



STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

RAJASTHAN

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The Governor inaugurated the Divya Kala Mela

Why In News?

On June 29, 2023, Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra inaugurated the Divya Kala Mela organized by the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment at Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur to promote the skill and craftsmanship of the products of Divyangjan on a large scale.

Key Points:

- The Governor said at the Divya Kala Mela that such fairs have great significance in the direction of making the talents and skills of the Divyangjan accessible to the public. These events create self-confidence among the Divyangjan and strengthen their economic empowerment.
- These fairs are important not only for the empowerment of Divyangjan but also from the point of view of spreading Indian arts and crafts. In the era of marketing and advertising, such fairs bring forth the expression of mind related to art and culture as a product.
- Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Virendra Kumar said that by organizing Divya Kala Melas in different states of the country, a platform is being provided to the products manufactured by Divyangjan.
- It is known that by organizing 13 thousand camps in the country, aids and appliances have been distributed to 25 lakh Divyangjans. Due to the support these events are getting from the society, new hope and a sense of self-reliance is being spread among the Divyangjans.
- The Government of India has taken special initiative for the welfare of the disabled and through various schemes work is being done to enhance their skills and bring them into the mainstream.
- On this occasion, under the Divyang Swavalamban Yojana, the Governor also distributed concessional loan approvals, tricycles, hearing aids, walking sticks etc. to the Divyangjans to start self-employment.



Note:

Museum will be Established in Deeg

Why In News?

On June 29, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a financial proposal of Rs 4.21 crore to set up a museum at Deeg in Bharatpur district of the state.

Key Points:

- According to the proposal, a total of 8 galleries will be constructed including Gallery, Maharaja Surajmal Gallery, Arms Gallery, Statue Gallery, Excavation Gallery, Art and Culture Gallery, Braj Mandal Gallery, Painting Gallery, displaying the history of Bharatpur dynasty.
- Along with this, high mast lights, solar lights, water supply related works, traffic for the convenience of tourists and other development works will also be done in the Deeg fort area from the main gate to the museum building.
- With this decision of the Chief Minister, tourists will be able to get various information including the Deeg fort as well as Bharatpur's dynasty, Braj's art and culture, ancient weapons at one place.
- It is noteworthy that the announcement in this regard was made by the Chief Minister in the budget for the year 2023-24.

Multipurpose Indoor Hall to be Built in Bharatpur and Bikaner

Why in News?

On July 2, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a financial proposal of Rs 16.44 crore for the construction of multipurpose indoor halls to provide better sports facilities to the players in Bharatpur and Bikaner districts of the state.

Key Points:

- The construction of each hall will cost Rs 8.22 crore.
- With the construction of a multipurpose indoor hall, players will get opportunities to participate in indoor games and showcase their talent.



- It is worth mentioning that an announcement in this regard was made by the Chief Minister in the budget 2023-24.

Many Important Decisions Taken in Rajasthan Cabinet Meeting

Why in News?

On June 30, 2023, a meeting of the state cabinet was held under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, in which many important decisions were taken regarding the formation of new districts, reading the Preamble and fundamental duties of the Constitution in schools, increasing the first salary in favour of the employees in 6 months, giving more opportunities to the youth of the state in government service.

Key Points:

- In the cabinet meeting, the report of the Ram Lubhaya Committee formed for the formation of new districts was discussed. These new districts will give a new impetus to the development of the state and will increase the ease of the common man. Implementation and monitoring of development-related schemes will be done more effectively so that the common man can get the benefits of government schemes, facilities and services quickly.
- It is known that 19 districts were announced in this year's budget. In this sequence, the report submitted by the Ram Lubhaya Committee, the representations received from various sectors and the public sentiment were discussed by the Cabinet regarding the assessment and determination of the limit.
- In the Cabinet meeting, it has been decided to introduce the Preamble of the Constitution and the Fundamental Duties in every school.
- This will further strengthen the faith and pride of the young generation of the state in the great Constitution, democracy and nationalism of the country. 'No Bag Day' will be observed every Saturday in the schools.
- The preamble and fundamental duties of the Constitution will also be published in the newly published textbooks.
- The Cabinet has approved the draft 'The Rajasthan ILD Skills University, Jaipur (Change of Name and

Amendment) Bill-2023' and decided to rename Rajasthan ILD Skills University as 'The Vishwakarma Skills University'.

- This will start the process of appointment of a vice-chancellor, formation of the board of management and bringing ordinances for new provisions etc.
- With this decision, the work of the university will be done smoothly and at a fast pace. With this approval of the Cabinet, this bill can be introduced in the Assembly.
- The cabinet has approved the proposal to amend the Rajasthan Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rules 2017. Due to this, the salary will be fixed in the next cell if the promotion of the personnel is equal to the pay level of the promotion post or ACP. This will increase the salary of the personnel.
- Also, two increment dates (January 1 and July 1) have been fixed instead of one increment date at present. Due to this, the personnel will get the first increment in 6 months only. With these amendments, the designations of various services will also be in line with the service rules.
- The Cabinet has approved the proposal to amend the Rajasthan Subordinate Office Clerical Service Rules 1999, Rajasthan Secretariat Clerical Service Rules 1970 and Rajasthan Public Service Commission (Clerical and Subordinate Service) Rules and Regulations 1999 with a view to provide more and more employment to the candidates of the state in government services and to provide skilled candidates in shorthand.
- Under this, a provision has been made to give weightage to general knowledge of Rajasthan in the curriculum of Quick Clerk / Personal Assistant Grade-II in the Ministerial Service Rules related to Government Secretariat, Subordinate Offices and Rajasthan Public Service Commission.
- Also, provisions have been made to include 15 times more students in the advertised posts for Phase II and to give weightage to the shorthand.
- The Cabinet has approved the proposal to amend the Rajasthan Civil Services (Allotment of Residential Accommodation) Rules, 1958 to provide relief to women government employees who are transferred during pregnancy.
- With the said amendment, a woman government employee, who has been allotted a government accommodation, will be able to keep that house on normal rent till the end of maternity leave.

Note:



- The Cabinet has decided to amend the Rajasthan Industries Service Rules-1960, Rajasthan Industries Subordinate Services Rules-1966 and Rajasthan State and Subordinate Services (Direct Recruitment Rules-1999) in Appendix 'F' and rename 'Industries Department' as 'Department of Industry and Commerce'. With the change of name, the designation of the officers of the department will also be revised.

Rs 231 Crore Sanctioned under Various Schemes in the Extremely Backward Classes Development Fund in the State

Why in News?

On July 1, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved financial proposals worth Rs 231.44 crore under various schemes for the students of the Most Backward Class (MBC) of the state. This amount has been sanctioned under the MBC Development Fund.

Key Points:

- The Chief Minister has approved Rs 1.50 crore for 'Devnarayan Anuprati Yojana', Rs 8 crore for 'Devnarayan Pre-Matric Scholarship', Rs 135 crore for 'Devnarayan Uttar Matric Scholarship', Rs 17.50 crore for 'Devnarayan Gurukul Yojana' and Rs 20.34 crore for 'Devnarayan Scooty Distribution and Incentive Scheme'.
- The Chief Minister has approved Rs 37.90 crore for the construction of buildings of Devnarayan Residential Schools at Rawatbhata in Chittorgarh and Biratnagar in Jaipur.
- Apart from this, Rs 11.20 crore has been approved for the construction of buildings of Umren in Alwar, Niwai in Tonk and Devnarayan hostels in Mansarovar and Pratap Nagar in Jaipur.
- With this decision of the Chief Minister, the students of the most backward classes will be able to get education easily and they will be able to build their bright future.
- It is worth mentioning that in the budget for the year 2023-24, the amount of the MBC Development Fund has been increased to Rs 200 crore by the Chief Minister.

The State Mental Health Authority has been Constituted for the Care of Mental Patients

Why In News?

On July 3, 2023, Shubhra Singh, Additional Chief Secretary, Medical and Health Department of Rajasthan, said that in compliance with the Mental Health Care Act-2017 and the State Mental Health Authority Rules-2018 for the care of mental patients in the state, the State Mental Health Authority has been constituted. A gazette notification has also been issued for this.

Key Points:

- In the Mental Health Authority, Additional Chief Secretary has been designated as Chairman, Mission Director National Health Mission as Chief Executive Officer and Director Public Health as Member Secretary. Apart from these, there will be ex-officio and non-official members in this authority.
- The Additional Chief Secretary informed that the state mental health related rules and bye-laws will be made soon by organizing a meeting of the Mental Health Authority. Along with this, mental health boards will also be constituted.
- He said that the rules related to the rights of mental patients will also be decided in the meeting.

'Training of Trainer Self Defence Techniques for Women' Started at Police Academy

Why In News?

On July 3, 2023, Commissioner of Rajasthan School Education Council and State Project Director Shruti Bhardwaj, under the joint aegis of School Education Department and Rajasthan Police, conducted a 10-day special training course 'Training of Launched 'Trainer Self Defence Techniques for Women' at Rajasthan Police Academy, Shastri Nagar.

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Key Points:

- In the new academic session, girls in government schools of the state will be given special training for self-defense under the Rani Laxmibai Self-Defence Program. For this, a 10-day special training course has been started.
- On this occasion, Shruti Bhardwaj said that under this program more than 20 lakh girls have been benefited in the state so far. In this special training at the state level, women trainers from the districts will be taught the nuances of self-defense, after which they will further teach the tricks of self-defense to girls studying in government schools.
- Along with this, this Woman PTI will also be given detailed information about women's rights and laws so that they can make girls aware of their rights and laws.



Inauguration and Foundation Stone laying of 11 NH projects in Pratapgarh

Why in News?

On July 4, 2023, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 11 National Highway projects worth Rs 5600 crore in Pratapgarh, Rajasthan.

Key Points:

- Nitin Gadkari inaugurated four National Highway projects in Rajasthan with a total length of 219 km and a cost of Rs 3,775 crore.
 - This 6-laning project from the Kishangarh to the Gulabpura section of National Highway 48 will give

a fillip to the economic and social development of the Ajmer and Bhilwara districts.

- The 6-laning of Gulabpura to Chittorgarh section will strengthen the connectivity of Udaipur, Jaipur and Kota areas of Bhilwara and Chittorgarh districts.
- The construction of a 4-lane ROB on National Highway 162A at Fatehnagar will solve the problem of traffic jam at the railway crossing.
- Nitin Gadkari launched the construction of a High-Level Bridge over the Chambal River at Mandrayal under CRIF. With the construction of this bridge, connectivity will be maintained between Mandrayal, Karauli in Rajasthan and Sabalgarh in Madhya Pradesh.
- Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari also laid the foundation stone of 7 projects costing Rs 1850 crore and a total length of 221 km.
 - These projects will provide direct connectivity from the famous religious site Nathdwara to Udaipur airport.
 - The construction of Pratapgarh bypass will reduce the traffic load inside the city.
 - The construction of road from Ras to Beawar will facilitate the vehicles going towards Bhilwara.
 - Better connectivity will be available to tribal areas of Dungarpur, Udaipur and Banswara region.
 - By construction of bypass in Sangwada and Garhi, the distance of Dungarpur-Banswara will be reduced by 10 km.
 - 13 animal underpasses will be made for the protection of wildlife in Todgarh Wildlife Sanctuary on the Beawar-Gomti road.
- During the program, an announcement was also made to approve 74 projects under CRF in Rajasthan at a cost of Rs 2250 crore. Work on these projects will start soon.



Note:



The foundation stone of Barwas Micro Irrigation Project

Why in News?

On July 5, 2023, Rajasthan's Minister of State for Youth Affairs, Sports and Information & Public Relations Ashok Chandna laid the foundation stone of Barwas Micro Irrigation Project in Bundi district to be constructed at a cost of Rs 12 crore in the state.

Key Points:

- The construction of this project at Barwas village in Bundi district will increase the area's water level. Farmers will get options for crop sowing and the underground water level will increase. This will directly benefit the tenants.
- It is worth mentioning that the state government has made several announcements for the Hindoli-Nainwa region in the state budget. In the last four years, development work has been done in many areas including drinking water, irrigation, medical, education, agriculture, and roads in the area.
- The Minister of State said that the mini dams and anicuts built in the area have ensured irrigation to the farmers and the availability of drinking water to the villagers. At the same time, the underground water

level of the area is increasing. An amount of Rs 200 crore has been spent on these works.



CM approves the draft of 'Vishwakarma Kamgar Kalyan Yojana'

Why in News?

On July 4, 2023, in order to promote employment in the state, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved the draft of 'Vishwakarma Kamgar Kalyan Yojana'.

Key Points:

- Under this scheme, 1 lakh people of different categories will get the assistance of 5-5 thousand rupees to buy necessary equipment, kits, sewing machines etc. for self-employment.
- These include the Rajasthan Crafts and Mati Arts Board, Rajasthan State Kesh Kala Board, Rajasthan State Denotified Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Welfare Board, Handicrafts Scheme run through The Department of Industry and Commerce, Rajivika/NULM-Women and Artisans identified by Labour Department-Kamgar.
- With this decision, better opportunities for self-employment will be available to the people of these sections.
- It is worth mentioning that Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot had announced the launch of 'Vishwakarma Kamgar Kalyan Yojana' in the budget for the year 2023-24.

Note:

5 New Hostels for Scheduled Caste Students

Why in News?

On July 6, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved a financial proposal of Rs 14 crore for the construction of 5 new hostels for Scheduled Caste students in the state.

Key Points:

- New buildings of Savitribai Phule Scheduled Caste Girls Hostel for SC students will be constructed at Malakheda in Alwar district, Suratgarh in Sriganganagar district, Raipur in Pali district and Kanod in Udaipur district whereas Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Scheduled Caste Boys Hostel at Jaitasar in Churu district.
- A provision of Rs 2.80 crore has been made for each hostel. These hostels will have a capacity of 50-50 students.
- With this approval of the Chief Minister, scheduled caste students will be able to build a better future by getting education easily.
- It is worth mentioning that the Chief Minister had made an announcement in this regard in the budget for the year 2023-24.

Gurusharan Chhabra Public Awareness Campaign for Liquor Abstinence

Why In News?

According to the information provided by the Rajasthan Information and Public Relations Department on July 5, 2023, the state government Shri Gurusharan Chhabra Public Awareness Campaign.

Key Points

- Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved a financial proposal of Rs 2.5 crore for a three-month action plan in this regard.
- With this decision of the Chief Minister, publicity and public awareness will be spread across the state through radio, television, community radio, print media, social media, NGOs and civil society.

- Also, abstinence workshops will be organized in schools, colleges and coaching centres.
- It is worth mentioning that the announcement in this regard was made by the Chief Minister in the budget 2023-24.

10 Colleges Upgraded to Postgraduate

Why in News?

On July 6, 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has taken an important decision towards strengthening the education infrastructure in the state and approved the proposal to upgrade 10 government graduate colleges of the state to post-graduate and start new subjects.

Key Points:

- According to the proposal, new subjects of post-graduate level will be started in Government College Deshnok Bikaner, Government College Khajuwala Bikaner, Veer Shiromani Rao Devraj Rathore Government College Shergarh Jodhpur, Government College Jamwaramgarh Jaipur, Government College Sampau Dholpur, Government College Mangrol Baran, Government College Uchaun Bharatpur, Government College Mangalana Nagaur, Government College Marwar Junction Pali and Government Girls College Piplu Tonk.
- A total of 26 posts including 20 posts of assistant professor and 3 posts each of laboratory assistant and laboratory bearer will be created for conducting these subjects.
- With this approval of the Chief Minister, the education sector will develop in the state and students will get opportunities to study their favorite subject nearby.
- It is worth mentioning that the Chief Minister had announced in this regard during the discussion on the Finance and Appropriation Bill of the Budget 2023-24.

Committee Formation for Better Facilities to Home Guard Volunteers

Why in News?

On July 6, 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the proposal to form a committee to provide better

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facilities to the volunteers of Rajasthan Home Defense and to solve their problems.

Key Points:

- According to the proposal, the committee will be set up at the Directorate level of Home Defence. The Principal Government Secretary of the Home Department will be its chairman.
- The Director General and Commander General (Commandant General), Home Defense and Inspector General of Police Home Defense will be the members of this committee. The Government Secretary of the Home Department will act as the Member Secretary of this committee.
- This committee will work for the employment of Home Defense Volunteers for 12 months, giving them equal to honorarium police reserves, giving dearness allowance and ESI/ PF facility and resolving problems arising from time to time to Home Defense volunteers.
- Apart from the formation of the committee, approval has also been given to increase the contract period of Rajasthan Home Defense Volunteers from 5 years to 15 years.
- The chief minister had made the announcement during the inauguration ceremony of the newly-built Home Guard headquarters in Jaipur in May 2023.

Public Relations Investiture Ceremony

Why in News?

On July 9, 2023, 24 personalities were honoured for their exemplary work in various services including public relations at a public relations investiture ceremony organized by Rajasthan Public Relations Society in Jaipur under the chairmanship of Dr. Sudhi Rajiv, Vice Chancellor of Haridev Joshi University, Jaipur.

Key Points:

- Former IAS officer Manoj Kumar Sharma honoured 24 eminent personalities who have done exemplary work in various fields with shawls, certificates and mementoes.
- Rajasthan Housing Commissioner Pawan Arora was honoured with the 'Public Relations Shri' award at the function. On his behalf, BL Swamy received the award.

- Apart from these, Special Officer (Chief Minister) of Rajasthan Housing Board Farooq Afridi was given lifetime achievement and renowned Ghazal singers Padmashri Ahmed Hussain and Mohammad Hussain were given special decorations.



- On this occasion, Udaipur Divisional Commissioner Rajendra Bhatt, Tilak Palawat, representatives of late Govardhan Lal Parashar, representatives of late Kamalnayan Sharma, Dr. Narottam Sharma, Digvijay Dabria, Umed Raj Jain, Dr. Kriti Bharti, Ashish Jain PRO, Shweta Pachauri, Akanksha Palawat PRO, Vinayak Sharma, Tarun Tak, Mahesh Kacholia, Shailendra Sharma, Ashish, Aman, Himanshu Patni, Rekha Chatterjee, Manoj Bhardwaj were present. Seema Raj, Chandrashekhara APRO, Snigdha Sharma and Lipi Singhal were also honoured.

CM approves the proposal of Teacher Interface for Excellence (TIE) Program

Why in News?

According to the information given by the Rajasthan Information and Public Relations Department on July 9, 2023, the proposal of the Teacher Interface for Excellence (TIE) program has been approved by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, under which 500 teachers of government colleges, government polytechnic colleges and universities of the state will now be able to get teaching-related training in prestigious institutions in the country and abroad.

Key Points:

- An expenditure of Rs 23.50 crore will be incurred in the financial year 2023-24 on research and training facilities under the Teacher Interface for Excellence (TIE) program. The guidelines of the program will be released soon by the department.
- With this approval of the Chief Minister, teachers will be able to take training in prestigious institutions with 1 to 100 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) rank abroad and 1 to 100 National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) rank in India. This training program will be for 1 to 6 months.

Note:

- Teachers will be familiar and trained with excellent educational policies and programs conducted. This will encourage quality teaching and research in higher education.
- This will further strengthen the position of higher educational institutions of the state in the grading of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The level of research in the state will increase.
- The scheme will be operated by the Rajasthan State Faculty Development Academy. The nodal department will be the college education department.
- It is noteworthy that an announcement in this regard was made by the Chief Minister in the budget 2023-24.

PM lays Foundation Stone and dedicates Development Projects in Bikaner

Why in News?

On July 8, 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and inaugurated development projects worth more than Rs 24,300 crore in Bikaner, Rajasthan.

Key Points:

- The projects inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi include the six-lane Greenfield Expressway section of the Amritsar-Jamnagar Economic Corridor; Phase-I of the Inter-State Transmission Line of Green Energy Corridor Bhiwadi Transmission Line developed by Bikaner Power Grid and 30 bedded Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Hospital at Bikaner.
- The Prime Minister dedicated to the nation the six-lane Greenfield Expressway section of the Amritsar-Jamnagar Economic Corridor.
 - The over 500 km stretch, stretching from Jakrawali village in Hanumangarh district in Rajasthan to Khetlawas village in Jalore district, has been constructed at a cost of around Rs 11,125 crore.
 - The expressway will significantly reduce travel time and improve transport connectivity between major cities and industrial corridors.
 - The expressway will not only facilitate the seamless transportation of goods but also increase tourism and economic development on its route.

- Giving a boost to the power sector in the region, the Prime Minister dedicated Phase-I of the Inter-State Transmission Line for the Green Energy Corridor, which has been constructed at a cost of about Rs 10,950 crore.
 - The Green Energy Corridor will integrate about 6 GW of renewable energy and help in grid balancing of renewable energy with thermal power generation in the western region and Hydro-Power generation in the northern region, thereby strengthening the transmission capacity between the northern region and the western region.
- The Prime Minister also dedicated to the nation the Bikaner-Bhiwadi transmission line developed by the Power Grid at a cost of about Rs 1,340 crore. Bikaner to Bhiwadi transmission line will help in the evacuation of 8.1 GW of solar power in Rajasthan.
- The Prime Minister dedicated to the nation the new 30-bed Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Hospital in Bikaner. The capacity of the hospital will be eligible for expansion to 100 beds.
- In addition, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for the redevelopment of Bikaner Railway Station. The redevelopment work, costing around Rs 450 crore, will involve the renovation of all platforms along with floors and ceilings while ensuring the preservation of the heritage status of the existing structure of the railway station.
- The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone for doubling of the 43 km long Churu-Ratangarh rail section. The doubling of this railway line will enhance rail connectivity and facilitate the transportation of gypsum, limestone, food grains and fertilizer products from the Bikaner region to the rest of the country.



Note:

Jan Samman Video Contest- Gajendra of Sawai Madhopur got the First Prize of 1 lakh rupees

Why In News?

On July 10, 2023, on the first day of the Jan Samman video contest, Gajendra of Sawai Madhopur district received an amount of one lakh rupees as the first prize.

Key Points

- In the contest, Mahendra of Nagaur district got the second position, in which he got an amount of Rs.50,000. Similarly, Jitendra of Jalore district secured the third position and received an amount of Rs 25,000. Along with this, 100 participants of the state received Purna Puraskar with Rs 1000 (each).
- It is worth mentioning that the state government has organized this innovative competition, realizing the resolve to make the government schemes accessible to every needy of the state.
- This competition will run till August 6. All interested participants can create and post their videos.

10 Minority Hostels to be Built in Different Districts-Working Women Hostel in Jaipur and Citizen Facilitation Center to be Built in Jodhpur

Why In News?

According to the information given by the Information and Public Relations Department of Rajasthan on July 10, 2023, the state government is going to open hostels in various districts to provide better education to the students of minority communities in the state. Along with this, a hostel for working women will be set up in Mansarovar, Jaipur and a Minority Citizen Facilitation Center in Jodhpur.

Key Points

- According to the information, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved the proposal to increase the

amount of Minority Development Fund to Rs 200 crore including its establishment and to get the approved progress works done under the fund in the year 2022-23.

