



STATE PCS GA

(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTARAKHAND

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Eight floor cave discovered in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

- Recently, Surendra Singh Bisht, Rishabh Rawal, Bhupesh Pant and Pappu Rawal of Gangavali Wonders Group of Gangolihat, Uttarakhand have discovered an eight-floor cave.

Key Points

- Other mythological deities including Sheshnag have been depicted on the rocks of the cave.
- **This is the largest cave ever found.**
- It is worth mentioning that 21 caves are mentioned in Manas Khand on the Shail mountain peak of Gangavali region, out of which 10 have been discovered.
- The caves discovered so far include Patal Bhuvaneshwar, Koteswar, Bholeshwar, Maheshwar, Lateshwar, Mukteshwar, Sapteshwar, Daneshwar, Bhugtung caves.

Road Safety Committee to be Constituted in Every District of Uttarakhand

Why in News?

- Recently, Uttarakhand Road Safety Nodal Officer Sudhanshu Garg said that a road safety committee would be constituted in each district of the state under the chairmanship of DM.

Key Points

- These committees will be constituted **as per the directions of the Road Safety Committee of the Supreme Court.**
- In this, SP, CMO, XEN of PWD, representative of the ministry, project director of NHAI, EE of municipal corporation and representative of any social organization will be members, while officers of state highways will be member secretaries.
- This committee will prepare a road safety plan in every district, which will also include an emergency medical plan to deal with the situation of major accidents in the district.

- The meeting of this District Road Safety Committee will be held at least once in a month.
- Significantly, **India is a signatory to the Brasilia Declaration**, under which a target of reducing road accidents and fatalities by 50 percent till 2020 was fixed.

1064 Anti-Corruption Mobile App

Why in News?

- On April 8, 2022, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami launched '**1064 Anti-Corruption Mobile App**' at the State Secretariat, Dehradun.

Key Points

- This app has been created by the Vigilance Department to root out corruption in Uttarakhand.
- This app is available in both Hindi and English languages. In this, any person can make a complaint on 1064 number through the app or by phone.
- If the complaint of any complainant is not related to Vigilance, then it will be sent to the Chief Minister Helpline and the concerned department.
- By registering each complaint through the app, the confidentiality of the complainant will be taken care of along with the security of the relevant data.

Narendra Singh Negi

Why In News?

- Narendra Singh Negi of Uttarakhand was presented the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his outstanding contribution in the field of folk music by Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu at the award distribution ceremony held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on April 9, 2022.

Key Points

- Narendra Singh Negi belongs to Pauri Garhwal of Uttarakhand.
- He started his career with 'Garhwali Geetmala' and his first album was 'Buransh'.
- He has been honored with Monal Award, Gadhkala Shiromani Samman etc.

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Plastic Free Dehradun Campaign

Why In News?

- Recently, Dehradun Mayor Sunil Uniyal said that more than 580 student volunteers have joined the Dehradun Municipal Corporation's plastic-free Dehradun campaign.

Key Points

- This campaign was launched on March 26, 2022.
- Under this, a target has been set to reach 25,000 students and families of 100 schools in the city by April 30.
- Under this, a plastic bank has been opened in each participating school, where the students deposit the plastic after collection.
- Significantly, this campaign has been started under the Swachh Survekshan, 2022 to increase the participation of people and to make them aware of cleanliness.

Uttarakhand included in the State Energy and Climate Index Round-1

Why In News?

- Recently, Uttarakhand 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

- Uttarakhand ranks 5th in the State Energy and Climate Index, while the score is 46.5.
- 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 Uttarakhand with respect to various parameters are as follows-
 - Performance of discoms - 61.9
 - Energy Efficiency - 50.5

- Environmental Sustainability - 48.7
- New Initiative - 14.7
- Clean energy initiative - 18.5
- Accessibility, Affordability and Reliability - 55.3

Ban on sale of plastic items at Ganga Ghats in Haridwar

Why in News?

- On April 12, 2022, it was decided under the chairmanship of Haridwar Municipal Commissioner Dayanand Saraswati that from April 25, plastic items would not be sold at the Ganga Ghats in Haridwar.

Key Points

- After the ban on plastic items, bamboo, copper and glass bottles will be sold instead of plastic cans along with handmade cloth and jute mats at the ghats.
- This sale will be done through women self-help groups formed under **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana** and **National Urban Livelihoods Mission**.
- It is noteworthy that the **National Urban Livelihoods Mission** was launched in the year 2013 by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (Government of India), under which the emphasis was on organizing the urban poor into strong infrastructure level institutions, creating opportunities for skill development.

Uniform Civil Code in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

- Recently, the Home Department has been nominated as the nodal department by the Uttarakhand government for the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code in the state.

Key Points

- After this decision, the Home Department will prepare a draft of Uniform Civil Code along with constituting a committee for this.
- It is worth mentioning that the government, in its first cabinet meeting itself, while deciding to form a committee for this, had said that the committee

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would include experts related to law and law as well as other fields.

- For this, the Justice Department was entrusted with the responsibility of preparing its draft while making it the nodal department, which has now been changed to the Home Department.
- It is noteworthy that the provision related to Uniform Civil Code has been given in Article 44 under Part-4 of the Constitution.
- At present Goa is the only state where Uniform Civil Code is in force.

Badrinath Master Plan

Why In News?

- Recently, Mangesh Ghildiyal, Deputy Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office, visited Badrinath and inspected the works being done under the Badrinath Master Plan.

Key Points

- Ghildiyal inspected various places including Badrinath temple complex, Mana bypass, Badrish and Sheshnag lake, Alaknanda river bank, Saket square, hospital, bus station and other nearby places and directed to complete all the projects prescribed in the plan on time.
 - It is noteworthy that all the works of the master plan project are to be completed in three phases-
 - The first phase will include execution of works like LakeFront Development, River Front Development, Arrival Plaza, Civic Amenity Centre, Loop Road, Hospital Expansion and BRO Road.
 - In the second phase, the sites located around the Badrinath temple will be developed.
 - In the third phase, the construction of a faith path from the lake to the temple and other works will be involved.

Advocacy to make Pantnagar International Green Field Airport

Why In News?

- Recently, Union Minister of State for Defense and Tourism, Ajay Bhatt, in connection with the expansion of Pantnagar Airport in Udham Singh Nagar district, to

build a new green field airport, and to install modern equipment under IFR (Instrument Flight Rules) to the airport, A letter has been written to Scindia.

Key Points

- Union Minister of State Ajay Bhatt informed that apart from completing all the formalities for the development of a new green field airport at Pantnagar in Udham Singh Nagar, land has been transferred as per rules.
- It is worth mentioning that along with Integrated Industrial Estate, many big industries are established in SIDCUL area near Pantnagar.
- Apart from this, there are many religious and tourist places including Nanak Sagar Dam, Kausani, Maa Poornagiri Siddhapeeth, Chitai Golu Devta Temple, Pandukholi, Mahavatar Baba's Cave, Munsiyari, Chowkdi, Dwarahat, Siddhapeeth of Dunagiri.

Vyasi Hydroelectric Project

Why In News?

- Recently, the M.D. of Uttarakhand Hydro-Electric Corporation Limited. Sandeep Singhal informed that all the trials of Vyasi hydro-electric project have been completed and Uttarakhand will start getting electricity from April 19.

Key Points

- The **Vyasi Hydro-electric Project** has been established on the **Yamuna River at Lohari near Vikas Nagar**.
- With this 120 MW project, Uttarakhand will get 353 million units of electricity annually, while 0.72 million units of daily electricity will be available during the routine time and 60 MW in the morning and evening peak hours.
- It is worth noting that at present, UPCL is getting about 31 million units of electricity, while the demand is reaching 44 million units. In such a situation, UPCL will get some relief from the electricity received from this project.

Chandrabhaga River

Why in News?

- On April 19, 2022, to clean the Chandrabhaga river, which is becoming a garbage dumping zone, the Muni ki Reti Municipality administration organized a

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special cleanliness drive and collected and disposed of the garbage.

Key Points

- Under this campaign, the sanitation workers under the leadership of Municipality President Roshan Raturi and Executive Officer Tanveer Marwah collected the garbage scattered everywhere in the Chandrabhaga river near Dhalwala area and sent it to the trenching ground for disposal.
- Along with this, the municipal workers appealed to the people to keep it clean to save the existence of the Chandrabhaga river, as well as the nearby people were instructed that strict action would be taken for throwing dirt in the river.
- It is worth mentioning that Chandrabhaga is a tributary of the Ganges, which after leaving Banali-Kashmalidhar in Tehri district joins the Ganges at Mayakund in Rishikesh.

HC Semwal became the chairman of the revised National Village Swaraj Abhiyan Committee

Why In News?

- Recently, the Government of India has appointed Uttarakhand's Women and Child Development Secretary, H.C. Semwal as the chairman of the committee constituted to reconsider the implementation framework of the **Revised Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)**.

Key Points

- The committee will prepare the revised RGSA's implementation framework taking into account the experiences of RGSA applicable from 2018-19 to 2021-22 and changes in line with the revised RGSA and submit the revised roadmap within 15 days.
- It may be mentioned that the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the continuation of the Revised Centrally Sponsored Scheme of '**Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan**' (RGSA) for implementation during the period from 1st April, 2022 to 31st March, 2026. The scheme will now end with the period of the **15th Finance Commission report**.

- RGSA was first approved by the Union Cabinet in the year 2018 for the period from the year 2018-19 to the year 2021-22. The objective of this scheme is to develop the governance capabilities of **Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)**.
- It is being implemented by the **Ministry of Panchayati Raj**.

Hi-tech Beekeeping Training Center to be Built in Champawat

Why in News?

- On April 21, 2022, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama gave instructions to the officers of the Horticulture Department regarding the establishment of a training center in Champawat during the honey extraction program organized at the Chief Minister's residence.

Key Points

- It is worth mentioning that Chief Minister Dhama had recently directed to develop the premises of the Chief Minister's residence as a model of horticulture activities, so that the people visiting the Chief Minister's residence can get first-hand experience and information about modern techniques in horticulture.
- On this occasion Director Horticulture Harminder Singh Baweja informed that apart from honey production, bees increase agricultural production by increasing pollination.
- Similarly products like royal jelly, propolis, beeswax, pollen, comb honey and bee venom are also prepared by beekeepers.
- It is worth noting that Sweet Revolution is an ambitious initiative of the Government of India to promote beekeeping, which is known as 'beekeeping'. The National Beekeeping and Honey Mission was launched by the government in the year 2020 (under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) to promote the sweet revolution.

Pravesh Utsav

Why in News?

- On April 20, 2022, Uttarakhand Education and Health Minister Dhan Singh Rawat launched a massive enrollment drive 'Pravesh Utsav'.

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Key Points

- This massive enrollment drive is being run by the Education Department of Uttarakhand to increase student enrollment in government schools of the state.
- The 10-day 'Pravesh Utsav' campaign will be conducted till April 30.
- The Education Department will provide a computer system to the top ten schools with the highest enrollment in the campaign in their district.
- The student enrollment ratio in Uttarakhand is as follows-

Primary (1 to 5)		Upper Primary (6 to 8)		Elementary (1 to 8)	
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
113.7	116.7	97.3	99.2	107.3	109.7
Total: 115.2		Total: 98.2		Total: 108.5	

(Source: Handbook of Statistics on Indian States, RBI)

Earth Day celebrated at Forest Research Institute, Dehradun

Why In News?

- Earth Day was celebrated on 22nd April, 2022 at Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun.

Key Points

- Speaking on the occasion, FRI Director Renu Singh said that Earth Day reminds us of our responsibilities to work towards saving our planet, as it serves as an indicator towards ecological issues.
- The official theme of Earth Day for 2022 is 'Invest in our Planet'.
- This includes five primary programs – the Great Global Cleanup, Sustainable Fashion, Climate and Environmental Literacy, the Canopy Project, Food and the Environment and the Global Earth Challenge.

Kranti Diwas Mela

Why In News?

- On 23 April 2022, the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Pushkar Singh Dhami attended the Kranti Diwas fair at Masau Choprakot in Peethsain area of Pauri district.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister announced that the Kranti Diwas fair, which is celebrated in the memory of Peshawar massacre veteran Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali, would be celebrated every year as a state fair.
- Significantly, during the **Civil Disobedience Movement**, on 23 April 1930, Havildar Major Vir Chandra Singh Garhwali of the British Royal Garhwal Rifle refused to obey the instructions of the British government to open fire on the unarmed Pathans.
- These Garhwali soldiers were prosecuted for their disobedience, which was advocated by Mukundi Lal.
- After the trial, in 1930, Chandra Singh Garhwali was sent to the Abbottabad jail for 14 years, but later his sentence was reduced to 11 years after he was released on 26 September 1941.

Proposal for mega construction project of Rs 13,707 crore for Uttarakhand

Why In News?

- On April 26, 2022, **Border Roads Organization (BRO)** officials made a presentation to the Governor of Uttarakhand Lt Gen (Retd) Gurmeet Singh about the proposed projects under the Rs 13,707 crore mega construction package for the border areas of Uttarakhand.

Key Points

- It was told in the presentation that the construction of 14 new roads and five heliports in Uttarakhand at a cost of Rs 9,250 crore by the BRO, Construction of five heliports at a cost of Rs 77.50 crore, expansion of Gauchar and Naini Saini airstrips with a budget of Rs 12 crore and two tunnels at an estimated cost of Rs 4,260 crore.
- Apart from this, the Governor of Uttarakhand, Lieutenant General Gurmeet Singh flagged off the 'multi-pronged campaign' of the Border Roads Organization (BRO) at the Raj Bhavan on 26 April itself.
- BRO has launched this campaign on the occasion of its 63rd Foundation Day and **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav** of the country. The theme of this campaign is '**National Integration and Nation Building**'.

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Increasing forest fire outbreak in Uttarakhand

Why In News?

- As per the data released by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Vanagni and Disaster Management Office of Uttarakhand on April 27, 2022, the highest number of incidents of vanagni have been reported in both Garhwal and Kumaon divisions of the state.

Key Point

- A total of 227 forest fires have taken place at 227 places in the state, in which a total of 561 hectares of forest area has been affected and an economic loss of more than Rs.11 lakh has been assessed.
- In the fire season that began on February 15, a total of 1443 incidents of forest have been reported so far this year, including 642 in Garhwal, 724 in Kumaon and 77 in protected wildlife zones. These have affected 2432.62 hectares of forest area and an assessment of economic loss of over Rs 60 lakh.
- Vanagni has polluted the air in Uttarakhand. Due to the incidence of forest, the amount of black carbon here has increased by 12 to 13 times. An ethelometer has been installed in association with Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) in the Department of Physics of Central Garhwal University for the calculation of this black carbon in the atmosphere.
- It may be recalled that the **National Action Plan on Forest Fires (NAPFF)** was launched in 2018 to reduce forest fires by informing, empowering and empowering forest marginal communities and encouraging them to work with state forest departments.

Sun-stream lake

Why In News?

- On April 29, 2022, Uttarakhand Irrigation and Minor Irrigation Minister Satpal Maharaj said in a departmental review meeting that it is very unfortunate that the

depth of Suryadhar Lake has been increased from 7 metres to 10 metres without permission.

Key Point

- The construction of suryadhar lake project was announced on June 29, 2017 by the then chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat.
- Suryadhar Lake is located in Uttarakhand. The Suryadhar Lake, built on the Jakham river at Bhogpur in Doiwala, was inaugurated by the then Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Trivendra Singh Rawat on November 29, 2020.
- It is a multi-purpose lake with a holding capacity of 77 thousand cubic meters. The lake is 550 metres long, 28 metres wide and 10 metres deep. About 18 villages will get irrigation and 19 villages will get drinking water from this lake.
- This will promote tourism as well as develop the region.

Complaints made to the Chief Minister in Uttarakhand to be disposed of expeditiously

Why In News?

- On April 29, 2022, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama launched the online portal of Chief Minister's References and Letters at the Secretariat.

Key Point

- Through this portal, the complaints will reach the concerned departments with one click, which will enable speedy disposal of these complaints.
- It is worth mentioning that so far, the letters addressed to the Chief Minister's Office have been registered through the Chief Minister's Letter Monitoring Package and physically sent to the concerned departments.
- Apart from this, the complaints and letters to be sent to the Chief Minister have now been integrated with the CM helpline number 1905.



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Key Points

Details

Summary

