



STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTAR PRADESH

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Uttar Pradesh tops in buying from GeM portal

Why in News?

- According to the recent data provided by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, **Uttar Pradesh has been in the first position** in the entire country in the last 5 years in the purchase done from **GeM portal**.

Key Points

- According to government data, over Rs 20,642 crore have been procured by various departments through GeM portal in the last five years.
- **Gujarat ranks second** with a purchase of Rs 7,400 crore, while **Madhya Pradesh is at the third position** with a purchase of Rs 5,000 crore.
- GeM is a one-stop national public procurement portal to facilitate online procurement of general use goods and services required by various Central and State Government Departments/Organizations/Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).
- It was **launched in the year 2016 to bring transparency and efficiency in the government procurement process**.

School Chalo Abhiyan

Why in News?

- On April 4, 2022, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the month-long 'School Chalo Abhiyan' in **Shravasti, the district with the lowest literacy rate in the state**.

Key Points

- Its objective is **to ensure 100% enrollment in primary and upper primary schools**.
- Under this campaign, priority will be given to districts with low literacy rate, which include **Shravasti, Bahraich, Balrampur, Badaun and Rampur**.
- The Chief Minister also directed the MLAs and Education Department officials **to adopt one school each and work towards transformation of schools** in terms of facilities like well equipped libraries, smart classrooms, provision of safe drinking water, toilets etc.
- Significantly, since the **launch of Operation Kayakalp in 2017**, schools in Uttar Pradesh have been revamped with provision of drinking water facility, furniture,

construction of toilets, smart classes and improving the quality of mid-day meals in 1.34 lakh primary schools.

Blueprint for the Revival 60 Rivers of Uttar Pradesh

Why in News?

- In the government-level meeting held through video conferencing on April 5, 2022, a blueprint for the revival of 60 rivers of the state has been prepared.

Key Points

- Technical cooperation of IIT BHU, Kanpur and Roorkee will be taken in this work of river rejuvenation.
- 60 rivers including **Varuna, Gomti, Banganga, Nanda, Karmanasha and Gadai** will be included in this initiative of river revival and conservation.
- It is worth noting that the Central Government had launched an Integrated Ganga Rejuvenation Mission named '**Namami Gange**' in June 2014 with the objective of reducing pollution of river Ganga and rejuvenating the river.
- Under this programme, out of 152 sewerage infrastructure projects, 46 completed projects have created 632 MLD of sewage treatment capacity. In addition, 28 river-front development projects, renovation and modernization of 182 ghats and construction of 118 crematoriums have also been undertaken under this programme, which has significantly improved the environmental health of river Ganga.

Ayodhya Airport

Why in News?

- Recently, in the presence of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the land lease agreement was signed between the state government and the Airports Authority of India.

Key Points

- Ayodhya airport will be the **fifth international airport in the state after Lucknow, Varanasi, Kushinagar and Jewar**.
- Ayodhya Airport has been **officially named as Maryada Purushottam Shriram International Airport** in the year 2021.

Note:

- The Chief Minister informed that 9 airports are operational in the state, while work is going on for the development of 10 new airports.
- With the commencement of operation of the above airport, Uttar Pradesh will have the largest network of air connectivity in the country.

Uttar Pradesh Special Security Force

Why in News?

- Recently, the Uttar Pradesh government has decided to establish the **Sixth Battalion of the Uttar Pradesh Special Security Force (UPSSF)** in Ayodhya.

Key Points

- UPSSF was **formed in September 2020** to protect the courts, major religious places and establishments of the state.
- As a result, **in June 2021, five battalions of UPSSF were formed**, which include **battalions of Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Prayagraj, Mathura and Saharanpur**. The **1st Battalion of UPSSF is deployed in the security of Metro in Lucknow**.
- For the establishment of all these battalions, the PAC Commandant was given the additional charge of Commandant of UPSSF by the government.
- The **sixth corps in Ayodhya has been formed under the Uttar Pradesh Special Security Forces Rules-2021**.

Tomb of Sand

Why In News?

- Recently, 'Tomb of Sand', the English translation of Gitanjalishree's novel '**Ret Samadhi**' from Uttar Pradesh, has been included in the top six contenders for the **Booker Prize**.

Key Points

- '**Tomb of Sand**' is the first Hindi work to be included in the top six contenders for the International Booker Prize.
- The English translation of 'Ret Samadhi' titled 'Tomb of Sand' has been done by **Daisy Rockwell**.
- 'Ret Samadhi' is the fifth novel of Gitanjalishree.

- It is noteworthy that Geetanjalishree was born in 1957 in Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh.

Uttar Pradesh included in the State Energy and Climate Index Round-1

Why In News?

- Recently, Uttar Pradesh has been included in the **category of achievers** in the report related to **State Energy and Climate Index Round-1** released by NITI Aayog.

Key Points

- Uttar Pradesh ranks 13th in the State Energy and Climate Index, while the score is 41.0.
- This index has been prepared by NITI Aayog on the basis of 2019-20 data.
- Significantly, this index tracks the efforts made by states and union territories in the climate and energy sector based on 6 parameters - performance of discoms, energy efficiency, environmental sustainability, clean energy initiatives, new initiatives and access, affordability and reliability.
- The scores of Uttar Pradesh with respect to various parameters are as follows-
 - performance of discoms - 59.9
 - Energy Efficiency - 42
 - Accessibility, Affordability and Reliability - 37.8
 - Environmental Sustainability - 30.9
 - Clean energy initiative - 12.6
 - New Initiative - 27.4

Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council Election, 2022

Why in News?

- The results of the elections for 36 seats of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council were declared on April 12, 2022.

Key Points

- Out of 36 seats, 33 seats have been won by BJP, 1 by Jansatta Dal Democratic and 2 seats by independent candidates.

Note:



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- The number/position of major political parties in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council is as follows-
 - Bharatiya Janata Party- 66
 - Samajwadi Party- 17
 - BSP-4
- These recently concluded elections pertain to the local authority constituency. It is noteworthy that 1/3rd of the total members of the Legislative Council are elected by the local bodies, such as municipal and district boards, etc.

Fire Safety Week

Why in News?

- On April 14, 2022, to prevent fire accidents during summer, statewide Fire Safety Week was started in Uttar Pradesh.

Key Points

- Special emphasis was laid in the Safety Week that 'Prevention is better than cure', so that the damage caused by fire can be reduced to a great extent.
- A flag pin has also been put up by the Fire Department for Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at his official residence to mark the beginning of the Fire Safety Week being observed from April 14 to April 20.
- The objective of Fire Safety Week is not only to save the state from fire hazards but also to create awareness and awareness among the public, especially in rural areas, farm-barns and kutcha houses from fire hazards.
- The motto of Fire Safety Week is 'Learn Fire Safety, Increase Productivity' in industrial and commercial establishments.
- In this campaign, people are made aware about the main causes of fire (like electrical short-circuit, overloading of electricity, careless use of gas cylinders, smoking etc.) through digital media along with training on how to exit safely through mock drills.

Dastak Campaign

Why In News?

- On April 15, 2022, the Uttar Pradesh government

launched the Dastak Abhiyan to prevent the spread of water-borne and vector-borne diseases.

Key Points

- The campaign launched with the aim of **keeping the people of Uttar Pradesh safe from various communicable diseases** including Encephalitis, Malaria, Dengue, Filariasis and Chikungunya will continue till April 30.
- Under this campaign, **ASHA and Anganwadi workers** have been entrusted with the responsibility of making people aware of various water-borne and mosquito-borne diseases.
- Significantly, Uttar Pradesh, which has constituted the maximum number of monitoring committees in the country (over 60,000), is playing a vital role in the fight against seasonal fever, mosquito and water-borne diseases.
- In addition to this, a weekly **Mukhyamantri Jan-Arogya Mela** has already been started along with a communicable disease control campaign to control the spread of vector-borne diseases.

Tourist facilitation center will be built at every pilgrimage place in Mathura

Why In News?

- Recently, Uttar Pradesh Teerth Vikas Parishad has decided to set up a Tourist Facilitation Center (Tourist Facilitation Center) in view of the ever-increasing number of devotees.

Key Points

- Under the scheme, all the centers will be built on one hectare of land.
- It is worth mentioning that till now eight pilgrimage sites have been declared in the 10 square kilometer area of the birthplace of Shri Krishna.
- Tourist Facilitation Center is already available in Vrindavan, under which the following facilities are available-
 - 55 bus parking facility
 - 100-100 beds arranged in four halls
 - Own kitchen facility, canteen etc. for devotees.

Note:



Varanasi received awards in 4 categories at the India Smart City Award ceremony

Why In News?

- Varanasi Smart City was awarded in four different categories at the prize distribution function of India Smart City Award competition organized by the Ministry of Urban and Housing Affairs, Government of India at Surat, Gujarat on April 18, 2022.

Key Points

- The details of the 4 categories in which Varanasi has received awards are as follows-
 - Covid Innovation Award
 - Smart City Leadership Award
 - City Award
 - Water Conservation Award
- The Covid Innovation Award has been given for remarkable initiatives during the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic and strict lockdown. During this period, Kashi Integrated Command and Control Center acting as 'Integrated War Room' provided facilities related to District Administration, Emergency Services, Health Department, Telemedicine and Municipal Corporation etc. under one roof in an integrated manner. .
- Similarly the city has been awarded '**Smart City Leadership Award**' for its efficient functioning and proper implementation of projects.

Cabinet nod to National Center for Disease Control in Lucknow

Why in News?

- On April 19, 2022, the cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath approved the establishment of the National Center for Disease Control in Lucknow.

Key Points

- This center in Lucknow is one of the total six centers to be set up across the country.

- Deputy CM Brajesh Pathak informed that 2.5 acres of land has been given on lease for 30 years to NCDC at Jaitikheda in Sarojini Nagar, Lucknow.
- Apart from this, some other decisions were also taken in the cabinet meeting, which are as follows-
 - The state government has also approved the proposal to transfer the 3000 square meter Bhagirathi Guest House at Alaknanda Guest House, Haridwar to Uttar Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation.
 - Heliports will be developed in Agra, Mathura and Prayagraj with the help of the private sector. Along with this, the tourism department will also get a helipad near Ramabai Ambedkar Maidan in Lucknow.
 - The proposal of land for Ayurveda Institute was also approved by the Government of Uttar Pradesh along with the permission of 4% reservation quota prescribed for the disabled in the UP Judicial Service Rules.

Uttar Pradesh government to develop 150 nurseries under MNREGA

Why In News?

- Recently, a spokesperson of the Uttar Pradesh government said that as a farmer-centric initiative, the Uttar Pradesh government will develop 150 nurseries under the **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)**.

Key Points

- According to this decision, the Rural Development Department has been asked to prepare a proposal for setting up a nursery in 100 days.
- 22.50 crore saplings will be planted in these nurseries and each nursery will have at least 15 lakh saplings, which will include traditional crops as well as good quality flowers, fruits and vegetables.
- A maximum of two nurseries will be established in each district. In these, the farmers will be made aware of the cultivation of medicinal plants like Sarpagandha, Ashwagandha, Brahmi, Kalmegh, Kaunch, Shatavari, Tulsi, Aloe Vera as well as the methods of cultivation of other flowers and fruits.

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- This step will benefit the environment by increasing the green cover in the state and will encourage people to plant trees.

Police Reform Exercise in Uttar Pradesh

Why in News?

- On April 21, 2022, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath gave many guidelines related to police reforms in a meeting.

Key Points

- In order to increase the efficiency of Uttar Pradesh ATS (Anti-Terrorist Squad), the Chief Minister has directed to prepare a proposal regarding training of its officers and jawans from agencies like US Federal Investigation Agency (FBI) and Home Land Security.
- Apart from this, the Chief Minister also gave some other instructions, the details of which are as follows-
 - Formation of UP Special Police Establishment on the lines of CBI.
 - To select and train the soldiers for the new Special Police Operation Team (Spot) of ATS, in the next 100 days,.
 - Formation of Special Task Force unit in Ayodhya in the next 100 days.
- Some decisions have also been taken regarding gender equality in police forces, such as--
 - Doubling the number of women workers.
 - Construction of pink booths near religious places.
 - To provide scooty to every female beat constable.
 - Formation of women commando team.

Uttar Pradesh Textiles and Garment Policy, 2022

Why in News?

- On April 21, 2022, a meeting was held under the chairmanship of Dr. Navneet Sehgal, Additional Chief Secretary (Handlooms and Textiles) of Uttar Pradesh to finalize the draft Textiles and Garment Policy, 2022.

Key Points

- The objective of this policy is to make Uttar Pradesh a global textile hub and attract investors in the handloom and textile sector.
- Under this, arrangements will be made to provide various types of facilities to entrepreneurs along with a capital investment subsidy of up to 40%. Also, investors of Purvanchal and Bundelkhand will be given additional benefits in the proposed policy.
- In the new policy, a provision is being made to give 100% stamp duty and land cost subsidy.
- To increase exports from the state, exemption from export subsidy and electricity duty will also be given, as well as 100 percent reimbursement will be given to the developers who develop private textile parks.
- Significantly, under the Textiles and Apparel Policy, 2017, 79 proposals for investment in the handloom and textile sector were received, out of which 53 were for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and 26 for large, mega and super mega industries.

Uttar Pradesh government's efforts towards speedy justice

Why In News?

- Recently, the Home Department of the Government of Uttar Pradesh has prepared an action plan for effective advocacy based on the action taken in the previous years.

Key Points

- In this six-month action plan, a target has been set to send the accused in the offenses punishable with capital punishment and 300 persons sentenced to life imprisonment.
- Similarly, under the **POCSO Act**, the accused in 10 cases will be punished within 1 month by fast lobbying.
- Similarly, a one-two-year action plan has also been prepared by the Home Department.
- It is noteworthy that Uttar Pradesh's conviction rate for crimes against women was 55.2 in 2019, which increased to 61 in 2020.
- **Mission Shakti** was started in the state with a view to the safety of women. Along with this, Uttar Pradesh is also at the forefront of registering information on the e-procurement portal under the Digital India Mission.

Note:



Operation Kayakalp

Why In News?

- On April 25, 2022, a spokesperson of the Uttar Pradesh government said that technology based education is being used along with traditional teaching methods under '**Operation Kayakalp**' to improve the quality of state-run school education.

Key Points

- Under 'Operation Kayakalp', primary and secondary schools will be converted into '**smart schools**' with the objective of continuously improving the education facilities in the state.
- Under this, about 30,000 secondary schools will be equipped with smart classrooms, playgrounds, proper toilets, libraries, computer laboratories, art rooms and other modern facilities.
- In this context, an action plan has been prepared by the government to fulfill the resolution of quality education and to make government schools at par with private schools in terms of facilities and infrastructure.
- It is noteworthy that '**Operation Kayakalp**' was started by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in the year 2019.

Kayakalp Scheme

Why In News?

- Recently, as per the instructions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the **Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (UPSRTC)** has appointed nodal officers for all the divisions under the '**Kayakalp Yojana**', which aims to improve the passenger amenities at the roadways bus station.

Key Points

- Under this scheme, provision of clean drinking water and water coolers will be the top priority at every bus stand to give relief to the passengers from the heat. Apart from the arrangement of cleanliness at the bus stations, there will also be regular cleaning of toilets for men and women.
- Along with this, bus stations will be repainted and new signs will also be installed informing the passengers about the timetable and fare table.
- In addition, repair of yards, buildings and rooms at bus

stations will be done. Along with the arrangement of seats in the passenger shed, proper arrangement of lights, fans/coolers will be made to give relief from the heat.

NITI Aayog's National Workshop on Innovative Agriculture

Why In News?

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath virtually attended the National Workshop on Innovative Agriculture organized by **NITI Aayog** at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi at **The Amrit Mahotsav of Azadi** on April 25, 2022.

Key Point

- The first session was chaired by Dr. Ravi Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. In the first technical session on natural farming in the states, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy also shared his views virtually.
- In a big way to promote natural farming and innovative agriculture, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said rs 82.83 crore has been sanctioned by the Government of India for 35 districts of Uttar Pradesh under the Centrally Funded Scheme of Natural Farming.
- The chief minister said at the National Workshop on 'Cow Based Natural Farming and Innovative Agriculture' that the scheme will cover an area of about 38,670 hectares. The scheme will be implemented for a period of three years starting from the kharif season this year.
- The Chief Minister said that Bundelkhand region has traditionally been practicing natural farming in various forms. To give this a further boost, the state government has proposed to set up clusters of 500-1,000 hectares in all the 47 development blocks of all the seven districts of the region. In the next five years, an area of about 47,000 hectares will be targeted at a project cost of Rs 175.46 crore, benefitting 1.17 lakh farmers.
- In the year 2020-21, Uttar Pradesh has become the largest food producing state in the country by achieving a record production of 619.47 lakh metric tones.
- Highlighting the importance of natural farming, the Chief Minister said that the objective of increasing

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the income of farmers has to be fulfilled along with increasing the production as well as providing proper nutrition for the conservation of natural resources and environment and nurturing human health. One way to achieve all these diverse goals is cow-based natural farming.

- Cow-based natural farming means low-cost and poison-free farming. The major dependence of the rural economy on the 'go lineage' is, while agriculture is being mechanized, the utility of bulls in the agricultural economy has also been realised.
- In the last two years, the state government has been able to promote natural farming by 10 km of river Ganga. A campaign has been launched to adopt natural farming within the scope of and 10 km of river Ganga in selected districts under Namami Gange. Horticulture and agroforestry have also been included in natural farming. More than two lakh farmers will be benefited from this programme.
- Organic farming was being promoted in the state during the last three years under **namami gange** and the **Traditional Agriculture Development Scheme**, covering an area of 75,680 hectares with the formation of 4,784 clusters, benefiting 1.75 lakh farmers.
- Under the **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)**, Rs. 50,000 per hectare has been provided for organic farming for a period of three years, including an incentive of Rs. 31,000 per hectare.

Community radio station to be launched in Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Akademi

Why In News?

- Recently, the Culture Department informed that a community radio station named '**Jai Ghosh**' will be launched in Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Akademi.

Key Points

- The objective of this radio station is to preserve, promote and popularize the unique cultural identity of Uttar Pradesh.
- The Culture Department will also produce and screen 75 short films on patriotism along with publication of 75 books depicting the rich history of 75 districts of the state on the occasion of **Amrit Mahotsav**.

- Apart from this, the Department of Culture plans to organize '**One District-One Special Cultural Program**' in every district as part of its six-month action plan.
- Simultaneously a '**Tridhara**' national program dedicated to Sant Kabir, Sant Ravidas and Baba Gorakhnath will be organized along with the creation of a gallery based on the story of independence at the Government Archives, Lucknow.

Cyber Helpdesk to be set up in all police stations of Uttar Pradesh

Why In News?

- On April 26, 2022, a spokesperson of the Government of Uttar Pradesh said that the Home Department has prepared a major action plan to check cyber crime and decided to set up cyber helpdesks in all police stations.

Key Points

- The spokesperson also informed that a digital forensic lab and a cyber forensic lab would be set up at every zone level in Lucknow.
- In addition, a high quality Center of Excellence will be set up at the Cyber Crime Headquarters. For speedy and quality disposal of pending cases, training is also being given to the employees at Cyber Crime Headquarters.
- Along with this, **Certified Crime Prevention Specialists (CCPS)** will be appointed in every district.
- It may be mentioned that in the last five years, 18 range-level cyber crime police stations have been set up in the state, while women cyber crime cells have also been set up in each regional cyber crime station.

Picture of drought-hit Bundelkhand changing from check dams and ponds

Why In News?

- Recently, a spokesperson of the Uttar Pradesh government said that the construction of new check dams and ponds is ensuring availability of drinking water

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for the animals along with the increase in agricultural yield in the area.

Key Point

- The Department of Minor Irrigation of the **Ministry of Jal Shakti** has completed the construction of 317 check dams and restoration of 218 ponds under the third phase of Bundelkhand package. Under the scheme, a target of construction of 328 check dams and 238 ponds has been set.
- It is worth mentioning that Bundelkhand is a drought-hit plateau region, which covers 7 districts of Uttar Pradesh and 8 districts of Madhya Pradesh.
- In view of the problem of water scarcity in Bundelkhand region, an agreement has been signed between the two States (Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh) regarding **Ken-Betwa Link Project**.

Uttar Pradesh to have its own 'Silk Exchange' in Varanasi

Why In News?

- A spokesperson of the Uttar Pradesh government recently said that the state's **'Silk Exchange'** is going

to be set up in Varanasi soon, which is expected to ensure availability of silk at a reasonable price to traders and saree makers.

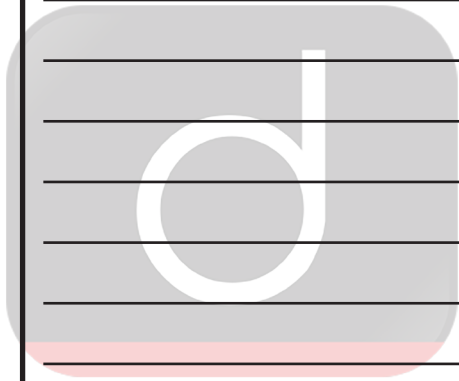
Key Point

- The **'Silk Exchange'** will stop smuggling of silk in the region as well as reduce the cost of production for silk traders and manufacturing units. According to the spokesperson, in the next six months, the state government will connect the weavers of the region with the 'Silk Exchange'.
- After quality testing of all silk lots brought for sale at 'Silk Exchange' by the reelers of Uttar Pradesh, the minimum price of each silk lot will be decided based on the average price of silk in the state and the quality of the particular lot. After this, spot payment to the reelers will be ensured by the exchange by auctioning silk lots.
- The spokesperson also said that the state government will also work on digitization of 'Silk Exchange' under the **One District One Product (ODOP)** scheme, through which weavers, yarn making units and **'Silk Exchange'** will be brought on a single platform to ensure availability of a single platform for sale and display of finished silk products of weavers.

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Summary

Key Points

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Summary

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