



STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

RAJASTHAN

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Rajasthan Tops in Universal Health Coverage

Why in News?

- On May 1, 2022, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the Mega Free Heart Camp organized by Shri Sathya Sai Heart Hospital, Rajkot and Ahmedabad in Jaipur and said that Rajasthan has become the leading state in the country to implement universal health coverage.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister said that about 1 crore 34 lakh families of the state have been covered under the 'Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana' and expensive treatments like kidney, heart, liver, bone marrow transplant are free of cost in the scheme.
- Free treatment and free MRI, X-ray and CT scan for IPD and OPD patients have also been introduced in all hospitals.
- It is worth mentioning that with a view to make the people of the state free from the cost of treatment and to provide better health services, the state government has launched ambitious schemes like 'Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana' and 'Mukhyamantri Nishulk Nirogi Rajasthan'.
- He said that under the MoU signed with Satya Sai Heart Hospital, 314 children suffering from heart disease and others have been operated upon free of cost. An amount of Rs.5,000/- is being provided by the Government to the children for going to and from Gujarat.
- This hospital is providing expensive operations like heart operation free of cost.
- The Chief Minister said that action is being taken to list more than 5,000 medicines, surgical and soochres in the Nishulk Nirogi Rajasthan Scheme. At the same time, arrangements have been made to make the entire treatment cashless.
- Under the Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme, the insurance premium of all the families identified in the Socio-Economic Census, 2011, and those receiving covid ex-gratia amount is being paid by the State Government and all other families can join the scheme by paying half of the sum assured.

Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Accident Insurance Scheme

Why in News?

- The 'Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Accident Insurance Scheme' has been launched by the State Government on 1st May, 2022 with the objective of providing financial support to the insured families in the event of death or complete permanent disability arising out of accidents in the 'Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana'.

Key Points

- In the Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme, all the insured families will be eligible beneficiaries of the scheme and financial assistance upto Rs.5 lakh will be provided in case of death of the insured family member or members in an accident or permanent complete damage to hands, feet, eyes due to accident.
- Under the Chief Minister's Chiranjeevi Accident Insurance Scheme, the benefit of the scheme will be payable on the death/damage caused by electric shock and burn in a road accident of the insured family member due to falling from the roof, collapse of the house, drowning, spraying of chemical substances, electrocution and burning.
- Under the insurance scheme, a benefit of Rs 5 lakh will be given in case of death of an insured family member in an accident, Rs 3 lakh for complete damage to both hands or both feet or both feet or both eyes or one arm and one leg or one eye in an accident and Rs 1.5 lakh on complete damage to the hands and feet and eyes in the accident.
- The scheme will be operated through the State Insurance and Provident Fund Department.

Mobile ATM Van of Rajasthan Marudhara Gramin Bank

Why in News?

- On May 1, 2022, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot flagged off the mobile ATM unit van of Rajasthan Marudhara Gramin Bank. He also made the first transaction by observing the mobile ATM van.

Note:

Key Points

- A total of 4 mobile ATM vans have been provided to Rajasthan Marudhara Gramin Bank in collaboration with NABARD. These mobile ATM vans will provide banking services to the public in remote rural areas and dhanis in all districts of the bank service area.
- Along with this, the task of providing banking services to the soldiers deployed on the border will also be done through these vans.
- Through mobile ATM vans, camps will be organized to create awareness about financial literacy and digital banking and make the public aware about banking and the information about government schemes will be made available to the public.

'Mian Ka Bara' Railway Station Will Now Be Called Mahesh Nagar Halt

Why in News?

- On April 30, 2022, in the presence of Union Minister of Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Union Minister of State for Agriculture Kailash Chaudhary, the name of 'Mian Ka Bara' railway station located in Balotra area of Barmer district of Rajasthan was changed to 'Mahesh Nagar Halt'.

Key Points

- Earlier in 2018, the name of this village was changed from Mian Ka Bara to Mahesh Nagar, but the name of the railway station could not be changed. The village falls in Samdari tehsil of Barmer district bordering Pakistan.
- It is worth mentioning that in 2018, the names of three villages of Rajasthan were changed by the then BJP government. In this, the name of Mian ka Bara village was changed to Mahesh Nagar, Ismail Khurd was renamed as Picanwa Khurd and Narpara was changed to Narpara.

Launch of New Silicosis Portal

Why In News?

- On May 5, 2022, The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment of the State of Rajasthan Tikaram Julie launched the new Silicosis Portal, 2022.

Key Point

- He informed that this auto approval based portal has been launched to provide financial assistance to silicosis victims under the Rajasthan Pneumoconiosis Policy in an orderly and easily manner.
- Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Samit Sharma said that the portal has been first launched at pilot level in sriganganagar, hanumangarh, bikaner, churu, jaisalmer, tonk, dungarpur, banswara, chittorgarh and baran districts.
- As soon as the certificate of silicosis disease is received through the new Silicosis portal, the assistance amount can now be directly transferred to the victims and their families through auto approval.

