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STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTAR PRADESH

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

Phone: 87501 87501,
WhatsApp: 92058 85200,
IVR: 8010-440-440

Email: engweb@groupdrishti.com

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National Nutrition Month

Why in News

- On September 7, 2021, Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the **fourth 'National Nutrition Month'** in Lucknow and also released the baby shower card '**Shagun**' and a mascot '**Aanchal**' of the ICDS department.

Key Points

- Poshan month will be conducted by dividing it into four categories:
 - **In the first week**- Plantation at the nutrition garden.
 - **In the second week**- Distribution of Nutrition kit to Anganwadi beneficiaries.
 - **In the third week**- Yoga and Ayush.
 - **In the fourth week**- Special campaign for identification of SAM (Severe Acute Malnourished) children and construction of a community kitchen for them.
- In the National Nutrition Month 2021, special emphasis will be given on the plantation campaign for the establishment of nutrition gardens and the identification and monitoring of **Severe Acute Malnourished (SAM)** children.
- Apart from these, distribution of **Yoga and AYUSH** (yoga sessions focusing on children, adolescent girls, girls and women) and nutritional promotional material and supplementary nutrition etc. will be done.
- On this occasion, the Governor inaugurated 529 new Anganwadi centers constructed in 24 districts of the state.
- Apart from this, he honored the excellent performing Anganwadi workers, Chief Sevikas and Child Development Project Officers by giving them citations and symbolically distributed appointment letters to 10 out of 91 newly selected **Child Development Project Officers**.
- It is noteworthy that every year the month of September is celebrated as Nutrition Month (**Poshan Mah**) across the country to ensure community mobilization and increase people's participation. It was **launched in September 2018**.

State's First Private Agricultural Market

Why in News

- Recently **Divya Bhoomi Agricrop Producer Company** has proposed to set up a **Mandi in Nagla Vorai village** on **Agra-Gwalior Highway**.
 - After its completion it will be the **first Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)** market in **Uttar Pradesh**.

Key Points

- The private market will be set up on the Agra-Gwalior highway in an area of over **4,000 square meters**.
- This market will be **operated by a group of 600 farmers**, which will **improve the agribusiness in Agra and its surrounding districts**.
- This market will provide an opportunity to the farmers of 40 villages spread over a 30 KM area of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh along the Agra-Gwalior Highway to buy and sell their produce.
- According to official sources, there is a provision in the **Agricultural Produce Market Manual** that **any person or FPO can buy and sell the produce of the regional farmers by setting up a market**.

Cleanliness Drive – 'Swachhta Mahabhiyan'

Why in News

- On September 5, 2021, **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** launched a week-long cleanliness Drive '**Swachhta Mahabhiyan**' in a program organized at Rampus School, Shahpur in Gorakhpur district.

Key Points

- This cleanliness campaign has been launched for the prevention of communicable diseases like- **encephalitis, dengue, malaria, chikungunya, cholera, diarrhea** etc.
- During the campaign, works like cleaning, drainage, sanitization, fogging, spraying will be done. Along with this, chlorine tablets will also be distributed to take care of the purity of drinking water.
- In eastern Uttar Pradesh from 1977-78 to 2017 a large number of children lost their lives every

Note:



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year due to **encephalitis**, but due to the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' launched in 2014, the encephalitis death rate is at the lowest level and this disease is almost ended.

- The Chief Minister also honored the sanitation workers doing excellent work by giving them gifts and certificates. He flagged off the team of sanitation workers involved in the cleanliness drive.

SAP for Sugarcane

Why in News

- Recently, **Uttar Pradesh Sugarcane Development Minister Suresh Rana** told reporters in Lucknow that the state government would soon announce an increase in the **State Advisory Price (SAP)** for **sugarcane** for the next sugarcane crushing season starting from November.

Key Points

- Presently, SAP for sugarcane is Rs 325 per quintal for early variety and Rs 315 per quintal for rejected variety.
- It is noteworthy that in October 2017, the Yogi government had increased the SAP by Rs 10 per quintal for the sugarcane crushing season 2017-18.
 - However, for the last three years, SAP has not been increased due to increase in sugar production, coupled with a sharp drop in demand in the year 2020 due to the pandemic.
- In terms of sugarcane crushing and sugarcane production, Uttar Pradesh holds first position across the country. Also, it has first place in the production of **ethanol**.
- A record crushing of 4,289 lakh metric tonnes of sugarcane has been done in this season. Earlier the area under sugarcane cultivation was 20 lakh hectare, which has now increased to 28 lakh hectare.
- Minister Rana said that the Yogi government made the closed sugar mills operational and through this 35,000 people were given direct and indirect employment.
- He also said that the Yogi government has so far paid Rs 1,42,311 crore to sugarcane farmers in four years.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana & Mukhya Mantri Awas Yojana

Why in News

- On September 1, 2021, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath handed over the keys to 5.51 lakh beneficiaries of **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin)** and **Mukhyamantri Awas Yojana (Rural)**.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister handed over symbolic keys of houses to five beneficiaries from Ayodhya, Sonbadra and Rae Bareilly, while to other beneficiaries the keys were handed over through virtual medium.
- In the last four years, about 42 lakh houses have been sanctioned Under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban/Rural) and Mukhyamantri Awas Yojana (Rural) in Uttar Pradesh.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister also observed the presentation of the work plan of **Baba Gokarnath Rural Residential Complex** developed in village Londonpur Grunt under Gola block of Lakhimpur Kheri district.
- The Chief Minister said that **52 lakh women have been linked to self-employment** by forming **self-help groups** of women through the **State Government Livelihood Mission**.
- It is noteworthy that the **ownership of about 70 percent of the houses** in the state has been given to women.
- With the **objective of providing housing to the poor**, the ambitious scheme of the Government of India '**Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural)**' was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on **November 20, 2016 from Agra district of Uttar Pradesh**.

Draft to Include Two Districts of Uttar Pradesh in Delhi NCR

Why in News

- A draft has been prepared by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the inclusion of **Shamli and Muzaffarnagar** districts in the **National Capital Region (NCR)**.

Key Points

Note:

- The draft was announced in the **40th meeting of the National Capital Region Planning Board**.
 - The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.
- Along with this, **Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority** was also declared as a metro centre.
- During the meeting, a **Combined Reciprocal Common Transport Agreement** was also signed for better transport connectivity between **Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi and Rajasthan** comprising the **National Capital Region**.
 - With this, the movement of these states in the NCR region will be possible without any hindrance.

Greenfield Airport in Lalitpur

Why in News

- The cabinet meeting chaired by the **Chief Minister** on September 2, 2021 approved the construction of a **greenfield airport in Lalitpur district** on the **Uttar Pradesh-Madhya Pradesh border**.

Key Points

- After the meeting, Cabinet Minister **Siddharth Nath Singh** said that the government has taken this decision in view of the **Drug Park** being set up in Lalitpur and the **Defense Industrial Corridor** being developed in **Bundelkhand**.
- He said that there was an **airstrip of the second World War** era in **Lalitpur**, which would be developed as a **green field airport**.
- **In the first phase**, this airport will be prepared for **landing of small aircraft** and later it will be developed as an **international airport**.
- For the establishment of the airport in Lalitpur, a total of **91.773 hectares of land** will be purchased from two villages there. The total cost of the land is **Rs 86.65 crore**.
- The **Defense Ministry** has **12.79 hectares of land**, which the state government will take for the project and in return the same amount of land of the village society will be given to the **Defense Ministry**.

- It is noteworthy that **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** had announced the construction of this **greenfield airport during the launch of the Bandai Dam project in Lalitpur** in March 2021.

Solar Power Plants in All ITIs

Why in News

- Recently, the State Government has decided to set up **solar power plants in the State Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)**.

Key Points

- Solar power plants with a capacity of 40 kW each will be set up in 66 ITIs of the state.
- In the first phase, solar power plants will be set up in ITIs that are in rural areas, where uninterrupted power supply will facilitate the students in their practical work.
- This will not only save electricity but also ensure uninterrupted power supply.
- **ITIs located in rural areas will benefit the most** from this scheme.
- At present there are 300 ITIs run by the state. The number of seats in these ITIs is more than 1.19 lakh. Recently 44 new state ITIs have been started, resulting in an increase of more than 58,000 seats.

Pilgrimage Site Around the Birthplace of Shri Krishna

Why in News

- Recently, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has declared an **area of 10 sq km around Shri Krishna's birth place** as a **pilgrimage site**.

Key Points

- In this, 22 wards of Mathura-Vrindavan Municipal Corporation will come, out of which 7 wards are already pilgrimage sites.
- Apart from this, **Govardhan, Gokul, Nandgaon, Radhakund, Baldev and Barsana** were given **pilgrimage status** by the government in **April 2018**.
- It is noteworthy that this decision of Uttar Pradesh **Braj Teerth Vikas Parishad** President and Chief Minister

Note:

Yogi Adityanath is an **important step in the direction of preserving the spiritual heritage of Braj region.**

UP Mathrubhumi Yojana

Why in News

- Aiming to **strengthen the participatory rural economy and infrastructure**, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the **'Uttar Pradesh Mathrubhumi Yojana'** on September 15, 2021.
 - It will make **common citizens a direct participant** in the development work of the state.

Key Points

- The Uttar Pradesh CM made this announcement while inaugurating and laying the foundation stones of various roads under the **Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)** and district panchayats.
- The Chief Minister asked the **Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj** to submit an **action plan for the formal launch of this innovative scheme.**
- Under this, **every person will get a chance to directly participate in various works** of infrastructure development in the villages.
- The **state government** will bear **50% of the total cost of the project**, while the **remaining 50% will be contributed by the interested people.** In return, the **project can be named after the relatives of the collaborators** as per their wish.
- The **'Uttar Pradesh Mathrubhumi Yojana'** can be a good attempt in the establishments of health centres, Anganwadi, library, stadium, gymnasium, open gym, cattle breed improvement centre, fire service station among others in villages.
- The CM expressed happiness for the construction of roads in Azamgarh and Jaunpur district panchayats through FDR (Full Depth Reclamation) as a pilot project and said that **Uttar Pradesh is the first state to use FDR technology in PMGSY projects.**

PepsiCo Food Plant in Mathura

Why in News

- On September 15, 2021 Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated **Pepsico's largest greenfield foods plant** in Kosi Kalan in Mathura.

Key Points

- With the support of the UP government this food processing unit has been set up by PepsiCo in Kosi Kalan in less than two years.
- The plant would create over **1,500 direct and indirect jobs.**
- This is **PepsiCo India's largest food processing plant established in India.**
- A short film named **'Unnati Ki Saathiya'** produced by PepsiCo was also screened during the event.
- This Foods Plant unit has been set up at a cost of more than Rs 800 crore. 1.5 lakh metric tonnes of potatoes will be processed per year through this Foods Plant Unit.
- It is noteworthy that **Uttar Pradesh is the largest food grain producing state** of the country.
- Potato is produced on a large scale in 8 districts of Agra and Aligarh divisions of Braj region. The establishment of this unit will be helpful in increasing the income of potato growing farmers of this region.

Transgender Welfare Board

Why in News

- In the light of a decision given by the **Supreme Court**, the Uttar Pradesh government has constituted the **Transgender Welfare Board.**
 - The board will give suggestions to the government for policy and institutional reforms while working on the needs, issues and problems of the transgenders.

Key Points

- Uttar Pradesh Transgender Welfare Board is an **organization with total 23 members.** Its structure is as follows-
 - **Chairman:** Social Welfare Minister
 - **Deputy Chairman:** A member of the Transgender community nominated by the Chief Minister
 - **Member Secretary:** Director, Social Welfare Department
 - **Convenor:** Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary
 - **Members:** 5 representatives of the transgender community and 2 representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working for the transgender community.

Note:

- **Ex-officio Member:** Secretaries of various departments and Lucknow Police Commissioner
- The **term of the non-official members of the Board will be for 3 years** and the Board will be **required to meet once in three months**.
- Apart from this, **Transgender Cooperation Unit** will be constituted **under the chairmanship of Director, Social Welfare**, which will prepare the database of transgenders as well as solving the problems of transgenders and submit the report to the government regarding the time-limit for implementation of policies.
- There will also be a **13-member committee under the chairmanship of DM** in the districts, which will meet every month.

Corona's Indigenous Drug 'Umifenovir'

Why in News

- According to a recent report, the **Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow** has claimed to make the **indigenous drug 'Umifenovir'** of Corona.

Key Points

- In fact, after the successful Phase III trial of Umifenovir conducted by **CDRI**, it is being claimed that this drug is very effective in the treatment of mild and asymptomatic patients of corona. Also, useful as a prophylactic for high-risk patients. It eliminates virus load in five days.
- Umifenovir destroys the cell culture of SARS Cov-2 virus very effectively and prevents the entry of this virus into human cells.
- Umifenovir is a broad-spectrum antiviral drug, which has been used as a safe medicine for **influenza and pneumonia in Russia, China and other countries for many years**.

Foundation Stone of University in Aligarh

Why in News

- On September 14, 2021, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University at Moosepur village**

in Aligarh and observed the progress of Aligarh node of **Defence Industrial Corridor**.

Key Points

- This university will become a major center for development of technology and manpower related to modern education and depression manufacturing.
- It is noteworthy that **Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh was a freedom fighter who formed India's first government-in-exile in 1915 in Kabul**. In this government, the President himself was Raja Mahendra Pratap and the Prime Minister was Barkatullah.
- Apart from this, the Defense Corridor will be developed in Andala on Khair Road in 1000 acres, for which the responsibility of development has been given to **UPEDA**.
- In the Aligarh node of Uttar Pradesh Defense Industrial Corridor, new industries are being set up for small arms, drones, aerospace, metal components, defense packaging, this will establish a new identity of Aligarh and the surrounding area.
- Under the Uttar Pradesh Defense Corridor, there is a plan to develop a defense corridor in 6 cities of the state. These six cities are **Lucknow, Kanpur, Agra, Aligarh, Chitrakoot and Jhansi**.

National Law University Prayagraj

Why in News

- On September 11, 2021, the **President of India, Ram Nath Kovind**, laid the foundation stone of the Uttar Pradesh **National Law University Prayagraj** and the Advocate Chamber and Multi-Level Parking to be constructed with an amount of Rs 640.37 crore during the program organized in Allahabad High Court.

Key Points

- On this occasion, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and **Supreme Court Chief Justice N.V. Ramanna** was also present.
- The President said that the **Allahabad High Court is the fourth High Court established in India** in terms of history and the **largest High Court in the country in terms of the number of judges**.
- He said that the historic decision to register **Cornelia Sorabji, India's first woman lawyer**, was taken in this

Note:



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High Court in the year 1921, which was a futuristic decision of the **Allahabad High Court in the direction of women empowerment.**

- On this occasion, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that Prayagraj is also an important center of education. In order to avoid political interference in the Law University, make an act to make the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court the visitor of this university.
- During the program, the President unveiled **the portrait of Senior Advocate Late. Shri Anand Bhushan.** A presentation was also made in the program about the establishment of Allahabad High Court and its glorious history.

Fortified Rice

Why in News

- Recently, there was confusion about coarse and yellow rice found in ration shops in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh. After this, it was clarified by the **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** that it is **fortified rice** not plastic rice.

Key Points

- It is worth mentioning that for the solution of malnutrition, fortified rice is being distributed by the Central Government in the **Child Development Scheme, Mid-Day Meal Scheme** and **Public Distribution System.**
- Elements like vitamin **B2, B3** and iron have been included in this fortified rice.
- According to **FSSAI**, **one kilogram of fortified rice is mixed with 50 kilograms of normal rice.**
- There is a **deficiency of nutrients like Vitamin B6, B3 and Vitamin E** at the **time of polishing of rice in rice meal.** For this, the government has decided to distribute fortified rice.

Exploration and Conservation of Cultural Heritage of Ganga

Why in News

- Recently, in order to protect the cultural heritage of Ganga, the study of traditional perfume industry, gutta, religious places, ghat in the perfume city '**Kannauj**' was done by the central team.

Key Points

- From the year 2019, the **Ministry of Jal Shakti**, Central Government is implementing the **Namami Ganga Cultural Documentation Project** under the Namami Ganga Project with the aim of preserving the natural, architectural and intangible heritage located up to a distance of 51 km on both the banks of the river Ganga.
- Namami Gange Project is a flagship project **launched by the Central Government** in the year 2014, with the main objective of reducing pollution of river Ganga and rejuvenation of river Ganga.
- It is being implemented by the **National Mission for Clean Ganga**, which is the implementing arm of the **National Ganga Council.**
- **Kannauj**, also known as the **perfume city of India**, was the **capital of King Harshavardhana**, the ruler of the **Pushyabhuti dynasty**, in the 7th century. For this, the address '**Mahodya Shri**' has been used by **Banabhatta.** After the death of Harshavardhana, Kannauj became the center of tripartite struggle between the Palas, the Pratiharas and the Rashtrakutas.

Kanpur and Agra Metro's First Prototype Train Unveiled

Why in News

- On September 18, 2021, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath unveiled the **first prototype train of Kanpur and Agra Metro.**

Key Points

- Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that under the Prime Minister's '**Make in India**' and '**Self-reliant India**' campaign, this metro train has been **completely manufactured in the country.**
- He said that this first prototype train has been made available ahead of time despite the adverse conditions of the Covid period by the undertaking of Vadodara.
- Adityanath said that metro trains are being successfully operated in four cities of the state – **Lucknow, Ghaziabad, Noida and Greater Noida.** Metro work has been completed in Kanpur and Agra. Along with this, **DPRs for Metro in five other major cities- Gorakhpur, Varanasi, Prayagraj, Meerut and Jhansi are ready or in the final stages.**

Note:



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- According to the **Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation**, metro trains in Kanpur will have the feature of '**regenerative braking**', with the help of which up to 45 percent of the energy through the brakes applied in the train will be regenerated and used again in the system.
- These **trains will have state-of-the-art 'propulsion systems' to reduce air pollution**. These trains will have a carbon dioxide sensor based air conditioning system, which will run according to the number of passengers present in the train and will save energy.
- Keeping in mind the automatic train operation, these trains will run on a Transmit Based Train Control System. The passenger capacity of Kanpur Metro train will be 974 passengers.
- These trains will have a design speed of 90 km/h and an operation speed of up to 80 km/h. There will be a separate space for **wheelchairs of Divyangjan** in the first and last coach of the train. There will be a '**Long Stop Request Button**' near the wheelchair location, by pressing which PwD can inform the train operator to keep the door open for a longer period of time.
- The metro train of Kanpur will draw energy from the third rail, which will run parallel to the tracks, so it will not require the setup of pillars and wires and the infrastructure will look better and beautiful.
- These trains are designed on the basis of state-of-the-art fire and crash safety standards. Each train will have CCTV cameras, the video feed of which will directly reach the train operator and the center security room.
- Every train will also have LCD screens or panels for infotainment. By pressing the talk back button, passengers will be able to talk to the train operator in case of emergency. The location of the passenger and the CCTV footage will be directly visible on the monitor placed with the train operator.

Aarogya Vatika in Educational Institutions of Uttar Pradesh

Why in News

- Recently, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has announced to set up **Arogya Vatikas in all the school colleges of the state**.

Key Points

- Aarogya Vatika is an exclusive health corner started by Navbharat Times, under which **high medicinal quality and immunity boosting plant species** will be planted in various parks of the city, so that the general public can become aware of the health benefits of plants available around them.
- According to the announcement of the government, the purpose of setting up Aarogya Vatika in educational institutions is to make the students aware about the ancient Indian traditions of medicinal plants and their use.
- According to Scientist R.A. Ram of **Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Lucknow**, common man can also grow medicinal plants at home in kitchen garden and terrace garden and the waste generated from it can be converted into manure.

First Tribal Museum of Uttar Pradesh

Why in News

- The **first tribal museum of Uttar Pradesh** would be ready by March 2022.

Key Points

- The Tharu Tribal Museum is being constructed by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in Tharu Pradhan village '**Imilia Kodar**' of '**Balrampur**' district.
- According to the government, in this museum all the dimensions from the evolution of the Tharu tribe to their culture, traditions, religion, lifestyle etc. will be displayed.
- A college has been established at Lakhimpur Kheri for the purpose of imparting education to the people of Tharu tribe. **Along with this, 'Tharu Development Project' was started in the year 1980 for their development.**
- **Tharu Tribal Group** is the **third largest tribal group of Uttar Pradesh**. The people of this tribe **celebrate Deepawali** as a mourning festival. A festival called '**Bajhar**' is celebrated by the Tharu tribe. Apart from this, '**revenge marriage**' is also prevalent among them.

Note:



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Medical College in Bijnor

Why in News

- On September 21, 2021, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath laid the foundation stone of a **new medical college in Bijnor**, fulfilling the long standing demand of the local people.

Key Points

- Announcing the name **Mahatma Vidur** of this medical college to be built at a cost of Rs 281 crore, the Chief Minister said that this medical college would be ready in 18 months.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister said that after the formation of this medical college, the youth of Bijnor would not have to travel to Delhi, Lucknow and Meerut for medical studies. In addition, **it will provide modern healthcare to a large population of Bijnor and its surrounding areas.**

Pratihara Ruler Mihira Bhoj

Why in News

- Recently, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath unveiled the statue of **Mihir Bhoj at Mihirbhoj College located in Dadri, Gautam Budh Nagar.**

Key Points

- There is a **dispute between the Gurjar and Rajput society** regarding Raja Mihir Bhoj, considering him as their ancestor. The **travelogue of the Arab traveler Suleiman** is important among the historical sources available in the context of Mihir Bhoj being a Gurjar or Rajput. In this, **Mihir Bhoj has been described as Jujra i.e. Gurjar.**
- **Mihir Bhoj was the ruler of the Gurjara Pratihara dynasty in the 9th century**, whose empire extended from Multan to Bengal and from Kashmir to northern Maharashtra.
- Mihir Bhoj had made **Kannauj his capital**. He was a **devotee of Vishnu**, so in honor of Vishnu, he had assumed **titles like Varaha and Prabhas.**
- The **achievements of Mihir Bhoj have been described in his Gwalior Prashasti inscription.**

Pink Meenakari

Why in News

- **Banarasi Pink Meenakari Gifts were presented to US Vice President Kamala Harris and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison** by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his recent visit to the United States of America.

Key Points

- Meenakari, also known as enamelling, is the art of decorating a metal surface by mixing minerals. **Meenakari was brought to India by the Mughals.**
- This process is often used on **Kundan**. Under this, between the stone and the mount on one side of the article, there is a gold layer inlay of precious gems, while on the other side the shiny layer is plated with the Meena technique.
- The Meenakari of Varanasi is part of its rich cultural heritage. It was given a **GI Tag in the year 2015.**

Cabinet Extension

Why in News

- On September 26, 2021, while expanding the council of ministers in Uttar Pradesh, a total of **7 new ministers** including **1 cabinet minister and 6 ministers of state** were administered the oath of office and secrecy by **Governor Anandiben Patel.**

Key Points

- Among the ministers included in the Council of Ministers, **Jitin Prasad has been made cabinet minister** and Chhatrapal Singh Gangwar, Paltu Ram, Sangeeta Balwant, Sanjeev Kumar, Dinesh Khatik and Dharamvir Prajapati have been made ministers of state.
- With this expansion, the total number of ministers in the Uttar Pradesh Council of Ministers has gone up to 60, which is the maximum possible number of ministers in Uttar Pradesh.
 - It is noteworthy that by the **91st Constitutional Amendment**, the maximum number of ministers in any state can be up to **15% of the total members** of the state assembly. The number of members in the **Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly is 403.**

Note:

Archaeological Remains: Badaun

Why in News

- Recently, **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** has found archaeological remains of post-Gupta period from a mound in **Kheda Jalalpur village of Badaun district of Uttar Pradesh**.

Key Points

- Fragments of Hindu temple idols, ancient bricks have been recovered from the mound of Kheda Jalalpur village, which is situated on the eastern bank of the river Ganges. According to the ASI, these remains **belong to the post-Gupta period (7th-8th century)**, which is related to the time of about **1300-1400 years before today**.
- According to the famous archaeologist Dr. BR Mani, **Badaun is a very important site from the archaeological point of view. It was part of the ancient Panchala (birthplace of Draupadi).** During the rule of the **Mamluk dynasty of the Delhi Sultanate**, Badaun was the **most important Iqta**. Before becoming the Sultan, **Ilututish was the Iqtadar of this place**.
- It is noteworthy that Badaun was the **birthplace of Abdul Qadir Badayuni and Sheikh Nizamuddin Auliya**. Also, it was a **major center of the Delhi-Lucknow trade route**.

Medical Device Park

Why in News

- Recently, the Central Government has given in-principle approval for the establishment of a **Medical Device Park** in Uttar Pradesh **under the 'Promotion of Medical Device Park Scheme'**.

Key Points

- According to the Uttar Pradesh government, the Medical Device Park **will be set up in Gautam Budh Nagar**.
- It is noteworthy that **to encourage the medical device industry** in the country, the **Ministry of Fertilizers and Chemicals** of the Central Government has started the **'Promotion of Medical Device Park Scheme'**.
- Under this scheme, in-principle approval has been given for the construction of **4 parks in Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh**.

- A total financial assistance of Rs 400 crore will be provided under this scheme.
- The duration of this scheme has been fixed from 2020-21 to 2024-25.

UPSBC Constructs Record Number of Bridges

Why in News

- On September 22, 2021, Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and in charge of Public Works Department Keshav Prasad Maurya informed that **Uttar Pradesh Rajya Bridge Corporation (UPSBC)** has set a record by constructing a maximum number of bridges in four and a half years.

Key Points

- The Deputy Chief Minister said that in the last four and a half years, the State Government has constructed 124 bridges, 54 ROBs and 355 minor bridges in record time taking the State to new heights of development through a network of flyovers and **railway over bridges (ROB)**.
- He said that the State Government is working on the construction of a total of 1,193 new bridges, which includes 121 new ROBs, 305 major bridges and 767 minor bridges. Out of these, 260 bridges are such, whose foundation stone was laid by the previous governments years ago, but the construction work could not start.
- Similarly, out of 124 long bridges that have been built, 89 bridges and 35 out of 54 ROBs were lying incomplete for a long time, which were started during the previous governments. With the new bridge network, Uttar Pradesh will join the states with the highest number of flyovers and smooth traffic in the country.

Ethanol Production from Sugarcane in Uttar Pradesh

Why in News

- On September 27, 2021, Uttar Pradesh Sugar Industry Minister Suresh Rana said in a press conference that Uttar Pradesh will start ethanol production directly from sugarcane from the next sugarcane crushing season starting from October 2021.

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- Ethanol to be used for blending with petrol will be produced at PSU Pipraich Chini Mill, Gorakhpur and Balrampur Chini Mill.

Key Points

- It is worth mentioning that the state government decided to make ethanol directly from sugarcane in October 2020 and for this a pilot project was started at Pipraich sugar mill.
- **Uttar Pradesh** is the **top producer of ethanol** in India.
 - It has 53 ethanol producing distilleries and has an **annual installed capacity of 158.44 crore liters**.
- Uttar Pradesh produced 42.70 crore liters of ethanol in the financial year 2016-17, which increased to 99.31 crore liters in 2020-21.
 - There are **72 distilleries in Uttar Pradesh**, of which **25 are standalone** and **47 are attached to sugar mills**.
- He said that due to an increase in the **State Advisory Price** of sugarcane for the next crushing season 2021-22, farmers would get an additional benefit of more than Rs 4,000 crore.
- Minister Rana said that against the demand of Rs 33,014 crore, sugar mills have so far paid Rs 28,015 crore to farmers for the 2020-21 season. From 2017 to 2021 (September 21), Rs 1.44 lakh crore has been paid to farmers.
- He further said that till 2016-17, three varieties of sugarcane were cultivated, where the share of early high yielding varieties was only 52%, which has now increased to 98%. Sugarcane productivity in the state was 66 MT per hectare in 2016-17, which increased to 81.05 MT per hectare in 2020-21.
- He also said that during the pandemic, the operations of sugar mills were not disrupted and Uttar Pradesh remained on top in the field of sugarcane, sugar production and ethanol production.

CM Distributes Smart Phones to Anganwadi Workers

Why in News

- Recently, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath distributed smartphones to 1.23 lakh Anganwadi workers of the state and 1.87 lakh **Newborn Development Monitoring Equipment (Infantometer)** in Anganwadi centers to

measure the development level of newborns in a function organized in Lucknow.

Key Points

- Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that Smart Anganwadi would be the foundation for all round development of children. Smartphones will provide **health information for every child, making daily work easy and transparent**.
- As part of monitoring committees set up to contain the spread of the deadly viral infection in rural areas during the second wave of COVID-19, these Anganwadi workers went door-to-door to provide medical kits and inform people about the COVID vaccine.
- He said that the Anganwadi workers made the **'Dastak Abhiyan'** successful. Today Uttar Pradesh has successfully eradicated encephalitis by 95-97 percent, credit of this achievement should be given to the Anganwadi workers.

'Nirbhaya: Ek Pahal'

Why in News

- On September 29, 2021, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched **'Nirbhaya: Ek Pahal'** to encourage entrepreneurial skills among women.

Key Points

- In order to ensure safety and dignity of women and girls, **Mission 'Shakti'** was launched by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in 2020. **In the third phase of this mission, 'Nirbhaya: Ek Pahal' campaign has been started**, which will be financed from **Nirbhaya Fund**.
- Under this, **training kits will be distributed to about 1000 women from each district of the state** i.e. a total of 75,000 women.
- The implementation of this three-day special training campaign will be done by the state **Department of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**. Women will be made aware of the central and state government schemes pertaining to entrepreneurship.
- Assistance will be given by the state government in providing capital through various schemes in the next three months after providing training to start the enterprise.
- Apart from this, the helpline number 18002126844 and website <https://msmemissionshakti.in/> and a

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mobile app were launched by the Chief Minister so that women entrepreneurs can get all the information related to entrepreneurship at one place.

Police Torture

Why in News

- Recently a businessman resident of Kanpur died due to torture inflicted by Gorakhpur police. This death has again made topics such as the use of **violence against people by the police** in India and **custodial death** a topic of discussion.

Key Points

- According to the 'Status of Policing in India' report released by the non-governmental organization 'Common Cause', **3 out of every 5 police officers believe that the use of violence against criminals is justified**. According to another report, **between 2000 and 2018, more than 2000 human rights violation cases were registered against the police**.

- Factors responsible for violence by police-
 - Absence of laws against torture in India.
 - Non-action of policemen in case of violation of human rights.
 - Slow pace of **police reforms**.
 - Low conviction rate.
- Provisions to prevent police torture-
 - In *DK Basu vs West Bengal*, the Supreme Court held that protection against torture is a **fundamental right** under **Article 21** of the **Right to Life**.
 - Under the **Code of Criminal Procedure**, logical grounds and rules for arrest and detention have been laid down in **Section 41A, 41B, 41C, 41D**.
 - Sections of the Indian Penal Code- 330, 331, 348
 - Indian Evidence Act Section- 25 and 26
- It is noteworthy that **despite India's signing of the 'United Nations 'Convention against Torture', it has not been ratified yet**.

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Key Points

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