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(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTARAKHAND

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Sara will Beautify the Streams and Water Sources of Uttarakhand

Why In News?

On October 2, 2023, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand, Anand Vardhan informed that a unified agency is set to be formed to preserve and revive the rivers and crevices embedded in the culture and tradition of Uttarakhand. For this, an exercise is being done to form a Springshed and River Rejuvenation Agency (SARA) at the government level.

Key Points:

- Additional Chief Secretary, Anand Vardhan informed that an exercise has been started to preserve and revive the rivers in the state. For this, a proposal has been prepared to set up a springshed and river rejuvenation agency (SARA). It will be presented soon at the level of Chief Secretary. After this, the proposal will be sent to the Cabinet for approval.
- Water management has been entrusted with the responsibility. With the formation of a unified agency, various departments working on the salvation of the naula-dhars will be able to work together under one umbrella.
- After the formation of SARA, a high power committee will be formed at the state level, district level executive committee in the districts and dhara-naula conservation committee at the village level.
- These committees will map rain-fed rivers along all the streams across the state. Then works like identification of sensitive water sources, construction of check dams, planting of plants for rainwater conservation, construction of chawls and skins will be done. For this, the public will also be made partners in their treatment.
- Uttarakhand is known for its many evergreen rivers irrigating the plains of North India. The state has a wide network of 213 rivers, including glaciers and rainfed ones.
- Water from rivers and many water sources together increases the flow in these rivers, but according to an estimate, about 12 thousand water sources in the state have dried up, which is a matter of great concern for the future.

- So far, the departments of forest, planning, finance, agriculture, rural development, drinking water, irrigation, minor irrigation, revenue, panchayati raj and urban development along with non-governmental organizations are working in their own way to save the rivers, but they are not getting the desired results.
- It is known that in the past, concerns were raised on this issue at the level of Chief Secretary Dr. SS Sandhu. Then came the idea of a unified agency to conserve, revive the streams and other water bodies. Now its exercise has started. With the formation of the agency, work will be done in a better way towards water conservation.

6th Global Disaster Management Conference to be held in Uttarakhand from November 28

Why In News?

On October 3, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami informed in a press conference that the 6th Global Disaster Management Conference will be organized in Dehradun, the capital of Uttarakhand, from November 28 to December 1.

Key Points:

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that representatives from many countries and states will participate in the conference. Megastar of the century Amitabh Bachchan will be the brand ambassador of the conference.
- The conference will be a brainstorming session among experts from across the country and the world in the field of disaster management. The topics of disaster management along with climate change will be discussed in the conference.
- The primary objective of this conference is to discuss and address the challenges of climate change and disaster resilience with a focus on the Himalayan ecosystem and communities.
- With the aim of making the conference more effective, special sessions on disaster management will be organized in various institutions including universities, colleges and schools of the state. Besides, various workshops will also be organized to spread awareness about disaster management.

Note:



- The inaugural session will be held on 28th November. At the same time, there will be four sessions in the conference, in which there will be 50 technical sessions. Experts and scientists from many countries will participate in the conference.
- The Disaster Management Department is organizing a mega show in this regard. An exhibition will also be organized in the conference.



Country's First Cartography Museum Inaugurated in Mussoorie

Why In News?

Recently, Uttarakhand Tourism and Culture Minister Satpal Maharaj inaugurated the country's first cartography museum, George Everest Cartography Museum, in the picturesque city of Mussoorie, Uttarakhand.

Key Points:

- On the occasion of World Tourism Day on September 27, Tourism Minister Satpal Maharaj inaugurated the Sir George Everest Museum built at a cost of Rs 23 crore 52 lakh and the helipad at George Everest in Mussoorie.
- The Tourism Minister dedicated the country's first mapping museum to the great mathematician Radhanath Sikdar and Pandit Nain Singh Rawat.
- It is noteworthy that the museum is located in the Park Estate, which used to be the residence of the famous surveyor Sir George Everest, after whom Mount Everest was named. This hill is in the Hathipaon area of the city. Sir Everest lived in this house from 1832 to 1843 and it is one of the first houses built in Mussoorie.
- Sir George Everest House, built in 1832, has been developed as a museum. With the assistance of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Department of Tourism has renovated it with a budget of Rs 23.5 crore.

- The museum contains information about the history of cartography, instruments related to cartography, great Indian surveyors and the great trigonometric survey.
- Along with Sir George Everest, letters of Surveyor Nain Singh Rawat will also be kept in this museum. Along with this, people will also come face to face with the observatory of surveyor Kishan Singh Negi and mathematician Radhanath Sikdar.
- In the Cartographic Museum, tourists will also be able to know the working of GPS, for which the globe has been prepared. The museum has been prepared with modern technology, such as how do satellites work? How are GPS and communication systems operated in them? This information can also be obtained.
- The complete information about the equipment that the tourists coming to this museum will stand in front of will be displayed, which will be operated through special software and all the information will be available on the mobile as soon as the QR code is scanned.
- It is noteworthy that cartography is about exploring and making maps. It uses science, art and technical skills to depict real or imagined places, helping to understand where things are located.



National Cultural & Literary Fest and Kala Utsav-2023

Why In News?

On October 3, 2023, Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda inaugurated the 4th Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) National Cultural and Literary Festival and Kala Utsav-2023 in the presence of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami in Dehradun, the capital of Uttarakhand.

Note:

Key Points:

- The festival is being organized by the National Education Society (NETS) for tribal students under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and is being hosted by Eklavya Vidyalaya Sangathan Samiti (EVSS), Uttarakhand at Maharana Pratap Sports College, Dehradun.
- The Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) cultural festival provides a national platform to tribal students to showcase their hidden talent in various fields.
- This year, the four-day event (October 3-6) will see a performance by over 2,000 tribal students from 22 states.
- More than 20 events will be held at the festival, ranging from dance and song performances to quizzes and visual arts. Stalls from different states have been arranged to showcase tribal culture.
- Such events provide an opportunity to the children and teachers of EMRS to meet each other, understand and learn from the cultures of different provinces of the country, fulfilling Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'.
- Such events will inspire everyone and provide a better opportunity to learn about their culture as well as the rich traditions of the tribal communities living in different corners of the country.
- Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami highlighted the diverse traditions and culture of tribals in Uttarakhand and various government schemes being run for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in the state.
- The 'EMRS National Cultural Festival' is the most awaited event every year for tribal students pursuing education at EMRS.
- NESTS is running EMRS for Scheduled Tribes across India. The EMRS scheme is one of the flagship programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and was revamped in the year 2018-19 to ensure that students from remote tribal areas get quality education.



Global Investors Summit: Agreement on investment of Rs 19,385 crore in Delhi Road Show

Why In News?

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami signed an MoU for an investment proposal worth Rs 19,385 crore at a roadshow held in New Delhi for the Global Investors Summit on October 4, 2023.

Key Points:

- Under the MoU, JSW Energy will invest Rs 15,000 crore in setting up two pumped storage projects in Almora of 1500 MW capacity, which will be developed in the next five to six years.

Note:

○ In Site-1 at Joskote village in Almora, the scheme is located at a lower dam-reservoir 8 to 10 km from the Kosi river. It is proposed at a distance of 10km.

○ Apart from this, this upper reservoir in site-2 in Kurchon village of Almora is 16 km from the Kosi river. It is proposed at a distance of 10km.

○ This scheme will provide drinking water supply to a large population and irrigation facility for agriculture. Also, 1000 people will get employment opportunities.

- Apart from this, Yatharth Hospital signed MoUs worth Rs 4385 crore in medicine, DS Group in food processing, Dixon Technology in electronic manufacturing, Radisson Group in hotels, Oberoi Group in resorts, SLMG in wellness and Communism, TWI, BSS in total MoUs worth Rs 4385 crore. This will provide employment opportunities to thousands of people in the state.
- It is known that in the road shows held in London, Birmingham, New Delhi, so far agreements worth Rs 40 thousand crore have been signed.
- The agreement with the investors in the road show shows the success of the Global Investors Summit. This will provide CSR support to the Manaskhand Temple Mala Mission for the development of pumped storage plants, cement, training center, drinking water, infrastructure development in ancient temples of Kumaon, and beautification in the state.



Hiraj Artinian signed the MoU to provide training in the field of tourism and hospitality to students of classes 9 to 12 in Uttarakhand.

- Swiss Education Group will also assist in improving the vocational education curriculum for students in the state.
- School children will be trained by faculty from the Swiss Education Group. In Switzerland too, the school children of the state will be given one month training in these areas by the Swiss Education Group.
- This agreement will prove to be a milestone in the coming times for better training in the field of tourism and hospitality under vocational education for children from class 9th to 12th in the state.
- It is known that there is a lot of employment potential in both these sectors in the state. After gaining proficiency in these areas through training, students will get many employment opportunities. That is why the state government is continuously making efforts to promote tourism.
- Many works are being done to promote religious, spiritual and adventure tourism as well as eco-tourism and wellness. The state is also receiving many proposals in the field of hospitality. There are many possibilities in this sector in the state in the coming times.



MoU Signed Between Samagra Shiksha Uttarakhand and Swiss Education Group, Switzerland

Why In News?

On October 5, 2023, an MoU was signed between Samagra Shiksha Uttarakhand and Swiss Education Group, Switzerland at the Secretariat in the presence of Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama.

Key Points:

- State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha Banshidhar Tiwari and Swiss Education Group Executive Director

49th All India Police Science Congress

Why In News?

On 7-8 October, 2023 two-day 49th All India Police Science Congress was organized at the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated it.

Note:

Key Points

- Union Home and Cooperation Minister released the Compendium of 49th All India Police Science Congress, BPR-D's prestigious Hindi magazine (Police Science) and Uttarakhand Police-Marching with The Times magazine in the programme.
- The objective of this Science Congress is to equip the police with modern technology. It is noteworthy that police officers from all the states across the country participated in this program.
- In his address at the inauguration, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah said that this 49th All India Police Science Congress is very important because this conference is the first Police Science Congress being held in Amritkal.
- Six themes – Policing in the 5G era, Narcotics – a game changing approach, Challenges of Social Media, Community Policing, Challenges of Internal Security and Coordination between Police and CAPFs – Border Security were discussed during this Police Science Congress.



24th Meeting of Central Regional Council held in Uttarakhand

Why In News?

On October 7, 2023, the 24th meeting of the Central Regional Council was held in Narendra Nagar, Uttarakhand

under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah.

Key Points

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath attended the meeting. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan participated in the meeting through video conferencing.
- Chhattisgarh Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu and Union Home Secretary, Secretary of the Inter State Council Secretariat, Chief Secretaries of member states and senior officials of state governments and central ministries and departments were also present in the meeting.
- In his presidential address Amit Shah said that under the leadership of the Prime Minister, the role of regional councils has changed from advisory to action platforms. He said that the states of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Chhattisgarh included in the Central Regional Council have a huge contribution in the GDP and development of the country.
- Amit Shah said that under cooperative federalism, regional councils have played the role of catalyst in solving problems, increasing financial inclusion and policy changes.
- It is noteworthy that from 2004 to 2014, 11 meetings of Regional Councils and 14 meetings of Standing Committees were held, whereas from 2014 to 2023, 25 meetings of Regional Councils and 29 meetings of Standing Committees were held.
- Between 2004 and 2014, a total of 570 issues were discussed, out of which 448 were resolved, while between 2014 to 2023, a total of 1315 issues were discussed, out of which 1157 issues were resolved.



Note:



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Chief Minister launches Rozgar Prayag Portal and 'Yuva Uttarakhand App'

Why in the News?

On October 10, 2023, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami launched the Rozgar Prayag Portal and 'Yuva Uttarakhand App' in the 'Uttarakhand Youth Festival-2023' program organized in Dehradun. He also launched self-employment centers in employment offices.



Key points

- On this occasion, the Chief Minister also gave appointment letters to 17 candidates selected through employment fairs. He also visited the exhibitions organized by various departments.
- While addressing the youth in the program, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that the process of getting information and applying for the posts to be filled through outsourcing in various government departments through the Rozgar Prayag portal will be simple, while through this portal, youth will also be able to get information about outsourcing posts in various departments.
- State's Skill Development and Employment Minister Saurabh Bahuguna said that skill development of youth is necessary for the development of Uttarakhand. With this thinking, Youth Mahotsav is being organized to connect the youth with skill development and employment.
- He said that the stalls of all the departments have been set up so that the youth can get all the information about the schemes of the state government.



Bullet Recovery Box

Why In News?

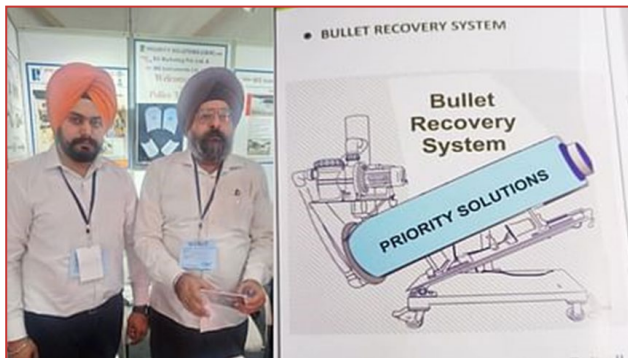
In the recently concluded All India Police Science Congress in Dehradun, a company from Mohali launched a ballistic testing equipment called 'Bullet Recovery Box', which will reveal in just 30 seconds which weapon the bullet was fired from.

Key points:

- It is known that after firing incidents, the police recover empty shells and weapons (guns, pistols, revolver etc.) from the spot. After this, it is checked whether the bullet was fired from this particular weapon or from some other weapon.
- Many times, if the weapon is not recovered from the spot, other suspected weapons are also recovered at the behest of the criminals. These are also checked. With the help of this equipment, ballistics test results will no longer take a long time.
- The investigation done in the forensic lab is called ballistic investigation. There is a special mark ('signature' in the language of science) on the barrel of weapons, which is different for each weapon. When a bullet is fired, this mark appears on the bullet. To find this mark, the relevant weapon is fired again in the forensic lab.
- After this it is seen whether these are the same marks which are on the bullet found at the spot. In case of murder, the bullet is removed from the body and sent to the forensic lab. This confirms whether the bullet was fired from this weapon or from some other one.
- Till now these tests are done by firing in a box filled with cotton. It takes hours just to find the bullet. Not only this, due to cotton fibers marks are not visible on the bullet properly. In such a situation, firing is done repeatedly to get accurate results.

Note:

- The new bullet recovery box will be filled with water. It is also equipped with special equipment to reduce the velocity of the bullet. With this, the bullet will come out automatically in just 30 seconds and accurate results will be obtained.
- This tool has been developed by Priority Solution Mohali. Priority Solution MD Gurusevak Singh said that till now only cotton-based bullet recovery boxes are used in forensic science labs across the country. This is the only company in India to manufacture this water filled equipment. This type of technology is being used in many countries, but this box of his company is more advanced than theirs.



Survey of Tourist Places will be Conducted for the First Time in the State

Why In News?

On October 10, 2023, Additional Secretary of Uttarakhand Tourism Department Yugal Kishore Pant said that for the first time a survey of tourists coming from the country and the world will be conducted for tourism in different areas in the state. The data obtained from the survey will prove to be helpful in making tourism development plans in the future.

Key Points:

- Yugal Kishore Pant said that during the survey, many questions will be answered from tourists. Which place is most preferred by foreign and domestic tourists to visit in the state? Also, what other tourist activities including religious and adventure come to Uttarakhand and what kind of problems have they faced? To know this, a survey will be conducted at different tourist places across the state.

- The survey will be conducted at many tourist places of the state including Haridwar, Rishikesh, Dehradun, Mussoorie, Nainital, Bhimtal, Lansdowne, Tehri, Rudraprayag, Chamoli, Pithoragarh, Bageshwar, Champawat, Almora, Uttarkashi.
- It is worth mentioning that about five crore tourists visit Uttarakhand every year. These include pilgrims coming in the Chardham Yatra. Tourists from all over the country and abroad come here for summer holidays, weekends, New Year celebrations, rafting, mountaineering, and spirituality.



SISF and Tourism Police will be Formed in Uttarakhand

Why In News?

On October 10, 2023, Additional Chief Secretary (Home) of Uttarakhand, Radha Raturi, in a meeting with Home Department officials, made a clear proposal for the formation of State Industrial Security Force (SISF) and Tourism Police for the security of public establishments and tourist places of the state. Gave instructions to give.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that both these proposals were discussed in the meeting of Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The state government will send both these proposals to the central government for approval.
- Those proposals which are under consideration in the Home Ministry were also discussed in the meeting. After Home Minister Amit Shah's assurance on all these proposals, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) Radha Raturi held a meeting with Home Department officials.

Note:

- In the meeting, ACS gave instructions to fully constitute the Anti Narcotics Task Force to deal strictly with drug smugglers. There is a provision for 40 posts in the task force, but not a single post has been filled.
- The cooperation of National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) will be taken to break the backbone of drug smugglers and crack down on inter-state and international gangs.
- In the meeting, ACS gave instructions to send the proposal for scrapping the policy of vehicles to the Central Government as soon as possible. The Union Home Minister had emphasized on providing quality training to police officers and employees, in this regard the ACS instructed the officers to prepare proposals immediately.
- In the meeting, ACS gave instructions to implement the Model Jail Manual and Model Jail Act 2023 implemented at the Center with certain amendments as per the situation of the state. He asked to receive a clear proposal regarding the Model Fire Bill from the Police Headquarters in a timely manner.

Prime Minister Laid the Foundation Stone of Several Development Projects in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand

Why In News?

On October 12, 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation several development projects worth about Rs 4200 crore in rural development, roads, power, irrigation, drinking water, horticulture, education, health and disaster management among other sectors in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand.

Key Points:

- The following projects were inaugurated and dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister:
 - 76 rural roads and 25 bridges constructed in rural areas under PMGSY;
 - 15 buildings of BDO offices in 9 districts;

- Upgradation of three roads constructed under the Central Road Fund – Kausani-Bageshwar Road, Dhari-Dauba-Girichhina Road and Nagla-Kichha Road;
- Upgradation of two roads on National Highways – Almora Petshal-Panuvanaula-Danya (NH 309B) and Tanakpur-Chalthi (NH 125);
- Three projects related to drinking water – 38 pumping drinking water schemes, 419 gravity based water supply schemes and three tube well based water supply schemes;
- Tharkot artificial lake in Pithoragarh;
- 132 KV Pithoragarh-Lohaghat (Champawat) Power Transmission Line;
- 39 bridges in Uttarakhand and the Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority (USDMA) building constructed in Dehradun under the World Bank-funded Uttarakhand Disaster Recovery Project.



- The projects for which foundation stones were laid are:
 - Scheme for construction of 21,398 poly-houses, which will help in increasing the production of flowers and vegetables and improving their quality;
 - A scheme for the cultivation of dense apple orchards at high density;
 - Five projects for upgradation of National Highways (NH);
 - Several steps have been taken for disaster preparedness and strengthening in the state - construction of bridges, upgradation of State Emergency Operation Center located in Dehradun, steps for prevention of landslides in Balinala and Nainital and improvement in other infrastructure related to fire, health and forest;
 - Development of hostels and computer labs in 20 model degree colleges across the state;
 - 100-bed sub-district hospital at Someshwar, Almora;
 - 50-bed hospital block in Champawat;
 - Astro turf hockey field at Haldwani Stadium in Nainital;
 - Velodrome Stadium in Rudrapur;
 - 'Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission Scheme' for development of infrastructure in various temples including Jageshwar Dham (Almora), Haat Kalika (Pithoragarh) and Naina Devi (Nainital) temples.

Note:

“
**आज भारत, विकास की
नई बुलंदी की तरफ बढ़ रहा है।**

पूरी दुनिया में भारत और
भारतीयों का गौरवगान हो रहा है।

पिछौरागढ़ में पीएम मोदी, 12 अक्टूबर 2023



“
उत्तराखंड के हर गांव में देश के रक्षक हैं।
**वन रैंक वन पेंशन की उनकी
दशकों पुरानी मांग को
हमारी ही सरकार ने पूरा किया है।**

पिछौरागढ़ में पीएम मोदी, 12 अक्टूबर 2023



“
आज हर क्षेत्र, हर मैदान में हमारा
तिरंगा ऊंचे से ऊंचा लहरा रहा है।

**हमारा चंद्रयान वहां पहुंचा है,
जहां दुनिया का कोई भी देश नहीं पहुंच पाया।
भारत ने उस स्थान को
शिव-शक्ति का नाम दिया है।**

पिछौरागढ़ में पीएम मोदी, 12 अक्टूबर 2023



“
हमने सीमावर्ती गांवों को अंतिम नहीं,
बल्कि देश के पहले गांव के
रूप में विकसित करना शुरू किया है।
**वाइब्रेंट विलेज प्रोग्राम के तहत, ऐसे ही
सीमावर्ती गांवों का विकास किया जा रहा है।**

पिछौरागढ़ में पीएम मोदी, 12 अक्टूबर 2023



“
स्पोर्ट्स में भी भारत का दम आज दुनिया देख रही है।
हाल में एशियाई खेल समाप्त हुए हैं।
इसमें भारत ने इतिहास के सारे रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिए हैं।
**पहली बार भारत के खिलाड़ियों ने 100 से
ज्यादा मेडल जीतने का रिकॉर्ड बनाया है।**

पिछौरागढ़ में पीएम मोदी, 12 अक्टूबर 2023



“
ये भारत का अमृतकाल है।
**ये अमृतकाल, देश के हर क्षेत्र,
हर वर्ग को सुविधा, सम्मान और
समृद्धि से जोड़ने का काल है।**

पिछौरागढ़ में पीएम मोदी, 12 अक्टूबर 2023



Note:

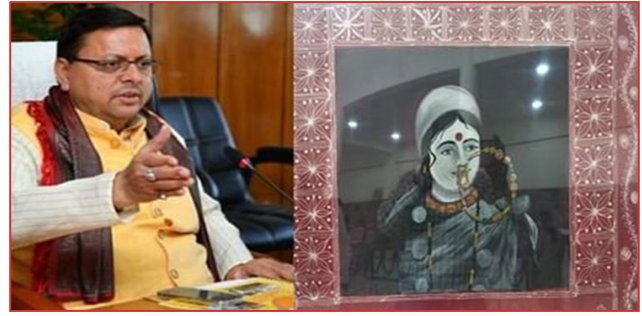
'Aipan Mahotsav' Started

Why In News?

On October 15, 2023, 'Aipan Mahotsav' was inaugurated by the Council of Culture, Literature and Arts of Uttarakhand to promote folk culture Aipan art in the auditorium of Uttarakhand Sanskriti Sahitya Kala Parishad located at Haridwar Bypass.

Key Points:

- In a video message at the inauguration of the festival, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami called upon the people of the state to celebrate Aipan Mahotsav from October 15 to November 12 till Deepawali and said that with collective efforts, Aipan art will get recognition on the global stage.
- In the video message, the CM said that Aipan art is a mode of folk culture. For the happiness and prosperity of the family, Aipan is made on the walls and walls of the house.
- The state government is trying to take this art to the country and the world. For this, a collective effort will give a new identity to Aipan. He called upon everyone to become a part of every household by Deepawali. For this, people should create an app at their homes and upload selfies with family on social media.
- Madhu Bhatt, vice-president of the Council for Culture, Literature and Arts, said that the Aipan Festival will be celebrated in the entire state till Deepawali. To promote the folk culture of Uttarakhand, the younger generation also spoke their Garhwal, Kumaoni, Jaunsari dialect. Efforts will be made to connect the youth with Aipan art.



140 Players from Uttarakhand will Participate in 18 Sports in the 37th National Games.

Why In News?

On October 15, 2023, the Uttarakhand Olympic Association released the list of participating players of the state in the 37th National Games starting from October 26 in Goa. 140 players from Uttarakhand will participate in 18 sports.

Key Points:

- According to Special Principal Secretary Sports Abhinav Kumar, the Olympic Association selects and prepares the list of players for the National Games. The system which is there in other states is the same in Uttarakhand.
- The national games to be held in Goa include 13 in kayaking and canoeing, one in cycling, six in swimming, four in wushu, two in weightlifting, six in judo, seven in taekwondo, 20 in mini golf, 10 in yoga, three in shooting, 12 in football, 10 in boxing, seven in penkacsilt, six in sepak takraw, 14 in athletics. There will be 11 players in badminton, six in archery, two in golf. At the same time, 47 coaches and staff will also go to Goa.



Note:

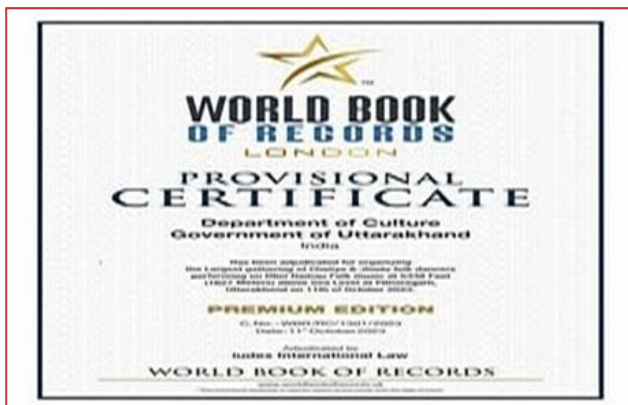
A New World Record Made in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Visit to Kumaon

Why In News?

On October 15, 2023, Bina Bhatt, Director of Culture Department, said that a new world record has been set during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Kumaon in Uttarakhand. The Uttarakhand Culture Department has also received the provisional certificate of the World Book of Records London.

Key Points:

- Kumaon: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's performance on his visit to Kumaon with dhol damau folk instruments of Choliya and Jhoda folk dance of Kumaon has found a place in the World Book of Records.
- On October 12, at an altitude of 5338 feet (1627 meters) above sea level in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand, three thousand folk artists of the state participated in this unique event organized by the Culture Department with their traditional costumes and folk songs.
- With the performance of these artists of Choliya and Jhoda dance troupe from remote areas of Pithoragarh, the world's attention has been drawn to the historical and rich folk cultural heritage of the state.
- During the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, folk artists of Choliya and Jhoda dance teams, equipped with their traditional costumes and ornaments, came to participate. During the event, traditional folk instruments such as tun, ranasinghe were seen by the artistes.



Chief Minister Inaugurated the Office of Hexaware Technology

Why In News?

On October 15, 2023, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated the local office of Hexaware Technology at Doon Business Park, Transport Nagar, Dehradun.

Key Points:

- On this occasion, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that continuous efforts are being made to improve the systems with technology in the state. He said that this office of Hexaware Technology will prove to be a milestone in the expansion of IT services.
- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that the country is making rapid progress in the field of technology. This sector is becoming a medium of empowerment and contributing significantly in taking people towards self-reliance. New India is not only a consumer of technology but is also playing an active role in the development and implementation of technology.
- At the time of 2G, 3G, 4G, India was dependent on other countries for technology, but with 5G, India has created a new history. With 5G, India is setting global standards in telecom technology for the first time. Digitalization is happening rapidly in India.

Note:



- Digital India is an important part of the country's broader vision of development. The goal of this vision is to bring that technology to the common people, which works for the people, works in collaboration with the people.
- He said that today digital India has provided a platform and a market to small traders, small entrepreneurs, artisans. In the market, people working in the markets and in the markets, all are using UPI.



Uttarakhand Khel Mahakumbh 2023

Why In News?

On October 16, 2023, Uttarakhand Sports Minister Rekha Arya said in a meeting with departmental officials in the auditorium room of the Assembly that it has been decided to organize the Uttarakhand Khel Mahakumbh, which starts in the first week of October every year, from October 31 to the end of December this time.

Key Points:

- Sports Minister Rekha Arya said that the situation regarding selection of venue, chief guest and competitions to be organized for the Khel Mahakumbh will be clarified soon.
- More than four lakh participants will participate in it, in which for the first time, prize money will be given to the participants standing first, second and third at the Nyay Panchayat level.
- The prize money in the Khel Mahakumbh competitions from block to state level has been increased. At the

block level, participants standing first will be given an amount of Rs 500, those standing second will be given Rs 400 and those standing third will be given Rs 300.

- On October 16, 2023, Uttarakhand Sports Minister Rekha Arya said in a meeting with departmental officials in the auditorium room of the Assembly that it has been decided to organize the Uttarakhand Khel Mahakumbh, which starts in the first week of October every year, from October 31 to the end of December this time.



Uttarakhand's Srishti Lakhera Received National Film Award for the film 'Ek Tha Gaon'

Why In News?

On October 17, 2023, President Draupadi Murmu honoured Srishti Lakhera, a resident of Semla village in Kirti Nagar block of Tehri district of Uttarakhand, with the National Film Award in the category of Best Non-Feature Film for her film 'Ek Tha Gaon' at the 69th National Film Awards ceremony held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.

Key Points:

- President Draupadi Murmu presented awards to the winners of the year 2021 at the 69th National Film Awards ceremony in various categories in New Delhi. He also honoured Waheeda Rehman with the Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award for the year 2021.
- Srishti Lakhera has produced and directed the film 'Ek Tha Gaon'. Earlier, the film made it to the India Gold category of the Mumbai Academy of Moving Image (MAMI) Film Festival.

Note:

- Srishti's father and pediatrician Dr KN Lakhera said that Srishti has been working in the field of film for about 13 years.
- Made in Garhwali and Hindi languages, the film tells the story of Ghost Village. Seeing the pain of migration in Uttarakhand, Srishti made this film.
- Dr KN Lakhera said that earlier there were 40 families living in his village and now only five to seven people are left. People were forced to leave the village at some point or the other. He has presented this confusion in the form of an hour-long film. The film has two main characters - 80-year-old Leela Devi and 19-year-old Kishori Golu.



State Government will Start Walnut Mission in High Himalayan Regions

Why In News?

On October 17, 2023, Uttarakhand Forest Minister Subodh Uniyal said that the Walnut Mission will be started in collaboration with the Horticulture Department in the higher Himalayan regions to promote walnut production.

Key Points:

- Forest Minister Subodh Uniyal said that several action plans are being worked on to increase the percentage of forestry sector's share in the state's income. Mission to promote walnut and non-timber forest products is part of this strategy. Possibilities of including the production of herbal products are also being considered.
- According to an estimate, the share of the forestry sector in the state's income ranges from 2.5 to 3.5 percent, while the forestry sector has been identified as the major growth driver of the state's economy.
- There are preparations to conduct many new experiments in the state by connecting the forest wealth with the livelihood of the people. Under this, work is being done on different schemes for the plains including the high Himalayan regions. Under this, species like walnut, bamboo, oak, teak, and poplar will be promoted.
- The Forest Minister said that preparations are also being made to change the rules of Lisa sale. In the state, auctions are conducted under the online system of Lisa sale, but the local people do not get any benefit from it. Keeping this in mind, instructions have been given from the Chief Minister's level to explore lease sale possibilities at the local level.
- Instructions have been given at the government level to include it in the action plan for cutting old trees of Eucalyptus species in the state. In their place, new species of plants can also be planted as per the need, which come under the category of non-timber forest products.
- It is noteworthy that Uttarakhand comes second in walnut production in the country after Jammu and Kashmir. There are favorable conditions for walnut production here. Despite this, its production in the state has decreased in the last few years. About 18 to 20 thousand metric tons of walnuts are produced every year in the state.

Note:

- There is immense potential for its production in the high altitude areas of Nainital, Almora, Bageshwar, Pithoragarh, Champawat, Dehradun, Pauri Tehri, Chamoli, Rudraprayag and Uttarkashi. This is the reason why the government is now going to start walnut production in mission mode.



Investment MoU worth Rs 5450 crore Signed in Presence of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami in Dubai

Why In News?

- Investment MoUs worth Rs 5450 crore were signed with groups related to tourism, education, infra, real estate in the presence of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami in Dubai on October 17, 2023. Industries Secretary Vinay Shankar Pandey signed the MoU on behalf of the state government.

Key Points:

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami held a meeting with representatives of various industry groups at the road show organized in Dubai for the Uttarakhand Global Investor Summit 2023.
- Investment MoUs worth Rs 5450 crore have been signed with various industry groups in Dubai in the presence of the Chief Minister, while meetings are going on with many other industry groups. The Chief Minister also invited all the industrial houses for the summit to be organized in Dehradun on 8th and 9th December.
- So far, Rs 2,000 crore has been invested in Dubai with Sir Biotech and Hyatt India, Rs 950 crore with Carmilla Nutrition Technology Group for pharma production,

Rs 800 crore with GTC Group, and Flow Conglomerate Group for investment in real estate, infra and tourism sectors. Investment MoUs worth Rs 500 crore, Rs 700 crore for manufacturing sector with Exley Group and Rs 500 crore with Sharaf Logistics have been signed.

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that an investment friendly system has been developed in Uttarakhand. The Chief Minister said that bilateral relations between India and the United Arab Emirates have become stronger than before. Bilateral trade between the two countries is growing at the rate of about 20 percent.
- It may be noted that 'Uttarakhand Global Investors Summit 2023 (Destination Uttarakhand)' is being organized in December 2023 to attract global investment in Uttarakhand.
- So far, an MoU on investment worth Rs 40 thousand crore has been signed for the Global Investors Conference. Investment agreements have been signed with investors in road shows held in London, Birmingham and Delhi. The state government has set a target of Rs 2.50 lakh crore for this conference.
- Industrial electricity rates in the state are lower than other states of India, industrial harmony and excellent law and order in the state make it more special. Various policies, schemes and facilities are being provided by the state government to provide a better environment for the establishment of food processing industries in the state. At present, two mega food parks and four food clusters have been built in Uttarakhand, which are working at their full capacity.
- The state government is continuously making efforts in the direction of ease of doing business. Uttarakhand is in the achievers category. The state has taken specific initiatives towards reforming labor laws. Similarly, continuous improvements and simplification have been made in the direction of providing land to investors.



Note:



47th Agricultural Science Fair organized in VPKAS

Why In News?

On October 19, 2023, the 47th Agricultural Science Fair was organized at Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan (VPKAS), Almora. The Agricultural Science Fair was inaugurated by MP Ajay Tamta.

Key Points:

- This fair was organized on the theme 'Adopt food and increase nutritional security'.
- MP Ajay Tamta said that the institute has made significant achievements in the field of research work, especially in the field of soil testing, disease-pest control, crop production, white Manduva production as well as processing and technological development. He praised the delivery of produced seeds and technology to 24 states of India.
- Dr. Jai Prakash Jaiswal, Director of GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, praised the work being done in the field of development of varieties and small equipment of the institute and explained its importance.
- On this occasion, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Institute and Parasar Agrotech Bio Private Limited, Varanasi for the construction of VL Polytunnel.
- In the Agricultural Science Fair, VL Cookies of wheat, VL Uphaar of vegetable pea and VL Masoor 150 of lentils developed in the institute were launched. CIAE VL Multicrop Thresher was also launched.

'Bring a Bill, get Reward' Scheme

Why in discussion

On October 19, 2023, Uttarakhand Finance Minister Premchand Aggarwal distributed prizes to the lucky draw winners of the Uttarakhand Tax Department's 'Bring a Bill, get Reward' Scheme' conducted in the months of April and May.

Key Points:

- In the prize distribution program at the State Tax Headquarters, Finance Minister Premchand Aggarwal distributed smartphones, smart watches and ear pods to 100 winners of the lucky draw.
- With the aim of making consumers aware about collecting GST bills, 'Bring a Bill, get Reward Scheme' is being run from September 1, 2022. So far seven monthly lucky draws have been conducted under the scheme.
- On this occasion, the Finance Minister said that from September 2022 till now 47,134 consumers have been registered in the scheme. 2,10,382 bills were uploaded through these. The total value of purchase of goods in these bills is Rs 82.60 crore. Since April 1 this year, 15,603 consumers have been registered, who have uploaded 1,23,467 bills worth Rs 41.28 crore.
- He informed that the 'Bring Bill and Get Reward Scheme' was ending on March 31, 2023, which the government had extended till November. Mega prizes will also be given after 30th November. Apart from this, there is a system of giving points on every uploaded bill by implementing a customer reward program on every uploaded bill. Those traders will be given rewards under the scheme.

Note:



The State is Making 20 Percent of the Medicines in the Country

Why In News?

On October 18, 2023, State Drug Controller of Uttarakhand Tajbar Singh said that Uttarakhand is producing 20 percent of the medicines of the total production in the country. The state is developing as a major hub of the country in pharmaceutical manufacturing.

Key Points:

- State Drug Controller Tajbar Singh said that due to the new industrial policy and favorable environment,

business is continuously increasing along with investment in the pharmaceutical sector in the state. Uttarakhand's contribution to the total production of medicines in the country is about 20 percent.

- In 2022, the state's pharma sector did a turnover of Rs 15 thousand crores. In this, medicines worth Rs 1150 crore were exported.
- He said that there are 249 drug manufacturing pharma companies in Haridwar, Selaqui and Pantnagar. The effort of the department is to produce high quality medicines in these companies and also to increase the share of medicines of these companies in the country.
- Under the Industrial Policy, industries are allowed online under the Single Window Scheme. The Drug Control Department remains alert to manufacture high quality medicines as per the standards in the state and the quality and standards of medicines are checked from time to time.
- Tajbar Singh said that the sub-zone offices of the Central Drug Standards Organization are established in Uttarakhand. Due to the online licensing process for pharma companies, the complexity of the application has been eliminated. Licenses are issued after joint inspection by the Central and State Governments for the quality of medicines.



Note:

Proposal for Formation of Rajaji Tiger Conservation Foundation Ready

Why In News?

On October 22, 2023, Forest Minister Subodh Uniyal said that a proposal has been prepared for the formation of Rajaji Tiger Conservation Foundation on the lines of Corbett Tiger Foundation. Now it will be placed for approval in the upcoming cabinet meeting.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that the decision to form the Foundation was taken in the Wildlife Board meeting. The proposals have got the green signal from the Department of Justice and Personnel.
- The main objective of formation of Rajaji Tiger Conservation is to accelerate and facilitate ecological, economic, social and cultural development in the reserve area and its surrounding areas.
- Under the foundation, people living around the area will be linked to alternative livelihood schemes which are dependent on forests. Through different schemes, efforts will be made to reduce their dependence on forests and eco-tourism activities will be promoted to improve their economy.
- Apart from this, such measures will also be taken to resolve human-wildlife conflict and curb wildlife hunting and other criminal activities.
- Provision for a regular budget will also be made to support environmental education. Steps will be taken for the welfare of the employees posted in the Tiger Reserve, their wild habitat protection and wildlife protection.
- There is also a proposal to create a trust under the foundation. Its registration will be done as per rules. It will have a governing body. The State Government will be able to protect the functioning of the Foundation.
- After the formation of the Foundation, the income received from tourism activities in the reserve area will have to be deposited in the treasury of the state government. Later the government will return it to the Foundation in the form of a grant.



PM Vishwakarma Yojana

Why In News?

According to the information received from the media on October 22, 2023, four districts of Kumaon division of Uttarakhand, Almora, Bageshwar, Champawat and Pithoragarh have been selected in the first phase for 'Pradhanmantri Vishwakarma Yojana'.

Key Points:

- In this regard, Director General Industries Rohit Meena has issued a letter to the District Magistrates of the four districts and instructed the heads of gram panchayats to onboard the portal of the scheme.
- In the first phase of this scheme, gram panchayat heads in four hilly districts of the state - Almora, Bageshwar, Champawat and Pithoragarh will be onboard on the PM Vishwakarma portal through common service centers (CSCs).
- Of these four districts of Kumaon division, Almora has 1,160, Bageshwar has 407, Champawat has 313 and Pithoragarh has 686 gram panchayats.
- Carpenters, boat-makers, armorers, blacksmiths, repairers, hammer and toolkit makers, sculptors, stone breakers, goldsmiths, potters, cobblers, masons, basket and broom makers, dolls and toy makers, barbers, garland makers, washermen, tailors, fishing net makers etc. will be registered on the PM Vishwakarma portal.
- It may be noted that the PM Vishwakarma Yojana was inaugurated on September 17. Under the scheme, the government will give cheap loans to the artisans to start work. The scheme provides for first training and stipend to the beneficiaries of 18 traditional works.


Note:

- The verification of online application forms will be done in three phases. In the first phase, village heads and executive officers of municipal bodies in urban areas will conduct verification. In the second phase, the District Implementation Committee constituted under the chairmanship of the DM and in the third and final phase, the DFO, MSME will conduct the verification of the state-level committee formed under the chairmanship of the Central Government.



प्रधानमंत्री विश्वकर्मा योजना

पारंपरिक शिल्पकारों और कारीगरों को सहायता के लिए केंद्रीय योजना



योजना के मुख्य बिंदु


- 13000 करोड़ रु के बजट का प्रावधान
- 18 पारंपरिक व्यवसाय शामिल
- शिल्पकार और कारीगरों को प्रमाणपत्र और आईडीकार्ड के जरिए मिलेगी पहचान
- पहले चरण में 1 लाख रु तक की और दूसरे चरण में 2 लाख रु तक की सहायता महज 5% की ब्याज दर पर
- योजना के तहत मिलेगा कौशल विकास प्रशिक्षण, टूलकिट लाभ, डिजिटल लेनदेन के लिए इंसेंटिव और मार्केटिंग सपोर्ट

किस किस को मिलेगा लाभ

1. कारपेंटर
2. नाव बनाने वाले
3. अस्त्र बनाने वाले
4. लोहार
5. ताला बनाने वाले
6. हथोड़ा और टूलकिट निर्माता
7. सुनार
8. कुम्हार
9. मूर्तिकार
10. मोची
11. राज मिस्त्री
12. डलिया, चटाई, झाड़ू बनाने वाले
13. पारंपरिक गुड़िया और खिलौने बनाने वाले
14. नाई
15. मालाकार
16. धोबी
17. दर्जी
18. मछली का जाल बनाने वाले

कैबिनेट का फैसला

16 अगस्त, 2023



Policemen's Residences will be Built with Rs 100 crore

Why In News?

On Police Memorial Day on October 21, 2023, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama announced Rs 100 crore to solve the housing problem of policemen and Rs 2 crore to the Police Martyrs Welfare Fund for financial assistance in case of death while on duty.

Key Points:

- On Police Memorial Day, the Chief Minister paid tribute to 188 policemen of the country, including four Uttarakhand Police personnel, who were martyred in the line of duty this year.
- The Chief Minister said that Uttarakhand is sensitive because it shares borders with two countries and two states. The responsibility of maintaining internal

security and law and order here rests with the paramilitary forces and police. Many policemen are martyred every year in the line of duty. In such a situation, they are given one lakh rupees as immediate financial assistance.

- Many times this process gets delayed, hence to further simplify this work, Rs 2 crore will be given to the Police Martyrs Welfare Fund.
- The Chief Minister said that at present the policemen are facing a big problem of housing. There are many policemen who do not get accommodation or are far away from police stations and duty places. To solve this housing problem, Rs 100 crore will be given within three years.



National Boxing Competition organized in Malsi (Dehradun)

Why In News?

According to information received from the media on October 23, 2023, a punch boxing competition was organized for the first time in Malsi (Dehradun) of Uttarakhand.

Key Points:

- The competition will be held at Foothill Garden, Malsi (Dehradun) from October 28.
- The competition is being organized under the banner of National Boxing Council.
- In this competition, 20 boxers of national and international level will participate, including boxers Vikas Yadav, Pawan Kumar, Kamla Roka, Nandani Pal, Arun Fartyal, Rohan Rameshwar, Ritesh Singh, Mohammad Javed, Kunal Rajput, Chandu Ji, Mohd.

Note:



drishti

Azhar, Priyaranjan Nayak, Rakesh Lohchav, Akshay Chahal, Satnam Singh, Mohit, Saksham Thakur, Jaskiran Singh, Akilan Annadurai and Arun Sharma will participate.



Black Wheat will be Cultivated in Uttarkashi District

Why In News?

According to information received from the media on October 24, 2023, Uttarkashi District Magistrate Abhishek Ruhela motivated the farmers to join the cultivation of black wheat in Genwala village of Dunda block and distributed black wheat seeds.

Key Points:

- It has been started as a pilot project in the district to increase the income of farmers through black wheat which is about 3 times higher than normal wheat.
- Earlier, successful efforts were made to extend red paddy to the Ganga valley in the district.
- Significantly, the practice of black wheat cultivation has started in some selected parts of the country.
- Black wheat -
 - Phosphorus is found in good quantity in black wheat, which helps in the formation of new tissues inside the body and also plays an important role in their maintenance.
 - The nutrients present in black wheat such as protein, magnesium and iron increase the blood level in the human body and remove the lack of blood and control the level of oxygen.



Jamrani Dam Multipurpose Project of Uttarakhand Included under PMKSY-AIBP

Why In News?

On October 25, 2023, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the inclusion of Jamrani Dam Multipurpose Project of Uttarakhand under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana-Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (PMKSY-AIBP) of the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

Key Points:

- The Union Cabinet has approved central assistance of Rs 1,557.18 crore to Uttarakhand for completion of the project at an estimated cost of Rs 2,584.10 crore by March 2028.
- The project envisages construction of a dam near Jamrani village on Gola river, a tributary of Ram Ganga river in Nainital district of Uttarakhand. The dam extends its 40.5 km stretch to the existing Gola Barrage. Long canal system and 244 km. The long canal will give water through the system, which was completed in 1981.
- The project envisages additional irrigation of 57,065 hectares (9,458 hectares in Uttarakhand and 47,607 hectares in Uttar Pradesh) in Nainital and Udham Singh Nagar districts of Uttarakhand and Rampur and Bareilly districts of Uttar Pradesh.
- Apart from construction of two new feeder canals, 207 km of existing canals are to be renovated and 278 km of canals are to be renovated under the project. Paved field channels are also to be implemented.

Note:



- Additionally, the project also envisages hydro power generation of 14 MW as well as provision of 42.70 million cubic meters (MCM) of drinking water to Haldwani and surrounding areas, benefiting more than 10.65 lakh population.
- A major share of the irrigation benefits of this project will also accrue to the neighboring state of Uttar Pradesh and cost/benefit sharing between the two states is to be done as per an MoU signed in 2017. However, the drinking water and electricity benefits are solely envisaged for Uttarakhand only.
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)
 - Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) was launched during the year 2015-16 with the objective of increasing access to water on the farm and expanding cultivable area under assured irrigation, improving efficiency of water use in the field, implementing sustainable water conservation practices etc.
 - The Government of India had in December 2021 approved the implementation of PMKSY during 2021-26 with an overall outlay of Rs 93,068.56 crore (central assistance of Rs 37,454 crore).
 - The Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) component of PMKSY deals with creation of irrigation potential through major and medium irrigation projects. Under PMKSY-AIBP, 53 projects

have been completed so far and 25.14 lakh hectares of additional irrigation potential has been created.

- So far, six projects have been covered under the AIBP component of PMKSY after 2021-22. The Jamrani Dam Multipurpose Project is the seventh project to be included under AIBP.

Senior Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari Becomes Acting Chief Justice of Uttarakhand High Court

Why In News?

On October 25, 2023, Manoj Kumar Tiwari, a senior judge of the Uttarakhand High Court, has been appointed as the acting Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court.



Key Points:

- Born on September 19, 1965 in Pithoragarh, Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari did his LLB from Delhi University in 1990. He was registered with the Bar Council of UP Allahabad in 1990 and started practicing at the High Court, Allahabad.
- He shifted to Nainital when the Uttarakhand High Court was set up in 2000. On May 20, 2009, he was designated as a Senior Advocate. He became the President of the High Court Bar Association Nainital in 2008 and became a permanent judge of the Uttarakhand High Court on May 9, 2017.
- Appointment of Acting Chief Justice
 - Article 223 of the Constitution of India deals with the appointment of an acting Chief Justice.
 - According to this, when the office of the Chief Justice of a High Court is vacant or when such a Chief Justice, on account of absence or otherwise, is unable to perform the duties of his office, the duties of the office shall be performed by such person. Other judges of the Court may be appointed by the President for this purpose.

Inclusion of Jamrani Dam Multipurpose Project of Uttarakhand under PMKSY-AIBP*

- Estimated cost of Project is **Rs.2,584.10 cr.** including **Rs.1,557.18 cr** central assistance to Uttarakhand
- The project is scheduled to be completed in **March, 2028**

Benefits:

- Additional irrigation of **57 thousand hectare** in Nainital & Udham Singh Nagar districts of Uttarakhand, Rampur & Bareilly districts in Uttar Pradesh
- Hydro power generation of about **63.4 Million Units** with installed capacity of **14 MW power plant**
- **42.70 million cubic metre (MCM)** of drinking water to Haldwani and nearby areas

*PMKSY-AIBP : Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana-Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme

Cabinet Decision - 25 October 2023

Note:

Government will Give Awards of Rs 5 to 10 lakh to Colleges

Why In News?

On October 28, 2023, the Uttarakhand state government issued an order regarding giving awards ranging from Rs 5 to 10 lakh to the government colleges of the state.

Key Points:

- This amount will be given according to grading done by NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) to encourage assessment and positive competition among colleges.
- It has been said in the order that this amount received by the colleges as a reward can be spent only as per the arrangements given in the Uttarakhand Government College Student Fund Rules 2020.
- The award amount will be given to the colleges which got NAAC assessment done last year and the colleges which get NAAC assessment in future. Arrangements for the award will be made in the budget as per rules.
- According to the government order, this amount will be given to the colleges through the corpus fund constituted under the department. Colleges with B grade will be given an amount of Rs 5 lakh and colleges with A double plus will be given Rs 10 lakh as award.
- Apart from this, Rs 9 lakh will be given on A Plus grade, Rs 8 lakh on A grade, Rs 7 lakh on B Double Plus and Rs 6 lakh on B Plus.
- According to officials of the Higher Education Department, till now 27 colleges of the state have undergone NAAC evaluation. In the year 2022-23, 19 colleges have got NAAC evaluation done.
- Out of the 27 government colleges of the state which have undergone NAAC evaluation, none of the colleges have got A or A+ grade.
- Colleges which have undergone NAAC assessment include Government Post Graduate College Doiwala, College Chaubattakhal, Tanakpur, Lohaghat, Ranikhet, Dwarahat, Agastyamuni, Haldwani, Ramnagar, Pithoragarh, Kashipur, Uttarkashi, Berinag, Women's College Haldwani, Narendranagar, Kotdwar Bhabar, Raipur, Chakrata, Talwadi. , Kotdwar, Purola, Tuni, Chandrabadni, Haldu Chaud, Barkot and Government Post Graduate College, Karnaprayag.

- It is noteworthy that Education Minister Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat had given instructions for mandatory NAAC evaluation of all colleges in the department meeting held last year. The minister said that recognition of non-government colleges that do not do so by March 2023 will be terminated, while departmental action will be taken against the principals of government colleges.



Dr. Godiyal becomes acting chairman of Uttarakhand Public Service Commission

Why In News?

On October 28, 2023, the Personnel Department of Uttarakhand has issued a notification regarding the appointment of Dr. Ravidutt Godiyal, a senior member of the Uttarakhand Public Service Commission, as the acting chairman.



Key Points:

- It may be noted that the post of Uttarakhand Public Service Commission Chairman Jagmohan Rana had become vacant after the completion of his tenure. After the approval of the Governor, the Personnel Department has made senior member of the Commission, Dr. Ravidutt Godiyal, the acting chairman.
- Dr. Jagmohan Singh Rana has been a member of the Uttarakhand Public Service Commission and was given the responsibility as acting chairman. However, after the completion of his tenure, the acting Chairman has now been appointed as the Chairman.
- It is noteworthy that retired IAS Rakesh Kumar had resigned from the post of Chairman of Uttarakhand

Note:

Public Service Commission on June 11, 2023, after which he could not be appointed as the permanent Chairman in Uttarakhand Public Service Commission.



Concrete Wall will be Built Between the Longest Tunnel of Uttarakhand

Why In News?

On October 28, 2023, General Manager of National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) Colonel Deepak Patil said that for the first time in the country, a concrete wall is being built in the middle of the longest tunnel of Uttarakhand under construction on Yamunotri Highway.

Key Points:

- General Manager of NHIDCL, Colonel Deepak Patil said that this will be the first tunnel in the country, in the middle of which a strong concrete wall is being built. With this, vehicles will run in their respective lanes and the possibility of accidents will be zero. However, in case of emergency, air tight doors will be made in the wall to go from one tunnel to another.
- Under the Chardham Road Project, 4.5 km stretch from Silkyara to Pol village on Yamunotri Highway at a cost of Rs 850 crore. A long tunnel is being built, of which only 500 meters is left to be constructed.
- State-of-the-art technologies like fire suppression system and SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) will also be used in this tunnel.
- To prevent road accidents, a 400 mm strong concrete wall is being built inside the tunnel, due to which the traffic on the right and left sides will pass through their respective lanes. Due to this wall, the possibility of vehicles colliding with each other inside the tunnel will be reduced to zero.

- If any vehicle faces any fault inside the tunnel, it will get the facility of lay-by (a place to park the vehicle for some time on the roadside). Every 500 km. But a lay-by facility will be available. A total of seven lay-bys will be built on both the right and left sides of the tunnel, out of which construction of four has been completed.



Mukhyamantri Matsya Sampada Yojana

Why In News?

On October 30, 2023, the Uttarakhand government approved the launch of 'Mukhyamantri Matsya Sampada Yojana' to promote fisheries in the state.

Key Points:

- It may be noted that 'Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana' is operated by the Central Government. There is no incentive facility to fish farmers according to the hilly areas. In view of this, the state government has approved the launch of 'Mukhyamantri Matsya Sampada Yojana'.
- Under this scheme, fish farmers will get a subsidy of five percent in the interest rate on loans for the construction of ponds, raceways and other infrastructure for fish farming. The state government will give a discount of three percent as an additional interest rate, while two percent will be given from the central scheme.
- The duration of the Chief Minister's Matsya Sampada Yojana will be five years. In this, a target has been set to connect four thousand people with the fish farming business.
- In this scheme, women groups will be linked to fish farming. Also, women groups will get up to 50 percent subsidy for fish farming.

Note:

- On the lines of farmers, now fish farmers will also get insurance facility. Fish farmers will be given insurance of one lakh rupees. In this, 90 percent premium will be given by the state government. Trout fish seed will be prepared in the state itself.



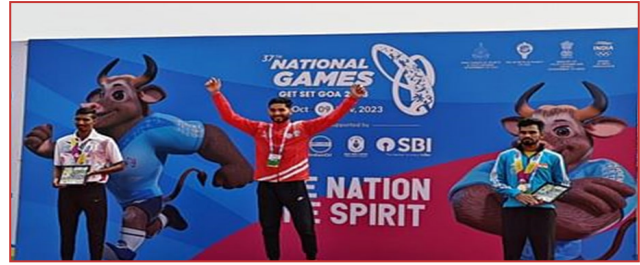
Suraj Panwar of Uttarakhand won Gold Medal in Race Walking.

Why In News?

In the 37th National Games held in Goa on October 30, 2023; Suraj Panwar of Uttarakhand won the first gold medal in athletics for the state 20 km (about 12.43 mi) race walking.

Key Points:

- Suraj Panwar completed the 20 km race in one hour and 27 minutes and won the gold medal. With this, Uttarakhand has so far won eight medals, including two gold and one silver, in the National Games.
- According to Uttarakhand Olympic Association General Secretary Dr. DK Singh, Uttarakhand has so far received two gold medals. Earlier, Nikhil Bharti of Rudrapur won the gold medal by defeating the Maharashtra player 41-29 in the final of the Penchak Silat game.
- Uttarakhand's Ankita Dhyani won the bronze medal in the 1500 m (about 4921.26 ft) race of the National Games. He completed the race in four minutes and 16 seconds. Ankita is originally from Meruda village in Jaiharikhal block of Pauri.
- Suraj Panwar had earlier won a silver medal in the 5000 m (about 3.11 mi) walking race of the Youth Olympics held in Argentina in 2018. In 2018, he won silver in the 5000 m race walking at the Asian Championships held in Thailand, while last year he finished 24th in the 20 km race walking in Doha.



Chief Minister Inaugurated Vigilance Week

Why In News?

On October 30, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami launched the 'Oppose Corruption, Be Dedicated to the Nation' programme as part of vigilance week. He also announced the creation of 103 new posts in the Vigilance Department.

Key Points:

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that a team of surveillance and technical experts will be formed to effectively improve the functioning of the Vigilance Department.
- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that during the 'Vigilance Awareness Week', awareness campaigns should be conducted regularly through various means for corruption-free Uttarakhand.
- The Chief Minister directed the officers of the Vigilance Department to submit a report twice a month on the action being taken by the department to prevent corruption. Regular monitoring of their departments should be done by all departmental secretaries to root out corruption.
- He said that the number 1064 issued for corruption-free Uttarakhand should also be widely publicized. Any complaint related to corruption should be responded to promptly, prompt action should be taken if the complaint is found to be true.



Note:

27 Proposals got Approval in the Cabinet Meeting

Why In News?

On October 30, 2023, 27 out of 30 proposals were approved in the cabinet meeting chaired by Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami. These include a scheme to link 1600 types of herbs with livelihood in 12 thousand van panchayats.

Key Points:

- To keep the climate of the state safe, the state cabinet has approved a plan to promote solar heaters and remove junk vehicles spewing poisonous smoke from the roads.
- If you sell junk vehicles, you will get a discount on buying a new vehicle.
 - Vehicles that are 15 years old will be sold in scrap in the state. This discount will be 15 percent for buying a new vehicle for commercial vehicles and 25 percent for private vehicles.
 - The Cabinet has approved the scrap policy. The central government will also provide a special assistance of Rs 50 crore on the implementation of the policy.
- 50 percent subsidy will be given for installing solar heaters in homes
 - The Cabinet has approved the Solar Water Heater Grant Scheme, in which if domestic consumers install solar heaters in their homes, then the government will give up to 50 percent subsidy for this. At the same time, 30 percent subsidy will be given on commercial use. Also, there will be a discount of Rs 150 per liter in the electricity bill.
 - The scheme was discontinued in 2014.
- More than 6000 employees have a chance to join the old pension
 - About 6000 employees serving in the new pension scheme will get a chance to join the old pension scheme, whose recruitment release and notification was issued before October 1, 2005.
 - The state cabinet has adopted the option given by the central government in March 2023.
- Thousands of check dams to be built in the mountains, authority approves
 - Thousands of check dams will be built in 11 hilly districts of the state for the use of rainwater. This will help prevent damage from rainwater in the low-lying plains.
 - For this, the Cabinet has approved the Ping and River Rejuvenation Authority (SARA) under the Directorate of Water Resources.
- Uniform allowance of 35,000 Class IV employees increased
 - About 35,000 class IV employees posted in the departments of the state except the secretariat will get uniform allowance of Rs 2400 every year. So far, in two years, a uniform allowance of Rs 4000 has been received in pants, shirts and other different items. The Cabinet has approved the proposal.
 - Also, in the typing test for becoming a driver-turned-clerk, a standard of 2400 words has been made in place of 4000 words.
- If you pass 8th standard ITI, then only Hindi exams will have to be given in high school.
 - Students who have passed class 8 in the state who complete the two-year course of ITI will not be required to take the full high school examination. To pass class 10, they only have to pass the Hindi exam.
 - Similarly, class 10 students will be able to pass only Hindi examination after doing ITI and do 12th.
- Rs 628 crore herbal production scheme approved in van panchayats
 - The Cabinet has approved a scheme worth Rs 628 crore in two phases to promote herb production in 12,000 forest panchayats of the state.
 - This scheme will be implemented in 5000 hectares in two phases for 10 years. Under this, emphasis will be laid on increasing the livelihood of local people.
- Other major cabinet decisions
 - Investment process will be easier in tourism policy, single window system implemented
 - Cabinet approves amendment in policy for expansion of industries
 - Powers given to District Magistrate for construction of new cow houses and animal protection

Note:

- IAS, IRS and senior PCS officers to become Additional Tax Commissioner
- ADB's project for upgradation of powerhouse was approved.
- Cabinet approves setting up of Rajaji Tiger Conservation Foundation on the lines of Corbett
- Govt to provide 3 per cent subsidy under Mukhyamantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
- Prison manual to be made based on model jail manual



Note:

Key Points

Details

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Summary

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