- 10 hostels will be built in these 9 districts – Kishanpole (girls) in Jaipur, Dudu, Kuchaman City (girls) in Nagaur, 50-50-bed hostels will be built in Baran, Bharatpur, Bikaner, Ajmer, Bundi, Chittorgarh and Churu. Students studying in colleges and universities from class 9 onwards will be able to take admission in these hostels.
- A hostel will be built for working women belonging to the minority community in Mansarovar area of Jaipur. It will be 100 beds. In this, priority will be given to low-paid women working in Jaipur from different districts.
- Minority Citizen Facilitation Center will be set up in Jodhpur. Here you will get information about all schemes related to minorities. Training camps will be organized in the center. Seminars will also be organized for the encouragement of students and the general public.

Government Minority English Medium Residential School to be Built in Jaipur

Why In News?

According to the information given by the Information and Public Relations Department of Rajasthan on July 10, 2023, Mahatma Gandhi Government English Medium Residential School from class 1 to 12 will start soon in Jaipur to provide quality study facilities to the students of minority communities of the state. .

Key Points

- According to the information, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has given financial approval of Rs 15.15 crore for the construction of the school building.
- An amount of Rs 1 crore will be spent in this financial year. This amount will be spent from the Minority Inclusive Development Fund.
- This residential school will have a capacity of 200 students. If there are more than 200 students here, they will be able to study as day-scholars.
- Through this school, free residential facilities will be provided to the needy and talented students of the minority community.

Note:

- This approval of the Chief Minister has been given in view of the increasing trend and need of education in English medium among parents and children. This is an important step in the educational upliftment of the minorities.

Grant will be given for the establishment of a Fruit and Spice Garden

Why In News?

On July 10, 2023, according to the information given by the Information and Public Relations Department of Rajasthan, the farmers of the state will get a grant for the establishment of a fruit and spice garden. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved the financial proposal of Rs 23.79 crore for grant.

Key Points

- In the year 2023-24, a grant of Rs 22.40 crore will be given for the fruit garden in 7609 hectare area and Rs 1.39 crore for spice garden in 2527 hectare area.
- In this, an amount of Rs 17.24 crore will be borne by the State Farmers Welfare Fund and Rs 6.55 crore from the National Horticulture Mission and National Agriculture Development Scheme.
- It is notable that the announcement in this regard was made by the Chief Minister in the budget. With this decision of the Chief Minister, farmers will be encouraged to set up fruit and spice gardens.

State-Level Family Welfare Promotion Award

Why in News?

On July 11, 2023, on the occasion of World Population Day, the State Level Family Welfare Incentive Award Distribution Ceremony was organized at Rajasthan International Center located in Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur.

Key Points:

- On this occasion, Rajasthan Medical and Health Minister Parsadi Lal Meena also released poster-flip chart material related to family welfare.

- He honoured individual personnel and institutions including districts, Panchayat Samitis and Gram Panchayats for their outstanding work in the field of family planning by giving certificates and prescribed prize money.
- Jhalawar district stood first, Hanumangarh district second, Pratapgarh district third and Bundi district fourth in the category of institutional awards in this ceremony.
- Jhalawar district stood first in PPIUCD investment, Shahpura Panchayat Samiti of Bhilwara district stood first, Rajsamand Panchayat Samiti second, Pisangan Panchayat Samiti of Ajmer district stood third and Kotputli Panchayat Samiti stood fourth in the category of Panchayat Samitis giving best results.
- Saloda Gram Panchayat of Rajsamand district was awarded first, Moyna Gram Panchayat of Ajmer district was second, Gram Panchayat Chhapli of Rajsamand district was third and Taswariabsa Gram Panchayat of Bhilwara district was awarded fourth place.
- In the category of government hospitals, District Hospital Neemkathana, CHC Baoli of Sawai Madhopur district and Singhawal PHC of Ajmer district were the best.
- In the category of private hospitals, Shyama Devi Memorial Hospital of Dausa was awarded first place, and CT Hospital of Bhilwara was awarded second place.
- In the NGO category, FRHS India Jaipur and Kota District Family Service Institute were successful in getting the honour.
- The best achievement personnel in the individual category were also felicitated on the occasion.



Note:

High-level Committee for the Rules & Bye-laws related to the Right-to-Health Act

Why in News?

On July 11, 2023, as per the instructions of Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, a high-level committee has been constituted for the rules and bye-laws being made regarding the Right to Health Act-2022 passed by the Assembly.

Key Points:

- Additional Chief Secretary Medical and Health Department Shubhra Singh said that the committee will send its recommendations to the state government after in-depth consultation with all the stakeholders related to the Right to Health Act, incorporating the useful suggestions given by them.
- He informed that Professor Dr S K Sarin, Director, Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, New Delhi, will head the committee.
- Principal Secretary Medical Education T Ravikant, Chief Executive Officer of Rajasthan State Health Assurance Agency, Mission Director NHM, VC RUHS Dr Sudhir Bhandari, Principal of SMS Medical College Dr Rajiv Bagrahatta, one representative each from finance and law departments have been made members of the committee.

Vishwakarma Workers Welfare Scheme

Why in News?

On July 12, 2023, Rajasthan's Industries and Commerce Department Minister Shakuntala Rawat said that preparations have been started for its implementation after the notification of 'Vishwakarma Kamgar Kalyan Yojana' was issued by the Industries and Commerce Department.

Key Points:

- It is known that the announcement regarding this scheme was made in the budget presented by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot for the year 2023-24.

- 'Vishwakarma Kamgar Kalyan Yojana' has been started in the state to provide self-employment to women, workers, and different classes such as handicrafts, hairstyles, pottery artisans and nomadic class people.
- Under this scheme, one lakh people will get the assistance of five thousand rupees to buy necessary kits, equipment, sewing machines etc. The scheme will create new opportunities for self-employment in the state.
- Under this scheme, Rajasthan Crafts and Mati Arts Board, Rajasthan State Kesh Arts Board, Rajasthan State Denotified Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Welfare Board, Rajivika and Office Commissioner Industries and Commerce through handicrafts, hairstyles, artisans and nomadic persons and Rajivika, women of NULM, selected workers of labour department will be provided modern necessary kits equipment, sewing machines etc. for the purpose of starting their own employment.
- Under the 'Vishwakarma Kamgar Kalyan Yojana', identity card holders issued by various boards and departments will be eligible.
- For the successful implementation of the scheme, a target has been fixed by various boards and departments to benefit the applicants according to the fixed number of targets. Applicants from minimum 18 years to maximum 40 years can get the benefit of this scheme.

7 Tribal Residential Schools will open in the state

Why in News?

On July 12, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has taken an important decision to open 7 residential schools for the educational upliftment of tribal areas to give an opportunity to the students of tribal areas to study in residential schools near them, for the construction of their buildings.

Key Points:

- In the first phase this year, Rs 5 crore will be spent per school. In the coming year, Rs 71 crore will be spent on their construction work under the second phase.

Note:

- Residential schools will be opened in Sumerpur, Sawai Madhopur, Bhedoli-Bauli (Sawai Madhopur) in Pali, Girwara in Kekri, Jalore, Chikhali in Dungarpur, Shripura in Deoli in Tonk.
- All these residential schools will have a student capacity of 210.

50 Birdhouses will be constructed in the state

Why in News?

On July 13, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved an additional budget provision of Rs 43.50 crore for the construction of 50 birdhouses for the conservation and promotion of birds in the state.

Key Points:

- These birdhouses will be built at 33 Lav-Kush Gardens and 17 other places on the lines of Gulab Bagh Bird House in Udaipur.
- An expenditure of Rs 87 lakh per birdhouse will be incurred for the construction of birdhouses, food for birds and the purchase of exotic birds. Thus, a total of Rs 43.50 crore will be spent.
- Out of the same amount, birds like Cockial (Australian Bird), Love Bird Parrot, Bajriger (Buggy Parrot), Guinea Fowl (Chakor Rooster) etc. will be purchased from pet shops in bird houses with one lakh rupees each.
- It is worth mentioning that the Chief Minister had announced the construction of 50 birdhouses in the budget for the year 2023-24. This approval has been given in the implementation of this declaration.
- With this approval of the Chief Minister, along with the protection of birds in the state, the treatment and promotion of sick, helpless and injured birds will be done.

State Level Seminar Raj. Pulmocon 2023

Why In News?

Two day state level seminar Raj. Pulmocon 2023 was organized. During this, the book Lang Rajasthan was released.

key points

- Addressing the function organized at Park Paradise, the Education Minister said that medical science experts do deep research, their findings are beneficial for human health. He said that there will be exchange of ideas from such seminars, which will prove to be better for the medical world.
- He said that Bikaner has made radical development in the medical field. The PBM hospital here is proving useful for the patients of Bikaner division and the surrounding states. The Cancer Research and Cardiovascular Center here has become a lifeline for the patients.
- Disaster Management Minister Govind Ram Meghwal said that such seminars should be held from time to time, so that medical experiences of experts can be shared.
- He said that Acharya Tulsi Cancer Research Center of Bikaner has proved very useful for the patients of Punjab and Haryana.
- Energy Minister Bhanwar Singh Bhati said that the history of Sardar Patel Medical College has been golden. The teachers and students here have brought laurels to Bikaner in the country and the world.
- He said that the Mukhya Mantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana of the state government is a historic and unique scheme of the country, this scheme has removed the sorrows of lakhs of people of the state.
- LifeTime Achievement Award was given to Dr. P.R Gupta during the seminar. Dr. Mahendra Kumar, Dr. C.R Chaudhary, Dr. Situ Singh was given the Dr. SK Sarkar Orientation Award.



Note:

Jail Minister and Former Union Minister inaugurated 'The Asha Filling Station' in Central Jail Alwar

Why In News?

On July 15, 2023, Minister of Prisons Department and Social Justice and Empowerment Tikaram Jully and former Union Minister Bhanwar Jitendra Singh installed petrol pumps in the Central Prison premises under the innovative initiative of the Prisons Department to connect the inmates with employment and provide facilities to the general public. Inaugurated 'The Hope Filling Station'.

key points

- Prisons Department Minister Jully said that the Prisons Department and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. With the cooperation of the Central Jail, the 'Ashayein' organization has started operating this petrol pump, in which the well-behaved prisoners living in the open jail will be able to get employment according to their ability.
- He said that the State Government was providing skill training to the jail inmates through various innovations. At the same time, work is being done to connect the prisoners living in open jails to the mainstream of the society through these innovations.
- He said that this petrol pump would be operated by the inmates only, which would be monitored by the Prison Monitoring Committee.
- Former Union Minister Bhanwar Jitendra Singh said that this initiative of the Prisons Department will provide employment to the prisoners living in open jail according to their ability, which will prove to be an important link for them and their families to live a dignified life and join the mainstream of the society.

Rajasthan Domestic Travel Mart- 2023

Why In News?

On July 15, 2023, Rajasthan Tourism Minister Vishvendra Singh inaugurated the third edition of Rajasthan Domestic Travel Mart at Rajasthan International Center, Jhalana, Jaipur to promote domestic tourism in the state.

key points

- Tourism Minister Vishvendra Singh said that there are immense possibilities of domestic tourism in the state. Rajasthan Tourism is one of the most preferred destinations in the country due to its tourism products, tourism friendly policies, plans and innovations.
- Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation Chairman Dharmendra Rathore said that Rajasthan with its visionary tourism policies like Rural Tourism Policy, Film Promotion Policy is a role model for states across the country. It is the first state to give industry status to the tourism and hospitality sector.
- He said that so far around 1000 hotels have benefited from this in areas like UD tax and electricity rebate. The state government has also increased the tourism development fund from Rs 1000 crore to Rs 1500 crore. In addition, 5 international golf courses and 5 MICE centers are also coming up in the state.
- Rajeev Arora, Chairman, Rajasthan Small Scale Industries Corporation said that due to the initiative of the government, 206 new projects with a proposed investment of Rs 4500 crore and 14856 rooms have been registered in the year 2022 as compared to 187 projects in the year 2019.
- In the year 2022, 10.87 crore tourists visited Rajasthan as compared to 2.20 crore during the year 2021. The increase in the number of tourists by 8 crores in one year is a big achievement of the state government.
- Gayatri Rathore, Principal Secretary, Tourism Department said that efforts have been made by the state government to include a maximum number of tourism units in the ambit of industry benefits.
- The state government has enforced conversion orders on hotels, motels, hotels with 10 or more rooms in rural areas, hotel-run tourism units on RIICO land, hotels, RTDC and RSHC hotels, central and state government museums, by the revenue department and the district collector.
- Rajasthan is a favorite destination not only in tourism but also in the field of investment. New religious circuits are also being developed in the state.
- Apoorva Kumar, President, FHTR said that along with promoting tourism, there is an urgent need to preserve the tangible and intangible heritage of the state and that is why this year the theme of the Mart is aptly Sustainable Tourism.

Note:

- A travel publication on Regal Rajasthan– Sustainability Empowering the Future was also released during the event.
- It is noteworthy that RDTM is being organized by the Department of Tourism, Government of Rajasthan and Federation of Hospitality and Tourism of Rajasthan (FHTR). This year the theme of the Mart has been Sustainable Tourism.
- Over 200 exhibitors from Rajasthan displayed their tourism products and over 200 domestic tour operators from across India participated in the event which lasted till 16th July.
- Over 7000 B2B structured meetings between buyers and sellers took place during the two days, showcasing the efficiency and potential of their over 600 tourism products like hotels, motels, resorts, eateries, heritage properties, amusement parks etc.
- Buyers from almost all the states of the country like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Odisha etc. participated in the Mart.



Rajasthan University Teachers (Temporary Teachers) (Amendment) Bill, 2023 passed by Voice Vote

Why in News?

On July 17, 2023, the Rajasthan Universities Teachers (Appointment of Temporary Teachers) (Amendment) Bill-2023 was passed by voice vote after discussion in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly. Eligible temporary teachers can be regularised by screening through this bill.

Key Points:

- It is known that earlier in the year 2008, the Teachers (Appointment of Temporary Teachers) Ordinance of

Rajasthan Universities was introduced. Later, a bill to replace the ordinance was passed in the Assembly.

- Under this Ordinance and Act, more than 300 teachers working temporarily in the universities were made permanent in the service of the concerned universities after being found eligible through the screening committee.
- It is to be known that before the year 2008, some temporary teachers/yoga instructors working in the university were left out from being covered in the 2008 ordinance. Therefore, the state government has decided to make such teachers and yoga instructors permanent after they are found eligible through the screening committee.
- For this, the Rajasthan Universities Teachers (Appointment of Temporary Teachers) (Amendment) Bill-2023 has been brought by amending the definition of temporary teacher in the Amalgamation Act, 2008 and giving relaxation in the period of 180 days fixed for appointment by the original Act.



Rajiv Gandhi Fintech Digital Institute Bill-2023 passed by Voice Vote

Why in News?

On July 17, 2023, the Rajasthan Assembly passed the Bill by voice vote after a discussion on the Rajiv Gandhi Fintech Digital Institutions Bill-2023.

Key Points:

- Rajasthan Education Minister Dr. B.D. Kalla said in the Assembly that the Rajiv Gandhi Fintech Digital Institute being set up in Jodhpur will set world-class standards in the field of financial technology. This institute is being set up to train the youth of the state in this field.

Note:

- This world-class institution will prove to be a new revolution in the digital world. This will create experts in the technical field like Artificial Intelligence, who will be able to get employment opportunities worldwide.
- The institute is being established in the name of Bharat Ratna Late Rajiv Gandhi, the architect of the IT revolution.
- In the current era where cyber crimes are increasing rapidly and people are needing expert advice for tasks like investment and insurance, this institute will create digitally knowledgeable financial technology experts.
- The state government has made a provision of Rs 672.45 crore for the institute from its financial resources, out of which an amount of Rs 130 crore has been spent. For this, 97 bighas of land have been allotted, on which construction work is going on.
- Diploma, degree courses recognized by UGC and AICTE will be available in the institute. This institute will develop into a Digital State University, where cyber experts and digital experts will be prepared.
- Also, the institute will be developed as per the standards of IIT, AIIMS. The management here will be fully autonomous.
- Earlier, the House rejected the proposal to circulate the bill for public opinion by voice vote.

- food items. Out of these, a grant-in-aid of Rs 3.37 crore has been given for setting up 11 processing units.
- It is worth mentioning that the Rajasthan Millets Promotion Mission has been announced by the Chief Minister in the budget for the year 2022-23.
- Under the mission, provisions have been made to establish the Millets Centre of Excellence under Jodhpur Agricultural University, with a view to provide free seeds of advanced varieties, distribution of micronutrients and bio-insecticide kits at a subsidized rate, grant on establishment of the first 100 processing units of millets, promotion for the modification of Bajra and other millets, encouragement and latest technical information to small and marginal farmers.
- It is known that Ragi, Kangni, Sawan, Cheena, Kodo, and Kutki crops are included under Millets. Public awareness programs have been proposed regarding their nutritional quality.
- State seed-producing organizations like Rajasthan State Seed Corporation Limited and Rajasthan State Oilseed Producer Cooperative Union Limited, do not have the improved seeds of small grains like Ragi, Kangni, Sawan, Cheena, Kodo, Kutki. Seeds have been procured from the Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad by the state government to develop these seeds in the state itself.

A grant of Rs 3 crore 37 lakh for the establishment of 11 Millets & Food Processing Units

Why in News?

On July 17, 2023, Rajasthan Agriculture Minister Lalchand Kataria informed the Legislative Assembly that a grant assistance of Rs 3.37 crore has been given for the establishment of 11 millets and food processing units in the state.

Key Points:

- The Agriculture Minister said that no application has been made by the farmers from any district for the establishment of Millet Processing Units under the Rajasthan Millets Promotion Mission. As many as 20 applications have been received from private companies for processing units of millets and other

Rajasthan Control of Organized Crime Bill-2023 passed by voice vote

Why in News?

On July 18, 2023, after discussion on the Rajasthan Control of Organized Crime Bill-2023 in the Rajasthan Assembly, the House passed the bill by voice vote.

Key Points:

- This bill has been brought to curb organized crime and to empower the police in the state. The provisions of this Act will prove to be effective in controlling organized crime in the state.
- The Bill provides for the confiscation of assets acquired by offenders, the setting up of special courts and appointment of special public prosecutors for speedy disposal of cases. It also provides for non-bail and anticipatory bail for offenders.

Note:



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- Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shanti Kumar Dhariwal said that a study of crime trends in the state has revealed that the pattern of crime in the state has changed in the last decade. Criminal gangs have established organized networks with shooters, informers, intelligence informers and arms suppliers.
- These organized gangs are mainly involved in serious crimes like contract killing, threatening businessmen and demanding ransom, and drug trafficking. These gangs also get released from custody for committing offences by taking advantage of the corrective and rehabilitative aspects of law and procedure. For some time now, these criminals have created a scary image in the public. Therefore, this Bill will fulfill the stringent law required to deal effectively with these criminals.
- Under Section 28 of the Act, the High Court has been empowered to make rules in respect of Special Courts. At the same time, under Section 29, the State Government can make rules to implement the purposes of the Act.
- Under Section 5 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the state government can make laws of special procedure, under which this bill has been brought. Rajasthan is the 4th state in the country to enact such a law. In the past, similar laws have been implemented in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat.
- Before this, the proposal to circulate the bill to know public opinion was rejected by the House by voice vote.

45 New Subjects to be started in 36 schools of the state

Why in News?

On July 18, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has taken an important decision towards providing better education to the students and approved the proposal to introduce 45 new subjects in 36 schools of the state and create necessary posts for the teaching of these subjects.

Key Points:

- One subject each will be started in 27 out of 36 schools in the state and two subjects each in 9 schools. Of these, 6 in Jaipur, 4 in Alwar, 3 each in Bharatpur, Dausa, Jalore, 2 each in Banswara, Churu, Jhunjhunu, Hanumangarh, Nagaur, 1 each in Ajmer, Bhilwara, Sriganganagar, Karauli, Sikar, Tonk and Udaipur are included.

- For the introduction of new subjects in these schools, one post of school lecturer per subject will be created. In this way, a total of 45 posts will be created.
- Apart from this, Biology subjects will be started in one school each in Alwar and Udaipur. One post of Laboratory Assistant will also be created for these schools.
- It is worth mentioning that the Chief Minister had announced to introduce a new subject in the budget for the year 2023-24.
- With this approval, students will get opportunities to study by choosing their favourite subject near their residence.

Rajasthan Prison Bill-2023 passed by voice vote

Why in News?

On July 18, 2023, after discussing the Rajasthan Prisons Bill-2023 in the Rajasthan Assembly, the House passed the bill by voice vote.

Key Points:

- On this occasion, Prisons Minister Tikaram Julie said that the Rajasthan Prison Bill-2023 has been brought to ensure reformative provisions, basic human rights, their skill development and vocational training program for the prisoners in the jails of the state.
- At present, the 129-year-old Administration and Management Prisons Act-1894 and the 63-year-old Rajasthan Prisons Act-1960 are in force in the state.
- The Rajasthan Prisons Bill-2023 has been brought together by integrating various amendments made in these Acts from time to time. This bill will work for the prisoners as well as the officers and employees working in the jails.
- The Prisons Minister said that various innovations are being made by the department for the improvement of prisoners so that they can get employment after the completion of their sentence. Open detention camps, skill development programmes and the opening of petrol pumps in jails are important innovations in this direction. Rajasthan ranks first in the entire country in terms of open camps. About 40% of the country's open detention camps are in Rajasthan.

Note:

- LED bulbs are being made by the prisoners in the jails of the state, which are available at a lower price than the market. The construction work of new jails in Dungarpur and Jhalawar will be completed soon.
- Facilities in jails in the state are being expanded at a rapid pace. The facility of appearance through VCs is available in 96 % of the jails of the state and soon this facility will be set up in the remaining jails. At the same time, continuous inspections are being carried out by administrative, police and judicial officers for security in the jails.
- Earlier, the House rejected the proposal to circulate the bill for public opinion by a voice vote.

List of total 44 Notified Wetlands in 19 Districts released in the state

Why in News?

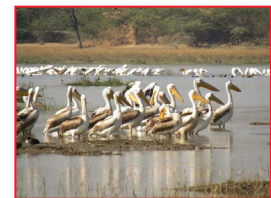
On July 19, 2023, Additional Chief Secretary of Rajasthan Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department, Shikhar Agarwal said that taking a historic step in the field of conservation and integrated management of wetlands by the Department of Environment & Climate Change, a list of total 44 notified wetlands has been issued in 19 districts of the state, under which Baran district of the state will have maximum 12 wetlands.

Key Points:

- 44 wetlands in 19 districts of the state will strengthen the ecosystem in the state and provide a better food chain for wildlife. Wetlands, which are recognized as the kidneys of the earth, play an important role in maintaining the natural balance as well as in environmental protection and water harvesting and purification.
- According to the notification issued by the Environment & Climate Change Department, there will now be a total of 44 notified wetlands (wetlands) areas in the state, under which wetlands in Baran district include Eklera Sagar, Kotrapar Talab, Bethali Dam, Hinglot Dam, Utavali Dam, Sehrol Dam, Garda Talab, Niyana Talai, Nahargarh, Teja Ji Ki Talai, Pushkar Talab, Lhasi Dam.
- There are Devi Kund Sagar and Sursagar under Bikaner district, Naval Sagar Lake under Bundi district, Mangalwad Lake, Kishan Kareri, Barwai Lake, Gambhiri

Dam, Dungarpur District, Sabela Pond in Dungarpur District, Naval Sagar Lake under Bundi District, Bird Sanctuary Canvas, Kishore Sagar, Hanotia under Kota, Didwana (Khalda) in Nagaur District, Pali District The lake includes Lakhotia Talab and Lordia Talab, Rajyawas and Raghav Sagar wetlands under Rajsamand district.

- Apart from these, there are Rewasa in Sikar district, Buddhasagar, Bisalpur, Chandlai, Motisagar, Galwania, Tordi Sagar in Sikar district, Menar Talab Wetland Complex in Udaipur district, Chawandia in Bhilwara district, Kesariyawad in Pratapgarh district, Lakherao Talab in Sirohi district, Ajmer district Bada Talab, Rankhar in Jalore district, Badbela Talab in Jhalawar district are included.
- According to the notification, there will be a ban on any kind of encroachment in the wetland & surrounding areas and there will be a ban on setting up any new industry & expansion of existing industries.
- Along with this, there will be a ban on the collection and disposal of solid, hazardous & e-waste. Food items given by common people to fish and migratory birds will be banned. Commercial mining, stone quarrying along with crushing units will also be banned. There will be an effective ban on any type of hunting.
- All commercial activities that emit pollution including activities that reduce the area and potential of wetlands will be prohibited. Also, any type of groundwater extraction will be prohibited.
- According to the notification, fish farming, operation of boats, desilting, temporary construction, and drainage of water for special purposes can be done in the wetlands area.
- What are wetlands:
 - Known as 'Kidney of the Landscape' and 'Biological Supermarket', such moist and marshy land, which is partially or completely filled with water throughout the year.
 - Wetlands are ecosystems that absorb excess water during floods so that areas of human habitation are protected from submergence.
 - Apart from this, by performing important roles like 'carbon absorption' and an increase in 'ground water level', wetlands contribute significantly to environmental protection.



Note:



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Rajasthan Appropriation (No.-3) Bill, 2023 passed

Why in News?

On July 19, 2023, the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly passed the Rajasthan Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2023.

Key Points:

- The Bill seeks to authorise payment and appropriation of certain amounts from the Consolidated Fund of the State for the financial year 2023-24.
- With the passage of the bill, an amount of 8 thousand 255 crore 67 lakh 40 thousand rupees will be paid and utilized.
- Earlier, the Assembly also passed the Demands for Supplementary Grants for the year 2023-24 (first compilation).
- Minister-in-charge Shanti Kumar Dhariwal presented the demands, which were passed by the House.

Rajasthan Veterinary & Animal Science University (Jobner) Jaipur Bill-2023 passed

Why in News?

On July 20, 2023, the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly passed the Rajasthan Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (Jobner) Jaipur Bill-2023 by voice vote after discussion.

Key Points:

- Replying to a debate on the bill in the Assembly, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Minister Lalchand Kataria said the bill has been brought with the intention of increasing the contribution of the agriculture and animal husbandry sector to the GDP.
- He said that the state's second Veterinary and Animal Sciences University is being opened in Jobner to save livestock and step forward in the field of veterinary medicine. With the establishment of the university, children from rural families will also get an opportunity to get an education equipped with the latest technology in veterinary and animal science.

- He said that Rajasthan will be the first state in the country to have two veterinary and animal science universities. The Veterinary and Animal Sciences University in Bikaner will have 16 districts under its jurisdiction, while the new university to be set up in Jobner will have jurisdiction of 17 districts.
- The Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Minister said that there are 5 lakh 66 thousand livestock and 1 lakh 46 thousand poultry properties in the state. According to new data from the Government of India, the state ranks 1st in milk production.
- Earlier, the House rejected the proposal to circulate the bill for public opinion by voice vote.

Marwar Medical University Bill-2023 passed by voice vote

Why in News?

On July 20, 2023, the Marwar Medical University Bill-2023 was passed by voice vote after discussion in the Rajasthan Assembly.

Key Points:

- Medical and Health Minister Parsadi Lal Meena, while replying to the discussion on this bill, said that with the opening of Marwar Medical University in Jodhpur, patients of western Rajasthan will get better medical facilities near them.
- The Medical and Health Minister said that the state government is continuously expanding medical facilities and services in the state by establishing medical colleges. During the tenure of the present government, 16 medical colleges have been started and medical colleges will also be started in Dausa, Bundi, Karauli, Alwar and Hanumangarh districts this year. The state government is also opening medical colleges in three districts - Jalore, Pratapgarh and Rajsamand from its own financial resources.
- A financial sanction of Rs 500 crore has been given for the early operation of Marwar Medical University in Jodhpur and posts have also been created.
- He said that MBBS seats in the state will also increase from 750 to 3,230. He said that doctors have been appointed at every first aid centre and community medical centre.
- Earlier, the House rejected the proposal to know the public opinion of the bill.

Note:



Rajasthan State Fair Authority Bill-2023 passed

Why in News?

On July 19, 2023, the Rajasthan State Fair Authority Bill-2023 was passed in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly.

Key Points:

- Vice-Chairman of the State Fair Authority, Ramesh Borana said that with the passing of the Authority's bill and becoming an Act, the Fairs and Padyatras organized in the state will now be organized in a more secure and systematic manner.
- It is known that Rajasthan is a rich cultural region, where fairs and festivals are the main basis of the traditional life of the people and their relevance becomes more important in the rapidly changing social values.
- It is worth mentioning that the State Fair Authority was constituted by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in 2011 and now by duly making an act of this authority, the fairs and folk festivals of the state have been conserved, protected and developed.
- Through this act, the state government, while respecting religion and spirituality in the state, has given an opportunity to strengthen the faith of the devotees, on the other hand, it has also provided a safe environment for the Mela culture of the state to flourish.

Campus Placement facility will be available in Govt. Colleges

Why in News?

On July 20, 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a financial proposal of Rs 9.18 crore for organizing Placement Drives to provide better employment opportunities to students in various government colleges of the state.

Key Points:

- According to the proposal, in the first phase, a campus placement scheme will be started in 100 government colleges, under which campus placements will be conducted in colleges at least twice a year.

- Prior to campus placement, students will be given soft skill training through pre-placement, which will increase the confidence of the students and make it easier for them to get employment.
- In addition, skill enhancement of students will be done by coordinating with various specialized institutions such as the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) Pune, National Centre for Biosciences, Bangalore and SEBI.
- It is worth mentioning that in the budget for the year 2023-24, the Chief Minister had announced to start campus placement facility to provide employment opportunities to the students in various government colleges of the state.

Rajasthan Dead Body Respect Bill-2023 passed by voice vote

Why in News?

On July 20, 2023, the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly passed the Rajasthan Dead Body Honour Bill-2023 by voice vote after discussion. The Bill will ensure the dignity of dead bodies and effectively prevent their misuse in protests.

Key Points:

- Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shanti Kumar Dhariwal while replying to the discussion on this bill in the Vidhansabha said that the trend of picketing and protesting by keeping dead bodies is increasing day by day. At present, there is no provision in the law to effectively stop such incidents, that is why this bill has been brought.
- Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shanti Kumar Dhariwal said that 82 such incidents have taken place from 2014 to 2018 and 306 since 2019.
- The bill will also preserve data by DNA and genetic profiling of unclaimed bodies so that they can be identified in the future.
- The Parliamentary Affairs Minister said that in case the family does not accept the dead person's body, the bill provides for a punishment of up to one year and a fine. Also, a provision of imprisonment of up to 2 years and a fine has been made for the use of the body in the protest by the family.

Note:

- Similarly, a provision has been made for the punishment from 6 months to 5 years and a fine for using the body by a person other than the family to protest.
- The Executive Magistrate has been empowered to conduct the last rites of the deceased within 24 hours. This period can also be extended in special circumstances. Also, in case the body is not cremated by the family members, the last rites can be performed by the public authority.
- Shanti Kumar Dhariwal said that in the civil writ petition Shelter Rights Campaign vs Union of India, the Supreme Court had given instructions for the decent burial or cremation of dead bodies. In pursuance of these directions, important provisions have been made in the Bill such as dignified cremation of unclaimed bodies and protection of genetic data information and confidentiality of information through DNA profiling and digitization of these dead bodies.
- This will help in maintaining the record of unclaimed bodies and also identify them in the future. He said that by the year 2023, 3216 unclaimed bodies have been found in the state.
- Earlier, the House rejected the proposal to circulate the bill for public opinion.

Maximum Meetings in 15th Rajasthan Legislative Assembly in 3 decades

Why in News?

On July 20, 2023, the 144th meeting of the Fifteenth Rajasthan Legislative Assembly was held. This is the highest number of 144 sittings in three decades from the ninth assembly of the Rajasthan Assembly to the fifteenth assembly so far.

Key Points:

- Earlier, 95, 141, 143, 140, 119 and 139 meetings were held in the 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th Vidhan Sabhas respectively.
- The Question Hour of the 15th Rajasthan Legislative Assembly has been a topic of discussion in other assemblies of the country as well. Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Dr. C.P. Joshi performed better in the conduct of the house and discussed all the listed questions in the fixed time of question hour every day. In the Eighth Session of the Fifteenth Legislative Assembly

almost every day all the listed questions were discussed within the stipulated time.

- Dr. C.P. Joshi also helped the legislators and ministers by simply analyzing the difficulties they faced in questioning and answering.
- Vidhansabha Principal Secretary Mahavir Prasad Sharma said that in the eighth session of the 15th Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, all the questions were discussed in the House on February 15, 17 and 28, March 1, 2, 3 and 15 and during the question hour on July 17, 18 and 19.

Rajasthan Youth Festival-2023

Why in News?

On July 22, 2023, the Rajasthan Youth Festival-2023 being organized by the Rajasthan Youth Board in the presence of public representatives and officials in various districts of the state was inaugurated.

Key Points:

- In the Rajasthan Youth Festival-2023, the participation of the youth is being seen in a big way. Block-level competitions are being organized in the first phase of the festival, which will continue till July 31.
- Rajasthan Youth Board President Sitaram Lamba informed that a large number of youth in the age group of 15 to 29 years are participating in this event.
- The objective of the event is to select the talents of the state and make them self-reliant and prepare them for excellent performance at the national and international levels by providing them with training and facilities.
- The purpose of this event is to conserve, promote and encourage the endangered and rare folk arts of the state.
- Various cultural competitions such as group folk singing, group folk dance, classical dance (Kathak, Bharatnatyam, Odissi, Manipuri, Kuchipudi), classical solo singing (Hindustani), drama, painting, extempore speech, slogan writing, poetry, classical instruments (harmonium, tabla, flute, guitar, sitar, mridang, veena) playing, photography etc. are being organized.
- At the same time, competitions related to Phad, Mandana, Graffiti, Ravanhattha, Khadtal, Morchang, Bhapang, Algoja, Rammat, Langa-Manganiyar, Puppet etc. are also being organized.

Note:



- Career guidance will also be given to the youth in the youth festivals along with the promotion of public welfare schemes of the state government.
- District-level cultural competitions will be organized from August 1 to August 10 under the festival. After that state-level competitions will be organized.



Governor inaugurates ICON-2023 Conference on Epilepsy

Why in News?

On July 21, 2023, Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra inaugurated the ECON-2023 conference jointly organised by the Indian Epilepsy Association and the Indian Epilepsy Society.

Key Points:

- Speaking on the occasion, the Governor said that even in this scientific era, people are afraid of the symptoms of this disease and fall into the trap of exorcising the patient due to superstition, going to the Ojhas, etc.
- The Governor called for greater dissemination of awareness regarding the treatment of epilepsy as well as its relation. He said that epilepsy is no longer an incurable disease. If it is treated timely, then in

80 percent of the cases, patients' seizures stop and they can lead a normal life.

- By making lifestyle changes, following a natural lifestyle, adopting adequate sleep, regular yoga asanas, exercise, pranayama etc. and taking a balanced diet, then a person can avoid many diseases and live a physically healthy life.
- Dr. Sudhir Bhandari, Vice-Chancellor, Rajasthan University of Health and Medical Sciences, said that the advances made on the basis of new medical research have helped in making the life of epilepsy patients easier on the patient. Efforts should be made at various levels to reduce the cost of medicines and treatment of this disease.
- The Governor also released the 'Coffee Table Book' prepared on the occasion of the completion of 50 years of the Indian Epilepsy Association.



Rajasthan Cinema (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill-2023 passed by voice vote

Why in News?

On July 21, 2023, the Rajasthan Assembly passed the Rajasthan Cinema (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill-2023 by voice vote after discussion.

Key Points:

- The Minister said that the Central Government had written a letter on August 10, 2020, under the Ease of Doing Business and reviewed the law and directed to include the provisions of non-criminalization in it.
- In pursuance of this, the Rajasthan Cinema (Regulation) Bill-2023 has been brought by amending the Rajasthan Cinema (Regulation) Act-1952.
- Earlier, the House rejected by voice vote the proposal to circulate the bill for public opinion.

Note:

Rajasthan State Avanti Bai Lodhi Board formed

Why in News?

According to the information given by the Rajasthan Information and Public Relations Department on July 24, 2023, the Rajasthan State Avanti Bai Lodhi Board has been constituted to survey the condition of the Lodhi (Lodha) society, provide basic facilities and give suggestions to remove backwardness. The Chief Minister has approved the proposal to this effect.

Key Points:

- The Board will consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and 3 non-official members. Along with this, the Commissioner/Director/Government Secretary or their representatives of the Industries Department, School Education (Primary/Secondary) and Sanskrit Education Department, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department, Labour Department, Social Justice and Empowerment Department or their representatives will be official members in the board.
- Deputy Director level officer of the Social Justice and Empowerment Department will act as Secretary on the Board.
- In addition, the Managing Director, Rajasthan State Other Backward Classes Finance and Development Cooperative Corporation Limited or his representative will be a special invitee to the Board.
- Social Justice and Empowerment Department will be the administrative department for the Board.
- It is worth mentioning that an announcement in this regard was made earlier by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot.
- The purpose of the formation of this board is to propose various schemes for the welfare of the Lodhi (Lodha) society, to coordinate with various departments regarding the various public welfare schemes being run at present, to give suggestions for the educational and economic upgradation of the society and to promote employment. This board will also give suggestions to bring the traditional businesses of the society to a profitable position with the help of new technology.

Rajasthan becomes 1st state to pass bill for welfare of online platform- based Gig Workers

Why in News?

On July 24, 2023, on the initiative of Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, the state assembly has passed the Rajasthan Platform-based Gig Workers (Registration and Welfare) Bill-2023. Rajasthan has become the first state in the country to pass a bill for the welfare of lakhs of gig workers earning their livelihood through online platforms.

Key Points:

- The state government has gifted millions of youths connected as gig workers with online platforms like Ola, Swiggy, Uber, and Zomato. By protecting the interests of these gig workers, social security will now be provided to them.
- Rajasthan Platform-based Gig Workers Welfare Board will be established under the Act to be made through this bill. Along with this, Rajasthan Platform-based Gig Workers Social Security and Welfare Fund will be constituted.
- This board will ensure the registration of platform-based gig workers. Along with monitoring the schemes for social security of registered gig workers, it will give its recommendations to the state government for the administration of such schemes.
- The Board will also ensure that gig workers have access to benefits and better working conditions as per these schemes. The Board will also ensure time-bound redressal of grievances relating to the rights of gig workers and matters relating to the implementation of the provisions of the Act.
- For the registration of gig workers, the aggregator will make the database of gig workers available to the state government within 60 days of the implementation of the act. The state government will publish the register of aggregators on its web portal.
- This act will also enable gig workers to get the benefits of social security schemes of the state government and they will get an opportunity to hear their grievances.

Note:

- Gig workers will also have representation on the board so that they will be able to participate in decisions taken for their welfare. Under the Act, a grievance redressal mechanism will be set up for gig workers, before which petitions can be submitted in person or through online mediums.
- In the current economic scenario, there is a huge scope for employment through gig work for the youth with low skills. Gig workers are yet to come under the ambit of labour laws, despite their huge contribution to the economy and employment. In such a situation, they do not get protection like traditional employees. This act will protect the interests of gig workers and provide them with social security.
- It is worth mentioning that Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot had announced the introduction of the Gig Workers Welfare Act and the establishment of the Gig Workers Welfare Board under it to provide social security to gig workers and to protect them from exploitation in the state budget of 2023-24. Along with this, he also announced the formation of the Gig Workers Welfare and Development Fund with an amount of Rs 200 crore.

Rajasthan Sahitya Academy, Udaipur announced the outstanding awards for the years 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22

Why in News?

On July 24, 2023, Rajasthan Sahitya Akademi, Udaipur, an autonomous institution established by the Government

of Rajasthan to encourage, honour and promote the literature of the province, announced the outstanding awards for the years 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Key Points:

- These awards have been announced after the approval in the meeting of the Academy Executive chaired by Academy President Dr. Dularam Saharan.
- It is worth mentioning that Chief Minister and Finance Minister Ashok Gehlot and Art, Literature and Culture Minister Dr. BD Kalla had given approval on the demand of Dr. Dularam Saharan, the youth president of the Academy, who took over the charge last August itself, to give the outstanding awards for the period without a chairman. After that approval, applications have been invited in the prescribed procedure and the said awards have been declared after evaluating the entries received.
- This is the first time in the academic history of the country that any academy has announced the outstanding awards of the previous years after the approval of the government, otherwise, the awards of the period remained pending without a chairman.
- Under these awards by Rajasthan Sahitya Academy, along with the symbol, a fixed amount is also given to the respected litterateur.
- Under the existing provisions of the Academy, Rs 75 thousand each is given for Meera Award, Sudhindra Award, Rangeya Raghav Award, Devraj Upadhyay Award, Kanhaiyalal Sahal Award, Devilal Samar Award, Shambhu Dayal Saxena Award and Rs 21 thousand for Pratham Kriti Sumnesh Joshi Award.
- Academy President Dr. Dularam Saharan said that these awards will be presented by organizing a grand ceremony in the month of August itself.

Awards for the year 2019-20

Awards	Recipients	Work
Meera Award	Govind Mathur (Jaipur)	Mud kar Dekhta hai Jeevan (Poetry)
Sudhindra Award	Bhanu Bharvi (Jaipur)	'Rang ab Wo Rang Nahi' (Poetry)
Rangeya Raghav Award	Sandeep Mile (Village Posani-Sikar)	'Kokilashastra' (Prose Fiction)
Devaraj Upadhyay Award	Sadashiv Shrotriya (Udaipur)	'Kavita ka Parshva' (Criticism)
Kanhaiyalal Sahal Award	Om Nagar (Anta-Bara)	'Nib ke Chire se'(Diary)
Devilal Samar Award	Ashok Rahi (Jaipur)	'Vishnu Gupta Chanakya aur Ravana meet Gaya' (drama)
Sumnesh Joshi Award	Madhav Rathod (Jodhpur)	'Marx me Manu Dhoondhti' (Story)
Shambhudayal Saxena Award	Pankaj Veerwal Kishore (Salambur)	(Children's Literature)

Note:

Awards for the year 2020-21		
Awards	Recipients	Work
Meera Award	Dr R D Saini (Jaipur)	'Priya Olive'(Prose)
Sudhindra Award	Ghulam Mohiuddin Mahir (Bikaner)	'Aatshe-Kalbo-Jigar' (Ghazal Poetry)
Rangeya Raghav Award	Reena Menaria (Udaipur)	'Banaas Paar'(Prose Fiction)
Devaraj Upadhyay Award	Madhav Nagda (Lalmadadi-Nathdwara)	'Samkalin Hindi Laghukatha aur Aaj ka Yatharth' (Criticism)
Kanhaiyalal Sahal Award	Uma (Jaipur)	'Kissagoi' (Miscellaneous)
Devalal Samar Award	Prince Bunkar Indresh (Jaipur)	-
Sumnesh Joshi Award	Brijesh Mathur (Ajmer)	-
Shambhudayal Saxena Award	Puran Sarma (Jaipur)	Children's Novel 'Sadbhav Ka Ujala'

Awards for the year 2021-22		
Awards	Recipients	Work
Meera Award	Dr. Panja Sharma (Jodhpur)	'Mobile, Pick and Hostel and other stories' (Prose)
Sudhindra Award	Jitendra Kumar Soni (Dhannasar-Hanumangarh)	'Regmal' (Poetry)
Rangeya Raghav Award	Dinesh Panchal (Vikasnagar, Dungarpur)	'Khet' (Prose)
Devaraj Upadhyay Award	Odisha Migrant Dinesh Kumar Mali (Sirohi)	'Tretaru Ek Samyak Vyasa' (Criticism)
Kanhaiyalal Sahal Award	Vimla Bhandari (Salambur)	'Adhyatma Ka Wah Din' (Travelogue-Memoir)
Devilal Samar Award	Prabodh Kumar Govil (Jaipur)	'Bata Mera Mautnama',
Sumnesh Joshi Award	Ashwini Tripathi (Baran)	'Hansiye Par Aadmi '(Ghazal)
Shambhudayal Saxena Award	Satyanarayan Vyas (Raipur-Bhilwara)	'Interesting Child Stories' (Child Literature)

3 Sub-divisions, 7 Tehsils & 20 New Sub-Tehsils will be formed in the state

Why in News?

On July 24, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the formation of 3 subdivisions, 7 tehsils and 20 sub-tehsil offices in the state to make it easier for the administration to reach out to the common people.

Key Points:

- The state government is forming new administrative units in the state. This will make it easier for the common man to get the government work done. Along with this, there will be administrative decentralization

from the units and the development of the area will get momentum.

- New subdivision offices will be opened at Bapini in Jodhpur, Kishangarh-Renwal in Jaipur and Rampura Dabri. Along with this, 6 sub-tehsils of different districts are being upgraded to tehsils and 1 new tehsil is being formed.
- Among these, Kundal of Dausa, Basai and Nawab of Dhaulpur, Oberi of Dungarpur, Chamun of Jodhpur, Chechat of Kota and Falasian sub-tehsils of Udaipur will be upgraded to Tehsils. A new Tehsil office will also be opened at Ghasa in Udaipur.
- Alwar's Harsora, Barmer's Savau Padamsingh, Padru, Lilsar and Bhiyar, Banswara's Chhoti Sarwa, Baran's Relawan, Bikaner's Damolai Mai Raner, Bhilwara's Antali, Dungarpur's Saroda, Dhaulpur's Kolari, Jodhpur's

Note:



Pilwa, Karauli's Sherpur, Jalore's Khasarveer, Nagaur's Gotan, Panchauri and Mithri, Pratapgarh New sub-tehsils will be opened in Dhamotar of K and Kheroda and Kanbai of Udaipur.

246 Govt. Schools to be converted into English Medium Schools

Why in News?

On July 24, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a proposal to convert 246 government schools in the state into Mahatma Gandhi Government English Medium Schools.

Key Points:

- With this approval of the Chief Minister, 13 government schools in Ajmer, 20 in Alwar, 7 in Baran, 6 in Barmer, 10 in Bharatpur, 8 in Bikaner, 3 in Chittorgarh, 12 in Dausa, 8 in Dhaulpur, 5 in Dungarpur, 7 in Ganganagar, 11 in Hanumangarh, 32 in Jaipur, 1 in Jalore, 12 in Jhunjhunu, 20 in Jodhpur, 5 in Auli, 18 in Nagaur, 8 in Rajsamand, 13 in Sawai Madhopur, 8 in Sikar, 12 in Tonk and 7 in Udaipur will be converted into English medium schools.
- These schools include 57 primary, 125 upper primary and 64 higher secondary schools.
- With this decision of the Chief Minister, the level of education in the state will be uplifted and the students of the region will be able to get free education in English medium at the local level itself.

Formation of Rajasthan State Teli Ghani Development Board

Why In News?

On July 25, 2023, after the approval of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, the Social Justice and Empowerment Department of Rajasthan issued an order for the formation of 'Rajasthan State Teli Ghani Development Board' for the social, educational and economic advancement of the Teli community.

Key Points:

- This board will present suggestions to the state government for the upliftment of the people of Teli community by making new schemes and identifying the problems.
- Apart from conservation and promotion of Teli Ghani, the board will also undertake skill development training to the youth, entrepreneurship promotion, promotion of employment and self-employment opportunities, review the implementation of budget announcements related to the Board, sharing useful experiences of other states and monitoring the physical and financial targets of board-related training programmes run by various departments.
- The Board will have a total of 5 non-official members including Chairman, Vice Chairman and 3 members.
- Along with this, in addition to the departments of Industry, School Education (Primary/Secondary) and Sanskrit Education, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Labor and Employment and Social Justice and Empowerment etc. Chief Secretary/Principal Government, Secretary/Government Secretary or his representative (Joint Director) level departmental officers), Joint Director level officers of Skill, Planning and Entrepreneurship Department, Rajasthan Swarna Kala Vikas Board Secretary will be in this board as official members.
- The Managing Director of Rajasthan State Other Backward Classes Finance and Development Cooperative Corporation Limited or his representative will be the special invitee. On the other hand, the Joint Director level officer of Skill Planning and Entrepreneurship Department will act as Secretary in the Board.
- The Department of Skill, Employment and Entrepreneurship will be the administrative department of the Board.

5.40 Lakh FHTC Water Connections in JJM so far, Fourth in Rajasthan and Second in Expenditure

Why In News?

On July 25, 2023, In the review meeting of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), it was told that in the financial year

Note:

2023-24, Rajasthan has reached the fourth position in the country by releasing a total of 5 lakh 40 thousand water connections so far. Along with this, the state is second in the country by spending Rs 17 thousand 578 crores on JJM so far. So far, Rs 2,902 crore has been spent in this financial year.

Key Points:

- These figures came to the fore in the review meeting of JJM held at Jal Bhawan under the chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary, Dr. Subodh Agarwal. It was told in the meeting that 44 lakh 49 thousand water connections have been made so far under the mission.
- The Additional Chief Secretary directed to review the progress of FHTCs by conducting separate VCs of different regions and increasing the number of FHTCs especially in Udaipur, Banswara and Dungarpur districts.
- He said that in the three months from January to March 2023, in the year 2023, 7 lakh 34 thousand 715 water connections were made in the state. If this pace continues in this financial year also, Rajasthan will come a long way in terms of water connections.
- The progress of water quality tests was also reviewed in the meeting. Dr. Aggarwal inquired about remedial measures for bacterial polluted and chemical sources, Anganwadi centers, schools, domestic public connections as well as quality testing of village-wise water sources, FTK training for women etc.



Rajasthan Scheduled Caste Tribes Finance and Development Cooperative Corporation Limited Online Portal

Why In News?

On July 25, 2023, Rajasthan's Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Tikaram Jully launched the online portal for filling the loan application form for the financial year 2023-24 of the Rajasthan Scheduled Caste Tribes Finance and Development Cooperative Corporation Limited in the auditorium located at Nehru Sahkar Bhawan.

Key Points:

- Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Tikaram Jully said on the occasion that the guarantee of government employees will no longer be required for loans. Applying online through the portal will bring transparency.
- He said that loans ranging from Rs 50 thousand to Rs 10 lakh are sanctioned to the needy persons on the online portal. The corporation has a target of disbursing loans worth more than Rs 200 crore to more than 12 thousand persons.
- He said that from today, for the financial year 2023-24, individuals belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Safai Karmacharis, especially abled and other backward classes can apply online. Now all the data on the portal is fetched from the public.
- On this occasion, Chairman of Rajasthan State Other Backward Classes Finance and Development Commission Pawan Gadara said that Anuja Nigam is a channelizing agency, whose main task is to help the members of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Handicapped and Safai Karmacharis, other backward classes in their economic development and progress in Rajasthan, so that the members of these classes can earn their livelihood properly and their standard of living can be improved.



Rajasthan State Gas Implemented Health, Safety and Environment Protection Policy

Why In News?

July 25, 2023, Ranveer Singh, Managing Director, Rajasthan State Gas (RSGL), a joint venture of the state government, informed that RSGL has implemented health,

Note:

safety and security measures in its office premises, CNG stations in authorized geographical areas, city gas distribution project area as well as in business implementation areas. To maintain the highest level of safety and environmental protection, Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) policy has been implemented.

Key Points:

- Managing Director Ranveer Singh said that RSGL is conducting business activities in Jaipur, Kota, Neemrana, Kuka's, Gwalior and Sheopur. Eleven CNG stations including two mother stations are being operated.
- All RSGL personnel will be trained in the best available practices regarding health, safety and environmental protection. Along with this regular monitoring of policy implementation, arrangements for an audit will also be made.
- The responsibility for the successful implementation of the HSE Policy of RSGL has been entrusted to the personnel at all levels of the organization. Along with this, arrangements have been made to make necessary improvements and timely changes in the policy.
- Environment-friendly activities will also be promoted through the HSE policy of RSGL. The level of loss in the service sector will also be kept to a minimum.



15 Minority Government Residential Schools will be Constructed in the State

Why In News?

On July 25, 2023, according to the information provided by the Information and Public Relations Department of Rajasthan, government **minority residential**

schools will be operated at 15 places in the state to provide free residential education facilities to the students of minority communities.

Key Points:

- Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved a financial proposal of Rs 120 crore for the construction of buildings of residential schools. With this decision of the Chief Minister, it will be easier for the minority students to get education.
- According to the information, Government minority residential schools will be set up for girls in Ramgarh of Alwar, Nagar of Bharatpur, Ramzan gagan (Chauhtan) of Barmer and Sedwa and Sarwad of Ajmer, and for boys Jodhpur, Jhunjhunu, Kota, Tonk, Bikaner, Sikar, Pahari and Kaman of Bharatpur, Jetdasar (Bap) of Jodhpur, Nachna (Pokaran) of Jaisalmer.
- 8 crore will be spent on the construction of each residential school. This residential school will have a capacity of 100 students and if there are more students than the capacity, they will be given admission as day-scholars.
- It is noteworthy that in the budget of the year 2023-24, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot had announced the opening of minority boys/girls residential schools.

World's First Heritage Chambal Riverfront Prepared in Kota

Why In News?

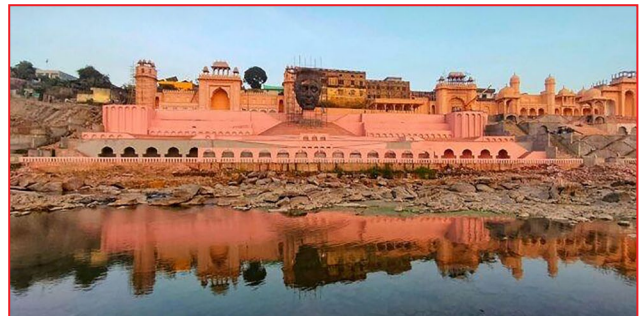
On July 25, 2023, according to the information received from the media, the **world's first heritage riverfront was prepared on the banks of the Chambal river in Kota**, which is called Kashi of education.

Key Points:

- This Heritage Chambal River Front built in Kota has been developed at a cost of Rs 1200 crores, which has been built on both the banks of the Chambal river in a very beautiful manner up to 6 km.
- Chambal Riverfront is the first heritage riverfront developed in India. 26 ghats have been constructed on both sides of this river front. These ghats have been prepared on different themes.

Note:

- The settlements situated on the banks of the Chambal river from the Chambal river front will get relief from floods, along with trapping of 14 dirty drains falling into the Chambal river, the drain water has been filtered through STP, which will also purify Chambal water.
- 9 famous buildings and architectures from different countries of the world have been built on the World Heritage Ghat built on the Chambal River Front. Just as the Seven Wonders Park has been built on the banks of the Kishore Sagar pond, where seven wonders of the country and the world have been built, on the same lines, the artwork of nine famous buildings of the world has been built on the World Heritage Ghat of the riverfront.
- These architectures have been built one after the other in an area of about 240 meters, in which India's pride Red Fort, Gopuram Temple, Chinese Pagoda, History Park, West Minster, Tavy Fountain, Varam Temple, Masku and Louvre Museum will be seen.
- UIT Special Officer RD Meena said that Chambal River Front will not be seen anywhere else in the country and the world except Kota. The Chambal River Front will be inaugurated in the coming August. After this it will be opened for tourists.
- The country's largest Nandi idol has been made here on the banks of the Chambal river, while tourists will also be able to see the 10 incarnations of Lord Vishnu. Not only this, the largest statue of Chambal Mata and the world's largest bell will also be seen by tourists on the Chambal River Front on the banks of Chambal.
- According to RD Meena, the face mask of former Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has also been made on the riverfront. From the backside of this face mask, people will be able to go inside the mask and see the view of the river front through their eyes. Barrage Garden has also been developed on the lines of Vrindavan Garden on the riverfront.
- RD Meena said that on the lines of Barcelona Fountain, a fountain has also been made here. Tourists coming here will be able to enjoy a fountain show with colorful lights and music. Apart from this, a museum is being built in Mukut Mahal.
- The riverfront has an invisible structure in the posture of yoga, which is visible only when viewed from both sides (right and left), but disappears when viewed from the front. It is made from stainless steel.
- Apart from this, the country's first LED garden has also been built here. People coming here will see LED elements instead of real trees, plants and birds. Zodiac Ghats have also been developed in the eastern zone of the riverfront, which have different zodiac signs.
- A beautiful building exactly like the Thai Temple has been built on that riverfront. Small restaurants have also been built here, in which tourists can enjoy Mughlai in the Red Fort building, South in Gopuram building, and Chinese cuisine in the Chinese building.
- Here the bravery of Pannadhay Hadi Rani will also be seen, the Hadauti Ghat has been built on the eastern end. Taragarh Fort, an umbrella of 84 pillars built in the Bundi style, has also been built. A water park musical zone has also been made in the special kids zone for children on the riverfront.
- Here artists will also be able to give their presentations and people will be able to sit and listen. Along with this, statues of 5 litterateurs have also been installed. There will be a library here, in which the visiting tourists will be able to read books.
- According to RD Meena, there will be different types of fountains on the riverfront, while 9 lions have been installed in Singh Ghat with white marble. There will also be a small market on the Chambal river front and boating and cruising will also operate here.



Note:





Vivekananda Youth Hostel will be opened in 28 Districts of the State

Why In News?

On July 26, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a financial proposal of Rs 78.18 crore for the construction of **Vivekananda Youth Hostels in 28 districts** of the state to provide accommodation facilities to the students of the state in the district headquarters for preparing for competitive examinations. given.

Key Points:

- A provision of Rs 84 lakh has also been made for alternative arrangements till the construction of Vivekananda Youth Hostel is completed. These hostels will have **50-50 residential capacity**.
- It may be noted that in Jaipur, Ajmer, Jodhpur, Udaipur and Kota, youth homes are already operated by the Government of India and the State Government. Therefore, with the opening of hostels in the remaining 28 districts, the youth of all the districts will get better facilities.
- It is noteworthy that the announcement in this regard was made by the Chief Minister in the budget for the year 2023-24.

The Governor Approved the Notification Proposals of the State Government

Why In News?

On July 25, 2023, Rajasthan Governor **Kalraj Mishra** approved various notification proposals of the state government.

Key Points:

- The Governor has approved the proposal notification of the state service, under which, like the selection in IAS from other services (**Rajasthan Contractual Appointment to Civil Post Rule 2022**), **contract workers** will also get the benefit of the service done in the past.
- The cabinet order has approved the proposal to issue amendment notification regarding giving benefits to the contract workers for their service before coming under the new contract rules.
- Similarly, the Governor has also approved the proposed amendment to the provision related to giving weightage to general knowledge of Rajasthan in Stenographer, Personal Assistant course in Ministerial Service Rules related to Government Secretariat, Subordinate Offices and Rajasthan Public Service Commission.
- The Governor has issued an amendment in various service rules to forward their vacancies for three recruitment years in case of non-availability of eligible candidates for direct recruitment of backward and extremely backward classes like Scheduled Castes and

Note:

Scheduled Tribes by the Department of Personnel of the State Government. The notification proposal has also been approved.

- Under bringing uniformity in all service rules, the proposed notification has been approved for amendment in sub-rule four of '**Reservation of Vacancies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**'. With the implementation of this amendment notification in the service rules, the provisions of January 17, 2013 will come into force.

Neota Dam and Kanota Dam will become Eco adventure Tourism Sites

Why in News?

On July 26, 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the proposal to develop Jaipur's Naveta and Kanota dams as eco-adventure tourism sites to promote tourism in the state.

key points

- The state government will spend Rs 6.24 crore on development works at Naveta and Kanota dams.
- Various types of constructions including the construction of a bird watching platform, canopy, and 600-meter-long parapet wall will be done at Kanota Dam in Jaipur at a cost of about Rs 2.48 crore.
- Development works will be done on the Newta Dam at a cost of about Rs 3.75 crore. A road leading to the dam will also be made here.
- It is worth mentioning that the announcement in this regard was made by the Chief Minister in the budget for the year 2023-24.

Rajasthan State Ahilya Bai Holkar Board

Why in News?

On July 26, 2023, according to the information provided by the Rajasthan Information and Public Relations Department, the Rajasthan State Ahilya Bai Holkar Board was constituted by the state government.

key points

- The Rajasthan State Ahilya Bai Holkar Board will be tasked with taking stock of the condition of Gadaria (Gadri), Gayari, Ghosi (Gawala), Purbia (Dhangar, Gadri) castes and prepare an authentic survey report on them, according to an official statement.
- Other suggestions including educational and economic upliftment of the society, promotion of employment, concrete measures against social evils/misdeeds and taking the traditional business forward from present methods will be presented by the board to the state government.
- The Board will consist of a chairman, vice-chairman and five non-official members. Also, the government secretary/commissioner/director / joint director of industries department, school education (primary/secondary) and Sanskrit education department, rural development and Panchayati raj department, labour department, social justice and empowerment department or their representatives will be as official members in the board.
- A Deputy Director level officer of the Social Justice and Empowerment Department will be the Secretary of the Board.
- Apart from these, the Managing Director of Rajasthan State Other Backward Classes Finance and Development Co-operative Corporation Limited or his representative will be a special invitee to the Board.
- The Administrative Department of the Board will be the Social Justice and Empowerment Department.

PM inaugurates 6 EMRS in Rajasthan

Why in News?

On July 27, 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated six Eklavya Model Residential Schools in Rajasthan, two in Udaipur district, two in Banswara, one in Pratapgarh and one in Dungarpur.

Key Points:

- Each school has a capacity of 480 students, of which 240 will be girls. These schools will have separate hostels for boys and girls, accommodation for staff, dining space and playground.

Note:



- These schools are being constructed at a cost of Rs 38 crore in plain areas and Rs 48 crore in hilly areas.
- The construction of these schools will benefit 2880 tribal students, half of whom will be girls.

Rajasthan statistics at a glance:

Scheme/start	2013-14	2022-23
Approved school	8	31

- There are 31 EMRSs sanctioned in Rajasthan, including eight in Udaipur, six in Banswara, four in Dungarpur, four in Pratapgarh, two in Alwar, two in Jaipur, one in Tonk, one in Karauli, one in Bara, one in Sirohi, one in Sawai-Madhopur. Out of 31 schools, construction has been completed in 24 schools and 7 schools are under construction, which is likely to be completed by December 2023.

Stats at a Glance - All India

Scheme/start	2013-14	2023-24
Budget Outlay	Rs 278.76 crore (As a constituent under Article 275(1) of the Constitution)	Rs 4000 crore (Separate Central Sector Scheme)
Approved School	167	693
Functional School	119	401
Recurring Cost	Rs 42,000 per student per year	Rs 1,09,000 per student per year
Capital Cost	Rs.12.00 crore (Plain Areas) Rs 16 crore (Hilly areas, Northeast, Areas affected with Left Wing Extremism)	Rs 37.80 crore (Plains), Rs 48 crore (Hills, Northeast, Left Wing Extremism)
CBSE Afiliated School	69	277
Enrollment	34365	113275

- There are currently 8,925 students studying and when all the construction works of schools are completed 14,880 students will get education in these schools.
- The major tribes benefiting from EMRS include Bhil, Gameti, Garasia, Mina, and Sahariya.
- Old schools are being upgraded at a cost of Rs 5 crore. Also, funds are being given for road construction and drinking water under the Jal Jeevan Mission.
- 740 Eklavya Residential Model Schools are being set up under the visionary leadership of the Prime Minister. These Eklavya residential model schools are being set up in each tribal block which has 50 per cent or more than 20,000 Scheduled Tribe population.
- The cost of construction of EMRS has increased from Rs 20 crore to Rs 24 crore in plain areas and from Rs 38 crore to Rs 48 crore in hilly areas for 452 new schools in 2021-22. More than 38,000 teachers will be recruited in a phased manner over the next 3 years.
- It is known that in the year 2013-14, 167 schools were approved, which has increased to 693 today and in 2013-14, 119 schools were functional, while at present 401 schools are functional. Construction has been completed in 110 schools in the last 5 years.



Note:

PM lays foundation stone of Various Development Projects

Why in News?

On July 27, 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated more than 1.25 lakh PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras in Sikar, Rajasthan, laying the foundation stone of various development projects and dedicating it to the nation.

Key Points:

- In a significant move to benefit farmers, the Prime Minister dedicated to the nation over 1.25 lakh PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSKs). PMKSKs are being developed to provide one-stop solutions for the needs of all farmers.
 - From information on agricultural inputs (fertilizers, seeds, equipment) to information about various government schemes ranging from soil, seeds and testing facilities for fertilizers, PMKSK is envisaged to create a reliable support system for farmers in the country.
 - These will also ensure regular capacity building of fertilizer retailers at block/district level outlets.
- The Prime Minister launched a new variety of Urea Gold, which is coated with sulphur. The introduction of sulphur-coated urea will overcome the lack of sulfur in the soil.
 - This innovative fertilizer is more economical and efficient than neem-coated urea, improves nitrogen use efficiency in plants, reduces fertilizer consumption and enhances crop quality.
- During the event, the Prime Minister launched the linking of 1600 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) with the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC). ONDC empowers FPOs with direct access to digital marketing, online payments, business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-consumer transactions and encourages local value addition, catalyzing the growth of logistics in rural areas.
- At the event, the Prime Minister released the 14th instalment of about Rs 17,000 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) to over 8.5 crore beneficiaries through direct benefit transfer.
- The Prime Minister inaugurated five new medical colleges in Chittorgarh, Dholpur, Sirohi, Sikar and Sriganganagar and laid the foundation stone for seven

medical colleges in Baran, Bundi, Karauli, Jhunjhunu, Sawai Madhopur, Jaisalmer and Tonk.

- The medical colleges are being set up under a centrally sponsored scheme for the establishment of new medical colleges attached to existing district/referral hospitals.
- The five medical colleges inaugurated by the Prime Minister have been developed at a cumulative cost of over Rs 1400 crore, while the seven medical colleges whose foundation stones were laid will be built at a cumulative cost of Rs 2275 crore.
- Till 2014, there were only 10 medical colleges in Rajasthan. Through the dedicated efforts of the central government, the number of medical colleges in the state has gone up to 35 which is a 250 percent increase.
- With the establishment of these 12 new medical colleges, the number of MBBS seats in the state will increase from 1750 seats in 2013-14 to 6275, an increase of 258 per cent.
- The Prime Minister also inaugurated six Eklavya Model Residential Schools in Udaipur, Banswara, Pratapgarh and Dungarpur districts, which will benefit the tribal population living in these districts. He also inaugurated Kendriya Vidyalaya, Tinwari in Jodhpur during the event.



Approval of 'Mission Vatsalya Yojana'

Why in News?

On July 27, 2023, Dr. Arushi Malik, Government Secretary, Department of Child Empowerment, while presiding over the general body meeting of Rajasthan State Child Protection Society held in the committee room of the Government Secretariat, informed that 'Mission Vatsalya Yojana' has been approved.

Note:

Key Points:

- Under Mission Vatsalya, child welfare and protection committees will be formed at the state and every district level for strengthening the child protection system and effective implementation of laws and programs related to child protection.
- In the meeting, new guidelines for collective foster care, individual foster care and sponsorship program have been discussed and approved.
- The Government Secretary of the Child Empowerment Department said that instead of institutional care, neglected children will now be able to get parental care under family care. Financial assistance will be provided by the state government under these schemes.



MoU signed between Devasthan Department and IRCTC

Why in News?

On July 27, 2023, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Devasthan Department and IRCTC in the presence of Devasthan Minister Shakuntala Rawat at Udyog Bhawan under the Senior Citizen Pilgrimage Scheme-2023 of the Devasthan Department of Rajasthan.

Key Points:

- The Minister said that this MoU has been signed in accordance with the intention of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and giving concrete shape to his vision. With the signing of this MoU, facilities will be provided to senior citizens visiting Pashupatinath Temple in Kathmandu, Nepal from July 28.
- He said that the journey from Jaipur to Delhi will be completed by bus through IRCTC. In Delhi, senior citizens will start their air journey from the Indira Gandhi International Airport and reach Kathmandu and visit the Pashupatinath temple.

- The state government is fulfilling the dream of senior citizens of the state to visit pilgrimage sites through rail travel and air travel. New pilgrimage sites are also being included in this scheme.
- The pilgrimage, which will begin on July 28, will continue till September 2 and more than 100 senior citizens will undertake the yatra daily. 100 pilgrims from Sri Ganganagar district will go to Kathmandu to visit the Pashupatinath temple.
- This year, under the scheme, 40,000 senior citizens are being made to visit pilgrimage sites, in which 36,000 pilgrims will be able to visit by rail and 4,000 by air.



'Prasav Watch' application received 'National Public Health Excellence Award'

Why in News?

On July 27, 2023, at the 'National Health Tech Innovation Conclave' held at a local hotel in New Delhi, the 'Delivery Watch' application of the Health Department of Rajasthan has been awarded the 'National Public Health Excellence Award' at the national level for innovation in the field of medicine.

Note:

Key Points:

- On behalf of the National Health Mission, Rajasthan, this honour was received by Housing Commissioner Dhiraj Srivastava and Project Director Dr. Tarun Chaudhary as a representative of Additional Chief Secretary of Rajasthan Health Department Shubhra Singh.
- It is worth mentioning that Rajasthan is the first state in the country where under the National Health Mission, the Maternal Health Department is running a 'Delivery Watch' application for digitized clinical care and monitoring of institutional deliveries being conducted at 360 major high delivery medical institutes of the state.
- Through this, the duty of clinical care and procedures done for deliveries at these medical institutions is done by the staff/doctor on the tablets provided in the delivery room and PNC ward.

- While feeding clinical data on this application, suggestive messages are also displayed real time to the concerned staff in the form of alerts, which include the type of complication likely to occur and the possible steps to be taken to diagnose it.



Note:

