



# STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTAR PRADESH

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Drishti, 641, First Floor, Dr. Mukherjee  
Nagar, Delhi-110009

Inquiry (English): 8010-440-440

Inquiry (Hindi): 8750-187-501

Website: [www.drishtias.com](http://www.drishtias.com)

Email: [help@groupdrishti.in](mailto:help@groupdrishti.in)

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## For the first time in the history of Kashi Vidyapeeth, the President will be the chief guest

### Why In News?

In the meeting held in the auditorium of the Central Library on November 29, 2023, it was told that for the first time in the history of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, the President will be the chief guest of the convocation ceremony.

### Key Points

- The 45th convocation of the university will be held on December 11, 2023. Governor Anandi Ben Patel will preside over the convocation ceremony.
- Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth is a university located in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. Earlier it was known only as Kashi Vidyapeeth, but later (on July 11, 1995) it was rededicated to the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi and his name was added to it.
- Kashi Vidyapeeth was established at Bhadaini, Varanasi by Babu Shiv Prasad Gupta on 10 February 1921 (on the auspicious occasion of Basant Panchami) during the Non-Cooperation Movement. Gandhiji had laid its foundation stone. Soon Kashi Vidyapeeth became the center of national education through Hindi medium.
- In July 1963, it was declared a deemed university by the University Grants Commission. It was given the status of Chartered University from January 15, 1975.
- Alumni of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth include-
  - Chandrashekhar Azad, Indian freedom fighter
  - Lal Bahadur Shastri, former Prime Minister of India
  - Ramakrishna Hegde, former Chief Minister of Karnataka
  - B.V Keskar, former Union Minister of India
  - Kalraj Mishra, former Governor of Rajasthan
  - Bhola Paswan Shastri, former Chief Minister of Bihar
  - Tribhuvan Narayan Singh, former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh

- Kamalapati Tripathi, former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh



## Asia's second biggest fish market will be built in Moradabad

### Why in News?

On December 2, 2023, Assistant Director of Fisheries Department of Uttar Pradesh, Vijay Shankar Chaurasia said that to promote fish farming, Asia's second largest fish market will be built in Moradabad.

### Key Points

- This three-storey modern fish center, to be built on 2.125 hectares of land at a cost of Rs 50 crore, will be completely air-conditioned. In this, all the facilities related to fish farmers and fish trade will be available under one roof.
- It is worth mentioning that Asia's first modern fish market was built in Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh. After this, preparations are being made to build a second big market in Moradabad.
- After its completion, the fish producers of the district will get a bigger market and better prices to sell their produce, while fish production will get a boost and thousands of people will get direct and indirect employment.
- Due to the efforts of Divisional Commissioner Anjaneya Kumar to promote fisheries, Moradabad had got this project of fish market project about six months ago, but the problem was of land availability.

Note:

Now 2.125 hectares of land has been found in village Mughalpura alias Agwanpur of Sadar Block.

- It is worth mentioning that fish production is also increasing rapidly in the division. While the total fish production in the year 2021-22 was 19,396 tonnes, it increased to 23,885 tonnes in the year 2022-23.
- This will be special in the modern fish market:
  - A large auction hall of 6470 sq.m.
  - Retail building with 2936 square meter area, comprising 23 retail stores, 34 restaurants, e-kiosks.
  - 2114 square meter center conference hall and training centre, laboratory.
  - Service building of 795 sq.m.
  - Four cold stores of 86 square meters each, on the ground floor.
  - Solar power plots and big generators to maintain the cold chain.
  - CC Road, Drainage System, Boundary Wall, Paver Block, Fire Hydrant, High Mosque Lights, Guard Room.



## **Uttar Pradesh Rural Sports League started**

### **Why in News?**

On December 4, 2023, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the league by lighting the torch of Uttar Pradesh Rural Sports League in Gorakhpur.

### **Key Points**

- On this occasion, a prize distribution ceremony was organised for the winners of Rashtrasant Brahmaling Mahant Avaidyanath Maharaj Fifth All India Prizemoney Men's Kabaddi Competition-2023.

- In the final match of Kabaddi competition, Uttar Pradesh won the title by defeating JD Academy New Delhi. After the end of the match, the Chief Minister awarded the winning teams and players.
- The Chief Minister also directed the Sports Department to double the prize money in the Brahmaling Mahant Avaidyanath Memorial All India Prize Money Kabaddi Competition next year.
- While inaugurating the Uttar Pradesh Rural Sports League, the Chief Minister said that this competition will be held in all the development blocks of the state. There will be many types of sports competitions in it. After the block level, rural sports talents will get opportunities at the district, zone and state level. Lakhs of players will benefit from this.
- The Chief Minister said that the government has taken many important steps to increase sports resources and activities in the state. Under this, playgrounds and open gyms are being developed in every village. Stadiums are being built at the district level and mini stadiums at the block level.



- Currently there are 2 international cricket stadiums in Uttar Pradesh. The construction work of International Cricket Stadium is going on in Varanasi. 15 synthetic hockey tracks, 3 synthetic running tracks, 67 multi-purpose sports halls, 15 indoor basketball halls, 2 judo halls and 6 shooting ranges have been built in the state. The state's first world class sports university in the name of Major Dhyani Chand is being constructed in Meerut.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister said that Khelo India, Fit India Movement and MP Sports Competition have given a lot of encouragement to sports and players. To give further impetus to this, sports centres are being built in every district.
- The Chief Minister said that to encourage the players, the state government is giving them government jobs

Note:

along with providing adequate funds. Many coaches have been appointed on a monthly honorarium of Rs 1.5 lakh. Players are also being provided help from the Eklavya Sports Fund.



- He said that the players of the state who participate and win medals in Olympics, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, World Championships are being given ample prize money, and those who win medals at the international level are being appointed to gazetted posts. 500 players have been appointed in the state.



## **Divyang Tejveer, Abhinav Chaudhary and Divyang Development Society of Uttar Pradesh received national awards.**

### **Why in News?**

On the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3, 2023, President Draupadi Murmu honoured Divyang Tejveer, Abhinav Chaudhary and Divyang Development Society of Uttar Pradesh with the National Award-2023 at a grand ceremony in New Delhi.

### **Key Points**

- It may be noted that on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, President Draupadi Murmu presented the National Award-2023 to 21 individuals and 9 institutions from across the country for their exemplary contribution in various fields for the empowerment of persons with disabilities in New Delhi.
- Tejveer Singh, a person with 90% locomotor disability from both legs, from Dujana village of Dadri tehsil of Gautam Buddha Nagar, has been awarded the National Award for Individual Excellence-2023 in the category of 'Best Disabled' for his excellent work in the social field.
  - Disabled Tejveer Singh has already been honoured by the district administration and the state government. In the year 2021, DM had honoured Tejveer Singh. In the year 2022, State Governor Anandiben Patel honoured him with a gold medal and Rs 2 lakh.
- Abhinav Chaudhary, a person with 60% intellectual disability from Ghaziabad, has been honoured with the National Award for Individual Excellence-2023 in the category of 'Best Disabled' for his excellent work in the field of art, culture and social service.
  - Abhinav Choudhary, associated with art and culture and dance, acting and modelling, has participated in various national level dance programs like 'Dance India Dance' and won in 2018.
  - He has been awarded the 'World Record for the Most Dance Forms Performed by a Special Child' by World Records India. He has also won many other state and district level awards.
  - He is running a dance academy where he teaches dance to special needs and underprivileged children, which is a social service.
- Similarly, in recognition of the work being done by the Kanpur based non-profit organisation Disabled Development Society, it was awarded the National Award 2023 for the organisation working related to empowering the disabled in the category of the best organisation working in the development of rehabilitation professionals.

Note:

- It is worth mentioning that in 1969, the Central Government had approved a scheme for conferring National Awards to outstanding persons with disabilities as employers and employees. These awards have been instituted with the objective of focusing public attention on issues related to persons with disabilities and promoting their inclusion in the mainstream of society.
- National Awards are given every year on 'International Day of Persons with Disabilities' on 3 December to outstanding individuals/organisations working for the empowerment of persons with disabilities.
- National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities for the year 2023 have been given under the following categories-

#### **I. National Award for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities-2023 Individual Excellence**

- Best disabled person
  - Super disabled person
    - Locomotor Challenge - (Locomotor, Muscular Challenges, Dwarfism, Acid Attack Victim, Leprosy Recovered, Cerebral Palsy)
    - Visual impairment – (Blindness, Low vision)
    - Hearing loss (Deaf, Hard of hearing, Speech and Language challenges)
    - Intellectual disability (Mental retardation, Psychotic behaviour, Specific learning challenges, Autism spectrum disorder)
    - Any specified disability other than those mentioned above.
  - Best Disabled Child/Girl
  - Best person - working for the empowerment of persons with disabilities
  - Best Rehabilitation Professional (Rehabilitation Professional/Worker) – Working in the Field of Disability
- #### **II. National Award for institutions engaged in empowering persons with disabilities-2023**
- Best Institute for Empowerment of Disabled (Private Organization, NGO)
  - Best Employer for Disabled - (Government Organization/PSE/Autonomous Body/Private Sector)
  - Best State/UT/District in implementation of Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan/creation of barrier free environment

- Best accessible means of transport/information and communication technology (government/private organisations)
- Best State/UT/District in implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act/UDID and other schemes for empowerment of persons with disabilities.
- Commissioner of Persons with Disabilities of the State best in implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 in his/her State.
- Best organisations engaged in development of rehabilitation professionals.

## **Construction work of Rajasthan's longest high level bridge begins**

### **Why In News?**

Moradabad's horses and riders once again became champions in the 25th annual horse riding competition of UP Police held at the grounds of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Police Academy, Moradabad on December 4, 2023. Moradabad retained the trophy with their brilliant performance.

### **Key Points**

- Chief Guest ADG Bareilly Zone P.C. Meena honoured the winning and runner-up teams by giving them shields, medals and prizes.
- It is worth mentioning that Moradabad has been winning the title of champion in every competition.
- During the 25th Annual Equestrian Competition which started on December 1, 2023, competitions of Tent Pegging, Vravo Jump, Police Rebound Dressage, Relay Competition Guru-Chela, Middle Relay, Show Jumping Top Score, Show Jumping Trainee and New Horse, Jumping Sixwar were conducted. .
- Horses and riders from seven zones including Bareilly, Aligarh, Moradabad and Lucknow participated in the competition.
- On the last day, in the show jumping open sixwar competition, Veer Singh of Training Zone stood first with his horse Gulab, Mahesh Babu with his horse Rimjihit and Bhagwan Singh with his horse Montina stood jointly second. Satyam Singh of Lucknow zone got third place with horse Ada.

Note:

- In the tent hanging individual competition, SI Raj Naresh of Training Zone Moradabad stood first with Diamond, Anuj Kumar of Kanpur Zone stood joint second with horse Parth and Tarun Sangwan of Bareilly Zone stood joint second with horse Phantom. Training Zone's Veer Singh finished third with his horse India.
- On this occasion, ADG P.C. Meena said that the contribution of horses in the development of human civilization has always been commendable. Even today, there is no alternative to horses and mounted policemen in police functioning like traffic control, fair control and crowd control.
- In the horse riding competition, SIMP Rajnaresh of Training Zone Moradabad secured first position in Varvo Jumping, Team Tent Pegging, Dressage Team and Individual, Guru Chela, Middle Relay, Tent Pegging Individual. He was declared the best horseman. Training Zone Moradabad's horse Rathore got the title of best horse



## IIT Kanpur's research found signs of Oil and Gas near Narcondam Island.

### Why in News?

According to information received from the media on December 6, 2023, the research of Harshad Srivastava, a PhD student of the Department of Earth Sciences, IIT Kanpur, has found signs of oil and gas near Narcondam Island.



### Key Points

- Indications of gas and oil have been found in the sedimentary basin near Narcondam Island, located 139 km from Andaman Nicobar. A 10 km long liquid layer has been found in the basin, which has increased the possibility of finding gas and oil.
- The final approval will be given after the second phase of research. If this happens then the country will get economic strength.
- This research paper of Harshad Srivastava was published in the German magazine Geo-Marine Letter in October.
- Harshad Srivastava, a PhD student in the Department of Earth Sciences, IIT, started the research in 2019 under the guidance of Dibakar Ghoshal, assistant professor in the department. It took about four years to complete the research.
- This research has been done by analysing the data given by ONGC (Oil and Natural Gas Corporation). The first phase of this research, which is being conducted in two phases, has been successful. Oil and gas will be confirmed in the second phase.
- Harshad, originally a resident of Bigahi Bahuara of Ballia district, said that Narcondam Island is a dormant island. The test was conducted from a 2D seismic line in the sea located 30 km from the island. The depth of the sea is about 1.5 km. After deepening the sea, a combined layer of oil and gas 20 metres wide and 10 km long has been found 650 metres below the seafloor.
- Harshad said that this research has been completed with the help of seismic data received from ONGC. Air guns and hydrophone have been used for this data. Using an air gun, a high pressure bubble was sent into the sedimentary layer of water, the pressure of which was recorded with the help of a hydrophone. This is a technique of data collection.
- Harshad said that the second phase of research will confirm the existence of oil and gas through a well log data method. However, well log data is a very expensive process. The cost of one well log will be around Rs 200 crore. There will be manual work in this. Gas and oil are detected by inserting pipes inside water.

Note:

## Invitation to Uttar Pradesh in the World Economic Forum meeting

### Why In News?

According to information received from the media on December 6, 2023, Uttar Pradesh has also been invited to the World Economic Forum meeting held from January 15 to 19 in Davos, Switzerland.

### Key Points

- According to the information, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has nominated a delegation to participate in the meeting to be held in Davos. The delegation includes Finance Minister Suresh Khanna and Industrial Development & Export Promotion Minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, besides Infrastructure & Industrial Development Commissioner Manoj Kumar Singh & Secretary to the Chief Minister Amit Singh.
- It is worth mentioning that when Yogi Adityanath goes to Davos to participate in the World Economic Forum-2023 meeting, he will become the first Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh to do so.
- The ministers and officials going to attend the conference will present the model of fast pace of economic & industrial development of the state in about six & a half years on the global platform.
- The delegation will give information about the new positive environment created for investment in Uttar Pradesh, so that investors from all over the world can be attracted towards Uttar Pradesh.

## Kaushambi block of Kaushambi district of Uttar Pradesh got 2nd place in NITI Aayog's first delta ranking of ABP

### Why in News?

Kaushambi block of Kaushambi district of Uttar Pradesh was ranked second in the first delta ranking of Aspirational Block Program (ABP) announced by NITI Aayog on December 7, 2023. Tiriyani Kumuram Bheem

block of Asifabad, Telangana has got the first position in the ranking.

### Key Points

- The blocks are also divided geographically into six zones and ranking is given to two blocks from each zone.
  - In Zone 1, which includes hilly and north-eastern states as well as islands, Amri block (West Karbi Anglong, Assam) and Ngopa block (Saitual, Mizoram) stood first and second respectively.
  - In Zone 2, which covers North Indian states, Harraiya block of Basti district of Uttar Pradesh stood first and Viron block of Ghazipur district stood second.
  - In Zone 3 comprising southern states, Maski block (Raichur, Karnataka) and Naranur (Adilabad, Telangana) were declared the top rankers.
  - In the western Indian states, which includes Zone 4, Sironcha and Aheri blocks in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra emerged as winners.
  - Under Zone 5, Tirla block of Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh and Pat block of Barwani district were the winners in Central India.
  - In Eastern India, included in Zone 6, Andar in Siwan district of Bihar and Ramgarh in Dumka in Jharkhand were at the top position.
- The winners in all categories will be awarded a prize money of Rs 1.5 crore for the top rank and Rs 1 crore for the second rank.
- The ranking of the blocks was calculated based on the performance of the blocks and the progress achieved in the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in the month of June, 2023.
- Ranking the blocks based on KPIs is a core strategy of the programme, which is based on the spirit of competitive and cooperative federalism. This is the first time that a ranking of blocks has been calculated as part of the Aspirational Block Programme.
- Apart from ABP, ADP rankings for the month of October 2023 were also announced, in which Rayagada (Odisha) and Jamui (Bihar) secured the first and second ranks respectively. Awarded to top rankers in the thematic and overall categories of ADP.
- Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog inaugurated the 'Wall of Fame' along with members of NITI Aayog. The Wall

Note:



of Fame highlights the key points of the Aspirational Block Program and Aspirational District Program with the vision of creating a developed India by 2047. It commemorates the achievements of the best performing Aspirational Blocks and Aspirational Districts in the country.

- It may be noted that the Aspirational Block Program (ABP) was started on January 7, 2023. ABP focuses on improving governance to enhance the quality of life of citizens in India's most difficult and relatively underdeveloped blocks. 500 blocks in 329 districts across 27 states and 4 union territories in India are part of this programme.
- The baseline data for the first quarter March 31, 2023 and June 30, 2023 of 500 aspirational blocks was obtained through the management information system of 11 ministries. The first delta rank is calculated based on the improvement in the first quarter.



## The biggest defence centre will be built in Ayodhya: British company will invest Rs 75 thousand crores

### Why in News?

According to information received from the media on December 11, 2023, the big British company Trafalgar Square Capital will set up defence manufacturing units in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh. For this the company will invest a total of Rs 75000 crore.

### Key Points

- 5 big multinational companies have shown interest in the state under the FDI (Foreign Direct Investment)

policy. These include Hong Kong company Taushan International Group, RG Group, Austin Consulting Group, Cosis Group, Indo European Chamber of Small and Medium Enterprises, Britain's Trafalgar Square Capital Group, ABC Cleantech, Unicorn Energy Germany etc.

- Britain's Trafalgar Square has signed five MoUs and Germany's Unicorn Energy has signed two MoUs. Trafalgar Square Defense manufacturing units will be set up here. An investment of Rs 75 thousand crore will be made on these. At least 26 thousand new jobs will be created with this investment.
- Investments in the defence sector are being made outside the defence corridor. An investment of Rs 75 thousand crore in one district will probably be the biggest investment in any one district in the country.
- Germany's Unicorn Energy will invest about Rs 42 thousand crore in two projects in Lucknow and Jaunpur. Both these projects will be in the solar energy sector. About 2200 people will get employment in these.
- GMR Group has also signed an MoU worth Rs 40 thousand crore for investment in solar energy. The place has not been chosen yet. Whereas Aditya Birla Group has signed a new MoU worth Rs 25 thousand crore in the field of textile and readymade.
- Hinduja Group has also invested Rs 25 thousand crore in the film, media and solar energy sectors after signing the EV vehicle agreement with Ashok Leyland. Both the companies have not selected the location.
- National Thermal Power Corporation has signed 6 MoUs in the solar power and energy sector. The corporation will set up plants in Jhansi, Sonbhadra and Prayagraj with a cost of Rs 74 thousand crore.



Note:



## Helicopter service for sightseeing in Agra and Mathura

### Why In News?

Regarding starting helicopter service for sightseeing in Agra and Mathura on December 12, 2023, an MOU was signed between the Tourism Department and M/s Rajas Aero Sports and Adventure Private Limited in the presence of State Tourism and Culture Minister Jaiveer Singh.

### Key Points

- Heliports are ready at both places to start helicopter service in Agra and Mathura. It will be operated on PPP mode. It is likely to be inaugurated on December 25, the birth anniversary of former Bharat Ratna Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- The Minister of Tourism and Culture said that with the facility of heliport at these places, domestic and foreign tourists and devotees will get the opportunity of air service. This will increase the number of tourists, increase activities at the local level and create new employment opportunities.
- He said that in the next phase, the process of selection of institutions is being done for its operation on PPP mode at other major tourist destinations of the state (Lucknow, Kapilvastu, Ayodhya, Varanasi and Naimisharanya).
- Helicopter service is being started to meet the needs of tourists and provide special services. It is being given on a 30 years lease to M/s Rajas Aerosport and Adventure Private Limited for operation on PPP mode.

- First, six plus one seater helicopters will be operated, then this number can be increased as per need. Three types of services will be provided in Mathura – first aerial tour, second aerial tour of the entire Mathura and third connectivity tour.
- Similarly, a tour will be organised in Agra under Air Safari Agra. Keeping in mind the foreign tourists in Agra, connectivity with Delhi Airport will be provided. Besides, the facility of hot air balloons will also be provided. Taj Mahal Air Safari will also be organised for the first time.
- Let it be known that this is happening for the first time in the country, when air parikrama of a religious place is being started.

## Kanpur's Adarsh Singh selected in Indian team for Under-19 World Cup

### Why In News?

On December 12, 2023, BCCI announced the Indian team for the Under-19 World Cup and Tri-Series to be held in South Africa, in which the name of Kanpur's Adarsh Singh is also included.



### Key Points

- Due to his consistent performance in domestic cricket, Adarsh Singh has been selected in the Indian team for the Under-19 World Cup. Earlier, he was also selected in the UP T-20 Cricket League.
- Adarsh Singh, son of farmer Narendra Kumar Singh and Manju Lata, originally from Jaunpur, has learned cricket by staying in a rented house.
- On the basis of his excellent game, Adarsh Singh was the captain of Uttar Pradesh in Under-14 as well as Under-16 and Under-19 cricket teams.
- In the year 2023, Adarsh Singh was selected in the National Cricket Academy. Here Adarsh learned the nuances of cricket from VVS Laxman, Irfan Pathan, Pragyan Ojha, Lokesh Rahul.
- It is worth mentioning that Adarsh Singh is the fourth player to play for Kanpur in the Indian team

Note:

of Under-19 World Cup. Before him, those who played in the Under-19 Indian team from the city include Arvind Solanki, Kuldeep Yadav and Archana Devi. Arvind Solanki and Kuldeep Yadav played as spin bowlers. Archana Devi played as an all-rounder. Whereas Adarsh Singh will play as an opening batsman.

## 'New star classification system' for classification of hotels and resorts

### Why in News?

According to information received from the media on December 13, 2023, to promote the tourism industry in Uttar Pradesh, the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department has launched a 'new star classification system' for approving star classification of operational hotels and resorts in the state.

### Key Points

- The objective of the new classification system is to provide availability of more hotel rooms in the state, improve the hospitality industry with better facilities, and provide subsidies and incentives to hotels and resorts at par with the industry.
- The 'new star classification system' will classify hotels based on their quality, services and overall facilities and guest experience, thereby boosting tourism.
- The new revised classification system includes five different categories – Platinum, Diamond, Gold, Silver and Bronze. These categories correspond to the traditional star ratings of the hotel industry prescribed by the Ministry of Tourism with 5-star, 4-star, 3-star, 2-star and one star classification respectively.
- This revised system will simplify the selection process for tourists and encourage higher service standards among hotels.
- Hotels recognized under this system will be eligible for various incentives and will get industry standard subsidies and tax benefits.
- Uttar Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation (UPSTDC) will be the nodal agency

for the implementation of the New Star Hotel Classification System in the state.

## PM inaugurates Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2023 in Varanasi

### Why In News?

Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2023 was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 17 December 2023 in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

### Key Points

- Kasi Tamil Sangamam aims to reaffirm and rediscover the age-old relationship between Tamil Nadu and Kasi, two of the most important and ancient seats of learning in the country.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the Kanyakumari-Varanasi Tamil Sangam train.
- Multilingual and Braille translations of Thirukkural, Manimekalai and other classic Tamil literature were also released on the occasion.
- Under the Vidya Shakti initiative of IIT, Chennai, online assistance is being provided to thousands of students of Varanasi in Science and Mathematics.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that Kashi Tamil Sangamam takes forward the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat'.

## Prime Minister inaugurates Swarved Mahamandir in Varanasi

### Why in News?

On 18 December 2023, the Swaraveda temple built in Umraha of Chaubepur area of Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

### Key Points

- Swarveda Temple was constructed by Saint Sadaphal Maharaj, the founder of Vihangam Yoga Institute.
- Saint Sadaphal Maharaj has ashrams in many countries of the world, out of which this ashram in Varanasi is the largest.

Note:

- The biggest feature of Swarveda temple is that not God is worshiped here, but yoga-sadhana is worshiped.
- Swarveda temple is constructed from Makrana marble. Apart from this, amazing carvings have also been done on the walls of this temple.
- This temple is seven storeyed and it has also become the world's largest meditation center. About 20 thousand people can do yoga and meditation together in this temple.
- This temple is built in 64 thousand square feet, whose height is 180 feet.
- Swarveda Mandir The temple is spread over a 200-acre campus.
- About 4000 couplets of Swarveda are written on the inner walls on all the floors of the Swarveda temple. On the outer wall, 138 paintings have been made on the subjects of Vedas, Upanishads, Mahabharata, Ramayana, Geeta etc.
- The construction of Swarved Temple started in the year 2004. This temple has been shaped over the last 19 years.
- Along with inaugurating the Swaraveda Mahamandir, Prime Minister Narendra Modi also laid the foundation stone of the 135 feet high statue of Saint Sadaphal Maharaj.



## Prime Minister flags off second Vande Bharat in Varanasi

### Why in News?

On December 18, 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually flagged off the second Vande Bharat Express and dedicated it to the service of the nation in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

### Key Points

- This Vande Bharat Express train will run between Banaras and New Delhi.
- Vande Bharat Express (Train No. 04015) will leave from Banaras (formerly Manduadih) Railway Station of North Eastern Railway at 6 am regularly.
- The Railway Board has decided to run Vande Bharat Express six days a week and this train will not be run on Tuesday for maintenance.
- On this occasion, the new MEMU train from Indaraghat to Dohrighat was also inaugurated.
- It may be noted that the first Vande Bharat Express train departed on February 15, 2019.



## Cyber crime police stations will be opened in 57 districts of the state

### Why in News?

In the cabinet meeting held at Lok Bhavan under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on

Note:

December 19, 2023, the proposal to establish cyber crime police stations in 57 districts of the state was approved.

### Key Points

- In view of the increasing cases of cyber crime in Uttar Pradesh, the Yogi government has taken this big decision. With this decision, cyber crime stations will be present in all the districts of the state.
- At present, cyber crime stations are present in all the 18 divisional headquarters of the state. Till now, an IG level officer used to look after these police stations, but after the establishment of cyber crime stations in all the districts, the Superintendent of Police will take up the responsibility.
- Giving information about the decisions of the Cabinet in the media centre of Lok Bhavan, Finance and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna said that with the establishment of cyber crime stations in 57 districts, not only cyber crime will be monitored but effective action will also be possible on it.
- He said that Uttar Pradesh ranks first in the country in terms of conviction in cyber crime. The state's conviction rate is 87.8 percent, which is much better than the national cyber crime conviction rate of 46.5 percent.
- So far, there have been 838 convictions in Uttar Pradesh, whereas in second place Madhya Pradesh, there have been only 59 convictions. 7122 criminal arrests have been made in Uttar Pradesh, while 2582 criminal arrests have been made in Maharashtra. 10,117 cases have been registered in Uttar Pradesh in 2022.
- Cyber crime police stations will be established in these districts: Mathura, Firozabad, Mainpuri, Jaunpur, Hamirpur, Mahoba, Sonbhadra, Rae Bareilly, Sitapur, Hardoi, Lakhimpur Kheri, Kanpur Dehat, Etawah, Deoria, Kushinagar, Balrampur, Shravasti, Fatehgarh, Kannauj, Auraiya, Meerut, Ghaziabad, Bulandshahr, Baghpat, Hapur, Sultanpur, Barabanki, Maharajganj, Amethi, Ambedkarnagar, Etah, Hathras, Kasganj, Ghazipur, Chandauli, Mau, Bahraich, Unnao, Badaun, Shahjahanpur, Pilibhit, Rampur, Bijnor, Amroha, Sambhal, Bhadohi, Ballia, Siddharthnagar, Sant Kabirnagar, Lalitpur, Jalaun, Muzaffarnagar, Shamli, Pratapgarh, Fatehpur, Kaushambi and Chitrakoot.



## Modern Cow Shed will be built in Lucknow on the lines of Switzerland

### Why in News?

On December 20, 2023, Lucknow Mayor Sushma Kharkwal and Municipal Commissioner Inderjit Singh said that a new cow shed will be built on the lines of Switzerland in Uttar Dhauna village.

### Key Points

- It may be noted that this proposal was passed in the Lucknow Municipal Corporation Executive meeting. At the same time, 13 proposals were passed, including making the shooting range of the Municipal Corporation of international standard.
- It will be developed on 10 hectares of land under the cow tourism policy of the Uttar Pradesh government. Rs 32.63 crore will be spent on this. The name of this cow shed will be 'Manoratha' cow shed. About two thousand cows can be kept here.
- Cows will not be kept tied in this cow shed. There will be a maximum open area in which they can roam and graze. Only milch cows will be kept in the cowshed. A glimpse of Indian culture will be visible in the cowshed.
- Cows will be given a natural environment in the cow shed. The entire field will remain raw. There will be a field there for them to graze. With this, there will be no need to pick up the cow dung. The dung will dry in the same field and become manure.
- The Gaushala will be developed in such a way that it also becomes a center of tourism. For this, a cow museum and slaughter place will be built. Arrangements for Annapurna restaurant, pathways, parking, landscaping will be made. Employee accommodation, veterinary hospital and sewerage-drainage work will also be done.

Note:



## Kidney Transplant OPD will Start in BHU

### Why In News?

According to the information received from the media on December 21, 2023, OPD for kidney transplant will be started in IMS BHU.

### Key Points

- OPD arrangements are being made in Shatabdi Super Specialty Block.
- BHU Hospital, Deendayal Hospital, Divisional Hospital have dialysis facility for kidney patients, but there is no special OPD arrangement.
- Professor of Nephrology Department, Shivendra Singh said that on an average there are 30 to 40 patients in a month for whom kidney transplant is necessary.



- Director of IMS BHU, Prof. S.N. Sankhwar said that a transplant clinic is running in the Urology department, now preparations are going on to run a special OPD for it. For this, the work will be taken forward by talking to the doctors of Urology and Nephrology department.

- A fresh schedule of OPD and Super Specialty Clinic has been released by the Department of Urology.

## Azamgarh ranks first in the entire state in disposal of public complaints received on IGRS portal.

### Why In News?

According to the information given by Uttar Pradesh Media Cell on December 24, 2023, Azamgarh stands first in the entire state in the monthly ranking regarding disposal of public complaints received on the Grievance Redressal System i.e. IGRS portal.

### Key Points

- According to the information, the monthly ranking for the month of November has been released by the Chief Minister's Office Lok Bhavan in response to public complaints received on the IGRS portal. In this, Azamgarh has stood first in the entire state and in the police station wise ranking, all the police stations (26 police stations) of Azamgarh district have secured 100 percent marks.
- The hard work of Superintendent of Police Anurag Arya bore fruit and in the list released from the Chief Minister's Office in the month of November 2023, Azamgarh Police reached the first position in the entire state. All credit for this achievement of the police goes to Superintendent of Police Anurag Arya and his team.
- It is worth mentioning that as per the instructions of the government, the complaints received through IGRS are being disposed of in a prompt, fair, timely and quality manner by every police station of the district.
- In the ranking issued by the government level, Nagar Kotwali has got the first position, while Sidhari police station has got the second position and Rani Ki Sarai police station has got the third position. These police stations scored 100% marks out of 90 marks.

Note:

- In the ranking, Kandharapur has got fourth place, Mubarakpur has got fifth place, Jahanaganj has got sixth place, Gambhirpur has got seventh place, Nizamabad has got eighth place, Devgaon has got ninth place and Bardah police station has got 10th place. Mahila police station has got the last position (26th position).

## **PM Modi will flag off the first Amrit Bharat train from Ayodhya**

### **Why In News?**

On December 30, 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off the first Amrit Bharat train in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh.

### **Key Points**

- This Amrit Bharat train will have 22 bogies and its speed will be approximately 130 km per hour.
- This train will be the country's first Amrit Bharat train.
- This train will connect Ramnagari to Sitamarhi, the birthplace of Mother Sita.
- Lucknow Division's APRO Vikram Singh said that the saffron coloured Amrit Bharat train with 22 coaches is completely indigenous.
- The plane-like Amrit Bharat train will have engines on both the front and rear sides.
- In this Amrit Bharat train, 683 passengers will be able to travel in eight general bogies, 12 sleepers and two AC coaches.
- The distance from Ayodhya to Lucknow can be covered in just one and a half hour by this Amrit Bharat train.



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***Key Points***

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