Invest Rajasthan, 2022

Why In News?

- On May 6, 2022, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot addressed a review meeting of the preparations for 'Invest Rajasthan, 2022' at the Chief Minister's residence.

Key Point

- 'Invest Rajasthan, 2022' will be held on October 7 and 8, 2022 at the 'Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre' at Sitapura, Jaipur.
- The Chief Minister said that road shows and investor connect programmes were organized across the country for Invest Rajasthan. Of these, 4,192 MoUs and Lols have been signed for the proposed investment of Rs 10.45 lakh crore, which will provide employment to more than 9.69 lakh people in the state.
- Additional Chief Secretary, Industry and Commerce, Veenu Gupta said that in a series of connect programmes of Invest Rajasthan, golf event in coordination with Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) in Jaipur, Medical Device Park at Visakhapatnam, Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemicals Investment Region (PCPIR) of Vadodara And road shows will be held at Fintech Park in Gurugram.

Note:



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Rajasthan is the first in the country on various parameters of MNREGA

Why In News

- On May 7, 2022, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said in a review meeting of the Rural Development Department that the state ranks first across the country in the approved labour budget in MGNREGA, the number of households who have completed 100 days, the creation of man-days and the National Mobile Monitoring System.

Key Point

- The labour rate under the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme has increased rapidly in the state as compared to other States. The families who have completed 100 days under MGNREGA are being given additional 25 days of employment by the state government.
- At the same time, orders have also been issued by the state government to provide 100 days of additional employment to Saharia, Khairua, Kathauri and specially-abled people.
- In view of the scorching heat, arrangements have been made for MGNREGA workers for drinking water, shade, creche, medical kits, soap-sanitizers etc.
- Under the plan to develop infrastructure facilities on the lines of cities by preparing master plans for villages, the amount of Dang, Mewat and Magara Area Development Boards has been increased to Rs.25 crore.
- With convergence of MGNREGA and other schemes, construction of Mahatma Gandhi Vikas Path will be taken up in selected Gram Panchayats, in which villages with a population of more than 3,000 will be selected in the first phase.
- 50,000 farm pounds, diggy and tanks will be constructed in the state, which will provide irrigation to about 10,000 hectares of land. 1000 pastures will be prepared by the Wastelands and Pastures Development Board.
- An action plan has been prepared to set up 50,000 self-help groups in the state, which will benefit 5.50 lakh rural women.

- These Self Help Groups will be provided financial assistance through revolving fund and community investment fund and rs 600 crore will be provided as bank loan.
- The first branch of the Women's Co-operative Bank will be opened in Jaipur and more than 50 per cent of the women's mates are being employed by the Government under the MAT system in various schemes. In Bhilwara district, 100 per cent women's mats have been employed.

Important decisions taken in Rajasthan Cabinet meeting

Why In News?

- On May 10, 2022, a meeting of the State Cabinet and the Council of Ministers chaired by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot took a number of important decisions such as holding of a uniform eligibility test for competitive examinations with uniform eligibility including approval for necessary amendments in the rules for implementation of the old pension scheme.

Key Point

- The meeting has approved the proposal for amendments to the Rajasthan Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1996, the Rajasthan Civil Services (Contributory Pension) Rules, 2005, various revised Pay Scales Rules and the Rajasthan Civil Services (Medical Care) Rules, 2013 for implementation of the Budget Announcement for implementation of old Pension Scheme (OPS) for all Government employees appointed on and after 1st January, 2004 .
- This will enable government employees appointed on and after 1st January, 2004 to be eligible for pensionary benefits on their retirement. At the same time, the Government of Rajasthan will also be able to get cashless medical facility under the Health Scheme (RGHS).
- Those who have exited their service before 31st March, 2022 will also be payable pensionary benefits from April, 2022 as per the said rules.
- With a view to streamline, time-bound and integrate the recruitment process in the state, a Common Eligibility Test (CTET) will now be conducted in place of various competitive examinations (e.g., Village Development Officers, Patwaris, Ministerial Staff

Note:



etc.) with the same eligibility criteria. For this, the Rajasthan Subordinate and Ministerial Services (Uniform Eligibility Test) Rules, 2022 will be framed.

- As per the announcement of Budget 2022-23, it has been decided to allot 25 bighas of land free of cost in the Indira Gandhi Canal Project area to the Paralympic medal winners resident of Rajasthan.
- A decision has been taken on allotment of valuable land to Adani Renewable Energy Park Rajasthan Limited, a joint venture set up by an agreement between Rajasthan Akshay Urja Nigam Limited and Adani Group, a state government undertaking, for setting up of 2000 MW solar park for 6,000 hectares of state-owned land in Jaisalmer district.
- In addition, a decision has been taken on the proposal for conditional allotment of 290.62 hectares of government land in Tehsil Fatehgarh of Jaisalmer to Eden Renewable Paci Private Limited. This decision will enable setting up of a 150 MW solar power project.

