



STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTARAKHAND

**JUNE
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

● Gift of Scholarship to students in the state	3
● CM released the books 'Ganga ke Prahari' and 'Swachhta Hi Seva'	3
● Single Female-Male government employee will also get Child Care Leave	3
● Uttarakhand's 1 st Tunnel Parking will be built in Kempty Fall, Mussoorie	4
● Uttarakhand's Pratibha Thapliyal selected for Asia & World Bodybuilding Championship	4
● Drone Corridors to be built in Uttarakhand.....	5
● At least 12 Tigers and Tigresses have died in the last 5 Months	5
● Cycle Tracks of 50 km each will be built in 4 Districts with Plain regions of the state	6
● The Center has approved setting up of 2 New Cities in the state	6
● Dress code implemented in 2 Temples of Uttarakhand	7
● Uttarakhand Government will Now Give One Lakh Rupees on Selection in NDA and CDS Preliminary Exam	7
● Contract Between SIDCUL and Central Government for Electronic Manufacturing Cluster will be done soon	8
● India-Maldives Joint Military Exercise 'Ex Ekuverin' begins at Chaubatia	8
● Pro. JMS Rana became the New Chairman of Uttarakhand Public Service Commission.....	9
● Aerodrome license issued to Naini Saini Airport.....	9
● Chief Minister's Big Announcement for Dairy Development	9
● Preparation to Increase the Honorarium of State Sports Coaches from 15 Thousand to 48 Thousand	10
● Medical Students in Uttarakhand will Get Degrees from DigiLocker	10
● World Congress on Disaster Management	11
● Defense Minister honoured 8 Personalities of the State	11
● CM inaugurated the new Patel Bhawan of the Police Department	12
● Coal Power Plant will be set up in Odisha for the state	13
● Helipad will be built in every Vibrant Village of the state	13
● National Florence Nightingale Award to Major General Smita Deorani and Brigadier Amita Deorani of the MilitaryNursing Service	14
● CM Dhama inaugurated Karpatri Maharaj Veda Shastra Research Centre	14
● Sal seeds will bring prosperity to Uttarakhand, a new chapter in Forest Produce.....	15
● Uttarakhand Multi-Hazard Early Warning System.....	15
● Act will be Made for operation of De-addiction Centers.....	16
● Horticulture will now be done with Israeli Agricultural Technology	17
● 3 rd Meeting of G-20 Infrastructure Working Group Concluded in Tehri Garhwal	17
● Weather Stations to be Established in High Himalayan Regions	18
● Setting up 2 New Cities in the state.....	19

Gift of Scholarship to students in the state

Why in News?

On 31 May 2023, the Uttarakhand Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama approved the proposal to provide scholarships to meritorious students of degree colleges and universities of the state.

Key Points:

- Under this, students studying in government universities and government degree colleges will get scholarships.
- Under the Chief Minister's Higher Education Scholarship Scheme, a scholarship of Rs 3000 will be given to those who stand first in every faculty of every college in graduation, Rs 2000 to the second position holders and Rs 1000 to the third position holders.
- The first prize winner will get Rs 5000, the second runner-up Rs 3000 and the third prize winner will get Rs 2000 per month.

CM released the books 'Ganga ke Prahari' and 'Swachhta Hi Seva'

Why In News?

On 31 May 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama released the books 'Ganga Ke Prahari' and 'Swachhata Hi Seva' by young litterateur Lalit Shaurya of the state.

Key Points:

- Describing the books as beneficial for public awareness towards river conservation and cleanliness, the Chief Minister said that in the book 'Ganga Ke Prahari', information about rivers has been told about the cleanliness of rivers along with information through stories.
- At the same time, the stories related to cleanliness in the book 'Swachhata Hi Seva' will be helpful in taking the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to the people along with cleanliness.



Single Female-Male government employee will also get Child Care Leave

Why In News?

On June 1, 2023, Uttarakhand's Finance Secretary Dilip Jawalkar issued an order regarding the proposal for childcare leave to single female and male guardian employees of the state.

Key Points:

- The single male guardian shall include all those employees who are unmarried or widowers or divorcees and who have the responsibility of one child on their shoulders alone.
- According to the issued order, women employees of the state government and women and men single employees will be able to childcare are leave for two years i.e. 730 days in the entire service period to take care of their children during illness or examination etc.
- This leave will be valid only for the two eldest surviving children till the age of 18 years. There will be no restriction of age limit in case of children with 40% or more disability.
- This leave will be sanctioned as earned leave and its account will be maintained on the same lines. Public holidays falling in the middle of this holiday will be considered included in childcare leave.
- The authority appointed for public interest and administrative work shall not grant leave to an employee for a period of less than five days and not more than 120 days at a time.

Note:

- A single female government employee will get a maximum of six holidays in a calendar year and other eligible male and female employees three times in a calendar year. They will get a full salary for 365 days of leave. For the next 365 days, they will be paid only 80 percent of the sanctioned leave.
- Eligible male and female government teachers (except the posts of UGC, CSIR and ICAR) of government and aided educational and technical educational institutions of many departments and non-teaching eligible employees of aided educational and technical educational institutions will also get leave.
- Employees will not be entitled to child care leave while on probation, but in departments whose service rules provide for child care leave during the probation period, it cannot be given for more than three months.
- In special circumstances, the appointing authority may also consider sanctioning child care leave of a lesser duration on merits.

Uttarakhand's 1st Tunnel Parking will be built in Kempty Fall, Mussoorie

Why in News?

According to the information received from the media on 4 June 2023, the first tunnel parking in Uttarakhand will be built in Kempty Fall in front of Tehri-Kempty Fall Mussoorie, Masihi Mussoorie Road, for which a DPR of 120 crores has been prepared.

Key Points:

- To solve the parking problem in the state, tunnel parking is to be made in the mountains in 12 cities. These include 2 in Pauri, 6 in Tehri, 2 in Uttarkashi and 2 in Nainital.
- This parking lot will have the facility to park 400 vehicles.
- Tunnel parking will be built here:
 - Pauri-Laxman Jhula and Saud near Devprayag Railway Station.
 - Opposite Old Tehri Road Junkyard (Chamba), Nainbagh Dhanaulti, Chhilledi Village, Tegad Bazaar and Thatud Bazaar, Main Bazaar.
 - Uttarkashi-Gangotri and Gangnani.

- On Nainital-Bhawali road, Cantt Board land and 1st turn near National Observatory.
- In hilly districts, where the large ground is not available for parking, the construction of parking will be done through tunnels inside the mountains. This parking will be made in such a way that the vehicle will enter for parking from one side and will exit on the other road.

Uttarakhand's Pratibha Thapliyal selected for Asia & World Bodybuilding Championship

Why in News?

According to the information received from the media on 4 June 2023, only Pratibha Thapliyal of Uttarakhand has been selected from the whole country in the trials organized by the Indian Body Builders Federation in Goa for the Asia & World BodyBuilding Championships to be held in Nepal and South Korea.

Key Points:

- About 23 women bodybuilders from all over the country participated in the trials organized by the Federation of Indian Bodybuilders in Goa. Out of these only Pratibha Thapliyal was selected.
- It is known that from 6 to 12 September, the Asia BodyBuilding Championship is to be organized in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. Whereas, from 30 October to 6 November, the World BodyBuilding Competition is to be held in Seoul, the capital of South Korea.
- Significantly, Pratibha, a native of Yamkeshwar block of Pauri in the state, is the first female bodybuilder of Uttarakhand. Even before this, he has brought laurels to the country and the state by winning many competitions.
- Prior to this, she has represented Uttarakhand as a captain in volleyball and has played five times from North Zone. Apart from this, she has also played four times in cricket at the All-India level.



Note:

Drone Corridors to be built in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

According to information received from the media on 5 June 2023, corridors will be built to promote drone operations in Uttarakhand. For this, the Information Technology Development Agency (ITDA) has sought proposals from drone operation & construction companies.

Key Points:

- ITDA Director Nitika Khandelwal said that a meeting of all stakeholders was held during the formulation of the drone policy recently. It has sought proposals from stakeholders, especially drone manufacturers and operators, for possible drone corridors.
- He said that after this proposal comes, it will be studied according to the aerial map of the state. The proposal will then be sent to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) through the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA).
- After getting permission from the DGCA, the corridors of drones in the state will be decided. The corridors that will be built for drone operations in all districts will be linked to each other. After this, the entire network of dedicated paths of drones will be prepared in the state. Action will also be taken against those who break the rule in the future.
- One of the motives behind creating a drone corridor is that it will create routes that do not disrupt air services. At the same time, being a border state, security will also be provided to all the restricted areas.
- It is known that at present there is no dedicated corridor of drone operation from Uttarkashi to Doon or other places in the state, due to which many drones have to travel long distances. This is likely to take longer and the drone's battery is also at risk of running out soon. With the construction of the drone corridor, the flight time will be reduced, its battery will also help in long-distance flight.
- In view of the rapid development in the field of drones, the Uttarakhand government is going to bring a drone



policy soon. ITDA has sent its draft to the government. Under this, all provisions will be made from drone operations to the purchase of drones.

At least 12 Tigers and Tigresses have died in the last 5 Months

Why in News?

According to information received from the media on 5 June 2023, tigers are continuously dying in Uttarakhand amid efforts being made for the conservation of tigers across the country. In the last five months, 12 tigers and tigresses have died here.

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand Forest Department's Chief Wildlife Warden Dr. Samir Sinha said that 12 tigers have died in the state so far this year. Most of the deaths have occurred in the Central Terai region. Most of the deaths occurred due to mutual conflict or an accident. Chief Conservator of Forests, Kumaon has been asked to submit a detailed inquiry report.
- It is known that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had released the tiger census-2022 data in the country in April this year. It shows an increase of 6.7% in the tiger population in the last four years. The number of tigers across the country is reported to be around 3167.
- According to the 2018 census, the number of tigers in Uttarakhand is 442. State-wise figures have not been released yet, but Uttarakhand Forest Department Officials are predicting an increase in the number of tigers in the state on the basis of these figures. On the contrary, the speed at which tigers are dying can also blur the colour of the picture.
- According to the data released by the National Tiger Conservation Authority, a total of 76 tigers have died in the last five months across the country this year. Of these, 12 tigers were killed in Uttarakhand alone. The first tiger death in Uttarakhand this year was reported in Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve in January. In February, three tigers were found dead in Nainital and Ramnagar. Then in March, two tigers were killed in the Chakrata range Haldwani and Ramnagar divisions.
- In April, a tiger was found dead in Corbett's Dhela range. In May, two tigers were killed in the Kalagarh division and Corbett Tiger Reserve, while the death

Note:



toll of three tigers is yet to be updated on the website. The reasons for the death of tigers are different. In 2022, nine tiger deaths were recorded in 12 months.

- It is worth mentioning that the number of tigers killed in Uttarakhand from 2001 to May 2023 is 181.



Cycle Tracks of 50 km each will be built in 4 Districts with Plain regions of the state

Why in News?

On 5 June 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami announced a 50-km stretch of roads in four plain districts of the state to protect urban areas from increasing vehicular pressure and pollution. He announced the construction of a cycle track.

Key Points:

- For the convenience of the people, cycle tracks of 50 km each will be built in Dehradun, Haridwar, Udham Singh Nagar and Nainital districts of the state.
- Apart from this, the Chief Minister also directed to explore the possibility of constructing cycle tracks in nine hilly districts of the state.
- The Chief Minister also announced the formation of a 'Spring and River Rejuvenation Board' to save traditional water sources & rivers in the state from drying up and give them a new lease of life on environment day.
- On this occasion, he said that in all 13 districts, one gram panchayat will be awarded for doing the best work in the field of cleanliness.

The Center has approved setting up of 2 New Cities in the state

Why in News?

According to the information received from the media on 7 June 2023, the central government has given

preliminary approval to establish two new cities near Kashipur and Doiwala in Uttarakhand.

Key Points:

- The Uttarakhand Housing Department had given a presentation of an all-facilitated city to the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, agreeing to which the central team would soon reach Uttarakhand to inspect both the townships.
- It may be noted that the Housing Department is working on a plan to set up eight new cities in the state. Recently, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami had proposed 1100 crores while requesting the Center in this regard.
- Under this, the Housing Department had prepared the proposal of two cities and sent it to the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Among these, a city will be built on 378.50 hectares of land in the name of an Industrial City on the land of Parag Farm in Kashipur.
- The second township will be named Aero City near Doiwala on the Doon-Haridwar Highway. This city will be built on 3080.8 hectares of land in the name of Integrated Township. It will have 746.98 hectares of government land and 2333.81 hectares of private land.
- The Housing department will provide facilities in all these cities. These will include all facilities like roads, sewers etc.
- Master plans of these cities will be prepared with the help of the Town Planning Department. Accordingly, the work of building cities with private participation will be done. The government will also give some of its land to them.

Proposed 8 Cities		
Marked Place	Total Land (Hect.)	Name of the City
Doon-Haridwar Highway near Doiwala	3080.8	Integrated Township
Chharba, Sahaspur on Doon-Paonta Sahib Highway	1672.94	Cyber City
Arcadia Tea Garden, Dehradun	719.7	New Dehradun Twin City

Note:

Bamoth Village Near Gauchar Airport	50.00	Wellness Township
Near Ramnagar City	4365	Tourism Township
Haldwani Near Golapar	2840.16	New Haldwani Twin City
Near Naini Saini Airport, Pithoragarh	77.00	Film-Entertainment City
Parag Farms, Near Kichha	378.58	Industrial Township

Dress code implemented in 2 Temples of Uttarakhand

Why in News?

According to information received from the media on June 2023, before the *Kanwar Mela* starts in Uttarakhand, the state's Panchayati Akhara Mahanirvani has implemented a dress code in two temples of Haridwar and Rishikesh districts.

Key Points:

- The temples where the dress code has been implemented are The Daksheshwar Mahadev Temple in Haridwar and Neelkanth Mahadev Temple in Rishikesh. Those wearing half-pants, torn jeans, mini skirts, and night suits will not be allowed to enter the temple. Only those who come wearing decent clothes will be allowed to enter the temple and visit.
- It is known that Akhil Bharatiya Akhara Parishad President and Secretary of Panchayati Akhara Mahanirvani Shrimahant Ravindrapuri Maharaj had announced a ban on devotees wearing indecent clothes in these two temples a few days ago.
- Secretary of Panchayati Akhara Mahanirvani said that to maintain the dignity in the temples, the dignity of clothes is necessary. Banners have been put up in both the temples enforcing the dress code. Women or men will no longer be able to enter these temples in indecent clothes. The body of the devotees should be covered up to 80%.
- He said that sign-boards have been installed in temples to promote decency and culture.

- Most of the temples in the country, whether they belong to saints or other committees, are under the government's trust, and everyone has welcomed this decision.
- It is known that the dress code is already in force in many temples of South India. Uttarakhand is a state of pilgrimage places and there was a need to implement it here too.



Uttarakhand Government will Now Give One Lakh Rupees on Selection in NDA and CDS Preliminary Exam

Why in News?

On 9 June 2023, Higher Education Minister of Uttarakhand Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat announced that the state government will now give one lakh rupees to the youth of the state for selection in the preliminary examination of NDA (National Defense Academy) and CDS (Combined Defense Services). For this, a proposal is being prepared by the department.

Key Points:

- Along with free coaching, the state government is going to give one lakh rupees as financial and incentive amount to the youth of the state who dream of becoming an officer in the army. Although till now 50 thousand rupees have been given by the department for this, but now preparations are on to double this amount.
- According to the officials of the department, the benefit of this scheme will be given to those students who are permanent and native residents of Uttarakhand, who have passed 12th, graduation and post-graduation examinations from the educational institutions of the state.

Note:

- For the benefit of the scheme, the result of the preliminary examination has to be applied within one month. The benefit of this scheme can be availed only once.
- Joint Director of the department AS Uniyal said that for the first-time free coaching for competitive examinations would be provided to meritorious students by the department. For this MoU will be done with Uttarakhand including Delhi, Chandigarh, Hyderabad etc. states. Students will be prepared not only for NDA, CDS and OTA but also for competitive exams like IAS and PCS etc.
- For the better future of meritorious students, the government will also prepare the students who have passed the preliminary examination for the main examination.

Contract Between SIDCUL and Central Government for Electronic Manufacturing Cluster will be done soon

Why in News?

According to information received from the media on 9 June 2023, a contract will soon be signed between the Central Government and the State Industrial Development Corporation (SIDCUL) to build Uttarakhand's first electronic manufacturing cluster.

Key Points:

- According to information, an electronic manufacturing cluster will be set up on 133 acres of land at Kashipur in Udham Singh Nagar district of the state. For this, the State Industrial Development Corporation (SIDCUL) has prepared a DPR.
- An estimated Rs 115 crore will be spent on making the cluster. In this, 50 percent amount will be given by the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. For this, the Center has approved Rs 56 crore for developing the cluster.
- After the formation of this cluster, all the facilities will be available to the electronic manufacturing industries along with the land, in which plots will be given to about 60 companies manufacturing electronic goods, electric vehicles, defence, telecommunication, power equipment.

