



STATE PCS GA

(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTARAKHAND

**February
2022**

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

Phone: 87501 87501,

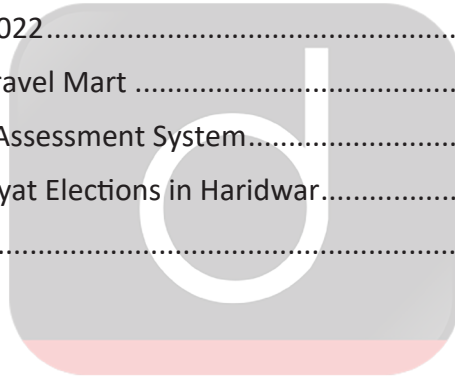
WhatsApp: 92058 85200,

IVR: 8010-440-440

Email: engweb@groupdrishti.com

Content

● Hemkund Sahib Ropeway.....	3
● National Winter Skiing Sports Competition Begins in Auli	3
● Chardham Project.....	3
● Ravi Chopra Committee	4
● Launch of Latest Banking Finacle CBS Platform.....	4
● Ayushman Yojana	4
● Voting In Uttarakhand	5
● International English Olympiad	5
● Interpretation Center in Nainital Zoo	5
● Uttarakhand's Longest Bridge to be Built on River Ganga in Haridwar	6
● 10th Ganga Kayak Festival 2022.....	6
● Uttarakhand Tops in India Travel Mart	6
● One State, One Wealth Tax Assessment System.....	7
● Statutory Crisis over Panchayat Elections in Haridwar.....	7
● Vasantotsav 2022	7



Hemkund Sahib Ropeway

Why in News

- Recently, an official of National Highway Logistics Management Limited said that with the completion of the land survey work of the ropeway till Hemkund Sahib, the design work of the ropeway has also been started.

Key Points

- The pilgrimage to Hemkund Sahib is presently extremely difficult and troublesome, as the pilgrims travel from Govindghat to Hemkund Sahib by covering a distance of 19 km. In such a situation, the construction of the ropeway will make the journey to Hemkund Sahib very easy.
- In this context, a 12.6 km ropeway from Govindghat to Hemkund Sahib will be constructed at a cost of Rs 764 crore to facilitate travel up to Hemkund Sahib by the Central Government.
- The construction of Hemkund Sahib Ropeway will also facilitate access to Valley of Flowers, as there is only one track from Govindghat to Ghangaria (13 km) to reach Hemkund Sahib and Valley of Flowers. One way from Ghangaria leads to Hemkund Sahib and the other way to the Valley of Flowers.
- It is noteworthy that Hemkund Sahib is a famous pilgrimage place of Sikhs located in Chamoli district, Uttarakhand. The Gurdwara Shri Hemkund Sahib is adorned here. This place is mentioned in the Dasam Granth composed by Guru Gobind Singh.

National Winter Skiing Sports Competition Begins in Auli

Why in News

- On February 7, 2022, Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand, SS Sandhu inaugurated the three-day National Winter Games (National Skiing Championship) at Auli, a famous snow sports site located in Joshimath, Chamoli district. The competition will run till February 9.

Key Points

- 250 participants from 17 states including Uttarakhand, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir are participating in this sports competition being organized

in collaboration with Tourism Department, Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam, District Administration, ITBP, Skiing and SnowBoard Association of Uttarakhand.

- Uttarakhand, Army, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir won gold medals on the first day. On the first day, four competitions were held in the men's and women's categories, which included players from Uttarakhand, Himachal, Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi and Bihar.
- The Giant Salaam Competition was held under Alpine Skiing at the start of the competition. A total of 55 players participated in the men's section of the Giant Salaam Race, in which Sena won all three medals.
- In the second competition Alpine Skiing Women's category, Giant Salam was dominated by Himachal's team. Himachal players won all three medals in this.
- In the Alpine Giant Salaam Under-21 women's race, Uttarakhand won the gold, Jammu and Kashmir won the silver and Delhi won the bronze. In the men's Under-21 category, Jammu and Kashmir won gold, Bihar silver and Himachal Pradesh bronze.
- Salaam and Giant Salaam competitions are being organized under alpine skiing. In these, competition is being organized between men and women in senior category, junior under 21 age group, junior under 18 age group, sub junior under 16 age group and sub junior under 14 age group.
- Under snowboard, there will be men's and women's salaam competitions in the senior category, while there will be competitions between the under 19 age group and 17 age group.

Chardham Project

Why in News

- On February 9, 2022, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari said that the Chardham All Weather Road project worth Rs 12,500 crore would be completed by December this year.

Key Points

- The approximately 889 km long Chardham project aims to improve connectivity to Chardham pilgrimage centers (Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, Yamunotri) in the Himalayas, making travel to these centers safer, faster and more convenient.

Note:



- It is being implemented by **Uttarakhand State Public Works Department (PWD)**, **Border Roads Organization (BRO)** and **National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL)**.
- Along with this, the Tanakpur-Pithoragarh highway and its part up to Lipulekh will also be completed by December 2022, which will facilitate the journey of Kailash-Mansarovar.
- It is noteworthy that in view of the environmental challenges in the context of this project, a petition was filed against it in the Supreme Court, but in the year 2021, keeping in mind the need for national security, the Supreme Court allowed China's border in the Chardham project in Uttarakhand. Conditional permission has been given to develop three connecting national highways of strategic importance (Rishikesh to Mana, Rishikesh to Gangotri and Tanakpur to Pithoragarh).

Ravi Chopra Committee

Why in News

- On February 11, 2022, environmentalist Ravi Chopra resigned as the chairman of the Supreme Court-appointed High Powered Committee (HPC) to oversee the implementation of the Uttarakhand Chardham road widening project.

Key Points

- The reason for this resignation has been given as the lack of attention by the officials related to the project on the recommendations and suggestions of the committee.
- It is worth noting that in the year 2019, this 25-member committee was constituted by the Supreme Court regarding the environmental aspects in the Chardham highway project.
- This committee had recommended limiting the width of the roads to 5.5 meters in the Chardham project.
- However, on December 14, 2021, the Supreme Court in its order allowed the width of the road to 10 meters in the strategically important Badrinath, Gangotri and Pithoragarh highways.

Launch of Latest Banking Finacle CBS Platform

Why in News?

- Recently, **Dinesh Pant, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Nainital Bank** of Uttarakhand, duly inaugurated the bank's **upgraded CBS platform 'Finacle 10'**.

Key Points

- Nainital Bank has upgraded the erstwhile CBS platform and started offering its customers facilities on the latest CBS platform 'Finacle' with a view to provide significant quality in facilities to its customers.
- This entire project was conceived by the current Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the bank, Dinesh Pant, while starting his tenure in the bank.
- This software is available with only a few banks, so the bank's data facilities will benefit immensely, common customers will also get facilities from it.
- Customers will now be able to access modern conveniences through multiple digital products. At the same time, Finacle will also be extremely secure in the platform.

Ayushman Yojana

Why in News

- Recently, in Uttarakhand, the government has made **changes in the system of treatment under the Ayushman scheme** and has made it mandatory that now patients will be able to get treatment in empaneled private hospitals only after referring them from government hospitals.

Key Points

- It is noteworthy that the state government had given permission for direct private hospitalization during the Covid period, but now this exemption has been abolished as soon as the corona infection subsides.
- **Referral has been made mandatory** by the State Health Agency for Ayushman scheme for free treatment of five lakh rupees, but **referral is not mandatory for treatment under the cashless state health scheme** being run for government employees and pensioners i.e. patients directly enlisted can go to hospitals for treatment.

Note:

- However, the patients will get the facility of direct treatment in the **NAVH accredited private hospitals** of the state.
- It is known that **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) is the world's largest health insurance scheme**, which is fully funded by the Central Government.
- Under this, each beneficiary family is provided an insurance cover of Rs 5,00,000 per year for secondary and tertiary health treatment in public and private empaneled hospitals. Hospitalization and subsequent expenses (such as medical tests and medicines) are also covered under this plan.

Voting In Uttarakhand

Why in News

- In the recently concluded Uttarakhand assembly elections, **nine districts have registered an increase in the voting percentage**, while **four districts have seen a decline**. Chamoli district has seen the highest increase in polling percentage, while Udham Singh Nagar is at number one among the declining districts.

Key Points

- With the active participation of women voters in the assembly elections, some of the districts were able to make their place in the list of districts with the highest voter turnout. A total voter turnout of 65.37 per cent was recorded in the state, out of which women polled 67.20 per cent and men 62.60 per cent.
- There were a total 75 lakh 12 thousand 559 voters in the 2017 assembly elections out of which 49 lakh 24 thousand 993 had cast their votes. This time 53 lakh 42 thousand 462 have cast their vote out of total 81 lakh 72 thousand 173. In 2017, out of 39 lakh 33 thousand 564 males, 24 lakh 44 thousand 759, i.e. 62.15 percent casted their vote for the first time.
- This time out of 42 lakh 38 thousand 890 males, 26 lakh 53 thousand 642, that is, 62.60 percent males have casted their vote. In the 2017 election, out of 35 lakh 78 thousand 810 women, 24 lakh 80 thousand 218, i.e 69.30 percent, casted their vote. This time out of 39 lakh 32 thousand 995 women, 26 lakh 42 thousand 930, i.e. 67.20 percent women have voted.
- In this year's assembly elections in Uttarakhand, the voting percentage increased in 35 out of 70 assembly

seats and decreased in 35 seats as compared to 2017. Of the seats where there has been a decline, a large number of seats are from the plain districts.

International English Olympiad

Why in News

- On February 18, 2022, Avik Tikku, a class 3 student of Dikshant International School located in Haldwani, Uttarakhand, secured first rank by securing 40 marks in SOF International English Olympiad.

Key Points

- Avik Tikku was given 1000 rupees, gold medal and certificate as a reward. Myra Sawhney of class 3 got 38 marks at regional level and 11th rank at international level, who was awarded 500 rupees, medal and certificate.
- On the other hand, Yuvika Mehra of the same class got the 7th rank at the international level with 38 marks and earned 500 rupees, medal and certificate as a reward.
- Aditya Dagar of class 4 secured 36th rank at the field level and 32nd at the international level, Paridhi Srivastava of class 9 secured 55th rank at the field level and 40th at the international level.

Interpretation

Center in Nainital Zoo

Why in News

- On February 18, 2022, a 60 seater Interpretation Center (Mini Theatre) was launched in the zoo by the Nainital Forest Division at a cost of Rs 35 lakh.

Key Points

- Through this, the employees, officers and trainees of the Forest Department will be shown a documentary film about the life of wildlife, avoiding the incidents of forest fires and the work done by the department.
- DFO TR Bijulal said that in various countries including America, various information and training are given through the Interpretation Center method.
- An amount of Rs 35 lakh was given to Nainital Forest Division under the state plan to set up an Interpretation Center.

Note:



- Now the employees and officers of the forest department will be given training to understand and do the work done by the department.

Uttarakhand's Longest Bridge to be Built on River Ganga in Haridwar

Why in News

- The Union Environment Ministry has approved the state's longest bridge to be built on the river Ganga.

Key Points

- NHAI engineer Kapil Joshi said that a 3.5 km long bridge (including approach) will be built on the river Ganga. This bridge will be built to connect Haridwar-Delhi highway with Najibabad-Haridwar. This bridge will be the longest bridge in the state.
- The bridge has been named Major Bridge. Leaving the approach, the length of the bridge will be 2.561 km. This bridge will be the longest vehicular movement in Uttarakhand.
- The Ring Road is to be prepared in two phases. The first phase of Ring Road will start from Bahadradab bypass and will end at Anjani Chowki NH 74 of Shyampur police station area. With this, vehicles of Haridwar-Delhi highway will be able to move directly for Najibabad-Haridwar highway. These will be constructed and allocated by NHAI.
- IRCON International Limited, an undertaking of the Ministry of Railways, has been selected for the construction of a 15 km 300 meters long four lane in the first phase of the Ring Road. The budget for the first phase of Ring Road was Rs 1566 crore. The budget has now been cut to Rs 1100 crore.

10th Ganga Kayak Festival 2022

Why in News

- On February 19, 2022, the three-day 10th Ganga Kayak Festival, 2022 concluded at the Golf Course Rapid of the Ganges in Phoolchatti, situated at the confluence of the Henwal and Ganga rivers on the Laxmanjhula-Neelkanth road in Uttarakhand.

Key Points

- It was organized in association with The Adventure Sports Society and Uttarakhand Tourism Development Council.
- The players showed stamina in the kayak sprint events on the first day, in which 53 kayakers participated.
- Sprint, Professional Salalam, Mass Boater, Cross and Boater Cross competitions were organized in this festival.
- Bhim Singh Chauhan, president of Adventure Sports Society, said that Daman Singh (2 minutes 31 seconds 91 microseconds) of India was the winner of the competition in the men's category.
- India's Amit Thapa (2 minutes 33 seconds 38 microseconds) got second place and Sohan Rana (2 minutes 35 seconds 61 microseconds) got third place in the competition.
- In the women's section, India's Priyanka Rana (3 minutes 40 seconds 61 microseconds) won, while Australia's Seun Hong (3 minutes 46 seconds 16 microseconds) secured second place while Nidhi Bharadwaj of India (3 minutes 56 seconds 15 microseconds) was at third place.

Uttarakhand Tops in India Travel Mart

Why in News

- The three-day India Travel Mart (ITM) organized in association with Uttarakhand Tourism Development Council concluded on February 19, 2022. Uttarakhand got Best Stall Award in Home Stay and Tourism Investment Promotion in this Mart.

Key Points

- At the conclusion event, Uttarakhand Tourism was awarded the Best Stall Award for promoting Uttarakhand and Dholavira (World UNESCO Heritage Site) and Statue of Unity in Home Stay, Adventure and Tourism Investment Promotion.
- Yogendra Kumar Gangwar, Deputy Director, Uttarakhand Tourism Development Council, said that continuous work is being done to develop a predetermined destination for tourism in Uttarakhand. To make travel more enjoyable and hassle free for the tourists.

Note:



drishti

- Ajay Gupta, Chairman and Managing Director, ITM Group, said that India Travel Mart has provided an opportunity for networking with travel agents and tour operators from Uttarakhand and Pan India to promote the tourism industry. Information on wildlife tourism, heritage tourism, adventure and eco tourism, religious and pilgrimage, beaches, cuisine, fairs and festivals was given at the Mart.

One State, One Wealth Tax Assessment System

Why in News

- GIS mapping of cities is being done to implement a uniform tax assessment system of property tax in the state of Uttarakhand.

Key Points

- 14 cities of Uttarakhand have been included in the first phase, out of which GIS mapping of 4 cities- Dehradun, Haridwar, Haldwani and Rudrapur is in the final stage.
- In the second phase, surveys for house tax will be done in all the Nagar Panchayats.
- Under this scheme, geo-ranking of all residential and commercial buildings will be done by GIS mapping of the municipal area and all the buildings will be given a smart card with a unique ID number.
- In this ID, all the details including the photo of the building, size, covered area, name of the landlord, house number will be recorded.

Statutory Crisis over Panchayat Elections in Haridwar

Why in News

- Recently, a legal crisis has arisen regarding the three-tier panchayat elections in Haridwar district. After the amendment in the Panchayati Raj Act, even after increasing the tenure of the administrators by six months, the situation of elections is not being created there. After the formation of the state, such a situation has been seen for the first time regarding the three-tier panchayat elections.

Key Points

- Haridwar is such a district in the state, where elections to three-tier panchayats are not held along with other districts. This sequence has been maintained since the formation of the state.
- Here Panchayats are formed after a year from other districts. Due to this, elections could not be held in Haridwar in the Panchayat elections held in October 2019. The last panchayat elections in Haridwar were held at the end of 2015. Then there was the first meeting of Gram Panchayats on 29th March, 2016, Zilla Panchayats on 16th May and Kshetra Panchayats on 10th June. The five-year term of panchayats begins with the first meeting, which ended last year.
- According to the Uttarakhand Panchayati Raj Act, 2016, Panchayats can be handed over to the administrators for six months in case elections are not held for 15 days before the end of their term. In this sequence, administrators were appointed in three-tier panchayats in Haridwar district from March. Even if elections were not held within this period, the government amended the Panchayati Raj Act and extended the tenure of the administrators for six more months.
- The tenure of administrators in 306 gram panchayats of Haridwar will end on March 29. Even during this period, the situation of elections is not being made, due to which a legal crisis has arisen. Although, after the completion of the voting for the assembly elections, the government had sought permission from the Election Commission in view of starting the process of Panchayat elections in Haridwar, but it could not be received.
- State Panchayati Raj Secretary Nitesh Jha said that due to non-conduct of Panchayat elections in Haridwar district, a situation of legal crisis is arising. Opinion is being taken from the Advocate General and the Justice Department in this regard.

Vasantotsav 2022

Why in News

- In a meeting held under the chairmanship of Lieutenant General Gurmeet Singh (SEN) Governor of Uttarakhand, it was decided to organize Vasantotsav, 2022 on March 8 and 9, 2022.

Key Points

Note:

- Vasantotsav is organized every year in Uttarakhand Raj Bhavan, which will be started this year with the folk festival of Uttarakhand, Phuldei.
- The main theme of the cultural program organized in this will be Holi of flowers.
- During the festival, five brand ambassadors who have done excellent work in the fields of mushroom, honey production, herbs, organic farming etc. will be honored by the Governor. Along with this, a special postal cover will be issued on Yamuna Tulsi (Kunj) to be offered in the temple of Mother Yamuna by the Department of Posts.
- A painting competition will also be organized for all school children in the age group of 5 to 18 years in the Vasantotsav, in which children living in different orphanages, children with disabilities and rag pickers will also be specially invited. 21 prizes will be given for this competition.



Note:

Key Points

Details

Blank area for Key Points.

Lined area for Details.

Summary

Blank area for Summary.