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## 1. NITI Aayog's Energy Climate Index (April 12, 2022)

NITI Aayog has released the State Energy and Climate Index - Cycle 1 (SECI) in which Gujarat has topped the list of large states while Goa has topped the list of smaller states.

- The index compares states and union territories based on several indicators and will encourage them to transition to energy.
- This index by NITI Aayog aims to rank the states and union territories on the basis of performance on six parameters, which include the performance of power distribution companies, energy efficiency and access to energy.
- According to the commission report, Gujarat is followed by Kerala and Punjab respectively. In this list, states like Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand have been placed at the last position.
- Goa tops the index among smaller states. It is followed by Tripura and Manipur respectively.
- The objective of SECI Round-I is to rank the states and union territories on six parameters. These six parameters can be seen in the following points:
- Performance of Electricity Distribution Companies (Discoms),
- · access, affordability and reliability of energy,
- clean energy initiative
- energy efficiency,
- sustainable environment and
- New initiatives are included.
- A total of 27 indicators are included in these standards.
- States and Union Territories will be able to compare their benchmarks using the index and will be able to develop better policy regimes.
- Chandigarh tops the Union Territories (UTs). This is followed by Delhi and Daman and Diu/ Dadra and Nagar Haveli respectively.
- Punjab has been ranked first among large states as per DISCOM performance, while Kerala topped in energy access, affordability and reliability categories.
- Similarly, Haryana in the Clean Energy Initiative category and Tamil Nadu in the Energy Efficiency category has been the best among large states. This index is based on the figures of 2019-20.

## **Administrative Structure of NITI Aayog**

Chairman: Prime Minister

**Vice President**: Rajiv Kumar at present appointed by the Prime Minister

**Governing Council:** Chief Ministers of all States and Lieutenant Governors of Union Territories.

**Regional Council**: The Prime Minister or a person nominated by him presides over the meeting of Chief Ministers and Lieutenant Governors to address specific regional issues.

**Ad-hoc Membership**: 2 ex-officio members on rotation from leading research institutes.

**Ex-officio Membership**: A maximum of four members of the Union Council of Ministers nominated by the Prime Minister.

**Chief Executive Officer (CEO)**: Secretary to the Government of India who is appointed by the Prime Minister for a fixed term.

**Special Invitees:** Experts from various fields nominated by the Prime Minister.

# 2. Yogi Adityanath sworn in second time as the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh ( March 25, 2022 )

The Bharatiya Janata Party(BJP) leader Yogi Adityanath was sworn in as the 22nd Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh by the Governor Mrs. Anandiben Patel on 25 March 2022. Yogi Aditya nath who was made Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh in 2017 was sworn in for the second time as the Chief Minister.

- The swearing in ceremony was held at the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana cricket stadium, Lucknow. The ceremony was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other top BJP leaders and Ministers.
- The swearing-in ceremony was attended by the Chief Ministers of the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) at the center. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, Assam Chief Minister Hemanta Biswa Sarma, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Das, Manipur Chief Minister N.Biren Singh, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavraj Bommai, Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Prema Khandu, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jairam Thakur were present during the ceremony.
- 52 ministers were sworn in including **Brajesh Pathak and Keshav Prasad Maurya** as **Deputy Chief Minister**
- The BJP won 255 seats in the 403 Uttar Pradesh legislative Assembly which went to the polls in 2022. The alliance partner Apna Dal won 12 seats and the NISHAD party won 6. The total seats won by BJP and its alliances are 273.
  - The election to constitute the 18th Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly was held in seven phases from 10 February to 7 March 2022.

### About Yogi Aditya Nath

- Yogi Adityanath contested the assembly election from Gorakhpur Urban seat and won it by defeating Samajwadi Party candidate Sabhawati Shukla by a margin of 1,03,390 votes.
- He is a five time Member of Parliament from Gorakhpur constituencies (in 1998, 1999, 2004, 2009 and 2014)

- Yogi Adityanath has become the first chief minister of Uttar Pradesh to return to power after completing a full tenure of five years.
- The last chief minister to win consecutive terms in Uttar Pradesh (undivided) was Narayan Dutt Tiwari in 1985. This makes Yogi Adityanath the first chief minister to retain power in 37 years.
- He was born as Ajay Singh Bisht in Pauri Garhwal in Uttrakhand .
- In 2014 he became the head mahant of the Gorakhnath Math located in Gorakhpur after the death of mahant Aavaidyanath.
- The first Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh was Gobind Ballabh Pant (1950-1952) of the Congress party.

## 3. N Biren Singh sworn as Manipur CM (March 22, 2022)

Nongthombam Biren Singh of Bhartiya Janta Party(BJP) was sworn in for the second term as the Chief Minister of Manipur on 21 March 2022. He was administered the oath of office by the Manipur **Governor La Ganeshan**.

- N. Biren Singh was the Chief Minister of Manipur from 2017-22 and was reelected form his assembly constituency of **Heingang** at the recently held Manipur legislative assembly election 2022.
- BJP won 32 seats in the 60 member Manipur Legislative Assembly election held in two phases on 28 February and 5 March 2022.
- N.Biren Singh before joining politics was a footballer and a journalist . He played for the Border Security Force (BSF) football team.
- He is the 12th Person to be the Chief Minister of Manipur . The first Chief Minister was M.Koireng Singh.

# 4. BJP poised to form government in 4 states and AAP sweeps Punjab polls (March 11, 2022)

Bharatiya Janata Party is set to form governments in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Manipur and Goa while the Aam Aadmi Party(AAP) swept away Punjab.

The general election to constitute a new legislative Assembly in the states of Manipur, Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Punjab was held by the Election Commission of India from 14 February 2022 to March 7,2022.

- Uttar Pradesh voted in 7 phases from February 10 to March 7 to elect 403 vidhan sabha members of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly
- The 40-member assembly of Goa went to polls in a single phase on February 14.
- The 70 member assembly of Uttarakhand went to polls in a single phase on February 14.
- The 117 member assembly of Punjab went to polls in a single phase on February 20.

The 60 member assembly of Manipur went to polls in two phases on 28 February and 5 • March 2022.

State	Total Seats	Majority seats	Second place	Others
Punjab	117	Aam Aadmi Party -92 seats	Congress(I)- 18 seats	Shiromani Akali Dal-3 seats
Uttar Pradesh	403	BJP-255 seats	Samajwadi party-111 seats	Congress-2 seats
Uttrakhand	70	BJP-47 seats	Congress-19 seats	Others - 2 seats
Manipur	60	BJP-32 seats	National People's Party -7 seats	Congress-5 seats
Goa	40	BJP-20 seats	Congress-11	AAP-2 seats

In Uttar Pradesh, the alliance partners of BJP were Apna Dal(Sonelal) and NISHAD Party(Nirbal Indian Shoshit Hamara Aam Dal") .The alliance partner Apna Dal won 12 seats and the NISHAD party won 6. The total seats won by BJP and its alliances are 273.

### **Notable winners of the Poll**

- Uttar Pradesh **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** of BJP won from Gorakhpur Urban seat by defeating Samajwadi Party's Subhawati Upendra Dutt Shukla. This was the first time he contested an Assembly poll.
- Samajwadi party leader **Akhilesh Yadav** won the **Karhal seat** by defeating the **Union Minister of State for Law and Justice Satya Pal Singh Baghel.**
- Manipur Chief Minister **N.Biren Singh** of BJP defeated Congress's **P Sharatchandra** from **Heingang seat.**
- Goa Chief Minister **Pramod Sawant** won the Sanquelim assembly constituency seat as he defeated Congress leader **Dharmesh Saglani**.

#### **Notable losers**

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister and BJP leader, Pushkar Singh Dhami lost the election from Khatima to the Congress candidate Bhuwan Chandra Kapri.
- Punjab Chief Ministerand Congress Party (I) candidate Charanjit Singh Channi contested from two constituencies and lost both. He was defeated by Aam Aadmi Party(AAP) candidate Labh Singh Ugoke in the Bahadaur assembly seat. He also lost his traditional Chamkaur singh sahib seat to his name sake ,Chanranjit singh Channi of Aam Aadmi Party.
- Former **Chief Minister of Punjab**, **Captain Amrinder Singh** who formed a new party, Punjab Lok Congress lost his **Patiala Urban constituency** to AAP's Ajit Pal Singh Kohli.

- Congress Party Punjab chief , **Navjot Singh Sidhu lost the Amritsar East seat** to AAP candidate leevaniyot Kaur
- Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya was defeated by Pallavi Patel of Samajwadi Party in **Sirathu** constituency .

Pushkar Singh Dhami and Charanjit Singh Channi have resigned from their post .

Chief Election Commissioner of India: Sushil Chandra.

# 5. Padma Awards 2022 ( Jan. 26, 2022 )

Ahead of Republic Day 2022, the Government of India on 25th January 2022 announced the Padma Awards. Padma Awards are one of the **highest civilian awards** of the country which is conferred in three categories, i.e. Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri.

- A total of 4 Padma Vibhushans, 17 Padma Bhushans and 107 Padma Shri awards have been conferred this year. 34 of the awardees are women and the list also includes 10 persons from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI and 13 Posthumous awardees.
- These awards are conferred by the President of India at the ceremonial functions which are held at the Rashtrapati Bhawan usually around March / April every year.

## Padma Vibhushan (4):

This award is awarded for exceptional and distinguished services.

- Former Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister **Kalyan Singh**, India's first **CDS General Bipin Rawat**, Hindustani Classical vocalist **Prabha Atre** and **Radheshyam Khemka** of Gita Press have been named for the Padma Vibhushan.
- Apart from Gen. Rawat, Singh and Khemka have been conferred the award posthumously.

#### Padma Bhushan (17):

This award is awarded for distinguished service of a high order.

Name	Field - State/Country
Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad	Public Affairs - Jammu and Kashmir
Shri Victor Banerjee	Art - West Bengal
Ms. Gurmeet Bawa (Posthumous)	Art - Punjab
Shri Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee	Public Affairs - West Bengal
Shri Natarajan Chandrasekaran	Trade and Industry - Maharashtra

Shri Krishna Ella and Smt. Suchitra Ella* (Duo)	Trade and Industry - Telangana
Ms. Madhur Jaffery	Others-Culinary - United States of America
Shri Devendra Jhajharia	<b>Sports</b> - Rajasthan
Shri Rashid Khan	<b>Art</b> - Uttar Pradesh
Shri Rajiv Mehrishi	Civil Service - Rajasthan
Shri Satya Narayana Nadella	<b>Trade and Industry</b> - United States of America
Shri Sundararajan Pichai	<b>Trade and Industry</b> - United States of America
Shri Cyrus Poonawalla	Trade and Industry -Maharashtra
Shri Sanjaya Rajaram (Posthumous)	Science and Engineering - Mexico
Ms. Pratibha Ray	Literature and Education - Odisha
Swami Sachidanand	Literature and Education - Gujarat
Shri Vashishth Tripathi	<b>Literature and Education</b> - Uttar Pradesh

# Padma Shri (107):

This award is awarded for distinguished service in any field.

Name	Field - State/Country
Shri Prahlad Rai Agarwala	Trade and Industry - West Bengal
Prof. Najma Akhtar	Literature and Education - Delhi
Shri Sumit Antil	Sports - Haryana
Shri T Senka Ao	Literature and Education - Nagaland
Ms. Kamalini Asthana and Ms. Nalini Asthana* (Duo)	<b>Art</b> - Uttar Pradesh
Shri Subbanna Ayyappan	Science and Engineering - Karnataka

1
Literature and Education - Delhi
Literature and Education - Tamil Nadu
Social Work - Odisha
Science and Engineering - West Bengal
<b>Art</b> - Uttarakhand
Literature and Education - Ladakh
Medicine - Maharashtra
Literature and Education - Punjab
Sports - Odisha
<b>Art</b> - Tamil Nadu
<b>Art</b> - Sikkim
Literature and Education - Poland
Social Work - Bihar
<b>Art</b> - Maharashtra
Sports - Haryana
Social Work - Assam
Sports - Kerala
Social Work - Tamil Nadu
<b>Sports</b> - Jammu and Kashmir
Trade and Industry - Chandigarh
Medicine - United Kingdom
Science and Engineering - Odisha
Medicine - Gujarat

1
Public Affairs - Gujarat
Social Work - Uttarakhand
<b>Art</b> - Manipur
<b>Trade and Industry</b> - Manipur
<b>Art</b> - Odisha
Literature and Education - Gujarat
Social Work - Gujarat
<b>Art</b> - Madhya Pradesh
Medicine - Maharashtra
<b>Art</b> - Rajasthan
Literature and Education - Assam
Social Work - Haryana
<b>Literature and Education</b> - Andhra Pradesh
Literature and Education - Jharkhand
Literature and Education - Bihar
Literature and Education - Odisha
<b>Art</b> - Andhra Pradesh
Trade and Industry - Japan
Others - Animal Husbandry - Kerala
<b>Literature and Education</b> - Madhya Pradesh
<b>Art</b> - Tamil Nadu
Literature and Education - Delhi
Sports - Uttarakhand

Shri H R Keshavamurthy	Art - Karnataka	
Shri Rutger Kortenhorst	Literature and Education - Ireland	
Shri P Narayana Kurup	Literature and Education - Kerala	
Ms. Avani Lekhara	<b>Sports</b> - Rajasthan	
Shri Moti Lal Madan	Science and Engineering - Haryana	
Shri Shivnath Mishra	<b>Art</b> - Uttar Pradesh	
Dr. Narendra Prasad Misra (Posthumous)	<b>Medicine</b> - Madhya Pradesh	
Shri Darshanam Mogilaiah	Art - Telangana	
Shri Guruprasad Mohapatra (Posthumous)	Civil Service - Delhi	
Shri Thavil Kongampattu A V Murugaiyan	<b>Art</b> - Puducherry	
Ms. R Muthukannammal	Art - Tamil Nadu	
Shri Abdul Khader Nadakattin	Others - Grassroots Innovation - Karnataka	
Shri Amai Mahalinga Naik	Others - Agriculture - Karnataka	
Shri Tsering Namgyal	<b>Art</b> - Ladakh	
Shri A K C Natarajan	Art - Tamil Nadu	
Shri V L Nghaka	Literature and Education - Mizoram	
Shri Sonu Nigam	<b>Art</b> - Maharashtra	
Shri Ram Sahay Panday	<b>Art</b> - Madhya Pradesh	
Shri Chirapat Prapandavidya	Literature and Education - Thailand	
Ms. K V Rabiya	Social Work - Kerala	
Shri Anil Kumar Rajvanshi	Science and Engineering - Maharashtra	
Shri Sheesh Ram	Art - Uttar Pradesh	

Art - Telangana	
Medicine - Andhra Pradesh	
Social Work - Gujarat	
Art - Telangana	
<b>Others - Spiritualism</b> - Arunachal Pradesh	
Sports - Goa	
<b>Literature and Education</b> - Himachal Pradesh	
<b>Literature and Education</b> - West Bengal	
Medicine - Tamil Nadu	
<b>Social Work</b> - Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	
Literature and Education - Delhi	
Art - Rajasthan	
<b>Literature and Education</b> Jammu and Kashmir	
Literature and Education - Russia	
Literature and Education Karnataka	
Art - West Bengal	
Art - Manipur	
Social Work - Punjab	
Others - Agriculture - Uttar Pradesh	
<b>Literature and Education</b> - Uttar Pradesh	
Social Work - Punjab	

Dr. Bhimsen Singhal	Medicine - Maharashtra	
Shri Sivananda	Others - Yoga - Uttar Pradesh	
Shri Ajay Kumar Sonkar	Science and Engineering - Uttar Pradesh	
Ms. Ajita Srivastava	<b>Art</b> - Uttar Pradesh	
Sadguru Brahmeshanand Acharya Swami	Others - Spiritualism - Goa	
Dr. Balaji Tambe (Posthumous)	Medicine - Maharashtra	
Shri Raghuvendra Tanwar	Literature and Education - Haryana	
Dr. Kamlakar Tripathi	Medicine - Uttar Pradesh	
Ms. Lalita Vakil	<b>Art</b> - Himachal Pradesh	
Ms. Durga Bai Vyam	<b>Art</b> - Madhya Pradesh	
Shri Jyantkumar Maganlal Vyas	Science and Engineering - Gujarat	
Ms. Badaplin War	Literature and Education - Meghalaya	

#### Note:

- Former West Bengal Chief Minister buddhadeb Bhattacharjee turned down the Padma Bhushan.
- Veteran singer Sandhya Mukherjee refused to accept the Padma Shri.

# 6. Manipur, Meghalaya, and Tripura celebrate their 50th Statehood Day ( Jan. 21, 2022 )

All three states received their full statehood on 21st January 1972 as per the provisions of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971.

From November 1956 till January 1972, Manipur and Tripura were Union Territories whereas Meghalaya was an autonomous part of the state of Assam.

The North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971, also created separate High Courts for Meghalaya, Manipur, and Tripura.

Meghalaya	Manipur	Tripura

- Capital Shillong
- Governor Satya Pal Malik
- CM Conrad Sangma
- Unicameral Legislature
- Anthem Meghalaya Geet
- State Mammal -Clouded leopard
- State Bird Hill myna
- State Flower Lady's Slipper Orchid
- State Tree Gamhar

- Capital Imphal
- Governor La Ganesan
- CM N Biren Singh
- Unicameral Legislature
- Anthem Sana Leibak Manipur
- State Mammal -Sangai
- State Bird -Nongyeen
- State Flower Shirui Lily
- State Tree -Uningthou

- Capital Agartala
- Governor Satyadev Narayan Arya
- CM Biplab Kumar Deb
- Unicameral Legislature
- State Mammal -Phayre's Langur
- State Bird Green Imperial Pigeon
- State Flower -Nageshwar
- State Tree Agar

# 7. Birju Maharaj, the legendary Kathak dancer, dies at 83 ( Jan. 17, 2022 )

Pandit Birju Maharaj, the torchbearer of Lucknow's Kalka-Bindadin Gharana of Kathak, passed away at the age of 83.

- He was a descendant of the Maharaj family of Kathak dancers, which includes his two uncles, Shambhu Maharaj and Lachhu Maharaj, and his father and guru, Acchan Maharaj, who served as court dancer in Raigarh princely state.
- He also practiced Hindustani classical music and was a vocalist
- In 1964, he received the honorary Sangeet Natak Akademi Award and in 1986 he received Padma Vibhushan, the country's second-highest civilian honor.
- He has choreographed for several films like Shatranj Ke Khiladi by Satyajit Ray till Gadar: Ek Prem Katha, Devdas, Bajirao Mastani, and many others.

### **Classical Dance form of India**

According to the government of India there are Eight classical dance form in India

Dance Origin /State

Bharatnatyam: Tamil Nadu

Manipuri Dance: Manipur

Kathak: North India, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan Delhi, Madhya Pradesh.

Odissi: Odisha

Kathakali: Kerala

Mohiniattam: Kerala

Kuchipudi: Mainly Andhra Pradesh

Sattriya: Assam

## 8. Election Commission double the broadcast time for Parties ( Jan. 15, 2022 )

Election Commission of India has decided to double the broadcast time allotted to each National Party and recognized State Parties in poll bound states.

- The election commission order states that a base time of 90 minutes will be given to each national party and recognized state party of Goa, Punjab, Manipur, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. The facilities will be available from the regional kendras of All India Radio and Doordarshan.
- The earlier allotted time was 45 minutes.
- The time allotted to the recognized political parties in these states has been increased as due to the corona pandemic the emphasis is on avoiding rallies and maintaining non physical contacts for campaigning

# 9. Election Commission has reduced the Notice period for Political parties registration ( Jan. 15, 2022 )

The Election Commission of India has reduced the notice period for registering new political parties in the five election bound states of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Manipur, Goa and Punjab from 30 days to 7 days due to the prevailing coronavirus pandemic.

- According to the Election commission a party seeking registration with the election commission has to publish its proposed names in two national newspapers and two local newspapers before applying to the election commission for registration.
- The election commission has clarified that the notice period was also reduced last year when elections were held in Bihar, Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal during the corona pandemic.

# Registration of Political parties is governed by the provisions of Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951

• Chief Election Commissioner : Mr. Sushil Chandra

## 10. Forest Survey report 2021 released by the Government (Jan. 13, 2022)

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, today released the 'India State of Forest Report 2021' prepared by the Forest Survey of India (FSI).

Forest Survey report 2021 released by the Government

- Forest Survey of India releases "Indian State of Report "after every 2 years and the last report was released in 2019.
- FSI uses satellite data of the Indian Remote sensing satellite of ISRO, Resourcesat-2 to asses the forest cover in India .

### **Highlights of the report**

- The total forest and tree cover of the country is 80.9 million hectare which is 24.62 percent of the geographical area of the country. As compared to the assessment of 2019, there is an increase of 2,261 sq km in the total forest and tree cover of the country. Out of this, the increase in the forest cover has been observed as 1,540 sq km and that in tree cover is 721 sq km.
- Increase in forest cover has been observed in open forest followed by very dense forest.

  Top three states showing increase in forest cover are Andhra Pradesh (647 sq km) followed by Telangana (632 sq km) and Odisha (537 sq km).
- Area-wise Madhya Pradesh has the largest forest cover in the country followed by Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra.
- In terms of forest cover as percentage of total geographical area, the top five States are Mizoram (84.53%), Arunachal Pradesh (79.33%), Meghalaya (76.00%), Manipur (74.34%) and Nagaland (73.90%).
- 17 states/UT's have above 33 percent of the geographical area under forest cover. Out of these states and UT's, five states/UTs namely Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya have more than 75 percent forest cover while 12 states/UTs namely Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Goa, Kerala, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Assam, Odisha, have forest cover between 33 percent to 75 percent.
- Total mangrove cover in the country is 4,992 sq km. An increase of 17 sq Km in mangrove cover has been observed as compared to the previous assessment of 2019. Top three states showing mangrove cover increase are Odisha (8 sq km) followed by Maharashtra (4 sq km) and Karnataka (3 sq km).
- Total carbon stock in the country's forest is estimated to be 7,204 million tonnes and there is an increase of 79.4 million tonnes in the carbon stock of the country as compared to the last assessment of 2019. The annual increase in the carbon stock is 39.7 million tonnes.