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Vandana Kataria Becomes the First Indian Player to Play 300th international Match

Why In News?

According to the information received from the media on October 31, 2023, Indian women's hockey team's forward player Vandana Kataria, resident of Roshnabad, Uttarakhand, won the 300th Jharkhand Women's Asian Champions Trophy-2023 at the Jaipal Singh Munda Astroturf Hockey Stadium in Marang Gomke, Ranchi, Jharkhand. Becomes the first player to earn an international cap.

Key Points:

- Vandana Kataria achieved the feat during India's match against Japan in the ongoing Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2023. With this, Vandana became the first Indian female player to play 300 international matches.
- India remains unbeaten so far in the ongoing Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2023. They won their first game against Thailand 7–1, won the second match against Malaysia 5–0 and then defeated China 2–1 in a thrilling encounter.
- It is known that Vandana Kataria came into limelight when she was the top scorer for the Indian team in the Junior Women's World Cup in Mönchengladbach, Germany and played an important role in helping the team win the bronze medal.
- Vandana also played an important role in India's fourth-place finish at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. She is also the first Indian female hockey player to score a hat-trick in the Olympic Games.



- Vandana has also been honored with the prestigious Padmashree award in 2022. Vandana, an experienced forward, was a member of the Indian team that won the Asian Champions Trophy in 2016 and the Women's Asia Cup in 2017.

910 Meter Long Tunnel Connecting Badrinath and Gaurikund Highway across

Why In News?

On October 30, 2023, a 910 meter long tunnel has been passed at Rudraprayag District headquarters to connect Rishikesh-Badrinath and Rudraprayag-Gaurikund National Highway.

Key Points:

- Under the 'All Weather Road Project' of the Government of India, in the second phase, a tunnel is being constructed in Rudraprayag to connect Badrinath and Gaurikund Highway. Tunnel construction work was started with Bhoomi Pujan in December 2022. In March this year, the executing agency Bharat Construction Company started digging for the tunnel from Belani and Jagtoli.
- The executing company was given a target to cross this tunnel by December, but the company crossed the tunnel in seven months with the help of 150 laborers and machines. In the presence of top officials of the company, the tunnel was crossed 910 meters from Belani to Jagtoli.
- Under the project, along with the tunnel, a 200 meter long motor bridge is also proposed on the Alaknanda River, digging for the abutment of which is going on in full swing. According to NH officials, the project work will be completed by June 2025.
- It is noteworthy that in the year 2008-09, BRO had prepared a proposal for construction of a tunnel in the district headquarters and sent it to the Government of India. In the year 2016, the Ministry of Roads and Transport of the Government of India approved this proposal. After this, a survey for tunnel construction was conducted in three phases in the presence of BRO officials.
- Based on the survey report, in the year 2019, the Government of India approved the construction of the

Note:

tunnel and included it in the second phase of the All Weather Road Project. Besides, in-principle approval of Rs 200 crore was also given for the construction of tunnel and bridge on Alaknanda river.



Agreement on Investment Proposal of Rs 20 Thousand Crore in Ahmedabad

Why In News?

Under the leadership of Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, MoU's on investment proposals worth Rs 20,000 crore were signed with more than 50 industry groups in the road show held in Ahmedabad for the Global Investors Conference on November 1, 2023.

Key Points:

- In the Ahmedabad road show, CM Dhami and Cabinet Minister Premchand Aggarwal held a meeting with industry groups and encouraged them to set up industries in the state. After this, MoU on investment was signed with Sheetal Group Company, Rankers Hospital, Jiwaya Wellness Private Limited, Astral Pipes, Warmora Tiles, Gujarat Ambuja, MKC Infrastructure Limited and Amul.
- Apart from this, Commodity Trading, AD Mehta Logistics, Friends & Friends Group of Companies, Parekh Ventures LLP, V Milak Enterprises, Arya Ocean Logistics Park, Hindustan Oil Industries, Supac Industries, Shreeji Group, NB Group, Shantakaram Nigam, Apollo Group of Institute, Agreement on investment proposal was signed with Panchakarma Hotels and Resorts (Trident), Sabarmati University, Leela Hotels and Resorts, Hops Healthcare, Prime Fresh, Dutt Motors, Nexus Infratech Pvt. Ltd.

- It is noteworthy that MoU's have been signed on investment proposals worth Rs 89300 crore in the six road shows held so far (London, Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore and Ahmedabad) for the Global Investors Conference.



Punjab-Haryana Court's Justice Ritu Bahri Recommended to be Made Chief Justice of Uttarakhand High Court

Why In News?

On November 2, 2023, the collegium headed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court recommended Punjab-Haryana High Court Justice Ritu Bahri to be made the Chief Justice of Uttarakhand High Court. Justice Bahri will replace former Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi in the Uttarakhand High Court.



Key Points:

- It may be noted that Chief Justice of Uttarakhand High Court Vipin Sanghi had retired on October 26. After this, senior High Court judge Manoj Kumar Tiwari has been made the acting Chief Justice of the High Court.
- Justice Ritu Bahri is the first woman acting Chief Justice of the Punjab-Haryana High Court. He assumed the responsibility of Acting Chief Justice on October 14, 2023. Presently she is the second senior most judge of Punjab-Haryana High Court.
- Justice Ritu Bahri's father Justice Amrit Lal Bahri has also been a judge in the Punjab-Haryana High Court. Justice Ritu Bahri started practicing law in the Punjab-Haryana High Court in 1986 and subsequently

Note:

served in the Haryana Advocate General's Office. On August 16, 2010, he was appointed judge of the Punjab-Haryana High Court.

Kedarnath Dham on Top in Plastic Waste Management

Why In News?

According to information received from the media on November 4, 2023, Kedarnath Dham of Uttarakhand has topped the country in plastic waste management among the urban bodies of all the states in the Urban Larnathon organized by the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Housing and the National Institute of Urban Affairs in New Delhi.

Key Points:

- The digital deposit refund system implemented for plastic waste collection in Kedarnath Dham of Uttarakhand has been ranked first in the country, while Bainsi Sena Self Help Group Haldwani has been ranked second in solid waste management.
- In Municipal Corporation Haldwani, The Bainsi Sena Self Help Group is collecting garbage from door to door in 57 wards. Along with this, single-use plastic is making people aware not to throw garbage in public places. The group is earning Rs 35 lakh per month by charging user charges from 70 percent of households and shops.
- At the event, the Ministry of Urban and Housing gave away the award to Uttarakhand as the winner and runner-up of Urban Larnathon-2023. Haldwani Mayor Jogendra Rautela and Assistant Director of Urban Development Department Vinod Kumar received the award.
- It is known that in the last Chardham Yatra, Rudraprayag District Administration and Urban Development Department had implemented a digital deposit refund system for plastic waste collection in Kedarnath Dham.
- On January 7, 2023, the central government awarded this system with the National Digital Award. Under this management, Ukhimath development block was declared a plastic regulated zone.
- Apart from this, QRs were installed on plastic water bottles. Based on the QR code, the seller used to charge additional money from the customer. When

the buyer returns the empty bottle to the designated shops, the excess amount is returned to him. 15 Digital Deposit Refund System Centers have been set up in Kedarnath Dham.



Five Proposals for Solar Energy Projects in the State Got Approval

Why In News?

According to information received from the media on November 3, 2023, the state-level committee formed under the chairmanship of Uttarakhand Energy Secretary R. Meenakshi Sundaram has reviewed the solar power proposal and approved the proposals for setting up five solar projects of 5.26 MW each.

Key Points:

- In this, Evincia Renewal Private Limited, Sahara Sai Private Limited, Technox Engineering and Service, Sahara Sai, Kashi Vishwanath Steel Textiles Mill Limited will set up solar projects totaling 5.26 MW (5265 kW). An investment of Rs 24 crore will be made in it.
- It is known that the Uttarakhand Renewable Energy Development Agency had sought applications for setting up solar power projects under the solar policy in July 2023, in which proposals for seven projects of 20 MW capacity were received.
- The Energy Secretary said that the state government is promoting green energy to reduce carbon emissions on pm's resolve regarding global warming.
- It is known that the new solar energy policy was implemented in the state on April 13, 2023. Mukhyamantri Solar Swarojgar Yojana has been

Note:

launched in the state. Apart from this, the state government is giving additional subsidy for setting up rooftop solar power plants for domestic consumers of Uttarakhand Power Corporation.

Agreement on Investment Proposal of Rs 30,200 crore in Mumbai Road Show

Why In News?

Agreements on investment proposals worth Rs 30,200 crore were signed in the road show held in the country's financial capital Mumbai for the Global Investors Conference to be held in Uttarakhand on November 6, 2023.

Key Points:

- Apart from this, investment talks were also held with JSW Sports, Godrej Chemicals, Astar Bhojan, V Arjun Logistics Park.
- Uttarakhand state government has so far conducted five road shows at the international level and five in the country for the investor conference. In these, investors were encouraged to invest in the state by holding road shows in London, Birmingham, Abu Dhabi, Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore, Ahmedabad and Mumbai. Also, MoU was signed on investment proposals.
- It may be noted that the state government has set an investment target of Rs 2.50 lakh crore for the investors' conference. So far, MoUs worth more than Rs 1,24,200 crore have been signed in the road show for the proposed Global Investors Conference at FRI, Dehradun on 8th and 9th December.



- It is noteworthy that in the first investor conference held in the state in 2018, MoUs on more than 600 proposals worth Rs. 1.24 lakh crore were signed. But till now only investment of about Rs. 30 thousand crore has been materialised. This time, agreements worth Rs. 1,24,200 crore have been signed so far.

National Games 2023: Uttarakhand has 17 Medals so Far

Why In News?

Players from Uttarakhand won two silver and one bronze medals in various sports in the 37th National Games being held in Goa on November 6, 2023. With this, the total number of medals of Uttarakhand has increased to 17.

Key Points:

- Sneha Chauhan of Uttarakhand won silver medal in Judo 57 kg category. In Archery, Karthik Rana of Doiwala, Dehradun won the silver medal and in the 78 kg category of Judo, Sneha Tadiyal of Uttarkashi won the bronze medal.
- In the 37th National Games, Uttarakhand is at 23rd position in the medal table with 17 medals including three gold and three silver medals.
- Whereas Uttarakhand's neighboring state Himachal Pradesh has got only six medals so far, which include two gold, one silver and three bronze medals. Himachal Pradesh is at number 27 in the medal table of National Games.



Note:

Uttarakhand will Trade Apples with Assam

Why In News?

On November 5, 2023, Uttarakhand Agriculture and Horticulture Minister Ganesh Joshi said that apples produced in Harsil in Uttarkashi district will be traded in the markets of Assam.

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand Agriculture Minister Ganesh Joshi said this during a meeting with Mandi Marketing Board officials during his visit to Guwahati to increase the reach of Uttarakhand's apples to Assam.
- He said that the apple of Harsil of Uttarkashi reaches Kolkata. It can be transported to the markets of Assam. If Assam trades apples with Uttarakhand, then the state government is ready to cooperate for this.
- Assam officials told the Agriculture Minister that the Assam Agricultural Marketing Board has 700 employees and 42 board members. Dronggiri area of Goalpara district of Assam is a big producer of bananas, from where bananas are sent to many states of the country.



International Acro Festival will be held in Tehri Lake from 24th November.

Why In News?

On November 5, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that through Uttarakhand Tourism Development Council, International Acro Festival will be organised in Tehri Lake from 24 to 28 November, in which pilots from the country and the world will perform stunts in the air.

Key Points:

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that Tehri Lake is the fastest emerging new destination in the tourism map of Uttarakhand, where the International Acro Festival is being organised for the first time.
- 35 international and 100 Indian pilots will participate in the thrilling competition in the Acro Festival.
- There will be adventure competitions like acro flying, synchro flying, wingsuit flying, de-bagging in this event. During the event, famous bands like Euphoria, Pandavas will also perform in the evening.
- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that the state government is working to give global recognition to Destination Uttarakhand and to make Uttarakhand a leading state in adventure tourism. International Acro Festival will establish new dimensions in this direction.



Rs 3 crore each will be given on Shooting of Films in Uttarakhand

Why In News?

On November 7, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has proposed to the producers-directors and artists of the film industry in Mumbai, that the Uttarakhand government will now give a grant of Three crore rupees for the shooting of Hindi film and web series in the state.

Key Points:

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami met producers-directors and artists of the film industry and discussed efforts to promote the film industry in Uttarakhand and invited the people of Mumbai to shoot in Uttarakhand.

Note:

- In the press conference, CM Dhama said that the state government has now decided to give grants for the shooting of web series in addition to films to promote shooting in Uttarakhand.
- He said that the amount received by the films has been doubled. Now a subsidy of Rs 3 crore will be given for shooting Hindi films in the state, Rs 2 crore for shooting regional films and Rs 3 crore for shooting web series.
- So far, a grant of Rs 1.50 crore has been given for shooting Hindi films in Uttarakhand, Rs 25 lakh for regional language films and Rs 15 lakh for shooting regional language films of other states.
- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama also announced that if anyone wants to open a studio for shooting in Uttarakhand, he will be given a grant of Rs 50 lakh, Rs 25 lakh for opening a theater and Rs 25 lakh for a post-production studio.
- Apart from introducing a single window system for shooting, he also informed that the production team coming for the shoot will be given a 50 percent discount for hotel stay and full security arrangements will be made during the shooting.



AYUSH Department Signs Agreement on Investment Proposal of Rs 4,000 crore

Why In News?

On November 7, 2023, Dr. Pankaj Kumar Pandey, Secretary of Uttarakhand AYUSH Department, said that for the Global Investors Conference, the AYUSH Department has so far signed MoUs on investment proposals worth Rs. four thousand crores.

Key Points:

- Secretary Dr. Pankaj Kumar Pandey said that new investment in the AYUSH and wellness sector in Uttarakhand will provide employment opportunities to six thousand people in the coming time.
- The government has set a target of investing Rs 5,000 crore in the AYUSH and wellness sector. The AYUSH Department has signed an MoU on an investment proposal of Rs 4,000 crore against the target.
- In this, an agreement has been signed with Patanjali for investment of one thousand crore rupees. Patanjali will invest in promoting wellness, yoga and production of medicinal plants in the state.
- Apart from this, an MoU has been signed with Kumar Group for investment of Rs 1700 crore in wellness and yoga.
- Secretary Dr. Pankaj Kumar Pandey said that an investment of Rs 800 crore will be implemented before the Global Investors Conference. In the AYUSH policy, there is a provision of giving five percent additional incentive on investment in wellness and AYUSH sector.

Note:

SJVN will Provide Cheap Electricity to UPCL

Why In News?

On November 8, 2023, SJVN Chairman and Managing Director Nandlal Sharma informed that SJVN will give 200 MW power from its solar power plant to Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited (UPCL). For this, a letter of intent has been received from UPCL.



Key Points:

- Nandlal Sharma said that UPCL is willing to buy power from SJVN's 1000 MW Bikaner Solar Project at a tariff of Rs 2.57 per unit.
- The allocation of solar energy from the project will be as per the power purchase agreement to be signed between SGEL and UPCL in the near future.
- On January 3, President Draupadi Murmu laid the foundation stone of Bikaner Solar Project. The project will be commissioned by June 2024.
- This solar project is being developed through SGEL, a wholly owned subsidiary of SJVN in Rajasthan under CPSU Scheme.
- The Bikaner solar project is likely to generate about 56,838 million units of electricity cumulatively over 25 years, while reducing carbon emissions by 27,85,077 tonnes.



Chief Minister Made Many Announcements on Uttarakhand Foundation Day

Why In News?

On November 9, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama made several announcements regarding the implementation of new policies in the state in a program organized on the occasion of State Foundation Day at the Police Lines in Dehradun.

Key Points:

- The Chief Minister said that the women's policy has been ready. It will be implemented soon.
- He also announced 'Mukhyamantri Kanya Samajik Vivah Yojana' for needy families and said that the government will start this scheme to provide necessary assistance to the needy families. Such events will be organized at the district level. All these arrangements will be made by the state government.
- The Chief Minister announced to prepare a specific action plan for the eradication of child labor with the coordination of all departments. The government will soon work on this action plan to secure the future of Devbhoomi.
- To make Uttarakhand drug free by the year 2025, we will also start a Drug Free Village and Drug Free City Scheme. Under this, special incentives will be given to the identified areas.
- On this occasion, President Draupadi Murmu honored four personalities of the state, Madhuri Barthwal, Basanti Bisht, Sachchidanand Bharatiya and Rajendra Singh Bisht, with 'Uttarakhand Gaurav Samman' for their excellent service in various fields.



Note:

State's First Yoga Policy Proposal

Why In News?

On November 9, 2023, Dr. Pankaj Kumar Pandey, AYUSH Secretary of Uttarakhand, said that the proposal for the first yoga policy of the state has been prepared. The government may soon approve this policy.



