



CURRENT AFFAIRS

1-31 May 2022



GUIDANCE
G R O U P

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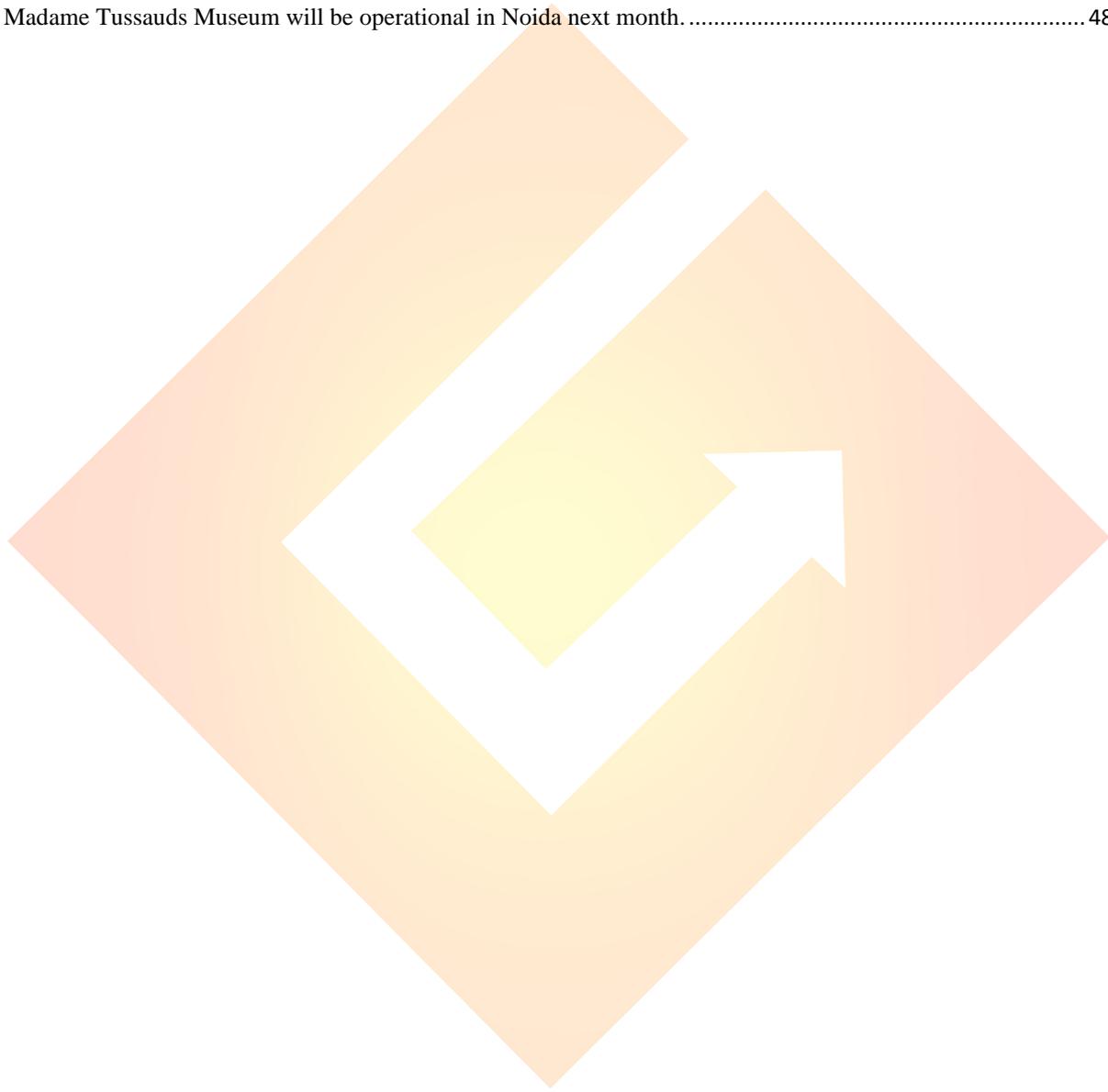
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GUIDANCE
G R O U P

MAHARASHTRA HAS BECOME THE FIRST STATE IN INDIA TO DEVELOP THE MIGRATION TRACKING SYSTEM.

- In a first of its kind project in the country, the Maharashtra government has developed a website-based migration tracking system (MTS) application to map the movement of vulnerable seasonal migrant workers through individual unique identity numbers.
- The state government's women and child development (WCD) department launched it as a pilot project in November last year in six districts with high tribal population including Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, Amravati, Jalna, Palghar and Nandurbar.
- The MTS project is envisaged to maintain the continuity of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) like nutrition supply, immunization and health check-up etc. to migrant beneficiaries including children aged up to 18 years, lactating mothers and pregnant women registered with the anganwadi centers.
- Their migration will be tracked for ensuring the portability of the ICDS for their families in their destination districts within or outside the state until their return to their native places.
- Despite recording a huge distress-driven seasonal migration of workers, Maharashtra, like other states, does not have any institutionalized mechanism to enumerate it. So, through this initiative, the state has sought to capture the data of intra-district, inter-districts and interstate migration of such workers. In light of the pilot project, the WCD department has now decided to roll it out across the state, focusing especially on the rural belts.
- The anganwadi workers have to first register the migrating beneficiaries from their areas on the MTS website app on their laptops or mobile phones by using the workers' identity cards like Aadhar, PAN card, or ration cards etc. "Other than names, the anganwadi workers have to mention the age,

weight, height of the migrant children, who will be placed in nutritional categories like severe, moderate or acute. Depending on this data, the nutrition benefits will be allocated to the children in their new locations

THE MAHARASHTRA CABINET GAVE ITS APPROVAL TO THE FIRST 'MAHARASHTRA GENE BANK PROJECT'.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

- To conserve genetic resources including marine diversity, seeding and animal diversity of local crops in Maharashtra.

Maharashtra Gene Bank project to work on seven themes

1. marine biodiversity
2. Local Peak/Biane Vana
3. caste of native gurs
4. Biodiversity in godya water
5. Deepland, shrub and grazing land biodiversity
6. Conservation and Management Plan for Areas Under Forest Cover
7. Revival of forest areas.

- In the next five years, ₹172.39 crore will be spent on these seven focus areas.

WHAT ARE THE MAJOR INITIATIVES IN THE PROJECT?

- Indigenous knowledge resources will be used.
- Knowledge of species and local communities will be well-documented.
- Genetic and molecular groups will be preserved and their reproductive organs will be supported.
- To preserve the crop biodiversity, the government will encourage genome carriers who conserve seeds of local crop forests and form seed banks.

WHO WILL IMPLEMENT THE PROJECT?

- The project will be implemented by the Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board (MSBB) and will be overseen by committees under the chairmanship of chief secretary and principal secretary (vane).
- MSBB National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) will coordinate with institutions like Goa to document and promote the endangered and endangered marine species.
- National Institute of Oceanography (NIO)
- NIO is one of the 37 component laboratories of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi. It was established in 1966. It is a multidisciplinary oceanographic research body.

WHO FOUNDED THE NATIONAL GENE BANK OF INDIA?

- The National Population Bank of India has been set up by the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) to preserve the national heritage of germplasm collection in the form of seeds, botanical proliferation, tissue/muscle culture, embryos, gametes, etc. The National Gene Bank can save about 10 lakh germplasm in the form of seeding.
- The National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) was established in 1976 as the nodal agency at the national level for the management of Plant Genetic Resources (PGRs) for food and agriculture and allied research and human resource development.

CHIEF MINISTER NITISH KUMAR INAUGURATED THE COUNTRY'S FIRST ETHANOL PLANT AT PURNIA IN BIHAR.

- Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated India's first ethanol plant in Purnia district of Bihar. Eastern India Biofuels Pvt Ltd has set up the plant at a cost of Rs 105 crore. Bihar introduced ethanol production incentive policy in the first half of 2021. It is the first grain-based ethanol plant in the country.

IMPORTANT ISSUES

- Located at Ganeshpur Parora, 12 km from Purnea town, the plant is spread over 15 acres of land.
- Purnea, Katihar, Araria and Kishanganj districts, known as Seemanchal Pradesh, produce 80% of the total maize in Bihar and produce 30-35 lakh metric tonnes (MTs) during the April to August period.
- Bihar introduced ethanol production promotion policy in the first half of 2021.
- In Bihar, 17 ethanol production projects are being set up in which 35 crore litres of fuel is likely to be generated every year using sugarcane, molasses, maize and chopped rice.
- The ethanol produced will be supplied to oil marketing companies to mix between petrol and diesel.
- Apart from Purnia, ethanol plants are being set up at Muzaffarpur, Bhojpur, Nalanda, Buxar, Madhubani, Begusarai, Gopalganj, East Champaran, Bhagalpur.

CHHATTISGARH STATE WILL REVIVE THE OLD PENSION SCHEME.

In his budgetary statement, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel announced the government's plan to go back to the old pension scheme (OPS) for state employees and to flatten out monthly MLA Local Area Development Money. He placed the budget documents in the briefcase of the agricultural powder.

IMPORTANT ISSUES:

- More than three lakh persons who have started work after January 1, 2004 will be benefited by the change. However, it will not be applicable to members of all India services such as the Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Police Service.

- The fundamental difference between the two pension systems is that employees should make a voluntary contribution to their pensions by deducting 10% of their original income and dearness allowance, there is no such restriction under OPS.
- The chief minister has proposed to undo the earlier pension programme for government employees in this budget.
- The Chhattisgarh Employment Mission will be given an amount of Rs 2 crore to work out the possibilities of creating new jobs in coordination with skill development programmes.

MANGHAR VILLAGE LAUNCHES COUNTRY'S FIRST 'HONEY VILLAGE' PROJECT

- Industries Minister Subhash Desai said that the 'Honey Village' project at Manghar is the first such project in the country and such projects will be implemented in other districts of the state as well.
- The first village of Manghar is officially being started by implementing the project on behalf of khadi and village industries board in the rural economy to provide employment opportunities through honey bee farming. The livelihood of 80 per cent of the people in this village depends on the industry of this village. This will provide employment to the youth of the village.
- The number of bees in the world is decreasing. Focus on increasing it. The forest department should increase the number of plants which will be used for honey collection.
- It can also be an agribusiness. Bees maintain balance in nature. Also flower pollination increases crop yield. This concept will make pure honey available in the market. Khadi and Village Industries Board will provide incentives, training and assistance to farmers.

GOVERNMENT CIRCULAR TO STOP WIDOW PRACTICE – MAHARASHTRA'S PROGRESSIVE STEPS

The government has taken note of the decision of Herwad Gram Panchayat in Kolhapur district to stop the practice of widowhood.

Though India continues to be a scientific and progressive society, even today, after the death of the husband, the practice of wiping his wife's kumkum, breaking the mangalsutra of the neck, breaking the bracelets in the hands, removing the joints in the feet, etc., were decided to stop this evil practice. The decision to stop this evil practice was taken by village development officer Pallavi Kolekar and sarpanch Surgonda Patil of The Harwad Gram Panchayat in Kolhapur district and his gram sabha. The government has issued a circular on May 17, 2022, calling for gram panchayats to work to stop the practice of widowhood.

INDIA'S FIRST 'LWENDER FESTIVAL' INAUGURATED

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the country's first 'Lwender Fest' at Bhaderwah in Jammu, where the economy in the dongles has changed due to the impact of the blender. Bhaderwah in Doda district is the birthplace of India's famous revolution.

Under the Union Government's '**Aroma Mission or Purple Revolution**', the fate of farmers in Jammu and Kashmir has changed. The Union Ministry of Science and Technology had launched the Purple or lwender Revolution in 2016 by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) through the Aroma Mission. The campaign aims to support the aromatic crop-based agricultural economy within the country. Lavender is cultivated in almost all the 20 districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

Farmers were given free lavender seedlings, while those who had planted lavender earlier were given Rs. 5-6 per plant were given under this mission. This mission promotes the cultivation of aromatic crops for essential oils that are in high demand in the aroma industry. More than 800 progressive farmers in Doda

have adopted aromatic farming which is now proving to be profitable. The campaign aims to increase lavender cultivation to 1,500 hectares by 2024.

BRO'S ATAL TUNNEL RECEIVES 'BEST INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT' AWARD.

- The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) engineering marvel, Atal Tunnel, built-in Rohtang in Himachal Pradesh, received the Indian Building Congress (IBC) 'Best Infrastructure Project' award in New Delhi. More than thirty state-of-the-art infrastructure projects were nominated for the award. The IBC jury selected the strategic tunnel as the 'Best Project for Excellence in Built Environment' in 2021.

ATAL TUNNEL

- This tunnel, situated in the Pir Panjal Ranges of the Himalayas.
- It was built in tough and difficult terrain, where winter temperatures plummeted to a bone-chilling -25 degrees and temperatures within the tunnel frequently climbed to about 45 degrees.
- During a historic event on February 9, 2022, the 9.02 km long, strategically crucial Atal Tunnel, which runs beneath the 'Rohtang Pass' on the Manali – Leh Highway, was officially certified by the World Book of Records as the 'World's Longest Highway Tunnel over 10,000 Feet.'
- The tunnel shortens the road route between Manali and Leh by 46 kilometers and the travel duration by 4 to 5 hours. The Atal Tunnel was built to handle 3000 cars and 1500 trucks each day at an estimated speed of 80 kilometers per hour.
- The Atal Tunnel in Rohtang has been a benefit to the tourism sector in Himachal Pradesh's Lahaul-Spiti area. The number of tourists arriving increased by 622.6 percent from 1,32,983 in 2019 to 9,60,952 in 2021.

AAHAR 2022: ASIA'S LARGEST INTERNATIONAL FOOD AND HOSPITALITY MEET

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) in partnership with the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) is hosting Asia's largest international food and hospitality fair, AAHAR-2022, at New Delhi's Pragati Maidan. More than 80 exporters from various agricultural product segments, including geographical indication products, processed food, organic, and frozen food products, will attend the event, according to the Commerce and Industry Ministry.

IMPORTANT POINTS:

- APEDA has set aside stalls for exporters from the North East and Himalayan states such as Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Uttarakhand, and Himachal Pradesh, as well as women entrepreneurs, Farmer Producer Organisations, Start-Ups, and millet exporters.
- The first day of the fair was April 26th, 2022.
- This fair will run till April 30th, 2022.
- The fair is now in its 36th year.
- This event will provide visitors and participants with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop new business leads.
- This fair will also aid in the efficient and successful marketing of the country's dynamic rising market.

AAHAR PRODUCTS TO EXPLORE

- This event will bring together around 80 exporters from various sectors of the country's agricultural products.
- Organic, processed, and frozen food goods, as well as geographical indication products, are among the sectors.

AAHAR GUEST LIST

- Exporters from the country's North-East region, as well as Himalayan states such as Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand, have dedicated stalls set up by APEDA.
- Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), women entrepreneurs, millet exporters, and start-ups, among others, are among the participants.

SEMICONINDIA CONFERENCE 2022

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Semicon India Conference-2022. Bangalore will host the three-day conference. According to a statement from the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), a three-day conference is being organized by Prime Minister Narendra Modi aimed at making India a leader in electronics manufacturing, semiconductor design, manufacturing and innovation.

WHY IS INDIA A LUCRATIVE INVESTMENT DESTINATION FOR SEMICONDUCTOR TECHNOLOGY?

- India is building digital infrastructure to connect more than 1.3 billion Indians.
- India is developing capabilities in 5G, IoT, AI and other technologies.
- India is poised for strong economic growth and is one of the fastest growing startup ecosystems in the world.
- India has made a number of reforms to improve business facilitation in India.
- India is investing heavily in youth skills and training for the needs of the 21st century.
- India has taken a number of measures to transform the Indian manufacturing sector.

INDIA IS NOW THE LARGEST RECIPIENT OF REMITTANCES FROM ABROAD.

- According to the World Bank, in 2021, India has overtaken Mexico to overtake China as the third largest recipient of remittances. In 2021, India received more than \$ 89 billion in total remittances, an increase of 8% over the \$ 82.73 billion received in 2020. Remittances were slightly higher than \$ 82.69 billion in 2020, even though the world was hit hard by Covid.
- The rupee's depreciation against the dollar has led to a slight rise.
- India's inbound remittances, one of the lowest transaction costs in the world, will continue to grow this year.
- Globally, the average cost of a 200 transfer was \$ 6, but remittances were the cheapest in South Asia (4.3 percent) and the most expensive in sub-Saharan Africa (7.3 percent) (7.8 percent).
- Remittances to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) are projected to grow by 4.2 per cent to \$ 630 billion by 2022.
- This follows strong 8.6% growth in 2021, when remittance inflows totaled \$ 605 billion, well above World Bank estimates.
- In 2021, the inflow of remittances from South Asia increased by 6.9%.

BRAZIL LANDSCAPE GARDEN CITIO BURLEY MARX HAS RECEIVED UNESCO'S WORLD HERITAGE STATUS.

The Sitio Burle Marx site, a landscape garden in the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro, has been included in the unesco's list of world heritage sites. The garden has more than 3,500 species of flora in Rio.

The site has been named after Brazilian landscape architect Burley Marx.

SKY BRIDGE 721: WORLD'S LONGEST SUSPENSION BRIDGE, BEEN OPENED IN CZECH REPUBLIC.

- The world's largest suspension bridge has opened to travellers in the Czech Republic. The bridge, which had been under construction for nearly two

years, was officially opened. Sky Bridge 721 is the name given to it. The promenade promises both beautiful views of the cloud-shrouded Jesenky mountains and an exhilarating, but slightly dangerous experience.

KEY POINTS

- The cable car can take you to the bridge, which crosses two mountain ranges and hovers 95 meters (312 feet) above a valley. It measures 721 meters (2,365 feet) in length. Tourists will enter at a height of 1,125 meters and depart at a height of 10 meters.
- Visitors visiting the bridge will have to walk one way only. They will step onto a paved pathway in a woodland after exiting the other side, where they will learn about Czech history.
- The 1.2-metre-wide bridge, according to the holiday resort where this bridge is located, is open to children of all ages and heights, but is not ideal for individuals using pushchairs or wheelchairs.
- The suspension bridge cost 200 million crowns, or \$8.4 million, according to local media sources.
- The Czech Republic Sky Bridge is 154 meters longer than Nepal's Baglung Parbat Footbridge, which is the world's longest suspension footbridge.
- Prague, the Czech capital, is about a 2.5-hour journey from Sky Bridge 721.

BRITISH MOUNTAINEER KENTON COOL BECOMES FIRST FOREIGNER TO SCALE EVEREST 16 TIMES.

- British climber Kenton Cool has scaled the world's highest mountain for the 16th time becoming the first foreign climber to make the most Mt Everest summits.
- Kenton also holds a record of the first British mountaineer who climbed Mt Nuptse, Mt Everest and Mt Lhotse in a season in 2013.

- Last year, Kenton had made it to the top of Mt Lhotse in less than 29 hours after scaling the world's highest peak. Previously, American climber Dave Hahn has climbed Mt Everest 15 times.

INDO-PACIFIC ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK FOR PROSPERITY (IPEF)

US President Joe Biden officially launched the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) in Tokyo. Under the vision and leadership of the United States, the IPEF includes Australia, Brunei, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, there are 13 founding members including Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The economic framework is largely dependent on four pillars: trade, supply credit flexibility, clean energy and decarbonization, tax and anti-corruption measures. A joint statement points out that the framework aims to "lead to flexibility, sustainability, inclusiveness, economic growth, fairness and competitiveness" in these economies.

QUAD SUMMIT 2022 - PROBLEM AND LEADER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the 4th Quad Countries Summit to be held in Tokyo on May 24 in Tokyo.

CREATION

Quadrilateral Security Dialogue is an organization whose foundation was laid after the 2004 tsunami. It is an association of four countries namely Australia, India, USA and Japan

The first meeting was held by Joe Biden in March 2021, followed by a second meeting in Washington in September 2021, and the quad began to take shape.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF QUAD?

- Free movement should be maintained in the Indo-Pacific region without any military or political interference
- Unity as a strategic group to reduce China's dominance

- Liberal trade system, free communication
- Assistance to indebted countries in the Indo-Pacific region
- Coordinated work in various fields such as health, education, infrastructure.

ISSUES ADDRESSED AT QUAD SUMMIT 2022

- China and Solomon's Son
- China and Taiwan
- North Korea's Missiles
- Ukraine and Russia

QUAD SUMMIT 2022

- The Quad Fellowship- This program will allow 100 students from each of the four countries to study for graduate STEM degrees in the US. The application for the fellowship program has started and will close on 30th June 2022.
- The Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA)- It will focus on providing the fastest and clearest Maritime information to the four countries and their regional partners.
- The vaccine Partnership- The Quad has provided 257 million Covid-19 vaccines collectively. The bloc will continue to provide vaccine doses and support a \$100 million facility to boost the Indian health care sector.
- Space Cooperation- The four nations have committed to sharing space-based earth observation data. It will include US programs on oceanic and atmospheric Monitoring, flood mapping, and land imaging.

NSO SURVEY: THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN INDIA IN OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021 IS 8.7%.

Data from the National Statistical Office (NSO) shows that the unemployment rate of 15-year-olds in urban areas has declined from 10.3% to 8.7% between

October and December 2021. The unemployment or unemployment rate (UR) is interpreted as the percentage of unemployed persons.

KEY ISSUES OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE DATA:

- Among males, the unemployment rate in urban areas also dipped to 8.3% in October-December 2021 compared to 9.5% a year ago. It was 9.3% in July-September 2021.
- The data also showed that the joblessness or unemployment rate among females (aged 15 years and above) in urban areas also declined to 10.5% from 13.1% in the same period. It was 11.6% in July-September 2021.
- Labour force participation rate in CWS (current weekly status) in urban areas for persons 15 years of age and above remained unchanged at 47.3% in the October-December quarter of 2021, compared to the same period a year ago. It was 46.9% in July-September 2021.
- Labour force refers to the part of the population which supplies or offers to supply labour for pursuing economic activities for the production of goods and services.
- The work Population Ratio in urban areas for persons of age 15 years and above stood at 43.2% in October-December 2021, up from 42.4% in the same period a year ago. It was 42.3% in July-September 2021.

THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAS RELEASED THE NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT SURVEY REPORT (NAS) 2021.

The National Achievement Survey (NAS) report for the 2021 edition has been released. NAS2021: One of the largest surveys in the world, the National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 was conducted on 12.11.2021 across the country, to identify the learning gaps & to take remedial measures. The NAS 2021 report cards for the national, state and district levels have been made available at the official website “nas.gov.in.”

IMPORTANT POINTS IN THE REPORT:

- NAS 2021 conducted on November 12 last year assessed over 34 lakh students in 1.18 lakh schools at 720 districts across 36 states and Union Territories.
- NAS assesses the health of the school education system in the country by conducting a comprehensive evaluation survey of children's learning competencies at Classes 3, 5, 8 and 10 with a cycle period of three years. It reflects the overall assessment of the school education system. The last NAS was held in 2017.
- NAS 2021 covered both central and state government schools, government-aided schools and private schools across the country.
- The survey was conducted in 22 languages in Language, Mathematics and EVS for Class 3 and 5; Language, Mathematics, Science and Social Science for Class 8 and Language, Mathematics, Science, Social Science and English for Class 10.
- The report is based on the performance in all subjects through disaggregation by gender (female, male), Area (Rural and Urban), Management of schools (Government, Government aided and Private unaided) and Social Groups (Schedule Caste (SC), Schedule Tribe (ST), Other Backward Communities (OBC) and General.

WEF'S MIGRATION AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COORDINATES 2021

India ranks 54th in the Global Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021. The country has dropped from the 46th position in 2019, however, still topped south Asia.

In the Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021, Japan has topped the tournament and is followed by united states, Spain, France and Germany. With 4.2 points, India is ranked 54th, which is eight less than in 2019.

WeF's Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021, which covers 117 countries, has shown that despite the positive trend, the travel and tourism sector is still hampering its recovery.

The travel and tourism indices evaluate the 117 economies and identifies the main components for enabling the sustainable and rapid growth of the migration and tourism economies. The COVID-19 shutdown has again highlighted the significant contribution of travel and tourism to many economies around the world.

However, as the world is falling out of the effects of partner's disease, economies should start investing to create a strong and resilient environment to provide travel and tourism experiences and services.

In addition to the United States, the top 10 economies in the Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021 are high-income economies in Europe or Asia Pacific. The Migration and Tourism Development Index 2021 is a direct development of the travel and tourism competitiveness indices, which have been published biennially for the last 15 years.

INDIA GOT 100TH UNICORN STARTUP AS NEOBANK OPEN.

India got its 100th unicorn when neobanking fintech portal, “Open”, raised fresh capital to push up its value to over a billion dollars. The five-year-old Bengaluru-based neobank raised \$50 Mn in a Series D funding round from IIFL, Singaporean state holding company Temasek, American investment firm Tiger Global and another Indian firm 3one4 Capital. This helped its valuation cross the \$1 bn mark.

The funding comes just six months after Google, Temasek, Visa, and Japan’s SoftBank invested \$100 million in the neobank startup. This funding signifies the enthusiasm in the Indian startup ecosystem, which is the world’s third-largest according to Economic Survey, 2021-22. India overtook the UK to reach the spot

after the US and China, which added 487 and 301 unicorns respectively, according to the survey.

IN FY22, THE NUMBER OF PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS' FRAUDS DECLINED BY 51% TO RS 40,295 CRORE.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has said that public sector banks recorded a fall of more than 51 per cent to Rs 40,295.25 crore in FY2021-22 (FY22). In the previous financial year 2020-21, 12 PSBs (public sector banks) had defrauded Rs 81,921.54 crore, the central bank said in a reply to an application under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

IMPORTANT POINTS IN THE REPORT:

- The city-based Punjab National Bank (PNB) recorded the highest amount of Rs 9,528.95 crore in FY22, according to RBI data on frauds reported by PSBs in all categories, including 431 such cases.
- State Bank of India, the country's largest lender, recorded fraud amounting to Rs 6,932.37 crore in 4,192 cases - indicating a large number of small value fraud cases.
- Bank of India defrauded Rs 5,923.99 crore (209 cases), followed by Bank of Baroda with Rs 3,989.36 crore (280); Union Bank of India Rs. 3,939 crore (627), while Canara Bank paid Rs. Reported fraud of Rs 3,230.18 crore - these transactions were of high-value fraud.

INDIA RECEIVES HIGHEST-EVER FDI INFLOW OF \$83.57 BN IN FY22.

- The central government announced that India has recorded the highest ever annual FDI inflow of \$83.57 billion during FY22. In 2020-21, the inflow stood at \$81.97 billion. India is rapidly emerging as a preferred country for foreign investments in the manufacturing sector. FDI equity inflow in manufacturing sectors has increased by 76 per cent in 2021-22 (\$21.34 billion) compared to 2020-21 (\$12.09 billion).

- Considering the states, Karnataka, which accounts for 38 per cent of the total FDI equity inflows, is the highest receiving state for another year, followed by Maharashtra at 26 per cent and Delhi at 14 per cent.
- Computer software and hardware accounted for 35 per cent of Karnataka's total FDI equity inflows. It was 20 per cent for the automobile industry and 12 per cent for education.
- In terms of top investor countries, Singapore topped the list with 27 per cent, followed by the US (18 per cent) and Mauritius (16 per cent) last fiscal year. In the regions, computer software and hardware attracted the most revenue. The service sector and the automotive industry followed suit.

THE NEW DEVELOPMENT BANK OPENED A REGIONAL OFFICE IN GIFT CITY.

The New Development Bank (NDB), the multilateral bank in Shanghai of the BRICS countries, will open India's first regional office at Gujarat International Finance Tech-City (GIFT City) to meet the country's infrastructure and sustainable development needs. The India office will focus on increasing its presence in the country by developing, implementing and overseeing new projects.

IMPORTANT ISSUES:

- The existing regional offices of the NDB will be supplemented by the New India office. Its Africa Regional Center (ARC) opened in Johannesburg in 2017, the U.S. Regional Office (ARO) in So Paulo, along with the sub-office in Brazil in 2019, and the Eurasian Territorial Centre (ERC) in Moscow in 2020.
- The NDB was founded in July 2015 by BRICS countries like Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. Since then, Bangladesh, UAE, Egypt and Uruguay have joined the banks.

- NDB has authorized 21 Indian projects with a total of \$7.1 billion investment.
- The bank is interested in projects such as transport, water and sanitation, sustainable energy, digital infrastructure, social infrastructure and urban development.

SEBI CANCELS ICEX'S PERMANENT RECOGNITION.

The market regulator, SEBI, has announced that it has deregistered the Indian Commodity Exchange Limited (ICEX). The market was de-recognized after SEBI issued an order declaring it non-compliant for a number of reasons, including net worth and infrastructure criteria. As a result of the withdrawal, ICEX has been instructed to transfer funds from its Investor Protection Fund and Investor Services Fund to SEBI's Investor Protection and Education Fund.

OUTBREAK OF TOMATO FLU IN SOUTHERN PARTS OF INDIA.

In a few parts of Kerala, a new virus known as tomato flu has been detected after the covid-19 pandemic. Almost 80 children in Kollam city of Kerala have been diagnosed with tomato flu and it is spreading rapidly. All the cases that are confirmed have been diagnosed in children below 5 years. They have been admitted to the local government hospitals. The number of children admitted to the private hospitals is not yet been included in the tally it may be higher than 80 cases.

It is recognized as tomato flu because it causes tomato-shaped blisters on the body. The children diagnosed with tomato flu are experiencing fever, rashes, and skin irritation. Some children are also suffering from dehydration. The increasing effect of tomato flu in Kollam the neighboring districts like Mangaluru, Udupi, Kodagu, Chamrajnagara, and Mysuru are on high alert and are directed to keep an eye on the daily travelers. The flu has reached Aryankavu, Anchal, and Nedivathur in Kerala.

WHAT IS TOMATOES FLU?

Tomato flu is an unknown fever that has been found in children under the age of five in Kerala. Children get acne and blisters after being infected with the flu. These scars are usually red, hence the name 'tomato flu' or 'tomato fever'. Meanwhile, cases of the disease have been found in small parts of Kerala. Health officials have warned that the virus could spread in large numbers if it is not addressed in a timely manner.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

Symptoms of this flu include red purulent, blisters that are red in color. Hence, skin irritation and dehydration on the body.

Excessive heat, soreness, swelling of the shoulders, fatigue, stomachache, nausea, vomiting, laxatives, coughing, shining and blowing of nose, changing the colour of the hands are seen in the children who are infected.

DISCUSSION ON DECLARING 'MONKEYPOX' AS PANDEMIC

The origin of the animal-borne monkeypox disease has been detected in 12 countries across the world, especially because of the absence of this disease in these countries before this, the Global Health Organization has also expressed concern about it.

WHAT EXACTLY IS MONKEYPOX?

Monkeypox is caused by the monkeypox virus, a member of the same family of viruses as smallpox, although it is much less severe and experts say chances of infection are low.

It occurs mostly in remote parts of central and west African countries, near tropical rainforests.

There are two main strains of virus - west African and central African - and it's the milder one from west Africa which is now circulating in other regions of the world.

The unusually high numbers of people infected with monkeypox outside of Africa with no travel links to the region, means the virus is now spreading in the community.

HOW DO YOU CATCH IT?

Monkeypox can be spread when someone is in close contact with an infected person. The virus can enter the body through broken skin, the respiratory tract or through the eyes, nose or mouth.

It has not previously been described as a sexually transmitted infection, but it can be passed on by close contact.

New guidance is advising anyone with the virus to abstain from sex while they have symptoms.

While there is currently no available evidence that monkeypox can be spread in sexual fluids, people confirmed to have the virus are advised to use condoms for eight weeks after infection as a precaution.

It can also be spread by contact with infected animals such as monkeys, rats and squirrels, or by virus-contaminated objects, such as bedding and clothing.

HAS THIS DISEASE BEEN DETECTED IN OTHER COUNTRIES BEFORE?

In the foreign country, apart from Africa, the first disease of this disease was detected in the UNITED STATES in 2003. The disease was reported to have occurred to a man when He came in contact with a monkey-interrupted dog. The dogs were exported to the US along with the animals from Ghanam. The disease was then discovered in 2018, 2019 and 2021.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS? (MONKEYPOX SYMPTOMS)

Initial symptoms include fever, headaches, swellings, back pain, aching muscles. Once the fever breaks a rash can develop, often beginning on the face, then spreading to other parts of the body, most commonly the palms of the hands and soles of the feet.

The rash, which can be extremely itchy or painful, changes and goes through different stages before finally forming a scab, which later falls off. The lesions can cause scarring.

The infection usually clears up on its own and lasts between 14 and 21 days.

HOW DANGEROUS IS IT?

Most cases of the virus are mild, sometimes resembling chickenpox, and clear up on their own within a few weeks.

Monkeypox can sometimes be more severe, however, and has been reported to have caused deaths in west Africa.

ARE THERE TREATMENTS AVAILABLE ON THIS?

(MONKEYPOX TREATMENT)

Outbreaks can be controlled by infection prevention.

Vaccination against smallpox has been proven to be 85% effective in preventing monkeypox.

Antiviral drugs may also help.

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE GRID (NATGRID) INAUGURATED BY AMIT SHAH OF BENGALURU CAMPUS

Home Minister, Amit Shah inaugurates the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) campus in Bengaluru. According to Home Minister Amit Shah, the Narendra Modi government has had a zero-tolerance attitude toward terrorism since the beginning. Mr Shah remarked during the inauguration of the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) premises in Bengaluru that security requirements have increased dramatically in terms of data, scope, and complexity compared to past issues. According to him, legal and security authorities require automated, secure, and quick access to data gathered from credible sources.

GUIDANCE
GROUP

IMPORTANT POINTS:

- The government has tasked NATGRID with establishing and operating a cutting-edge and innovative information technology infrastructure for obtaining data from data collection agencies.
- The Union Government will soon build a national database to track hawala transactions, terrorist funding, counterfeit cash, narcotics, and bomb threats, illicit arms smuggling, and other terrorist operations.
- The Home Minister stated that intelligence and legal agencies should now be able to fully utilize information due to the removal of impediments to essential data.
- There should be a paradigm shift in the way agencies work thanks to data analytics and information technology.
- C-DAC is implementing NATGRID, according to Shah, in keeping with the Prime Minister's vision of a self-sufficient India.

RAJASTHAN HAS BECOME THE FIRST 10 GW SOLAR STATE.

Rajasthan has become the first state in the country to generate more power from solar energy as compared to other states in the country. Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation and Tehri Hydro Development Corporation will jointly develop a 10,000 MW Mega Renewable Energy Park in Rajasthan.

It may be noted that this historic step taken by THDCIL in the field of renewable energy will also contribute to achieving the government of India's goal of meeting 50 per cent of its energy requirement by renewable energy by 2030 at the climate change summit in Glasgow.

'GATISHAKTI SANCHAR' PORTAL FOR CENTRALISED RIGHT OF WAY LAUNCHED BY DOT.

The Department of Telecommunications has launched the GatiShakti Sanchar portal, which would streamline the application and approval procedure for right of way (RoW) across the country. According to Telecom Minister Ashwini

Vaishnaw, the platform would help achieve the goal of Ease of doing business for telecoms infrastructure projects, which is in line with the vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

The prompt disposal of RoW apps by various service and infrastructure providers would allow for faster infrastructure building, which will aid in the timely deployment of 5G networks, he added. The minister praised the states and UTs' contributions and collaboration with the central government in bringing the GatiShakti Sanchar portal online.

ABOUT GATISHAKTI SANCHAR PORTAL

Applicants from various telecom service providers (TSPs) and infrastructure providers (IPs) would be able to apply to states and local governments for right of way licences to lay down optical fibre cable and erect mobile towers through a single platform. The platform even has a powerful dashboard that shows state and district-level pendency status for effective tracking of RoW applications across the country.

GAGANYAAN MISSION 2023: S2000 HUMAN-RATED ROCKET BOOSTER TESTED SUCCESSFULLY.

- At Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully completed the static test of a human-rated solid rocket booster (HS200) for the Gaganyaan programme.
- According to the Bengaluru-based space agency, the HS200 is the human-rated version of the S200 rocket booster of the satellite launch vehicle GSLV Mk III, also known as LVM3.

KEY POINTS

- The successful completion of this test is a crucial milestone for ISRO's famous Gaganyaan human space flight programme, as the first stage of the launch vehicle is tested for its full duration performance.

- ISRO Chairman and Secretary of the Department of Space, S Somanath, and Director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), S Unnikrishnan Nair, as well as other ISRO scientists, were present at the ceremony.
- The HS200 booster was designed and developed by VSSC in Thiruvananthapuram, while the propellant casting was completed at SDSC in Sriharikota.
- The S200 motor, which is the first stage of the LVM3 launch vehicle, was designed as a strap-on rocket booster for launching a 4,000 kg class satellite to geosynchronous transfer orbit.
- The LVM3 has been selected as the launch vehicle for the Gaganyaan mission based on its successful launch history, which includes the Chandrayaan mission.
- It was said that the LVM3 launch vehicle was improved to meet the needs of human rating for the manned space mission.

NITI AAYOG LAUNCHES NATIONAL DATA AND ANALYSIS PLATFORM.

The National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP) was launched by NITI Aayog for free public use. By making data accessible, interoperable, interactive, and available on a user-friendly platform, the platform intends to democratise access to public government data. It houses basic datasets from a variety of government departments, organises them, and provides analytics and visualisation capabilities. This public debut comes after the platform's beta release in August 2021, which gave a small number of users access for testing and feedback.

DRONE FESTIVAL OF INDIA 2022

- India's largest drone festival 'Bharat Drone Festival 2022' will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 27, 2022 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. About 1600 delegates including foreign and armed

forces will participate in the two-day event. Government officials, PSUs, drone startups and other private companies will participate.

- During the inauguration ceremony, PM Modi will interact with Kisan Drone Pilot and witness the open air drone demonstrations. More than 70 exhibitors will display various cases of drone use in the exhibition center.
- India's drone festival will also include drone pilot certificates, flying features, panel discussions, production launches and virtual conferences of drone taxi prototypes made in India.
- The India Drone Festival 2022 will be inaugurated with the opening remarks of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi.
- On the first day of the Drone Festival, other initiatives will include production launches and speeding up the manufacture of drones and components in India, commercial use of drones and the impact of drones in the agricultural sector. On the 2nd day of the festival, there will also be a presentation on the launch of production and speeches by senior officials and the development and protection of intellectual wealth.
- On the second day of the event, there will be a panel discussion on the topic of airspace management to enhance India's defence capability with complex drone operations and drones.

STATE OF THE WORLD'S FORESTS 2022

- The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) recently made the State of the World's Forests 2022 (SOFO 2022) famous.
- In January 2022, the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) released the India State of Forest Report-2021.
- In the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forest and Land Use, 140 countries pledged to overcome forest damage by 2030 and support restoration and sustainable production and use.

LOSS OF FORESTS:

- Between 1990 and 2020, 420 million hectares (mha) of forests were destroyed, due to deforestation, although 4.06 billion hectares of the Earth's geographical area is covered by forests.
- Although deforestation is declining, 10 mha of forests are destroyed annually between 2015 and 2020.
- In the tropics alone, approximately 289 mha of deforestation will occur between 2016 and 2050, resulting in 169 GtCO₂ emissions if no additional action is taken.
- The total amount of greenhouse gases is expressed in terms of billions of tons of global annual CO₂ equivalent emissions (GtCO₂e / year).

WHAT DOES THE REPORT SAY ABOUT INDIA AND CHINA?

With human pressure on the forests increasing, India and China could emerge as the biggest hotspots of new zoonotic toxic diseases in the next few decades. Due to the increased human-wildlife interaction, infectious diseases can easily spread to humans.

WHAT ARE THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN IN THE REPORT?

- The report suggests three interrelated ways to address green recovery and environmental crises:
- To stop the forest and to keep the forests
- Re-assemble damaged land and expand agricultural afforestation
- To use forests on a sustainable basis and create a green price chart.

RAMGARH VISHDHARI NOTIFIED AS INDIA'S 52ND TIGER RESERVE.

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav has announced that Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan has been notified as Rajasthan's 4th and the 52nd tiger reserve of India. It will help to conserve

biodiversity and bring ecotourism and development to the area. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) had given in-principle approval to make Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary and adjoining areas as tiger reserves on July 5 last year.

Wild animals like Indian wolf, leopard, striped hyena, sloth bear, golden jackal, chinkara, nilgai and fox can be seen in the Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve. According to the “Status of Tigers in India” report released in 2019, there are 2,967 tigers in 20 states across the country.

ASANI CYCLONE

Asani cyclone is formed over the Southeastern part of the Bay of Bengal. It is an intensified cyclone storm that is likely to hit Orissa and Andhra Pradesh as per the Indian meteorological department (IMD).

The cyclone has been named Asani, which in Sri Lankan local language, Sinhalese means “wrath”. It is the first cyclone of 2022 which originated from the Bay of Bengal.

COCHIN SHIPYARD TO BUILD FIRST INDIGENOUS ELECTRIC SHIP BASED ON HYDROGEN-FUEL

- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal said that Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) will develop and build the first indigenous power ship based on hydrogen-fuel to drive green shipping.
- Inaugurating the Green Shipping Workshop, Sonowal said that CSL will take over the project with the support of Indian partners. He unveiled the government's plan to build an electric ship based on hydrogen fuel in a phased manner with 'Global Maritime Green Transmission'.
- Shipyards have already started infrastructure work in this area, have partnered with the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) to frame laws and regulations for KPIT technologies and hydrogen fuel cells and Indian developers for power trains, as well as for such ships.

- Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV), a hydrogen fuel cell ship based on low temperature proton exchange membrane technology (LT-PEM), is expected to cost around Rs 17.50 crore, with the Centre funding 75 per cent of the expenditure.

NATO EXERCISES' DEFENDER EUROPE 2022 & SWIFT RESPONSE 2022 BEGAN.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) exercise, Defender Europe 2022 (DE22) and SWIFT Response 2022 (SR22) began on May 01, 2022, with the aim of creating the synergy and interoperability between the allies and partners of the United States (US) and NATO. The exercise will take place from May 01 to May 27, 2022.

DEFENDER EUROPE 2022:

DEFENDER-Europe 22 is a prime example of NATO's commitment to the United States and defender-europe 22 is a prime example of collective capability.

SWIFT RESPONSE 2022

In Swift Response exercise, the 6th Airborne Brigade will form the main part of the air-operation military, with about 550 Polish troops deployed in Lithuania and Latvia, including the Zek republic and german-dutch military.

INS VIKRANT IS INDIA'S FIRST INDIGENOUS AIRCRAFT CARRIER TO BE HANDED OVER TO THE INDIAN NAVY.

India's first indigenous aircraft carrier (IAC) vikrant's second maritime test began before it joined the Indian Navy in August next year. In August, a 40,000-tonne aircraft carrier, India's largest and state-of-the-art warship, surpassed its first sea-catching five-day cruise.

IMPORTANT ISSUES:

- The Navy has said that the performance of the main mechanisms of the battle plan after the first marine test is satisfactory.

- The warship was built at a cost of an estimated Rs 23,000 crore, leading India to a restricted group of countries with the potential to develop state-of-the-art aircraft carriers.
- MiG-29K fighter jets, Kamov-31 helicopters and MH-60R multi-role helicopters will be used by the warships.
- It has about 2,300 compartments, with special quarters for female officers and a crew of about 1,700 people.
- According to officials, Vikrant's highest speed is estimated at 28 knots and the cruising speed is 18 knots, with a range of about 7,500 nautical miles.
- The IAC is 262 m long, 62 m wide and 59 m high. It has been under construction since 2009.
- Cochin Shipyard Limited has built this war ship.
- INS Vikramaditya is currently India's only aircraft carrier.

INDIAN NAVY – BANGLADESH NAVAL DELEGATION BILATERAL EX BONGOSAGAR BEGINS

The third edition of Indian Navy (IN) – Bangladesh Navy (BN) Bilateral Exercise ‘Bongosagar’ commenced at Port Mongla, Bangladesh on 24 May 2022. The Harbour Phase of the exercise begins from 24-25 May which will be followed by a Sea Phase in the Northern Bay of Bengal from 26-27 May.

P. V. SINDHU WON THE BRONZE MEDAL IN THE ASIAN BADMINTON TOURNAMENT.

India's all-rounder shuttler PV Sindhu had to settle for a bronze medal after defeating defending world champion Akane Yamaguchi of Japan in the semifinals of the 2022 Badminton Asia Championship Women's Singles.

REAL MADRID WON THE 35TH SPANISH LEAGUE TITLE.

Real Madrid beat their reserve side Espanyol 4-0 to win a record 35th Spanish League title. Rodrigo scored twice, with Marco Asensio and substitute Karim

Benzema scoring once each to give Madrid their second league title in three seasons.

With this title, Carlo Ancelotti became the first coach to win a trophy in the first five European leagues.

The Italian manager won with AC Milan in Serie A, Chelsea in the English Premier League, Paris Saint-Germain in Ligue 1 and Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga.

ANURAG THAKUR LAUNCHED THE MASCOT, LOGO AND JERSEY OF KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES.

Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur launched the 'Dhakad', the mascot of the 4th Khelo India Youth Games in Panchkula with the official logo and the official jersey and praised the efforts of Haryana to organise the games. The tournament is being organised by the Sports Authority of India and the State Government of Haryana. More than 8,500 players will participate in the khelo india youth games. Haryana will set an example by organizing the fourth edition of Khelo India Yuva Khela at Panchkula, Chandigarh, Shahabad, Ambala and Delhi between June 4 and June 13. It was scheduled in 2021 but was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

INDIA'S AVINASH SABLE BREAKS 30-YEAR-OLD 5,000M RECORD.

India's Avinash Sable broke Bahadur Prasad's 30-year-old record in the 5000m, setting a new national record with a time of 13: 25.65 at the Sound Running Track Meet in San Juan Capistrano, USA. The 27-year-old from Maharashtra broke Bahadur Prasad's old record of 13: 29.70 in 1992.

NIKHAT ZAREEN WON THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE WOMEN'S WORLD BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS.

- Indian boxer Nikhat Zareen has won the gold medal in the women's world boxing championships by defeating Thailand's jutamas Jitpang. Nikhat defeated the Thailand player 5-0 in the final round of the 52 kg group.
- She has been named as the fifth woman boxer from India to win the gold medal in the world championships. Before that, MC Mary Kom, Sarita Devu, Jenny RL and Lekha CAC have also done the feat.
- Nikhat had also won the bronze medal in the 2019 Asian Championships, while she had defeated Brazil's Carolina de Almeida 5-0 in the semifinals of the same event.

RHYTHM MAMANIA, A 10-YEAR-OLD GIRL FROM MAHARASHTRA, CLIMBED EVEREST BASE CAMP.

- A 10-year-old Champion Skater from Worli, Rhythm Mamania, has become one of the youngest Indian mountaineers to summit Everest base camp (EBC) in the Himalayan ranges in Nepal. She has joined young Indian mountaineers to climb the base camp. Rhythm has done a rare job by climbing the base camp at a height of 5,364 metres in 11 days.
- Rhythm had been fond of mountaineering since the age of five and her first long 21 km trek was dudhsagar on the Goa-Karnataka border. Since then she has conquered some of the peaks in the Sahyadri ranges like Mahurli, Sondai, Karnala and Lohgad.

INDIAN R PRAGNANANDH DEFEATED MAGNUS CARLSEN FOR THE SECOND TIME IN 2022.

Indian GrandMaster R. Pragnanandhaa, the tall solstice-year-old, defeated world champion Magnus Carlsen for the second time in the fifth round of the Chessables Masters Online Quick Intelligence Competition. R Pragnanandha has defeated Carlsen for the second time in less than two months.

INDIA WINS THOMAS CUP AFTER 73 YEARS

So far, Indonesia has won the tournament 14 times, China 10 times, Malaysia 5 times and Japan and Denmark once each. After which, this year in 2022, India has won the first trophy by defeating the champion Indonesia in this competition. Therefore, India has become the sixth country in the world to win this competition. This year, the Indian badminton team continued its excellent performance from the beginning. They had earlier beaten Denmark in the semifinals before beating Indonesia in the opening three matches in the final.

The first match of the tournament was won by Lakshya Sen in the men's singles. He defeated Anthony Ginting of Indonesia 8-21, 21-17, 21-16. In the men's doubles, Indian badminton duo Sattviksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeated Muhammad Ehsan and Kevin Sanjaya of Indonesia 18-21, 23-21, 21-19. In the third match, Kidambi Srikanth defeated Jonathan Christie of Indonesia 21-15, 22-21 to win the match and the cup for India.

ABOUT CUP

The tournament was started by Sir George Allen Thomas, a famous English badminton player in the early 19th century. The tournament was first played in England in 1948-49. Earlier, the competition was held every three years, but later it started taking place every two years. The decision was made in 1982 following a change in competition rules.

HARSHADA SHARAD GARUD BECOMES THE 1ST INDIAN TO WIN GOLD MEDAL AT IWF JUNIOR WORLD WEIGHTLIFTING CHAMPIONSHIP

- Harshada Garud from Pune made history at the World Junior Weightlifting Championships. Harshad managed to win India's first gold medal in this competition.
- Harshad won the gold medal in the 45 kg category by lifting a total of 153 kg at the competition in Heraklion, Greece. She helped India win a medal

in the first event of the tournament. India had never won a gold medal at the World Junior Championships before. Two years ago, Achanta Sheuli had won a silver medal in the 73 kg category. This was India's best performance so far.

- India's previous medal winners in the world junior weightlifting competition
- Silver: Achanta Sheoli (73 kg group) in the 2021 tournament (Tashkent)
- Bronze: Mirabai Chanu (in the 2013 World Championships - Lima, Peru)

INDIA IS THE HOST OF THE 2023 CRICKET WORLD CUP

- The 2023 Men's ICC Cricket World Cup will be the 13th edition of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup, to be hosted by India between October and November 2023.
- So far 12 ICC World Cups have been played.
- England and Wales have hosted the Cricket World Cup 5 times. India has hosted the Cricket World Cup three times in collaboration with three other countries but now India is the only country to host the 2023 Cricket World Cup.
- The previous three editions were 1987, 1996 and 2011; India shared the site with Pakistan and Bangladesh respectively.
- The 2023 ODI World Cup will be played in India.
- The 2023 World Cup will be held from February 9 to March 26. This will be the 13th season of the ICC Cricket World Cup.

PULITZER PRIZE 2022 ANNOUNCED

The Pulitzer Prize 2022 has been announced, featuring some of the best journalists in India. The Pulitzer Prize in Journalism, Books, Drama and Music has been announced and India's Adnan Abidi has also been awarded the prize.

Among the winners are Adnan Abidi of Washington Post, India (Feature Photography), Sana Irshad Mattoo, Amit Dave and the late Danish Siddiqui.

The 38-year-old Danish was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for his photography of Rohingya refugees in 2018. He was the first Indian to receive this award. He was educated at Jamia Millia Islamia. There his father was a professor. Danish's father Pvt. Akhtar Siddiqui and mother Shahida have filed a complaint against the Taliban at the International Criminal Court (ICC) over the child's death.

WHAT IS THIS AWARD WINNING PHOTO?

Danish had taken a photo on April 22, 2021 in a cemetery in New Delhi where several corona bodies were being cremated at the same time. This photo clearly shows the boundaries of the cemetery walls adjoining this population. This photo was very popular at the time as it showed Corona's burning. He took this photo for the Reuters news agency. Many had said at the time of seeing this photo that this photo is a thorn in the flesh.

MAMATA BANERJEE RECEIVED THE SPECIAL BANGLA ACADEMY AWARD.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee received the Bangla Academy Award for her "tireless literary discovery". Presented by the Sahitya Akademi this year, the award was given to Banerjee for his book "Kavita Bitton" in honor of the best writers of West Bengal. Mamata Banerjee's 'Kabita Bitan' was launched at the 2020 Kolkata Book Fair. The book contains 946 poems written by TMC Supremo.

Despite being on stage, Mamata Banerjee did not accept the award on her own and on her behalf, state Education Minister Bratya Basu accepted the award.

WHO DG'S GLOBAL HEALTH LEADERS AWARDS: INDIA'S ASHA WORKERS AMONG 6 WINNERS

The Global Health Leaders' Award 2022 was conferred by the Global Health Leaders' Award 2022 for the World Health Organization (WHO) General Secretaries for their "important role" in providing direct health care to 10 lakh all-

women accredited social health workers (ASHA) workers in India for their "important role" in providing direct health care facilities in rural areas.

OTHER RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARD:

- Dr Paul Farmer was Chair of the Department of Global Health and social medicine at Harvard Medical School and co-founder of Partners in Health.
- Dr Ahmed Hankir, a British-Lebanese psychiatrist is a Senior Research fellow at the Centre for Mental Health Research in association with Cambridge University and Academic Clinical Fellow in Psychiatry at King's College London in the United Kingdom.
- Ludmila Sofia Oliveira Varela for her work to facilitate access to sports for all providers a healthy alternative to risky behaviours among young people, and tackles the growing threat of non-communicable diseases.
- Polio workers in Afghanistan include Mohamamd Zubair Khalazai, Najibullah Kosha, Shadab Yosufi, Shareefullah Hemati, Haseeba Omari, Khadija Attaee, Munira Hakimi, Robina Yosufi and Shadab.
- Yōhei Sasakawa is the WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, and Japan's Ambassador for the Human Rights of People Affected by leprosy..

WHO ARE ASHA WORKERS?

Asha Swayamsevak Yojana is implemented under the Rashtriya Grameen Swasthya Abhiyan.

Health is a very important factor and Asha Swayamsevaks serve as an important social link between the health system, charitable organizations, villagers and other sections of the society in terms of health awareness, coordination and promotion through dialogue.

Asha Swayamsevak is a local from the village. Asha Swayamsevak is expected to contribute by understanding the health problems in the village and taking the lead in solving them.

WHAT ARE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES?

Assist in raising awareness and treatment of epidemic diseases, promoting family welfare schemes, raising awareness about maternal and child health (e.g., prenatal check-ups, vaccinations, breastfeeding, giving iron tablets, proper diet), assisting in birth and death registration, prescribing medicines for minor ailments. Asha Swayamsevaks are responsible.

THE MUSIC ACADEMY ANNOUNCED THE SANGEETA KALANIDHI AWARD 2020-22.

Eminent singer and guru, Neyveli R. Santanagopalan, eminent mridangam artist and guru, 'Tiruvarur' Bhaktavatavathasalam, and Lalgudi Vahiolin Jodi, GJR Krishnan and Vijayalakshmi were nominated for the prestigious Sangeeta Kalanidhi Award of the Music Academy, for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 awards.

SANGEETA KALANIDHI AWARD:

Santanagopalan will be conferred with the Sangeetha Kalanidhi Award for the year 2020 while Bhaktavathasalam has been selected for the year 2021.

Krishnan and Vijayalakshmi, "a hailing waholin player and famous artist of the Lalgudi dynasty", will receive the 2022 award.

'KARKHANISKI WARI' ALONG WITH THREE MARATHI FILMS TO BE SELECTED AT 'CANNES' FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY

The Cannes International Film Festival is considered to be the biggest festival ever. In this film, not one, not two, but three Marathi films have won. Three Marathi films, 'Potra', 'Karkhanisanchi Wari' and 'Ticha Shahar Hona' have been selected for the Cannes International Festival. State Cultural Affairs Minister Amit Deshmukh made the announcement on Friday.

Like every year, this year also the Cannes International Film Festival will be held in France between May 17 and May 28.

'STAR OF GOVERNANCE-SCOTCH AWARD' ANNOUNCED FOR MAHARASHTRA IN ENERGY CATEGORY

Maharashtra has topped the national level in the energy category in the 'Scotch State of Governance Report' 2021. As a part of the 'India Governance Forum', the 'Star of Governance-Scotch Award in Power and Energy' award will be presented to Maharashtra at a ceremony to be held in New Delhi on June 18, 2022.

The award is given annually by The Scotch Group for those who have done outstanding work in the field of governance, finance, banking, technology. The award will be given on June 18, 2022 at Silver Oak Hall, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.

AWARD FOR TRANSLATION OF GITANJALI SRI'S NOVEL

A book by Hindi writer Gitanjali Shree on Thursday marked the historic moment when the translation of an Indian language novel won the International Booker Prize. Daisy Rockwell's translation of her novel, *Ret Samadhi*, was selected for the Tomb of Sand award.

The novel '*Ret Samadhi*', published by Rajkamal Publication, is the first novel to reach the longlist and shortlist of the International Booker Prize, as well as the first to receive the award.

ABOUT NOVEL

The book tells the story of an octogenarian widow who dares to cast off convention and confront the ghosts of her experiences during the subcontinent's tumultuous 1947 partition into India and Pakistan.

GITANJALI SRI AND DAISY ROCKWELL

Born in Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh and currently residing in Delhi, Gitanjali's fifth novel is '*Ret Samadhi*'. His first novel, *Mai*, was published in the 1990s. This was followed by his books '*Hamara Shahar Us Baras*', '*Tirohit*', and '*Khali Jagah*'.

Gitanjali's books have been translated into many other languages besides English, including English, French and German.

The English translation of the book Mai had received a nomination for the Crossword Award.

Daisy Rockwell, who translates the sands to English, lives in the United States. She has a good hold on many languages including Hindi literature. She has done her PhD on the book Girti Diwas by Upendranath Ashq. Daisy has so far translated english the novels of Khadija Mastur, Bhishma Sahni, Usha Priyamvada and Krishna Sobti.

'ALL THAT BREATHS' INDIAN REPORT WON L'OEIL D'OR 2022 AT CANNES

- Indian filmmaker Shaunak Sen's documentary All That Breathes, which previously won grand jury prize at the Sundance Film Festival, has now won the top documentary award, the Golden Eye, at the ongoing 75th Cannes Film Festival.
- The 90-minute documentary, All That Breathes follows siblings Mohammad Saud and Nadeem Shehzad, who have devoted their lives to rescuing and treating injured birds, especially the Black Kites.
- Late Lithuanian filmmaker Mantas Kvedaravicius' Mariupolis 2 also won a Special Award at the event. The film is a follow up to his 2016 directorial Mariupolis.
- Payal Kapadia's documentary 'A Night of Nothing Nothing', which won the award last year, is the first Indian and Asian film to receive the award.

FULL LIST OF WINNERS AT 2022 CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

- Palme d'Or: Triangle of Sadness, directed by Ruben Östlund
- Grand Prix: Stars at Noon, directed by Claire Denis and Close directed by Lukas Dhont

- Jury Prize: Eo, directed by Jerzy Skolimowski and Le Otto Montagne, directed by Charlotte Vandermeersch and Felix van Groeningen
- Best Director: Park Chan-wook for Decision to Leave
- Best Actor: Song Kang-ho for Broker
- Best Actress: Zar Amir Ebrahimi for Holy Spider
- Best Screenplay: Tarik Saleh (Boy from Heaven)
- Camera d'Or: Gina Gammell and Riley Keough for War Pony
- Jury Special Award: Tori and Lokita
- L'Oeil d'Or: All That Breathes
- Jury Special Award (documentary): Mariupolis 2

PRIYANKA MOHITE CREATES HISTORY; THE FIRST WOMAN IN INDIA TO CLIMB FIVE MOUNTAINS ABOVE 8,000 METRES

- Priyanka Mohite from Maharashtra's Satara district has become the first Indian woman to climb five peaks above 8000 metres. Priyanka achieved the milestone after climbing Mount Kanchenjunga. The 30-year-old climbed the third highest peak on Earth on May 5 at around 4:42 pm. Priyanka works for a pharmaceutical research company in Bengaluru.
- In 2020, she also won the prestigious Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award. The 30-year-old climbed Mount Everest in 2013, Mount Lhotse in 2018, Mount Makalu in 2019 and Annapurna 1 in 2021. Notably, she is also the first Indian woman to climb Annapurna 1 and Makalu.
- After 2013, she climbed the second mountain in 2018 as the snowstorm devastated Nepal in 2014 and the earthquake in 2015.
- Notably, Priyanka wanted to climb Mount Kanchenjunga in 2020, but could not do so due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a teenager, she started climbing mountains in the Shayadri of Maharashtra.
- In 2012, Priyanka climbed Bandarpunch. Bandarpunch lies in the mountain massif of Uttarakhand's Garhwal division. In 2015, Priyanka climbed Mt.

Menthosa which is 6443 m above sea level. It is the second-highest peak in Himachal Pradesh's Lahaul and Spiti district.

PADMA VIBHUSHAN PANDIT SHIV KUMAR SHARMA PASSES AWAY

- Renowned santoor player Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma passed away due to cardiac arrest. He was 84 years old. For the past six months, he suffered from kidney disease and was on dialysis. Finally, his life was lost this morning.
- Shivkumar Sharma was also a great singer. He has been honored with many national and international awards. He was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1986, the Padma Shri in 1991 and the Padma Vibhushan Award in 2001. In 1985, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma was granted honorary citizenship of the United States of Baltimore.
- He gave the santoor, once a little-known instrument from Jammu and Kashmir, a classical status and exalted it along with other, more traditional and famous instruments such as the sitar and sarod. Pandit Shivkumar Sharma received the prestigious Padma Shri in 1991, and the Padma Vibhushan in 2001.
- Shivkumar Sharma was born in Jammu in 1938, he began learning santoor at the age of thirteen. His first public performance was in Mumbai in 1955. He has been credited with popularising the santoor.
- Also, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma composed the background music for one of the scenes in the 1956 film Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baje. Four years later, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma recorded his first solo album.
- With Hariprasad Chaurasia, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma composed music for several Hindi films, including Silsila, Chandni as well as Darr.

RAJIV KUMAR APPOINTED AS CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER NEXT

- Rajiv Kumar was appointed as the country's next Chief Election Commissioner on Thursday. Rajiv Kumar will take over on May 15 after sushil chandra, the current chief election commissioner, retires on May 14.
- After sushil chandra retires, one seat will fall vacant in the election commission. Kumar, who was born in 1960, will retire in mid-February 2025. Apart from the presidential and vice president elections, the 2024 Lok Sabha elections and elections to several assembly constituencies will be held under Kumar's supervision.

UAE PRESIDENT AND RULER OF ABU DHABI SHEIKH KHALIFA BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN PASSED AWAY.

- One of the richest monarchs in the world, President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed al-Nahyan of the United Arab Emirates, has died at the age of 73.
- Sheikh Khalifa was president of the UAE since 2004, but his role had been largely ceremonial since he suffered a stroke in 2014.
- His half-brother, Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan, is now in charge of state affairs.
- The ministry of presidential affairs declared 40 days of mourning with flags at half-mast from Friday, and work suspended in the public and private sector for the first three days.

FORMER AUSTRALIAN CRICKETER ANDREW SYMONDS DIES IN CAR CRASH

Former Australian all-rounder Andrew Symonds has been killed in a car crash. The 46-year-old, who played 26 Tests and 198 one-day internationals for Australia from 1998 to 2009, was involved in a single-car accident outside Townsville in Queensland state. Symonds was also a top-rate fielder and was a

key part of Australia's back-to-back 50-over World Cups triumphs in 2003 and 2007.

Domestically, he played for Queensland for 17 seasons, while appearing for Gloucestershire, Kent, Lancashire and Surrey in the English County Championship and for Deccan Chargers and Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League.

Symonds, who was born in England with one parent of Afro-Caribbean descent, will also be remembered for the infamous "monkeygate" scandal that sent him into a downward spiral. He accused India spinner Harbhajan Singh of calling him a "monkey" in Sydney's 2008 New Year Test.

THE 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE

Time Magazine has released a list of the world's first 100 influential people in 2022. The list also includes the names of Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Apple's CEO Tim Cook and Michelle Obama. The list also includes the names of Kashmiri activist Khurram Parvez, industrialist Gautam Adani and Supreme Court lawyer Karuna Nandi.

The list also includes the names of American political figures, including U.S. President Joe Biden, American politician Kevin McCarthy, Ron DeSantis. At the same time, the youngest influential people on the list are Eileen Gu, and the most influential person on the list is the name of Faith Ringgold as The Faith Ringgold. Freestyle ski star Gu is 18 years old and the author Faith Ringgold is 91 years old.

5000-YEAR-OLD JEWELLERY FACTORY ROOTED OUT IN HARYANA'S INDUS VALLEY SITE RAKHI GARHI.

With the excavation of a 5000-year-old jewellery-making factory, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), which has been working in Rakhi Garhi, Haryana, for the past 32 years, has produced one of its most significant findings

yet. Rakhi Garhi is a village in Haryana's Hisar district and one of the oldest Indus Valley Civilisation archaeological sites.

KEY POINTS

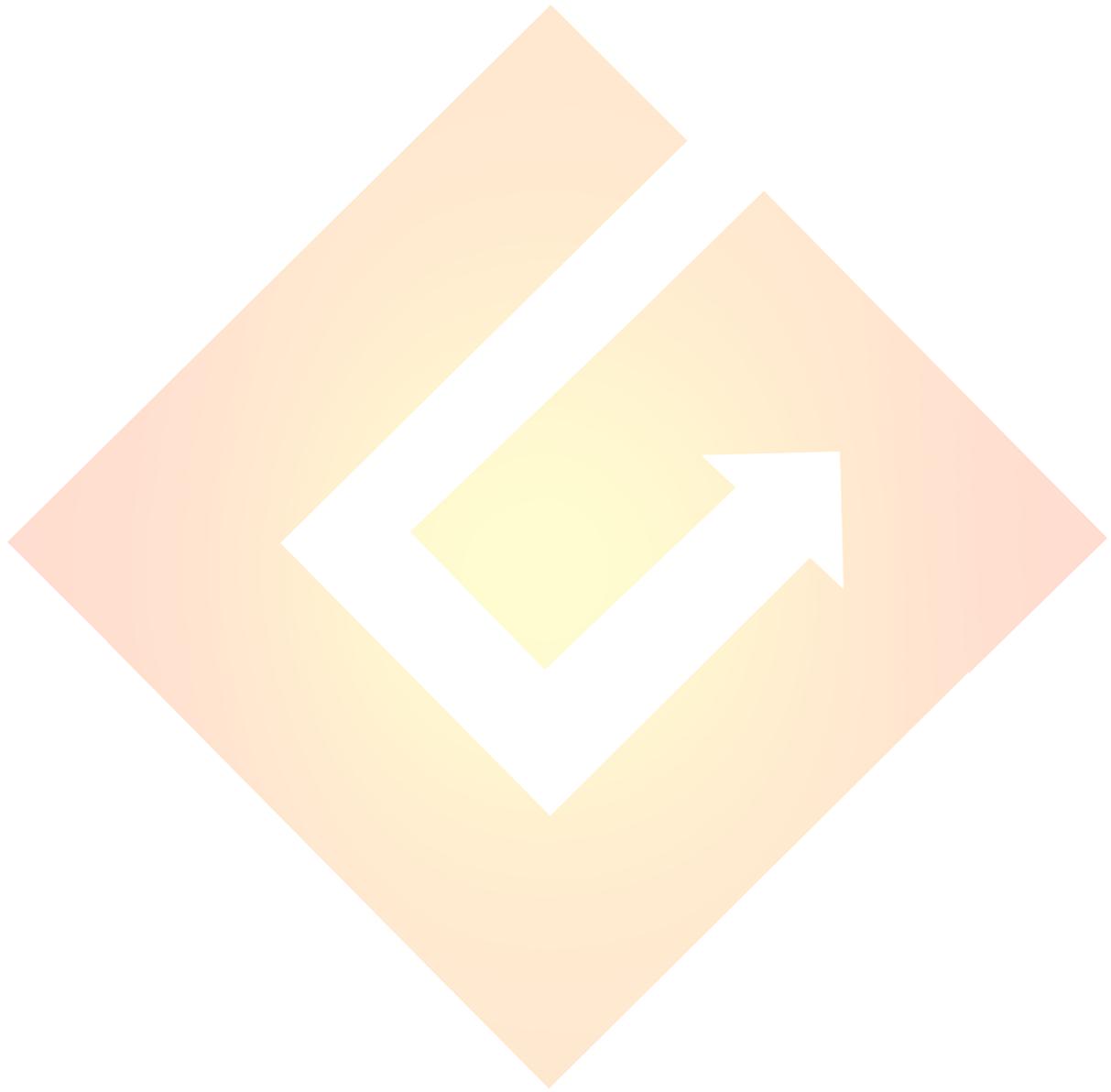
- The discovery of the structure of some dwellings, a kitchen complex, and a 5000-year-old jewellery-making factory indicates that the site was once a very major commercial centre.
- Copper and gold jewellery that had been concealed for thousands of years were also discovered.
- Graveyards have been discovered in the excavation sites at Sinauli in Uttar Pradesh, which gained attention for its Bronze Age solid-disk wheel carts discovered in 2018, which were interpreted by some as horse-pulled "chariots."
- Archaeologists say the graveyards show that the civilisation believed in life after death.
- In the previous two months, ASI has made many findings in Rakhi Garhi, indicating that the civilisation is slowly heading toward maturity.
- There were also thousands of earthen jars, royal seals, and children's toys discovered.

MADAME TUSSAUDS MUSEUM WILL BE OPERATIONAL IN NOIDA NEXT MONTH.

The Mein Museum of Madame Tussauds is coming back to India. This museum will be in a mall in Noida. 50 Indian and international legends from the field of sports, entertainment, history and music will be shown in a new place. Madame Tussauds India candidates will be given the opportunity to rise up with eminent personalities and some of their most iconic moments.

Madame Tussauds has a 200-year history and legacy that opened the first doors in London in 1835. The craftsmen of Madame Tussauds use the same technique

as the legendary Mary Tussauds to create each of the works. An artist takes at least 12 weeks to create a life-like figure.



GUIDANCE
G R O U P