



STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

UTTARAKHAND

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Nakshatra Sabha: Astro-Tourism in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

Recently, Nakshatra Sabha was launched to promote **astro-tourism** and local heritage across Uttarakhand.

Key Points

- **Event Overview:**
 - Organized by Starscapes in collaboration with the **Uttarakhand Tourism** Development Board, Nakshatra Sabha is a year-long series of immersive astro-tourism events.
 - The initiative includes celestial observations, **astrophotography sessions**, and cultural immersion at various **dark-sky locations**.
- **Cultural Integration:**
 - Each edition highlights the region's natural beauty, cultural significance, and the interplay between astronomy and local heritage.
 - Events aim to make astronomy accessible and engaging, fostering interest among participants of all ages.
 - The program promotes awareness of **Uttarakhand's rich traditions** and its historical connections to astronomy.
- **Community Involvement:**
 - Local communities are encouraged to participate, enhancing tourism and supporting local economies.
 - Participants can engage in guided stargazing sessions, workshops, and discussions led by experts in astronomy and culture.

Uttarakhand Tourism Policy

- **Investment Promotion:**
 - The new tourism policy aims to attract investments by setting a minimum project cost of Rs. 5 crore, providing up to 50% subsidies in unexplored areas, and 100% subsidies for initiatives like heli tourism and adventure activities.

➤ Categorization of Cities:

- Cities are divided into three categories (A, B, and C) with varying subsidy rates: 25% in Category A, 35% in Category B, and up to 50% in Category C, along with exemptions from stamp duty.

➤ Diverse Incentives:

- Financial incentives are offered for various tourism ventures, including hotels, adventure sports, and eco-friendly transport options, aimed at creating new employment opportunities and promoting sustainable tourism.

Uttarakhand's CM Solar Self-Employment Scheme

Why in News?

Recently, the Uttarakhand government introduced a **solar** self-employment initiative aimed at promoting **sustainable energy** and **rural employment** opportunities.

Key Points

- **Objective:**
 - Designed to curb **migration** by fostering local employment through solar power projects.
- **Program Details:**
 - Individuals can establish solar plants (**20–200 kW**) and sell generated electricity to **Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited (UPCL)**.
 - Financial support includes bank loans and assistance under the **MSME** and self-employment schemes.
- **Economic Impact:**
 - Encourages income opportunities for local entrepreneurs, enhancing rural economies through sustainable practices.

Current Status of India's Solar Sector

- **About:**
 - India is the 3rd largest energy-consuming country in the world. India stands 5th in solar power capacity (REN21 Renewables 2024 Global Status Report).

Note:



- At COP26, India pledged to achieve 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based energy by 2030, part of the Panchamrit initiative the world's largest renewable energy expansion plan.

➤ **Solar Energy Growth:**

- Installed solar energy capacity has increased 30-fold in the last 9 years, reaching 89.4 GW in August 2024.
- India's solar potential is estimated to be 748 GWp (National Institute of Solar Energy, NISE).

➤ **Investment and FDI:**

- 100% **Foreign Direct Investment** (FDI) is allowed under the automatic route for renewable energy generation and distribution projects, subject to The **Electricity Act, 2003**.

Tent-Based Homestay Under Operation Sadbhavna

Why in News?

Recently, a tent-based homestay was inaugurated in **Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh**, aimed at **promoting tourism** and strengthening local community ties under **Operation Sadbhavna**.

Key Points

- **Operation Sadbhavna:**
 - An initiative by the **Indian Army** focused on improving civil-military relations, fostering goodwill, and enhancing socio-economic conditions in border areas.
- **Homestay Concept:**
 - Tent-based accommodations offer a unique experience to tourists, promoting eco-tourism in Pithoragarh, a strategic border district.
 - Encourages local economic growth by involving community members in tourism-related employment.
- **Significance:**
 - Strengthens cultural and economic engagement between the army and border communities, reinforcing security and mutual trust.

Operation Sadbhavna

- It's an initiative of the Indian Army in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh to address the aspirations of people affected by terrorism.
- The operation is a part of the counter terrorist strategy to wrest the initiative and reintegrate the 'Awaam' with the national mainstream.

Writers' Village in Dehradun

Why in News?

Recently, a unique cultural initiative called the "Writers' Village" has been announced in Dehradun, Uttarakhand, which aims to foster international **literary** and cultural exchange.

Key Points

- The Writers' Village will be inaugurated by Uttarakhand Chief Minister in Thano, near Dehradun, on **27th October, 2024**.
- The inauguration coincides with an **International Art, Literature, and Culture Festival** running from **23rd October to 27th October, 2024**.
- Over 300 writers, artists, and litterateurs from **65 countries** will participate in the five-day festival.
 - This global engagement aims to promote international collaboration and cultural exchange, with a particular focus on Hindi and Uttarakhand's cultural heritage
- **Significance:**
 - The festival will be a platform to discuss literature, language, and art through various sessions hosted by organizations like the **Sahitya Akademi**, **National Book Trust**, and Uttarakhand Culture Department.
 - It is expected to promote the **Hindi language** on a global stage and also highlight **Uttarakhand's rich cultural heritage**

Note:



National Book Trust (NBT)

- NBT, India is an apex body established by the **Government of India (Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education) in the year 1957.**
- The objectives of the NBT are
 - to produce and encourage the production of good literature in English, Hindi and other Indian languages.
 - to make such literature available at moderate prices to the public.
 - to bring out book catalogues, arrange book fairs/ exhibitions and seminars and take all necessary steps to make the people book minded.

National Games 2024 in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

Uttarakhand is set to host the **National Games** in 2024 as announced recently by **PT Usha**, the president of the **Indian Olympic Association (IOA).**

Key Points

- Uttarakhand will host the **38th edition** of the National Games for the first time. The games are scheduled for October 2024.
- Various cities in Uttarakhand, including **Dehradun, Haldwani, and Haridwar**, will host events.
- In the National Games 2024 more than **30 sports disciplines** will be featured.
- **Indian Olympic Association:**
 - The IOA is the governing body for the **Olympic Movement and the Commonwealth Games** in India.
 - As an affiliated member of the **International Olympic Committee (IOC), Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), Olympic Council of Asia (OCA),** and **Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC),** the IOA administers various aspects of sports governance and athletes' welfare in the country.
 - IOA oversees the representation of athletes or teams participating in the **Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games, and other international multi-sport competitions of the IOC, CGF, OCA, and ANOC.**

- Beyond participation in the Games, the IOA has also established various initiatives with different stakeholders for the development of sports education and Olympic studies.
- IOA is recognised by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.**
- **Foundation:**
 - It was established in 1927 with Sir Dorabji Tata and Dr. A.G. Noehren as the Founding President and Secretary General, respectively.
 - It is registered as a **Non-Profit Organisation under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.**
- **Members:**
 - The members of the IOA include **National Sports Federations (NSFs),** State Olympic Associations, IOC Members, and other select multi-sport organisations.
 - In accordance with the Olympic Charter, the membership of NSFs mostly include NSFs that govern sports featured in the sports programme of the **Summer Olympic Games, Winter Olympic Games, Asian Games, and Commonwealth Games.**
- **Governance:**
 - It is currently governed by a **32-member Executive Council,** headed by the President.
 - The election for the Executive Council is held once every four years.
 - The working of the Executive Council is also assisted by different Standing Committees of the IOA that are constituted with experts in the subject-field to help in various aspects of governance.

National Games

- **Background:** The Olympic movement, which garnered the attention of the nation in the **1920s,** includes the **National Games.** The **National Games** in India were first envisioned as the Indian Olympic Games with the goal of promoting Olympic sports in the nation.
 - The **first edition** of the **Indian Olympic Games** at Lahore in an undivided Punjab in 1924.
 - The Indian Olympic Games were named as **National Games** beginning in 1940. This competition sets athletes from several Indian states with one another in a variety of sporting disciplines.

Note:

- **Objectives:**
 - They are held for the benefit of Indian athletes, sports organisations etc.
 - They help in raise awareness among **states/UT's** about the necessity of developing internationally grade sports infrastructure.
 - It attempts to attract a wide number of youths to participate in sports activities.
 - It aims to inculcate sports culture in individuals from all walks of life and educate them on the value of sports in building a healthy society.
- **Jurisdiction:** The duration and the regulations of the **National Games** are entirely within the jurisdiction of the **Indian Olympic Association**.

UCC in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

The proposed **Uniform Civil Code (UCC)** in Uttarakhand, expected to be enacted on the **state's foundation day, 9th November**, will introduce **several new legal requirements and penalties concerning marriage and live-in relationships**.

Key Points

- The **proposed UCC aims to modernise legal practices in Uttarakhand**, addressing issues related to marriage registration, inheritance, and legal procedures while also simplifying processes through the use of technology.
- Key Aspects of the Proposed Law Include the Following:
- **Marriage and Live-in Relationship Registration:**
 - It will be mandatory for married couples to register their marriages within six months of the UCC's implementation.
 - Couples in live-in relationships **must register their relationship** within one month of the notification.
 - Failure to comply with these requirements will result in penalties. Couples who do not register their marriages within the stipulated time will be **ineligible for government welfare schemes**.
 - Those who have already registered their marriage in other states must update their records in Uttarakhand.

- **Penalties for Non-Compliance:**
 - If couples fail to register their live-in relationship within one month, they **could face imprisonment** of up to three months, a fine of up to Rs 10,000, or both.
 - Providing false information will result in penalties of up to three months in jail, a fine of Rs 25,000, or both.
 - Complete failure to register a marriage or live-in relationship may lead to a jail term of up to six months, a fine of Rs 25,000, or both.
 - Landlords who rent properties to unregistered couples and deliberately conceal information may also face legal action.
- **Provisions for Children and Maintenance:**
 - Under the UCC, any child born out of a live-in relationship will be considered legitimate.
 - In cases of desertion, the **woman will be entitled to claim maintenance** from her partner.
 - Although the UCC ensures confidentiality for live-in couples, it requires that parents of individuals aged 18 to 21 be informed about their live-in relationship.
- **Property Rights and Inheritance:**
 - The UCC proposes changes to inheritance laws to address concerns raised by elderly parents, who often find themselves alone in villages after their children migrate to cities.
 - The law suggests that **the deceased's movable and immovable property be divided into four parts**, with shares allocated to the wife, children, and parents, treating each as a separate unit.
 - Thousands of suggestions regarding inheritance were considered, including issues where elderly parents were left without support after the death of their son.
- **Simplifying Legal Procedures:**
 - A new mobile app will facilitate the registration process for marriages and live-in relationships. The **app will allow couples to register without needing to visit government offices**.
 - Additionally, **the app will simplify the process of drafting and updating a will**, making it possible for individuals to make changes to their will at any time.

Note:





UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

All sections of the society irrespective of their religion shall be treated equally according to a National Civil Code - the Uniform Civil Code.

THEY COVER AREAS LIKE



Maintenance



Inheritance



Adoption



Succession of Property



Marriage

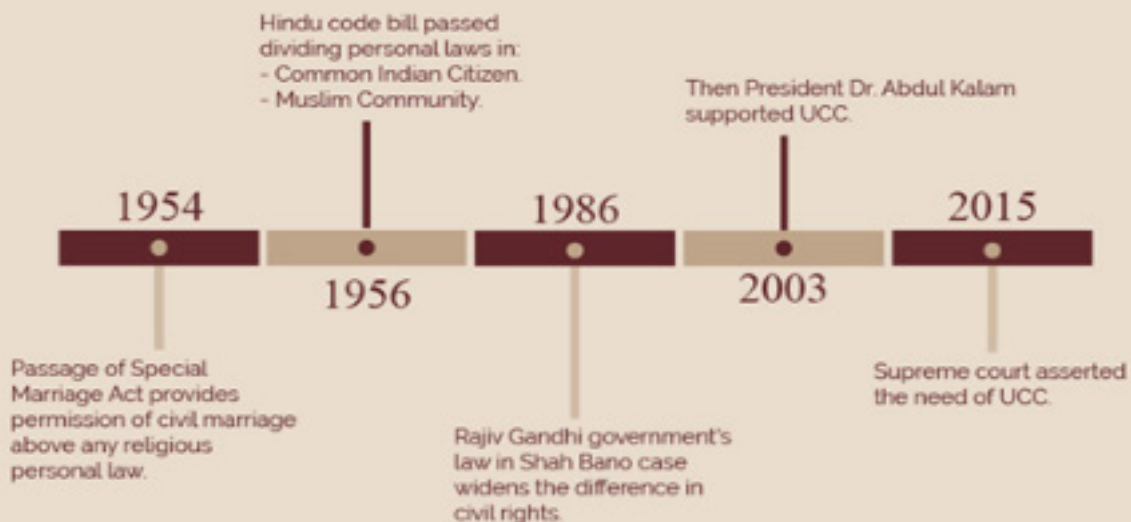


Divorce

It is based on the premise that there is necessarily no connection between religion and personal law in a civilized society.

"UCC refers to a common set of laws governing civil rights of every citizen."
Article 44 of Directive Principles sets duty of state for implementing UCC.

TIMELINE



The dialogue for UCC was started by the Law Commission in the year 2016

Note:



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Uttarakhand Government's Guidelines for 'Spit Jihad'

Why in News?

Recently, the Uttarakhand government introduced new guidelines aimed at curbing food contamination incidents involving spitting, addressing growing concerns around food safety during the festive season.

Key Points

- **Strict Fines Imposed:** A fine of up to **Rs. 1 lakh will be imposed on offenders** who contaminate food by spitting or committing similar offenses.
 - The guidelines come after recent viral incidents, including videos **from Mussoorie and Dehradun** where individuals were caught spitting in food items, triggering public outrage.
- **Police Verification and CCTV:** Hotels and eateries are now required to conduct police verification for their staff, and the **installation of CCTV cameras** in kitchens is mandatory.
 - Authorities will run awareness campaigns to educate the public and businesses about maintaining food safety standards.
- **Health Department Involvement:** The **Health and Food Safety departments** will assist police in random inspections and checks at eateries to ensure compliance with safety standards.
- **Legal Action:** Offenders could be charged under multiple legal provisions, including sections related to public nuisance and food adulteration under the **Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)** and the **Uttarakhand Police Act, 2007**.
- **Zero Tolerance for Religious Sensitivities:** If the act affects religion or community harmony, additional charges under **BNS section 196 (promoting enmity)** could be applied.

Roopkund Lake: In Peril Due to Climate Change

Why in News?

Recently, the famous Roopkund Lake in Uttarakhand, known for its centuries-old human skeletons, is shrinking as climate change affects its size and ecosystem.

Key Points

- **Roopkund Lake:**
 - The **skeletons found in Roopkund** are believed to date back to the **9th century**.
 - **Genetic studies** indicate that these individuals came from diverse groups, including a **Mediterranean lineage**.
 - Theories suggest they were either pilgrims or traders who perished during a sudden **hailstorm**, with massive hailstones being the possible cause of death.
- **Scientific Studies on Roopkund's Skeletons:**
 - Modern research has uncovered **DNA** traces from multiple ethnicities, some as recent as the **19th century**, suggesting Roopkund may have been visited over a prolonged period.
 - Researchers believe that **Roopkund** was once a sacred site, and the pilgrims likely traveled long distances before meeting their demise in this isolated, **high-altitude lake**.
- **Environmental Impact of Climate Change:**
 - The decline in glacier size, altered **monsoon patterns**, and **erratic snowfall** have caused a reduction in water levels at **Roopkund**.
 - Changes in temperature and weather are affecting the **region's flora and fauna**, contributing to the ecological imbalance around the lake.
- **Tourism and Conservation Challenges:**
 - Roopkund's reduced size and environmental degradation are making it harder to preserve the lake's unique history and ecological significance.
 - There are growing concerns that unchecked tourism and insufficient conservation efforts may exacerbate the damage caused by climate change.

Note:



Chardham Project in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

Recently, the Centre informed the **Supreme Court** that **75%** of the work on the **Chardham Project**, designed to improve connectivity to four major pilgrimage sites in Uttarakhand, has been completed.

Key Points

➤ Chardham Project:

- The project involves the construction of a **900-kilometer all-weather road** to provide better connectivity to **Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath**.
- The project is strategically important as it extends to regions near the China border.
- The new highways will make travel easier and safer, especially **during monsoons and winter**, when the existing roads become prone to landslides and blockages.

➤ Oversight Committee:

- The Supreme Court had previously formed an **oversight committee** headed by retired Supreme Court judge **Justice A.K. Sikri** to address environmental concerns.
- The committee has submitted **two reports** to the Supreme Court, one in April 2024 and another on **27th August, 2024**, assessing the project's progress and compliance with guidelines.

➤ Environmental Concerns and Court Orders:

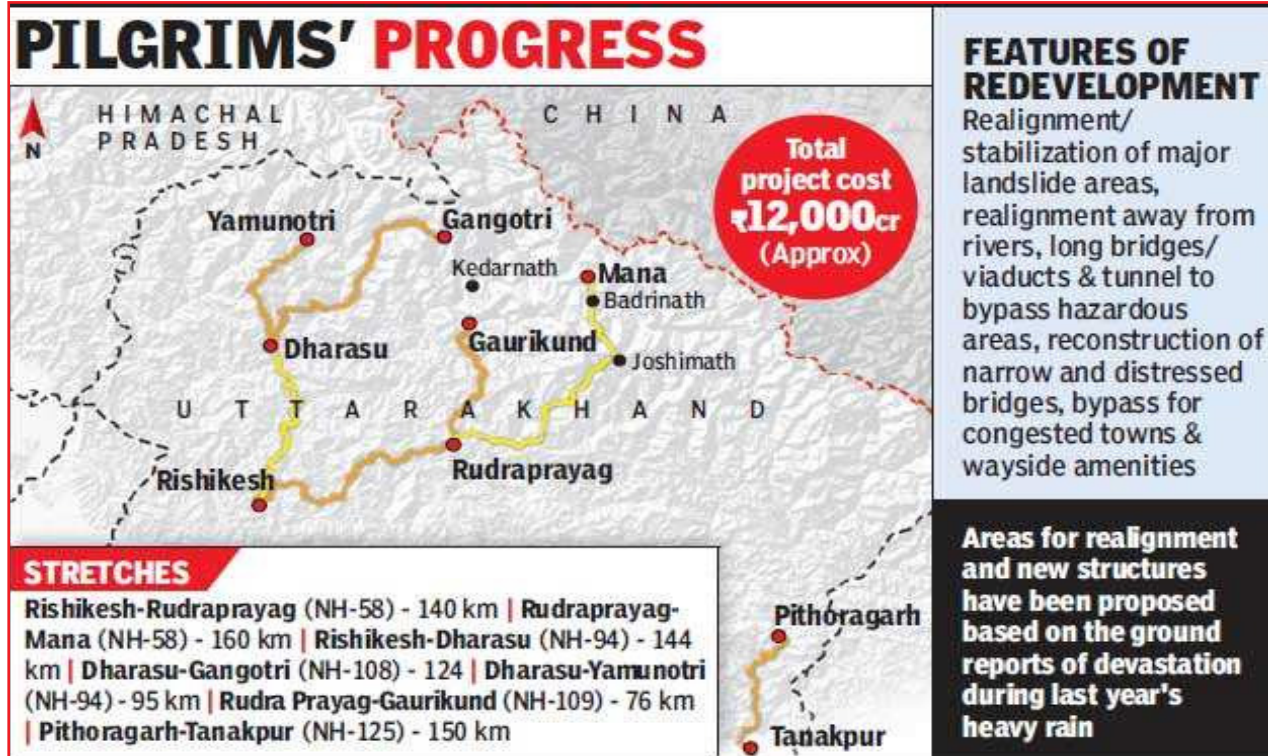
- The project faced opposition due to environmental concerns related to the sensitive **Himalayan ecosystem**.
- In **December 2021**, the Supreme Court allowed **double-lane widening** of the Chardham Highway but placed oversight responsibilities on the Sikri-led committee to mitigate environmental damage.
- The oversight committee **does not have the mandate to conduct a fresh environmental impact assessment** but monitors the execution of the project.

➤ Support from Government Ministries:

- The committee has the complete backing of the Ministries of **Defence, Road Transport, and Environment**.
- The **Uttarakhand Government** and local district magistrates are also cooperating with the committee.
- Representatives from the **National Environmental Research Institute** and the **Forest Research Institute (Dehradun)** are part of the environmental oversight mechanism.

Note:





CM Unveils Projects at Dussehra

Why in News?

Recently, Uttarakhand CM participated in the [Dussehra festival](#) in Champawat and announced several new developmental projects for the region.

Key Points

- **Developmental Projects Announced:** During the event, he announced a series of developmental projects aimed at improving [infrastructure and public services](#) in the region.
 - Key initiatives include **road development, water supply projects**, and improvements to local facilities to boost the region's connectivity and quality of life.
- **Boosting Tourism:** CM emphasized the government's focus on promoting tourism in Champawat by enhancing local attractions and infrastructure to draw more visitors.
- **Commitment to Champawat's Growth:** The CM reiterated his government's commitment to accelerating the economic development of Champawat, ensuring that it becomes a hub for tourism and trade.
- **Engagement with Local Communities:** The announcements were made in the presence of local leaders and communities, with Dhama highlighting the role of public participation in the success of these projects.
- **Cultural and Economic Significance:** The CM emphasized the cultural importance of the **Dussehra festival** while linking it to the broader economic and infrastructural development of the region.

Dussehra Festival

- Dussehra, also known as **Vijayadashami**, is a significant Hindu festival celebrated across India, symbolising the triumph of good over evil.
- It marks the **end of Navratri**, a nine-night festival devoted to Goddess Durga.
- The festivities include decorating homes and public spaces with **lights, flowers, and rangoli**.

Note:

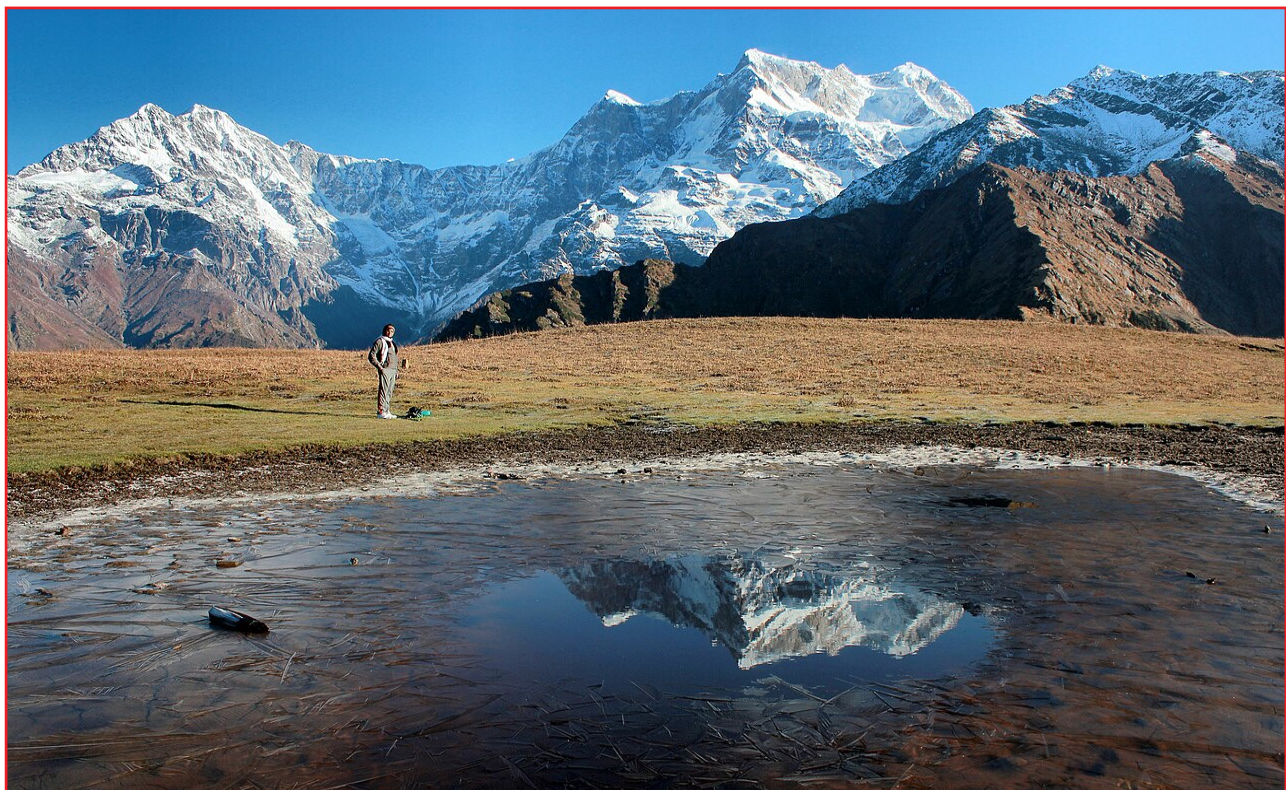
Rescue of Climbers at Chaukhamba III

Why in News?

Recently, two foreign climbers, **Michelle Theresa Dvorak (USA)** and **Fay Jane Manners (UK)**, were rescued from **6,015 meters** height near the **Chaukhamba III peak** in Uttarakhand's **Chamoli district**.

Key Points

- **Chaukhamba:**
 - It is a mountain massif in the **Gangotri Group of the Garhwal Himalayas**, Uttarakhand, India, located west of **Badrinath**. It features four summits along a northeast-southwest ridge:
 - Chaukhamba I: 7,138 m (23,419 ft)
 - Chaukhamba II: 7,070 m (23,196 ft)
 - Chaukhamba III: 6,995 m (22,949 ft)
 - Chaukhamba IV: 6,854 m (22,487 ft)
 - The mountain lies at the head of the Gangotri Glacier, forming the eastern anchor of the group, with the highest peak, **Chaukhamba I**, being the tallest in the **Gangotri range**.



Chamoli District

- Chamoli is a district in Uttarakhand, India, with its administrative headquarters located in **Gopeshwar**.
 - It is bounded by **Tibet in the north** and several Uttarakhand districts, including Pithoragarh, Bageshwar, Almora, Pauri Garhwal, Rudrapur, and Uttarkashi.
- Chamoli is renowned for several **religious and tourist destinations**, such as **Badrinath**, **Hemkund Sahib**, and the **Valley of Flowers**.
 - Historically, Chamoli holds significance as the birthplace of the **Chipko movement**, a pioneering environmental campaign.

Note:



Gangotri Glacier

- Gangotri Glacier is situated in the **Uttarkashi District of Uttarakhand**.
- The **Gangotri glacier** originates at the northern slope of **Chaukhamba range of peaks** in Garhwal Himalayas. It is about **30 km long and 0.5 to 2.5 km wide**.
- Gangotri is not a single valley glacier, but a combination of several other glaciers. This glacier comprises three main tributaries, namely **Raktavaran (15.90 km), Chaturangi (22.45 km) and Kirti (11.05 km) and more than 18 other tributary glaciers**.
- The **Bhagirathi**, one of the main tributaries of the Ganga, originates from the **gangotri glacier**. The Ganges has five headstreams the **Bhagirathi, the Alaknanda, the Mandakini, the Dhauliganga, and the Pindar** all rise in the mountainous region of northern Uttarakhand.

“Peacock Spotted at 6,500 Feet in Uttarakhand”

Why in News?

Recently, **peacocks** were sighted at an unusual altitude of **6,500 feet** in Uttarakhand’s **Bageshwar district**, indicating **ecological changes** due to increased human activity.

Key Points

- The peacock, normally seen at **1,600 feet**, was spotted in the **Kafligair (April) and Kathayatbara (October)** forest ranges.
 - Experts believe **warmer conditions** at higher altitudes, influenced by human expansion, may explain the bird’s **altitudinal migration**.
 - Experts from **Wildlife Institute of India (WII)** suggest it may be a **seasonal shift**, as cooler winter temperatures could prompt the bird to retreat.

Peacock



Note:



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- The collective name for peacocks is peafowl. The male of the variety is called a peacock and the female peafowl is called a peahen.
 - The Indian peacock is also the **National Bird of India**.
 - Peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*) belongs to the **Phasianidae family**. They are among the largest of all birds that fly.
 - Phasianidae is the pheasant family, a bird family that includes among its members the jungle fowl (from which the domestic chicken is descended), partridge, peacock, pheasant, and quail.
 - The two most-recognizable species of peafowl are:
 - The blue Peacock/ Indian Peacock found in India and Sri Lanka.
 - The **green or Javanese peacock (*P. muticus*)** found in Myanmar (**Burma**) to Java.
- **Habitat:**
 - The Indian peafowl is a native of India and some parts of **Pakistan and Sri Lanka**.
 - The **species are currently habituated more in central Kerala**, followed by southeast and northwest parts of the state.
 - At least **19% of the states' area is suitable habitat for this species and this may increase by 40-50% by 2050**.
 - They are well adapted to living in forest edges and cultivated areas.

Green Nod for Hydro Project in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

Recently, a fresh approval for the **Phata Byung Hydropower Project** in Uttarakhand hinges on environmental, forest, and wildlife clearances.

Key Points

- **Project:**
 - It is a 76 MW run-of-the-river project on the **Mandakini River** in **Rudraprayag**.
 - The project was extensively damaged during the 2013 floods caused by a **cloudburst**.
 - The **Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ministry** stressed **forest** and **National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)** clearances.
- **Concerns:**
 - **Glacial lake outburst floods** are a major concern.
 - There are **24 lakes** near the site and 6 are considered critical.

The Mandakini River

- It is a tributary of the **Alaknanda River** in Uttarakhand.
- The river runs for approximately 81 kilometers between the **Rudraprayag and Sonprayag** areas and emerges from the **Chorabari Glacier**.
- The **Mandakini merges with river Songanga at Sonprayag** and flows past the Madhyamaheshwar temple at Ukhimath.
- At the end of its course it drains into the **Alaknanda, which flows into the Ganges**.

Note:



Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF)

➤ About:

- A **glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF)** is a type of catastrophic flood that occurs when the dam containing a glacial lake fails, releasing a large volume of water.
- This type of flood is typically caused by rapid melting of glaciers or the buildup of water in the lake due to heavy precipitation or the inflow of meltwater.
 - In February 2021, **Chamoli district in Uttarakhand witnessed flash floods** which are suspected to have been caused by GLOFs.

➤ Causes:

- These floods can be triggered by a number of factors, including changes in the volume of the glacier, changes in the water level of the lake, and earthquakes.
- According to **NDMA (National Disaster Management Authority)**, glacial retreat due to climate change occurring in most parts of the **Hindu Kush Himalayas** has given rise to the formation of numerous new glacial lakes, which are the major cause of GLOFs.

Uttarakhand Cybersecurity Review Post-Attack

Why in News?

Recently, Uttarakhand's data center was temporarily shut down due to a **malware attack**, prompting a **cybersecurity** review by the state's Chief Minister.

Key Points

➤ Cyberattack Incident:

- Malware attack temporarily closed down Uttarakhand's **State Data Centre**.
- Chief Minister held a review meeting with officials from key departments like **Information Technology Development Agency (ITDA)**, **National Informatics Centre (NIC)**, and **police**.
 - CM ordered the creation of a **cybersecurity task force** for online services security.
- Proposed establishing a **disaster recovery center** for securing and recovering online data.

➤ Cybersecurity Enhancements:

- CM directed a **security audit** of the State Data Centre and online platforms.
- Instructed the study and implementation of **best practices** from other states, central ministries, and agencies in cybersecurity.
- Ordered a review of the **ITDA's technical work** and potential action if negligence is found.

➤ Personnel and Training:

- Directed filling of personnel vacancies in ITDA and provision of **cybersecurity training** to staff.
- Ensured updating of **anti-virus systems** in every government office to prevent future incidents.

➤ Damage Control:

- No data loss reported from the malware attack on virtual machines.
- Out of **1378 machines**, **11 were affected**.
- Sites like **e-office** and **CM helpline** have already been restored.

Note:



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Information Technology Development Agency (ITDA)

- The **Information Technology Development Agency (ITDA)** is an independent and autonomous body under the **Government of Uttarakhand**.
- Its primary mission is to drive the growth of the **Information Technology (IT)** sector in Uttarakhand and to implement **e-Governance projects** across the state.
- ITDA provides IT-related inputs and support to government departments, promotes IT sector growth, facilitates IT human resource development, and encourages innovation in technology.
- Additionally, it undertakes tasks related to **Information Technology enabled Services (ITeS), Information and Communication Technology (ICT), and electronics**.

Tragic Wasps Attack Claims Lives in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

Recently, a tragic incident in Uttarakhand highlights the dangers of **wildlife** encounters, resulting in the deaths of a father and son due to a **wasp attack**.

Key Points

- **Incident Overview:**
 - A 47-year-old man and his eight-year-old son, tragically lost their lives after being attacked by wasps while grazing their cows in a forest in Jaunpur block of Uttarakhand's **Tehri Garhwal** district.
- **Wasps and Their Dangers:**
 - Types and Aggression:
 - Wasps, including yellow jackets, paper wasps, and hornets, can exhibit aggressive behavior when their nests are disturbed.
 - They possess smooth stingers that allow them to **sting multiple times** when threatened.
 - Effects of Stings:
 - A wasp sting typically causes immediate pain, swelling, and redness at the site due to the venom, which **contains toxic enzymes and proteins**.
 - Individuals may experience allergic reactions, ranging from mild symptoms like hives to severe **anaphylaxis, characterized by difficulty**

breathing, swelling, and potential loss of consciousness.

- Multiple Stings and Risks:
 - Multiple stings significantly increase the risk of severe systemic reactions, particularly in sensitive individuals.
 - **Anaphylaxis** can occur, necessitating immediate medical attention to prevent serious health complications or death.
- Prevention and Emergency Response:
 - To prevent stings, avoid bright colors and floral patterns, use insect repellent, and seek professional help for nest removal.
 - In case of a sting, clean the area, apply a cold compress, and take pain relief if necessary. Severe reactions require urgent medical care.

Uttarakhand Leads in Employment Growth

Why in News?

The Uttarakhand government claims significant progress in reducing **unemployment**, as highlighted in the latest **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), 2023-24** report.

Key Points

- **Unemployment Rate Decline:**
 - Overall unemployment decreased from **4.5% to 4.3%**.
 - Most notable reduction in the **15-29 age group**, dropping from **14.2% to 9.8%**.
- **Improvement in Worker Population Ratio:**
 - Increased worker population ratio across all age groups in 2023-24 compared to 2022-23.
 - **For ages 15-29:** Increased from **27.5% to 44.2%**.
 - **For ages 15-59:** Increased from **57.2% to 61.2%**.
 - **For ages 15 and above:** Increased from **53.5% to 58.1%**.
- **Youth Labor Force Participation:**
 - Increased participation in the labor force for youth (15-29 years) from **43.7% to 49%**.
 - Labor force participation for ages 15-59 rose from **60.1% to 64.4%**.
 - Ages 15 and above saw an increase from **56% to 60.7%**.

Note:

➤ Surpassing National Averages:

- Uttarakhand's labor population average for ages **15-29 is 49%**, compared to the national average of **46.5%**.
- For ages 15-59, the state stands at 64.4% (national average: **64.3%**).
- For ages 15 and above, Uttarakhand is at 60.7% (national average: **60.1%**).

Periodic Labour Force Survey Report

- **About:** It is conducted by the NSO under the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** to measure the employment and unemployment situation in India.
 - It was developed to address the limitations of earlier labour force surveys conducted by the **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)**.
- **Two Primary Objectives of PLFS:** It was designed with two major objectives for measuring employment and unemployment:
 - **First Objective:** To measure the dynamics of labour force participation and employment status at short intervals (every three months) for urban areas using the Current Weekly Status (CWS) approach.
 - **Second Objective:** To measure labour force estimates for both rural and urban areas using the Usual Status and CWS parameters.
- **Innovations in Sampling Design and Data Collection:** The PLFS introduced changes in the sampling design and the structure of the schedule of inquiry compared to the previous quinquennial surveys conducted by the NSSO.
 - The PLFS also included additional data, such as the number of hours worked, which was not collected in the earlier quinquennial rounds of the NSSO.

Uttarakhand CM Honors 1822 Revolution Martyrs

Why in News?

Uttarakhand Chief Minister commemorated the martyrs of the **1822-24 Kunja Bahadurpur, Roorkee revolution** during the **200th Balidan Diwas**.

Key Points

➤ Tribute to Martyrs:

- CM paid homage to 152 martyrs of the **1822-24 Kunja Bahadurpur revolution**.
- The 1822-24 revolution refers to a historical event where people fought against British rule in India, seeking freedom and justice.
- Tribute to key figures like **Raja Vijay Singh and Senapati Kalyan Singh**.
- A book on the 1822-24 martyrs was released during the event.
- CM announced efforts to designate the **Balidani Sthal** as a **national memorial**.
- Commended the work of the **Shaheed Raja Vijay Singh Memorial and the Kanya Shiksha Prasar Samiti** for promoting the martyrs' legacies.

➤ Remembering National Leaders:

- Earlier, Dhama honored **Mahatma Gandhi** on his **155th birth anniversary** and **Lal Bahadur Shastri** on his 120th birth anniversary.
- Emphasized **Gandhi's principles** of truth and non-violence and their enduring influence.

➤ Alignment with National Goals:

- Highlighted national efforts toward **Atmanirbhar Bharat**, aligning with Gandhi's vision for a clean, healthy, and prosperous India.

'Khaki Mein Sthitpragya' Released

Why in News?

Recently, the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand released the book **Khaki Mein Sthitpragya** written by **former DGP of Uttarakhand, Anil Raturi**.

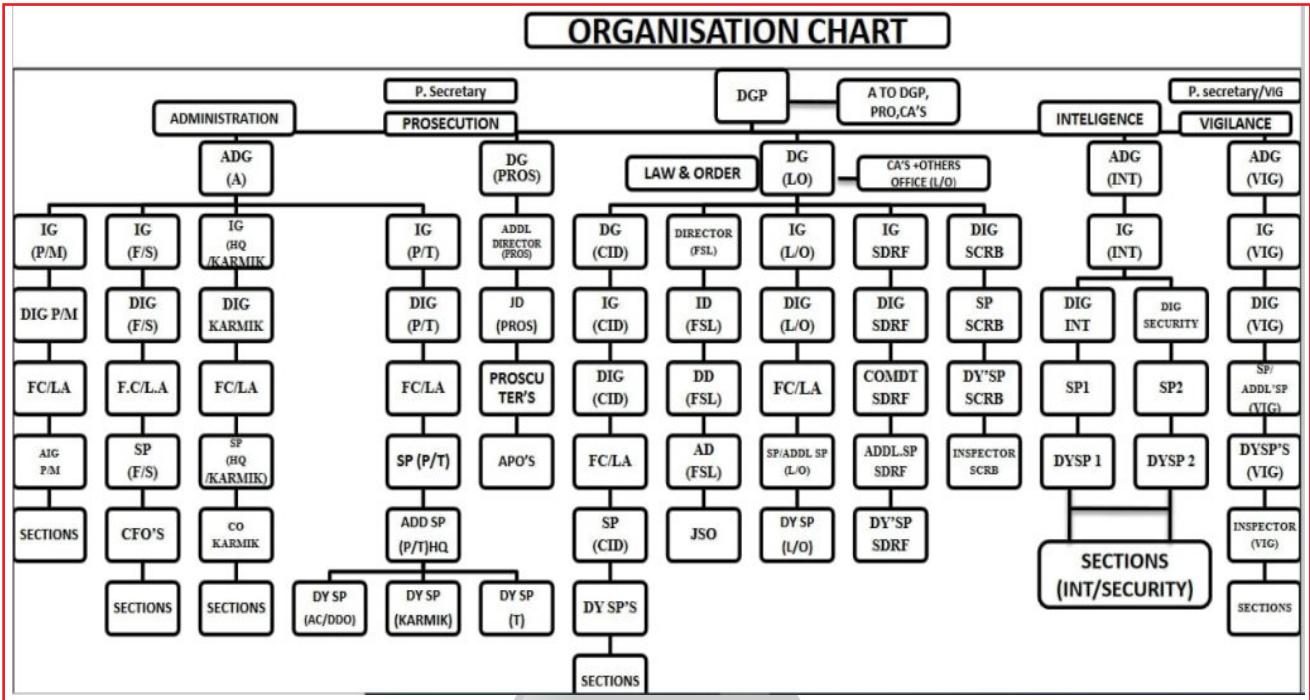
Key Points

➤ Book Release:

- The book **Khaki Mein Sthitpragya** was released by **CM Pushkar Singh Dhama** at the **IRDT auditorium** in Dehradun.
- The book is based on Anil Raturi's **memoirs and experiences** during his service as an IPS officer.
- The book presents **challenges, experiences, and memories** from Raturi's **three-and-a-half decades** in service.
- It aims to guide **new police officers** in dealing with challenges through **patience, strong willpower, and dedication**.

Note:





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Note:

Key Points

Details

Summary