- Hostel, warehouse, lab for testing equipment, fire station, medical facility will also be available inside the cluster for the employees of the industries.
- Samruddhi Automation Pvt Ltd will invest around Rs 200 crore as an anchor unit in the cluster. For this, eight acres of land has been allotted to the company. With the formation of the cluster, an investment of Rs 700 crore is expected in the electronics sector.



India-Maldives Joint Military Exercise 'Ex Ekuverin' begins at Chaubatia

Why in News?

According to the information provided by the Press Information Bureau of the Government of India on June 12, 2023, the 12th edition of the joint military exercise 'Ex Ekuverin' between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Force to be held in Chaubatia, Uttarakhand from June 11 to 24, 2023.

Key Points:

- Ekuverin, meaning 'friend', is a bilateral annual exercise held alternately in India and Maldives. A platoon-strength contingent of the Indian Army and Maldives National Defense Force will participate in the 14-day long exercise.
- The exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability in Counter Insurgency/ Counter Terrorism Operations under the UN mandate and to carry out joint Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief operations. The focus is to share best practices, enhance coordination and cooperation between both the forces at tactical level.

Note:

- The 11th edition of the exercise was held in Maldives in December 2021.
- The defense cooperation between the two countries extends from joint exercises to assisting Maldives with defense training and equipment requirements.
- Both the nations have very close and friendly relations in economic, cultural and military cooperation. 'Ex Ekuverin' will assist in further bolstering of these ties between the two nations.



Pro. JMS Rana became the New Chairman of Uttarakhand Public Service Commission

Why in News?

On June 12, 2023, the state government handed over the responsibility of the post of chairman of the Uttarakhand State Public Service Commission to Prof. Jagmohan Singh Rana, a member of the commission. The Personnel Department has issued its orders.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that the Chairman of the State Public Service Commission, Dr. Rakesh Kumar had resigned from his post on 10 June, after which the chair of the commission was lying vacant.
- After the resignation of Dr. Rakesh Kumar, the additional responsibility of appointing a new chairman of the Commission, which was running a special recruitment drive, fell on the government.
- Without delay, the state government not only decided the name of the new chairman of the Uttarakhand Public Service Commission, but late at night the Personnel Secretary of the Uttarakhand Government, Shailesh Bagoli, handed over the responsibility of the post of chairman along with his official duties to Dr. JMS Rana, a member of the commission.



Aerodrome license issued to Naini Saini Airport

Why in News?

According to information received from the media on June 13, 2023, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued an aerodrome license for the Naini Saini Airport in Pithoragarh, the frontier district of the state, under the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA).

Key Points:

- After getting the aerodrome license, civilian aircraft will also be able to fly from Naini Saini Airport in Pithoragarh's border district.
- It is known that Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama had requested to give the aerodrome license to Naini Saini Airport.
- The state government has entrusted the operation of this airport to the Air Force. Now along with Air Force aircraft, commercial aircraft will also be able to fly from this airport for the convenience of the citizens.

Chief Minister's Big Announcement for Dairy Development

Why in News?

On June 14, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama, in a review meeting of the schemes of the Department of Sugarcane Development, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries at the Dehradun Secretariat, gave instructions to set up 600 multi-purpose milk cooperatives for dairy development in the state.

Note:

Key Points:

- In the meeting, the Chief Minister said that the number of merino sheep, which give high quality wool, will be increased in the state, for which an MoU will be signed with an Australian breeder soon.
- In view of the shortage of fodder in the state, the Chief Minister gave instructions for formation of 20 fodder FPOs, establishment of 50 milk producer service centers in clusters of milk societies, and the establishment of 16 Badri Cow Growth Centers.
- He has done automation of the works of milk committee and milk union, to solve the problem of fodder shortage by planting 10 lakh fodder plants on community land in hilly areas, to bring benefits to all milk societies and all milk unions of Uttarakhand, instructions were given to work by setting targets.
- The Sugarcane Development Department was instructed to modernize Bajpur and Kichha sugar mills, change sugarcane seed, work on sugarcane survey through GPS & complete the target of promoting organic sugarcane production in the state at the earliest.
- He directed for expansion of 468 hectares of new water areas for fisheries, construction of 863 new trout raceways, 33000 Tonnes of fish production and timely completion of the target of 80 lakh annual trout fish seed production.



Preparation to Increase the Honorarium of State Sports Coaches from 15 Thousand to 48 Thousand

Why in News?

On June 17, 2023, Uttarakhand Sports Minister Rekha Arya in a review meeting of the Department of Sports

held in Dehradun directed to prepare a proposal to increase the honorarium of sports coaches on contract from Rs 15,000 to a minimum of Rs 48,000 on the lines of the Sports Authority of India.

Key Points:

- The Sports Minister said that some sports coaches in the state were getting less honorarium than the PRD jawans. It has been decided to increase their honorarium on the lines of SAI so that the department can get enough and good sports coaches.
- It is known that about 200 sports coaches are on contract in the state. Especially in the hilly districts, there has been a shortage of these for a long time. One reason for this is their very low honorarium.
- A minimum honorarium of Rs 48 thousand is being given to the sports coach in SAI. The honorarium is given according to different categories. Similarly, the honorarium will be increased in the sports department as well, but the qualification for honorarium should be the same as that of SAI.



Medical Students in Uttarakhand will Get Degrees from DigiLocker

Why in News?

On June 17, 2023, Uttarakhand Health Minister Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat said that on the lines of higher education, now MBBS students in state medical colleges will get degrees and other educational certificates through Digi Locker. In this regard, instructions have been given to Uttarakhand Medical Education University to prepare a system for DigiLocker at the earliest.

Note:

Key Points:

- Apart from this, all the hospitals and health centres of the state will be seen in one colour. For this, the departmental officers have been asked to decide the color code, so that uniformity can be seen in all the medical units.
- It was told in the meeting that educational certificates of medical students will be available on DigiLocker so that medical students can download their degrees and other educational certificates anytime.
- The Health Minister said that government medical colleges and nursing colleges will be linked to the e-Granthalaya portal while digitizing medical education so that medical students do not have to face the shortage of books.
- Apart from course books, research papers will also be available online to the students on the e-Granthalaya portal. Apart from this, students will also get an opportunity to connect with the libraries of medical colleges and universities in the country & abroad.
- The rate of patient registration fees will be made uniform across hospitals and medical colleges in the state. A proposal for this will be prepared soon and sent to the government.



World Congress on Disaster Management

Why in News?

On June 17, 2023, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama informed that the sixth global conference '6th World Congress on Disaster Management' is proposed to be held in Dehradun from November 28 to December 1. The Chief Minister also released the brochure of this 6th Global Conference.

Note:

Key Points:

- The theme of this Disaster Management Congress to be held in Uttarakhand is 'STRENGTHENING CLIMATE ACTION & DISASTER RESILIENCE'. Innovation, cooperation and communication for disaster management will be discussed & brainstormed prominently in this world congress.
- Apart from this, special focus will be given on mountain ecology and communication. Uttarakhand will get a new identity from this workshop to be held at the global level.
- The Chief Minister told how to do disaster mitigation; it is a great need of the Himalayan states. In the conference, in-depth discussions will be held on behalf of experts on disaster mitigation, how to minimize loss of life and property & use of a scientific approach.
- Due to many reasons, when the rivers change their course, then there is a lot of loss of people and money. This will also be discussed by experts in the conference.



Defense Minister honoured 8 Personalities of the State

Why in News?

According to the information received from the media on June 19, 2023, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh honoured 8 personalities of the state in the Amar Ujala Uttarakhand conservation program.

Key Points:

- These celebrities were felicitated in the program for making a difference on the basis of their thinking, talent, dedication, hard work and bringing laurels to the state on the national & international stage.



- Honored personalities in various categories-
 - Category- Emerging Talent
 - **Rahul Rawat (founder of Digantara Company, resident of Kotdwar):** He received this award for playing a remarkable role in the field of innovation, environment, art and culture.
 - **Hemlata Kabadwal (Mukteshwar resident painter):** Aipan art made by him got a place in the new Parliament House. He received this award for his remarkable contribution in the field of art and culture.
 - **Divya Negi (Tehri resident youth speaker):** Made a brilliant presentation on India's role on G-20 in the National Youth Parliament. She received this award for his remarkable contribution in the field of art and culture.
 - **Babita Rawat (Farmer resident of Rudraprayag):** He produced vegetables and mushrooms by ploughing 37,000 square feet of land. He received this award for his remarkable contribution in the field of innovation, environment, art and culture.
 - **Shikayana Mukhiya (young singer resident of Dehradun):** He spread the magic of his voice in the Bollywood world. He received this award for his remarkable contribution in the field of innovation, environment, art and culture.
 - **Rajat Jain-Arpit Jain (Innovator from Dehradun):** He made the world's smallest ECG machine. He received this award for his remarkable contribution in the field of innovation, environment, art and culture.
 - **Category- Culture Worker**
 - **Bobby Cash (Singer-composer, resident of Dehradun):** He made his voice famous in the country and abroad. He received this award for his remarkable contribution in the field of music practice and art.
 - **Category- Social Gratitude**
 - **Prabha Devi Semwal (Rudraprayag resident environment protector):** He grew his own forest on barren land. He received this award for his remarkable contribution in the field of social concern and environment.



CM inaugurated the new Patel Bhawan of the Police Department

Why in News?

According to information received from the media on June 20, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated the new Sardar Patel Bhawan of the state police department.

Key Points:

- Apart from this, the Chief Minister also launched the e-beat app of the police. At the same time, the new syllabus of police training was also released.
- He said that steps will be taken soon to increase the residence and office of the police. The occupancy percentage of Uttarakhand Police is 18 %, which is very low. It will be extended as soon as possible.
- The Chief Minister said that Uttarakhand is now coming out ahead in the flagship scheme of the Government of India. The state government will have to make a plan for the coming 25 years. The police will also have to be prepared accordingly.



Note:



Coal Power Plant will be set up in Odisha for the state

Why in News?

According to the information received from the media on June 21, 2023, due to the very low production relative to the demand for electricity in Uttarakhand, now electricity will be generated from coal in Odisha. For this, a joint venture of THDC-UJVNL is going to be formed soon in the state.

Key Points:

- With the completion of this project, the power shortage in the state will be controlled in the next four to five years.
- Energy Secretary R. Meenakshi Sundaram said that power generation from hydropower projects is affected by the season. The production increases when the monsoon arrives, but decreases when the rivers get silted. The fall in the water level of the rivers in winter and subsequent summer reduces production.
- On the other hand, the generation from solar power projects is only during day time. It is not used at night, because there is no such battery that can store this electricity.
- The electricity demand is continuously increasing in the state. Keeping this in mind, the thermal power plant is being thought of. In the past, the government has decided that it will move forward in the direction of making electricity from coal. For this, a joint venture of THDC-UJVNL will be formed soon.
- THDC already has a coal mine in Odisha. The plant will be set up near it because the cost of transporting coal from there to Uttarakhand will be very high.

- The Energy Secretary informed that THDC was already preparing to build its own plant, which will now be built jointly with Uttarakhand. If this is built in the next four to five years, then the power shortage in the state will come under control.
- There are three gas-based power plants in the state. Two of these are underway, while some decisions are yet to be taken in the third. A decision on the third plant will also be taken soon. After this, the power generation from the gas power plant will increase.



Helipad will be built in every Vibrant Village of the state

Why in News?

According to information received from the media on June 21, 2023, helipads will be built in every Vibrant Village in the border districts of Uttarakhand. Also, breakfast tourism will be promoted in these villages.

Key Points:

- According to the information, Chief Secretary Dr. SS Sandhu instructed the District Magistrates of Uttarkashi and Chamoli to make a plan through video conferencing.
- In the meeting held at the state secretariat, the Chief Secretary said that the District Magistrates will go to the Vibrant Villages in their districts and see which services are desperately needed. He said that Atal Schools should be started in the area under Vibrant Village Scheme. Work should also be done in the direction of what more activities can be started in these villages from the point of view of tourism.
- He directed to take up the schemes for Vibrant Village on priority and said that the availability of electricity, water, roads, hospitals etc. should be ensured in these villages.
- The Chief Secretary said that the schemes for these villages should be prepared in such a way that the local people can get employment. By developing bugyal and tracking routes in these areas, the residents of the area can be connected to employment. He also directed the Skill Development Department to provide free training in various trades to the youth of the area.

Note:



National Florence Nightingale Award to Major General Smita Deorani and Brigadier Amita Deorani of the Military Nursing Service

Why in News?

On June 22, 2023, the President of India, Mrs. Draupadi Murmu, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, awarded the National Florence Nightingale Awards for the years 2022 and 2023 to Major Gen Smita Devrani, Additional Director General (ADG) of the Military Nursing Service (MNS) and Brigadier MNS, Brigadier Amita Devrani, Headquarters Southern Command at a function in New Delhi.

Key Points:

- President Mrs. Draupadi Murmu has given the National Florence Nightingale Award to a total of 30 nurses for the years 2022 and 2023 at the function.
- The award given to Devrani sisters from Kotdwar district of Uttarakhand is an appropriate honour for their remarkable contribution and service for nearly four decades.
- Apart from these, the President honoured Manju Kaira of Uttarakhand with the National Florence Nightingale Award for the year 2022.
- It is known that the National Florence Nightingale Award, instituted by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in 1973, is given to nurses and nursing professionals in recognition of their meritorious services rendered to the society.

- Major General Smita Devrani was commissioned at MNS in 1983. Prior to assuming charge as ADG MNS on October 01, 2021, she held various key clinical, staff & administrative positions like Principal Matron, Brigadier MNS, Headquarters (Central Command), Principal Matron, Command Hospital (Southern Command) and Director MNS (Administration).
- Brigadier Amita Deorani was commissioned into service in 1986. She assumed her present assignment of Brigadier MNS, Southern Command on September 01, 2021. Earlier, she has held various important positions like Principal College of Nursing, Armed Forces Medical College, Pune; Army Hospital, Vice Principal of College of Nursing, Research & Referral College of Nursing and Indian Naval Hospital Ship (INHS) Ashwini.



CM Dhama inaugurated Karpatri Maharaj Veda Shastra Research Centre

Why in News?

On June 22, 2023, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama inaugurated the Ved Shastra Research Center in the memory of Swami Karpatri Maharaj at Shri Raghunath Kirti campus of Central Sanskrit University, Devprayag through virtual medium from the secretariat.

Key Points:

- While inaugurating the virtual, the Chief Minister said that the Center has given this big gift to the state government, which is playing an important role in the promotion of Devvani Sanskrit. On making the center in the name of Karpatri Maharaj, he said that this will increase the importance of the campus.
- It is known that Dharma Samrat Swami Karpatri was a saint, freedom fighter and politician of India. He was born in the year 1907 AD in the month of Shraavan, Shukla Paksha Dwitiya, in Bhatni village of Pratapgarh

Note:

district of Uttar Pradesh, in the courtyard of Sanatan Dharmi Saryuparin Brahmin Ramnidhi Ojha and Mrs. Shivrani ji.

- In his childhood, he was named 'Hari Narayan'. He was a monk of the Dashnami tradition. After initiation, his name was 'Hariharanand Saraswati', but he was famous as 'Karpatri', because he used his *Anjali* (cupped fingers) as a food vessel (kar = hand, vessel = pot, karpatri = whose hand is the utensil).
- He also formed a political party named 'All India Ram Rajya Parishad'. In view of his unique and incomparable scholarship in theology, he was given the title of 'Dharma Samrat'.
- In 1940, Swami Karpatri Maharaj re-converted people who were forcibly converted to Islam. In 1966, Karpatri Maharaj started a movement against the then government regarding cow promotion.
- On February 7, 1982, at Kedar Ghat Varanasi, his Panch Pran voluntarily merged into Mahapran. As per his instructions, his mortal body was given water samadhi in the holy lap of Shri Ganga Maharani at Kedar Ghat.



Sal seeds will bring prosperity to Uttarakhand, a new chapter in Forest Produce

Why in News?

On June 25, 2023, Manoj Chandran, Chief Conservator of Forests, Uttarakhand Forest Department, said that for the first time in the state, work is being done on a plan to collect and sell Sal seeds in the market as a pilot project. In this way, a new chapter of forest produce has been added in the forest-dominated state of Uttarakhand.

Key Points:

- Sal forests spread over an area of about 5,000 square kilometres in the state will become a new source of income for the villagers and the forest department. The Dhama government's emphasis in the state is on increasing income from forests.
- For this, apart from eco-tourism, instructions have been given to the officers on behalf of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama on how prosperity can be brought from different types of produce obtained from forests. In this series, the Forest Department has started work for the first time on this scheme to generate income from the seeds of the year.
- According to an estimate, about 45 lakh quintals of Sal seeds are produced in Uttarakhand. Although all the seeds will not be collected in this scheme, for this the seeds fallen on the fire line and roadside will be collected. Accordingly, lakhs of quintals of seeds will be collected.
- Sal seeds have been used for thousands of years in Ayurvedic medicine to treat gallstones, leucorrhoea, gonorrhoea, skin diseases, stomach disorders, ulcers, wounds, diarrhoea and weakness. Apart from this, sal seeds are also used in making chocolate.
- Valuable edible oil is extracted from sal seeds. The seed contains 19.20% oil. The oil is also used as a substitute for butter and in confectionery & foods. The remaining oilseed contains 10.12% protein. It is used as feed for poultry.
- Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand are such states in the country, where sal seeds are collected on a large scale through small forest produce cooperative societies as major forest produce. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Sal seeds is also released every year in these states.

Uttarakhand Multi-Hazard Early Warning System

Why in News?

According to the information received from the media on June 24, 2023, a siren system will be installed at 250 places in the first phase of this pilot project named Uttarakhand Multi-Hazard Early Warning System to prevent disasters in Uttarakhand.

Note:

Key Points:

- An approval of Rs 118 crore has been received in the first phase for this project to be set up in Uttarakhand.
- It is known that the project has been approved in the High Powered Committee (HPC) meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary SS Sandhu.
- The World Bank is funding this project. Now global tenders will be invited for this at the international level.
- After the implementation of this project, Uttarakhand will be the second state after Kerala, which is going to adopt this system. Kerala has spent around Rs 80 crore on this project.
- Under the Early Warning Siren System, this system will be installed on mobile towers located at sensitive places in the state. New towers will be installed where there are no mobile towers.
- After this, alerts received from organizations like Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) and Center Water Commission will be conveyed to the people through sirens. In calamities like floods, landslides, earthquakes, heavy rains, and avalanches, people will be able to reach safe places in time to protect their lives and property.
- In case of any disaster, the siren system can be operated from three levels. Firstly, where the siren system will be installed, there will also be a mini control room.
- Second, it can be triggered (pressing the button) from the control room set up at the district level and thirdly, the siren system can also be activated from the control room set up at the state level.
- A siren system has been installed on the banks of the Ganga in Rishikesh by THDC (Tehri Hydro Development Corporation), but it works only when water is released from the dam. The Multi-Hazard Early Warning System will issue warning sirens in case of any type of disaster.
- The special feature of the Uttarakhand Multi-Hazard Early Warning System is that it will broadcast different types of sounds in different disasters. For this, the general public will be told in advance what kind of sound the siren will broadcast. With this people will be able to know what kind of danger they are in.
- A list of mobile towers has been sought from the districts for the installation of the siren system. The project has already been approved by HPC and World Bank. In the first phase, the number of sirens will be increased to 250 and then to 1000 in the next phase.



Act will be Made for operation of De-addiction Centers

Why In News?

On June 26, 2023, Uttarakhand Health Secretary Dr. R. Rajesh Kumar said that the state government is now preparing to bind the drug de-addiction centers within the purview of rules. In this episode, the 'Mental Health Care Act' will be implemented soon in the state. The central government has given permission for this.

Key Points:

- Health Secretary Dr. R. Rajesh Kumar said that after getting permission from the Central Government, the state government is engaged in finalizing its draft. It is set to be placed in the cabinet soon.
- Under the 'Mental Health Care Act', it will be mandatory for mental health centers and institutions to register with the State Mental Health Care Authority. Those violating the Act will be fined from Rs 50,000 to Rs 2 lakh.
- Under the 'Mental Health Care Act', it will be mandatory for mental health centers and institutions to register with the State Mental Health Care Authority. Those violating the Act will be fined from Rs 50,000 to Rs 2 lakh.
- In fact, questions have been raised about the operation of drug de-addiction centers in the state. Lack of proper buildings, deployment of doctors and lack of trained medical staff have also raised questions about the functioning of mental health centres.
- There have also been reports of patients not being treated properly and torturing them. Even the death of patients has been reported many times. In view of

Note:

this, there is talk of bringing the operation of mental health centers in the state under the purview of the Act. In this context, the state government had sent a letter to the Central Government requesting permission to bring its own Mental Health Care Act in the state, which has been approved by the Central Government.

Horticulture will now be done with Israeli Agricultural Technology

Why in News?

On June 27, 2023, a meeting of the Indo-Israel Agriculture Project was held at the Raj Bhavan in Dehradun under the chairmanship of Governor Lt. General Gurmit Singh (Retd), in which it was said that horticulture would be promoted in the state with the help of Israel's agricultural techniques.

Key Points:

- For this, a Center of Excellence will be set up in the state under the Indo-Israeli Agriculture Project. Israel has the technology of dry land farming, in which more crops are produced by using less water.
- In the meeting, the governor said that there is a need to work in mission mode by preparing a road map for Israeli technology in the state. For this, a plan should be made by the Horticulture Department and Pantnagar Agricultural University.
- He symbolically gifted the honey of Kedarghati of Uttarakhand to the Indo-Israeli delegates.
- Uttarakhand Agriculture Minister Ganesh Joshi said that the India-Israel agriculture project aims to increase productivity with less water use while promoting crop diversification. The Center of Excellence based on Israel Agricultural Technology will increase the production of horticulture crops in the state. Farmers will get its benefit.
- A team from Uttarakhand will soon go to Israel to learn agricultural techniques.
- Yair Ishel, who came from the Israel Embassy, said that 24 Centers of Excellence have been established under the Indo-Israeli Agriculture Project. Keeping in view the possibilities of horticulture in the plains and valley areas of the state, a centre will also be set up in Uttarakhand. In this cooperation of Pant Nagar University will be taken.

3rd Meeting of G-20 Infrastructure Working Group Concluded in Tehri Garhwal

Why in News?

On June 28, 2023, the third meeting of the three-day G-20 Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) concluded at Narendra Nagar in Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand.

Key Points:

- It is known that the next and last meeting of the Infrastructure Working Group will be held on September 19-20, 2023 in Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh).
- It is noteworthy that the three-day IWG meeting began on June 26 at Hotel Westin Resort, Narendra Nagar, Tehri Garhwal, in which about 63 representatives of G-20 member countries, invited countries and international organizations participated.
- On the first day of the meeting, the basic infrastructural development of the cities of the future was discussed.
- At a high-level seminar on building livable cities organized by the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), representatives from member countries discussed ways to enhance private investment in cities of the future, simplify policies and promote strong infrastructural development.
- Apart from this, emphasis was laid on mutual coordination to fight against natural challenges.
- The first session on the second day of the meeting discussed the theme of enabling inclusive cities, increasing access and opportunities in urban services. The delegates deliberated on ways to apply Quality Infrastructure Investment Indicators to infrastructure projects.
- In this meeting organized on the last day, in two sessions, the representatives discussed another important action mentioned in the 2023 Infrastructure Agenda along with the framework for enhancing the capabilities of urban administration.
- The session also analyzed the infrastructure budget allocation of the G-20 countries and detailed discussion on the QII indicator set by the G-20.
- In addition, a 'Round Table Conference on Making India an MRO Hub' was organized by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India.

Note:



- The three-day wide-ranging discussions were described by the representatives of the Member States as productive, with the Presidency outlining clearly defined outcomes.



Weather Stations to be Established in High Himalayan Regions

Why in News?

On June 27, 2023, Dr. Ranjit Sinha, Secretary, Disaster Management Department, Uttarakhand said that the Geo-informatics Research Establishment (DGRE) will set up Chandigarh Weather Station in the higher Himalayan regions of Uttarakhand, the cost of which will be borne by the Central Government.

Key Points:

- After taking lessons from the avalanche incident in Uttarkashi, it has been decided to set up weather stations in the border areas of the Himalayas as well.
- With this, its signals will be given before the avalanche. For this, 74 weather stations will be set up in the higher Himalayan regions.
- It is known that due to climate change, the incidents of avalanches have increased in Uttarakhand in the last few years. This is a very dangerous pattern, which is a cause of great concern in the hilly areas.
- In October last year, 29 trainee mountaineers of the Nehru Mountaineering Institute, who had gone for training in the higher Himalayan region in Uttarkashi district, were hit by an avalanche in the Dokriani Bamak glacier. Of these, 27 had died.
- Although this was not the first incident of death due to avalanches in the state, even before this there has

been the loss of life and property many times, but taking lessons from this incident, the state government has directed the State Disaster Management Authority (USDMA). Instructions were given to prepare a concrete action plan in this direction.

- USDMA officials said that the meteorological data that we are getting so far does not provide accurate information about incidents like avalanches. That's why it has been decided to set up a separate weather station keeping in mind the avalanches in the higher Himalayan regions. So that alerts can be issued with accurate data. Where these stations will be set up, it has not been disclosed from the point of view of security.
- This is a big step towards strengthening the disaster management system in Uttarakhand. After the installation of weather stations in the high Himalayan regions, we will be able to get accurate data, due to which the loss of life and property can be reduced by issuing alerts at the right time.
- Major incidents of Avalanche in Uttarakhand after the year 2000:
 - In the year 2022, 27 trainee mountaineers died due to an avalanche in Dokriani Bamak Glacier in Uttarkashi.
 - In the year 2021, while climbing the Trishul Peak, six including five climbers from the Navy were killed in an avalanche.
 - In the year 2021, nine tourists died in an avalanche at Lamkhaga Pass.
 - In the year 2019, eight including four foreign climbers died due to an avalanche while climbing Nanda Devi Peak.
 - In the year 2016, two foreign climbers died on Shivling Peak.
 - In 2012, an Australian climber died after falling into a crevasse on the Satopanth Glacier.
 - In 2012, five tourists from Bengal died in an avalanche near Vasukital.
 - In 2008, an avalanche in Kalindi Pass killed three climbers and five porters from Bengal.
 - In 2005, an army mountaineer died due to an avalanche while climbing Satopanth Peak.
 - In the year 2005, five climbers died due to an avalanche in Chaukhamba.
 - In 2004, four climbers died in an avalanche at Kalindi Pass.
 - In 2004, four climbers from Bengal died in an avalanche at Gangotri-2 peak.

Note:

Setting up 2 New Cities in the state

Why in News?

According to the information received from the media on June 27, 2023, the central government has initially given the green signal to establish two new cities near Parag Farm near Kichha and Doiwala in Uttarakhand.

Key Points:

- It is known that the information sought from the state government regarding the setting up of two new cities has been made available to the Centre, after which the approval of the Center can be obtained soon for the setting up of these two cities.
- It is noteworthy that in the past, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami had proposed Rs 1,100 crore while requesting the Center in this regard. Among these, one city will be built on 378.50 hectares of land named as Industrial City on the land of Parag Farm near Kichha in the Udham Singh Nagar district of the state.
- Apart from this, another township will be built near Doiwala on the Doon-Haridwar Highway by the name

of Aero City. This city will be built on 3080.8 hectares in the name of Integrated Township. It will have 746.98 hectares of government land and 2333.81 hectares of private land.

- The housing department will provide facilities in all these cities. These will include all facilities from roads and sewers to state-of-the-art cities.
- The master plan of these cities will be prepared with the help of the Town Planning Department. Accordingly, the work of building cities with private participation will be done. The government will also give some of its land to them.



drishti

Note:

