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UTTAR PRADESH

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Atmanirbhar Kisan Integrated Development Scheme

Why in News

- On September 30, 2021, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the 'Atmanirbhar Kisan Integrated Development Scheme' under the mission of empowering the farmers of Uttar Pradesh. Under this scheme, **2,725 FPOs will be formed**, which will directly benefit 27.25 lakh shareholder farmers.

Key Points

- The state government has decided to set up at least one FPO in every block to increase the income of farmers in the state. **In the current financial year, the state government has earmarked Rs 100 crore for this scheme.**
- Apart from central government institutions, **Uttar Pradesh Diversified Agriculture Support Project (DASP)**, horticulture federations, qualified FPOs and voluntary organizations will work together for the formation of FPOs. An average investment of Rs 1.5 crore is planned from each FPO.
- This scheme of Rs 722.85 crore will significantly increase the income of more than 27 lakh farmers associated with **Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)** in the next five years.
- At present, out of a total 824 blocks of the state, a total of 693 FPOs have been formed in 408 blocks. On an average around 500 to 1,000 farmers are associated with FPOs.
- Through FPO, farmers will be able to get the right price for their produce. Under the scheme, farmers associated with FPOs working in the state will get a subsidy of four percent on loans of Rs 5 lakh. In this way the institutions associated with agricultural development will be able to reduce the cost of farming and increase the income of the farmers by developing the infrastructure of agriculture.
- Under the scheme, a loan of Rs 5 lakh will be given to cluster based business organizations to form FPOs for five years and Rs 6 lakhs annually for three years to newly formed FPOs.
- Loans will be provided at the rate of three percent to FPOs for creation of post-harvest infrastructure facilities, which will benefit at least 500 to 1,000 farmers associated with the FPOs and also create 3,000 jobs every year.

- Till now, **Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)** providing fertilizers, seeds and other facilities in the state were not able to take advantage of the scheme of **Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF)** due to lack of margin money. Now 1,500 PS of the state will be able to benefit the farmers from this scheme.
- Also, with the availability of cheap loans, each PACS of the state will be able to start a project worth Rs 20 lakh. In such projects of PACS, the state government will give Rs 4 lakh as margin money, while AIF will give Rs 16 lakh. Its interest rate will be one percent.
- With this money, PACS will be able to build godowns, which will help farmers in storing their produce for a long time. In addition, a plan of Rs 140 crore has been prepared for the construction of post-harvest storage and management infrastructure in 27 mandis of Krishi Utpadan Mandi Parishad. Mandi Parishad will also be able to increase resources by taking a loan from AIF at an interest rate of just 3 per cent.

Uttar Pradesh's First Pollution Control Tower

Why in News

- Recently, installation of an Air Pollution Control Tower (APCT) has been approved on DND Expressway to **control air pollution** in the Noida region.
 - This work has been done with the help of **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)**.

Key Points

- According to the official information, this **air pollution control tower in the green belt of DND Expressway** near Sector 16 (A) Filmcity of Noida will be **installed and operated as a pilot project** within the next two months.
- The base of this Air Pollution Control Tower (APCT) will have a **diameter of about 4.50 meters** and a **height of about 20 meters**.
- At present, **this tower is being constructed at Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited's Haridwar plant** and for its installation, **about 400 square meters of space** has been provided by the authority temporarily.
- With the installation of this tower, the area of about one square kilometer and the air quality of DND and Greater Noida-Noida Expressway will improve.

Note:

- An **expenditure of about 37 lakh rupees** has been estimated per year in the operation of this tower, **50% of which will be borne by the Noida Authority.**
- A tower of this type has been set up in **Delhi's Connaught Place in August 2021**, but this will be the first air pollution control tower in Uttar Pradesh.

City Gas Station of Torrent Gas in Gorakhpur

Why in News

- On October 3, 2021, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the **City Gas Station of Torrent Gas** at Khanipur in Gorakhpur district.

Key Points

- In the first phase of the **City Gas Distribution (CGD)** network **Piped Natural Gas (PNG)** will be supplied to **101 domestic connections** and **1 industrial connection.**
- On this occasion, he inaugurated 8 CNG stations and 13 PSA Oxygen Plants and also presented certificates of connection of domestic piped natural gas to 5 women.
- It is worth mentioning that **PNG is cheaper as compared to LPG cylinder** and also has an **economic saving of 35 to 40 percent.**
- Torrent Gas has been given a **target to provide connections to 10,000 families in Gorakhpur city** by the month of March.
- This gas company has taken forward the process of supplying PNG to district Gorakhpur as well as to district **Kushinagar and Sant Kabir Nagar.**
 - The **program of PNG gas supply is being taken forward in 15 districts** of the state.
- The central government has provided 127 oxygen plants to the state. Also, Torrent Gas Company is setting up 13 oxygen plants in the state.
- In this way, a total of 547 oxygen plants are being set up in the state, out of which about 490 oxygen plants have been prepared.

'Savarkar: Echoes from a Forgotten Past'

Why in News

- Recently, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath

released the book 'Savarkar: Echoes from a Forgotten Past' written by **Vikram Sampat.**

Key Points

- In this book, Sampath has made an **innovative effort to show the personality and creativity of Veer Savarkar** as a serious scholar **on the basis of research and factual documents by going to different countries of the world** and working tirelessly.
- In this book the biography of Veer Savarkar has been published in the light of facts and documents.
- It is noteworthy that **Veer Savarkar was rich in multifaceted talent and personality.** Along with being a leader in the freedom movement, he made important **contributions in promoting journalism, philosophy, literature, history, untouchability, social reform and scientific approach.**
- Veer Savarkar in his book '**1857 Ka Swatantraya Samar**' had described the bravery of 1857 as the **first attempt of the country's freedom struggle.** This book inspired many revolutionaries and youth to sacrifice their lives for the nation.

Eco-Smart Railway Stations

Why in News

- Recently, the **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** has nominated seven railway stations of Uttar Pradesh, including State capital Lucknow, to be identified and developed as **eco-smart railway stations.**

Key Points

- These seven railway stations are- **Lucknow Junction, Badshah Nagar Railway Station, Gorakhpur, Gonda, Basti, Khalilabad, Mankapur Station.**
- Identification of eco-smart railway stations, waste management of railway stations, tracks, coaches, removal of encroachments from around the railway station, disposal of electric and plastic junk, use and supply of water, LED lights to save energy, promotion of solar panels etc. standards have to be met.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban

Why in News

- On October 5, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Note:

virtually handed over keys to 75,000 beneficiaries of **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna-Urban** in 75 districts of the state while inaugurating the three-day **Amrit Mahotsav** program of Independence in Lucknow.

Key Points

- Along with this, the Prime Minister also released the coffee table book of 75 successful projects of 10 smart cities of the state and digitally inaugurated the **Atal Bihari Vajpayee Chair at Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University**.
- Earlier, the Prime Minister inaugurated the **New Urban Conclave** and visited **75 housing technology exhibitions on the theme of New Urban India**.
- He flagged off **75 electric buses for seven cities of the state**.
- During the programme, the Prime Minister inaugurated and laid foundation stones of 75 projects costing Rs 4,737 crore. He dedicated **15 development projects** worth Rs 1,537.02 crore and **17 drinking water projects** worth Rs 502.24 crore under **Pradhan Mantri AMRUT Mission** to the people and laid the foundation stone for 30 development projects worth Rs 1,256.22 crore and 13 projects worth Rs 1,441.70 crore.

Weebly Scott: Made in India Revolver

Why in News

- On October 7, 2021, the domestic revolver from renowned British firearms company Weebly and Scott hit the Indian market with its first delivery in Lucknow.

Key Points

- JPS Syal of Capital Gun House said that this is the first revolver made in the private sector under the '**Made in India**' campaign of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The first revolver was handed over to **Sudhir Kumar Gupta**.
- **The British firm had tied up with Lucknow-based Seal Manufacturers** to manufacture firearms and it is **being manufactured in Hardoi**. According to the agreement, **the company will not sell the revolver directly, but through the gun house**.
- This unit is **Weebly and Scott's first unit in the country**. Revolver, pistol, airgun will be made in this unit. The revolver will cost around Rs 1.55 lakh.

- It is noteworthy that **Weebly is famous for the revolvers and automatic pistols supplied to the British Empire, especially the British Army during both World Wars since 1887**.
- In 2010 Weebly and Scott resumed production of shotguns for commercial sale.

Justice Rajesh Bindal

Why in News

- On October 9, 2021 a notification for the appointment of **Justice Rajesh Bindal** as the **Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court** was issued by the **Government of India**.

Key Points

- Justice Bindal was the **acting Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court before being transferred** to the Allahabad High Court.
- Recently, Justice Bindal was appointed as the **chairman of the committee set up by the Supreme Court to prepare a modern electronic register for the use of district courts**.
- It is noteworthy that **judges in the higher judiciary in India are appointed by the President on the recommendation of the collegium**.

Prime Minister of Denmark Visit to India

Why in News

- On October 10, 2021, the **Prime Minister of Denmark, Mette Frederiksen**, visited the Taj Mahal and Agra Fort during her three-day visit to India.

Key Points

- It is noteworthy that the Prime Minister of Denmark is the **first head of government of a country to visit India after the then US President Donald Trump's visit to India** in January 2020.
- Earlier in 2020, **India-Denmark had announced the 'Green Strategic Partnership'**, which aims to promote **mutual cooperation on global issues related to climate change along with economic cooperation**.
- The **Taj Mahal, built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal (Arjuman**

Note:



Bano), is the best example of Mughal architecture. It is decorated using Pietra-Dura style.

- In 1983, the Taj Mahal in Agra was included in the **UNESCO World Heritage Site list**. Also it is among the **Seven Wonders of the World**.

Appointment of Additional Judges

Why in News

- On October 13, 2021, 8 newly appointed Additional Judges were administered oath by **Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court, Rajesh Bindal**.

Key Points

- It is noteworthy that on August 24, the **Collegium** had recommended the appointment of 13 advocates and 4 district judges as Additional Judges of the High Court, out of which 8 advocates were appointed as Additional Judges.
- The additional judges appointed include- Justices Chandra Kumar Rai, Krishna Pahal, Sameer Jain, Ashutosh Srivastava, Subhash Vidyarthi, Brijraj Singh, Prakash Mishra and Justice Vikas.
- **Article 224 of the Indian Constitution** provides that if by reason of any temporary increase in the business of a High Court or by reason of arrears of work therein, it appears to the President that the number of the Judges of that Court should be for the time being increased, the President may appoint duly qualified persons to be additional Judges of the Court for such period not exceeding two years as he may specify.

NITI Aayog's Delta Ranking

Why in News

- In the **Delta ranking** recently released by **NITI Aayog** on the basis of the survey for July-August 2021, **7 districts from Uttar Pradesh** are included in the top-10.

Key Points

- Among the 7 districts of Uttar Pradesh, Fatehpur district is ranked at second, Siddharth Nagar at third, Sonbhadra at fourth and Chitrakoot at fifth. Other districts of Uttar Pradesh included in the top-10 include Bagraich, Shravasti and Chandauli.

- The Delta Ranking, released by NITI Aayog, shows the incremental progress in aspirational districts of the country in developmental areas such as **health and nutrition, education, agriculture and water resources, financial inclusion, skill development and basic infrastructure**.
- It may be mentioned that the **Aspirational District Program** launched in 2018 aims to **bring about rapid transformation in districts that have made comparative progress in key social sectors**. In this **8 districts of Uttar Pradesh** have been included.

Deputy Speaker of Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh

Why in News

- On October 18, 2021, rebel Samajwadi Party MLA Nitin Agrawal was elected Deputy Speaker of the 17th Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh, defeating his lone Samajwadi Party rival Narendra Singh Verma.

Key Points

- Voting for the Deputy Speaker's election began at 11 am after the House proceedings began and Speaker Hriday Narayan Dixit announced the result at 4 pm.
- 368 MLAs voted against the total 403 members of the Assembly, out of which four votes were declared invalid. Nitin Agarwal got 304 votes, while Narendra Singh Verma got only 60 votes.
- The Congress and the Bahujan Samajwadi Party boycotted the election, while the rebel MLAs of both the parties voted in favor of either the BJP or the Samajwadi Party. Members of the Samajwadi Party protested the election and wore black badges.
- The ruling BJP had fielded rebel Samajwadi Party MLA Nitin Agarwal as its candidate for the vice-president's post. Despite the lack of numbers, the main opposition party, the Samajwadi Party, had also filed its candidate Narendra Verma's nomination for the post.
- The BJP has a total of 304 seats in the present (17th) assembly. Samajwadi Party has 49 MLAs, Bahujan Samaj Party has 16, Apna Dal (Sonelal) has 9, Indian National Congress 7 and Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party has 4 MLAs. There are 3 independents, 2 unaffiliated members and 2 other members while 7 seats are vacant. There is also a nominated member from the Anglo-Indian community.

Note:



UPTTI Experts Made Fabric Neutralized with UltraViolet Rays

Why in News

- Recently, experts of **Uttar Pradesh Institute of Textile Technology (UPTTI)** have designed a fabric which is not affected by sunlight and ultraviolet rays.

Key Points

- The fabric is **made from nylons derived from the bio-polymer lignin**, a plant-derived plant originating in South Africa.
- This cloth will also give relief to the people from the scorching heat and will also be comfortable for the body.
- UPTTI got this research published in the Polish Journal and has also applied for a patent for this technology.
- The **bio-polymer lignin is used in building and road construction in South Africa**, but it is the first time it has been used in textiles by experts at UPTTI.
- This technique is 1/3 times cheaper than the dye used in clothing. Dye can also harm the human body, but clothes made from this technology are completely safe for human use.
- This technology has been developed by Prof. Arun Singh Gangwar in collaboration with Prof. Prashant Vishnoi.
- **UV (Ultra Violet) rays** cause sunburn, body rash, skin cancer and many other types of problems. With the development of this technology these problems can be reduced.
- According to Prof. Gangwar, the ability of the fabric to absorb UltraViolet rays depends on the **UltraViolet Protection Factor (UVPF)**. UVPF is considered good between 15 and 24, very good between 25 and 39 and best between 40 and 45.

'Khadi Festival and Silk Expo-2021'

Why in News

- On October 19, 2021, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the **Khadi Festival and Silk Expo-2021** under the **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**

in Lucknow. Organized by **Uttar Pradesh Khadi and Village Industries Board** and **Silk Department**, this exhibition will run till October 30, 2021.

Key Points

- On this occasion, the Chief Minister presented checks, loan approval certificates and state level awards to the beneficiaries of **Pandit Deendayal Khadi Marketing Development Assistance Scheme, Mukhyamantri Gramodyog Rozgar Yojana and Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme**. Along with this, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay also distributed Sericulture Productivity Awards.
- Earlier, he distributed solar charkha, electric wheel, dona-pattal manufacturing machines and toolkits to the beneficiaries of Mati Kala Board.
- Under Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Khadi Marketing Development Assistance Scheme, claims worth Rs 33 crore 37 lakh 62 thousand of 307 Khadi institutions were paid from financial year 2017-18 to 2021-22. In this, incentive bonus of Rs. 9 crore 52 lakh 92 thousand was paid to 1 lakh 61 thousand 345 workers working in Khadi institutions.
- The Chief Minister said that in the financial year 2021-22, claims worth Rs 4 crore 87 lakh 35 thousand were paid to 136 Khadi institutions. In this, incentive bonus of Rs 1 crore 65 lakh 70 thousand was paid to 25,474 workers.
- Toolkits program is being conducted under **Khadi and Village Industries Development and Sustainable Self-Employment Promotion Policy**. Under this, free solar charkha has been distributed to Khadi institutions with the aim of increasing Khadi production and increasing the income of Khadi workers.
- The Chief Minister said that in the last three years, 3,803 beneficiaries were given free toolkits and solar charkha, electric pottery wheel, dona-pattal machine and modern furnace-pygmill. The target is to distribute 2,501 toolkits in the financial year 2021-22.
- He said that **Khadi and Village Industries Development and Sustainable Self-Employment Promotion Machine** (Popcorn Making Machine) and Dona-Pattal making machines have been distributed free of cost to the traditional and other related artisans engaged in Dona-Pattal work.
- In total 57 districts of Uttar Pradesh 3 different types of silk are produced. **Mulberry silk** is produced in 44 districts of plains, **tussar silk** in 13 districts of

Note:

Vindhyaachal and Bundelkhand and **Eri silk** in 8 districts on the banks of Yamuna. The silk consumption of the state is 3 thousand metric tonnes, while the silk production is 300 metric tonnes.

- For plantation, coco production and threading for silk production, 75 percent of the general category beneficiaries and 90 percent of the production grant and free training and technical assistance are given to the beneficiaries of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes by the central and state governments.
- The training program was started by the state government in the year 2018 after completing the construction of **Iron Man Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Government Training Institute** located in Mirzapur. Similarly, in the year 2019, threading is being done in the state itself by setting up one reeling machine each in Pilibhit and Bahraich districts. In this financial year 13 more reeling machines have been approved.

Communicable Disease Control Campaign and Dastak Campaign

Why in News

- On October 19, 2021, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the third **special Communicable Disease Control Campaign and Dastak Campaign** to be operated in the state in Basti district. On this occasion, he flagged off the promotional vehicles.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister said that the communicable disease control campaign started from the year 2017 was started in 7 districts of Gorakhpur and Basti mandals in the first phase, in 38 districts in the second phase and the third phase in the entire state.
- On this occasion, State Medical and Health Minister Jai Pratap Singh said that this campaign is being conducted by inter-departmental coordination. He said that along with measures to prevent communicable diseases, treatment facilities have been increased at district hospitals and CHCs/PHCs in rural areas.
- Additional Chief Secretary, Health Amit Mohan Prasad informed that from October 19 to November 17, 2021, special communicable disease control campaign and from October 19 to November 1, 2021, Dastak campaign will be conducted in the entire state.

Announcement to Increase the Nutritional Allowance of Police Martyrs

Why in News

- On October 21, 2021, on the occasion of Police Commemoration Day, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced a 25 percent increase in the dietary allowance of policemen in the state and Rs 2,000 as mobile allowance every year.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister paid homage to the policemen who lost their lives in the line of duty at a function organized at the Police Lines and also honored the families of the policemen who were martyred.
- Yogi Adityanath announced a 25 percent increase in their nutritious diet allowance for inspectors, sub-inspectors, chief constables, constables and class IV personnel and mobile allowance of Rs 2,000 annually to all lower rank policemen.
- The Chief Minister said that a provision of Rs 15 crore has been made by the state government for the convenience of the police personnel posted in various districts and units and Rs 20 crore for their welfare.
- Similarly, a provision of Rs 9.15 crore was made for settlement of 1,926 claims related to medical reimbursement of serving and retired policemen and dependents. Apart from this, a provision of Rs.48.13 crore has been made for 403 cases related to medical reimbursement of more than Rs.5 lakh for critical illnesses of 288 policemen and their dependents.
- The Chief Minister said that financial assistance of Rs 1,24.24 crore would be provided to the dependents of 527 martyrs of the State Police, as well as the Central Para Military Forces of other states and the Indian Army, who were martyred in the line of duty and originally residing in Uttar Pradesh.

Kushinagar International Airport Inaugurated

Why in News

- On October 20, 2021, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **Kushinagar International Airport**

Note:

constructed at a cost of about Rs 254 crore in district Kushinagar.

Key Points

- On this occasion, the Prime Minister inaugurated/laid the foundation stone of 12 development works worth Rs 180.66 crore including the foundation stone of Government Medical College, Kushinagar at a cost of Rs 281.45 crore in district Kushinagar.
- It is to be noted that **from the year 1947 to the year 2014, only 2 airports in Uttar Pradesh - Lucknow, and Varanasi were functional.** The connectivity of the state was also at that time only for 15 to 16 places.
- **This will be the 9th functional airport of the state,** now Uttar Pradesh is directly connected with air service at 75 destinations.
- It is the third international airport of the state after Kushinagar, Ayodhya and Noida International Airport. At present work is going on on 11 new airports in Uttar Pradesh.
- Kushinagar International Airport will be helpful in the development of East Uttar Pradesh as well as North West Bihar.
- Apart from becoming a medium of air connectivity, Kushinagar International Airport will directly benefit farmers, livestock farmers, shopkeepers, workers, entrepreneurs etc. Tourism, travel taxi, hotel-restaurant, small business people will get the most benefit here. Also, new employment opportunities will be created for the youth of this area.
- Diplomats from 12 countries participated in the opening ceremony of **this airport. This airport will connect Sri Lanka, Nepal, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Singapore, Laos and many countries of South-East Asia** by international air service with India.
- Kushinagar is the center of faith and inspiration for the Buddhists of the world. This is the **Mahaparinirvana site of Lord Buddha.**

Proposal for Amendment in Agriculture Export Policy, 2019 Approved

Why in News

- On October 22, 2021, under the chairmanship of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the Council of

Ministers approved the proposal to amend the Uttar Pradesh Agricultural Export Policy, 2019.

Key Points

- Various amendments have been made in the policy to make the export of agricultural products easy and convenient in the interest of the farmers.
- The Uttar Pradesh Agricultural Export Policy, 2019 has been promulgated with the objective of increasing the export of agricultural products from Uttar Pradesh to the farmers to get better price for their products.
- In the Uttar Pradesh Agriculture Export Policy, 2019, a provision has been made for export clusters to have at least 50 hectares of agricultural land within the development block, eliminating the interconnectivity of 20-20 hectares.

Faizabad Junction Name Change

Why in News

- On October 23, 2021, the Uttar Pradesh government decided to change the name of **'Faizabad Junction Railway Station' to 'Ayodhya Cantt Railway Station'.**

Key Points

- According to official sources, the state government has sent the proposal to change the name to the central government for issuing an official notification.
- Earlier the Government of Uttar Pradesh had renamed Mughalsarai Railway Station as Deen Dayal Upadhyay Railway Station and Allahabad Junction as Prayagraj Junction.
- On Nov 6, 2018, the Uttar Pradesh cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath approved the renaming of Faizabad district to Ayodhya and shifting the district's administrative headquarters to Ayodhya city.

9 Medical Colleges Inaugurated

Why in News

- On October 25, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 9 medical colleges of the state - Siddharthnagar, Etah, Hardoi, Pratapgarh, Deoria, Ghazipur, Mirzapur, Fatehpur and Jaunpur constructed at a cost of Rs. 2329 crore in Siddharthnagar district.

Note:



Key Points

- In Uttar Pradesh, 30 medical colleges are opening under the **Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana**.
- The work of these 30 medical colleges has been carried forward with the help of the Government of India and in some districts by the State Government from its own resources.

'Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Bharat Yojna'

Why in News

- On October 25, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the **'Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Bharat Yojana'** worth Rs.64 thousand crore and inaugurated 28 projects costing Rs.5189 crore in Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh.

Key Points

- On this occasion, the Prime Minister launched **'Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission'** with Rs 64 thousand crores to give strength to the health infrastructure of the country including Uttar Pradesh, to prevent epidemics, to bring confidence and self-reliance in the health system.
- Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that necessary infrastructure would be developed and integrated systems would be developed in 730 districts.

Four Members of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council Took Oath

Why in News

- On October 27, 2021, four new members of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council were administered the oath in a ceremony held at the Vidhan Bhavan in Lucknow. Former Congress leader Jitin Prasada is also among the new office bearers.

Key Points

- Apart from Jitin Prasad, Nishad (Nirbal Indian Shoshit Hamara Aam Dal) party chief Sanjay Nishad, Chaudhary Virendra Singh Gurjar and Gopal Anjan Bhurji were sworn in by **Legislative Council** Chairman

Kunwar Manvendra Singh. These four members were nominated to the Upper House of the Uttar Pradesh legislature in September.

- The Nishad Party had contested the 2017 assembly election in alliance with the Peace Party led by Dr. Mohammad Ayub on 72 seats and was won by Vijay Mishra, the party's candidate from Bhadohi's Gyanpur constituency.
- There are a total of 100 seats in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council, out of which Samajwadi Party has a maximum of 48 and BJP 33. The remaining members are from other parties.

Uttar Pradesh Climate Change Conference, 2021

Why in News

- On October 28, 2021, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the two-day Uttar Pradesh Climate Change Conference, 2021 held at the Indira Gandhi Foundation.

Key Points

- The event is being **organized in collaboration with the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Uttar Pradesh and the German Development Agency**.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister released a coffee table book based on heritage trees and a book on Plantation of 100 crore trees by the State Government, **'Vriksharopan Jan Andolan, 2021'**. He launched an app based on carbon neutral and also launched three eco tourism circuits in the state.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister was handed over the award received by Forest and Environment Minister Dara Singh Chouhan for the management of Dudhwa Tiger Reserve as per international norms.
- Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that **Van Mahotsav** is organized every year from July 1 to 7 in the state, under which action was taken by the state government for tree plantation in coordination with all the departments. Five and a half crore trees were planted in the first year, 11 crore trees in the second year, 22 crore in the third year, more than 25 crore in the fourth year and more than 30 crore in the fifth year.
- **3 eco tourism circuits have been launched** in this conference. Among these, **Agra-Chambal circuit**,

Note:

Varanasi-Chandrakanta circuit and Gorakhpur-Sohgibarwa circuit are important from the point of view of tourism. Through these tourists will get a natural and spiritual environment.

Uttar Pradesh In-situ Slum Redevelopment Policy, 2021

Why in News

- On October 28, 2021, under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the Council of Ministers has approved the proposal for promulgation of the Uttar Pradesh In-situ Slum Redevelopment Policy, 2021.

Key Points

- According to this policy 'slum' means a slum as defined in section 3 of the Uttar Pradesh Slum Areas (Improvement and Settlement) Act, 1962.
- Under this policy, such slums will be valid, in which a minimum of 300 persons are residing.
- The **State Urban Development Agency (SUDA)**, Uttar Pradesh has been designated as the State Level Nodal Agency for implementation of the policy.
- For the implementation of the policy, state level competent authority headed by Chief Secretary, State level evaluation committee headed by Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation Department, at the urban level under the chairmanship of Divisional Commissioner for Municipal Corporations and other municipal bodies. For this, a city level competent authority will be constituted under the chairmanship of the district officer.
- A city level technical committee will be constituted under the chairmanship of Project Director, District Urban Development Agency (DUDA) to evaluate the identified slums and provide technical assistance to the city level competent authority.
- In this policy, the **urban local body (ULB)**, the implementing body, the role and responsibility of the private developer along with the development of the project, eligibility of the beneficiaries and their benefits, allocation process, mandatory development criteria and **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Housing for All (Urban)** Clear provisions have been made regarding the grant to be received from the mission.

Soron Sukar Area Declared Pilgrimage Site

Why in News

- On October 28, 2021, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath declared the **holy Soron Sukar area of Kasganj district as a place of pilgrimage.**

Key Points

- It has been declared as a place of pilgrimage in view of the long standing demand of saints and various organizations to declare Soron Sukar as a place of pilgrimage.
- Preserving this ancient and sacred shrine as a pilgrimage will make it easier to renovate the many smaller temples that come under it. Along with this, **Chakratirtha, Yogatirtha, Suryatirtha, Somtirtha and Sakotkatirtha** will also get benefits.
- With the declaration of the Soron Sukar area as a pilgrimage site, besides development, **new sources of employment will also be available to the local people.**
- With the decision of the state government, the historical heritage of the pilgrimage will be preserved, it will be renovated and infrastructure facilities for pilgrims will be developed and ghats will be developed.
- **Soron Sukar Kshetra is situated in the Braj region of Kasganj and the importance of this area has been mentioned in various Puranas.** The Soron Sukar area is also considered as the pilgrimage of salvation. It is believed that **Soron Sukar Kshetra is the place of Nirvana of Lord Vishnu's third incarnation 'Varaha'.** The Kund (Haripadi Ganga) in Soron Sukar Kshetra is the same place from where Lord Varaha had left for Baikunth Lok and since then the ashes are immersed in this pool after death.

Uttar Pradesh Pharmaceutical Industry Policy, 2021

Why in News

- Recently, official sources of the state government said that the state government is going to bring a new pharmaceutical policy soon. In this context, draft formulation of Uttar Pradesh Pharmaceutical Industry Policy, 2021 has been started.

Note:



Key Points

- Medicines and medical equipment worth about 40 thousand crore rupees are purchased every year in Uttar Pradesh. In such a situation, a new pharmaceutical policy is being formulated to reduce the dependence on imports from other states and China for medical supplies and to make Uttar Pradesh a pharmaceutical manufacturing hub.
- Earlier in the year 2018, the pharmaceutical industry policy was brought by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the main provisions of which are as follows-
 - For the technical guidance of pharma companies,

the Uttar Pradesh Pharmaceutical Development Cell has been established in the policy for the development of the pharma industry.

- Facility of single window clearance system for pharma sector Various types of financial assistance, such as exemption from electricity duty, free registry of land, 50 percent interest subsidy for loans.
 - Intellectual Property Rights Promotion in the Pharma Sector.
- North India's largest medical device park is proposed in Sector-28 of Yamuna Expressway Development Authority.



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Note:



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