

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. Congress leader Siddaramaiah sworn in as CM of Karnataka and DK Shivakumar as Deputy CM ( May 20, 2023 )**

CM-of-Karnataka-and-DK-Shivakumar-as-Deputy-CM

Congress leader **Siddaramaiah** was **sworn in as the Chief Minister of Karnataka** for his second term and Karnataka Congress President **DK Shivakumar** was **sworn in as the Deputy Chief Minister**.

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

- The swearing-in ceremony took place at the **Kanteerava Stadium** in Bengaluru, administered by Karnataka Governor **Thaawarchand Gehlot**.
- Several Congress MLAs including Dr G Parameshwara, KH Muniyappa, KJ George, MB Patil, Satish Jarkiholi, Priyank Kharge, Ramalinga Reddy and BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan took oath as ministers in the state cabinet.
- The ceremony was attended by Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi and chief ministers of Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh, as well as other political leaders.
- The Congress government in Karnataka is now officially established.

#### **About Karnataka:**

It is a state located in **South West India** and has **coasts of the Arabian Sea**.

Formation - **1 November 1956**

Governor - **Thawar Chand Gehlot**

Capital - **Bangalore**

Rajya Sabha - **12 seats**

Lok Sabha - **28 seats**

### **2. Madhya Pradesh cabinet approves 'Mukhya Mantri Sikho Kamao Yojana' for unemployed youth ( May 19, 2023 )**

Mukhya Mantri Sikho Kamao Yojana

The **Madhya Pradesh** cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**, on May 17 approved the '**Mukhya Mantri Sikho Kamao Yojana**' for unemployed youth.

#### **About Mukhya Mantri Sikho Kamao Yojana**

- It was decided in the meeting that the name of **Mukhya Mantri Kaushal Kamai Yojana** will be '**Mukhyamantri Sikho-Kamao Yojana**' (Chief Minister Learn-Earn Scheme).
- Under the scheme, at least **one lakh youths will be provided training in establishments**.

- All the youth who have done **12th pass, ITI, Diploma, Graduation and Post Graduation** will be eligible for this scheme.
- After the training, the **State Council for Vocational Training (SCVT)** certificate will be given by the **Madhya Pradesh State Skill Development and Employment Generation Board (MPSSDEGB)**.
- Prestigious industrial and private institutions of the country and the state will be connected with the scheme.
- Establishments will be able to train student trainees up to **15 percent of their total workforce**.
- Under the scheme, youth will be taught work and in return they will be given stipend by the government.
- Under the scheme, **12th passed trainees will be given 8 thousand rupees, ITI passed 8 thousand 500 rupees, diploma passed 9 thousand rupees and graduate passed or higher educational qualification will be given 10 thousand rupees per month stipend.**

### **About Madhya Pradesh**

- In terms of area, it is the **second largest state of India after Rajasthan**.
- According to the **Indian Forest Status Report-2021**, Madhya Pradesh has the **maximum forest cover** in the country in terms of area.
- 25.14%** of its area is covered by forests.
- Chief Minister - **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**
- Capital - **Bhopal**

### **3. UP holds 2nd position in GI tagged products ( May 18, 2023 )**

UP-holds-2nd-position-in-GI-tagged-products

After getting **GI tag for three more One District One Product (ODOP) crafts, Uttar Pradesh** has now come **second in the country in terms of maximum number of items with Geographical Indication tag.**

#### **An overview of the news**

- The ODOP crafts which have got GI tag include **Mainpuri Tarkashi, Mahoba Gaura Stone Craft and Sambhal Horn Craft**.
- Tamil Nadu** leads with **55 GI-tags, followed by UP and Karnataka with 48 and 46 GI products, respectively.**
- However, **UP ranks first in terms of GI-tagged handicrafts, with 36 crafts to its credit.**

- With this achievement, UP has overtaken Karnataka to become the second state with the highest number of GI-tags in the country.
- **Handicrafts** in UP also have the highest number of GI tags.

### **About GI Tag**

- It is the short form of Geographical Indication and it is a **unique identification of any region, town or state.**
- The tag is given in the name of certain products or signs that **symbolise the uniqueness of that particular region.**
- When a GI tag is given to a particular product, it certifies that the product is made by **traditional methods, has special qualities.**
- The Geographical Indication **came into force on 15 September 2003.**
- **Darjeeling tea** was given the **first GI tag in India in 2004-2005.**
- GI tag is given to products related to **agriculture, handicrafts, food items, spirit drinks and industrial products.**
- The rules and regulations of the GI tag are governed by the **World Trade Organization Agreement** on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights at the international level.

### **4. PM Modi launches railway projects worth over 8,000 crore rupees in Odisha ( May 18, 2023 )**

8,000-crore-rupees-in-Odisha

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** laid the foundation stone and **dedicated several railway projects worth over 8,000 crore rupees in Odisha** on 18th May via video conferencing.

#### **An overview of the news**

- During the event, Modi flagged off the **Vande Bharat Express between Puri and Howrah.**
- The train will cover a **distance of 500 km** and will pass through **Khordha, Cuttack, Jajpur, Bhadrak and Balasore districts of Odisha and Paschim Medinipur, Purba Medinipur** districts of West Bengal.
- The train will provide fast, comfortable and convenient travel experience to rail users, promote tourism and spur economic development in the region.
- Regular operation of **Howrah-Puri-Howrah Vande Bharat Express** will start from May 20. The train will run **six days a week.**
- The train will leave Howrah at 6.10 am and reach Puri at 12.35 pm and in return it will leave Puri at 1.50 pm and reach Howrah at 8.30 pm.

## **Projects dedicated by the Prime Minister**

- PM Modi also dedicated **100% electrification** of the rail network in Odisha.
- He dedicated the **doubling of Sambalpur-Titlagarh rail line, a new broad gauge rail line between Angul-Sukinda, the third line connecting Manoharpur-Rourkela-Jharsuguda-Jamga and a new broad-gauge line between Bichupali-Jhartarbha.**

## **About Odisha**

- Capital- **Bhubaneswar**
- Governor- **Ganeshi Lal**
- Chief Minister- **Naveen Patnaik**

## **5. 3rd G20 TWG meeting to be held in Srinagar ( May 17, 2023 )**

3rd-G20-TWG-meeting-to-be-held-in-Srinagar

The **third G20 Tourism Working Group (TWG)** meeting will be held in **Srinagar** from 22 to 24 May.

## **An Overview of the News**

- Security arrangements on the **Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44)** have been reviewed by the Army and other security agencies.
- **NH-44 is the only all-weather road** connecting the **Kashmir Valley to the rest of the country.**
- A high-level meeting with senior police and CRPF officials was held at **Ramban, chaired by a brigadier-level officer.**
- Several security forces including **Army, BSF, Police, CRPF and Village Defense Committees** have been deployed along the **International Border (IB) and the Line of Control (LoC).**

## **About Jammu and Kashmir**

**Jammu and Kashmir was a state of India until August 2019**, which was bifurcated as two union territories namely **Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on 31 August 2019.**

Capital- **Srinagar (May-October), Jammu (November-April)**

Lieutenant Governor - **Manoj Sinha**

Legislative Council - **36 seats**

Legislative Assembly - **89 seats**

Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, Justice - **Koteshwar Singh**

## **6. Odisha CM expands 'Special Development Councils' in 14 Districts ( May 17, 2023 )**

### Special Development Councils

The Odisha government has expanded the **jurisdiction of Special Development Councils (SDCs)** from **nine to 23 districts** to improve the lives of **84 lakh tribal people**.

### **An overview of the news**

- This extension signifies the government's commitment to ensuring the comprehensive development of indigenous communities residing in these districts.
- SDC is targeted intervention aims to uplift and improve the lives of the tribal communities residing in the state.
- The primary objective of extending the jurisdiction of the SDC is **to bring positive changes to the lives of the indigenous people in Odisha**.
- By implementing targeted interventions, the government aims to address issues related to **education, healthcare, infrastructure, livelihood, and overall socio-economic development** in these tribal areas.

### **Significance of Tribal Community in Odisha**

- The tribal community holds great significance in Odisha, accounting for **22.8% of the state's population**.
- These indigenous populations have unique **cultural identities, traditional knowledge, and a deep connection** with their ancestral lands.
- Recognizing their contributions and ensuring their well-being is crucial for the overall progress and inclusivity of the state.

### **About Odisha**

- Capital- **Bhubaneswar**
- Governor- **Ganeshi Lal**
- Chief Minister- **Naveen Patnaik**

## **7. Flood Relief Exercise 'Jal Rahat' in Assam ( May 17, 2023 )**

### Jal-Rahat

Indian Army's **Gajraj Corps**, along with other disaster management groups, conducted a joint flood relief drill, '**Exercise Jal Rahat**', at **Hagrama Bridge on Manas River in Assam** on 16th May.

### **An overview of the news**

- Apart from Indian Army- **SSB, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA)** and Police representatives participated in the exercise.
- The event included coordination and rehearsal for rescue missions of people from inundated areas by joint efforts of expert teams of Army, NDRF and SDRF.

### **Purpose of "Jal Rahat" Exercise:**

- To showcase the Indian Army's preparedness and capabilities in responding to **natural disasters, particularly floods.**
- To effectively coordinate relief efforts, rescue operations, and provide essential supplies and medical aid to the affected people in a timely manner.

### **Response to flood situation**

- Assam is prone to annual floods due to **heavy rainfall and overflowing rivers.**
- The "Jal Rahat" exercise of the Indian Army demonstrated its **quick response to the flood situation.**
- It demonstrated the Army's expertise in conducting **rescue operations, evacuating stranded people and setting up temporary relief camps.**

### **Distribution of Essential Supplies**

- As part of the exercise, the Indian Army ensured the distribution of essential supplies to the **flood-affected areas.**
- These supplies included **food, clean drinking water, medical aid,** and other necessary items to meet the immediate needs of the affected population.
- The army's efforts aimed to mitigate the hardships faced by the flood-affected communities.

### **About Assam State**

- Chief Minister - **Himanta Biswa Sarma**
- Governor - **Jagdish Mukhi**
- Number of Districts - **33**
- Lok Sabha seats - **14**
- Rajya Sabha seats - **7**
- State Animal - **Indian Rhinoceros**
- State Bird - **White Winged Duck**

- National Parks - **Dibru-Saikhowa National Park, Kaziranga National Park, Manas National Park, Nameri National Park, Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park**

## **8. Inauguration of online education program 'Pahal' for rural children ( May 16, 2023 )**

Pahal-for-rural-children

Chief secretary **Durga Shankar Mishra** inaugurated an **online rural education programme 'Pahal'** at **Government UP Sainik Inter College, Sarojini Nagar, Lucknow** on 15th May.

### **An overview of the news**

- This programme has been **prepared by the department of secondary education in collaboration with IIT Kanpur.**
- The initiative aims **to provide educational opportunities to rural children** who have limited access to quality education.
- 'Pahal' is designed **to bridge the education gap between rural and urban areas.**
- Under this program, in the initial phase, **free online education will be provided in 10 government secondary schools** of the state.
- Through these classes, students of rural areas will be able to get the latest information related to science and mathematics.
- The Chief Secretary said that the online rural education initiative is a new and good beginning.

### **About Uttar Pradesh**

- Uttar Pradesh is a state located in the **northern part of India.**
- It is the **most populous state** in India as well as the most populous subdivision in the world.
- The state was officially **established in 1950.**
- Chief Minister - **Yogi Adityanath**
- Capital - **Lucknow**
- Governor - **Anandiben Patel**
- Rajya Sabha - **31 seats**
- Lok Sabha - **80 seats**

## **9. Around 2,500 kg of methamphetamine worth around Rs 12,000 cr in Indian waters seized by NCB, Navy ( May 15, 2023 )**

methamphetamine

A total of **2,500 kg of methamphetamine** worth about **Rs 12,000 crore** was **seized** from a **vessel by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)** and the **Indian Navy** in a joint operation in Indian waters off the **coast of Kerala**.

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

- The seized **methamphetamine** is believed to be the **biggest ever of its kind in India**.
- In this, maritime drug smuggling originating from **Afghanistan was targeted**.
- This is the third major seizure of NCB in drug smuggling through the southern route in the last year and a half.
- Recent shipments of methamphetamine from Afghanistan were to **India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives**.
- The drugs were transported on a "**mother ship**" that distributes narcotics to various boats along the **Makran coast**.

### **'Operation Samudragupt'**

- A total of **3,200 kg of methamphetamine, 500 kg of heroin and 529 kg of hashish** have been seized so far as part of **Operation Samudragupt**.
- Previous seizures as part of Operation Samudragupt include the seizure of 529 kg of hashish, 221 kg of methamphetamine and 13 kg of heroin off the coast of Gujarat in February 2022.
- In October 2022, an Iranian boat was intercepted off the coast of Kerala, resulting in the seizure of 200 kg of high-grade heroin and the arrest of six Iranian drug smugglers.

### **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB):**

- It is a respected **central law enforcement and intelligence agency** operating in India.
- It functions under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**, which is a part of the Government of India, and is responsible for maintaining law and order in the country.
- One of the primary objectives of the NCB is to combat drug trafficking and use of illegal substances within Indian territory.
- The agency functions in accordance with the provisions laid down in the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, which is an important legislation to regulate and control drug-related offences.

Formation - **17 March 1986**



Headquarters - **New Delhi**

**10. Coastal Road in Mumbai renamed after Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj ( May 15, 2023 )**

Chief Minister **Eknath Shinde** recently **renamed the Coastal Road in Mumbai** to the new name **Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj**.

**An Overview of the News**

- In the memory of **Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj**, on his **366th birth anniversary**, a grand ceremony was organised for the first time at the **Gateway of India**.
- As an additional tribute, **Chief Minister Eknath Shinde** announced plans to install a grand statue of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj along the Coastal Highway.

**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**