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(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTARAKHAND

**October
2021**

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Uttarakhand's Highest National Flag in Rudrapur

Why in News

- On October 2, 2021, **Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama** unveiled the **Highest National flag of Uttarakhand at Gandhi Park in Rudrapur**.

Key Points

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama hoisted the **181 feet high Tricolor** by pressing the button with the recitation of Hanuman Chalisa. For this, Rs 28 lakh was spent from the MLA fund.
- This Tricolor Flag has been **made by Star Sales Company on behalf of the Rural Works Department in 47 days**. For this the material was procured from Kolkata.
- The pillar of this tricolor flag is 51 meters high. The length and width of the flag is 36×54 feet. 100% polyester fabric has been used in its manufacture.

Wildlife Week 2021

Why in News

- On October 1, 2021, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama launched Wildlife Week 2021 at Malsi Deer Park, Dehradun. It will be held till October 17, 2021.

Key Points

- On this occasion, the Chief Minister announced that all children up to the age of 18 years across the country would be given free entry in the Tiger Reserves, National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves, Zoos, Nature Parks of Uttarakhand. This will help in connecting about 45 crore young students of the country with tourism.
- The Chief Minister announced that the **CM Young Ecopreneur Scheme** would be started to connect the local people of Uttarakhand with the economy of forests and wildlife. Under this scheme, **1 lakh youth will be made Ecopreneur**.
- Under the CM YoungEcopreneur scheme, skill based nature guides, drone pilots, wildlife photographers, ecotourism, wildlife tourism will be converted into enterprises.

National Security Act

Why in News

- The Uttarakhand government has extended the **National Security Act (NSA)** in the state for another three months **in view of the recent unrest and violence in some parts of the state**.

Key Points

- According to the order issued by Anand Vardhan, Additional Chief Secretary of the state, various anti-social elements are trying to obstruct the security of the state by indulging in adverse activities, due to which the NSA has been expanded.
- Under this Act, the District Magistrates (DMs) will have the power to take action against those who can cause violence and disturb the peace in their respective districts till December 31.
- It is noteworthy that the state government had implemented this act on June 4 this year.
- It is believed that the recent **farmers' agitation**, increasing aggression of political parties in the wake of upcoming elections in the state and law and order issues prompted the state government to expand the NSA.

Expansion of Education Scholarship Programmes

Why in News

- Recently, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama has issued a mandate to increase **Dr. Shivanand Nautiyal Scholarship from Rs.250 per month to Rs.1500 per month** and **State Merit/Sridev Suman Scholarship from Rs.150 per month to Rs.1000 per month**.

Key Points

- **Dr. Shivanand Nautiyal Scholarship** which was **earlier given to 11 children**, will **now be provided to 100 children**.
- Under the **'State Merit/Sridev Suman Scholarship Scheme'**, every year 475 students (5 students from each development block) from across the state will be given the benefit of this scholarship.

Note:



- Both these scholarships are **administered by the Department of School Education, Uttarakhand.**

Regional UDAN Program Launched in Uttarakhand

Why in News

- On October 8, 2021, Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and Union Minister of State for Civil Aviation, General (Retd) Dr. V.K. Singh launched a **regional UDAN program** of the Ministry of Civil Aviation in collaboration with FICCI and the State Government of Uttarakhand.

Key Points

- On this occasion the new terminal building of Jolly Grant Airport, Dehradun in Uttarakhand was inaugurated and new flight routes were flagged off.
- The new terminal building, developed with a project cost of Rs 325 crore, is spread over an area of 28,729 sqm and will be able to handle 1,200 passengers during peak hours, which will increase the airport's capacity by eight times.
- Helicopter service for Dehradun- Haldwani- Pantnagar- Pithoragarh- Pantnagar- Haldwani- Dehradun sector and Chinyalisain- Sahastradhara- Chinyalisain sector was also flagged off on the occasion. The helicopter service will be provided by Pawan Hans and Heritage Aviation respectively.
- The inauguration of heli routes in the Uttarakhand region is in line with the objective of the UDAN scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation to enhance air connectivity to hilly areas in the country. 13 more helicopters have been identified in Uttarakhand to provide seamless air connectivity within the state.
- On this occasion, the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) along with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) in collaboration with Government of Uttarakhand and Pawan Hans Limited organized the third edition of **Helicopter Summit-2021** to promote the aviation services industry.
- This year's theme is '**India@75: Expediting the Growth of Indian Helicopter Industry and Enhancing Air Connectivity**'.

Doon Drone Fair

Why in News

- On October 8, 2021, Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and Minister of State for Civil Aviation General (Retd) Dr. VK. Singh launched the '**Doon Drone Mela 2021**' in Dehradun.

Key Points

- Drones and aerospots demonstrations were held during the launch. These included a paragliding demonstration by the Border Security Force, a paramotor demonstration by Harsh Sachan and an agricultural spraying drone demonstration by IOTechworld Aviation and Daksha.
- Apart from this, the event also included an emergency search and response drone demonstration with indigenously 3D-printed drones by Drone Application and Research Centre (DARC) and **State Disaster Response Force (SDRF)**.
- This was followed by a brief survey drone demonstration by Aarav Unmanned Systems (AUS) under the proprietary scheme as well as a training drone demonstration by Squadron Leader Varsha Kukreti (Retd).

State's First Digital Anganwadi Center

Why in News

- On October 8, 2021, **Uttarakhand's Women Empowerment and Child Development (WECD) Minister Rekha Arya** inaugurated the **state's first Digital Anganwadi Center at Jhajha, Dehradun.**

Key Points

- Speaking on the occasion, Rekha Arya said that this '**Digital Anganwadi Center**' has been started under **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** and '**Digital India Mission**' and more centers across the state will be made digital and smart.
- In the initial phase, the government has set up two digital Anganwadi centers at Jhajra and Vikasnagar in Dehradun.
- According to Arya, the state government has started the Digital Anganwadi Center in Dehradun as a pilot

Note:

project. The department aims to develop all Anganwadi Centers in all districts into digital centers, especially in rural areas, for which a proposal will be sent to the central government soon.

- She also said that the software for running this digital Anganwadi center has been prepared in such a way that **Anganwadi workers** can easily use it.
- He said that smart classes would be conducted for the children and proper arrangements have been made to connect with the students virtually. Computer education will also be provided to the students in such centres.
- WECD Secretary H.C. Semwal said that the workers of these centers have been trained by the trainers of Mumbai to run the centers properly. Apart from augmenting the Anganwadi centers digitally, the centers have been decorated in a way that is more child friendly and promotes learning.

Rashtriya Pragati Puraskar

Why in News

- Recently, Dehradun resident Ashu Satvika Goyal was presented the Rashtriya Pragati Puraskar at a function held in New Delhi.

Key Points

- It is noteworthy that the Rashtriya Pragati Puraskar has been **presented by the All India Business Development Association** to Ashu Satvika Goyal for her work as a social worker and cultural ambassador of India.
- **Ashu Satvika Goyal is a social worker, artistic trainer and actress.** She is also the **co-founder of Rang Himalaya Utsav** organized in Dehradun and a **member of Global Youth Network for Creating a New Civilization.**
- **Ashu Satvika has participated in many international conferences** and meetings on global issues and is an **Indian classical dancer as well as a painter.**

Annotsav Program

Why in News

- On October 11, 2021, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama launched the **'Annotsav**

Programme', by distributing ration kits to six beneficiaries.

Key Points

- The **'Annotsav program'** is an important program **started under the 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana'**. Its **objective is to provide food and honor to every beneficiary.**
- Under this program **being implemented by the Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department** of the state, 14 lakh ration kits will be distributed to the poor beneficiaries of the state through **Fair Price Shops.**
- It is noteworthy that to deal with the challenges of the Covid-19 epidemic, **'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana'** was started by the Government of India in **2020**, under which every person would be provided 5 kg free food grains in addition to the 5 kg subsidized food grains under NFSA.

IVF Facility at AIIMS Rishikesh

Why in News

- The IVF Center in the Department of Gynecology, AIIMS was inaugurated by Dr. Arvind Rajvanshi, Director, AIIMS Rishikesh on October 11, 2021.

Key Points

- With this, **AIIMS Rishikesh has become the first government hospital in the state of Uttarakhand, where the facility of In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) is available.**
- AIIMS Rishikesh will provide this facility for women up to 45 years of age and men up to 50 years of age as per the guidelines of the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).**
- It is noteworthy that **IVF is an assisted reproductive technology**, under which eggs obtained from the ovaries of a female in the laboratory are exposed to sperms in a fluid medium. The fertilized egg obtained from this process is transferred to the female's womb. The babies born through this whole process are called **'test tube babies'.**
- **Robert Edward** is considered to be the **father of IVF technology.**

Note:



Incentive Amount through DBT: Anganwadi

Why in News

- On October 12, 2021, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama, from the Secretariat, initiated the process of providing incentive to **Anganwadi workers** through **DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer)**.

Key Points

- An incentive amount of Rs 40 crore was sent to the account of 33,297 Anganwadi workers through DBT.
- According to the announcement by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama, this incentive amount of Rs 1 thousand per worker was provided through DBT for the duties performed by 33,297 Anganwadi workers in a dedicated sense.
- Apart from this, according to the announcement made in the month of September, an incentive amount of Rs. 2 thousand per Anganwadi worker was transferred for 5 months.

Annotsav Program

Why in News

- On October 12, 2021, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama launched the **Annotsav program** in the state **under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana**.

Key Points

- Under this Annotsav program, **14 lakh ration bags (free of cost) will be distributed** in the entire state in a month.
- Along with this, free food grains will be distributed through all 9230 ration shops in the state for the entire month itself.
- It is noteworthy that under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, in the year 2020, the beneficiaries of Antyodaya and primary families got 5 kg per unit from April to November. Food grains (wheat/rice) and 1 kg. Pulses were distributed free of cost per ration card.
- Similarly, in the year 2021, 5 kg food grains per unit will be distributed free of cost to the beneficiaries

of Antyodaya and primary families for a total of 7 months from May to November.

- It is noteworthy that under the **'One Nation One Ration Card'** scheme, ration card portability has been implemented in the state from August 2020, through which food security is being provided to the migrant families coming from other states in the state.

Dengue Outbreak in Uttarakhand

Why in News

- There is an outbreak of **dengue** in various districts of the state including Dehradun, the capital of Uttarakhand. On October 12, 2021, new dengue cases were reported in Roorkee and Dehradun.

Key Points

- Dengue is a **tropical mosquito-borne disease caused by dengue virus (genus flavivirus)**.
- It is **mainly spread by the female Aedes aegypti mosquito**.
- There is **no specific medicine available to treat dengue infection**.
- However, the dengue vaccine **'Dengvaxia'** was **approved by the US Food and Drug Administration** in the year 2019.

Uttarakhand to Provide Wristband Tracker to Mountaineers

Why in News

- On October 14, 2021, Uttarakhand Chief Secretary S.S. Sandhu ordered to provide wristbands for mountaineers and trekkers in the review meeting of the tourism department at the state secretariat.

Key Points

- The state government has recently decided to provide wristbands to mountaineers and trekkers so that they can be traced with the help of satellites and other means at the time of disaster or accident.
- Along with this, Sandhu directed the concerned officials to work on connectivity and speed up the

Note:

construction work of the helipad and heliport to give impetus to tourism.

- He directed to focus mainly on such areas which have great potential for tourism related activities but are lagging behind due to lack of connectivity. Along with this, he also directed to provide drinking water and toilet facilities every 20-30 kms for the tourists on the travel routes.

Pritam Bharatwan Jagar, Dhol Sagar International Academy

Why in News

- On October 17, 2021, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama launched the '**Pritam Bharatwan Jagar Dhol Sagar International Academy**' at Nalapani Chowk, Dehradun with the aim of preserving folk culture, Jagar, Dhol Sagar.

Key Points

- On this occasion, the Chief Minister announced financial assistance of Rs 10 lakh to this academy.
- In this academy, free of cost training will be provided to the students and research scholars interested in folk music, traditional dhol damau, hudka door etc. With this, they will get an opportunity to understand and know the Uttarakhandi folk culture and the culture of Uttarakhand will be preserved.
- On this occasion, 107-year-old Dhol Sagar scholar Sherdas and 81-year-old Kalam Das, who cherish the Dhol art heritage, were honored along with other Kalavants.
- The director of this academy is Padmashree Jagar Samrat Pritam Bharatwan. Pritam Bharatwan was born in Sila village of Dehradun district. He is a folk singer from Uttarakhand. Apart from singing Jagar, Folk Geet, Pavanda and Ghuyal, Dhol, Damau, Hudka and Daur have also mastered playing thakuli, a Uttarakhandi musical instrument.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri by the Government of India in the year 2019 for singing Jagar.

Salon Academy

Why in News

- Recently MLA Vinod Chamoli and CEO of F Salon

Academy Prachi Kaushik jointly inaugurated F Salon Academy of International Fashion and Lifestyle Broadcast Television Channel Fashion TV (FTV) in Dehradun.

Key Points

- Tushar Pratap Singh, Owner, FTV Salon Academy, Dehradun said that it aims to achieve the goal of presenting the fashion industry with its most exceptional quality professionals through F Salon Academy.
- The training provided by F Salon Academy is as per international standards and the youth of Uttarakhand will be trained according to these standards.
- Prachi Kaushik, CEO, F Salon Academy said that 500+ franchisees of the academy will be set up across India, in which students can take more than 100 beauty courses.
- This academy is not only limited to producing professionals of international standard but will revolutionize the Indian market by creating 14 million jobs per year.
- He said that we are also planning to associate with various government organizations and non-government organizations for the upliftment of weaker sections of the society, disabled people, housewives etc. by providing scholarships.

Uttarakhand Achieved Covid-19 Vaccination Target Ahead of Time

Why in News

- Recently, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama told reporters at the state secretariat that the state has achieved the target of giving the first dose of Covid-19 vaccine to the eligible population above the age of 18 years ahead of time.

Key Points

- Addressing the journalists, the Chief Minister said that the State Government would start immunization of children below 18 years of age as soon as necessary approvals were received.
- Dhama said that vaccination started in Uttarakhand on January 16, 2021, under which a total of 77,29,466 people above the age of 18 years were to be vaccinated.

Note:

- He said that first the health workers and then the frontline workers, the population above the age of 60, the population between the age of 45 years to 59 years and then the population above the age of 18 years were vaccinated respectively.
- Dhama said that till October 16, 99.6 percent of the state's health workers, 9.2 percent of frontline workers and 96.1 per cent of the population above 18 have been given the first dose of the vaccine.
- First dose vaccination has been given to all eligible people in the state except pregnant women, contrarian beneficiaries (severe illness, taking blood thinners) and those who are not interested in getting vaccinated.

Best Horticulture State Award

Why in News

- Recently, at the **12th Agriculture Leadership Summit** organized by Agriculture True Group, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar presented the Best Horticulture State award in the country to Subodh Uniyal, the Agriculture and Horticulture Minister of Uttarakhand.

Key Points

- On this occasion, Minister Subodh Uniyal said that Uttarakhand has adopted the model of integrated agriculture to increase the income of farmers. The state government is promoting 20,000 mushroom growers and 40 percent funds have been reserved for agriculture and horticulture activities under the district scheme. This is giving a boost to poly house construction and high density fruit plantation in the state.
- Along with this, the state government is providing interest free loans of Rs 5 lakh and low interest loans of Rs 3 lakh to the farmers.
- Uniyal said that the state has focused on cultivation of high yielding fruits, encouraged farmers to grow non-seasonal vegetables and implemented the Nursery Act.
- Uttarakhand is the only state in the country, which has made a provision of six months imprisonment under the Nursery Act. The state government has developed a **distinct brand** of '**Uttarakhand apple**' by promoting packaging and marketing.

Surbhi Vatika (Aromatic Garden)

Why in News

- On October 24, 2021, at the Forest Research Center of Lalkuan in Haldwani, Uttarakhand, Beena Rao, Director of One Touch Agricon Institute of Maharashtra and Sanjeev Chaturvedi, Chief Conservator of Forests of the state jointly inaugurated the **country's first Surabhi Vatika (Aromatic Garden)**.

Key Points

- Chief Conservator of Forests Sanjeev said that this garden has been prepared in three years in an area of three acres. In this, 140 species of plants have been planted from different states of the country, due to which **it has become the first aromatic garden of the country**.
- Its formation will help in increasing the conservation, research, and awareness of the species. Apart from this, it will prove to be helpful in the works related to livelihood. The Vatika has been prepared in nine parts.
- Many plants are being planted here for the purpose of reducing environmental pollution, increasing the amount of oxygen in the atmosphere and making the surrounding environment fragrant. In future, plants of aromatic species will be distributed to the people of Lalkuan and the surrounding area.
- The area is also going to benefit immensely from the Ficus Gordon located at the research center, as 121 Ficus species have been planted in this Ficus Garden, the second largest in the country.

Campaign to Find the Old Routes of Chardham

Why in News

- On October 25, 2021, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama started the campaign by flagging off a 25-member team to find the old routes of **Chardham**.

Key Points

- This campaign has been **started by Uttarakhand**

Note:



Tourism Development Board (UTDB) in association with Track the Himalayas.

- Under this, a team of 25 members of experts will travel more than 1200 km to find the old routes on the Chardham track. This campaign will be run by this team for about 50 days.
- The 25-member team will work to find the old Chardham Marg and the Winter Chardham Marg.
- This initiative will be a big step towards preserving our age-old heritage. This campaign will also encourage adventure sports in Uttarakhand.

Mukhyamantri Swarojgaar Nano Yojna

Why in News

- On October 26, 2021, the state government issued a revised mandate of '**Mukhyamantri Swarojgar Nano Yojana**' to strengthen and empower small businessmen and entrepreneurs.

Key Points

- By amending the earlier mandate, the loan limit under this scheme has been increased to Rs 50,000.
- This amendment in the scheme will benefit all the fruit, vegetable vendors, tea vendors, tailors, plumbers, electricians, mobile repairers etc. small businessmen in rural and urban areas.
- For the grant given under this scheme, 5 categories A, B, B + C and D have been fixed in the state respectively.

Chief Minister Anchal Amrit Yojana

Why in News

- On October 28, 2021, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami re-launched the '**Mukhyamantri Anchal Amrit Yojana**' while participating in the program organized at Ring Road, Dehradun. The Chief Minister launched the scheme by distributing milk to 11 children.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister said that the re-launching of the scheme would go a long way in the development of the children and getting them adequate nutrition. He said that just as the mother's anchal protects the child from the sun, similarly the 'Anchal Amrit Yojana' will definitely help in removing malnutrition among children.
- He said that the corona pandemic has affected all the sectors, due to which this scheme was also affected for some time, which has now been restarted.
- Under Mukhyamantri Anchal Amrit Yojana, children of 3 to 6 years of age will get free fortified sweet and fragrant milk 4 days a week in Anganwadi centers.
- This scheme will benefit 1 lakh 70 children of the state, as well as improve the nutrition and health of the children.
- Under the Chief Minister's Nutrition Scheme, 1 lakh pregnant women and 85 thousand lactating mothers are getting benefits.
- '**Mukhyamantri Anchal Amrit Yojana**' was launched in Uttarakhand on March 7, 2019.



Note:

