



STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

RAJASTHAN

**APRIL
2023**

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

Inquiry (English): 8010-440-440

Inquiry (Hindi): 8750-187-501

Website: www.drishtias.com

Email: help@groupdrishti.in

Content

● A special Task Force (Anti Cheating) will be formed in SOG.....	3
● New Medical Colleges will be established in Pratapgarh, Jalore and Rajsamand	3
● Provision of Rs 750 crore for the 'Mukhya Mantri Gas Cylinder' Scheme	3
● 'Rajasthan Gaurav' felicitation ceremony	4
● Hybrid Napier Grass in all Gram panchayats' Exhibition of the state.....	4
● Scotch Award to Social Justice and Empowerment Minister	4
● Rs. 736 crore Interest Subsidy approved for the farmers of Rajasthan	5
● 4 Celebrities of the State Honored with Padma Shri.....	5
● An agreement was signed between the State Government and the French Development Agency	6
● Cricket Stadium inaugurated in Thikaria	7
● The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence & Economic Offenses will be formed.....	7
● Proposal of about Rs 463 Crore Approved Under 'Rajasthan Micro Irrigation Scheme'	8
● New Police Offices, Police Stations and Outposts will be Opened in the State.....	8
● Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Launched the Helpline of Departmental 'Whatsapp Chatbot'	9
● Public Holiday Declared on Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jayanti.....	9
● 2000 Tax Mitras will be Appointed in the State	9
● Approval for opening 203 new Sub-Health Centers in the state.....	10
● Grant of 1000 Crore rupees will be given for Protected Cultivation in the state	10
● Rajasthan ranks 1st in State Energy Efficiency Index 2021-22	10
● 'Open House Stakeholders Dialogue' was organized	11
● Release of the book 'Aapni Dharohar-Aapno Gaurav'.....	12
● Rajasthan's most of the Government Schools selected in 'PM Shri Yojana'	12
● Ajmer Discom Joined the Leading Discoms of the Country.....	13
● Rajasthan's 1st Vande Bharat Train	14
● RTDC Meeting organized regarding the Implementation of the Announcements of the Budget 2023-24.....	14
● Administrative, Financial and Technical Approval issued for the Construction Work of 'NRI Club-21' worth about Rs 30 crore.....	15
● Formation of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Sikh Welfare Board in Rajasthan	16
● State-Level Ambedkar Award Distribution Function	17
● Different Categories in Rajasthan will get up to 50% discount on Rent	17
● Rajasthan gets honoured for Excellent Work under PM Crop Insurance Scheme	17
● The Rajasthan CM inaugurated International Center.....	18
● Bus driver of Rajasthan Transport Corporation honored with 'Heroes on the Road' award at National Level ...	18
● Speaker constituted 19 Committees	19
● State-level online Lottery drawn under Krishak Upahar Yojana.....	20
● Rajasthan Housing Board to be honored with 'Times Real Estate Conclave' Awards	20
● Inauguration of National Health Fair at JECC	21
● Rs 592 Crore sanctioned for Various Schemes for Farmers' Progress.....	21
● Inauguration of Raj Matsya Yojana Portal.....	22
● Inauguration of registration portal & website of Inflation Relief Camp.....	22
● 1 lakh Farmers in the state will get Grants for Fencing.....	23
● Inflation Relief Camps Started across the State	24
● GITB 2023	24
● Inauguration of Baba Chuharsiddh Lavkush Vatika in Alwar	25
● Rajasthan Housing Board got National Award for Real Estate	25

A special Task Force (Anti Cheating) will be formed in SOG

Why in News?

According to the information given by the Rajasthan Information and Public Relations Department on March 31, 2023, the state government has taken strict steps to stop the paper leak cases in competitive examinations and take strict action against the culprit, Special Task Force (anti-cheating) is being formed in Special Operation Group (SOG).

Key Points

- With this decision, unemployed and hardworking candidates will get justice and fairness will be maintained in the examinations.
- Apart from this, effective investigation in cases related to cheating will help to give punishment to the criminals.
- The Chief Minister has also approved the financial proposal for the creation of 39 new posts and the resources necessary for the operation of this task force. These new posts include one post each of Superintendent of Police and Additional Superintendent of Police and various other posts.
- This task force will be equipped with modern resources. Through this, strict action will be ensured against the guilty candidates and institutions in the cases of paper leak.
- It is noteworthy that the announcement in this regard was made by the Chief Minister in the budget 2023-24.
- It may be noted that the Rajasthan Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Bill, 2022 has been passed by the State Government in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly. In this, strict provisions have been made like imprisonment of examinees, debarred from public examinations and demolition of the property of the culprits.

New Medical Colleges will be established in Pratapgarh, Jalore and Rajsamand

Why in News?

On April 2, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a proposal to set up new medical colleges in Pratapgarh, Jalore and Rajsamand districts.

Key Points

- It is known that the state government has given permission to open a medical college to strengthen basic medical services and to work towards providing better medical facilities to the general public.
- New medical colleges will be established under the Rajasthan Medical Education Society (RajMES) in Pratapgarh, Jalore and Rajsamand. Each medical college will be constructed at a cost of Rs 250 crore.
- Apart from this, Rs 75 crore will be spent on necessary equipment, furniture and books in these colleges.
- With this decision, the health infrastructure in the state will be strengthened.
- It is noteworthy that in the budget year 2023-24, it was announced to establish medical colleges in Pratapgarh, Jalore and Rajsamand.

Provision of Rs 750 crore for the 'Mukhya Mantri Gas Cylinder' Scheme

Why in News?

On 1 April 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a financial proposal of Rs 750 crore under the 'Chief Minister Gas Cylinder Scheme', under this initiative the families included in the BPL and Ujjwala scheme of the state will now get gas cylinders for Rs 500.

Key Points

- Under the 'Mukhya Mantri Gas Cylinder Scheme', eligible beneficiaries will be able to get one cylinder per month at a discounted price from April 1, 2023. This will benefit more than 73 lakh families in the state.

Note:

- The state government under this scheme will give a subsidy of Rs 410 per gas cylinder to the families having gas connections in the Ujjwala scheme. The BPL gas connection holders will get a subsidy of Rs 610 per gas cylinder.
- The subsidy amount will be transferred to the account of the beneficiary linked with Jan's Aadhaar when he himself purchases the cylinder. Even the beneficiaries who register after April 1, 2023, will also get the benefit of this scheme.
- It is to be mentioned that Chief Minister Shri Gehlot announced in the 2023-24 budget to provide a cylinder for Rs 500 to the families under BPL and Ujjwala scheme.
- A large number of people in the state will get relief from inflation and their economic situation will improve with this decision.

'Rajasthan Gaurav' felicitation ceremony

Why in News?

On 3 April 2023, Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra honoured talents from various fields with 'Rajasthan Gaurav' at 'The Rajasthan Gaurav' ceremony organized by Sanskriti Yuva Sanstha at a private hotel.

Key Points

- It is worth mentioning that the 'Rajasthan Gaurav' honour ceremony has been organized by Sanskriti Yuva Sanstha for the last 28 years.



- The Governor honoured with 'Pride of Rajasthan' to the Kargil war hero retired Colonel V.S. Balothia, Senior IAS Ajitabh Sharma, Rajeev Pachar of Indian Police Service, Ashu Singh Rathore of Indian Engineering Service, Nitin Kumar Jaiman of Indian

Revenue Service, Superintendent of Sawai Mansingh Hospital Achal Sharma, Young Entrepreneur of Dubai Ankit Jain, Chairman of Shiv Vilas Resort Late Brijmohan Sharma, International Woodball player Ajay Singh, Maand singer Begum Batul, IT professional Sudeep, Businessmen Pratap Singh & Ravindra Pratap Singh, football player Ajay Singh Meena etc.

Hybrid Napier Grass in all Gram panchayats' Exhibition of the state

Why in News?

On 3 April 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the proposal to organize an exhibition of hybrid Napier Grass (Perennial Fodder Crop) in all the gram panchayats of the state under the 'Rajasthan Seed Production and Distribution Mission' (RSPDM).

Key Points

- Under the Rajasthan Seed Production and Distribution Mission, the exhibition of hybrid Napier grass will be planted in 0.2-hectare land in each Gram panchayat, progressive farmers, Department's farm, Agricultural Training Center (ATC) and major Gaushalas. For this, Rs 23 crore will be spent on the 'Farmers Welfare Fund'.
- It is notable that the state government has taken many important decisions in the interest of the farmers to work with commitment for their all-around development and many innovations have taken place in the agriculture sector. An announcement in this regard was made by Ashok Gehlot in the budget of 2023-24.
- It is known that hybrid Napier grass is a perennial fodder crop. It can be grown in all types of climates and soil. It is a better animal feed option for farmers and cattle rearers.

Scotch Award to Social Justice and Empowerment Minister

Why in News?

On 4 April 2023, Rajasthan's Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Tikaram Julie was presented with the national level prestigious Scotch Award, which includes one gold and two silver awards received by

Note:

departmental officials. Minister Tikaram Julie again dedicated this award to the departmental officers.

Key Points

- Six major innovations have been selected for the award after testing them at different stages for providing services in the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment in an easily accessible, transparent and hassle-free manner.
- It may be noted that the Scotch Award is a national-level prestigious award, in which the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment has been honored with one Gold and two Silver Awards. Received three awards and three Order of Merit certificates.
- Under these awards, Gold Award has been given in Palanhar Yojana, North Matric Scholarship and Silver Award in Mukhyamantri Kanyadan Yojana. Apart from this, three schemes namely Corona Sahayata Yojana, Social Security Pension Scheme and Anuprati Yojana have been honoured by giving Order of Merit Certification.
- It is worth noting that the innovations of the Social Justice and Empowerment Department have been recognized at the national level and a digital certificate and citation were provided by the Scotch Award team at the national level Scotch Award Digital Ceremony was organized to recognize the innovation in the schemes.
- The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment is providing public services to its 1 crore 10 lakh beneficiaries in an easy, simple, quick, transparent, hassle-free, quality and convenient manner and financial assistance of about Rs 12,000 crore every year directly into the accounts of the beneficiaries without any corruption. For this, the work of simplification and digitization of administrative processes is being done by the department to make the benefits of the schemes accessible to the beneficiaries through technical innovations using information technology.

Rs. 736 crore Interest Subsidy approved for the farmers of Rajasthan

Why in News?

On 4 April 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a financial proposal of Rs 736 crore to provide interest-free crop loans to farmers.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister has approved a grant amount of Rs 560 crore for the farmers under the interest-free crop loan grant scheme and Rs 176 crore under the compensatory interest grant scheme.
- With this decision of the Chief Minister, farmers of the state will be able to get interest-free loans. This will increase their income and their standard of living will be better.
- A 5 percent interest subsidy will be given to the farmers who repay the long-term agriculture cooperative loan on time. Along with this, approval has been given to give subsidies on housing loans to the farmers who have built houses on their farms.
- In this, from 1 April 2014, the farmers who repay the long-term agricultural cooperative loans on time will get a 5 percent interest subsidy every year from the state government. Along with this, from the financial year 2023-24, a 5 percent interest subsidy will be given every year to the farmers who have taken housing loans to build houses on their farms.
- It is notable that in the budget 2023-24, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot announced an interest-free crop loan distribution scheme and interest subsidy for farmers.

4 Celebrities of the State Honored with Padma Shri

Why in News?

On 5 April 2023, President Draupadi Murmu honoured 4 personalities from Rajasthan with Padma Shri at the Padma Awards (second edition) held at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

Key Points

- In the second edition of the Padma Awards, eminent personalities for their outstanding work in the field of social work, Public Life, Science, Engineering, Business, Industry, Medicine, Literature, Education, Sports, Civil Services and arts were honoured with the country's best civilian awards Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri.
- It is noteworthy that the names of the winners of these awards were announced on 25 January 2023. Those winners were awarded at the first edition of

Note:

the Padma Awards ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan on March 22. The remaining awardees are now conferred with the Padma Awards by the President.

- The awardees of the state include Ahmed Hussain & Mohammad Hussain for their excellent work in the field of ghazal singing & classical music, social worker Moolchand Lodha of Dungarpur for social work and Laxman Singh Lapodia of Jaipur for excellent work in the social sector itself.
- Moolchand Lodha, who belongs to the tribal-dominated Bangar area of the Dungarpur district, runs an organization called Jagran Jan Seva Mandal for the upliftment of tribals. Moolchand Lodha has been working continuously for the last 5 decades for the medical, education and welfare of tribals in the tribal and backward areas of this region. He has been given Padma Shri for the year 2023 for his excellent work.
- The first album Guldasta of Ghazal singers Ahmed Hussain and Mohammad Hussain brothers was released in 1980 and till now they have released more than 50 albums. He was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in the year 2000.
- Hussain brothers have also contributed a lot in social service by giving charity shows of Ghazals and classical music all over the world.
- Laxman Singh Lapodia was also awarded the Padma Shri by the President on March 22 during the first edition of the Padma Awards ceremony.
- He has done excellent work in the field of water conservation in the Jaipur district. For water conservation, 5 lakh square meters of land have been irrigated and made fertile by the traditional Chowka method. He has done remarkable work for water conservation in about 100 villages in the area.



An agreement was signed between the State Government and the French Development Agency

Why in News?

In a meeting held at the Government Secretariat in Jaipur on 5 April 2023, State Chief Secretary Usha Sharma told that an agreement has been reached between the state government and the French Development Agency, in which, the plantation will be done on a large scale under the 'Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Development Project' to be implemented in collaboration with the French Development Agency, which will increase the green area of the state.

Key Points

- On this occasion, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Dr. D.N. Pandey and Bosle Bruno, Country Director of the French Development Agency in India, signed the agreement.
- The 'Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Development Project' will start a new era in the forestry and biodiversity sector of the state. For this, the French Development Agency was assured that the state government would achieve all the targets in the stipulated time while ensuring the quality of the project.
- Under this ambitious project of the Forest Department, Rs 1693.91 crore will be spent in 13 districts in the next 8 years, of which 70 percent (Rs 1185.28 crore) will be borne by the French Development Agency and 30 percent (Rs 508.62 crore) by the state government.
- Project Director Munish Kumar Garg told that various works will be done under the project in Bharatpur, Kota, and Tonk along with Alwar, Baran, Bhilwara, Bundi, Dausa, Dhaulpur, Jaipur, Jhalawar, Karauli and Sawai Madhopur districts of the state. Along with plantation in a 55000-hectare area, apart from the authorized areas of the Forest Department, 55 lakh saplings will also be distributed in the outer areas.
- Extensive development works will be done in Bharatpur's Kevaladeo National Park, Bisalpur, Tonk and Kota Conservation Reserves, Kota's Bhainsrodgarh Sanctuary, Bundi's Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary and Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve to create

Note:

an environment conducive to uninterrupted life of animals. About 610 kilometres of borders in forest areas will be protected by concrete walls.



Cricket Stadium inaugurated in Thikaria

Why in News?

On 6 April 2023, Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Dr. C.P. Joshi's chief hospitality and Rajasthan Cricket Association President Vaibhav Gehlot inaugurated the newly constructed cricket stadium at Thikaria in Banswara district of the state, which has been announced to be named after Haridev Joshi.

Key Points

- This stadium has been constructed from MNREGA and SFC funds, for the maintenance of which an MoU was signed between the district administration and the Rajasthan Cricket Association.
- It is known that many cricket players of Banswara made a different identity in cricket not only in the state but also at the international level. With the construction of this cricket stadium, sports talents here will get a chance to come forward.
- In the program, Minister of State for Sports Ashok Chandna said that the state government has made a tax provision of Rs.500 crores in the budget to encourage sports and sportspersons and is giving 2 percent reservation to sportspersons in government jobs.
- It is notable that Haridev Joshi (1921-1995) has been a popular politician, freedom fighter, and journalist from Rajasthan. Joshi had actively contributed to the media world through journalism for many years in the

tribal areas of the state. Later he not only became the Chief Minister of Rajasthan but also held the post of Governor of Assam, Meghalaya and West Bengal.



The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence & Economic Offenses will be formed

Why in News?

On 6 April 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the proposal regarding the formation of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and Economic Offenses for the prevention of economic crimes in the state and for monitoring the sources of revenue more strongly.

Key Points

- The Nodal and Administrative Department of the Directorate at the state level will be the Finance (Revenue) Department.
- Major functions of the Directorate-
 - The tasks of control, research, investigation and prosecution of economic crimes will be done by the directorate.
 - In this, those who commit illegal occupation of land, fraud or irregularity in real estate, fraud or irregularity in bank, insurance or deposit work, declaring false bankruptcy, formation of fake companies, fraud in the work of government credit societies will be clamped down.
 - In addition, data on revenue leakage in the state will be gathered from various sources, analyzed, and probed. Work-related to monitoring all sources of revenue and preventing tax evasion will also be done.

Note:

- One post of Director General/Commissioner, four posts of Additional Director, 10 posts of Joint Director, and 20 posts of Deputy Director will be created in the Directorate. These posts will be filled by deputation.
- It is noteworthy that the Directorate of State Revenue Intelligence is already operational in the state. At the same time, the Directorate of Economic Offences was announced in the budget 2022-23. Now by combining both, proper use of analytical ability will be possible in the investigation of human resources and crimes.

Proposal of about Rs 463 Crore Approved Under 'Rajasthan Micro Irrigation Scheme'

Why In News?

On April 8, 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a proposal of about Rs 463 crore under the 'Rajasthan Micro Irrigation Scheme' for the work of diggi, farm pond and irrigation pipeline etc. to strengthen the micro irrigation system in the state.

Key Points

- The target of benefiting 30 thousand farmers has been increased to 50 thousand for the construction of farm ponds in the next two years. A total of Rs 261.75 crore will be spent on this.
- In the scheme, non-small-marginal farmers belonging to Scheduled Caste-Tribes will also get 10 percent additional subsidy like small-marginal farmers.
- In order to encourage and provide strength to the farmers, the grant limit for construction of plastic lining farm ponds has also been increased from Rs 90 thousand to Rs 1.20 lakh.
- In the next two years, 40,000 farmers will be given subsidies for a 16,000 km irrigation pipeline. Rs 43.20 crore will be spent on this in the year 2023-24.
- At the same time, Rs 158 crore will be spent on the construction of 5000 coaches in the year 2023-24.
- It is noteworthy that in the budget 2023-24, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot had made announcements regarding the availability of irrigation water and strengthening the micro irrigation system.

New Police Offices, Police Stations and Outposts will be Opened in the State

Why In News?

On April 8, 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the opening of new police offices, police stations and outposts in the state, taking steps towards strengthening the law and order in the state and ensuring its easy access to the common man.

Key Points

- He has also given approval of about Rs 201 crore for the creation of 1369 posts for offices and necessary resources.
- With the decision of the Chief Minister, Additional Superintendent of Police offices will be opened at Vair (Bharatpur), Parbatsar (Nagaur), Khairwada (Udaipur), ADF (Dhaulpur) and Lalsot (Dausa).
- Similarly, Deputy Superintendent of Police offices will be opened at Arnod (Pratapgarh), Taleda (Bundi), Pahadi (Bharatpur), Gangashahar (Bikaner), Ramsar (Barmer), Baunli (Sawaimadhopur), Khandela (Sikar), Ajitgarh (Sikar), Siwana (Barmer) and Ahor (Jalore).
- New urban police stations will be opened at Vaishali Nagar (Alwar), Mukta Prasad Nagar (Bikaner), Shrinathji (Rajsamand), Gokulpura (Sikar) and Sadar Police Station Bayana (Bharatpur). Similarly, new rural police stations will be opened in Basdayal (Alwar), Hadan (Bikaner), Rahuwas (Dausa), Tanot (Jaisalmer) and Gothda (Jhunjhunu).
- Three new women's police stations will be opened at Didwana (Nagaur), Nawan (Nagaur) and Kotputli (Jaipur).
- 10 police outposts of the state have been upgraded to police stations. These include Angai (Dhaulpur), Mor (Tonk), Sultana (Jhunjhunu), Babai (Jhunjhunu), Januthar (Bharatpur), Nimbi Jodha (Nagaur), Badu (Nagaur), Dabla (Sikar), Kailashnagar (Sirohi) and Jajod (Sikar).
- 38 new police posts will also be opened in different districts of the state. With the creation of these police offices, police stations and outposts, the law and order in the state will be further strengthened.

Note:

Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Launched the Helpline of Departmental 'Whatsapp Chatbot'

Why in News?

On 10 April 2023, Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Tikaram Jolly virtually inaugurated 'Whatsapp Chatbot' to provide information and other facilities through WhatsApp to the beneficiaries related to departmental schemes using information technology in the field of m-governance.

Key Points

- Services related to Social Security, Pension Schemes, Scholarship Schemes, Palanhar, Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Scheme and Mukhyamantri Kanyadan Yojana are being made available at the initial level through WhatsApp chatbot.
- In the case of beneficiaries applying through E-Mitra, the fee is borne by the applicant, but applying on the link available through the WhatsApp chatbot can save both time and money with ease and ease.
- Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Tikaram Jolly said that the benefits of these schemes can be availed by applying on the departmental WhatsApp chatbot mobile number 9462745980.

Public Holiday Declared on Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jayanti

Why in News?

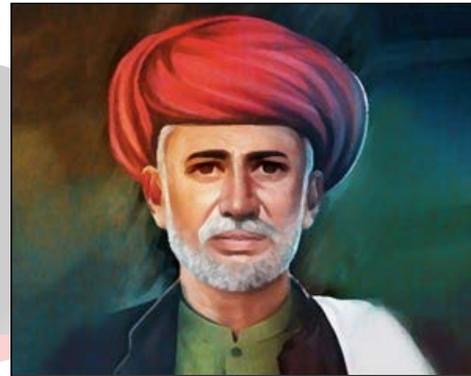
On 10 April 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the proposal of a public holiday on Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jayanti (April 11). Till now, Phule Jayanti was an optional holiday.

Key Points

- Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has taken this decision keeping in mind the sentiments of the common people and the demands of public representatives.
- It is known that Women and Child Development Minister Mamta Bhupesh, State President of

National Phule Brigade Team Rajasthan Dinesh Kumar Saini, Lokesh Malakar from Nagaur Parbatsar including various social organizations and people's representatives had demanded to declare a public holiday.

- It is noteworthy that Mahatma Phule played an important role in eradicating untouchability from the country and empowering society. He did the work of freeing society from evils, and connecting girls and Dalits with education. He also made organized efforts for the rights of farmers and labourers.
- It may be noted that on January 28, the optional holiday of Lord Shri Devnarayan Jayanti was also declared a public holiday by the state government. With this, now the number of public holidays in the state has increased to 30 and the number of optional holidays to 20.



2000 Tax Mitras will be Appointed in the State

Why in News?

On 10 April 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the proposal related to planning qualifications and fee fixation. To facilitate the applicants in the application process, the state government will appoint 2000 tax friends in the state.

Key Points

- Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has also approved the development of an Artificial Intelligence-based 'e-tax officer software platform' to provide the first-level facility of self-tax scrutiny to businessmen.
- After the Chief Minister's approval, it will now be easier to deposit Goods and Services Tax (GST) and Value Added Tax (VAT).

Note:

- The minimum educational qualification for Tax Mitra is graduation in commerce. Preference will be given to experienced applicants including CA, CS, and ICWA. The age limit has been fixed from 21 to 40 years.
- Tax Mitra will charge a fee for various tax-related application processes. This fee has also been fixed. In this, a fee of Rs 50 to Rs 400 has been kept for other works including GST, VAT application, amendment, ITC, e-way bill, subsidy application, and MSME application.
- It is noteworthy that the announcement in this regard was made by the Chief Minister in the budget for the year 2023-24 for ease of GST and VAT application procedures.

Approval for opening 203 new Sub-Health Centers in the state

Why in News?

On 10 April 2023, approval was issued by the Rajasthan Finance Department for opening 203 new sub-health centres in the state. With the opening of new sub-health centres, nearby citizens will be able to get the benefit of medical facilities close to their homes.

Key Points

- It is known that in the implementation of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot's budget announcement for 2022-23, approval has been issued to open 203 new sub-health centres including posts.
- 203 new sub-health centres are being opened in the state to expand medical facilities in remote rural areas of the state to provide medical facilities to the common man in the village itself.
- Apart from sanctioning Rs.30 lakh each for the construction work of each sub-health centre, 203 new posts of one female health worker have also been approved in each sub-health centre.

Grant of 1000 Crore rupees will be given for Protected Cultivation in the state

Why in News?

On 11 April 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a proposal to give a grant of Rs 1,000

crore to 60,000 farmers in two years to promote protected cultivation in the state.

Key Points

- This amount will be given for greenhouse, shade net house, low tunnel, and plastic mulching and this will give strength to the farmers.
- In the financial year 2023-24, a grant of Rs 501 crore will be given to 30 thousand farmers. In this Rs 444.43 crore will be borne from the Farmers Welfare Fund. In addition, Rs 56 crore (state share 22.75 crores) will be borne from the National Horticulture Mission/ National Agricultural Development Scheme.
- In the financial year 2024-25 also, 30 thousand farmers will get a grant of Rs 500 crore. In this, a 25 percent additional subsidy will also be given to the farmers of notified tribal areas and all small/marginal farmers.

Rajasthan ranks 1st in State Energy Efficiency Index 2021-22

Why in News?

On 10 April 2023, the Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, R.K. Singh released the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2021-22 report during the RPM (Review, Planning and Monitoring) meeting of States and State Utility Companies in New Delhi, in which Rajasthan topped the category along with four other states (> 60 marks).

Key Points

- Developed by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), in association with the Alliance for an Energy-Efficient Economy (AEEE), the index assesses the annual progress of states and union territories in energy efficiency implementation for the financial years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- SEEI 2021-22 has an updated framework of 50 indicators aligned with national priorities. Program-specific indicators have been included this year to monitor the outcomes and impacts of state-level energy efficiency initiatives.
- In the SEEI 2021-22, 5 states - Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan and Telangana are in

Note:

the frontrunner category (>60 points), while 4 states - Assam, Haryana, Maharashtra and Punjab are in the achievers' category (50-60 marks).

- Besides Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Chandigarh are the top-performing states in their respective state groups.
- Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have registered the most improvements since the last index.
- **State Energy Efficiency Index (SEI):**
 - The State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) monitors the progress of states of India in managing their energy footprint including operating energy efficiency policies & programs at the state and local levels.
 - SEEI improves data collection, enables cross-state collaboration and develops energy efficiency program ideas.
 - It helps states identify areas for improvement, learn from best practices and adopt an economy-friendly approach to energy efficiency implementation.
 - By prioritizing energy efficiency, it aims to drive carbon reduction efforts and achieve a more sustainable future.
 - The index is designed to help monitor progress toward state goals related to energy savings and emissions reductions.
- **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE):**
 - It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Power established by the Government of India on 1 March 2002 under the provisions of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001.
 - The mission of BEE is to assist in developing policies and strategies with an emphasis on self-regulation and market principles under the provisions of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001. Its primary objective is to reduce the energy intensity of the Indian economy.
 - To carry out the functions assigned under the Energy Conservation Act, BEE coordinates with designated consumers, designated agencies and other organizations, where it identifies, accredits and utilizes existing resources & infrastructure.
 - The Energy Conservation Act provides the mandate for regulatory and promotional functions.



'Open House Stakeholders Dialogue' was organized

Why in News?

According to the information provided by the Information and Public Relations Department of Rajasthan, on 11 April 2023, an 'Open House Stakeholders Dialogue' program was organized at the Rajiv Gandhi Center of Advanced Technology (R-CAT) in Jaipur.

Key Points

- This dialogue program has been organized to get inputs and insights from all the stakeholders to bring about a change in the technology ecosystem of the state. Through this, active, interdependent & integrated collaboration between the state government and the educational support industry will be strengthened.
- The open house will see the participation of all the existing and potential partners of R-Cat apart from academic institutions including RTUs, representatives of IT, allied industries and all other stakeholders to provide a better technical direction to the youth of the state.
- RCAT is ready to work with private institutions and universities to develop the means of employment through technical encouragement & technology of the state government so that a better technical education environment can be developed in the state and the youth of the state can get a better education.
- At present, due to the use of technology in industry, the need for skill-based education is developing. Keeping this in view, various models of technical education are being prepared in R-CAT.

Note:



- A panel discussion on various topics was organized on the occasion. Along with this, topics like the challenges of the current industry and harmony between education & technology were discussed in detail. The 'R-CAT IT Sites' newsletter was also released.
- Ashish Gupta, Managing Director of Rajiv Gandhi Center of Advanced Technology said that Rajasthan is a state with better conditions in the field of technical education. Through the use of various applications in government work and the use of SSO, the state has not only made the path of progress easier by making the best use of IT but has also developed means of employment.
- It is worth mentioning that R-Cat has partnered with companies like Adobe, Apple, Microsoft, EC-Council, SAS, RedHat, VMWare, Oracle, CISCO, and Autofina Robotics while MoU was also signed with Fitech Embedded Pvt Ltd today.



Release of the book 'Aapni Dharohar-Aapno Gaurav'

Why in News?

On 12 April 2023, the Art, Literature and Culture Minister of Rajasthan, Dr. B. D. Kalla released the book 'Aapni Dharohar-Aapno Gaurav' in his room located at Government Secretariat.

Key Points

- This book focuses on the panoramas being made by the Rajasthan Heritage Authority on the personality and work of Ranbankuras, legends, saints, folk deities and literary scholars across the state.
- On this occasion, Minister Dr. B. D. Kalla also inaugurated three documentaries made on Pannadhay Panorama, Bapparawal Panorama and Maharana Raj Singh Panorama.

- Along with this, the Minister of Art, Literature and Culture also released the special logo of the Rajasthan Heritage Authority. The symbols of devotion, power, heritage and literature have been included in this logo.
- In his address on the occasion, Dr. Kalla praised the content of the book and the quality of documentaries and said that they should be publicized as much as possible so that the citizens of the state can take inspiration from the ideals of these great personalities.



Rajasthan's most of the Government Schools selected in 'PM Shree Yojana'

Why in News?

According to the information given by the Rajasthan Information and Public Relations Department on 12 April 2023, Rajasthan has now selected the maximum number of government schools in the 'PM Shree Yojana' across the country, after having the distinction of consistently topping the performance in several parameters of educational development in the country.

Key Points

- In this scheme, 21 thousand 356 government schools in Rajasthan have been considered as benchmark schools. After online application in this scheme, Rajasthan has left behind other big states of the country by a considerable margin even in the category of nationally verified schools.
- In the first phase of PM Shree Yojana, a maximum of 402 government schools have been selected in Rajasthan, including 346 government schools of

Note:

secondary education and 56 government schools of primary education.

- A total of 718 schools in the state will be included in this scheme, out of which Rajasthan has achieved special success by selecting 56 percent of schools in the first phase itself. It is proposed to select the remaining schools in the second phase in July.
- It is worth noting that the benchmarks set for the selection of government schools under PM Shree Yojana include enrollment in schools in elementary setup (classes 1 to 5 and 1 to 8) and secondary setup (classes 6 to 12) in the state. More than average enrolment, pucca building of schools in good condition, separate toilets for boys and girls, arrangement of pure drinking water, a separate facility for washing hands, all teachers have an ID card as per guidelines, barrier-free access ramps Parameters such as the focus on security, electricity connection, library and facilities required for sports activities are included.
- Among these, the state government schools of Rajasthan have topped the whole country in primary scrutiny (21,356 schools), the first phase (402 schools) and total selection (718 schools) as per the guidelines of the scheme.
- Along with enrollment and innovations in the government schools of the state, this number was also on top in the whole country on parameters like school premises full of necessary facilities and resources for the students.
- The online portal of this scheme was started on 3 November 2022, till the last date of application, 31 December 2022, Rajasthan topped the country in getting applications from the state's benchmark government schools (21 thousand 356) under scrutiny.
- After online application, at the national level, Rajasthan left other big states of the country far behind by getting 13,931 government schools verified. After Rajasthan, 7892 schools in Andhra Pradesh, 7776 in Assam, 7054 in Uttar Pradesh, 4848 in Maharashtra, 4700 in Karnataka, 4632 in Punjab, 3483 in Madhya Pradesh, 2163 in Gujarat and 1704 in Uttarakhand were verified after online application.
- Commissioner of Rajasthan School Education Council and State Project Director Dr. Mohan Lal Yadav said that in the first phase of this scheme, out of

402 government schools in the assorted state, a maximum of 28 schools of Jaipur has been selected. There are 24 government schools in Jodhpur, 22 in Udaipur and 21 in Barmer.

- Similarly, 18-18 in Alwar and Nagaur, 15-15 in Bharatpur and Bhilwara, 14 in Ajmer, 13-13 in Shriganganagar, Chittorgarh and Sikar, 12 in Jhunjhunu, 11-11 in Banswara, Dausa and Pali, Bikaner, Baran, 10-10 in Dungarpur, Jalore and Jhalawar, 9-9 in Karauli, Kota, Pratapgarh and Hanumangarh, 8-8 in Tonk, Dholupar and Rajsamand, 7-7 in Churu, Jaisalmer and Sawai Madhopur, 6 in Sirohi and 5 in Bundi have been selected.

Ajmer Discom Joined the Leading Discoms of the Country

Why in News?

On 12 April 2023, Ajmer Discom jumped 8 places to the 19th position in the 11th Power Utilities Integrated Rating and Ranking for the financial year 2022, released by the Department of Energy, Government of India.

Key Points

- The name of Ajmer Discom has been included in the country's leading discoms only because of the campaign against electricity theft by Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited of Rajasthan and 100% revenue recovery.
- Earlier, Ajmer Discom was at 27th position, which has jumped 8 places to be at 19th position. Ajmer Discom has been leading among all the 3 Discoms of the state. In this ranking, Jaipur Discom has got 29th position and Jodhpur Discom has got 39th position.
- Ajmer Discom has improved its annual score from 21.5 to 62.1. Because of this, Ajmer Discom has also benefited from grading. The earlier grading of Ajmer Discom was 'C', which has now improved to 'B'.
- Significantly, on the basis of reduction in wastage and revenue reforms, the name of Ajmer Discom has now been included in the top discoms of the country. By promoting online payment, Ajmer Discom established new dimensions for electricity distribution companies by collecting almost 101 percent revenue. Along with this, by taking action against many of his innovations

Note:



and power thieves, the wastage of electricity has been limited to 10.40 percent.

- Discom's loss in the year 2018-19 was Rs 2793.83 crore. The team of Ajmer Discom has earned a profit of more than Rs 550 crore in the fiscal year 2021-22.
- And in the year 2018-19, the discom's wastage was 17.81 percent. Wastage was limited to only 10.40 percent by running a continuous campaign against power thieves.
- To reduce the wastage, many innovations were done by Ajmer Discom which proved to be successful indisputably. These mainly include installation of 4/6 meter boxes in power theft prone areas, installation of mini meter labs in all subdivisions, service line visible campaign, coordinate capturing, Adarsh GSS campaign, Adarsh feeder campaign, confiscation of illegal transformers, covering uncovered meter, including transformer repair lab in each sub-division is the main thing.

Rajasthan's 1st Vande Bharat Train

Why in News?

On 12 April 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi (via video conferencing), Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Governor Kalraj Mishra inaugurated the state's first Vande Bharat Train at Jaipur Railway Station and flagged off the train.

Key Points

- The first train of Vande Bharat Express for Rajasthan will run between Jaipur to Delhi Cantt Railway Station. The regular service of this train will commence from 13th April, 2023 and will run between Ajmer and Delhi Cantt with stoppages at Jaipur, Alwar and Gurgaon.
- The new Vande Bharat Express will cover the distance between Delhi Cantt and Ajmer in 5 hrs 15 mins. The current fastest train on this route is Shatabdi Express with a travel time of 6 hrs 15 mins from Delhi Cantt to Ajmer. Thus, the new Vande Bharat Express will take 60 minutes less time than the existing fastest train running on this route.
- The Ajmer-Delhi Cantt Vande Bharat Express will be the world's first semi-high speed passenger train on high

rise overhead electric (OHE) territory. This train will improve the rail connectivity of major tourist places of Rajasthan including Pushkar, Ajmer Sharif Dargah. The increased rail-connectivity will also give a boost to the socio-economic development in the region.

- This is Rajasthan's first semi high speed train, which will reduce the travel time between Jaipur and Delhi. On this occasion, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot urged the Railway Minister to connect the headquarters of Banswara, Tonk, Karauli etc. with railway facilities.
- The Chief Minister said that an MoU was signed between the Rajasthan government and the Railway Board for rail service between Dungarpur-Banswara-Ratlam. The foundation stone of the railway line was also laid in Banswara. For the first time, Rs 1250 crore was given by any state government including land for a major rail project. But this work of public interest did not progress further. He urged to give priority to this project.
- The Chief Minister said that in view of the importance of international border and national security, there is a need to construct a new rail line to connect Jaisalmer-Barmer with Mundra and Kandla ports. This new rail line will prove to be very beneficial for the work of the ongoing refinery in Barmer and the development of the western region as per the MoU signed by HPCL, a Central Government undertaking and the State Government.



RTDC Meeting organized regarding the Implementation of the Announcements of the Budget 2023-24

Why in News?

On 13 April 2023, a meeting of the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation was organized in connection

Note:



drishti

with the implementation of the announcements of the State Budget 2023-24 at the office located at Paryatan Bhawan in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Key Points

- On this occasion, Chairman of Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation, Dharmendra Rathore said that special tourism services are being made available to the tourists while continuously expanding tourism facilities in the state.
- In compliance with the announcement to make Dhola Maru Tourist Complex to promote tourism, the land marking and DPR work has been completed. With the formation of a tourist complex, facilities of international level hospitality, desert stay, hotel, camping sites, night park, amusement park etc. will be available in Jaisalmer at one place.
- To promote golf tourism in the state, in the budget year 2023-24 announcement, EOI was issued by RTDC for golf courses to be built in Udaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer-Pushkar, Mount Abu and Alwar. With the formation of international level golf courts in the state, Rajasthan will be able to develop as a destination for international golf competitions as well as become a leader in the field of high spending tourism.
- EOI has been issued by RTDC for setting up MICE (Meeting, Incentive, Conference, Exhibition) centers in Jaipur, Udaipur, Jodhpur and Ajmer in compliance with the budget announcement.
- Rajasthan state is emerging as a conference and wedding destination and establishment of MICE centers will give a new identity to the state in this field.
- With the intention of adding a new chapter in the form of water-based tourism activities in the tourism facilities of the state, 6 places are being developed as eco-adventure, in which Kanota Dam of Jaipur, Baretha Dam of Bharatpur, Kaylana and Surpura Dam of Jodhpur, Hemawas Dam of Pali, Kot Dam of Jhunjhunu are included. In this regard also EOI has been issued and instructions have been given to complete the work at the earliest.
- There is a plan to conduct water tourism activities on Ajmer's Foy Sagar lake and cruise on Chambal in front of Kota.
- In the meeting, detailed information was also given about the development of Pushkar as an

international camp city and the action plan for Pushkar Development Authority included in the Budget 2023-24 announcement.



Administrative, Financial and Technical Approval issued for the Construction Work of 'NRI Club-21' worth about Rs 30 crore

Why in News?

On 13 April 2023, Rajasthan Housing Commissioner and President of 'NRI Club-21' Pawan Arora told in the meeting of the executive committee constituted to make 'NRI Club-21' operational in Jaipur that the state's prestigious 'NRI Club-21' Administrative, financial and technical approval has been issued for the construction of about 30 crore rupees.

Key Points

- It is noteworthy that about 700 people had applied for membership of 'NRI Club-21', due to which the board has earned a revenue of about Rs 25 crore.
- To make the club functional, to develop and equip other facilities including necessary construction & development work, administrative & financial approval has been issued at the divisional level and in the coming days, the work of its rapid construction and equipment will be started.
- 'NRI Club-21' will be a unique club not only in Jaipur but also in the state with state-of-the-art facilities where members will get a chance to spend quality time. Developed on the basis of international standards, 25 rooms will be built in this club house,

Note:

where a bar, all-weather swimming pool and other facilities will be developed.

- On the basis of private participation only necessary facilities, including decorations, furnitures will be developed here.



Formation of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Sikh Welfare Board in Rajasthan

Why in News?

On 14 April 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved the formation of the Shri Guru Nanak Dev Sikh Welfare Board for specific social, economic & cultural upliftment and all-round development (welfare) of the Sikh community, a notified minority community, on Baisakhi festival. A notification regarding the constitution of the board has been issued by the Minority Affairs Department.

Key Points

- The Guru Nanak Dev Sikh Welfare Board constituted by the state government will have a total of 7 nominated members, of which there will be a president, a vice-president and 5 members. Also, representatives of various departments will join it as members. The Deputy Director level officer of the Minority Affairs Department will perform the work in the post of Secretary of the Board.
- The term of the chairman, vice-chairman and members of this board will be three years.
- The purpose of this board is to propose schemes for the upliftment of various sections of the people of

the Sikh community and to give suggestions regarding the promotion of employment.

- This board will also give suggestions on better implementation of welfare schemes for the Sikh community. Along with this, the board will also give suggestions to promote the art & culture of the Sikh community and to modernize the traditional businesses of the community.
- According to the notification, the board will continuously review the participation of the Sikh community in social, economic & educational schemes, the progress of new schemes for the community and the difficulties and solutions coming in their implementation.
- The work of this board is to identify the problems of different sections of the Sikh community, conduct surveys and work for their overall development. Its purpose is to propose various schemes for economic growth, upliftment, and welfare of the people of different sections of the Sikh community and to suggest measures to promote employment.
- Along with this, the work of the board is to prepare draft plans related to the development of different sections of the Sikh community by sending them to the state government with its recommendation, to suggest concrete measures against the social evils and malpractices of the Sikh community to the state government with recommendations, to co-ordinate with various departments and give suggestions for better implementation of various welfare schemes for the Sikh community.
- Apart from this, the main tasks of the board are to give suggestions for upgrading the present status of the traditional business of the Sikh community, methods of change in the situation from a modern point of view, to suggest measures to promote the art and culture of the Sikh community, to suggest the government to provide better employment opportunities/facilities to the Granthis/Sevaks and employees working as personnel in the religious and social institutions and trusts of the Sikh community.
- The administrative department of the Shri Guru Nanak Dev Sikh Welfare Board will be the Minority Affairs Department.

Note:

State-Level Ambedkar Award Distribution Function

Why in News?

On 14 April 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot distributed awards to various people at the state-level Ambedkar Award distribution ceremony under the 'Workshop to make budget announcements accessible to the general public' at Birla Auditorium, Jaipur.

Key Points

- During this, the Chief Minister honoured Natthulal Verma with Ambedkar Seva Puraskar, Sunita Chhabra with Ambedkar Mahila Kalyan Puraskar and Advocate Harilal Bairwa with Ambedkar Justice Puraskar.
- On this occasion, the school children of the state who got first place in various categories were also rewarded.
- In the workshop, the Chief Minister discussed literature related to the life of Mahatma Gandhi, text material related to the constitution, digital library, literature for the spread of literacy in rural areas, library run by students, important information related to the provisions of the constitution and observed the innovations to make the general public aware about the public welfare schemes of the state government.
- On this occasion, presentations of songs based on the schemes of the state government by folk artists and presentations of short films based on public welfare decisions were also performed.

Different Categories in Rajasthan will get up to 50% discount on Rent

Why in News?

On 17 April 2023, the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation issued orders to various sections of the state to provide up to 50% discount on rent for staying in RTDC hotels.

Key Points

- It is worth mentioning that Dharmendra Rathore, President of Rajasthan Tourism Development

Corporation, had recently announced a concession in rent to various sections including approved journalists. In this regard, the decision to give an exemption was taken in the 191st board meeting of the corporation.

- Under this, the recipients of Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, Padma Shri, Paramveer Chakra, Mahavir Chakra, Veer Chakra, Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy, Arjuna Award, Dronacharya Award, Major Dhyanchand Khel Ratna Award, including Meditation Recipients of Chand Award & National Sports Promotion Award, officers and employees of all state governments, PSUs, the central government on official work, students and persons appearing for competitive exams, approved journalists, officers eligible for circuit house, will be eligible for 50 percent concession from April 1 to March 31.
- Along with this, a 50 percent concession will be given to the employees of all state governments, central government and PSUs from 1 April to 15 July and 30 percent from 16 July to 31 March.
- In this, 30 percent concession will be given to the Disabled, 25 percent to women passengers, and 20 percent to senior citizens till the end of the year. Artists associated with Rajasthan State Lalit Kala Akademi will be provided free space for exhibition.
- Similarly, discounts will also be given on making bulk bookings. On booking 25 to 35 rooms a day in a hotel, a 30 percent discount will be given from 1 April to 30 September and a 20 percent discount from 1 October to 31 March. On booking more than 36 rooms, a 40 percent discount will be given from 1 April to 30 September and a 25 percent discount will be given from 1 October to 31 March.

Rajasthan gets honoured for Excellent Work under PM Crop Insurance Scheme

Why in News?

Rajasthan has been honoured for doing excellent work under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in a two-day national conference that started in Raipur, Chhattisgarh on 14 April 2023, to review the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.

Note:



Key Points

- It is worth mentioning that under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Rajasthan, insurance claims worth more than Rs 18 thousand 500 crores have been distributed so far during the tenure of the present government.
- Under this scheme, Rajasthan State has been awarded the first prize by the Agriculture Secretary, Government of India, for the excellent work of claim distribution through DG Claim. Along with this, in the year 2022-23, excellent work has been done by distributing 80 percent crop insurance policies in the state in the 'Meri Policy Mere Haath' camp.
- Similarly, in Kharif 2022, 88 percent of crop-cutting experiments have been done online through the CCE Agri app developed by the Government of India. Apart from this, most of the state's premium up to Kharif 2022 has been paid and the pending cases under the scheme have been resolved quickly. Given the above excellent work, the state has been awarded the second prize for doing better work under the scheme.

The Rajasthan CM inaugurated International Center

Why in News?

On 17 April 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the Rajasthan International Center located in Jhalana, Jaipur.

Key Points

- The Rajasthan International Center has been constructed at a cost of about Rs 140 crore on the lines of the India International Center and India Habitat Center in Delhi.
- National and international level cultural, business, and academic programs including high-level meetings, seminars and conferences can be organized in this centre.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister also launched the website of Rajasthan International Centre. An online booking facility will be available for meetings, functions, seminars etc. to be held in the centre through the website.

- The Chief Minister inaugurated the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru E-Library located at the Centre. This e-library containing more than 1 lakh books, will be available online in the country and abroad. He also released the brochure of the centre.
- Earlier, the Chief Minister inaugurated the Center of Excellence for Revenue Research and Analysis located at Jhalana. Through this centre equipped with state-of-the-art techniques & equipment, research on data-based policies and assessment of their impact on revenue will be facilitated.
- Through technology in this centre, there will be better coordination among various departments, which will help in the implementation of schemes. Built for Rs 61 crore, this 7-storey building has a seating capacity of 160 people.

Bus driver of Rajasthan Transport Corporation honored with 'Heroes on the Road' award at National Level

Why in News?

On 18 April 2023, Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation bus driver Siyaram Chowdhary was honored with the 'Heroes on the Road' award at a national level felicitation ceremony at the Constitution Club in New Delhi.

Key Points

- It is notable that the 'Heroes on the Road' felicitation ceremony was organized by the State Road Transport Undertaking Association to honor accident-free drivers at the national level.
- For this honor, 42 drivers were selected from all over the country who did not commit any kind of negligence or accident during their service and have continuously taken the bus passengers to their destination safely.
- It is known that Siyaram Chaudhary, bus driver of Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation has been providing bus driver services in RSRTC for the last 34 years. He has provided completely accident-free services during his service.

Note:



- Pawan Katara, Chief Manager of Rajasthan Roadways in New Delhi said that Rajasthan Road Transport Corporation follows the safety standards very well and Rajasthan Roadways has always been leading for road safety, so this year Siyaram Chaudhary, bus driver of Rajasthan Transport Corporation, has been honored with the Heroes on the Road Award at the national level.

Speaker constituted 19 Committees

Why in News?

On 18 April 2023, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Speaker Dr. C.P. Joshi constituted 19 committees under the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly.

Key Points

- Principal Secretary of Vidhan Sabha Mahavir Prasad Sharma told that Rajendra Rathore, Estimates Committee (A), Rajendra Pareek, Estimates Committee (B), Dayaram Parmar and Govind Singh Dotasara have been appointed as the chairman of the State Undertaking Committee 2023-24.
- The term of these committees will be till 31 March 2024 or till the end of the term of the 15th Legislative Assembly.
- Members of Public Accounts Committee - Rajendra Rathore (Chairman), Parasram Mordia, Mevaram Jain, Gurmeet Singh Kunnar, Gopal Lal Meena, Rohit Bauhra, Ms. Divya Maderna, Jagdish Chandra, Kalicharan Saraf, Vasudev Devnani, Madan Dilawar, Gyanchand Parakh, Sanyam Lodha, Mahadev Singh.
- Rajendra Pareek (Chairman), Bharosi Lal, Harish Chandra Meena, Panachand Meghwal, Johari Lal Meena, Sudarshan Singh Rawat, Bidhuri Rajendra Singh, Jogeshwar Garg, Mrs. Chandrakanta Meghwal, Abhinesh Mehrishi, Chandrabhan Singh Akya, Surendra Singh Rathore, Rajkumar Gaur, Ramkesh as members in Estimates Committee 'A'.
- The members of Estimate Committee 'B' include Dayaram Parmar (Chairman), Babulal (Kathumar), Padmaram, Smt. Safia Zuber, Daghnish Abrar, Lakhan Singh, Pratap Singh, Narpal Singh Rajvi, Pushpendra Singh, Satish Poonia, Baljit Yadav.
- The members of the State Undertaking Committee include Govind Singh Dotasara (Chairman), Madan Prajapat, Smt. Nirmala Sahariya, Ruparam (Jaisalmer), Virender Singh, Ramlal Sharma, Nirmal Kumawat, Vital Shankar Awasthi, Rampratap Kasaniya, Kanti Prasad, Laxman Meena are included.
- **Rules Committee-** President Dr. C.P. Joshi (Ex-officio Chairman), Smt. Vasundhara Raje, Kailash Chandra Meghwal, Parasram Mordia, Bharat Singh Kundanpur, Rakesh Pareek, Aminuddin Kagzi, Dharmanarayan Joshi, Sanyam Lodha.
- **Ethics Committee-** Dipendra Singh (Chairman), Smt. Vasundhara Raje, Sachin Pilot, Mrs. Suryakanta Vyas, Sandeep Sharma, Pabbaram, Raghu Sharma, Harish Chowdhary.
- **Committee on Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj Institutions-** Dr. Rajkumar Sharma (Chairman), Amit Chachan, Ramlal Meena, Prithviraj, Harendra Ninama, Subhash Poonia, Biharilal, Balwan Poonia, Suresh Tak, Rajkumar Rot, Rafiq Khan, Narayan Singh Deval, Manjit Dharmapal Chowdhary, Anil Kumar Sharma.
- **Empowered Committee-** J.P. Chandelia (Chairman), Ms. Rita Chowdhary, Smt. Ganga Devi, Prashant Bairwa, Vijaypal Mirdha, Ved Prakash Solanki, Sandeep Kumar, Ramswaroop Lamba, Sumit Godara, Alok Beniwal, Smt. Krishna Poonia.
- **Petition Committee-** Arjun Lal Jingar (Chairman), Girraj Singh, Gajraj Khatana, Mukesh Kumar Bhakar, Narendra Nagar, Ashok Dogra, Ramprasad, Omprakash Hudla, Deepchand, Chhagan Singh.
- **Committee on Government Assurances-** Gurmeet Singh Kunnar (Chairman), Suresh Modi, Indraj Singh Gurjar, Sandeep Sharma, Gopal Lal Sharma, Pukhraj, Babulal Nagar, Alok Beniwal.
- **Committee on Environment-** Mrs. Manju Devi (Chairman), Kishnaram Vishnoi, Mahendra Bishnoi, Rakesh Pareek, Ganesh Ghoghara, Babulal (Jhadol), Hamir Singh Bhayal, Khushveer Singh, Hakam Ali Khan.
- **Library Committee-** Ramnarayan Meena (Chairman), Ramnivas Gavadia, Govind Prasad, Ms. Siddhi Kumari, Joram Kumawat, Dharmanarayan Joshi, Sanjay Sharma.
- **Committee on Welfare of Women and Children-** Smt. Anita Bhadel (Chairperson), Smt. Nirmala Sahariya, Smt. Meena Kanwar, Smt. Manisha Panwar,

Note:



Smt. Gayatri Trivedi, Smt. Preeti Gajendra Singh Shaktawat, Smt. Suryakanta Vyas, Smt. Shobharani Kushwaha, Smt. Kalpana Devi, Smt. Deepti Kiran Maheshwari.

- **Committee on Welfare of Backward Classes-** Jitendra Singh (Chairman), Gajraj Khatana, Chetan Singh Chowdhary, Ramniwas Gavadia, Shankar Singh Rawat, Suresh Singh Rawat, Kanhaiya Lal, Mohan Ram Chowdhary, Jabbar Singh Sankhla, Girdhari Lal, Narayan Beniwal, Joginder Singh Awana.
- **Scheduled Tribe Welfare Committee-** Nagaraj (Chairman), Smt. Indra, Ganesh Ghoghra, Ramlal Meena, Phool Singh Meena, Samaram Garasia, Kailash Chandra Meena, Gopichand Meena (Aaspur), Pratap Lal Bhil (Gameti), Smt. Ramila Khadia.
- **Scheduled Castes Welfare Committee-** Ashok (Khandar) (Chairman), Smt. Ganga Devi, Amar Singh, Hiraram, Manoj Kumar, Jagsi Ram, Balveer Singh Luthra, Smt. Shobha Chauhan, Smt. Santosh, Kaluram, Smt. Indira Devi.
- **Committee on Welfare of Minorities-** Amin Khan (Chairman), Aminuddin Kagzi, Wajib Ali, Dharmendra Kumar, Ruparam (Makrana), Gurdeep Singh, Hakam Ali Khan.
- **Question and Reference Committee-** Vinod Kumar (Chairman), Khiladi Lal Bairwa, Girraj Singh, Indraji Singh Gurjar, Puraram Chaudhary, Amritlal Meena, Ashok Lahoti, Gopal Lal Sharma.
- **Committee on Subordinate Legislation-** Narendra Budhania (Chairman), Ved Prakash Solanki, Kishnaram Vishnoi, Gopi Chand Meena (Jahajpur), Avinash, Lalit Kumar Ostwal, Manjit Dharmapal Chowdhary, Ms. Rita Chowdhary, Suresh Modi.

State-level online Lottery drawn under Krishak Upahar Yojana

Why in News?

On 19 April 2023, under the chairmanship of Principal Government Secretary Agriculture and Horticulture Dinesh Kumar, the state-level online lottery was conducted by the Agriculture Marketing Department under the Krishak Uphaar Yojana at Krishi Pant Bhavan.

Key Points

- Under the scheme, farmer Pradeep of Bhavani Mandi, Kota block got the first prize of Rs. 2 lakh 50 thousand, Jaswant of Goluwada Mandi, Hanumangarh block got the second prize of Rs 1 lakh 50 thousand & Mohanlal, a farmer of Hanumangarh market, got the third prize of Rs 1 lakh.
- State level lottery is conducted once in a year, in which there are Chief Government Secretary Agriculture Department-Chairman, Administrator Rajasthan State Agricultural Marketing Board-Member and Director Agriculture Marketing Department-Member Secretary.
- The software of the National Informatics Center drew the state-level lottery for the year 2022.



Rajasthan Housing Board to be honored with 'Times Real Estate Conclave' Awards

Why in News?

According to the information provided by the Rajasthan Information and Public Relations Department on 20 April 2023, the Rajasthan Housing Board will be honored with the 'Times Real Estate Conclave' awards by a central government agency named National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO).

Key Points

- For doing excellent work in the field of real estate, the Rajasthan Housing Board will be honored with this award at a felicitation ceremony to be held in Gurugram on April 26.

Note:

- Union Urban and Housing Minister Hardeep Singh Puri will be the chief guest of the program and Anand Kumar, chairman of Delhi RERA, will be the guest of honour.
- It is worth mentioning that in the last four years under the leadership of Housing Commissioner Pawan Arora, the board has received a total of 14 awards. These include prestigious awards like the World Book of Records in House Sales, Skoch Award-2021, Award of Excellence, Honor by National Real Estate Development Council, National Housing Award, IBC and 'Star of Governance-Gold Award'.

Inauguration of National Health Fair at JECC

Why in News?

On 20 April 2023, Rajasthan's Minister of State for AYUSH Dr. Subhash Garg inaugurated the National Health Fair under the joint aegis of the Union Ministry of AYUSH, State AYUSH Department and PHD Chamber of Commerce at Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Center (JECC) in Sitapura.

Key Points

- Minister of State for AYUSH Dr. Subhash Garg said that to realize the concept of 'Nirogi Rajasthan', the state government is continuously promoting Ayurveda and the Indian system of medicine in the state, as a result of which people's inclination towards the AYUSH system has increased and it is emerging as a strong alternative to allopathy. This is an exemplary initiative of the state government in front of other states.
- Referring to the achievements of Rajasthan in the field of AYUSH, the Minister of State for AYUSH said that Jodhpur in Rajasthan has the country's 2nd Ayurveda University. At the time of the Covid pandemic, the decoction developed by the Department of AYUSH has proved effective in the whole country and the world.
- Various AYUSH equipment and medicines have been displayed through about 100 stalls in the National Health Fair organized till April 23, through which visitors will be made aware.
- AYUSH industry exhibition, free OPD, medicine distribution, treatment and consultation as well as Ayurveda, Homeo, Unani, Yoga and Naturopathy methods are being displayed in Arogya Mela.

- Various sessions will be organized during the 4 days of the fair. These sessions will prove to be effective in getting rid of health problems arising due to unhealthy lifestyles.



Rs 592 Crore sanctioned for Various Schemes for Farmers' Progress

Why in News?

On 23 April 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved a proposal for a financial provision of Rs 592 crore under various schemes for the all-around development of agriculture and farmers.

Key Points

- With this decision of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, spraying of nano urea by drone will cost Rs 4.50 crore, for which a subsidized rate of 75% of the cost or a maximum of Rs 4,500 per hectare has been kept in a 10,000-hectare area.
- On the other hand, 5 lakh landless labourers will be given a grant of Rs. 5,000 per family to buy manual agricultural machinery. In this, the state government will spend Rs 250 crore.
- In the financial year 2023-24, the state government will provide agricultural machinery worth Rs 250 crore to one lakh farmers, and manual/power-operated chaff cutter machines at a subsidized rate to 50,000 animal husbandry farmers.
- Agriculture graduate unemployed youth will also be given a grant of up to Rs 4 lakh each for providing 1000 drones. Drones will also be made available to Farmers' Production Organizations (FPO) and Custom Hiring Centers.
- A provision of Rs 588 crore has been made from the Farmers Welfare Fund and Rs 4.60 crore (state share)

Note:



drishti

under the National Agriculture Development Scheme in all these schemes by the state government.

- With the approval of the Chief Minister, lakhs of farmers and cattle herders of the state will benefit. It is worth mentioning that the Chief Minister had made an announcement in this regard in the budget for the year 2023-24.

Inauguration of Raj Matsya Yojana Portal

Why in News?

On April 21, 2023, Rajasthan's Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Minister Lalchand Kataria inaugurated the Raj Matsya Yojana portal online at Pant Bhavan. Now the application process for schemes related to fisheries departments in the state will be completely online.

Key Points

- Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Minister Lalchand Kataria said that through the portal, farmers of the state will be able to apply online for departmental schemes sitting at home through their own SSO ID or e-Mitra, along with this, they will be able to get information about the progress of the application through the portal.
- From the receipt of the application in the department to the approval of the grant, the farmer will receive information about each stage through SMS on his registered mobile number.
- You will be able to get the benefits of the following schemes run by the department:
 - Construction of a pond on private land for Fish Rearing,
 - Expenditure on the material to be incurred in the first year of Fish Rearing,
 - Construction of pond for Shrimp Farming in Brackish Water,
 - Establishment of Fish Seed Hatchery,
 - For the purchase of Fishing Craft and Equipment/ Boat,
 - Subsidy scheme for Recirculatory Aquaculture System, Fish Feed unit, Cage Culture,

- Scheme for Construction and Renovation of Ice Plant/Cold Storage,
- Scheme for development of Retail Fish Market and Resources,
- Scheme for establishment of Mobile/Retail coloured Fish selling centre KIOSk,
- Scheme for purchase of Refrigerated trucks and Insulated trucks,
- For purchase including Motorcycle Ice Box,
- Cycle Ice Box Scheme,
- Saving cum Relief Scheme,
- Fishermen Group Accident Insurance Scheme,
- Training and Skill Development Scheme.



Inauguration of registration portal & website of Inflation Relief Camp

Why in News?

On 23 April 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot inaugurated the registration portal and website of the inflation relief camp at his residence. He also released the Guidebook of Dearness Relief Camp.

Key Points

- Chief Minister Gehlot said that through the registration portal and website, the public's connection with the public welfare schemes of the state government would be ensured and they would be made aware of the benefits and objectives of the schemes.
- Chief Minister Gehlot said that more and more people will relate to the public welfare schemes of the state government through inflation relief camps.

Note:

- It is worth mentioning that all the needy families will be provided relief from inflation by connecting them with the public welfare schemes of the state government through the inflation relief camp. For this, dearness relief camps will be organized across the state from April 24 to June 30.
- Common people will get the benefit of 10 public welfare schemes in the camps, due to which they will get relief from the rising inflation. On April 24, the Chief Minister will inaugurate the dearness relief camp at Gram Panchayat Mahapura in Sanganeer.
- Information Technology and Communications Commissioner Ashish Gupta said that detailed information on 10 schemes and a list of documents required for registration, a useful photo-video gallery related to registration in the camp and a list of commonly asked questions will be available on the registration portal and website.
- Helpline numbers issued for each district will also be available on the website to solve the problems related to the camp.
- The following are the benefits of these schemes-
 - Cylinder for Rs 500 under Chief Minister's Gas Cylinder Scheme
 - 100 units of free electricity service per month to domestic consumers under Chief Minister's Free Electricity Scheme
 - 2000 units of free electricity service per month to agricultural consumers under the Chief Minister's Free Agricultural Electricity Scheme
 - Free Annapurna Food Packet every month to all the beneficiaries who come under the ambit of National Food Security under Chief Minister Free Annapurna Food Packet Scheme
 - Under the Chief Minister's Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, 25 days of additional employment to families who complete 100 working days in Mahatma Gandhi NREGA and 100 additional days of employment to Kathodi, Sahariya and especially abled
 - 125 days of work opportunities in a year under the Indira Gandhi Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme
 - Minimum pension of Rs 1000 per month and a 15% increase every year under the Social Security Pension Scheme

- The limit of Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme has been increased from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 25 lakh.
- Amount of Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Accidental Insurance Scheme increased from Rs.5 lakh to Rs.10 lakh
- Insurance cover of 40 thousand rupees per animal for 2 milch bovine cattle under Chief Minister Kamdhenu Pashu Bima Yojana.



1 lakh Farmers in the state will get Grants for Fencing

Why in News?

On 22 April 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the proposal of financial provision of Rs 444.40 crore for fencing of 4 crore meters to one lakh farmers of the state to save crops from stray animals.

Key Points

- Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has given consent to dispose of all the pending applications under the Rajasthan Crop Protection Mission in two years.
- He has also approved the proposal to reduce the minimum limit for fencing to 0.50 hectares due to the small holding size of the farmers of Scheduled Tribe areas.
- Community participation in fencing will now get more grants than before. In this, the grant amount has been increased to 70% for fencing of a minimum of 5 hectares to a group of 10 or more farmers.
- In the financial year 2023-24, about Rs 444.40 crore will be spent on grants for fencing. Of this, Rs 391 crore will be borne from the Farmers Welfare Fund, and Rs 25 crore from the state scheme 'Grant for crop protection through fencing'. The remaining Rs 28.40 crore will be spent on the National Food Security Mission (state share Rs 11.36 crore).
- It is worth mentioning that in the budget year 2023-24, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot had announced

Note:



to continue the fencing under the Rajasthan Crop Protection Mission.

Inflation Relief Camps Started across the State

Why in News?

On April 24, 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot launched inflation relief camps from Mahapura Gram Panchayat of Jaipur district. He distributed Chief Minister Guarantee Cards to the beneficiaries at the camp.

Key points

- It is worth mentioning that on April 23, 2023, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot had launched the registration portal and website of the Inflation Relief Camp at his residence and released the guidelines book of the Inflation Relief Camp.
- Inflation relief camps have been started across the state to provide relief to the common man from inflation. By registering in these inflation relief camps, common people can directly benefit from 10 major public welfare schemes of the state government.
- These inflation relief camps will be organized in all the districts of the state till June 30.
- More and more people are being connected to these inflation relief camps under Chief Minister Gas Cylinder Scheme, Chief Minister Free Power Scheme (Domestic), Chief Minister Free Agricultural Power Scheme, Chief Minister Free Annapurna Food Packet Scheme, Chief Minister Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Indira Gandhi Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme, Social Security Pension Scheme, Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme, Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Accident Insurance Scheme and Chief Minister Kamdhenu Animal Insurance Scheme.



GITB 2023

Why in News?

On 25 April 2023, the 12th edition of The Great Indian Travel Bazaar (GITB 2023) concluded at the Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Center (JECC), Sitapur, Rajasthan.

Key Points

- The 3-day GITB was organized under the joint aegis of the Department of Tourism, Government of Rajasthan, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).
- Prestigious national and regional associations like the Hotel and Restaurant Association of Rajasthan (HRAR), Indian Heritage Hotels Association (IHHA) and Rajasthan Association of Tour Operators (RATO) participated in the event.
- Around 283 leading Inbound Foreign Tour Operators (FTOs) from 56 countries participated as overseas buyers in this mega event.
- Around 11,000 B2B meetings were held during these 2 days. State Tourism Boards of 9 states including Rajasthan participated in the Mart.
- On this occasion, President of Rajasthan Association of Tour Operators (RATO) Mahendra Singh Rathore said that fame tours have also been organized for the upcoming buyers, in which a total of 60 tour operators will participate. These 3 itineraries are-Jaipur-Jodhpur-Jaisalmer-Bikaner; Jaipur-Sariska-Ranthambore and Jaipur-Udaipur-Devgarh-Pushkar.
- The state pavilions put up by some of the states of the country at the Great Indian Travel Bazaar showcased their tourism specialities, in which Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Tamil Nadu are some of the major states.
- Here the state's safari, rural tourism, new hotels, heritage hotels & sites and fair festivals were promoted.
- A detailed report on 'Inbound Tourism in India - Unlocking the Potential' was released in the 12th edition of GITB.
- The report prepared by FICCI and Nangia Andersen LLP aims to draw attention to the current scenario of inbound tourism in India. The report discusses in

Note:

detail everything from cruise tourism and adventure tourism to golf and polo tourism, as well as film tourism and rural tourism.

- Highlighting the future of tourism in the country, the report also provides some key steps that can be taken to accelerate the growth of the Indian tourism industry. These include streamlining visa procedures, addressing security issues, promoting sustainable tourism, developing appropriate tourism offerings, promoting partnerships with the private sector, etc.

The report provides an overview of the current scenario of inbound tourism in India, initiatives being taken by the Center and various state governments to promote the sector, various unique tourism products launched by the Government of India, India's G-20 tourism priorities and the tourism sector. Vision 2047 sheds light on the relationship.



Inauguration of Baba Chuharsiddh Lavkush Vatika in Alwar

Why in News?

On 25 April 2023, Rajasthan Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Tikaram Julie inaugurated Baba Chuharsiddh Lavkush Vatika built at a cost of Rs 2 crore in Alwar district under the budget announcement of the state government.

Key Points

- To promote tourism in the district, the state government has done the restoration of historical

heritage and religious places, due to which employment opportunities have been created for the common people at the local level itself.

- The Social Justice and Empowerment Minister said that this Lavkush Vatika built at the place of Baba Chuharsiddh would prove important in increasing tourism in the district. There is immense potential for tourism in Alwar district and efforts are being made to provide employment opportunities by developing tourist places here.
- It is known that an announcement has also been made to electrify Baba Chuharsiddh temple with solar energy.
- This garden will prove to be very useful in the direction of religious tourism and environmental protection. Also, this will provide employment opportunities to the common people at the local level. This Vatika will prove to be extremely beneficial in providing a healthy environment to the general public.



Rajasthan Housing Board got National Award for Real Estate

Why in News?

On 26 April 2023, a central government agency named the National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) presented the National Real Estate Award to Rajasthan Awasan Mandal.

Key Points

- Rajan Bandelkar, National President, National Real Estate Development Council and Anand Kumar, Chairman, RERA Delhi and senior IAS Anand Kumar

Note:



conferred this honour on Rajasthan Housing Commissioner Pawan Arora at a national level function.

- Rajasthan Housing Board was awarded this important honour for registering the maximum number of housing projects in the country under RERA, selling a maximum number of houses and doing excellent work in the field of real estate.
- It is known that the award was to be given to Mandal by Union Housing Minister Hardeep Puri, but he could not attend the program due to the Prime Minister's Review Meeting.
- Earlier in the function, Rajasthan Housing Commissioner was specially invited for a panel discussion on the topic 'Real Estate in the Era of RERA'. The Housing Commissioner was also honoured on this platform.
- Housing Commissioner Pawan Arora said on the occasion that RERA registration in houses works like

ISI mark. He said that RERA instils confidence in the common man and the buyer towards the developer and builder and brings assurance of providing the best quality housing in a stipulated time frame.

- The Housing Commissioner said that Rajasthan Housing Board has become the biggest organization to register 101 projects RERA numbers. He said that usually government agencies avoid RERA registration, but Mandal has got all the projects registered with RERA for the sake of the confidence of the customers.
- It is worth mentioning that in the last 4 years under the leadership of Housing Commissioner Pawan Arora, the board has received a total of 15 awards. These include World Book of Records in house sales, Scotch Award-2021, Award of Excellence, Honor by National Real Estate Development Council, National Housing Award, I.B.C. and prestigious awards like 'Star of Governance-Gold Award'.



Note:

