



STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTAR PRADESH

**NOVEMBER
2023**

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1.75 Crore Beneficiaries of Ujjwala Scheme will Get Free Cylinder on Diwali

Why In News?

In the cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on October 31, 2023, the proposal to provide free kitchen cylinders to 1,75,04,385 beneficiaries of Ujjwala scheme on Diwali was approved.

Key Points:

- A total of 20 proposals were approved in the cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. In the meeting, it was announced to give free gas cylinders to the beneficiaries of PM Awas Yojana on Diwali.
- It may be noted that the state government had decided to give one free cylinder each to the beneficiaries of Ujjwala scheme on Holi and Diwali.
- First, a 14.2 kg cylinder will have to be refilled at the prevailing consumer rate. After five days, the amount of the cylinder will be transferred to the consumer's Aadhaar certified bank account by the oil companies.
- This facility will be available only on one connection of Ujjwala scheme. This will put a financial burden of Rs 2312 crore on the state government.



Tribal Museums Will be Built in Mirzapur, Sonbhadra and Maharajganj.

Why In News?

In a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on October 31, 2023, the cabinet has given

no objection to the central government's decision to transfer the proposed land for tribal museums to be built in Mirzapur, Sonbhadra and Maharajganj in favor of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute Lucknow.

Key Points:

- It should be noted that there are 15 scheduled tribes listed in Uttar Pradesh. Along with geographical disparity, there is considerable diversity in customs, way of life, food and art. To preserve them, tribal museums will be built in Mirzapur, Sonbhadra and Maharajganj.
- For the establishment of Tribal Museum, land has been allotted to the Culture Department, Lucknow by the concerned District Magistrates.
- The central government will give Rs 15 crore for each museum. There will be no burden on the state government in this.
- For the museum, 4.046 hectare land will be allotted in Atraila Pandey village in Mirzapur, 2.82 hectare land in Robertsganj in Sonbhadra and 0.506 hectare land in Nautanwa tehsil of Maharajganj.
- Information, films, pictures etc. related to tribal life will be displayed in the digital theater in the museum. The products prepared by the tribes will be sold through tribal outlets.

Arvind of Bulandshahr won Gold Medal in Doubles Rowing Competition .

Why In News?

On November 1, 2023, Arvind Singh of Bulandshahr district has won the gold medal in the Light Weight Men's Double Sculls of Rowing competition with his partner Arjun Lal Jat in the National Games held in Goa.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that Arvind Singh, a resident of Khabra village of Khurja police station area of Bulandshahr district, had brought pride to the country by winning a silver medal in the Asian Games in October.
- Arvind Singh has been working in the Army since 2016. Along with the Army, he also participates in rowing competitions.

Note:

- Arvind Singh has won gold medals in various national and international rowing competitions. He has also participated in the Tokyo Olympics. At the same time, in the year 2021 and 2022, he won the gold medal in the Asian Games and in 2023 he won the silver medal.



Saumya Mathur Becomes the First Woman General Manager of North Eastern Railway

Why In News?

On November 1, 2023, Soumya Mathur, Additional Member (Finance), Railway Board, assumed charge as the first woman General Manager of North Eastern Railway (NER).

Key Points:

- Due to the transfer of General Manager of North Eastern Railway, Chandraveer Raman, Soumya Mathur has been appointed as the new General Manager of North Eastern Railway by the Railway Board after the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- Soumya Mathur is the first woman General Manager of North Eastern Railway, till now no woman officer has been made the General Manager of NER since its formation in 1952.
- NER's new GM Soumya Mathur entered the railway service through the 1987 batch of the Indian Railway Accounts Service (IRAS). The first appointment was in Vadodara, Western Railway. He has worked on many important posts in the Accounts Department in Western, Northern and Central Railways.
- Apart from this, she has worked on important posts like Additional Divisional Railway Manager, Western Railway/Mumbai Central, Divisional Railway Manager, North Western Railway/Jaipur, Principal Financial Advisor/Metro Railway/Kolkata and Principal Financial Advisor/South Eastern Railway/Kolkata.
- He has also served as Divisional Railway Manager, Jaipur. During his tenure, Jaipur station got platinum green rating.



- Soumya Mathur also successfully operated the Gandhinagar-Jaipur route as an all-women main line station. He was given the special award of Best Change Agent for Transformation Initiative by the Railway Board for his change initiative. In addition, he has participated in senior management training programs at JICA (Japan), INSEAD (Singapore) and ICLIF (Malaysia).
- It is noteworthy that the North Eastern Railway came into existence on April 14, 1952. It was formed by merging the Fatehgarh district of Avadh Tirhut Railway, Assam Railway and the old BB&CI Railway. It was inaugurated by the first Prime Minister of India, Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru.
- North-East Frontier Railway was formed on January 15, 1958. After this, Gorakhpur was made the headquarters of North Eastern Railway. At present there are three divisions in North Eastern Railway, with their headquarters at Varanasi, Lucknow and Izzatnagar.

Livestock Minister Inaugurated the State's First Sheep - Goat Rearing Training Center

Why In News?

On November 2, 2023, Uttar Pradesh's Livestock Minister Dharampal Singh virtually inaugurated the state's first sheep-goat rearing training center built in Etawah in the Animal Husbandry Directorate. Along with this, he also inaugurated the training session at the centre.

Key Points:

- On this occasion, Livestock Minister Dharampal Singh said that there are better possibilities of sheep and goat rearing in the state, which will help in doubling the income of farmers and cattle herders. Vocational training will be given to interested people in this centre.
- In this centre, professional training will be provided to sheep and goat farmers in a scientific manner.
- It may be noted that this training center was inaugurated on January 1, 2019 by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Union Minister Uma Bharti.

Note:



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is the Second Most Talked about Leader of the Country

Why In News?

On November 5, 2023, according to the latest ranking released by social media hashtag tracking tool 'Tweet Binder', Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has become the second most talked about leader in the country on X.

Key Points:

- According to the latest ranking by social media hashtag tracking tool 'Tweet Binder', Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's handle was the most talked about post after Prime Minister Narendra Modi on X in October.
- Tweet Binder has prepared a ranking based on the number of posts by X users in India from October 1 to October 31. In the overall ranking, PM Modi, Indian cricketer Virat Kohli and South actor Vijay are ahead of CM Yogi.
- At the same time, the government spokesman said that the number of fans of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on the global stage is constantly increasing. From Pakistan to Australia, Israel, America and England, Yogi has a large number of fans.
- Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has 2.65 crore followers on X. At the same time, there are 77 lakh followers on Instagram. About 15 lakh followers have also been added to CM Yogi's WhatsApp channel.



35 New Child Shelter Homes will be Built in the State

Why In News?

According to the information received from the media on November 5, 2023, 35 new shelter homes will be constructed in the state to take care of runaway, missing, trafficked, working, child beggars, drug abusers.

Key Points:

- These shelter homes will be constructed in 19 districts including 18 divisional headquarters of the state by the Women and Child Development Department. An amount of Rs 400 crore has been proposed by the department for this.
- It may be noted that the condition of most of the child shelter buildings operating in rented and government buildings is not satisfactory. In view of the dilapidated buildings, cramped rooms, open air in the buildings and lack of basic infrastructure relative to capacity, the government is going to build new shelters.
- There will be open airy rooms, open grounds for yoga, exercise, sports, gardening, etc., as well as child care homes, observation homes, justice boards, superintendents and wardens.
- The Women and Child Development Department has proposed the construction of 12 children's homes for girls, one children's home for boys, six children's homes for infants and specialist adoption units, 11 observation homes for adolescents and 5 integrated homes. The state government will run at least one home of all categories in all the divisions of the state.
- **The proposed State Homes include:**
 - A girls' home in Agra,

Note:

- Children's Home and Juvenile Observation Home in Aligarh,
 - Creche and Girls' Home in Azamgarh,
 - Children's Home and Juvenile Observation Home in Prayagraj,
 - Integrated Aashray Sadan in Lucknow,
 - Girls' Home, Juvenile Observation Home and Creche in Bareilly,
 - Girls' Home, Juvenile Observation Home and Creche in Meerut,
 - Girls' Home and Juvenile Observation Home in Saharanpur,
 - Girls' Home and Juvenile Observation Home in Moradabad,
 - Integrated Aashray Sadan in Varanasi,
 - Girls' Home and Juvenile Observation Home in Mirzapur,
 - Integrated Aashray Sadan in Gorakhpur,
 - Girls' Home and Juvenile Observation Home in Basti,
 - Girls' Home, Juvenile Observation Home and Creche in Jhansi,
 - Creche/Specialist Adoption Agency at Kanpur,
 - Integrated Aashray Sadan in Ayodhya,
 - Girls' Home and Juvenile Observation Home at Devipatan,
 - Girls' Home, Juvenile Observation Home and Creche in Chitrakoot,
 - Integrated Aashray Sadan in Amethi.
- People caught in electricity theft, defaulters with permanently disconnected connections and pending court cases can also be included in the solution scheme.
 - It may be noted that One Time Settlement Scheme (OTS) has been implemented every year in the state. Recently, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had emphasized on implementing OTS. In such a situation, an OTS scheme has been issued by the Power Corporation.
 - Under the scheme, domestic consumers with load more than 1 kilowatt have been given two options of payment in instalments along with lump sum payment.
 - You will get 90 percent discount on full payment of your dues by November 30, 80 percent discount on payment in three instalments and 70 percent discount on payment in six instalments.
 - From December 1 to 15, 80 percent discount on full payment, 70 percent discount on payment in three instalments and 60 percent discount on payment in six instalments.
 - After December 16, there will be a 70 percent discount on full payment, 60 percent discount on payment in three instalments and 50 percent discount on payment in six instalments.
 - Similarly, commercial consumers up to three kilowatt loads will get 80 percent discount on full payment of their dues by November 30 and 70 percent discount on payment in three instalments. In the subsequent phases, there will be 10 percent less discount on payment in both the options respectively.
 - Commercial consumers with loads more than three kilowatts will get 60 percent discount on full payment by November 30 and 50 percent discount on payment in three instalments.
 - Private commercial institutions and industrial consumers will get a 50 percent discount on full payment of their dues by November 30 and a 40 percent discount on payment in three instalments. In the subsequent phases, there will be 10 percent less discount on payment in both the options respectively.
 - In case of non-deposit of instalments within a stipulated period, a maximum of 3 defaults (not deposited on due date) will be allowed in case of 12 instalments. No consumer will be allowed to have two consecutive defaults. Similarly, in case of 6 instalments, only one default will be allowed and in cases of less than 6 instalments, no default will be allowed.

One Time Settlement Scheme

Why In News?

Recently, Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation has issued a One Time Solution Scheme (OTS) for the electricity consumers of the state. This scheme will be implemented in three phases from November 8 to December 31, 2023.

Key Points:

- The first phase of this scheme will run from 8 to 30 November, the second phase from 1 December to 15 December and the third phase from 16 December to 31 December.
- Under this scheme, 50 to 100 percent discount will be available. This 100% discount will be available to consumers of one kilowatt.

Note:

- Private tube well consumers will be exempted from their surcharge payable till March 31, 2023 and all other eligible consumers will be exempted from their surcharge payable till October 31, 2023.

Proposal to Convert Aligarh to Harigarh Passed in Municipal Corporation Board Meeting

Why In News?

On November 7, 2023, Aligarh Mayor Prashant Singhal said that in the first board meeting of Aligarh Municipal Corporation, a proposal was made to convert Aligarh into Harigarh, which has been passed. This proposal will now be sent to the government for approval.

Key Points:

- In the first board meeting of Aligarh Municipal Corporation, BJP councilor Sanjay Pandit had proposed to change Aligarh to Harigarh, which was unanimously supported by all the councilors.
- It may be noted that on August 21, former Chief Minister In the Hindu Pride Day program organized on the death anniversary of Kalyan Singh, the Deputy CM had also talked about converting Aligarh into Harigarh. Earlier, the District Panchayat Board had also passed a proposal to convert Aligarh into Harigarh.
- It is noteworthy that names of many railway stations in the state have also been changed. During the Yogi government itself, the name of Mughalsarai Railway Station was changed to Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Junction and Jhansi Railway Station was changed to Veerangana Laxmi Bai Railway Station.
- The names of cities have been changing in the country for decades. However, the process of changing the name is not that easy. To change the name of a city, a proposal was first passed from the Municipality/ Municipal Corporation. Then it is sent to the state cabinet. After passing it in the state cabinet, the gazette of the new name is issued. After this the new name begins.
- It is noteworthy that Aligarh is an important business center of Uttar Pradesh and a major educational center of the country. There are more than 100 schools,

colleges and educational institutions, including Aligarh Muslim University and Aligarh College of Engineering and Technology.

- Aligarh is famous all over the world for its lock industry. Aligarh locks are exported across the world. Apart from this, Aligarh is famous for its brass hardware and sculpture.



E-office System will be Implemented in Five Medical Institutions

Why In News?

On November 7, 2023, Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak, while issuing instructions to release funds for implementing the e-hospital system in five hospitals, said that to bring transparency, e-offices will be set up in five medical institutions of the state like a secretariat. The system will be implemented.

Key Points:

- Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak said that in the first phase, this system will be implemented in Sanjay Gandhi PGI, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences, KGMU, Kalyan Singh Highly Specialized Cancer Institute and Government Medical College located in Kanpur.
- The executing agency UP Electronics Corporation has been directed to take action as soon as possible.
- Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak said that e-office is a digital workplace solution. Currently, it has been started from five hospitals in the state. If the experiment is successful, the system will be implemented in other medical institutions. This will promote accountable, effective and transparent functioning.

Note:



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- Its purpose is to digitize all letters, documents and files of the office. From this It will be easy to search files and documents. Transparency in work will increase. There will be less chances of files going missing. Files can be searched in less time.



'One Time Settlement Scheme' (OTS)

Why In News?

On November 8, 2023, Uttar Pradesh Energy Minister AK Sharma launched the Power Corporation's One-Time Settlement Scheme (OTS) at The Cantt sub-centre in Lucknow. The scheme will be implemented in three phases till December 31, 2023.

Key Points:

- Power Minister AK Sharma handed over the electricity bill to Meera, a resident of Cantonment area, who had made the first registration for interest waiver at the Cantt sub-centre.
- Under the 'one-time Settlement scheme', the state government has given convenience to those caught stealing electricity. A discount of 65 percent is being given in interest and penalty on their bill. Such consumers can be free from legal action by paying a fine of just 35 percent.
- The first phase of the scheme will be held from November 8 to 30, the second phase from December 1 to December 15 and the third phase from December 16 to December 31.
- Under this scheme, 50 to 100 percent discount will be available. This 100 percent discount will be available to consumers with one kilowatt.
- People caught in power theft, defaulters with permanently disconnected connections and pending court cases will also be included in the resolution plan.

- Under the scheme, domestic consumers with a load of more than one kilowatt have been given two options of payment in installments along with a lump sum payment.
 - There will be a 90 percent discount on full payment of your dues till November 30, 80 percent discount on payment in three installments and 70 percent discount on payment in six installments.
 - 80 percent discount on full payment from December 1 to 15, 70 percent discount on payment in three installments and 60 percent discount on payment in six installments.
 - After December 16, there will be a discount of 70 percent on full payment, 60 percent discount on payment in three installments and 50 percent discount on payment in six installments.
- Commercial consumers up to 3 kW will get 80 percent discount on full payment of their dues by November 30 and 70 percent discount on payment in three installments. In subsequent phases, there will be a discount of 10 percent less on payment in both options, respectively.
- Commercial consumers with a load of more than three kilowatts will get 60 percent discount on full payment till November 30 and 50 percent discount on payment in three installments.
- Private commercial establishments and industrial consumers will get a discount of 50 percent on full payment of their dues till November 30 and 40 percent on payment in three installments. In subsequent phases, there will be a discount of 10 percent less on payment in both options, respectively.
- Private tube well consumers will be exempted from their surcharge due till March 31, 2023 and all other eligible consumers will be exempted from their surcharge due till October 31, 2023.



Note:

Cabinet Meeting in Ayodhya: Proposals promoting Religion and Culture Approved

Why In News?

Many proposals promoting religion and culture have been approved in the cabinet meeting held in Ayodhya on November 9, 2023 under the chairmanship of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

Key Points

- In the cabinet meeting, approval was given for the formation of 'Ayodhya Ji Teerth Kshetra Development Council', 'Maa Pateshwari Devi Patan Development Council' and 'Shukirtha Development Council' in Muzaffarnagar.
- The following other proposals were approved in the cabinet meeting-
 - Approval has been given to the proposal to establish the Museum of Indian Temple Architecture on 25 acres of land in Majha Jamthara village of Ayodhya.
 - The proposal to expand and establish Ayodhya Research Institute as International Ramayana Vedic Research Institute was approved.
 - Approval has been given to provincialize the Makar Sankranti and Basant Panchami fairs held every year in Ayodhya, the Kartik Purnima Snan fair of Anupshahr in Bulandshahr and the Lakkhi fair of Hathras, Shri Dauji Maharaj. The government will bear the expenses incurred in arranging these fairs.
 - The proposal for formation of Uttar Pradesh Inland Waterways Authority and provincialization of Dev Diwali celebration in Banaras has also been approved.
 - The proposal has been approved for women voluntary groups in the state to set up plants in their own blocks.
 - Drone policy has been approved.
 - The proposal regarding implementing the rules at the state level has been approved.
 - The proposal to convene the winter session from November 28 has been approved.



Industrial Corridor to be Built in Soraon Area of Prayagraj

Why in News?

Nodal officer Jagdamba Singh announced on November 12, 2023, that following the inauguration of the industrial corridor in Shankargarh on the Yamuna in Prayagraj, there are plans to establish an additional industrial corridor in the Soraon region across the Ganga.

Key Points

- A road map is being prepared for its establishment in the areas around the largest Ganga Expressway of Uttar Pradesh. After Shankargarh, this will be the second industrial corridor of the district to be built in Soraon area.
- The government plans to develop this industrial corridor in the area around the expressway on behalf of UPEIDA in Prayagraj. Three villages adjacent to the Ganga Expressway have been identified for this. The three villages that have been identified for this include Malak Chaturi, Judapur Dandu and Bari Sarai Lal.
- Industrial hubs will also be established in the most backward areas of Prayagraj. The state government has prepared a roadmap to develop Shankargarh,

Note:

the most backward area across the Yamuna area of Prayagraj, as an industrial hub.

- After starting the survey of this area, Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Authority has sent the proposal of selected land for industrial development in the area to the administration. After this the work of setting up industries will begin.
- It is noteworthy that to develop an industrial hub in Shankargarh area, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited seeks to set up a solar power plant here, the process of which has started.
- According to UPSIDA Regional Manager Ashish Nath, further work will start after the survey process of this area is completed. The government also has a proposal to establish an oil refinery in this area, which is to be established in Shankargarh block on 2000 acres of land.
- It is noteworthy that due to lack of cultivable land and non-fertility of land in the rocky area of Shankargarh, most of the local people have to go to cities to earn their livelihood. Seeing the possibility of setting up industries in the area, the state government has decided to create an industrial hub here.
- Prayagraj District Officer Navneet Singh Chahal said that due to the geographical location of the area and the presence of energy resources, Shankargarh is being seen as a suitable area for the development of the industrial sector. This will be the second industrial hub of the district after Naini. Industrial development here will create more than 10 thousand jobs. With this, local people who have migrated to cities will also return to their areas.

Aqua Park in Gorakhpur

Why in News?

As of November 13, 2023, it has been reported by the media that there are plans to establish an Aqua Park in Tal Kandla, Sadar Tehsil, Gorakhpur. The identified land for this ambitious project spans 27 acres and is anticipated to bring substantial advantages to local fish farmers.

Key Points

- The introduction of this aqua park is set to bring numerous advantages to individuals engaged in fisheries. The Aqua Park will facilitate the creation of new fish species, conduct research on fish seeds, and

offer various amenities such as a fish seed bank, fish farming, and fish processing, among others.



- In addition to Gorakhpur, an Aqua Park will also be established in Mathura. Initially designated for a police training school in Tal Kandla, Gorakhpur, the site was deemed suitable for an aqua park due to insufficient land and extensive soil filling work.
- It's noteworthy that the Nishad community has a significant population in Gorakhpur and the surrounding areas. The establishment of the Aqua Park in Gorakhpur is expected to boost related businesses and provide substantial benefits to fish farmers in nearby districts.

Free LPG Cylinder Refill Distribution Campaign

Why in News?

Recently, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the free LPG refill distribution campaign to women beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana in a function organized at Lok Bhavan in Lucknow. During this, he also announced to provide free cooking gas on the occasion of Holi in the month of March.

Key Points

- During the event held at Lok Bhavan, the Chief Minister symbolically presented subsidy checks to 10 beneficiaries. As part of the scheme's inauguration, the subsidy funds for over 54 lakh families were transferred to the accounts of oil companies.
- During the scheme's launch, the Chief Minister, making reference to the public welfare resolution letter, stated that prior to the 2022 assembly elections, the resolution had announced the distribution of free gas cylinders during Diwali and Holi. In line with this commitment, the scheme has now been initiated.
- 1.75 crore families of the state will get the benefit of free LPG cylinder and the state government will spend Rs 2312 crore on subsidy.

Note:



Gram Panchayat Sidhyawan of Barabanki Honoured by International Standards Organization

Why in News?

According to information received from the media on November 14, 2023, Gram Panchayat Sidhyawan of Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh has been honoured by the International Standards Organization-ISO with a certificate for providing quality service.

Key Points

- Thanks to the dedication of Hemlata Singh, the village head of Gram Panchayat Sidhyawan with a population of approximately five thousand, the primary school underwent revitalization through the Kayakalp scheme, earning her the first prize.
- It is worth mentioning that during the previous fiscal year, Sidhyawan, recognized as the top Gram Panchayat in the district, received an award of Rs 11 lakh from the Chief Minister. This fund was utilised to establish a cutting-edge library and initiate the installation of an R.O. plant.
- Development works are also being carried out in the villages of Barabanki on the lines of the city and they are being developed as model villages. Consequently, one such village was chosen for the Chief Minister Panchayat Incentive Award, with CM Yogi commending the village head's efforts and rewarding them.
- RCC and interlocking roads, CCTV cameras at intersections, a children's park creating a pleasant atmosphere for youngsters, an open gym, solar lights, water supply tanks for households, rejuvenated schools,

and the enhanced cleanliness and aesthetic appeal of the village secretariat — all contribute to the comprehensive development in this region. Notably, the district's largest Amrit Sarovar, constructed at a cost of Rs. 1 crore 35 lakhs, stands as a testament to the significant developmental strides being made here.

The third largest district jail of the state is ready in Prayagraj

Why in News

According to the information received from the media on November 15, 2023, the third largest district jail of Uttar Pradesh is ready in Naini, Prayagraj. The prisoners living beyond the capacity of Naini Central Jail will be shifted to this new district jail in December.

Key Points

- It is noteworthy that Naini Central Jail of Prayagraj has twice more prisoners than its capacity. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had given instructions to reduce its burden, after which Naini District Jail was constructed.
- Naini district jail with the capacity to hold 2800 prisoners is the third largest jail in the state. It has been built on a total of 65 acres of land at a cost of Rs 173 crore.
- The jail will also have facilities like rain water harvesting, sewage treatment plant and even a crèche for the small children of female prisoners.
- Prayagraj's Central Jail has the capacity to hold 2,060 prisoners, but 4,263 prisoners are kept in this jail, much more than the capacity. This jail is now going to get relief from the burden of prisoners from December. Some prisoners from Naini Central Jail will now be shifted to this newly constructed Naini District Jail.

PM Kisan Samman Nidhi of Rs 3849 crore sent to the accounts of farmers of the state

Why in News

On November 15, 2023, an amount of Rs 3,849 crore was transferred to the accounts of more than 1.75 crore (175.28 lakh) farmers of Uttar Pradesh as the 15th installment of PM Kisan Nidhi.

Note:

Key Points

- It may be noted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi released an amount of Rs 18 thousand crore as the 15th instalment of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi from Khunti district of Jharkhand to more than 8 crore farmers across the country. In this sequence, this amount was transferred to the accounts of more than 1.75 crore farmers of Uttar Pradesh.
- Cadastral marking, Aadhaar seeding of bank accounts and more than 1.80 crore farmers of the state.
- The e-KYC process has been completed, the 15th instalment will be released for the remaining farmers by November 30.
- It is noteworthy that the Government of India has made Cadastral numbering, Aadhaar seeding of bank accounts and e-KYC mandatory for the beneficiaries to get the 15th instalment of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi. Cadastral numbering of 2.26 crore farmers, Aadhaar seeding of bank accounts of 2.04 crore farmers and e-KYC of 1.77 crore farmers have been completed in the state.
- Under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, a total amount of Rs 6000 is transferred directly into the bank account of farmers at the rate of Rs 2000 every four months as financial assistance. This scheme was started in December 2018.
- Since the inception of the scheme in Uttar Pradesh, 2,62,21,153 farmers have benefited from this scheme at least once. Under the scheme, an amount of Rs 59,149.69 crore has so far been sent to the accounts of farmers in the state.

The Process of Converting 9 Historical Heritage Sites into Adaptive Reuse Assets Including Luxury Hotels

Why in News?

According to the information received from the media on November 16, 2023, in order to make Uttar Pradesh the country's favorite destination in terms of tourism, the process of converting selected historical heritage sites of the state into adaptive reuse assets including luxury hotels has been started.

Key Points

- The process of determining the agencies to carry out this work has also started. These historical heritage sites will be rejuvenated with a total investment of Rs 490 crore by the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department.
- According to the action plan, Chhatarmanjil of Lucknow, Chunar Fort of Mirzapur and Barua Sagar Fort of Jhansi will be rejuvenated with an investment of Rs 100 crore.
- Similarly, Lucknow's Kothi Gulistan-e-Iram, Kothi Darshan Vilas and Kothi Roshan-ud-Daula will be rejuvenated with an investment of Rs 50 crore each.
- In the state, there is a plan to convert Jal Mahal located in Barsana of Mathura, Shukla Talab of Kanpur Dehat and Tikait Rai Baradari of Kanpur Nagar into adaptive reuse assets through an investment of Rs 30 crore each.
- Apart from this, the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department has also started the process of lease based Private Sector Participation (PSP) for the development of 10 Rahi Tourist Bungalows in the state. This includes Deva Sharif of Barabanki, Hargaon of Sitapur, Kandhla of Shamli, Soron of Etah, Khurja of Bulandshahr, Munshiganj of Amethi, Patna Bird Sanctuary of Etah, Kachla of Badaun, Chunar of Mirzapur and BhupiaMau of Pratapgarh.
- It may be noted that the State Government has taken an important initiative to restore the heritage properties to their ancient glory through private sector investment. In this sequence, the process of converting these places into wellness centers, heritage hotels, luxury resorts, museums, boutique restaurants, marriage destinations and wedding venues, adventure tourism spots, homestays, theme parks and other tourist and guest units has been started.

Nomination of 131 Meritorious Students From 8 States as Shri Dorilal Agarwal National Meritorious Award

Why In News?

On November 19, 2023, Scholarships worth Rs 22.26 lakh were distributed to 131 meritorious disabled students from 18 states of the country on behalf of Amar Ujala

Note:

Foundation and Disability Support Society, Agra Branch, in a function organized at JP Auditorium of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University in Uttar Pradesh.

Key Points:

- 278 students had applied for the scholarship, out of which 105 were selected. Also, this time 26 eligible students were given scholarships, which was given last year.
- 24 from B.Tech, 22 from BA, 21 from B.Ed, 13 from MA, 11 from D.Ed, Six each from PhD, B.Sc, Four each from MBBS, M.Ed and LLM, Three from MBA, two each from B.Com, M.Com and B.Pharma. Scholarship was awarded to one student each from MSc, PGDCA, MSW, Diploma in Lab, B.Lib, MBA, LLB.
- Apart from these, national para badminton players Prahlad Chauhan and Dr. Aishwarya Gupta, who have achieved some success by getting scholarship, were also honoured.
- Secretary of the organization, Anil Aggarwal said that scholarship has been given since 1985. This service project was started in the memory of Dorilal Aggarwal, the founder and chief patron of Amar Ujala from the year 1989. Till now more than 3000 meritorious students have been given scholarships.
- Vice President of the organization Sunil Vikal said that a target has been set to give scholarships up to Rs 1 crore in a year.

Ban on Sale of Halal Marketed Products in the State

Why In News?

Halal certification on any product has been completely banned in Uttar Pradesh on November 18, 2023. This ban will apply to food products as well as medicines.

Key Points:

- Anita Singh, Additional Chief Secretary, Food Safety and Drug Administration Department of Uttar Pradesh, has issued an order in this regard. All food and drug inspectors have been instructed to continuously monitor.
- There will be a complete ban on the manufacturing, storage, distribution and sale of food products as well as pharmaceutical products. However, there will be exemption for products sent abroad.

- It may be noted that Halal certificate has been issued on meat and its products exported abroad. Gradually, Halal certification started being stamped on all products including oil, soap, ghee. Following the instructions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, a strategy was made to stop it and on November 18, it was banned in the state.
- Any food products and medicines without Halal certification will not be accepted in the state. If any product is found not having Halal certification, action will be taken against the concerned manufacturer. Along with manufacturing, storage, distribution, sale has been completely banned.
- If any exporter operating in the state prepares his food products or medicines for countries where only food products with Halal certification are accepted, then he will be given exemption. He will be able to manufacture, store and distribute the products meant for other countries.
- There is no rule for Halal certification in the state regulations. Only quality, packing, labeling should be correct. After the new order, if anyone prepares or stores and distributes medicines, cosmetics and food items with Halal certification, then action will be taken against him under Act 1940 and related rules.
- Under this, the punishment can be imprisonment of three years, fine of one lakh rupees, and under Rule 18A, imprisonment of six years or fine of Rs 25 thousand.

International Stadium to be Built in Greater Aligarh

Why In News?

On November 18, 2023, Aligarh Development Authority Vice Chairman Atul Vats said that an international level sports stadium will be built in Greater Aligarh on the lines of Banaras. It is estimated that around Rs 400 crore will be spent on its construction.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that Aligarh Development Authority (ADA) is developing a residential scheme in about 300 hectares on the Aligarh-Palwal National Highway. In this, land is being acquired in village Moosepur, Jirauli, Jirauli Dor, Atalpur, Ahmedabad, Jatanpur Chikawati, Rustampur Akhan, Lhosra Bisawan.

Note:

- The layout of the township has been prepared by a Lucknow-based consultancy firm. The township is being developed in three phases. The stadium will be constructed on about six acres of land in the township.
- This stadium will be built on the lines of the stadium in Banaras. This proposed stadium will have a seating capacity of about 20 thousand spectators.
- It is noteworthy that Indian cricket team member Rinku Singh is from Aligarh. In such a situation, with the construction of this stadium, the name of this city of Tala and Talim will shine further across the country and a sports field with high-class facilities will also be available to the local sports talents.

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) of Investment Promotion Policy released

Why In News?

On November 20, 2023, Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner Manoj Kumar Singh released the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) of the Investment Promotion Policy (FDI Policy) designed to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Fortune 500 companies.

Key Points:

- According to the issued SOP, this FDI policy will be effective from November 1, 2023 to October 31, 2028.
- Fortune 500 includes Fortune Global 500 and Fortune India 500 companies.
- Investors will get 100% rebate in electricity bill for five years and 50 to 100% rebate in stamp duty and registration. Apart from this, provision of 75 to 80 percent subsidy has also been made on land.
- Rebate in stamp duty and registration for investors will be 50 percent in Gautam Buddha Nagar and Ghaziabad, 75 percent in Madhyanchal, Paschimanchal and 100 percent in Bundelkhand and Purvanchal. In lieu of subsidy, the investor will have to give a bank guarantee of the same amount.
- The government will give a letter to the investor for stamp exemption on purchasing land from development authorities. Upon purchasing land from a private developer, a certificate will be issued by Invest UP. Subsidy will be given on this basis. Stamp and registration fees will be reimbursed after industrial production begins.

- Under FDI, investors will get minimum 75 percent to 80 percent subsidy on land. In some cases it can be more than 80 percent. It will be reviewed within seven days by the evaluation committee constituted under the chairmanship of the CEO of Invest UP. This report will be presented before the authority committee constituted under the leadership of Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner.
- The committee will accept or reject the proposal within 15 days. Once the proposal is accepted by the authorization committee, a letter will be issued to the concerned development authority. If the investor does not start production within the given investment period, the land will be taken back along with 12 percent interest.
- To get the subsidy, investors will have to compulsorily submit 11 documents related to the company like Letter of Comfort.
- **Period for investment-**
 - Production will have to be started in maximum 4 years with an investment of Rs 100 to 200 crore.
 - Production will have to be started in maximum 5 years with an investment of Rs 200 to 500 crore.
 - Production will have to be started in maximum 7 years with an investment of Rs 500 to 3000 crore.
 - With an investment of more than Rs 3000 crore, production will have to be started in a maximum of 9 years.

Construction of 1,600 MW Anpara-E will Start Soon in the State

Why In News?

In the meeting of Uttar Pradesh State Production Corporation Board on November 20, 2023, the proposal for construction of 1,600 MW new production unit Anpara E in the state has been approved. Now it will be sent to the government.

Key Points:

- The construction of Anpara- E unit is estimated to cost approximately Rs 18,624 crore. It will be set up under Meja Utpadan Nigam Limited, a joint venture between NTPC and Utpadan Nigam Limited.

Note:

- It may be noted that till now there are four units in Anpara. Of these, three units belong to the Production Corporation, whose capacity is 2630 MW. There is a 1200 MW unit of Lenco company.
- Power Corporation Chairman Dr. Ashish Kumar Goyal said that Overa C has 660-660 MW new units and Jawaharpur has 660-660 MW new units. Electricity production will start soon in one unit each at both these places. One unit each at both the places is under construction. Similarly, a 660 MW unit of Panki will also start producing electricity during summer.

Uttar Pradesh 's Annual Software Export Assets Rs 40 thousand and Crore

Why In News?

On November 21, 2023, Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dwivedi, Additional Director of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), working under the IT Ministry, said that Uttar Pradesh has taken a huge leap in the continuously increasing software exports. The state's annual software export has crossed Rs 40 thousand crore.

Key Points:

- In the year 2020-21, the state's software export was Rs 28 thousand crore annually, which has currently crossed Rs 40 thousand crore. Lucknow's share in this was Rs 400 crore, which has increased to above Rs 550 crore. Export of hardware from across the state has also crossed Rs 1500 crore.
- According to Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dwivedi, Additional Director of STPI, 42 new startups have been created under the Next Generation Incubation Scheme (NGIS). Of these, eight have been given a fund of Rs 25 lakh each. Apart from this, there is a preparation to provide funds up to Rs 1 crore in the Leap Ahead programme.
- In this scheme, apart from the fund, an incentive amount of Rs 30 thousand per month is also being given for six months.
- Youth have benefited the most from starting software startups. Startups are being created in every sector under the Next Generation Incubation Scheme (NGIS) of the IT Ministry. Centers have been set up under this scheme at 12 places in the country. There are two centers in Uttar Pradesh in Lucknow and Prayagraj through which startups are being developed.

- After the implementation of the new IT policy, work is being done at a rapid pace in this area. The use of software has shown positive results especially in the medical field. An important experiment of Center of Entrepreneurship has started in Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGIMS), Lucknow.
- In this joint program of SGPGI management and STPI, continuous work is being done on clinical trials. STPI has recently created 28 such startups which are experimenting only on software technology in the medical world. Six of these have even patented their products.
- At present there are five centers of STPI in the state in Lucknow, Noida, Kanpur, Prayagraj and Meerut. While the other four centers are proposed in Agra, Gorakhpur, Bareilly and Varanasi.
- Presently 342 export units are attached to STPI parks. 101 companies are associated with the incubation centre. When four more centers of STPI will be opened, new avenues of employment will open for the youth. More than six thousand youth get immediate benefits from a single park.



Approval of Investment Proposal of Rs 100 crore by Kapila Agro Industry in GIDA

Why In News?

On November 21, 2023, Anuj Malik, CEO of Gorakhpur Industrial Development Authority (GIDA) said that an investment proposal of about Rs 100 crore in GIDA from Kapila Agro Industries has been approved.

Note:

Key Points:

- Anuj Malik said that along with many big companies like PepsiCo, Kapila Agro Industries Company is also coming to give impetus to the industries in GIDA. An animal feed manufacturing company is going to set up a factory in GIDA Sector 27 at a cost of about Rs 100 crore.
- This will provide direct employment to about 500 people and indirect employment to 500 people. This company is one of the popular brands of animal feed manufacturing. Its investment in GIDA will also help in attracting other big industries to Gorakhpur.
- The company has also been allotted 62 thousand square meters of land in Sector 27 for this. At the foundation day celebration of GIDA, the Chief Minister will hold a meeting with big entrepreneurs and discuss the investment proposal.
- Big companies are continuously investing in GIDA area. Last month Gyan Dairy and before that Tatva Plastic Factory was inaugurated. Construction work is going on by PepsiCo Company. Apart from this, alcohol factory is also being constructed.



Now Multi-Storey Shopping Complexes Can be Built in the Closed Cinema Halls of Cities

Why In News?

According to information received from the media on November 23, 2023, the Uttar Pradesh state government has given permission to the operators of

cinema halls that have been closed for years to build a multi-storey complex.

Key Points:

- Special Secretary, Housing Department, Uday Bhanu Tripathi has issued a government order in this regard after the consent of the State Tax Department.
- Now a multi-storey complex can be built on the land of such a cinema hall on the basis of land use prescribed in the master plan. Before passing the map, no objection certificate related to entertainment tax will have to be obtained.
- It should be noted that about 800 single screen cinema halls have been closed in the state and about 150 are on the verge of closure. Single screen cinemas are mostly located in the older denser areas of the city.
- Despite the closure of the cinema hall, its land is not being used. Due to this, the cinema hall owner as well as the government is losing revenue. Considering these conditions, the government has given permission to build a multi-storey building on the land of a single screen cinema hall.

Chief Minister Yogi Inaugurated and laid the Foundation Stone of Projects worth Rs 175 crore in Gorakhpur.

Why In News?

On November 24, 2023, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath participated in the inauguration/ foundation stone laying program of development projects in Gorakhpur district and he gifted projects worth Rs 175 crore to Gorakhpur.

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 116 development projects worth Rs 175 crore in Gorakhpur.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has inaugurated 82 development works costing Rs 145.67 crore and laid the foundation stone of 34 development works costing Rs 29.61 crore. The foundation stone laying works also include establishment of smart classes in 63 council schools.

Note:

- These projects were inaugurated-
 - Patrakarpuram and Raptinagar from plan fund – 4940.60 lakhs
 - Authority, HURL, Infrastructure Plan Item- 4973.35 lakh
 - Electrical Work Authority Building, Padleganj, Buddha Dwar, Baba Gambhirnath- 0216.06 Lakh
 - Accelerated Economic Development Plan 2021-22- 1430.05 lakh
 - Accelerated Economic Development Plan 2022-23- 3006.73 lakh
- The foundation stone of these projects was laid-
 - For council schools (Zone-1 to 5)- Rs 0599.83 lakh
 - Smart classes, community halls, EV charging stations in council schools - 1323.96 lakhs
 - 8 works under the infrastructure fund of the authority - 1037.06 lakhs
- It is noteworthy that Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath participated in the program organized at Yogiraj Baba Gambhirnath Auditorium and here he also conducted the e-lottery of Khorabar Township and Medicity Scheme of Gorakhpur Development Authority (GDA).



Country's Second Floating CNG Station to be Built in Varanasi

On November 26, 2023, Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri remotely launched the Floating Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Mobile Re-Fueling Unit (MRU) station at Ravidas Ghat on the banks of Ganga.

Key Points:

- This is the world's first mobile station. Now sailors will be able to fill CNG at Namoo Ghat as well as Ravidas Ghat. Till now the facility was available only at Namoo Ghat located north of Varanasi. Now the facility has also been made at Ravidas Ghat located in the south.

- The Union Minister said that fuel efficiency has improved by converting old and less efficient petrol-diesel engines of boats into CNG engines. So far, 735 boats out of 890 registered have been converted to CNG by GAIL. This has cost Rs 18 crore. GAIL Chairman and Managing Director Sandeep Kumar Gupta was also present on this occasion.
- The new CNG station of Ravidas Ghat will be brought to Namoo Ghat and CNG will be filled in the cascade. Then it will be taken to Ravidas Ghat. Its capacity is four thousand kg per day. Here 300 to 400 boats can be filled with CNG every day.
- According to GAIL officials, each seafarer can save approximately Rs 36 thousand every month by using CNG as fuel.
- According to Varanasi Commissioner Kaushal Raj Sharma, this CNG station will be built with special technology due to which its life will be around 100 years.



Chief Minister Give Green Signal to the Country's First Telecom Center of Excellence

Why In News?

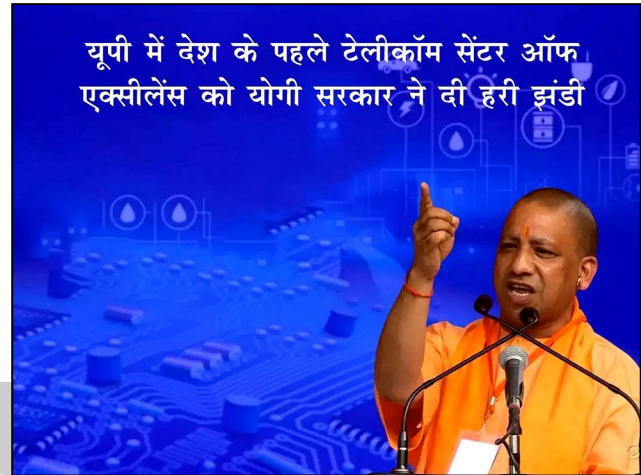
According to information received from the media on November 27, 2023, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has given the green signal to the construction of the country's first Telecom Center of Excellence in Saharanpur.

Note:

Key Points:

- It is noteworthy that the foundation stone of the country's first Telecom Center of Excellence will be laid on December 5, 2023. Here research will be done on connecting 5G with Artificial Intelligence (AI) and 6G.
- Telecom Center of Excellence will be built at the Saharanpur campus of IIT Roorkee at a cost of Rs 30 crore. This initiative will promote innovation and growth in the telecommunication sector. Besides, the youth of the state will also get employment in large numbers.
- The main objective of the Telecom Center of Excellence in Saharanpur is to develop and promote new technology in the field of telecom. The Center of Excellence will serve as a center of research and development, which will not only provide assistance to experts from various fields but will also help in solving problems through state-of-the-art technology.
- The main focus will be on where telecom can be used appropriately. In this, work will be done on upgrading e-learning, e-education, agriculture and satellite centres.
- 5G will be linked to AI, so that new technology devices can be developed. This will enable Saharanpur to attract investments from domestic and international firms and create a strong eco system for innovation and entrepreneurship.
- The Center of Excellence will contribute to the development of 5G and 6G technology, which will enable India to reduce its dependence on foreign technology and increase competition in the global market.
- It will also act as a platform for training and skill development in the field of telecom. It will provide opportunities to students, research and industry professionals to gain practical experience and acquire specialized skills.
- Research will be done on these sectors-
 - Fundamentals of Advanced Wireless Communication
 - 5G and wireless standards
 - Millimeter Wave Transceiver Module Design
 - AI/ML for Wireless Communication
- These will be the benefits-
 - Standard Required Patent
 - Last Mile Access
 - Broadband access to remote or underserved areas
 - Cellular Backhaul
 - Storage Area Network

- Disaster Management
- Network Enabled Consumer Electronics
- Defense and Security
- Aerospace Aviation/Satellite Communication
- Virtual Reality
- Smart City
- Smart Manufacturing
- E-Healthcare

**Sanskriti Utsav 2023****Why In News?**

According to the information received from the media on November 28, 2023, 'Sanskriti Utsav 2023' will be organized in the state from December 25 to January 26, 2024 to enrich the cultural heritage of Uttar Pradesh and to make folk art famous all over the world including the country.

Key Points:

- Being organized under the theme 'Uttar Pradesh Parv: Our Culture - Our Identity', this festival will provide a proper platform to folk artists at the village, block, tehsil, district, mandal and state level to showcase their talent.
- This festival will be organized by the Culture Department Uttar Pradesh across the state, in which many competitions will be included.
- These programs will be organized across the state mainly with the spirit of providing support to cultural genres like classical, sub-classical, folk drama and folk music.

Note:

- In this event, folk music prevalent in rural areas will also be given a lot of prominence and the winning artists will be honored and rewarded in competitions at all levels.
- The competition will be organized at tehsil headquarters from December 25 to 30, in which artists from villages, panchayat, block and tehsil level will participate. After this, selected artists of tehsil level will participate in the competition to be held at district headquarters from January 1 to 5, 2024.
- The competition will be organized at the divisional headquarters level from January 10 to 15, in which selected artists at the district level will participate. After this, the competition will reach the decisive position by going through three other stages and all the three stages of competitions will be held in Lucknow. Selected artists of the mandal level will get a chance to participate in practice and main event and will also be honored.
- Under the event, competitions related to khayal, dhrupad in classical singing, thumri, dadra, chauti, chauta, jhula, hora, tappa, flute in playing, shehnai, harmonium, sitar, violin, guitar, sarangi, veena, tabla, pakhawaj, mridangam and ghatam in sub-classical singing and tribal and folk instruments will be held. At the same time, there will be competitions related to Kathak, Bharatnatyam, Odissi, Mohiniyattam and other classical dances.
- Similarly, in folk dance, there will be competitions of Dhobia, Ahirva, Karma, Shyla, Domkach, Akhet and Nautanki, Ramlila, Raslila, Swang, Bhagat, Bahurupiya, Street Play etc. in folk dance.
- In folk singing, competitions will be organized in categories like Kajari, Chauti, Jhula, Birha, Alha, Nirgun, Folk Song, Qawwali and Sugam Sangeet under Songs, Ghazals, Bhajans and Patriotic Songs.
- Recorded music will be valid for solo dance and group dance. The winners will be awarded medals, certificates and mementos.

Bareilly's Aashi gets Two Awards for Lust Stories-2

Why In News?

Recently, Aashi from Bareilly won the Best Picture and Best Direction award for Lust Stories-2 at the Filmfare Awards- 2023 held in Mumbai.

Key Points:

- Ashi, a resident of Janakpuri, had gone to Mumbai in 2008. In 2013, he got a lot of recognition from Bombay Talkies. After that, Ashi is constantly climbing the stairs of success. Through her company, she is also giving employment to many people.
- As a producer, Ashi has made great films like Kalakaanti, Lust Stories, Ghost Stories. The four stories of Lust Story 2 have been directed by Karan Johar, Anurag Kashyap, Zoya Akhtar and Dibakar Banerjee.
- It is worth noting that earlier the first film of this series, Lust Stories, received an Anne Award.



Development of Advanced web Portal Related to Production and Distribution of Biodiesel.

Why In News?

According to the information received from the media on November 28, 2023, the Uttar Pradesh government will develop a state-of-the-art and specialized portal to simplify the process of production, storage, purchase and distribution of biodiesel.

Key Points:

- The portal will be equipped with multiple features and will act as a 'one stop solution platform' for production, distribution, NOC clearance, license

Note:

allocation, registration, litigation and payment related functions of biodiesel.

- Up Electronics Corporation Limited will develop a new modern web portal for the use of New and Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNEDA). The new portal will be able to complete the NOC and license allocation process related to production and distribution of biodiesel easily.
- It is noteworthy that the software agency receiving the task of developing the web portal will have to assist during its design, development, implementation and operational training as well as during the process of issuing NOCs and licenses.
- This web portal will be very wide and will work in Hindi and English medium. It will have many features including login of public officers including UPNEDA officials and login of district magistrates and monitoring of action plans. Apart from this, the portal will also include many other important information and details including the policies of the state government regarding biodiesel.
- The portal will be designed in such a way that it is able to work in integration with the investment friend. The website will have features like applicant registration, application approval, NOC module, payment module, renewal module, query submission, reporting module, SMS and email integration, cloud server, security audit, helpdesk module and SSL for web server domain.
- It will have a dashboard, which will have login interfaces like applicant login, manufacturing unit, retailer unit. It will be based on responsive design technology. Its data transfer bandwidth will be 1000 gigabytes per second, while up to 500 gigabytes will be equipped with the facility of disk-to-disk backup storage. Along with this, there will also be a live telecasting facility.
- This web portal will be user friendly and will also give a boost to the process of speedy dispute resolution.

Lucknow University Joins Grade One of Academic Autonomy

Why In News?

According to information received from the media on November 28, 2023, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has given Lucknow University the status of Category-1 university. With this, the university will be able to start online and distance education courses by

fulfilling the prescribed conditions. Along with this, he will also get the next level of academic autonomy.

Key Points:

- After becoming a Category-I institution recognized by the UGC, Lucknow University can now start courses in open and distance learning mode without the approval of the Commission if it fulfills the conditions prescribed under the UGC (Open and Distance Education) Regulations 2017 and amendments made from time to time. Also, new courses, programs, departments and centers can be started in related subjects without the approval of UGC.
- Apart from this, the university can take decisions such as starting new diploma and certificate courses within the geographical jurisdiction, opening off-campus centers within the geographical jurisdiction, starting skill courses, opening research park-incubation center-university social relations center, hiring foreign faculty, admitting more than 20 percent of the total number.
- Vice-Chancellor of Lucknow University Prof. Alok Kumar Rai said that Category-1 institutions enjoy greater academic and administrative autonomy, which enables them to design their curriculum, take administrative decisions, start innovative programmes, appoint foreign faculty and encourage current faculty.
- Dean Academic Prof. Mishra said the dean's university was already launching new innovative programmes in line with UGC rules like twinning, joint and dual degrees and online and distance learning. After getting Category-1 status, the number of formalities for any new beginning is reduced.
- Lucknow University had sent a proposal to the UGC to start distance and online courses after getting an A plus-plus grade in NAAC. It includes both undergraduate and master's courses. To start a distance and online course, the highest rank in NAAC is required. Now that the university has got category-1 status, it will not face any hurdle in starting the course.



Lucknow University

Note:

Finance Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna Presented a Supplementary Budget of Rs 28 Thousand 760 Crore in the Assembly.

Why In News?

On November 29, 2023, on the second day of the winter session of the Uttar Pradesh Legislature, Finance Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna presented a supplementary budget of Rs 28,760.67 crore for the financial year 2023-24 in the Assembly.

Key Points:

- Rs 7421.21 crore has been proposed for new schemes in the supplementary budget. Rs 1946.39 crore has been earmarked for revenue expenditure and Rs 9714 crore for capital expenditure.

➤ Announcements made in the Supplementary Budget:

- The state government has announced an allocation of Rs 2000 crore for the 'Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana'.
- Under the 'PM Mitra Yojana', Rs 510 crore has been announced for the establishment of PM Mega Integrated Textile Zone and Apparel Park in Lucknow-Hardoi.
- Rs 100 crore has been allocated for the implementation of the Uttar Pradesh Data Centre Policy.



drishti

Note:

