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for 2023-24, **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has sanctioned Rs 1,974.07 crore to the Rajasthan government.

Key Points

- According to NABARD Rajasthan Chief General Manager Rs 930.44 crore has been sanctioned for three rural drinking water supply projects in Ajmer, Jalore, and Kota districts.
 - Rs 926.48 crore was sanctioned for the construction of 676 rural roads in the desert and tribal areas of the state.
 - Earlier, Rs 117.15 crore had been sanctioned for the construction of 104 veterinary hospitals and 431 sub-centres in all districts of the state.
- Drinking water supply projects are expected to provide clean and potable water to 2.87 lakh households in 2,500 villages, whereas rural road projects will improve connectivity in 1,229 villages across 12 districts.
- NABARD is also supporting the state government in bringing 4.28 lakh hectares under micro-irrigation with a support of Rs 740 crore from the **Micro Irrigation Fund**.
- The lining of 450 km of earthen canals in Kota and Bundi districts is under construction following a Rs 623.38 crore assistance under NABARD Infrastructure Development Assistance.

Note:

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

- It is a **development bank** focussing primarily on the **rural sector** of the country. It is the **apex banking institution to provide finance for Agriculture and rural development**.
 - Its **headquarter is located in Mumbai**, the country's financial capital.
- It is a **statutory body established in 1982** under the **Parliamentary act-National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981**.

The Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)

- It was **set up by the Government of India in 1995-96** for financing ongoing rural Infrastructure projects.
 - The **Fund is maintained by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)**.
- The **main objective** of the Fund is to **provide loans to State Governments and State-owned corporations** to enable them to **complete ongoing rural infrastructure projects**.

Other Nominated Cities For the WCA

- **Sirpur Lake**, a Ramsar Site in Indore, has been recognised as an important site for **water bird congregation and is being developed as a Bird Sanctuary**.
- **Bhoj Wetland**, Ramsar Site is Bhopal's lifeline, equipped with the **world-class wetlands interpretation centre, Jal Tarang**.

Wetland City Accreditation (WCA)

- The WCA is a **voluntary accreditation system established by the Ramsar Convention** during the **Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP) 12, 2015** to recognize cities that have taken exceptional steps to safeguard their urban wetlands.
 - The WCA is **valid for 6 years**.
- The scheme **aims to promote the conservation and wise use of urban and peri-urban wetlands**, as well as sustainable socio-economic benefits for local populations.

Wetland City Accreditation

Why in the News?

The **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)** has recently submitted three nominations from India for the **Wetland City Accreditation (WCA)**.

- The nominated cities include **Indore** (Madhya Pradesh), **Bhopal** (Madhya Pradesh), and **Udaipur** (Rajasthan).

Key Points

- Udaipur city is surrounded by **five major wetlands: Pichola, Fateh Sagar, Rang Sagar, Swaroop Sagar, and Doodh Talai**.
- These wetlands are an integral part of the city's culture and identity, **help maintain the city's microclimate, and provide a buffer from extreme events**.
- The ongoing **Amrit Dharohar initiative** by the **MoEF&CC** aligns with WCA goals, promoting the conservation values of **Ramsar Sites**.

Good Governance in Rajasthan

Why in News?

Addressing a meeting of divisional level officials at **Tripura Sundari Temple complex** located in **Umrai, Banswara**, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan laid emphasis on holding public hearings at the **gram panchayat** level.

- Asserting **good governance** is the Rajasthan government's priority.

Key Point

- The Rajasthan government is taking important decisions to **ensure the progress of the state**.
- The **role of every officer and employee** is very important in **implementing the public welfare schemes** and the decisions of the government on the ground and providing **benefits to the eligible persons**.
- CM gave instructions for **effective monitoring of the Vikas Bharat Sankalp Yatra**, reviewed the schemes and programmes run in the division and gave necessary guidelines.
 - **Regular public hearings** should be ensured at the **gram panchayat level** so that people do not have to come to the district headquarters and the capital for their grievances.

Note:

- As part of the state government's **zero tolerance policy** the officials are directed to take **strict action against the corrupt, mining and land mafia**.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

- The Yatra launched on 15th November, 2023 on the occasion of **Janjatiya Gaurav Divas**.
- It aims to **promote and publicize government welfare schemes**.
 - To enroll potential beneficiaries of these schemes by collecting details during the yatra.
- The schemes that will be publicized through the yatra include **Ayushman Bharat PMJAY, PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana** among others.
- Five specially designed **IEC (Information, Education and Communication) Vans** will carry the message of the Government's flagship welfare programmes.
- The target is to cover over **2.55 lakh Gram Panchayats and over 3,600 urban local bodies by 25th January 2024**.

Rajasthan's Baran Gets Benefit of Centre's Road Scheme

Why in News?

The tribal-dominated **Baran district in Rajasthan** will get the benefit of the Centre's scheme for **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)** with the construction of 16 all-weather roads in the region.

- **38 habitations of the indigenous Saharia tribals will be connected with the road network** after the completion of the work.

Key Points

- According to Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari, there are **seven approved categories of construction**, which will pave the way for **execution of public works worth ₹5,000 crore for constructing roads across the State**.
- The **new roads will include the national highways, Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana**, and the roads of the Rajasthan State Highways Authority and **the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CIRF)**.
- The **23.24-km-long roads will be constructed at a cost of ₹18.23 crore in Baran district's Kishanganj and Shahbad panchayat samitis**.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi had interacted virtually with the beneficiaries of the scheme and released the first installment of financial assistance for constructing houses.

- **The Public Works Department (PWD)** is instructed to start the construction work in the seven approved categories, which would include the roads and buildings covered in the **Centrally funded schemes**.
- The **partial advance** has been deposited for the roads around **Pachpadra oil refinery in Barmer district and Cairn Oil and Gas Vedanta Limited in western Rajasthan**.

Saharia tribe

- The Sahar, Sehariya, or Sahariya is an **ethnic group in the state of Madhya Pradesh and some districts of Rajasthan**.
 - They are classified as PVTGs.
- The Sahariya community **considers every adult member part of a governing council which is headed by a patel**.
 - They are **expert woodsmen and forest product gatherers**.
 - They are **particularly skilled in making catechu** (extract of acacia trees used variously as a food additive, dye, etc) **from Khair trees**.

Central Road Infrastructure Fund (CRIF)

- The CRIF (earlier known as Central Road Fund) was **established under Central Road Fund Act, 2000**.
- The fund **comprises a cess imposed along with excise duty on petrol and diesel**.
- The administrative control of the CRIF **falls under the Ministry of Finance**.
 - Earlier it was **under the domain of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways**.

Rajasthan Declares Half-Day Holiday for Pran-Pratishtha Ceremony

Why in News?

The Rajasthan government declared a **half-day holiday in the state on January 22** in view of **the consecration ceremony of Ram temple in Ayodhya**.

Note:

Key Points

- The state's order comes after the Centre announced a half-day holiday for all its employees on January 22.
- Preparations for the '**pran-pratishtha**' ceremony of **Ram Lalla** in Ayodhya on January 22 includes:
 - **Idols of elephants, lions, Lord Hanuman and Garuda, 'vahana' of Lord Vishnu**, have been installed **at the entrance gate** of the Ram Temple.
 - **Invitation cards** for the consecration ceremony have been sent out **to guests including VVIPs, priests, donors and several politicians**.
- The city has undergone major improvements in preparation for the temple's inauguration:
 - Prior to the Ram temple's opening, **hotel rates in Ayodhya** reportedly **increased** and many are already booked.
 - **Vande Bharat Express** will connect two prominent temples in Uttar Pradesh - Ram Janmabhoomi and Gorakhnath.
 - **Airlines intend to provide service to and from major cities** such as Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, and Ahmedabad.
- The construction of the Ram Temple has already **helped the economic condition in Ayodhya**. The increasing number of tourists visiting the district creates new job opportunities for locals.

All India Conference of Director Generals of Police

Why in News?

Recently, the Prime Minister of India attended the **58th All India Conference of Director Generals/Inspector Generals of Police in Jaipur, Rajasthan**.

Key Points

- It was a **three-day being held in hybrid mode** with DGPs (Director general of police), IGPs (Inspector-General of Police) and Chiefs of Central Police Organisations.
- A wide range of policing and internal security issues including **Cyber Crime, Technology in Policing, Counter**

Terrorism challenges, Left Wing Extremism, and Prison Reforms were discussed at the conference.

- Another key agenda of the conference is deliberations on the **road map for implementation of the new Criminal Laws**.
- The **Intelligence Bureau organized the first-ever Conference of the IGPs in India in 1920** and since then, these conferences have been held regularly in New Delhi.
 - The **first such conference held post-independence was inaugurated by the first Home Minister of the country, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, on January 12, 1950**.
 - Initially, it was a biennial event, but **after 1973, it became an annual meeting** for the heads of police organizations of the states and union territories, as well as central police organizations.

Harvest Festivals

Why in News?

On the occasion of Harvest Festivals **Makar Sankranti, Uttarayan, Bhogi, Magh Bihu and Pongal**, the Prime Minister of India has greeted people across the nation.

Key Points

- Makar Sankranti denotes the **entry of the sun into the zodiac sign of Makara (Capricorn)** as it travels on its celestial path.
- The day marks the **onset of summer and the six months auspicious period for Hindus known as Uttarayan** – the northward movement of the sun.
 - As a part of the official celebration of '**Uttarayan**', the **Gujarat government has been hosting the International Kite Festival since 1989**.
- The festivities associated with the day is known by different names in different parts of the country:
 - **Lohri** by north Indian Hindus and Sikhs,
 - **Sukarat** in central India,
 - **Bhogali Bihu** by Assamese Hindus, and
 - **Pongal** by Tamil and other South Indian Hindus.

Note:



Review Meeting Ahead of Macron's Jaipur Visit

Why in News?

According to the officials, **French President Emmanuel Macron** will visit Jaipur on January 25 and preparations are underway to welcome him.

- Rajasthan Chief Minister chaired a high-level review meeting for the proposed visit.

Key Points

- Mr. Macron will be the **Chief Guest at the Republic Day celebrations at Delhi's Kartavya Path** on January 26.
- The CM directed the officials that preparations to welcome the French president should be completed on time and special care should be taken of Mr. Macron's accommodation, security, and transportation.
 - On Mr. Macron's invitation in 2023, the Indian Prime Minister was Guest of Honour at **the Bastille Day parade** in Paris on July 14.

Note:



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The Bastille Day parade

- It is a **French military parade** that has been held on the morning of 14 July each year in Paris since 1880.
- This day is marked as the National Day of France.
- July 14 is the anniversary of the storming of the infamous Bastille prison in 1789 – a turning point for the success of the **French Revolution**.
- It is also one of the oldest regular military parades in the world.

Clarity on the Old Pension Scheme

Why in News?

Recently, the Opposition party in Rajasthan requested clarification regarding the continuation of the **Old Pension Scheme (OPS)** for government employees who joined service on or after January 1, 2004.

- The Leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly, brought up the issue during the Zero Hour.

Key Points

- The scheme assures **life-long income, post-retirement**.
- Under the old scheme, **employees get a pension under a pre-determined formula which is equivalent to 50% of the last drawn salary**. They also get the benefit of the revision of **Dearness Relief (DR)**, twice a year. The **payout is fixed and there was no deduction from the salary**. Moreover, **under the OPS, there was the provision of the General Provident Fund (GPF)**.
 - GPF is **available only for all the government employees in India**. Basically, it allows all the government employees to contribute a certain percentage of their salary to the GPF. And **the total amount that is accumulated throughout the employment term is paid to the employee at the time of retirement**.
- The Government bears the expenditure incurred on the pension. **The scheme was discontinued in 2004**.

Zero Hour

- A **Zero Hour** is an Indian parliamentary innovation. It is **not mentioned in the parliamentary rules book**.
 - Under this, the **Members of Parliament (MPs) can raise matters without any prior notice**.
- The zero hour **starts immediately after the question hour and lasts until the agenda for the day** (regular business of the House) is taken up.
- In other words, **the time gap between the question hour and the agenda is known as zero hour**.
 - The **first hour of every parliamentary sitting is termed as Question hour**. It is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure of the House.

Rajasthan Tableau for R-Day Parade

Why in News?

Rajasthan's tableau in the **Republic Day parade** on 26th January 2024, depicted the desert state's mesmerising **cultural traditions, striking handicrafts and world-famous tourism destinations**.

Key Points

- With the theme "**Viksit Bharat Mein – Padharo Mhare Desh – Rajasthan**", the tableau sought to promote the state's tourism potential.
- The tableau was a demonstration of the development of **women's handicraft industries**, nurtured along with the **festive culture of Rajasthan**, giving a beautiful **glimpse of the cultural and architectural legacy**.
- A beautiful **statue of Meera Bai, a symbol of devotion and power**, was displayed in the rear end of the tableau.
- The rich **handicraft traditions** of the state, including **bandhej, bagru print and applique work**, skilfully **crafted by women**, depicted the **entrepreneurship of the "Women of Rajasthan"**.
- The tableau had models of two camels adorned with Gorbands, depicting the legacy of the **Camel Utsav** held every year in Rajasthan.
 - The **United Nations** has also **declared the year 2024 as the International Year of Camelids**.

Note:

Meera Bai

- She was a **prominent saint, poetess, and devotee of Lord Krishna** in the Bhakti movement of India.
- She became a prominent figure in the **Bhakti movement**, a **spiritual and devotional movement** that emphasized a personal connection with the divine and advocated **love and devotion as a means of attaining salvation**.



International Year of Camelids 2024

- The UN has designated **2024 as the International Year of Camelids**.
- The Year is meant to **raise the public's and policymakers' awareness** of the significant **role of camelids** in protecting ecosystems, conserving biodiversity, assuring **food security** and adapting to **climate change**.

Rajasthan Governor Announces Economic Revival Task Force

Why in News?

On **26 January 2024**, Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra announced the formation of an **Economic Revival Task Force** to prepare a roadmap for strengthening the State's economy.

Key Points

- The task force would **help build a robust economic infrastructure for the future and ensure the State's sustainable and holistic development**.
- According to the Governor, the State government would pave the way for economic growth through the **"ease of doing business" model**, as it had taken a pledge for socio-economic development of all

sections of society by implementing the **Antyodaya concept** of Jan Sangh leader **Deendayal Upadhyaya**.

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya



- Deendayal Upadhyaya is an Indian politician **born in Mathura, UP in 1916**.
- He was one of the most **important leaders of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh**, the forerunner of the present day Bharatiya Janata Party.
- He is seen to have played a larger role in India's thought process and political life, transcending party lines.
- **Major Schemes on his name:**
 - **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana (DAY):** For alleviating poverty.
 - **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana (DAY) Antyodaya Diwas:** To diversify the incomes of rural poor families and to cater to the career aspirations of rural youth.
 - **Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana:** To provide electricity to rural homes.
 - **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Shramev Jayate Karyakram:** To create a conducive environment for industrial development primarily through skill training.
 - **Deendayal Upadhyaya Swaniyojan Yojana (DUSY):** The rural version of the **Start Up India** scheme.

Padma Shri for 5 Persons from Rajasthan

Why in News?

Recently, President Droupadi Murmu has approved the conferment of **four Padma Shri awards** to five persons from Rajasthan.

Note:



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Key Points

- **The awardees included:**
 - One award is being awarded to **two folk singers, Ali Mohammed and Ghani Mohammed**. The duo, known as the **Ghani Brothers**, have been selected for excellence in folk singing.
 - The others include **93-year-old Dhrupad player Laxman Bhatt Tailang**. The veteran has authored several **books on Indian classical music** and has taught his genre of music to hundreds of students throughout his life.
 - **Maya Tandon**, another recipient from the state, **works in the field of road safety** and has trained over 1 lakh persons to help in the rescue of injured victims of road accidents.
 - **81-year-old Janki Lal Bhand**, has kept **Bahurupiya art alive and has performed it in more than 10 countries**. **Behrupiya** ('multi-faceted') is the art of dressing up as and essaying various characters.

Behrupiya

- The word 'behrupiya' is a derivative of the **Sanskrit word bahu (many) and roop (form)**.
- Behrupiya are **impersonators**, mostly known to perform in villages and markets all over India.
- They put on various costumes to **play figures from mythology, folklore and traditional stories**.
- **National Behrupiya Festival** was organised by the **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) from 5th-8th October 2018**.
- IGNCA is an autonomous institution under the **Ministry of Culture**.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/rajasthan-launches-major-drive-against-illegal-mining-with-drone-survey/article67783443.ece>

Rajasthan Launches Drone Survey Against Illegal Mining

Why in News?

Recently, the Rajasthan government has launched a **major drive against illegal mining activities** by **conducting surveys through drones** to put a curb on the sources of such activities.

- The highest number of **75 illegal mining cases** have been detected in **Bhilwara district**.

Key Points

- **Rajasthan has** as many as **81 varieties of minerals** in its land, **out of which 57 are being commercially exploited**.
- The **State has the highest number of mining leases in the country**, while the government has been taking measures to curb unlicensed and illegal mining by using **remote sensing data and geographic information systems**.
- According to the officials, the revenue authorities had been involved in the campaign to initiate action under the Rajasthan Tenancy Act, 1955 for cancellation of khatedari (title) rights on the land where illegal mining was taking place.
 - The **field officers identify the mining mafia and violators** and submit the data online, which is used for **initiating further action**.

Illegal Mining

- Illegal mining is the **extraction of minerals, ores, or other valuable resources from land or water bodies without the necessary permits, licenses, or regulatory approvals from government authorities**.
 - It can also involve the **violation of environmental, labor, and safety standards**.
- **Laws Related to Mining in India:**
 - The entry at serial No. 23 of **List II (State List)** to the Constitution of India mandates the state government to own the **minerals located within their boundaries**.
 - The entry at serial No. 54 of **List I (Central List)** mandates the central government to own the minerals within the **exclusive economic zone of India (EEZ)**.
 - In pursuance to this **Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act of 1957** was framed.
 - The power to frame **policy and legislation relating to minor minerals is entirely delegated to the State Governments** while policy and legislation relating to the **major minerals are dealt by the Ministry of Mines under the Union Government**.



Note:



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