Key Points:

- Under this policy, the government will provide financial incentives for setting up yoga, spiritual and naturopathy centers in the state.
- According to the tourism policy, a provision is being made to give 50 percent subsidy on investment in yoga and spiritual facilities in selected hilly areas in B & C category. Apart from this, five percent additional subsidy will be given under the AYUSH policy.
- The Ayurveda and Unani department will be nodal to implement this policy. Investment proposals will be approved through a single window system.
- The state government is trying to make Uttarakhand an international yoga hub. Therefore, every year the International Yoga Festival is organized in Rishikesh by the Tourism Department.
- It should be noted that till now there was no policy to develop basic facilities of Yoga in the state.

For the first time in the state, six players will receive the Himalaya Putra Award.

Why in News?

On November 12, 2023, officials of the Sports Department of Uttarakhand said that for the first time in the state, six players will be given the Himalaya Putra Award. In this, this award will be given to players of one disabled person, two team and three individual events. The process of selection for the award has started.

Key Points

- It may be noted that these players who have excelled in sports are honored with the Devbhoomi Uttarakhand

Khel Ratna Award, Lifetime Achievement Award and sports coaches are honored with the Devbhoomi Uttarakhand Dronacharya Award every year, but the players are going to receive the Himalaya Putra Award for the first time.

- Sports Department officials According to this, the Sports Directorate has received applications for many awards till October 16. After scrutiny of the applications, there will be a meeting of the committee formed for this.
- The names of the selected players and sports coaches will be sent to the government through the committee. The names for the awards will be announced after the approval of the High Power Committee of the Government and the Sports Minister.
- **Names will also be announced for these awards:** One player from the state will receive the Devbhoomi Uttarakhand Khel Ratna Award, one will receive the LifeTime Achievement Award and one sports coach will receive the Devbhoomi Uttarakhand Dronacharya Award.

Devbhoomi Entrepreneurship Centers

Why in News?

On November 11, 2023, Dr. Deepak Kumar Pandey, Nodal Officer of Devbhoomi Entrepreneurship Scheme and Assistant Director, Higher Education, said that Devbhoomi Entrepreneurship Centers will be established in all the 119 government colleges of the state.

Key Points

- Dr. Deepak Kumar Pandey said that the objective of the scheme is to develop an ecosystem of innovation and enterprise in the universities and government institutions of the state in accordance with the National Education Policy-2020.
- Under the Devbhoomi Entrepreneurship Scheme, entrepreneurship training will be provided to 90 professors. Under the scheme, after identifying the entrepreneurial qualities of the students, they will be developed.
- It may be noted that 22 faculty members from state higher educational institutions have taken training at EDII, Ahmedabad from November 5 to November 10. Members from Nainital, Tehri Garhwal, Haridwar,

Note:



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Almora, Chamoli, Dehradun, Pauri Garhwal, Bageshwar, Uttarkashi, Champawat, Pithoragarh, Rudrapurayag participated in it.

- **The following topics will be focused in the entrepreneurship centres-**
 - Identifying and develop entrepreneurial qualities in students.
 - Identifying start-up opportunities.
 - To develop a curriculum on entrepreneurship.
 - Start-up funding and venture capital.
 - Emerging entrepreneurship opportunities in Uttarakhand and creating their project profiles.
 - Designing skill-development courses as per NEP-2020.
 - Discussion on library resources and IT.

State's first cyber city will be built in Rudrapur

Why in News

According to information received from the media on November 15, 2023, the Uttarakhand state government is seriously considering building the state's first cyber city around Rudrapur in Udham Singh Nagar district. Tata and Infosys have agreed to the investment.

Key Points

- According to official sources, the government is talking to renowned companies in the IT sector to implement this proposal. Companies like Tata and Infosys have agreed to invest in it. On the suggestion of companies, the government can also make changes in the policies of IT and service sector.
- According to official sources, Tata can invest Rs 5000 crore in the IT sector. The amount of investment may be more as per the circumstances. Apart from this, leading IT sector company Infosys can also make big investments in Uttarakhand.
- The government plans to provide land to all IT companies at one place. For Cyber City, land can be provided to IT companies on the land available near Parag Farm in Rudrapur.
- The government aims to garner investment of Rs 20-30 thousand crore in the IT sector. If the state government achieves its target, the path to creating a cyber city will become easier.



Millet Bakery Outlet Inaugurated in State Secretariat

Why in News?

On November 16, 2023, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama inaugurated the Millet Bakery outlet in the Secretariat premises with the aim of promoting products based on millets in the state and enhancing the livelihood of women self-help groups.

Key Points

- It may be noted that local grains like Mandua, Jhangora, Jowar, Amaranth etc. are being produced on a large scale by self-help groups of rural women in the state. To add value to these products, two millet product bakeries have been started in Raipur block of Dehradun and Pauri block of Pauri district.
- Biscuit, bread, pizza base and other products are being prepared by processing Mandua and Jhangora in Millet Bakery.
- The Chief Minister said that continuous efforts are being made by the state government to promote the local products of the state. Under the International Millet Year 2023, many programs are being organized in the state to encourage the production and consumption of local millets.
- He said that a target has been set to make 1.25 lakh women Lakhpati Didi by the year 2025. Till now 40,270 women have been made Lakhpati Didi.
- Women of selected self-help groups are being provided training for bakery products through bakery experts, so that more groups can prepare high quality and nutritious bakery products as per the market demand and make them available to the people.

Note:



Chardham Yatra: More than 56 lakh devotees visited

Why In News?

- More than 56 lakh devotees from across the country and the world visited the Chardham Yatra till November 18, 2023, creating a new record. In the history of the Yatra, a record has been made of the number of devotees who visited Hemkund Sahib including Chardham.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that about 75 lakh pilgrims had registered for the Chardham Yatra which ran from 22 April to 18 November. In this, more than 56.13 lakh people visited Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri, Yamunotri and Hemkund Sahib.
- For the first time in the history of the Yatra, the number of devotees has crossed 55 lakh. Maximum 19.61 lakh devotees visited Kedarnath Dham. After this, 18.34 lakh devotees visited Badrinath, 9.05 lakh in Gangotri, 7.35 lakh in Yamunotri and 1.77 lakh in Hemkund Sahib.



- In the year 2022, 46.29 lakh devotees had reached Chardham and Hemkund Sahib Yatra. Earlier, during the Covid period in 2021 and 2020, Chardham Yatra could not be conducted completely. Only 5.29 lakh pilgrims had arrived in 2021 and only 3.30 lakh in 2020. In the year 2019, more than 34.77 lakh devotees had come for the yatra.

182nd Birthday of the City of Lakes Nainital

Why In News?

On November 18, 2023, the 182nd birthday of Nainital, the tourist city and city of lakes of Uttarakhand, was celebrated.

Key Points:

- Let it be known that the English businessman P Barron, who reached Nainital on November 18, 1841, was impressed by the beauty of this place and brought it in the eyes of the world. The date of arrival of the English merchant is remembered as the birthday of Nainital.
- It is noteworthy that in 1842, the fourth Kumaon Commissioner George Thomas Lussington officially settled Nainital under European settlement. After this, the British gave it the status of a small province and made it the summer capital.
- The tourist city Nainital gives the message of communal harmony along with natural beauty. Maa Nayana Devi Temple, one of the 51 Shaktipeeths, is situated on the northern bank of Naini Lake in Nainital. Gurudwara, Asia's first Methodist Church and Jama Masjid are also located here.



Note:

- Due to uncontrolled and unplanned development, the beauty and environment of Nainital is being adversely affected. There is a need to take strict steps to stop the growing concrete jungle, reduce traffic pressure, make people aware of landslide affected areas and stop tampering with nature.

Central Cell and Core Committee formed to Implement MBBS Hindi Curriculum

Why In News?

The government has constituted a central cell and core committee to implement Hindi language curriculum in MBBS studies on November 22, 2023. The Vice Chancellor of HNB Medical Education University will be the chairman of the committee. The government has issued orders in this regard.

Key Points:

- According to the order issued by Additional Secretary Medical Education Namami Bansal, the Director of Medical Education will be the co-chairman of the committee. While all the principal members of Government Medical College and Head of Radiotherapy Department of Doon Medical College, Prof. Daulat Singh will be the member secretary.
- To implement Hindi language curriculum in MBBS, a sub-committee will be formed at the medical college level, in which the principal or dean of the college will be the chairman of the committee. The faculty member nominated by the Principal will be nominated as Secretary and the heads of departments of three faculties will be nominated as members.
- Apart from this, HNB Medical University was nominated as the nodal agency to implement the recommendations of the committee regarding Hindi language curriculum.
- It is known that the university has submitted the curriculum report to the government for teaching MBBS in Hindi language. The state government is making preparations to implement Hindi language curriculum in MBBS course soon.

First Regional Investors Conference held in Rudrapur in Uttarakhand

Why In News?

The first regional investor conference was organized in Rudrapur under the Global Investor Summit in the presence of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama on November 22, 2023.

Key Points:

- In the regional investors conference, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama said that after signing agreements worth several crores in the country and abroad, a proposal for investment worth Rs 12,000 crore has been received in Uttarakhand. The state has signed a total investment agreement of Rs 1.5 lakh crore.
- The Chief Minister said that industrialists from London, Dubai, Chennai, Bangalore and Ahmedabad have been contacted for the development and expansion of industries and setting up new industries. Talks have also been held with industrialist Mukesh Ambani for investment in Uttarakhand. Companies like ITC Company, Mahindra, Ashok Leyland etc. will invest in the state.
- He said that 27 new policies are being made to promote tourism and industries. Adventure-tourism will be promoted in the state.
- The Chief Minister said that the industrialists are the brand ambassadors of Uttarakhand. The third decade of the 21st century belongs to Uttarakhand with the contribution of the people of the industrial group. He said that 6000 acres of land bank is available in Haridwar and US Nagar.



Note:

worth Rs 18 thousand crore Approved through Single Window , 26 Thousand people will get employment

Why In News?

According to the information received from the media on November 26, 2023, investment proposals worth about Rs 18 thousand crore have been approved by the Uttarakhand government till the month of November in the financial year 2023-24.

Key Points:

- The maximum investment in this proposal is for Dehradun, Haridwar, Nainital and Udham Singh Nagar districts. Apart from this, approval has also been given to investors in hilly areas.
- This investment will provide employment to about 26 thousand people.
- The state government has implemented a single window system for obtaining permission from various departments for industrial investment proposals in the state.
- MoUs have been signed on investment proposals worth Rs 2 lakh crore in the road show for the Global Investors Conference to be held in Dehradun on December 8 and 9, 2023, while the state government has set an investment target of Rs 2.50 lakh crore for the conference.

District	Investment in crores
Almora	51.32
Bageshwar	19.09
Champawat	11.3
Chamoli	1.95
Dehradun	1172.09
Haridwar	868.6
Nainital	602.17
Pauri	63
Pithoragarh	64.83
Rudraprayag	99.19
Tehri	245.72
Udham Singh Nagar	1064.91
Uttarkashi	24.68
State level	13313.05



Chief Minister Inaugurated the Sixth Disaster Management Global Conference

Why In News?

On November 28, 2023, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama inaugurated the 6th Disaster Management Global Conference by lighting a lamp at Graphic Era University, Clement Town, Dehradun.

Key Points:

- The Chief Minister also released a book 'Resilient India' based on the experience of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the occasion.
- Delegates, experts and scientists from over 50 countries are participating in the conference to be held till December 1, 2023. More than 60 technical sessions will be held in the conference.
- Addressing the conference, the Chief Minister said that this disaster management global conference is important in view of the current situation in the world. In this regard, it is also the need of the hour to share the studies, researches and experiences happening at the global level.
- The Chief Minister said that the Global Investors Summit is being organized in Dehradun on December 8 and 9, 2023. In this, participation will be made on behalf of industrial groups and investors of the country and abroad to speed up investment in the state. The global conference on disaster management held just before this conference will send the message of 'Safe Investment-Strong Uttarakhand' to the country and abroad.

Note:

- He said that this conference will help in better addressing the challenges posed by disaster management and climate change along with integrated development goals.
- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama said that courses on disaster management will be included in universities and educational institutions of the state and workshops will be organized.
- He said that the National Institute of Disaster Management will be established in Uttarakhand by the Central Government. The state government will arrange land for this. Apart from this, whatever is expected from the central government to open the institute, the state government will fulfill it.



Silkyara Became the Country's Longest Rescue Operation

Why In News?

On November 28, 2023, 41 labourers trapped in an under-construction tunnel at Silkyara in Uttarkashi district were successfully rescued after 17 days (about 2 and a half weeks) of hard work. With this, Operation Silkyara has become the longest rescue operation in the country to evacuate workers trapped in a tunnel or mine.

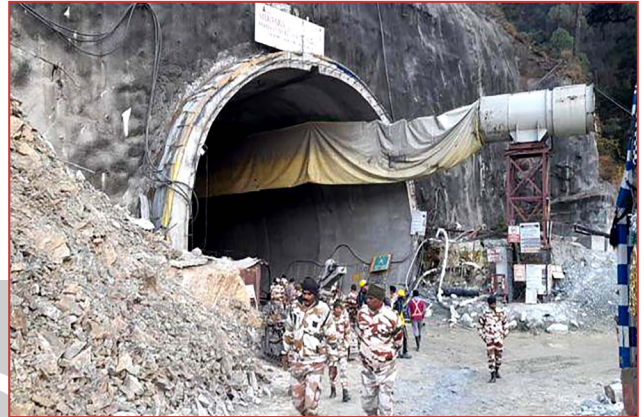
Key Points:

- On November 12, 41 labourers were trapped inside an under-construction tunnel at Silkyara in Uttarkashi district due to a landslide on the day of Deepawali. Various agencies were engaged to get them out safely.
- NDRF, SDRF, BRO, RVNL, SJVNL, ONGC, ITBP, NHAIDCL, THDC, Uttarakhand State Government, District Administration, Army, Air Force, workers played an important role in the rescue work in Mission Silkyara.
- It is noteworthy that 17-day Operation Silkyara has become the longest rescue operation in the country to evacuate the trapped workers in a tunnel or mine. Earlier, such a campaign has also been carried out in the country.
 - Raniganj Coal Mine Campaign
 - On November 13, 1989, the Mahabir Kolyari Raniganj coal mine in West Bengal was submerged. There were 65 workers trapped in it. A team was formed under the leadership of mining engineer Jaswant Gill to take them out safely. After two days of operation, all the workers were finally safely evacuated.
 - In that operation, Gill himself went inside the mine through a steel capsule to save people. In 1991, the then President R. Venkataraman awarded him the Best Life Saving Medal.
 - The number of workers in that campaign was more than Silkyara, but it took less time to evacuate them. In Silkyara, the workers could be evacuated after the 13th day passed.
 - A similar campaign took place in 2006 in Haldheri village of Kurukshetra, Haryana, where a five-year-old boy fell into a prince borewell. After about 50 hours (about 2 days) of hard work, the rescue teams

Note:

managed to pull the child out. In this campaign, the child was taken out by connecting another borewell through an iron pipe of three feet diameter.

- Some similar campaigns have also taken place abroad-
 - **Thai Cave Expedition:** On June 23, 2018, the Wild Boars football team went to Tham Luang Cave in Thailand and got stuck inside due to waterlogging caused by rain. It was an extremely challenging task to find the players amidst the ever-increasing water in the cave. As many as 90 divers were also deployed in the nearly two-week-long operation. Former Thailand Navy SEAL Saman Kunan lost his life in the rescue operation. It is considered to be one of the most complex rescue operations in the world.
 - **Chile mine operation:** On August 5, 2010, 33 workers were buried in the San Jose gold and copper mine that collapsed. It was difficult to contact these workers trapped about 2000 feet (about 609.6 m) below the ground. After 17 days (about 2 and a half weeks) of hard work, food, water, medicine could be sent to the trapped workers by making a lifeline hole under the surface. After 69 days (about 2 and a half months), on October 13, all the workers were taken out of the tunnel one by one.
 - **On July 24, 2002,** nine workers were trapped in the Cucreek Mining Inc. mine in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, USA. They were pulled out after 77 hours (about 3 days) with the help of only a 22-inch-wide iron ring.



Female Home Guards will get Maternity Leave

Why In News?

On November 28, 2023, the Uttarakhand state government has allowed women home guards to be given maternity leave like other departments. Now women home guards will also get the benefit of maternity leave.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that till now there was no facility of maternity leave to home guards in the state, but recently IG Kewal Khurana had recommended maternity leave from the government for women home guards like women employees posted in police and other government departments.
- The state government has taken the recommendation of IG Kewal Khurana seriously. Additional Chief Secretary Radha Raturi has also given permission to provide maternity leave to women home guards.

Note:

- There are more than six thousand male and female home guards in the state. IG Kewal Khurana is constantly providing hi-tech facilities to home guards and providing facilities like police.
- The salary of women home guards will not be deducted during maternity leave. They will be given full salary of maternity leave. Apart from this, during maternity leave, higher officials will also get information about the well-being of women home guards.



Note:

Key Points

Details

Summary

