



# STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTARAKHAND

**January  
2023**

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## Uttarakhand Street Children Policy

### Why In News?

On January 1, 2023, Uttarakhand Women Empowerment and Child Development Secretary Hari Chandra Semwal said that the state government is going to bring a **street children's policy for children living on the streets in the state**. The draft of this policy has been prepared in accordance with the instructions of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights.

### Key Points

- Women Empowerment and Child Development Secretary Hari Chandra Semwal said that now opinions are being taken from various departments including **labour, police, food, health, education, social welfare** regarding the state street children's policy. Soon the policy will be finalized and placed in the cabinet for approval. In this policy, along with taking the cooperation of the society for the rehabilitation of such children, steps will also be taken from the CSR of various companies and institutions.
- The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights had some time ago asked all states to formulate a policy for rehabilitation of street children. In this episode, it was also started in Uttarakhand.
- It is known that the number of such children is negligible in mountainous areas, while in urban areas like **Dehradun, Haridwar, Roorkee, Haldwani, Nainital, Kotdwar** it is more. Children with child labour, begging, destitute, destitute and garbage pickers were classified into different categories.
- After this, a draft street children policy was prepared for the rehabilitation of such children. In order to connect such children with the mainstream of society, effective steps have been emphasized in coordination with the departments in terms of education, skill development, food, health, rehabilitation, employment, security.
- Hari Chandra Semwal said that now opinions are being taken from the concerned departments in this regard. Suggestions are also being taken from various sections of the society, NGOs. The Street Children Policy will be finalized after receiving opinions from stakeholders.

## Two Bridges of Uttarakhand Connecting China Border Dedicated to the Nation

### Why In News?

On January 3, 2023, the country's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh virtually inaugurated two bridges of the newly constructed Uttarakhand on the national highway connecting the China border. These bridges have been constructed by the **Border Roads Organization (BRO)** on the **Tanakpur-Tawaghat-Lipulekh** road.

### Key Points

- A bridge on the Tanakpur-Tawaghat-Lipulekh road in the state is at Dhauliganga. The length of this super structure bridge built at the confluence of Dhauliganga and Kali Ganga is 80 meters.
- The second bridge has been built at Gumrodi in Kimkhola near Jauljibi on this national highway. The length of this bridge is 35 meters.
- It is known that these bridges were to be inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on December 27, but the bridges could not be inaugurated on that day due to some reason.
- Border Roads Organization (BRO) OC Ramesh Ganapathy said the two bridges have been constructed by 1447 BCC/47 BRTF under Project Hirak. The construction of strong bridges in the National Highway will make the movement of vehicles more convenient.

## Chief Minister Released the Focus Report of NABARD

### Why In News?

On January 3, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami released the Focus Report of the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)**, under which NABARD will provide a loan of Rs 30301 crore for development in various sectors including agriculture, infrastructure, MSME in the state.

### Key Points

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami released the report while inaugurating NABARD's State Credit Seminar 2023-24.

Note:

- In the new financial year, NABARD will provide a loan of Rs 30301 crore to the state, which is 6.22 percent more than the previous year. Last year, NABARD had approved 4515 projects worth Rs 10,000 crore to the state.
- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami also directed the banks to do better work in these schemes and monitor everyone. It will prove to be effective in increasing the livelihood of farmers, people engaged in horticulture and small industries.
- He said that special attention should be paid to increasing the loan allocation in the three debt-starved districts of Rudraprayag, Bageshwar and Tehri.

## State's First Tunnel Parking to be Built in Kempty, Mussoorie

### Why In News?

On January 4, 2023, Uttarakhand Additional Chief Secretary Anand Bardhan held a review meeting with the officials of all the working institutions regarding tunnel parking, automated parking in Dehradun, informed that the **state's first tunnel parking will be built in the Kempty area of Mussoorie**. Its **Detailed Project Report (DPR)** was approved by the government.

### Key Points

- Additional Chief Secretary Anand Bardhan said that this parking will be prepared by the National Highway and Infrastructure Development Corporation (NHIDCL). Apart from this, five automated parking lots were approved in Haridwar under the joint auspices of Haridwar Roorkee Development Authority (HRDA) and NHIDCL. Their DPR will be prepared soon.
- Apart from this, the DPR of ten major parking projects in the state is in the final stage.
- A roadmap of 158 new parking lots has been prepared in the state. More than 10,000 vehicles can be parked in these. These include 50 surface parking, 88 multi-level car parking, nine automated and 12 tunnel parking.
- District and New Parking-

District	Category-A	Category-B
Almora	17	05
Bageshwar	06	02
Chamoli	11	05

Champawat	06	01
Dehradun	03	01
Haridwar	05	00
Nainital	06	06
Pauri	10	07
Pithoragarh	10	06
Rudraprayag	04	04
Tehri	18	07
Uttarkashi	10	06
Udham Singh Nagar	02	00

## An Increase of One Thousand Rupees in the Incentive Amount of Mangal Parties in the Youth Festival

### Why In News?

On January 4, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated a three-day state-level youth festival organized at parade ground in Dehradun and announced an increase of Rs 1,000 in the incentive amount of youth and women mangal teams of the state.

### Key Points

- On this occasion, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that on January 12, the birthday of Swami Vivekananda, Youth Day will be celebrated at the state and district level. Such festivals work to advance our culture and traditions.
- He informed that the selected participants of this state level youth festival will participate in the national level youth festival at Dharwad, Karnataka on January 12. Along with this, as the brand ambassador of Uttarakhand, he will keep the culture here in front of the whole country.
- On this occasion, Sports and Youth Welfare Minister Rekha Arya said that many programs related to folk songs, folk dances and our cultural traditions will be presented at the state level youth festival.
- Jitendra Sonkar, director of the state sports and youth welfare department, said that the benefit of

Note:



increasing the incentive amount will benefit about 7,000 members of mangal dal. Now these parties will be given an incentive of 5,000 rupees per year instead of four.

