

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. Rajasthan issues first transgender birth certificate to Noor Shekhawat ( July 28, 2023 )**

Noor Shekhawat, a transgender person, received the **first transgender birth certificate in Rajasthan**. His previous birth certificate listed his gender as male.

#### **An Overview of the News**

- The birth certificate was presented to Noor Shekhawat by the municipal and state government officials. **The certificate reflects her gender identity as transgender, which is an important milestone.**
- Director of the Economics and Statistics Department and Chief Registrar (Birth and Death) Bhanwarlal Bairwa released the historic transgender birth certificate in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- Going forward, the records of males and females as well as birth records of transgender persons will be included in the corporation's portal. An awareness program will also be launched to encourage other transgender persons to apply for their birth certificates.
- Noor Shekhawat, who completed her education till class 12 in an English medium school, is actively involved in running an NGO that supports the transgender community.

#### **About Rajasthan**

- It is a state in northern India and is the largest Indian state by area and the seventh largest by population.
- It is bordered by five other Indian states: Punjab to the north; Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in the northeast; Madhya Pradesh in the southeast; and Gujarat in the southwest.
- Rajasthan is also home to three national tiger reserves, Ranthambore National Park in Sawai Madhopur, Sariska Tiger Reserve in Alwar and Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve in Kota.

Formation - **30 March 1949**

Capital- **Jaipur**

District - **33 (7 Circle)**

Governor - **Kalraj Mishra**

Chief Minister - **Ashok Gehlot (INC)**

Legislative Assembly - **Rajasthan Legislative Assembly (200 seats)**

Rajya Sabha - **10 seats**

Lok Sabha - **25 seats**

## **2. Nagaland officially declared lumpy skin disease positive state ( July 27, 2023 )**

Nagaland-officially-declared-lumpy-skin-disease-positive-state

Nagaland has been officially declared as lumpy skin disease positive state with the disease being detected in four districts of the state.

### **An Overview of the News**

- The announcement has been made as per the Prevention and Control of Contagious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act, 2009.
- The Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services will be responsible for implementing all necessary preventive measures in collaboration with the concerned State Department.
- The advisories and guidelines issued by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying will be followed to deal with the situation.
- Lumpy dermatitis is a pox viral disease affecting cattle, which causes significant morbidity.
- Although mortality is generally low, the disease can cause economic losses due to factors such as reduced milk production, abortion, infertility, and skin damage.

### **Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD):**

- It is classified as a Notable Disease by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) due to its rapid spread and significant economic losses.
- The disease is caused by the capripox virus, also known as the "neethling" virus, and has severe economic consequences, including increased mortality, reduced productivity, higher control costs, business loss and decreased market value. which ultimately affects food security.
- Cattle and buffalo are susceptible to the disease, but it also poses a threat to wildlife populations such as deer, bison and mito.
- Symptoms of lumpy dermatitis include high fever, decreased milk production, development of skin lumps, loss of appetite, discharge from the nose and eyes, and the formation of lumps on the body.
- The disease can be spread through various vectors including flies, ticks and mosquitoes.

### **About the World Organization for Animal Health**

- Establishment - **1924**
- Founder - **Emmanuel Leclanche**
- Headquarters - **Paris**
- Director General - **Dr. Monique Eloit**

### **3. Kerala Governor launches Malayalam translation of 'Krishna - The 7th Sense' ( July 25, 2023 )**

Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan released the Malayalam translation of the book "Krishna - The 7th Sense" written by Debasish Chatterjee, Director, IIM-Kozhikode.

#### **An Overview of the News**

- During the event, the Hon'ble Governor also unveiled the latest edition of Chatterjee's book "**Karma Sutra - Leadership and Wisdom in Uncertain Times**", a **flagship book in the IIMK-Penguin series for budding managers.**
- **Debasish Chatterjee** is a globally acclaimed management guru and an accomplished educationist, with 18 books to his credit in the non-fiction category.
- "**Krishna - The 7th Sense**" is **Professor Chatterjee's award winning debut novel.**
- The event was significant as it marked the release of the Malayalam version of the novel, making it accessible to a wider audience in Kerala.

#### **Krishna: The 7th Sense Background:**

- It is an allegorical novel written by renowned author and management professor Debasish Chatterjee of global repute.
- The story revolves around a teacher named Keshav and his former students, including Neel and Kaya, who provide a deeper insight into their lives and relationships.
- The novel explores themes of **love, passion, pain, acceptance, affection, trust, and satisfaction, combining both ancient and contemporary elements.**
- The novel has been described as a captivating blend of "**The Prophet**" and "**The Alchemist**", promising a mesmerizing and transformative reading experience.

### **4. Lavasa, India's first private hill station, sold to Darwin Platform Infrastructure for Rs 1.8 thousand crore ( July 24, 2023 )**

Darwin-Platform-Infrastructure-for-Rs-1.8-thousand-crore

India's first private hill station Lavasa was sold to Darwin Platform Infrastructure for Rs 1.8 thousand crore after the approval of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).

#### **An Overview of the News**

- The resolution plan of Darwin Platform Infrastructure has been accepted by the NCLT and includes payment of Rs 1,814 crore.
- This payment includes Rs 929 crore to be paid to lenders and Rs 438 crore allocated to provide fully constructed houses to 837 approved home owners.
- The primary objective of Darwin Platform Infrastructure's resolution plan is **to address claims of home buyers and ensure delivery of completed homes within**

**five years, subject to obtaining environment clearance, with a total claim amount of Rs 6,642 crore.**

- The resolution plan for Lavasa aims **to reduce the concerns and uncertainties that have arisen among various stakeholders associated with the Lavasa project.**
- As per the approved resolution plan, home buyers will be required to bear the actual future construction cost payable to Darwin Platform Infrastructure, while ensuring transparency and accountability in the process of receiving fully constructed properties.

### **Lavasa Hill Station:**

- It is situated in the **picturesque Mulshi Valley within the Western Ghats near Pune.**
- It was established in **2000 by the Hindustan Construction Company, becoming India's first private hill town.**
- Some of the prominent financial lenders in **Lavasa include Union Bank of India, L&T Finance, Arcil, Bank of India and Axis Bank.**
- Covering an extensive area of 25,000 acres, Lavasa displays impressive infrastructure and mesmerising natural beauty.
- Lavasa Corporation obtained permission to build **a dam on the Varasgaon River and develop the necessary infrastructure to facilitate the city's growth.**

### **Darwin Platform Infrastructure:**

- It is a Mumbai based company belonging to Darwin Group, which has interests in various sectors like retail, realty, infrastructure and other businesses.
- **Ajay Harinath Singh is the Chairman of Darwin Group.**
- Lavasa faced financial troubles, as a result of which it failed to meet payment obligations to its creditors, including Raj Infrastructure Development India.
- As a result of Lavasa's inability to meet its payment obligations, Raj Infrastructure Development India filed a litigation against the company, which was later approved in 2018.

## **5. Rajasthan Assembly passed the 'Rajasthan Minimum Guaranteed Income Bill, 2023' ( July 23, 2023 )**

The Rajasthan Assembly passed the 'Rajasthan Minimum Guaranteed Income Bill, 2023', which aims **to guarantee wages or pension to every adult in the state.**

### **An Overview of the News**

- The bill provides guaranteed employment of 125 days per year and a minimum monthly pension of Rs 1,000 to all households, including in urban and rural areas.

- Both urban and rural households, regardless of their background, would benefit from employment guarantee and pension provisions.
- There will be an annual automatic increase of 15 per cent in the minimum pension amount due to inflation and cost of living.
- The bill is considered historic and matchless, as it addresses poverty and enhances social security measures for the state's population.
- The beneficiaries of the bill will also get additional benefits like free medical treatment, accident insurance, free electricity and subsidised gas cylinders, which will further improve their financial condition.

## **About Rajasthan**

- It is bordered by five other Indian states: **Punjab to the north; Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in the northeast; Madhya Pradesh in the southeast; and Gujarat in the southwest.**
- Rajasthan is also home to three national tiger reserves, **Ranthambore National Park in Sawai Madhopur, Sariska Tiger Reserve in Alwar and Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve in Kota.**
- The state was formed on 30 March 1949 when Rajputana was merged with the Dominion of India.

Capital- **Jaipur**

District - **33 (7 Circle)**

Governor - **Kalraj Mishra**

Chief Minister - **Ashok Gehlot (INC)**

State Legislature - **Unicameral**

Legislative Assembly - **Rajasthan Legislative Assembly (200 seats)**

Rajya Sabha - **10 seats**

Lok Sabha - **25 seats**

## **6. Senior Congress leader Oommen Chandi passed away ( July 18, 2023 )**

Senior-Congress-leader-Oommen-Chandi-passed-away

Former Chief Minister of **Kerala** and senior **Congress leader Oommen Chandy** passed away on 18 July 2023 at the age of 79.

### **An Overview of the news:**

- Oommen Chandi's son has given this information through a Facebook post. Chandy had been ill for some time and was undergoing treatment in Bengaluru.

**Political journey of Chandi:**

- Chandi contributed significantly to the regional and national politics of Kerala for more than 5 decades.
- Chandy was elected to the Kerala Legislative Assembly at the age of 27 and won 11 consecutive elections.
- He was also the Chief Minister of Kerala from 2004–2006 and 2011–2016.
- Chandy served as a cabinet minister in the Government of Kerala four times.
- Chandy had also served as the Leader of the Opposition in the Kerala Legislative Assembly for four terms.

**Kerala:**

- Capital: **Thiruvananthapuram**
- Governor: **Arif Mo Khan**
- Chief Minister: **Pinarayi Vijayan**

**7. PM Mitra Park inaugurated in Amravati, Maharashtra ( July 18, 2023 )**

PM-Mitra-Park-inaugurated-in-Amravati,-Maharashtra

16 July 2023 Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde virtually inaugurated the PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Park (PM Mitra Park) in Amravati.

**An Overview of the News**

- The inauguration ceremony was attended by Union Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal, Minister of State for Textiles Darshana Jardosh, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and other officials.

**Memorandum of Understanding and Investor Cooperation:**

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for PM Mitra Park was signed between the Government of India and the Government of Maharashtra during the event.
- MoUs were also signed with interested investors in PM Mitra Park.

**Declaration and objectives of PM Mitra Park:**

- The Government of India had earlier announced the selection of seven sites for setting up PM Mitra Parks in the textile industry.
- The parks aim to develop high-quality industrial infrastructure that will attract significant investment, including foreign direct investment (FDI), and promote innovation and job creation in the textile sector.
- Inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 5F vision (i.e. from Farm to Fiber to Factory to Fashion to Abode), PM Mitra Park is a major step towards realising the government's vision of making India a global hub for textile manufacturing and exports.

**About Maharashtra**

- It is a state located in the western part of India and covers a significant part of the Deccan Plateau.
- Chief Minister - **Eknath Shinde**
- Governor - **Ramesh Bais**
- Official Animal - **Indian giant squirrel**
- Official Bird - **Yellow-footed Green Pigeon**
- Official Dance - **Lavani**

## **8. Inauguration of two National Highway projects in Lucknow ( July 18, 2023 )**

Inauguration-of-two-National-Highway-projects-in-Lucknow

Union Road, Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated two National Highway projects in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh with an investment of over Rs 3,300 crore.

An Overview of the News

Project 1 - Madiav-IIM Lucknow-Sitapur section

- The inaugural project focuses on the Madiav-I.I.M. section of the Lucknow-Sitapur National Highway 24.
- The project aims to provide better connectivity from Lucknow to Sitapur.
- This will provide relief from heavy traffic jams at Bhitauli Tiraha and Jankipuram Extension.
- Passengers are expected to save more than 30 minutes in travel time and fuel.
- This project will facilitate the pilgrims going to Chandrika Devi and Naimisharanya.

Project 2 - Naviganj to Mitrasenpur on Aligarh-Kanpur section

- The second project involves the construction of a 4-lane road from Naviganj to Mitrasenpur on the Aligarh-Kanpur section.
- The construction of the road will boost economic development in the perfume hub of Uttar Pradesh, Kannauj and surrounding areas.
- The project is expected to benefit small and medium scale industries in areas like Chhibramau, Gursahaiganj, Jalalabad and Manimau.
- Farmers of Kannauj will have ease of transportation till Chhibramau and Naviganj Mandi. This project will give them direct access to Delhi, making agriculture trade easy.

## **9. DGCA approves Tamil Nadu's first flying training school ( July 13, 2023 )**

DGCA-approves-Tamil-Nadu's-first-flying-training-school

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) approved EKVI Air Training Organization Pvt Ltd to set up the first Flying Training Organization (FTO) in Tamil Nadu, India.

### **An Overview of the News**

- This approval is for aviation education in India, as it is the **36th flight training school in the country and the first in Tamil Nadu.**
- **EKVI Air Training Organization Pvt Ltd** will operate from **Salem airport, providing an opportunity to aspiring pilots in the region to get professional training and fulfill their dreams of becoming skilled aviators.**
- FTO's training programs will include **comprehensive theoretical classes, flight simulator sessions and practical flight experience, providing students** with a sound education that will prepare them for the dynamic aviation industry.

### **About Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)**

- DGCA is the **regulatory authority for civil aviation in India.**
- Its main focus is **to ensure safety in air transport services.**
- It enforces civil air regulations and air safety standards.
- It coordinates its operations with the **International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).**
- In the mid-1990s, the Indian government allowed private operators in the aviation industry.
- DGCA registers civil aircraft and sets airworthiness standards.
- It licences pilots, aircraft maintenance engineers, flight engineers and air traffic controllers.
- It certifies airports and communication, navigation, surveillance/air traffic management facilities.
- It grants **air operator certificates to Indian carriers and regulates air transport services.**

### **10. Uttar Pradesh cabinet approves construction of two "Obra D" thermal power projects in partnership with NTPC ( July 13, 2023 )**

-two-Obra-D-thermal-power-project

The Uttar Pradesh government approved 800 MW ultra-supercritical thermal power projects in Sonbhadra district in partnership with NTPC.

### **An Overview of the News**

- Each thermal power project will have a capacity of 800 MW, resulting in an increase in the combined capacity of Uttar Pradesh by 1,600 MW.



- **Use of ultra-supercritical technology:** The "Obra D" thermal power projects will use ultra-supercritical technology, operating at high temperature and pressure, to achieve high efficiency and reduce coal consumption for power generation.
- **Contribution to power generation capacity:** These projects are expected to contribute about 25% of Uttar Pradesh's current thermal power generation capacity, which is around 7,000MW.
- **Timeline and Implementation:** The construction of the first unit is estimated to take 50 months, while the second unit is expected to be completed in 56 months. The government has already allotted 500 acres of land for the projects, there is a possibility of allotting additional land if required.
- **Partnership and funding:** The Government of Uttar Pradesh and NTPC will execute the projects on a 50:50 basis. Thirty percent equity will be provided for project implementation, while the remaining 70% will be sourced from financial institutions.
- **Development of Power Hub:** The decision to set up power plants in the Obra region is aimed at developing them as power hubs to meet the growing energy demands in Uttar Pradesh.
- **Objective: Reliable Power Supply:** The "Obra D" thermal power projects aim at ensuring a stable and reliable power supply to meet the growing demands of industries, businesses and households in the state.
- The Chairman and Managing Director of National Thermal Power Corporation is **Gurdeep Singh**.