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MLAs getting richer: ADR

Why in News

> According to a report released recently by Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and Uttar Pradesh Election Watch, the assets of sitting MLAs who are seeking re-election to the assembly have increased by 220.57 percent.

Key Points

- > ADR has prepared this report after analyzing the selfaffidavits of 301 MLAs/MLCs who contested again in the 2022 UP Assembly elections.
- According to the report, out of 301 MLAs/MLCs re-contesting, the assets of 284 MLAs/MLCs have increased from 0 per cent to 220.57 per cent and assets of 17 MLAs/MLCs have decreased from -1 per cent to -36 percent.
- According to the report, the average assets of these 301 MLAs/MLCs re-contesting by different parties including independents was Rs 5.68 crore in 2017, which has increased to Rs 8.87 crore in 2022.
- The average asset growth of these MLAs/MLCs between 2017 and 2022 state elections is Rs 3.18 crore, while the average percentage increase in assets of these re-contesting leaders is 56 per cent.
- The top MLA/MLC with the highest asset growth is Shah Alam (Guddu Jamali) of All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen from Mubarakpur seat, whose assets have been increased from Rs 77.09 crore in 2017 to Rs 195.85 crore in 2022 (a 65 percent increase).

Speedy Trial: Right of Every Accused

Why in News

> Recently, the Supreme Court has issued a notice to Uttar Pradesh on the petition of 12 life prisoners lodged in Agra Central Jail for 14 years. In such a situation, the issue of the right of speedy hearing and judicial delay has come up again in the discussion.

Key Points

Supreme Court Justices Indira Banerjee and J.K. Maheshwari's bench has issued this notice.

It is noteworthy that 12 life prisoners, who have been sentenced to more than 14 years lodged in

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- Agra Central Jail of Uttar Pradesh, had approached the Supreme Court for release and bail. The appeals of these prisoners have been pending in the High Court for years.
- ≻ This is not the first case of life-imprisonment convicts in Uttar Pradesh having served more than 14 years of imprisonment and the appeal has not been heard.
- \triangleright On February 25 also, a bench headed by Chief Justice NV Ramana granted bail to the accused Ritu Pal, taking cognizance of the fact that he had served more than 14 years in a similar case and the bail application and appeal was pending in the High Court for 10 years.

Uttar Pradesh's Aarti Rana and Neerja Madhav Honored with 'Nari Shakti Puraskar'

Why in News

On the occasion of International Women's Day ≻ President Ram Nath Kovind honored Aarti Rana and Neerja Madhav of Uttar Pradesh with 'Nari Shakti Puraskar' for their extraordinary work towards women empowerment.

Key Points

- The President presented the Nari Shakti Puraskar to 29 women at a special function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan. For the years 2020 and 2021, 14-14 awards were given and one award was given jointly to two women.
- \triangleright These awards are given to women who have done remarkable work in the field of entrepreneurship, agriculture, innovation, social work, art, handicrafts, wildlife conservation, linguistics, merchant navy, education, literature, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and rights of persons with disabilities.
- > Aarti Rana of Uttar Pradesh was awarded with Nari Shakti Puraskar for the year 2020 and Neerja Madhav for the year 2021.
- \geq Aarti Rana is a handloom weaver and teacher from Kheri, Uttar Pradesh, has trained over 800 Tharu women in the craft and founded 150 women's selfhelp groups.



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- Hindi writer Neerja Madhav was given the Nari Shakti Award in recognition of her work for the marginalized people through Hindi literature. She has promoted world peace, rights and reservations for eunuchs and Tibetan refugees.
- It is noteworthy that women who have done exceptional and outstanding work towards the empowerment of weak and marginalized women are honored with Nari Shakti Puraskar every year. The Nari Shakti Puraskar ceremony of 2020 could not be held due to the Corona epidemic.

Uttar Pradesh Assembly Elections, 2022

Why in News

On March 10, 2022, the Election Commission declared the results of the assembly elections for 403 seats in the state, in which the Bharatiya Janata Party along with its allies won 273 seats and secured an absolute majority.

