



Haryana Commission Gets Auto Appeal Software's Copyright | Haryana | 28 Mar 2024

Why in News?

The [Haryana Right to Service \(RTS\) Commission](#) has secured the “copyright” for ‘Auto Appeal Software’ (AAS).

- Haryana RTS Commission applied for copyright in 2022 and it was granted on March 20, 2024.

Key Points

- The AAS (**launched in 2021**) is the **first software of its kind** in India which eliminates the need for the complainant to do anything to file an appeal.
 - Through AAS, a total of 11,70,766 appeals have been raised by 27th March 2024, out of which 11,56,595 appeals have also been disposed of.
 - The **disposal rate of appeals in AAS is 98.8%**.
- Haryana is the **first state in the country** to provide this facility to its citizens.
- The copyright is a type of [intellectual property](#) that grants the creator of an original work, or another **rights holder**, exclusive and **legally protected rights to copy, distribute, adapt, display, and perform** the work.

Copyright

- **Copyright refers to the legal protection provided to creators** of literary, dramatic, musical, and artistic works, as well as producers of cinematograph films and sound recordings.
 - The **Copyright Act of 1957 aims to safeguard these creative works** as the intellectual property of their creators.
 - Unlike the case with patents, **copyright protects the expressions and not the ideas**.
 - In addition to the act, the **Copyright (Amendment) Rules 2021**, are brought into effect to bring the copyrights in line with other relevant laws.
- Copyright owners have the **right to take legal action** against infringers, including seeking remedies such as **injunctions**, damages, and accounts.

Haryana Right to Service Commission

- It was constituted by the state government via a notification **issued on 31st July 2014**.
 - It is a statutory body constituted under **Sections 12(1) and (2) of the Haryana Right to Service Act, 2014**.
 - The Commission will consist of **one Chief Commissioner and a maximum of four Commissioners**, who will oversee the effective implementation of the Haryana Right to Service Act, 2014.
 - The HRTS Act, 2014, has empowered people to make the most of the services in a hassle-free, transparent and time-bound manner through an effective service delivery mechanism.
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Adani Green Commissions 180 MW Solar Plant In Rajasthan | Rajasthan | 28 Mar 2024

Why in News?

Adani Green Energy has recently operationalized a 180-MW solar power plant at Devikot in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

Key Points

- The plant has a 25-year [Power Purchase Agreement \(PPA\)](#) with the [Solar Energy Corporation of India \(SECI\)](#), **Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL)**, India's largest [renewable energy](#) company.
- It will produce approximately 540 million electricity units annually, powering over 1.1 lakh homes and reducing around 0.39 million tonnes of [CO2 emissions](#).
 - **Next-generation bifacial solar Photovoltaic modules and horizontal single-axis solar trackers (HSAT)** have been deployed to maximise generation through better efficiency of modules and tracking the sun throughout the day.
 - HSAT used to increase the generation potential of the sunlight by tracking systems
- The plant is equipped with **waterless robotic module cleaning systems**, enabling [water conservation](#) in the barren region of Jaisalmer.

Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)

- It is a **long-term contract** between an electricity generator and a customer, usually a utility, government or company.
 - PPAs usually last anywhere between 5 to 20 years, during which time the power **purchaser buys energy at a pre-negotiated price**.
 - Such agreements play a key role in the **financing of independently owned** (i.e., not owned by a utility) electricity generators, especially producers of renewable energy like solar farms or wind farms.
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Gulaal Gota | Rajasthan | 28 Mar 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **Gulaal Gota**, a unique tradition **dating back around 400 years**, was celebrated in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Key Points

- Gulaal Gota is a **small ball made of lac**, filled with **dry gulaal**, and weighs around 20 grams when filled.
- Lac, the primary raw material for Gulaal Gota, is sourced from **Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand**.
 - The process of making Gulaal Gotas involves **boiling lac in water** to make it flexible, shaping it, adding colour, heating it, and then blowing it into a spherical shape with the help of a blower called "**phunkni**".

- Gulaal Gotas are made by **Muslim lac makers, known as Manihaars**, in Jaipur, who learned lac-making from Hindu lac makers in Bagru, a town near Jaipur.
- The government of India has given "[artisan cards](#)" to the lac bangle and Gulaal Gota makers, allowing them to avail benefits from government schemes.
- In a bid to save the tradition, some Gulaal Gota makers have demanded a [Geographical Indication \(GI\) tag](#).

Lac

- It is a resinous substance that is **secreted by certain insects**. The **female scale** insect is one of the sources of lac.
- **To produce 1 kg of lac resin, around 300,000 insects are killed**. The lac insects also yield resin, lac dye and lac wax.
- It is used in various applications, including the production of **lac bangles**.

Geographical Indication (GI) tag

- A GI tag is a **name or sign used on certain products** that correspond to a specific geographical location or origin.
- The GI tag ensures that only the **authorised users or those residing in the geographical territory** are allowed to use the popular product name.
 - It also protects the product from being copied or imitated by others.
- A registered GI is valid for 10 years.
- GI registration is overseen by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Expert Teams to Assess High-Risk Glacial Lakes of Uttarakhand | Uttarakhand | 28 Mar 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the Uttarakhand government has formed **two teams of experts to conduct a risk assessment and survey of five glacial lakes** in the state that are highly vulnerable to "outburst floods".

Key Points

- It has been proposed that the teams will start their work on these lakes in May-June 2024.
- Of the **188 glacial lakes in Himalayan states, 13 are located in Uttarakhand**.
- Uttarakhand in **February 2021** saw a [glacial lake outburst in Chamoli district](#) that washed away a small hydel project on the **Rishiganga** and caused flash floods, killing many people.
- The **13 glacial lakes of Uttarakhand have been categorised as 'A', 'B' and 'C', with 'A' being highly sensitive**.
 - **Out** of the 13 glacial lakes in Uttarakhand, **Five** fall in **category 'A'**(highly sensitive), **four** in **category 'B'** (sensitive) and **four** in **category 'C'** (relatively less sensitive).
 - Out of the five highly sensitive lakes, **four are in Pithoragarh district and one in Chamoli**, and of the four sensitive lakes, **two are in Pithoragarh and one each in Chamoli and Tehri**.
- The **first team** consisting of experts from the National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee; the [Geological Survey of India, Lucknow](#); the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun; the

Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority; and the Uttarakhand Landslide Mitigation and Management Centre **will assess the sensitivity of two glacial lakes.**

- The work of the first phase will entail **satellite data study and data collection, bathymetry and area survey.**
- The **second team** headed by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune, as the lead technical agency and consisting of the Dehradun-based Indian Institute of Remote Sensing; the [Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology](#); the Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority; and the Uttarakhand Landslide Mitigation and Management Centre **will study and survey the other three glacial lakes falling in the 'A' category.**

The Indian Institute of Remote Sensing

- It is an institute for research, **higher education and training in the field of remote sensing, geoinformatics and GPS technology** for natural resources, environmental and disaster management.
- The institute was **established in the year 1966** under the Indian Department of Space.
- It is located in **Dehradun, Uttarakhand.**

Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF)

- It 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.

Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra Spearhead India's Post-Pandemic Growth: SBI Report | Uttar Pradesh | 28 Mar 2024

Why in News?

According to the latest findings from the **State Bank of India (SBI) Research**, out of the **235 basis point (bp) growth, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh emerged as frontrunners**, contributing 56 and 40 bps, while the remaining 90 bps stemmed from other states.

Key Points

- The Indian economy has demonstrated **resilience in the wake of the Covid-19** pandemic, with the average real [Gross Domestic Product \(GDP\)](#) growth surging to 8.1%, a substantial increase from the 5.7% growth witnessed in the pre-pandemic period.
- According to the report:
 - On the **Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP)** front, **Gujarat** has notably doubled its economic output, marking a 2.2 times increase over the last decade.

- Following closely behind are states such as **Karnataka, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, Sikkim, and Madhya Pradesh**, showcasing significant economic momentum and development.
- While some states such as **Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh** **have maintained stable per capita income growth** trajectories, others like **Jharkhand, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Punjab, Delhi, and Goa** **have experienced deceleration** in this aspect.
- The report highlights a significant reduction in state-wide inequality in terms of per capita **Net State Domestic Product (NSDP)** following the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The SBI Research team **emphasised the importance of continued policy support and targeted interventions** to sustain and **enhance economic growth momentum** across all states.
- It serves as a **resource for policymakers, economists, and stakeholders**, providing insights into the evolving dynamics of the Indian economy and guiding future development initiatives.

Basis Points

- These are a **unit of measure** used to describe the **percentage change in the value of financial instruments** or the **rate change in an index or other benchmark**.
- One basis point is **equivalent to 0.01%** (1/100th of a percent) or 0.0001 in decimal form.

Masaan Holi | Uttar Pradesh | 28 Mar 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Masaan Holi, a **special two-day event** was celebrated in **Varanasi**. During which **devotees put ashes from funeral fires and a pink powder (gulal) on each other**. This event is also seen as a way to celebrate death.

Key Points

- The ritual of Masaan Holi Varanasi is believed to celebrate the **Holika-Prahalad mythological event with the pyre ashes**.
- The **use of pyre ashes** in Masaan Holi Varanasi **symbolises the shortness of life and the cyclical nature of a person's existence** in this materialistic world.
- It is believed that the **ashes used in Masan Holi possess purifying properties that cleanse the body, mind, and soul of impurities**.
- By smearing each other with ash during Holi, people seek **spiritual rejuvenation and internal purification**.