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### State Focus Paper Released in 'State Credit Seminar' 2022-23

#### Why in News

On December 31, 2021, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami released the State Focus Paper at the State Credit Seminar organized by NABARD.

#### **Key Points**

- The total credit potential for the priority areas of Uttarakhand state for 2022-23 by NABARD has been estimated at Rs 28528 crore.
- Roads, storage system, drinking water, irrigation etc. have been improved in Uttarakhand through infrastructure related schemes. NABARD's contribution has also been in women empowerment especially by strengthening priority sectors and generating livelihood through women self-help groups.
- Arun Pratap Das, Chief General Manager, NABARD said that NABARD, in line with its mandate to ensure rural prosperity, adopts a participatory and consultative approach involving all the stakeholders in the field of agriculture and rural development, to provide potential linked credit to each district of the country every year. Prepares the Plan (PLP).
- > The PLP estimates the credit potential in agriculture, allied and other sectors within the priority sector for each district of the state. These estimates also serve as a basis for preparation of Annual Credit Plans (ACPs) for lead banks at the district level and SLBCs at the state level.
- The State Focus Paper is the culmination of the results of the PLP, bringing together the prospects and projections of all the districts into a consolidated document for the state as a whole.
- In the State Focus Paper for the year 2022-23, the total credit potential for priority sectors in the state of Uttarakhand has been estimated at 28 thousand 528 crores, which shows an increase of 5 percent as compared to the previous year's credit plan.
- The State Focus Paper also synthesizes the various policy initiatives of both India and the State Government. This document will prove to be helpful for the state government for prioritizing policy initiatives and budget outlay for 2022-23.

Self-help groups, NGOs, cooperative institutions, banks and departments were honored for doing commendable work in the program.

### Rabi Farmers Festival

#### Why in News

On January 2, 2022, the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Pushkar Singh Dhami participated in the Rabi Krishak Mahotsav program organized by the Agriculture Department, Uttarakhand in the Jhabreda Mandi Complex of the Assembly Constituency. On this occasion, he inaugurated 13 schemes and laid the foundation stone of 121 schemes.

#### **Key Points**

- The Chief Minister also made several announcements during this period, under which a mini stadium and roadways bus feed would be set up at Jhabreda.
- A statue of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule will be installed in the town Jhabreda. A statue of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution, will be installed on Tikona Island near the highway in the village Salier.
- The statue of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay will be installed on Tikona Island near Mandi Tirahe on Mangalore Deoband Road after getting NOC from NHAI.
- Farmers will be tested in relation to mandi fees. Consideration will be given to abolishing the deducted RC of farmers.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister honored farmers Nirmala and Deshraj Saini by presenting them 15 thousand rupees and a citation under the National Food Scheme

# **CM Launches Covid Vaccination Campaign** for Adolescents in the age Group of 15 to 18 years

#### Why in News

> On January 3, 2022, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami launched the COVID vaccination campaign for adolescents in the age group of 15 to 18 years



at Sanatan Dharma Inter College, Bannu Racecars, Dehradun. On this occasion, vaccination of Kumari Arna and Kumari Pratha was done in front of the Chief Minister.

#### **Key Points**

- On this occasion, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that all 06 lakh 28 thousand adolescents in the age group of 15 to 18 years would be vaccinated in a week.
- Health Minister Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat said that under the vaccination campaign for adolescents in the age group of 15 to 18 in the entire state, adolescents studying in this age group from outside states would also be vaccinated.
- The Health Minister said that 85 percent of the target of the second dose of Covid vaccination has been completed in the state, it will be completed soon. A booster dose campaign will also be started for frontline workers and people above 60 years of age from January 10.

# Uttarakhand's Participants Won two Silver Medals in India Skills National Competition-2021

#### Why in News

On January 10, 2022, Rajesh Agarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship presented prizes to the winning participants of India Skills National Competition-2021 at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi in which the participants of Uttarakhand bagged two silver medals.

#### **Key Points**

- More than 500 participants from 26 States/UTs participated in the IndiaSkills Competition. A total of 185 candidates were declared winners in this competition.
- Prashant Saini and Abhinav Verma from Uttarakhand won silver medals in Cyber Security and 3D Digital Game Art.

- Organized by the National Skill Development Corporation, this closed door competition will compete in 54 skills such as concrete construction work, aesthetic medicine, car painting, health and social care, visual sales, graphic design technology, wall and floor tiling, welding, etc. Participation observed.
- Skill competitions were organized at various locations including Pragati Maidan and offsite locations in the National Capital Region from January 7 to 9 as per the COVID-19 guidelines mandated by the authorities.
- ➤ It is noteworthy that the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), under the guidance of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), leads and organizes India Skill Competitions every two years at the regional and national level. Skilled youth from different States/UTs compete in their respective skills.
- The winners of IndiaSkills receive a year's training to prepare for World Skills and participate in several development programmes.
- NSDC aims to enrich the lives of youth and empower them through India Skills.

## Uttarakhand DMMC to Get Subhash Chandra Bose Award

#### Why in News

Recently, the **Disaster Mitigation and Management Center (DMMC)** of Uttarakhand has been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose National Disaster Management Award. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will present the award to DMMC on 23 January.

#### **Key Points**

- The award is under the institutional category for the year 2020 and carries a cash prize of Rs 51 lakh.
- DMMC Executive Director Piyush Rautela has been awarded innovative, high class and quality research and capacity building of masons in the area of traditional DRR practices of the people of Uttarakhand as well as seismic safety of the built environment and engineers in earthquake safe construction and on the ground level research and development. The



- award will be presented in recognition of innovative, entertaining, purposeful and effective print and audiovisual awareness materials, along with prevention and first aid.
- According to Rautela, this is the first time that this award is being given to a state government organization.
- It is noteworthy that this award has been established by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to promote and recognize innovative and effective work in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

# Doon School Students Will Represent the Country in the Adorable 'Physics World Cup'

#### Why in News

Recently, Aaradhya Jain, a class nine student of the famous Doon School in Dehradun, Uttarakhand, has been selected in the five-member Indian team for the 35th International Physics Tournament (IYPT 2022). He will take part in the international competition to be held in Timisoara, Romania.

#### **Key Points**

- ➤ It is worth noting that this competition is famous by the name of Physics World Cup. It is a scientific competition between teams of school students.
- > Five students representing Team India have been selected in the India Youth Physics Tournament (INYPT) after three tough rounds.
- Giving information, Anand Kumar, teacher of Doon School, said that a project is available in it. A problem is given, which has to be solved. The subject is not made public. Aaradhya, a student of Doon School, worked hard for this. Reaching the final round, got selected for the international competition.
- Team members research published scientific research from around the world and re-discover the results obtained as a team.
- The Team India INYPT selection consists of four elimination rounds, where the judges are asked to evenly solve problems based on cryptic physics

- with complete solutions, which determine the skill level of the participants. Relentless efforts, limited information available online, testing your skills every year, reaching the final round and getting selected among the last five students are the qualifications of this competition.
- > These five selected students compete internationally against participants from thirty countries.
- > It is noteworthy that the Romania International Competition is to be held in mid-July. Students will go to Romania to showcase their skills if the COVID pandemic does not stop, otherwise the competition will be online.
- Aaradhya had secured 8th position last year. By joining Team India, he was left with very few marks.

# Shivam Rawat and Anurag Ramola of Uttarakhand honored with Prime Minister's National Child Award

#### Why in News

On the occasion of National Girl Child Day on January 24, 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi honored 61 children of the country with the Prime Minister's National Children's Award for the year 2021 and 2022 in a virtual ceremony as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, In which Shivam Rawat and Anurag Ramola of Uttarakhand are included.

#### **Key Points**

- This year's awardees include 15 boys and 14 girls from 21 states and union territories. These children have been selected from all regions of the country for their exceptional achievements in the categories of Innovation (7), Social Service (4), Educational (1), Sports (8), Art and Culture (6) and Gallantry (3).
- Similarly, among the award winners for the year 2021, 32 children from 21 states/UTs in innovation (9), art and culture (7), sports (7), educational (5), gallantry (3) and social service (1) categories have chosen.



- The PMRBP awardees participate in the Republic Day Parade every year. Each awardee of PMRBP is presented with a medal, a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh and a certificate.
- Shivam Rawat of Uttarakhand has been honored with the Prime Minister's National Children's Award - 2022 in the Innovation category and Anurag Ramola has been awarded the Prime Minister's National Children's Award - 2021 in the Art and Culture category.
- > The award winners of PMRBP 2021 and 2022 attended the event from the respective district headquarters along with their parents and the district magistrate of their respective district.
- During the ceremony, the Prime Minister presented digital certificates to 61 winners of PMRBP 2021 and 2022 using blockchain powered technology developed by IIT Kanpur under the National Blockchain Project.

# Padma awards to 4 persons from Uttarakhand

#### Why in News

On January 25, 2022, on the occasion of 73rd Republic Day, the President announced 128 Padma Awards for the year 2022. Four persons from Uttarakhand are included in the list of these awards.

#### **Key Points**

- The Padma Awards are the country's highest civilian honors, which are conferred in three categories. These three categories include Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri.
- 'Padma Vibhushan' for exceptional and distinguished service, 'Padma Bhushan' for distinguished service of high order and 'Padma Shri' for distinguished service in any field.
- > These awards are given in various disciplines/fields i.e. arts, social work, public affairs, science and engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service, etc.
- These awards are announced by the President every year on the occasion of 'Republic Day' and are given in formal functions held at Rashtrapati Bhavan, usually in March/April.

- ➤ This year the President has approved the conferment of 128 Padma Awards, including 2 Jodi Awards (the award given to a pair is counted as one award). The list includes 4 Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan and 107 Padma Shri awards.
- Among the recipients of Padma awards, 34 are women and 10 persons in this list are under the Foreigner/ NRI/PIO/OCI category and 13 persons have been given the award posthumously.
- The following persons from Uttarakhand are included in the list of Padma Awards announced for the year 2022-
  - General Bipin Rawat (posthumously) has been selected for the Padma Vibhushan, India's second highest civilian honor in the field of civil service.
  - Similarly, Ms. Madhuri Barthwal (Arts), Ms. Basanti Devi (Social Work) and Ms. Vandana Kataria (Sports) have been selected for the Padma Shri.

### Police Medals Awarded to Six Policemen of Uttarakhand

#### Why in News

On January 26, 2022, on the occasion of Republic Day, six policemen of Uttarakhand were awarded Police Medals.

#### **Key Points**

- Uttarakhand's Awdditional Director General of Police (Administration) Abhinav Kumar has been awarded the President's Police Medal (PPM) for distinguished services.
- At the same time, five policemen were awarded Police Medals for their meritorious service. These five medal winners are Deputy Superintendent of Police, Chamoli district, Dhan Singh Tomar, DSP Nandan Singh Bisht from Police Headquarters, DSP Ganesh Lal, Pauri, Inspector Mahesh Chandra Chandola (Intelligence Headquarters) and Sub Inspector Ramesh Chandra Bhate from Champawat.
- It is noteworthy that every year on the occasion of Republic Day, the gallantry award is awarded to the brave soldiers who made supreme sacrifice by displaying indomitable courage in the security of the country.



The Police Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs deals with matters relating to meritorious/distinguished service and President's Police Medal awards for gallantry etc.

### 29th Children's Science Congress

#### Why in News

On January 29, 2022, the 29th Children's Science Congress was organized by the Uttarakhand State Council of Science and Technology.

#### **Key Points**

➤ This congress was organized in all 95 blocks of the school education department of the state and around

- 1500 projects were presented by child scientists at the district level.
- ➤ A total of 137 child scientists gave presentations at the state level and 16 of them weare selected for the National Level Children's Science Congress to be held from February 15 to 18.
- Child scientists were selected for their presentations on various topics including ecosystem for sustainable living, appropriate technology, social innovation, design development modeling and traditional knowledge systems.
- ➤ It is noteworthy that National Children's Science Congress is a major program of NCSTC and Department of Science and Technology.





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