Key Points

- According to the Election Commission, out of all the 403 seats in the state, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has won 255 seats. Besides this, BJP's ally Apna Dal (Sonelal) won 12 seats and Nirbal Indian Shoshit Hamara Aam Dal (Nishad) won 6 seats.
- The main opposition party in the state Samajwadi Party (SP) stood at the second position, winning 111 seats. SP's ally Rashtriya Lok Dal won 8 seats and Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party won 6 seats.
- Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) won 8 seats and Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party won 6 seats. 2 seats were won by the Jansatta Dal Democratic.
- The Congress has been able to win only two seats, while the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), once a major political power in Uttar Pradesh, could win only one seat.
- This time 4,442 candidates were in the fray in the Uttar Pradesh assembly elections. Of these, 560 were women. Of these, 33 women candidates were successful. Maximum 25 women won from Bharatiya Janata Party. At the same time, 6 candidates of Samajwadi Party and one woman candidate of Congress won. In 2017, 38 women candidates won.

Hindi Sahitya Sammelan

Why in News

The two-day 73rd Annual Convention of Hindi Sahitya Sammelan was organized at Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh from March 12 to 13, 2022.

Key Points

- It is worth mentioning that in the 111-year history of the convention, so far seven conventions have been held in Prayagraj. The last convention was held here in 1994.
- In this session, two sessions were held on literature and the Rashtriya Sahitya Parishad (National Language Council).
- Under the Sahitya Parishad, in the first session, various litterateurs gave their views on the role of literature in the freedom movement.
- In the second session, the topic 'National Education Policy and National Language' was discussed under the Rashtrabhasha Parishad.
- Scholars from all over the country stressed on linking Hindi language with employment and said that if a person studying Hindi gets employment, then its acceptance will also increase.

Amar Ujala Women Achievers Award

Why in News

On March 16, 2022, the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Anandiben Patel honored the women who played a distinguished role in the field of social service, medicine, health, education, literature at the Amar Ujala Women Achievers Award ceremony held at Hotel Centrum, Sushant Golf City in Lucknow. .

Key Points

- Congratulating the women who were honored, the Governor said that every woman should get an opportunity to be financially empowered and become self-reliant. There should not be any reduction in the status and equal status of women, because they play a special role in the family.
- The women honored with the Amar Ujala Women Achievers Award are-
 - Dr. Mandakini Pradhan, Head, Maternal and Reproductive Health Department, AGPGI, Lucknow



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- Dr. Vidya Bindu Singh, Nominated for Padma Shri, Senior Hindi litterateur
- Pushpa Belani, Company Secretary, GM HR, Legal Head & CPRO, Uttar Pradesh Metro
- Madhu Bhargava, Social Activist and Social Entrepreneur
- En. Pooja Agarwal, Vice Chancellor, Shri Ramswaroop Memorial University
- o Dr. Rajul Tyagi, Founder Javitri Hospital
- Sunita Singh, Director, Dayal Group and Kunwar Global School
- o Asmita Singh, Executive Director, Chandan Hospital
- o Lori Shukla, Managing Director, Race IAS
- o Aparajita, Co-Director, Time Coaching
- o Dr. Samta Bafla, Executive Director, Himalayan Group of Colleges
- o Dr. Himani Jha, Physician and Diabetologist
- Dr. Richa Mishra, Director-Chair Person, Shekhar Hospital/Hind Institute of Medical Sciences
- O Chhavi Raitani, Founder Manager, Guru Kripa Divine School, Bahraich
- o Nandini Goyal, Founder Inayat Voluntary Organization

Polio Campaign Launched from Gorakhpur

Why in News

On March 20, 2022, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh launched the Pulse Polio campaign from Gorakhpur to save children up to five years of age from polio in the state.

Key Points

- Under this week-long campaign, 3.80 crore children up to the age of five years will be administered pulse polio drops. For this 1.10 lakh booths have been made. Along with this, 76,000 mobile teams have been formed.
- The Chief Minister said that not a single case of polio has been found in Uttar Pradesh since 2012 and in India since 2011.
- It is worth mentioning that by adopting the 'Four T' (Trace, Test, Treat and Vaccine) formula on the strength of collectivism, Uttar Pradesh is leading the entire country in the management of the global pandemic Corona.

- India introduced polio vaccination in Delhi on October
 2, 1994 as a result of the World Health Assembly's
 (WHA) global polio eradication initiative and in 1995
 the Pulse Polio Immunization (PPI) program was
- Under this program all the children under the age of 5 are given two doses of Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) every year until polio is eradicated.

launched across the country.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Resigned From the Membership of the Legislative Council

Why in News?

On March 21, 2022, the outgoing Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, resigned from his membership of the Legislative Council.

Key Points

- This resignation has been given by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath after being elected from Gorakhpur (Urban) seat in the recently concluded assembly elections.
- With the BJP winning 255 seats in the recently concluded elections, Adityanath will be the first chief minister to be re-elected after completing one term in Uttar Pradesh in the last 37 years. For this, on March 25, he will take oath as the Chief Minister.
- It is noteworthy that Yogi Adityanath will be the first Chief Minister in the last two decades who will be a member of the Legislative Assembly and not of the Legislative Council. The last Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh to have an assembly membership was Mulayam Singh Yadav, when he won the election from Gunnaur seat in the year 2003.

Appointment of Pro tem Speaker of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly

Why in News?

On March 23, 2022, Governor Anandiben Patel appointed Ramapati Shastri as the Pro tem Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly.



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Key Points

- Ramapati Shastri, who was elected from Mankapur assembly seat of Gonda in the recently concluded assembly elections, is one of the senior-most members of the House.
- Ramapati Shastri has been a minister in the government of Uttar Pradesh thrice from June 1991 to December 1992, September 1997 to November 1999 and from March 2017 to present.
- It is worth mentioning that when the Speaker of the previous Legislative Assembly vacates his office immediately before the first sitting of the newly elected Assembly, the Governor appoints a member of the Assembly as the Pro-tem Speaker, who is usually the senior most member of the House.
- Its main function is to administer oath to new members and enable the House to elect a new Speaker.
- When the new Speaker is elected by the House, the term of the Pro-tem Speaker ends.

Yogi Adityanath: Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh For The Second Time In a Row

Why in News?

On March 25, 2022, Yogi Adityanath took oath as the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh for the second time at the 'Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Stadium' in Lucknow. Governor Anandiben Patel administered him the oath of office and secrecy.

Key Points

- A total of 52 people took oath as ministers, including 16 cabinet ministers, 14 ministers of state (independent charge), 20 ministers of state and 2 deputy chief ministers. Brajesh Pathak and Keshav Prasad Maurya took oath as Deputy Chief Ministers.
- 38 MLAs have been made ministers in Yogi's new cabinet. At the same time, 9 MLCs have also been made ministers. While there are 5 names which are neither MLAs nor MLCs. They will have to take membership of the House in the next 6 months.
- It is noteworthy that Yogi Adityanath is the first Chief Minister to be re-elected after completing one term in Uttar Pradesh in the last 37 years.

It is to be noted that in the election results declared on March 10, 2022, the Bharatiya Janata Party along with its allies had won an absolute majority by winning 273 seats.

Lok Nirmala Samman-2022

Why in News?

On March 30, 2022, Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel presented Lok Nirmala Samman to folk singer Sharda Sinha.

Key Points

- In a festive event organized by Son Chiraiya Sanstha at Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Akademi, Sharda Sinha was presented with Rs 1 lakh with honors.
- It is noteworthy that the Lok Nirmala Samman was started by Malini Awasthi, the secretary of Son Chiraiya Sanstha, in the year 2020 in the memory of her mother Nirmala Awasthi.
- Sharda Sinha is an Indian Maithili folk singer. She was awarded the Padma Shri in the year 2018 and Padma Shri in the year 2018.

3rd National Water Award: Uttar Pradesh Best State

Why in News?

On March 29, 2022, President Ram Nath Kovind presented the first prize to Uttar Pradesh in the 'Best State' category for its best performance towards water conservation at the 3rd National Water Awards distribution ceremony at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Key Points

- President Ram Nath Kovind also launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain Campaign 2022, along with felicitating the third National Water Award winners.
- On this occasion the First Information Brochure of the 7th edition of India's International Water Resources Program 'India Water Week-2022' (IWW- 2022) was released. It will be organized from November 1-5, 2022 at India Expo Centre, Greater Noida.
- The Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, presented 57 awards in 11 different categories to states, organizations, individuals etc.



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- These categories include- Best State, Best District, Best Village Panchayat, Best Urban Local Body, Best Media (Print & Electronic), Best School, Best Institution/RWA/Religious Organization for Campus Use, Best Industry, Best NGO, Best Water User in these categories Consortium and best industries for CSR activity.
- Some of these categories also have sub-categories for different regions of the country. The award winners in various categories were given citations, trophies and cash prizes.
- Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu received the second and third prizes respectively in the 'Best State' category.
- It is worth mentioning that the first National Water Award was started in 2018 by the Ministry of Jal Shakti. Jal Shakti Abhiyan and Jal Jeevan Mission were launched in 2019 to convert the water movement into a mass movement, in which many recharge structures were built and crores of people participated in it.
- Jal Shakti Abhiyan-II: 'Catch the Rain, Where it Falls, When it Falls' was launched by the Prime Minister on March 22, 2021 on the occasion of World Water Day, which was launched in all the districts (rural as well as urban areas) of the country during the premonsoon and monsoon period, i.e. from March 2021 to November 30, 2021.
- Some new features have been added in Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain 2022, such as spring shed development, protection of catchment areas, gender mainstreaming in water sector. Gender mainstreaming in the water sector is expected to boost the role of women in water conservation and management.

Satish Mahana: Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly

Why in News?

On March 29, 2022, senior BJP leader Satish Mahana was elected as the Speaker of the Eighteenth Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh.

Key Points

Pro-tem speaker Ramapati Shastri announced the election in the house.

- Former cabinet minister Satish Mahana, replacing Pandit Hriday Narayan Dixit, is the 23rd Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly and 18th person to be elected as the Speaker.
- Satish Mahana has been elected MLA for the eighth consecutive time from Maharajpur (Kanpur). He was first elected to the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly in 1991.
- It is noteworthy that Purushottam Das Tandon was the first Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly. Kesarinath Tripathi had held the post of president for the maximum 13 years.

Kalyan Singh Honoured with posthumously Padma Vibhushan

Why in News?

On March 28, 2022, President Ram Nath Kovind honoured Kalyan Singh with Padma Vibhushan (posthumously). This honor was received by his son Rajveer Singh at the hands of the President.

Key Points

- President Ram Nath Kovind presented the Padma Awards (Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri) to 64 other dignitaries at the Civil Endowment Ceremony-II for the year 2022 held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- Classical singer Dr. Prabha Atre and Kalyan Singh (posthumously) were honoured with Padma Vibhushan in the embellishment ceremony.
- Padma Bhushan recipients include actors Victor Banerjee, Dr. Sanjay Rajaram (posthumously), Dr. Pratibha Ray and Acharya Vashishtha Tripathi along with Dr. Krishnamurthy Ella and Suchitra Krishna Ella (collectively).
- Earlier, on March 21, 2022, 54 personalities were conferred Padma Awards by President Ram Nath Kovind at the first Civil Investiture Ceremony.
- These awards are given in three categories Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri. Awards are given for various subjects/fields, such as art, social work, public work, science and engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service etc.



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- 'Padma Vibhushan' is given for outstanding and distinguished service; 'Padma Bhushan' is given for distinguished service of high level and 'Padma Shri' is given for distinguished service in any field. The awards are announced every year on the occasion of Republic Day.
- A total of 128 Padma Awards are being given this year, including two Yogya Awards (Yoga Awards are counted as single awards). The list of awardees includes four Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan and 107 Padma Shri.
- Among the awardees, 34 are women. The list includes 10 people from the foreign/NRI/PIO/OCI category. Apart from these, 13 people were awarded posthumously.

Bill Introduced to Include Six Castes of Uttar Pradesh in ST

Why in News?

 Recently, a bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha for the inclusion of six castes of Uttar Pradesh- Gond, Dhuniya, Nayak, Ojha, Pathari and Rajgod in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

Key Points

- Significantly, three bills related to amendment in the list of Scheduled Tribes are under consideration in the Parliament.
- In the Scheduled Tribes Amendment Bill, 2022, there is a provision to include the Gond caste of Sant Kabir Nagar, Kushinagar, Chandauli, Sant Ravidas Nagar in Uttar Pradesh from the list of Scheduled Castes (SC) and included in the list of Scheduled Tribes (ST).
- Apart from this, a provision has been made in this bill to include Dhuniya, Nayak, Ojha Pathari and Rajgod of Sant Kabir Nagar, Kushinagar, Chandauli and Sant Ravidas Nagar in the Scheduled Tribes.
- It is noteworthy that in 13 districts of Uttar Pradesh (Maharajganj, Siddharth Nagar, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria, Mau, Azamgarh, Jaunpur, Ballia, Ghazipur, Varanasi, Mirzapur and Sonbhadra) these castes have already got ST status.
- Significantly, 15 castes of Uttar Pradesh are currently included in the list of Scheduled Tribes..

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Summary

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Key Points	Details

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