65 National-Level Medal-Winning Sportspersons from Rajasthan Get Out-of-turn Appointment

Why in News?

- On May 11, 2022, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the proposal for the out-of-turn appointment of 65 national level medal winners of the state.

Key Points

- Out of these medal winning players, 46 have been given out-of-turn appointments to the post of Clerk Grade-II, 14 to the post of Forester, 3 to the post of Excise Guard and 2 to the post of Constable.
- As per the proposal, these national level medal winners have been allotted departments proportionately according to their first preference under the Rajasthan Out of Turn Appointment to Sports Medal Winner Rules, 2017.
- It is noteworthy that the players who have the qualification of post-graduation or graduation along with being gold medalists have been given appointment in the Government Secretariat and Rajasthan Public Service Commission according to their first preference.

- With this approval of the Chief Minister, it will be easy for the players to work in the state service as well as continue their sports activities smoothly.

Rajasthan Domestic Travel Mart, 2022

Why In News

- The road show was launched from Jaipur on May 12, 2022 under the joint aegis of Rajasthan Tourism Department and Federation of Hospitality and Tourism of Rajasthan under the aegis of **Rajasthan Domestic Travel Mart, 2022**.

Key Point

- Rajasthan Domestic Travel Mart (RDTM) is a unique initiative by the Department of Tourism to provide a platform to facilitate business-to-business meetings to showcase the immense potential in the state.
- It may be mentioned that on 6th April, 2022, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Department of Tourism and the Federation of Hospitality and Tourism Rajasthan for organizing the Rajasthan Domestic Travel Mart.
- In order to promote RDTM, road shows are being organized by the Department of Tourism including a number of innovations such as Rajasthan Film Tourism Promotion Policy, 2022 Guest House Scheme, Revised Homestay (PG) Scheme.
- Gayatri Rathore, Principal Secretary, Department of Tourism informed that the second edition of RDTM will be held in Jaipur on July 22-24, 2022 under the joint aegis of Tourism Department and Federation of Hospitality and Tourism Rajasthan.
- Road shows will be held in various cities to invite hoteliers, travel agents and tour operators before the event. These road shows are aimed at promoting Rajasthan as the most friendly tourist destination at the national level.
- The event, to be organised with support from bureau of investment promotion and trade associations, also includes Hotel and Restaurant Association of Rajasthan (HRAR), Indian Heritage Hotels Association (IHHA) and Rajasthan Association of Tour Operations (RATO).

Note:

Rajasthan Nikshya Sambal Yojana

Why in News

- On 16th May, 2022, 'Rajasthan Nikshya Sambal Yojana' was launched by the State Government with the objective of getting public support to provide help and social support to the TB patients of the State.

Key Points

- The scheme was launched by the State Tuberculosis Section at a meeting of the State TB Forum chaired by Dr. Prithvi, Government Secretary, Department of Medical and Health at the auditorium of Swasthya Bhavan.
- On the occasion, Government Secretary Dr. Prithvi also released the poster of 'Rajasthan Nikshya Sambal Yojana'.
- In the meeting, Dr. Prithvi appealed to all the industries, corporate institutions, public representatives, voluntary organizations, etc. of the State to cooperate in providing nutrition, employment oriented and educational support to TB patients and their families and to play their social participation in creating a TB-free state.
- Mission Director, National Health Mission, Dr. Jitendra Kumar Soni laid special emphasis on collective participation to achieve the goal of TB elimination. He also directed to check all TB patients for HIV and diabetes.
- Director, Department of Public Health, Dr. V.K. Mathur said that pre-treated patients are being identified as TB champions by the department at all the health centres in the state, who will play an important role in diagnosing the problems of TB patients.
- The TB champions will be the voice of TB patients in the community and will also help in getting the assistance being provided by the Department for nutritious food under the 'Nikashya Poshan Yojana'.

'Chuppi Todo, Sayani Bano' Campaign

Why in News

- On May 16, 2022, Jaipur District Collector Rajan Vishal launched the second phase of the 'Chuppi Todo, Sayani Bano' campaign at Government Higher Secondary Girls' School, Gangouri Bazar.

Key Points

- The district collector said that the campaign has been launched in Jaipur after Nagaur and Alwar districts.
- As part of the 'Chuppi Todo, Sayani Bano' campaign, a workshop was organized in 929 schools of the district, in which about one lakh 30 thousand adolescent girls participated. The workshop was briefed on menstrual hygiene management by the trained teachers.
- Sanitary napkins were provided free of cost to girls under the UDAN scheme of the State Government in the workshop. As part of the campaign, every girl student was provided with a booklet on menstrual hygiene management and posters and banners on the theme 'Good Touch Bad Touch' in every government school.
- As many as 3,716 girls selected from class 9th to 12th have been appointed as hygiene ambassadors in the district. These girls will also make the girl students studying in the school aware as well as the parents, public representatives, anganwadi workers, ANMs, Saathins, ASHA Sahyogini and out of school girls.
- It is worth mentioning that before the second phase of the campaign, workshops, training, public awareness programmes and other activities were organized in a phased manner at each subdivision and gram panchayat level in Jaipur district.
- In the first phase of the campaign, 2,223 teachers working in government schools were trained from 14th to 16th March.

Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary Becomes Country's 52nd Tiger Reserve

Why in News

- On May 16, 2022, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav informed that a notification has been issued to declare the Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary in Bundi district of Rajasthan as the 52nd tiger reserve in the country.

Key Points

- After the notification, Ramgarh Vishdhari sanctuary has become the fourth tiger reserve of Rajasthan. At present, There are Ranthambhore, Sariska and Mukundara Hills Tiger Reserves in Rajasthan.

Note:

- The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) had accorded 'in-principle' approval for creation of Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary and adjoining areas as tiger reserves on July 5, 2021 under the provision of Section 38 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- In order to accord the approval granted by NTCA, an Expert Committee was constituted by the State Government for identification of Critical Tiger Habitat (Core) and Buffer Area of Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve.
- A report was submitted by the Committee to the State Government on 24th January, 2022 for determination of the core and buffer area of Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve, District Bundi.
- It may be mentioned that the newly notified Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve includes habitat of tigers between Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in the Northeast and Mukundara Hills Tiger Reserve in the south.
- The Government of Rajasthan declared it a sanctuary under Section 5 of the Rajasthan Wildlife and Bird Protection Act, 1951 on 20th May, 1982.
- Apart from tiger conservation, this sanctuary is also famous for the ecosystem as well as floral species. The sanctuary has 500 types of wildlife including Indian wolf, leopard, striped woodpecker, cheetal, sambhar, sloath bear, golden jackal, chinkara, nilgai, fox, wild cats, langur, snake, crocodile.

District Export Hubs To Be Developed in Every District of Rajasthan

Why in News?

- On May 17, 2022, Rajasthan's Industries Minister Shakuntala Rawat informed that 'District Export Hubs' will be developed to make every district of Rajasthan self-reliant in export promotion.

Key Points

- The objective of the scheme is to provide financial and technical assistance to the district level industries so that the small scale industries can be helped and they can provide employment opportunities to the local people.
- Jaipur and Jodhpur districts have been selected in the first phase. Later, all the districts will be covered in it in a phased manner.

- In this context, a meeting was held at The District Industries Centre, Jaipur (City) and discussed the development of Gems and Jewellery for the city and Blue Pottery for Jaipur Rural.

An Attempt to Make The City of Jaipur Begging Free

Why in News?

- On May 18, 2022, Rajasthan's Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Tikaram Julie, in a meeting of the Rehabilitation Board constituted for the rehabilitation of beggars or poor persons, directed departmental officers to carry out rescue operations in a phased manner to make Jaipur city beggar-free.

Key Points

- He said that the rescued beggars should be identified after being rehabilitated for 7 days in the rehabilitation home run by the department and after that arrangements should be made to send them to the children's home, Nari Niketan, mentally retarded home, old age home etc. Along with this, arrangements should be made for the training of poor people who are involved in begging and who are interested in training.
- In addition, he directed the departmental officers to prepare an online database of beggars to be rescued and action should be taken by the police department in case the identified persons are found to be involved in begging again.
- It may be mentioned that the 'Rajasthan Rehabilitation of Beggars or Indigents Act, 2012' is being implemented to rehabilitate beggars in Rajasthan.

Rajasthan Model' of Tobacco Control

Why in News?

- On May 18, 2022, the Government of India directed the States/UTs to conduct a special drive on the lines of the Government of Rajasthan for implementation of the provisions of COTPA, 2003 and follow the 'Rajasthan Model' with regard to tobacco control.

Note:

Key Points

- Rajasthan Health Minister Parsadi Lal Meena informed that on the directions of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, a 100-day special drive was launched in February 2022, which will conclude on World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) on May 31, 2022.
- In this 100-day special campaign, various awareness programmes on tobacco control are being organized from village to state level. Debates, paintings and other competitions were organized in schools in villages across the state. The winners will be felicitated at a state-level event on May 31.
- Also in the drive, over 9.83 lakh people using tobacco products in public places across the state have been penalised under COTPA, 2003 by launching a mega drive from May 1.
- The joint director of the state health department said tobacco consumption in the state has come down by about 8%.
- It may be recalled that in 2003, a comprehensive tobacco control law [The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertising and Regulation of Trade, Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act - COTPA, 2003] was enacted, which aims to provide a smoke-free public space and to ban the advertising and promotion of tobacco.
- According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5 (2019-21), the number of men using any type of tobacco (15 years and above) is 42%, while in NFHS-4 (2015-16) it is 46.9%.

Rajasthan Architecture Festival

Why in News?

- On May 20, 2022, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the 'Rajasthan Architecture Festival' organised by the Rajasthan Chapter of the Indian Institute of Architects at Hotel Clarks, Amer in Jaipur.

Key Points

- Speaking on the occasion, Gehlot said that a panel of architects and town planners has been prepared by the state government to make cities planned as per the requirement of the next 20-25 years.

- Rajasthan is a state that has prepared master plans for all cities and modern building by-laws for the state.
- The Chief Minister said that former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had laid a strong foundation for the country's urban development by getting the Architects Act passed by the Parliament in the year 1972 and former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi by giving importance to the famous architect and city planner Charles Correa.
- Charles Correa had also done the design work of Jawahar Kala Kendra Bhawan to bring art and culture to the common people in Jaipur.
- In the function, Minister of Autonomous Government and Urban Development Shanti Kumar Dhariwal said that Jaipur Parkota has been included in the UNESCO World Heritage List only due to the efforts of the State Government.

Amargarh Leopard Reserve

Why In News

- On May 22, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the Amargarh Leopard Reserve from the Chief Minister's residence on The International Day of Bio-diversity.

Key Point

- Amargarh, a reserved forest section located on the Aravali mountain ranges, is a forest area spread over 1524 hectares. Being located in the middle of the state's first leopard reserve Jhalana and Nahargarh sanctuary, this is very important from the point of view of wildlife conservation and corridor development.
- There are about 15 leopards in this forest area, apart from this, the carnivorous wild animals are mainly hyena, jackal, wild cat, fox and civet cat. Among the herbivorous wild animals are the wild animals like sambhar, nilgai, rabbit etc.
- This forest area is a tropical, mixed/fall/monsoon forest area. There are vegetations like Totalis, Kumtha, Dhonk, Salar, Goya Khair etc. on the slope of Khejri hill in the sandy plain area.
- It may be noted that as a result of the efforts made by the Department in the field of wildlife conservation under Project Leopard, the number of leopards in the Jhalana Leopard Reserve has been steadily increasing after the year 2017. In 2018, while the number of leopards was around 20, the total number of leopards in the entire area is currently around 40.

Note:



Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Accident Insurance Scheme

Why In News

- On May 22, 2022, the first episode of the scheme was disposed of in Jodhpur by sanctioning an assistance of Rs.5 lakh under the **Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Accident Insurance Scheme** to the dependent insured family of the deceased in the Kaliberi mine accident.

Key Point

- The families of the state registered under this **scheme** will get health insurance of Rs 10 lakh, accident insurance of Rs 5 lakh and the female head of the family will get a smartphone with three years of internet connectivity under the **Mukhyamantri Digital Seva Yojana**.
- Under the scheme, expensive treatments like liver, heart, kidney, bone marrow transplant and cochlear implants are also available free of cost.
- It may be mentioned that the '**Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Accident Insurance Scheme**' was announced by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in the **Budget year 2022-23**, which is being implemented from May 1, 2022.

Raj Olive Store

Why in News?

- On May 23, 2022, Rajasthan Agriculture Minister Lalchand Kataria inaugurated the 'Raj Olive Store' at Durgapura Research Centre complex in Jaipur.

Key Points

- The store has been opened to ensure availability of organic vegetables and various olive products to the general public.
- Additionally high grade honey, oil and vinegar made from olives with pure water and organic vegetables are also available at a reasonable price in the store.
- The vegetables in this store are supplied from the Centre of Agricultural Excellence at Bassi of the Department of Agriculture.

- It is worth mentioning that olive oil is a great source of various nutrients. Apart from vitamins A, D, E and K, it contains carbohydrates, proteins, alpha linoleic acid, oleic acid and omega-9 fatty acids, polyunsaturated fatty acids, which are beneficial in cancer, heart disease, diseases associated with bones, diabetes, etc.

Rajivika's Women's Organic Products to be certified

Why in News?

- On May 24, 2022, an MoU was signed between Rajivika and Rajasthan State Seed and Biological Certification Institute for certification of organic products produced by the women self-help groups of Rajivika.

Key Points

- Under the MoU, organic products produced by women self-help groups of Rajivika will be certified by the State Seed and Biological Certification Agency.
- 2780 hectares of organic farming will be done in 353 villages of 19 blocks of eight districts by members of the Women Self Help Group formed by Rajivika.
- Certification of organic products of women farmers will make it easier to market certified organic products. This will pave the way for the economic self-reliance of women who produce these organic products as well as promote eco-friendly organic farming.
- Rajasthan Seeds and Certification Organization will provide support to self-help group women in organic farming and certification for a period of three years.

Amendments to the Agri-Processing, Agri-Business and Agri-Export Promotion Policy, 2019

Why in News?

- On May 26, 2022, the State Government issued a notification amending the Rajasthan Agri-Processing, Agri-Business and Agri-Export Promotion Policy, 2019, in the public interest.

Note:

Key Points

- According to the notification, the first 100 millets processing units to be set up under the Rajasthan Millets Incentive Mission announced in the budget for the financial year 2022-23, will be given 50 percent of the eligible project cost, subject to a maximum grant of Rs 40 lakh per unit, but in such projects which payable grants are excess to the Rs 40 lakh. will be given a grant of 25 percent.
- This provision will be applicable to all projects to be sanctioned in all DLSCs and SLSCs held after 23rd February, 2022 for disposal of pending grant cases.
- The grant will be payable on the units to be set up under the Rajasthan Millets Incentive Mission, till the mission period or the year 2023-24 or the period of setting up of 100 units, whichever is earlier. After achieving the target of the units prescribed in the mission, the rate of grant will be payable on all pending applications as per the provisions of the Policy, 2019.
- Similarly, 50 percent grant will be payable to the applicants of all categories (agriculturists, their organizations and other eligible persons besides these) for the food processing units to be set up under the Rajasthan Food Processing Mission announced in the budget 2022-23.
- This grant is given to the units that are to be set up in Pratapgarh, Chittorgarh, Kota, Baran for garlic, Barmer and Jalore for pomegranate, Jhalawar and Bhilwara for orange, Jaipur for tomato and gooseberry, Alwar for mustard, Bharatpur, Dholpur, Karauli and Sawai-Madhapur districts. This grant will be payable for the mission period or till the year 2023-24, whichever is earlier.
- In Jodhpur division, 50 percent of the capital grant cost or a maximum of Rs 2 crore will be given to the first ten processing units based on export of cumin and Isabgol. This grant will also be payable for the mission period or till the year 2023-24, whichever is earlier.
- The process of grant for these units of Cumin and Isabgol to be set up under the mission will be decided separately. After achieving the target of the units prescribed in the mission, the rate of grant will be payable on all pending applications as per the provisions of the Policy, 2019.

Governor Inaugurates 'Shikhar Parv' and dedicates 'Heritage Architects Painting Exhibition'

Why in News?

- On May 25, 2022, Governor Kalraj Mishra inaugurated the three-days 'Shikhar Parv' organised by The West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur at Raj Bhavan, Mount Abu and dedicated the 'Heritage Architect Chitra Exhibition' organized under 'Shikhar Parv'.

Key Points

- The 'Heritage Architect Picture Exhibition' showcases 20 artworks.
- Kiran Soni Gupta, director of the Western Zone Cultural Centre, said that the paintings have been exhibited as part of its art concerns with heritage conservation.
- He said that while staying at home in the time of 'Heritage Art Camps' and Covid, these artifacts were created by painters from different states of the country. They have been exhibited at various places before.
- It is worth mentioning that in the artworks displayed, the artists have created a rare world of beauty from the lines with the color-architecture of the particular place. These include temples, palaces, mosques, baodis, the architecture of the buildings built in the hilly region, their beauty, which have been brought to life by the artists from their art-point of view.

City of Mordhwaj to be Made a Tourist City

Why in News?

- On May 27, 2022, the Rajasthan government has issued a financial sanction of Rs 2.5 crore for development work and maintenance of historical sites in Gadhora, the hometown of Raja Mordhwaj in Karauli district of the state.

Key Points

- For this purpose, the Government has made the Department of Archaeology the executive agency.

Note:

- It may be mentioned that the Tourism Development Committee of Garhmora has been continuously striving to preserve the look of this historic site for the last two decades.
- The restoration of the fort and the palace will revive the glorious history of the city of King Mordhwaj, as well as save the historical heritage from being razed and tourism will be promoted in the area.

Nehru Youth Transit Hostel and Facilitation Centre

Why in News?

- On May 30, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the proposal for construction and operation of the 250-room 'Nehru Youth Transit Hostel and Facilitation Centre' in Delhi .

Key Points

- Ashok Gehlot has taken this big decision to provide relief to the students of low income groups of Rajasthan who are preparing for competitive examinations and staying in Delhi.
- He said that the construction of a hostel at Udaipur House in Delhi at a cost of Rs.330 crore will facilitate the stay of 500 low income group students from Rajasthan who are staying in Delhi to prepare for various competitive examinations and pursue career counselling.
- It may be mentioned that in order to build a better future for the youth of the state, the Chief Minister had announced the opening of Nehru Youth Transit Hostel and Facilitation Centre in Delhi in the State Budget 2022-23 .

Luv-Kush Vatika

Why in News?

- On May 24, 2022, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in a review meeting of the forest department directed to develop Lav-Kush Vatika in every district to promote eco-tourism in the state.

Key Points

- It will cost about Rs.2-2 crore to develop the Luv-Kush Vatika in each district.

- The Chief Minister directed the forest officials to set up models related to forest and wildlife in the vatika/gardens so that children can be taught about environment and wildlife conservation.
- The Chief Minister directed to ensure timely completion of all the announcements in a planned manner, take strict steps to prevent incidents of poaching of wildlife in the forest area and to make the tourists visiting the sanctuary aware about the safety of wildlife.
- He reviewed the progress of wildlife management training centre at Talchapar Sanctuary in Churu, development of Chambal Gharial Sanctuary for tourism, commissioning of 'Panshree Kailash Sankhla Smriti Van' at Jodhpur, construction of City Nature Park at Fatehpur-Sikar among others.
- In the meeting, Principal Government Secretary, Forest and Environment, Shri Shikhar Agarwal informed that necessary action will be initiated to ban the use of single use plastic from July 1, 2022.

RSLDC's 'CXO Conclave'

Why in News?

- On May 24, 2022, a 'CXO Conclave' was organized by the Rajasthan Skill and Livelihood Development Corporation (RSLDC), in which there was a brainstorming on providing better employment options to the youth by trending in line with the demand of the industry.

Key Points

- RSLDC Chairman and Managing Director Dr. Arushi Malik describing the existing youth workforce in the state as a strength, said that Rajasthan skills competition is also being considered to make the youth more competitive.
- The event, organized under the Deendayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana, saw technical sessions on automotive, retail, health and logistics.
- During the event, various industries, Regional Skill Councils, training providers, industry associations and other stakeholders related to skill development participated in the panel discussion and apprised them of their needs and suggested to make desired changes in the courses accordingly.

Note:

- He stressed on connecting training programmes to the industry and imparting practical knowledge to the youth by conducting 'on-job training'.
- At the event, Minister of State for Skill, Entrepreneurship and Planning Ashok Chandna felicitated Anambika Joshi and Ashok Verma as 'Skill Icons' and handed over job offer letters in various companies to the 7 candidates who have completed the training.

e-Vehicle Policy

Why in News?

- On May 24, 2022, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the Rajasthan Electric Vehicle Policy (REVP). It also approved the proposed one-time contribution to encourage purchase of such vehicles and an additional budget provision of Rs.40 crore for SGST recharge.

Key Points

- It may be mentioned that the chief minister had announced to bring in an electric vehicle policy in the budget for the year 2019-20.
- As per the announcement, with the re-payment of SGST to the buyers of these vehicles, rs 5 to 10,000 per vehicle will be given to two-wheelers as per battery capacity and Rs 10,000 to Rs 20,000 per vehicle to three-wheelers as per battery capacity as a one-time grant to encourage purchase of such vehicles.
- E-vehicles in the state have also been excluded from the ambit of motor vehicle tax. The new policy provides for all types of recharge to e-vehicle vendors within 7 days.
- With the implementation of this policy, pollution caused by diesel-petrol vehicles in the state will be reduced.

National Co-operative Spices Fair, 2022

Why in News?

- On May 9, 2022, the ten-day National Co-operative Spices Fair, 2022 organized at Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur came to an end. It started on 30 April.

Key Points

- In this fair, the committees have been rewarded in terms of business and display. Among these top organizations on the basis of sales, Confed stood at first place, Tilam Sangh at second place and Jaipur Dairy at third place.
- Bhinmal got first place, second place Mathania and third place was Abu Road in the purchase and sale cooperative societies. Similarly, in the category of district consumer stores, Kota, Udaipur and Jodhpur stood first, second and third respectively.
- On the basis of best display, KRIBHCO, IFFCO among national level institutions and Rajfed, Confed, Tilam Sangh, Jaipur Dairy and Apex Bank were awarded among top cooperative institutions.
- The cooperatives of Marketfed Kerala, Erode, Punjab, Tanfed Tamil Nadu were awarded for the sale and display of state specific products and spices.
- In the category of district consumer stores, Udaipur, Sriganganagar and Kota stood first, second and third respectively. Similarly, in the category of KVSS, Nagaur, Abu Road and Jodhpur stood first, second and third respectively.

Inauguration and Player Felicitation Ceremony at SMS Stadium

Why in News?

- On May 29, 2022, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the **Rajasthan High Performance Sports and Rehabilitation Centre**, renovated synthetic hockey astroturf and badminton indoor hall at the Inauguration and Player Felicitation Ceremony at Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur.

Key Points

- At the same time, the Chief Minister felicitated the medal winners of Rajasthan in Olympics and Para-Olympics and those who have qualified in Asian Games, 2022 and Commonwealth Games, 2022.
- Apart from this, the Chief Minister launched an online portal to give grants to the medal winning sportspersons.

Note:



- The Chief Minister said that about 229 sportspersons of Rajasthan who have excelled, have been given appointments in government services under the out-of-turn policy, along with a provision of 2 per cent reservation for sportspersons.
- He said that the Arjuna and Dronacharya Awardees along with medal winners of Olympics, Para-Olympics, Asian and Commonwealth Games will be given sports person pension.
- The Chief Minister also announced allotment of 25-25 bighas of land (free of cost) to Olympic and Para-Olympic medal winners and to increase the prize money of Guru Vashishtha and Maharana Pratap Awards.

India's First Hybrid Power Plant Started in Jaisalmer

Why in News?

- On May 28, 2022, Vineet S. Jain, MD and CEO of Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL), informed that Adani Hybrid Energy Jaisalmer Forest Limited (AHEJOL), a subsidiary of AGEL, has started a 390 MW hybrid power plant in Jaisalmer with a combination of wind and solar energy, the **first of its kind hybrid power generation plant in the country**.

Key Points

- The new plant has a power purchase agreement (PPA) with the **Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)**, with a tariff of Rs 2.69 per kW, which is significantly lower than the **Average Power Purchase Cost (APPC)** at the national level.
- With the successful commissioning of the plant, the operational capacity of Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) has gone up to 5.8 GW. This is a milestone towards AGEL's total renewable portfolio of 20.4 GW fulfilling its vision of 45 GW capacity by 2030.
- Vineet S. Jain pointed out that the integrated hybrid power plant through solar and wind power generation harnesses the full potential of renewable energy by resolving the production gap and provides a more reliable solution to meet the growing power demand.
- The project is a part of the first construction facility by international banks in Adani Green.

Khelo India University Games, 2021: Kota University wins men's kabaddi gold medal

Why In News?

- Kota University (Rajasthan) won the gold medal by defeating Chaudhary Bansi Lal University (Haryana) in the final of the men's kabaddi competition at the Khelo India University Games, 2021 held in Bengaluru on May 3, 2022.

Key Point

- Kota University took the lead to force their opponents to be all out and won by a margin of 15 points to clinch their first gold medal in the Games.
- At the same time, in the final of the women's kabaddi competition, Kurukshetra University (Haryana) won the title by defeating Maharishi Dayanand University (Haryana).
- It may be mentioned that the Khelo India University Games, 2021 were held in Bengaluru from April 24 to May 3, 2022.
- Khelo India Youth Games was launched with the aim of encouraging young students to participate in various sports events and to play them.
- The first edition of the Khelo India Youth Games was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 31, 2018. In the year 2019, the khelo india school games were renamed as khelo india youth games.

The Chief Minister approved the proposal to open 3 new tehsils and 1 sub-tehsil in the state

Why In News?

- On May 4, 2022, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved the administrative proposals to open 3 new tehsils and 1 sub-tehsil for the expansion and strengthening of administrative units in the state.

Note:

Key Points

- As per the proposal, three new tehsils – Jhanwar, Kudi Bhagtasani and Ghantiali in Jodhpur and one new sub-tehsil Moongana will be created in Pratapgarh.
- Approval has been given for creation of new tehsil Jhanwar office and Patwar mandals, land records inspector circles in Jodhpur district. Jhanwar's jurisdiction includes 3 land records inspector circles, 14 patwar circles and 79 revenue villages.
- Approval has also been given to upgrade sub-tehsil of Jodhpur district Kudi Bhagtasani as new tehsil and sub-tehsil Ghantiali as new tehsil.
- Three land records inspector circles, 11 patwar circles and 24 revenue villages are being included in the jurisdiction of Kudi Bhagtasani. On the other hand, 5 land records inspector circles, 17 patwar circles and 46 revenue villages have been included under the jurisdiction of Ghantiali.
- Similarly, the Chief Minister has also approved the administrative proposal for creation of a new sub-tehsil Moongana in Pratapgarh district. Its jurisdiction will include 4 land records inspector circles (1 full and 3 partial), 9 patwar circles and 45 revenue villages.
- It is noteworthy that during the Finance and Appropriation Bill discussion during the budget session 2022-23 by the Chief Minister, the announcement of the creation of a new office was made in point number 86.



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Note:



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Key Points

Details

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