- In this program, the Chief Minister honored the State level Vivekananda Youth Award for the excellent work done in 2021-22 by Yuvak and Mahila Mangal Dal's. Yuvak Mangal Dal Mankatiya development block Moonakot Pithoragarh got the first prize, Yuvak Mangal Dal Dhura Nandanagar development block Ghat Chamoli second and Yuvak Mangal Dal Kheda jat development block Narsan Haridwar got the third prize.
- Apart from this, Mahila Mangal Dal Nandanagar development block Ghat Chamoli got first prize, Mahila Mangal Dal Kismila development block Kapkot Bageshwar got second and Mahila Mangal Dal Barowala development block Doiwala and Mahila Mangal Dal Hasanpur development block Bhagwanpur jointly got third prize.
- Under this, the first, second and third place teams were given an amount of one lakh, 50 thousand and 25 thousand rupees respectively.
- It is known that Mangal Dal plays an important role in the development of the society. They take the schemes of the government door-to-door and inspire people to take advantage of them. Apart from this, these parties also encourage people for education and self-employment. Also, they play an excellent role in keeping our culture and traditions alive.

## Border Tourism will Populate Border Villages in Uttarakhand

### Why In News?

On January 5, 2023, Dr. S.S Negi, Vice-Chairman of Uttarakhand's Rural Development and Migration Prevention Commission, told that the Uttarakhand government is going to take initiative to start '**Border Tourism**' scheme to populate the border villages of the state.

### Key Points

- For this, the details of the scheme have been submitted by the state to the Secretariat of the National Security

Council. After getting the green signal from the Centre, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama has instructed the Rural Development and Migration Prevention Commission to prepare the blueprint of the scheme.

- Dr. S.S. Negi told that in order to populate the border villages of the state, the state government has selected four blocks of Uttarakhand namely Bhatwadi in Uttarkashi, Joshimath in Chamoli and Munsiyari and Dharchula in Pithoragarh for border tourism. The Rural Development and Migration Prevention Commission is preparing a detailed report in this regard.
- It is known that till now tourists are given inner line permits by the district magistrate to go to the border areas. Nelang and Jadung, two villages in the Ganga valley of Uttarkashi district, have been deserted for 60 years. It is also part of Gangotri national park. To go to this area, separate permission has to be taken from the Forest Department. The possibility of further simplifying this process of permission is being explored.
- According to an official of the Rural Development and Migration Prevention Commission, most of the border villages are covered with snow for six months. Home stays will be prepared along with promoting agricultural products here. New tourist destinations will be identified. Local people will be encouraged in every work related to tourism.
- Dr. S.S. Negi said that on the instructions of the Chief Minister, a report is being prepared to promote border tourism. The government wants the border villages to be revived, but before that, resources will have to be mobilized to meet the needs of the people there. Border tourism can be an effective policy in this direction.
- It is noteworthy that 345 km between India and China is located in Uttarakhand. There is a long border. In the Indo-China war of 1962, many villages of Uttarkashi, Chamoli and Pithoragarh were evacuated. Many of these villages are still deserted today. These villages bordering the country worked like a watchdog.
- Military experts believe that settlement close to the border is important from the security point of view. In view of this, the possibilities of border tourism in the border areas are being explored. Experts believe that tourism activities can be promoted until it is possible to settle people there.

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## Champawat's Banbasa Police Station is Among the Top Three Police Stations in the Country

### Why In News?

On January 5, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami shared this information on Twitter and said that the Union Home Ministry has made **Banbasa police station in Champawat district of Uttarakhand bordering Nepal among the top three police stations in the country.**

### Key Points

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that this is a big achievement for Uttarakhand Police, as Banbasa police station of Champawat district has been selected from about 16 thousand police stations in the country. At present, 160 police stations are operational in the state.
- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami is also an MLA from Champawat.
- According to sources in the police department, Banbasa police station has been included in the list of best due to better law and order, speedy disposal of cases, computerization and other parameters.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah will present the award to Station House Officer (SHO) Laxman Singh Jagwan at the DGP conference on January 20. Which ranking will be given in the first three will be announced on the same day.
- Champawat District SP Devendra Pincha confirmed the award. In the year 2022 also, Banbasa police station got the seventh rank in the country.
- It is noteworthy that the Union Home Ministry determines the top police stations on parameters such as crime control and treatment of common citizens.
- SP Devendra Pincha told that there is legal movement from Banbasa to Nepal. On an average, there is movement of more than three thousand domestic and foreign people daily. This police station and the Banbasa Sharda Barrage police outpost, built three decades ago, have played a great role in curbing human trafficking and drug trafficking from the Banbasa border.

## Famous Litterateur of Uttarakhand Dr. Arun Kuksal will Get the Prestigious Rahul Sankrityayan Tourism Award

### Why In News?

On January 6, 2023, Dr. Arun Kuksal, a famous litterateur from Uttarakhand, has been selected for the first prize under the '**Rahul Sankrityayan Tourism Award, 2020-21**', conferred by the '**Ministry of Tourism, Government of India**' for his famous book '**Chale Saath Pahar**'.

### Key Points

- Dr. Arun Kuksal was born on 8 October 1959 in Chami village of Pauri Garhwal. Presently he lives in Shrikot-Srinagar. Dr. Arun Kuksal is working on the post of Ombudsman in MNREGA Department of Pauri. Arun Kuksal has written seven books so far.
- Dr. Arun Kuksal is associated with regular writing in published journals and social media on social, economic, educational, cultural and literary issues of Himalayan society. Seven books on his entrepreneurship development, travel literature and socio-cultural issues have been published.
- It is worth mentioning that in the past, Dr. Arun Kuksal has received the '**National Entrepreneur Induction Trainer Award**' for his remarkable contribution in the field of entrepreneurship education.
- Presently Dr. Arun Kuksal is active in the work of library operation, computer training and career guidance for children, youth and women in his native village Chami. Also, rendering his expert services on the post of Lokpal (MNREGA), Pauri (Garhwal).

## Subject Related to Moral Education will be Included in the University Curriculum under the National Education Policy

### Why In News?

On January 8, 2023, Uttarakhand Higher Education Minister Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat told a meeting with

Note:

non-government and private educational institutions affiliated to Shri Dev Suman Uttarakhand University in the auditorium of Dehradun that the subject of moral education will be included in the university curriculum under the **National Education Policy (NEP)** for the development of quality in higher education and moral values among students.

### Key Points

- Higher Education Minister Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat said that one admission, one examination, one result and one election action plan will be implemented in all higher educational institutions to bring uniformity in the higher education system of the state.
- Digital health ID of students studying in all institutions of the state will be made mandatory. With this, all information related to the health of the students will be safe online and will be able to use it when needed.
- Apart from this, Ayushman cards of all students will also be made, for which the state health authority will share qr codes with the university.
- Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat said that students of higher educational institutions will have to register for voluntary blood donation on the e-blood bank, Arogya Setu app, departmental portal, so that they can be called for blood donation if needed.
- In the meeting, Vice-Chancellor of Sri Dev Suman University, Prof. Mahavir Singh Rawat said that drug-free campaign, tobacco-free campaign will be conducted in the institutions of the state. All private educational institutions were asked to compulsorily apply for good evaluation. For this, a fair evaluation workshop will be organized through the university in February.

## Women got Legal Right to Horizontal Reservation in Uttarakhand, Governor Approved the Bill

### Why In News?

On January 10, 2023, The Governor of Uttarakhand, Lt. General Gurmit Singh (Retd.) approved the **Uttarakhand Public Service (Horizontal Reservation for Women) Bill**,

**2022.** The bill has been sent from Raj Bhavan to the legislative department, whose gazette notification will be issued soon.

### Key Points

- Fourteen bills were sent to Raj Bhavan for approval. Of these, 12, including women's reservation, have been approved, while the Indian Stamp Uttarakhand Amendment Bill and The Haridwar University Bill are yet to get approval from the Raj Bhavan.
- With the approval of the Governor, women in Uttarakhand have got the legal right to provide 30 percent horizontal reservation in government jobs. The benefit of reservation will be available to all those women who have a domicile of Uttarakhand state. Of course they are residing in any place outside the state.
- On November 30, 2022, the state government had unanimously passed the bill in the Assembly and sent it to The Raj Bhavan. During the winter session of the Assembly, 14 bills were passed in the House. Most of them were amended bills, including the Women's Reservation Bill.
- In fact, most of the bills were approved by the Raj Bhavan, but the Women's Horizontal Reservation Bill remained under consideration. The Raj Bhavan examined the bill by justice and legal experts before approving it. This took a month for the bill to be approved.
- The High Court had stayed the state public service commission's orders granting 30 per cent horizontal reservation to women candidates of Uttarakhand origin in the examination conducted for the posts of Uttarakhand Combined Senior Service. Pavitra Chauhan from Haryana and other candidates had filed this petition.
- The state government challenged the High Court order in the Supreme Court. On the government's special grace petition, the Supreme Court stayed the High Court's decision. In this way, the reservation remained intact. The supreme court is scheduled to hear the matter on February 7.
- What happened to women's horizontal reservation?
  - On July 18, 2001, the Interim Government issued a government order of 20 percent reservation.
  - On July 24, 2006, the then Tiwari government increased the reservation from 20 percent to 30 per cent.

Note:

- On August 26, 2022, the Uttarakhand High Court stayed the government order of reservation during the hearing of a petition.
- On November 04, 2022, in the hearing on the government's SLP, the Supreme Court stayed the High Court order.
- On November 29, 2022, the government introduced the bill in the House of the Assembly.
- On November 30, 2022, the government unanimously passed the bill and sent it to The Raj Bhavan.
- On January 10, 2022, the Governor gave assent to the Bill.

## Notification of Uttarakhand Public Service (Horizontal Reservation for Women) Act 2022

### Why In News?

On January 12, 2023, the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Department of Uttarakhand issued a notification of the **Uttarakhand Public Service (Horizontal Reservation for Women) Act 2022**. According to the notification issued, 30 percent horizontal reservation in government jobs has been approved for women in the state.

### Key Points

- Significantly, on January 10, 2023, the Governor of Uttarakhand, Lt. J. Gurmeet Singh (Sen.) had approved the Uttarakhand Public Service (Horizontal Reservation for Women) Bill 2022, after which this bill became an act.
- After the formation of the Uttarakhand Public Service (Horizontal Reservation for Women) Act 2022, women of the state will get the benefit of 30 percent horizontal reservation in government jobs. The notification lays down responsibility and power to comply with the Act, power to issue certificates, rule-making power and power to remove difficulties.
- The notification said that due to the heterogeneous geographical structure of the state, people living in remote areas lead a miserable life. Especially the women of the state live in adverse conditions. Because of this, the standard of living of these women is lower than the women of other states.

- Women of the state have not been able to achieve the desired social, economic and political level and the representation of women in government services in the state is also very low. In order to ensure social justice, equality, improvement in living standards, gender equality in public employment, women of the state were given the benefit of 30 percent horizontal reservation in government jobs.

## Heli Services will Start at Three More Places in Uttarakhand

### Why In News?

On January 12, 2023, Uttarakhand **Civil Aviation Secretary Dilip Jawalkar said that in order to gradually increase the scope of Heli Services in the state**, the state government has now decided to run Heli services to three more places.

### Key Points

- Civil Aviation Secretary Dilip Jawalkar said that under increasing the scope of Heli Services in the state, now preparations are being made to connect Dehradun with Nainital and Joshimath and Haldwani with Munsiyari.
- Out of this, two Heli services will operate from Dehradun, including Dehradun to Nainital and Dehradun to Joshimath Heli Service. Apart from this, there is a plan to start Heli service from Haldwani to Munsiyari, finding it suitable for Heli service.
- He said that aerial tour of the valleys of Devbhoomi, which is important from the point of view of tourism and pilgrimage, is now becoming easier and easier. In order to attract tourists, the government is continuously expanding Heli services. In this sequence, new helipads are also being built in the state.
- Secretary Dilip Jawalkar said that the central government's '**UDAN scheme**' has an important role in expanding Heli services in the state. Under this scheme, Heli services are being operated from Dehradun to Chinyalisour, Dehradun to Gauchar, Dehradun to Tehri, Dehradun to Srinagar, Dehradun to Almora and Haldwani to Pithoragarh.
- It is known that Heli services are being operated from Dehradun to Kedarnath and From various places of Chamoli district to Kedarnath and Hemkund Sahib.

Note:



## Rural Uttarakhand Entrepreneurship Summit-2023 - 'Gullak'

### Why In News?

Recently, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama inaugurated the **Uttarakhand Entrepreneurship Summit-2023 'Gullak'** in Dehradun, which will enable businessmen in rural areas to get information about the schemes being run by the government in various sectors.

### Key points

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama said that this program named '**Gullak**' organized for rural entrepreneurs is the first of its kind in the country, in which investors will be able to directly interact with rural entrepreneurs and invest in their enterprises.
- He said that in order to accelerate entrepreneurship development in rural areas, the state government had set up '**Rural Business Incubators**' last year at Hawal bagh in Almora district and Kotdwar in Pauri district. At present, various types of services are being provided to rural entrepreneurs through these 'Rural Business Incubators'.
- In view of the good results of the incubators, 'Rural Business Incubator' spocks will be set up to make this scheme operational in 11 other districts of the state under the Hub and Spock model. Through these incubators, entrepreneurs will get new opportunities.
- The Chief Minister said that with the development of rural entrepreneurship, the youth of the state will be connected to self-employment and will become job givers instead of getting jobs. The focus will be on better marketing of products of rural entrepreneurs.
- He said that the state government is working specially to get rid of the problem of migration in rural areas. In order to provide self-employment opportunities to the citizens of the state by staying in their place, the government is operating various types of centrally funded, state-funded and externally aided self-employment schemes in remote areas of the state.
- Keeping in mind that the participation of women in the business in rural areas is high, the state government is making special efforts for the empowerment of women in the field of self-employment and has planned to make 1.25 lakh sisters Lakhpati Didi, efforts are also being made to connect them with entrepreneurship.

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama said that under the direction of the Government of India, it has been ensured that 'Mission Antyodaya Survey' will be done through mobile app for the next one month. The survey will focus on topics related to economic development, village infrastructure, services and social justice by women of the community cadre.

## 'Queue Management System'

### Why In News?

On January 14, 2023, Uttarakhand Tourism Secretary Sachin Kurve said that the state government is preparing a '**queue management system**' for the first time to rid devotees of devotees going to visit Char Dham's from standing in queues for hours.

### Key points

- Tourism Secretary Sachin Kurve said that a 'queue management system' is being created for darshan in Char Dham's, in which registration of devotees will be mandatory.
- Apart from this, devotees will be given a token number on arrival in the Dham, in which the time for darshan will be fixed. With this arrangement, devotees will not have to stand in line for several hours.
- It is known that this arrangement is being implemented this time in view of the crowd of devotees in Badrinath, Kedarnath Dham last year.
- It is noteworthy that with the date of opening of the doors of Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri Dham, the Tourism Department will start registration for the Chardham Yatra. For this, the department has completed all the preparations for registration. Registration is being started two months in advance so that the crowd of devotees does not increase in char Dhams.

## Carrying Capacity of All Hill Towns of Uttarakhand will be Surveyed

### Why In News?

On January 14, 2023, the Uttarakhand Cabinet, taking a lesson from the Joshimath disaster, decided to conduct a scientific and technical survey of the carrying capacity of all the hill cities of the state.

Note:

**Key points**

- It is noteworthy that population and haphazard construction work are increasing the pressure in mountain cities beyond capacity. One of the reasons behind the Joshimath landslide is also being attributed to over-construction of the city's load carrying capacity.
- In the meeting of the state cabinet, it was decided that the responsibility of conducting a survey of the holding capacity of all the cities of the hilly areas has been entrusted to the Disaster Management Department. For this, the cooperation of other departments including Urban Development, Panchayati Raj will be taken. Technical agencies will be selected for the survey.
- Among the major hill towns of the state, Mussoorie, Nainital, Karnaprayag, Rudraprayag, Devprayag, Uttarkashi, Ukhimath, New Tehri, Guptkashi, Almora, Pithoragarh, Bageshwar, Ranikhet are under increasing pressure. In the first phase, the state government can conduct a survey of these hill cities.
- Under this, in the first phase, approval has also been given to conduct surveys in municipal corporation, municipality, Nagar Panchayat areas.
- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that construction will be banned in cities where the load carrying capacity is found to be high. The Joshimath disaster is definitely alerting us to the future.

## **India Series Numbers will Start Soon in Uttarakhand**

**Why In News?**

On January 16, 2023, Uttarakhand Transport Secretary Arvind Singh Hyanki said that the transport department in the state is soon going to start Bharat series number for registration of vehicles, which will provide relief to government and private sector employees who are being transferred to more than one state.

**Key points**

- According to headquarters sources, on the instructions of Transport Secretary Arvind Singh, the Transport Commissioner headquarters is preparing a proposal for Bharat Series Number for registration of vehicles for the Cabinet. The draft of the BS series has also been prepared.

- It is known that the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways launched this scheme in August 2021 .
- Due to the tax amount being higher than normal vehicles in Uttarakhand, the Transport Department had been considering it for a long time.
- Transport Secretary Arvind Singh Hyanki said that employees will not have to register their vehicles afresh if transferred to another state. After a long deliberation, the Transport Department has decided to implement this system.
- Personnel working in the Army, paramilitary forces will be eligible for the Bharat Series number plate. Central and state government employees can also take numbers in this series, who are transferred to other states. Similarly, private companies in which transfers of employees take place from one state to another can also apply for this series.

## **Two Startups of Uttarakhand got National Award**

**Why In News?**

According to information received from the media on January 16, 2023, two startups from Uttarakhand were awarded the National Award by Union Minister Piyush Goyal on National Startup Day in Delhi.

**Key points**

- Union Minister Piyush Goyal has presented the National Startup Award to Digantara Aerospace and Indigenous Energy Startup Company for their outstanding work.
- It is known that in the year 2018 , Rahul Rawat and Anirudh Sharma decided to build a startup on the idea of monitoring space weather. To turn his idea into a business, Digantara created an aerospace startup company.
- In June 2022 last year, Digantara Aero Space launched a satellite in collaboration with ISRO to monitor space weather. This satellite will give information about the changes in radiation in space.
- Rahul Rawat, co-founder and chief operating officer of Digantara Aerospace Company, said that just as weather changes are being reported on earth, similarly the weather is changing due to radiation in space. A satellite has been prepared, which can get accurate information about weather changes in space.

Note:

- Professor of Electric Energy. Yogesh Sharma said that the indigenous energy startup is working to make electric batteries. In the coming time, the prevalence of electric vehicles is increasing rapidly. Indigenous Energy has developed a technique to increase battery storage.

## Four Places Identified for Settling Joshimath Disaster Victims

### Why In News?

On January 17, 2023, Uttarakhand Disaster Management Department Secretary Dr. Ranjit Sinha said that land has been selected at four places to rehabilitate the Joshimath disaster-affected people.

### Key points

- Secretary Dr. Ranjit Sinha said that three demonstration buildings will be built on the land of the Horticulture Department located in the first Koti Farm to assure the people of Joshimath that good houses will be built. It will have pre-fabricated model buildings of one, two and three BHKs.
- Who will be given how many rooms, it will be decided later. However, people's buildings have already been inspected for this. For this, CBRI Roorkee has been asked to build a model building by January 21.
- He said that land was selected at five places to settle the disaster affected people. Out of these, four locations have been found suitable on the basis of GSI report. These include land in Koti Farm, HRDI land, Pipalkoti and Dhak village.
- Dr. Ranjit Sinha said that the local administration will talk to the people, if they like this building, more buildings will be built for them. Construction agencies are already fixed by CBRI, their rates are also fixed. The CBRI has fixed a rate of Rs 400 per sq ft for this. The life of these buildings is 25 to 30 years.
- The four locations marked are:
  - **Koti Farm:** About 12 km from Joshimath, the road from Auli to Koti Farm is cut. Revenue land is available here.
  - **Dhak village:** Dhak village located on Malari Road is located at a distance of about 12 km from Joshimath. Revenue land is available here.

- **Pipalkoti:** Government land is also available in Pipalkoti, about 36 km from Joshimath.
- **Land of HRDI:** About nine km from Joshimath is the land of Herbal Research Institute (HRDI).

## Plan to Set up Electric Vehicle Charging Station on Chardham Yatra Route

### Why In News?

On January 17, 2023, Uttarakhand Transport Secretary Arvind Singh Hyanki informed that a target has been set to set up electric vehicle charging stations on Gangotri and Yamunotri highways by the upcoming Chardham Yatra. For this, survey work has been completed in the plan to set up e-vehicle charging stations on the yatra route.

### Key points

- Transport Secretary Arvind Singh Hyanki said that under this scheme, 30 km per km of traffic will be covered. More than 100 stations are to be set up by setting up a vehicle charging station at a distance of 100 km.
- About 34 stations will be set up under the scheme in Uttarkashi district, which has two dhams, Gangotri and Yamunotri. Among them, places have been identified in Chinyalisaur, Dharasu, Brahmakhal, Barkot, Yamunotri, Syana Chatti, Janki Chatti, Dhoontari and Uttarkashi cities etc.
- Moon Banerjee, project manager associated with the project, said that about 62 places have been identified on the Chardham Yatra route.
- He said that three electric vehicles can be charged at a time at the charging station on the yatra route. They will have two fast and one slow charger. Rates will be fixed by the government to provide charging facility at minimum rates.
- Uttarkashi Assistant Divisional Transport Officer Mukesh Saini said that this is an important scheme of the state government. The setting up of electric charging stations will help e-vehicle owners and drivers. The environment will also be safe.
- Secretary Transport Arvind Singh Hyanki said that the disaster may affect work in Joshimath area, but efforts will be made to set up charging points in other places as per the target.

Note:

## 96 Policemen will be honored for their Excellent Service in Uttarakhand

### Why In News?

According to information received from the media on January 19, 2023, Uttarakhand Governor Gurmeet Singh will give Outstanding Service Medals and Meritorious Service Awards to 96 police officers and employees on Republic Day for doing better work in the state. The police headquarters has released a list in this regard.

### Key points

- According to the list released by the police headquarters, Deputy Superintendent of Police Narendra Nagar Dinesh Chandra Badola and Inspector Puran Singh Rawat will get the Outstanding Service Medal.
- Apart from this, Deputy Superintendent of Police Champawat District Vipin Chandra Pant, Inspector SDRF Harshvardhan, Inspector SDRF Harak Singh, SI Telecommunication Khayali Dutt Joshi, Gajpal Singh Rawat, Additional Sub-Inspector Mangal Singh, Yogendra Singh and Dinesh Chandra have been given excellent service honor mark and constable Jagdish Chandra Pant for distinguished work. Inspector Police Telecommunication Pramod Petwal and SI Vimleshwar Prasad Raturi will be awarded the Outstanding Service Award.
- Along with this, 14 police officers and employees will be honored with Meritorious Service Honor Mark for meritorious service and 70 police personnel will be honored with Meritorious Service Honor Mark for distinguished work.

## Maternity and Child Care Leave of Women Workers of Uttarakhand will be Calculated in MACPS

### Why In News?

On January 18, 2023, Uttarakhand Finance Secretary Dilip Jawalkar informed that their maternity leave and child care leave related to women workers of the state government will be calculated in the Modified Assured Career Progression Scheme (MACPS).

### Key points

- Additional Chief Secretary (Chief Minister) Radha Raturi had written a letter to Additional Chief Secretary Finance Anand Bardhan requesting him to include the period of maternity leave and child care leave of women workers in the MACP system.
- Additional Chief Secretary Radha Raturi said that such cases of women workers working in many departments came to their notice, they could not get the benefit of ACP Scheme.
- He said that the minimum standard of annual confidential entry of five years is good for grant of MACP. However, due to non-calculation of external service period and external waiting period and various types of leave (except exceptional and unpaid leave) sanctioned by the competent officer, the benefit of ACP Scheme was not available.
- In the absence of annual confidential entry for a period of less than three months in a given year, that period was also not being taken into the calculation of MACP.
- According to the government order, workers will now be taken cognizance of the annual entries of five years prior to the date of grant of MACP if the annual confidential entry of a year has not been written due to a tenure of less than three months during a year. If the standard of good ACR is not being met even in that period, then the date of MACP will be extended further.

## Uttarakhand Drinking Water Corporation is Preparing Water Grid

### Why In News?

On January 19, 2023, Uttarakhand Drinking Water Secretary Nitesh Jha informed that Uttarakhand Drinking Water Corporation is going to create a water grid like power grid for smooth supply of 24-hour water in the cities of the state. This grid will be exactly like a power grid, to which all the water lines will be connected.

### Key points

- Drinking Water Secretary Nitesh Jha said that the Drinking Water Corporation is preparing a proposal for the creation of a water grid, which will be presented in the Asian Development Bank (ADB) meeting in February so that the project can get funding from ADB.

Note:



- It is known that till now there is a shortage of water for several days when the motor of a Tube well is blown in a particular locality or area in the state. People ask for water from tankers. There are many areas where water scarcity starts as the heat increases. In many places, there is a problem of water even in winter.
- To solve all these problems, the Drinking Water Department is preparing a water grid. Drinking water lines of all cities will be connected to this grid. Wherever there is a shortage of water, water will be made available from the grid. This task of connecting drinking water lines is a bit challenging.
- This is how the grid will work:
  - Just as in the power grid, many times electricity is made available from another place in case of power problem in a particular area, similarly the water grid will also work.
  - If there is a shortage of water in a particular area of a city, then water will be made available immediately through the grid. The main drinking water lines of each locality will be connected to this grid.
- It is noteworthy that a water grid is being set up in Marathwada region of Maharashtra. This grid is being created to provide water for drinking, industrial and agricultural purposes throughout the year.
- Marathwada consists of eight districts. There is less rainfall in this area. Because of this, there is a shortage of water here every year. In Gujarat too, work has been done to create a water grid for water supply.
- Work is being done to create a water grid to ensure that water supply is not disrupted for any particular reason in many areas. This will make it possible to provide water 24 hours a day.

## **Now the Dominance of Women in Uttarakhand Home Department**

### ***Why In News?***

According to information received from the media on January 20, 2023, the departments of five officers in the Uttarakhand Home Department have been changed, due to which important posts of the Home Department have now been dominated by women.

### ***Key points***

- Additional Chief Secretary Home Radha Raturi, Special Home Secretary Ridhim Agarwal and Nivedita Kukreti have been posted as Additional Secretary.
- Apart from this, the responsibility of ITDA has now been brought from Amit Sinha. A. S. Nitika has been handed over to Khandelwal. Amit Sinha will continue to serve as Director Vigilance.
- At the same time, Harak Singh Rawat, Additional Secretary of Urban Development Department, has also been entrusted with the responsibility of Staff Officer Chairman Revenue Council. Shyam Singh Rana has been removed from this responsibility and has now been given the responsibility of only Smart City Additional CEO.

## **5,500 Government Vehicles to be Scrapped from April 1**

### ***Why in News?***

On January 21, 2023, Uttarakhand Joint Transport Commissioner Sanat Kumar Singh informed that 5500 vehicles of government departments, corporations, bodies, transport corporations, departments, autonomous institutions in the state will become junk from April 01. The RC of these vehicles will not be renewed.

### ***Key Points***

- It is noteworthy that the central government has issued a notification of the Central Motor Vehicles (First Amendment) Rules 2023, which will come into effect from April 1, 2023.
- The government will have to spend 300 to 550 crores to buy new vehicles or rent vehicles instead of vehicles falling under its purview.
- Joint Transport Commissioner Sanat Kumar Singh said that in December, the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways issued a draft amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act under the scrap policy and sought suggestions from all the states.
- In the suggestion made by Uttarakhand, it was said that instead of 5500 vehicles going to junk, if they were auctioned, there would be a relatively small loss of Rs. 11 crore. Apart from this, Uttarakhand will need 550 crores to buy new vehicles at the rate of ten lakh per vehicle.

Note:



- After this, no government vehicle older than 15 years will be renewed in the state, but it will have to be given in scrap, for which three scrap centers are being set up in every district.
- The Joint Transport Commissioner said that under the new policy, vehicles older than 15 years will not be renewed from April 1. He will go to scrap. After the scrapping of 5500 vehicles, all the departments will have to buy new vehicles. Assuming the average price of a vehicle at Rs. 10 lakh, the state will need Rs. 550 crore.
- Sanat Kumar Singh said that under the scrap policy, from April 1, 2023, all types of heavy commercial vehicles will have to undergo a mandatory fitness test, while for private vehicles this system will be applicable from June 2024.

## **Chholiya Dance of Uttarakhand will be Seen in the Republic Day Parade**

### **Why In News?**

On January 23, 2023, Joint Director and Nodal Officer of Information Department of Uttarakhand K.K. Chouhan said that in the Republic Day parade, this time the traditional Chholiya dance of Kumaon will be seen along with the tableau of Uttarakhand. This time the state's tableau has been prepared on Manaskhand.

### **Key points**

- Under the leadership of KS Chauhan, joint director and nodal officer of the state information department, 18 artists from Uttarakhand have participated in the Republic Day parade.
- Deer, Barasingha, Ghural, Peacock roaming in the Corbett National Park in the front and center of the tableau, apart from various birds found in the state, the famous Jageshwar temple group and deodar trees will be shown in the background. The famous folk art 'Aipan' was also included in the tableau model.
- Joint Director and Nodal Officer KS Chauhan said that this time Uttarakhand's tableau Manaskhand will be the center of attraction for everyone on the path of duty. On the lines of Kedarnath and Badrinath, work is being done on the Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission scheme for mythological temples of Kumaon on the instructions of the Chief Minister.

- Through the Republic Day parade, people of the country and abroad will get acquainted with the folk culture of Uttarakhand along with Manaskhand. The state tableau is being produced by Smart Graph Art Advertising Pvt Ltd.

## **Governor's Medal to SSP Doon and STF**

### **Why In News?**

According to information received from the media on January 24, 2023, governor's medal has been announced to be given to SSP Doon and SSP STF in the Republic Day program of Uttarakhand.

### **Key points**

- It is noteworthy that Dehradun's SSP Dalip Singh Kunwar, SSP STF Ayush Aggarwal and SP Champawat Devendra Pincha will be given the Governor's Medal.
- He will be awarded this medal based on outstanding service.
- Apart from these, three officers have also been selected for Utkrishit Seva Medal based on meritorious work. These include Additional Superintendent of Police Chief Minister Security Rakesh Chand Devi, Additional Superintendent of Police GRP Aruna Bharti and Additional Superintendent of Police Telecom Pithoragarh Basant Ballabh Tiwari.

## **President's Medal to Officers and Personnel of Home Guard and Fire Services in Uttarakhand**

### **Why In News?**

According to information received from the media on January 26, 2023, home guards and fire officers and employees in Uttarakhand were awarded the President's Medal.

### **Key points**

- Home Guard officers have been awarded President's Distinguished Service Home Guard Medal and Meritorious Service Home Guard Medal, while fire officers have been awarded Fire Service Medal.

Note:

- These officers received medals -
  - **President's Distinguished Service Home Guard Medal** - Amitabh Srivastava (Deputy Commandant General, Home Guard and Civil Defence), Rajiv Baloni (Deputy Commandant General, Home Guard and Civil Defence).
  - **President's Meritorious Service Home Guard Medal** - Govind Singh Khati (Senior Administrative Officer Home Guard District (Almora), Rajpal Rana Unpaid Platoon Commander, (Chamoli).
  - **President's Fire Service Medal for Distinguished Service** - Devendra Singh, Second Fire Officer (Rudraprayag), Pratap Singh Rana, Second Fire Officer (Haridwar).
  - **Fire Service Medal for Long and Meritorious Service** - Shyam Singh, Leading Fireman, (Champawat), Dinesh Chandra Pathak, Leading Fireman (Bageshwar), Laxman Singh Negi, Leading Fireman (Udhamsingh Nagar).
- While ADG law and order V. Murugesan has been awarded the President's Police Medal for distinguished services. Apart from these, the recipients of Police Medal for Meritorious Service include ASP Chief Minister Security Rakesh Chandra Deoli, DSP Pauri Garhwal Shyam Dutt Nautiyal, DSP Haridwar Pankaj Gairola, Head Constable PAC Rudrapur Amir Chandra and Inspector Police Headquarters Girwar Singh Rawat.

## **Ordinance Approved for 4% Reservation for Sportspersons of Uttarakhand**

### **Why In News?**

On January 27, 2023, Uttarakhand's Sports Minister Rekha Arya said that the state government is bringing an ordinance to give four percent horizontal reservation in government jobs to the players of the state. The Department of Justice has approved the introduction of the ordinance.

### **Key points**

- According to department officials, earlier there was a government order of 4 percent horizontal reservation, but in 2013, the High Court cancelled this order.

- According to Sports Minister Rekha Arya, the players of the state have got consent from the Department of Justice and Personnel to give the benefit of reservation in government jobs and rules have been made for this.
- It will be made a law by bringing an ordinance through the cabinet or through the assembly. This will create a better environment of sports in the state and the future of the players will be secure.
- Sports Director Jitendra Sonkar said that the state government is preparing to give direct jobs to international medal winners in Uttarakhand on the lines of Haryana state at 5400 grades pay. The proposal prepared for this has been approved by the Department of Finance and Personnel.
- As soon as its mandate is issued, Uttarakhand will become the second state in the country to directly provide jobs to medal-winning players after Haryana.
- Sports Minister Rekha Arya said that sports and sportspersons are being promoted by the state government. Medal winning players will get encouragement by getting direct jobs, which will also make Uttarakhand known as Sports Ground.

## **Major Prashant Bhatt of Uttarakhand will be Honored with Sena Medal**

### **Why In News?**

Major Prashant Bhatt, a young military officer resident of Kausani in Bageshwar district of Uttarakhand, has been selected for the Sena Medal in the announcement of gallantry awards made by the country's President Draupadi Murmu on January 25, 2023.

### **Key points**

- Major Prashant Bhatt, a young army officer, was selected in the NDA in the first attempt after passing 12th standard from Sainik School. In 2014, he was selected as a Lieutenant in the two Para Special Forces of the Indian Army. Later, on getting the commission, he reached the rank of Major.
- In recognition of his skilful leadership and courage in several successful cross-border operations during his service, he has also been selected for the Sena Medal among the soldiers selected for the Bravery Awards on the eve of Republic Day.

Note:

- Prashant Bhatt has been awarded the Sena Medal by the Government of India for his efficient leadership, devotion to duty, courage and easy resolution of sensitive issues.
- Major Prashant Bhatt is currently undergoing training in junior command in Mhow, Madhya Pradesh.
- It is known that the army medal winners of The Army Medal by the Uttarakhand Government are given a lump sum of Rs 15 lakh and Rs 50,000 every year and almost the same amount from the Government of India.

## **Uttarakhand Government will Build 50 thousand Poly Houses in Next Two Years**

### **Why In News?**

On 29 January 2022, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that the state in Uttarakhand in the next two years government plans to build 50,000 poly houses.

### **Key points**

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami was inspecting the vegetables grown in poly houses at his official residence when he informed about the government's plan to build poly houses for farmers.
- The Chief Minister said that the state government will construct these poly houses with the help of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).
- Expressing confidence in the scheme, the Chief Minister said that the farmers of Uttarakhand will get benefits on a large scale with the construction of poly houses.
- Significantly, poly house is a type of greenhouse, where special types of polyethylene sheets are used as covering materials, under which crops can be grown partially or under fully controlled climatic conditions.
- In other words, in the present times, to do agriculture in a modern way, that is, to grow crops, there is a house covered with a special kind of polythene or sheet. Different types of vegetables are produced in every season by adapting the environment of this house to the crops. The external environment does not affect the poly house. Poly house is known by the names Shade net house, green house and net house etc.

- Poly house farming is a modern method of farming, in which we can get high yields with high nutritive values without much use of harmful pesticides and other chemicals.

## **Tableau of Uttarakhand Got First Place in Republic Day Parade**

### **Why In News?**

On January 30, 2023, the Central Government announced the award of the tableaux of the states involved in the Republic Day Parade 2023, in which Uttarakhand's tableau Manaskhand got first place in the country.

### **Key points**

- Uttarakhand's tableau won the first prize in all the tableaux displayed on the path of duty in the Republic Day parade. Uttarakhand had displayed tableaux on the theme of wildlife and religious places of the state.
- In the tableau of Uttarakhand, the famous Corbett National Park of Uttarakhand, Narasingha, the state animal of Uttarakhand, musk deer, Goral, the national bird of the country, Peacock, the famous birds of Uttarakhand, Ghughuti, Pheasant, Chakor, Monal, as well as the famous Aipan art of Uttarakhand were displayed.
- The famous legendary Jageshwar Dham temple was shown in The Tableau. A scene of dense pine trees was prepared in front and behind the temple. The name of Uttarakhand was also written in front and behind the tableau.
- Like the Chardham Yatra of Garhwal, the government is trying to increase tourism in Kumaon under the Mandir Mala Mission. In view of this, the famous mythological Jageshwar Dham was shown.
- Team Leader and Joint Director Information K.S. Under the leadership of Chauhan, 16 artists of Bhim Ram's team of Pithoragarh had an excellent performance in performing Choliya dance to display the art and culture of Uttarakhand in Jhanki. Along with this, Baru Singh and Anil Singh played an important role while doing yoga on the tableau.
- 23 tableaux were displayed in the Republic Day parade. Of these, 17 tableaux were from States and Union Territories and 6 from Ministries and Departments.

Note:



- It is known that in the month of September, proposals are sought from all states, union territories and ministries by the Government of India. By October, the state governments select the subject and send the proposal to the Government of India. After that, the Government of India invites for a presentation.
- In the first meeting, a design must be prepared and presented based on the subject in a chart paper. Three meetings take place in terms of design formulation making necessary amendments. The states whose designs are not found suitable by the committee are shortlisted. After that the model of the tableau is made. The theme song is of 50 seconds, which reflects the culture of that state, when the expert committee of the Government of India is satisfied at all levels, then the final selection of the tableau is done.

## Uniform Academic Calendar will be Implemented in State Universities

### Why In News?

On January 30, 2023, Uttarakhand's Education Minister Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat said in a review meeting of the department held at the Secretariat that for better educational environment in the state, uniform academic calendar will be implemented in all state universities.

### Key points

- Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat said that uniformity will be brought by working on the theme of one admission, one exam, one result, one election and one convocation for students in universities and colleges under the common academic calendar.

- In the review meeting, it was unanimously decided that for timely and quality educational environment in the state, uniform academic calendar will be implemented for admission date, examination and examination results, student union elections and convocation ceremony in all universities.
- For this, vice-chancellors of all universities will sit together and prepare a draft of the academic calendar in two weeks, which will be finalized in the next meeting and sent to the government for approval.
- From the process of admission to universities to the conduct of examinations, the work of conducting examinations has been going on for months, due to which the examinations are not held on time. This also leads to delay in declaring the results. The education minister said that all universities will have to conduct classes compulsorily for 180 days in their affiliated colleges. Also, students must be motivated to study in libraries.
- The education minister said that 75 percent attendance of students will be compulsorily implemented to appear in the examination. In order to make higher education quality and employable, it is necessary for universities and all colleges to conduct NAAC assessment.
- In all universities, uniform costumes and initiation oath of convocation will be uniform. Vice-Chancellor of Sanskrit University Prof. A committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Devendra Shastri, which will decide the draft of the initiation oath and make it available to the government.
- In the meeting, Secretary Higher Education Shailesh Bagoli said that from the new academic session, admission of students in all universities and colleges will be done compulsorily through the Samarth portal. Along with academic activities, preference will be given to research work and skill development courses.



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**Key Points**

**Details**

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**Summary**

**Key Points**

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