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1. Uttar Pradesh government to make Vrindavan -Mathura pilgrimage center carbon neutral by 2041 (Nov. 9, 2022)

Vrindavan -Mathura pilgrimage center carbon neutral by 2041

The Uttar Pradesh government has made an ambitious plan to make the **Vrindavan - Mathura** tourist pilgrimage center carbon neutral by **2041**. This will be the **first tourist center** in India to plan for a carbon neutral status.

The government expects the tourist arrival in the Mathura Vrindavan region to increase from the present 2.3 crore per year to around 6 crore in 2041. To deal with the expected increase in footfall and increase in carbon footprint, the government has made a plan to make the region carbon neutral by 2041,

Plan of the government

- The entire pilgrimage region will be divided into four clusters each containing two of the eight key cities.
- The plan proposes to form small circuits called 'Parikrama Paths' which the pilgrim can undertake either on foot or using electric vehicles.
- To reduce the carbon emission the government intends to ban the use of private tourist vehicles in the entire Braj region
- Only electric public transport will run in the identified region
- All the 252 water bodies and 24 forests in the area will be revived so that they can act as a **carbon sink**.

Mathura -Vrindavan region and its significance

- The city of Mathura and Vrindavan is associated with Lord Krishna's birth and childhood.
- Both the cities are situated along the river **Yamuna**.
- Mathura is mentioned in Ramayana and was one of the capitals of the **Kushan King Kanishka (130AD)**.
- Some of the famous temples of the region are: Govind Dev Temple, Rangaji Temple, Dwarikadhish Temple, Bankey Bihari Temple and the ISKCON Temple.
- Gokul, Barsana and Govardhan are the other townships associated with the legend of Lord Krishna.

What is Carbon Neutral and Net Zero?

Carbon neutral refers to the removal of the same amount of **carbon dioxide** from the atmosphere by various means as the amount of carbon dioxide which is released in the atmosphere leaving a Zero balance or zero carbon.

Net Zero means the removal of the same amount of **Greenhouse gasses** (eg CO₂, methane, CFC etc.) from the atmosphere by various means as the amount of Greenhouse gasses which is released in the atmosphere leaving a Zero balance or net Zero.

Important to Know

India has set a target to become zero net emission country **by 2070**.

Palli panchayat in Samba district of Jammu is the **first carbon neutral panchayat in India.**

2. 42nd International Congress of the Indian National Cartographic Association inaugurated in Dehradun (Nov. 9, 2022)

Indian National Cartographic Association inaugurated in Dehradun

The 42 International Congress of the Indian National Cartographic Association (INCA) was inaugurated by the Uttarakhand Governor **Lt Gen Gurmit Singh, (Retd.)** in **Dehradun** on 9 November 2022. The 42nd International Congress is being organized by the National Hydrographic Office from 9-11 November 2022 at Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

The Theme of the 42nd INCA Congress is **Digital Cartography to Harness Blue Economy'**

The Indian National Cartographic Association (INCA) was founded on 7 August 1979 at Hyderabad. It is one of the biggest organizations of its kind in the world.

3. PM Modi to gift Himachal Pradesh artifact to the G20 leaders in the Bali summit (Nov. 9, 2022)

PM Modi to gift Himachal Pradesh artifact

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will gift various artifacts of [Himachal Pradesh](#) to the world leaders at the 17th G20 summit to be held at **Bali, Indonesia** on 15-16 November 2022. India will formally take over the G20 Presidency from Indonesia from 1 December 2022 and it will host the 18th G20 summit in 2023.

According to the newspaper reports the Prime Minister Modi will present **Chamba Rumal, Kangra miniature paintings, Kinnauri Shawl, Himachali Mukhate, Kullu Shawl,** and **Kanal Brass Set** to the world leaders as an attempt to boost the Himachal's art and culture across the globe.

The Prime Minister unveiled the [logo](#), theme, and website of India's G20 Presidency via video-conferencing on 8 November 2022.

G-20 is the premier forum for international economic cooperation representing around 85 percent of the global GDP, over 75 per cent of the worldwide trade, and about two-thirds of the world population.. G-20 is a group of 19 countries and the European Union.

4. Uttarakhand Foundation Day (Nov. 9, 2022)

Uttarakhand Foundation Day

Uttarakhand Foundation Day also known as Uttarakhand Day is celebrated every year on **9 November**. The state of Uttarakhand was carved out of Uttar Pradesh on **9 November 2000**.

How was Uttarakhand formed?

- In 1950, the name of the United Provinces was changed to Uttar Pradesh.
- However, the government of Uttar Pradesh could not meet the needs of the people of this Himalayan region.
- Hence, people started demanding a separate state in the form of Uttarakhand after the formation of Uttarakhand Kranti Dal.
- There was a widespread movement in the 90s for the demand for a separate state which turned violent in 1994.
- Eventually, on November 9, 2000, the 27th state of India, Uttaranchal was formed by the **Uttar Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2000**.
- Its name was changed to Uttarakhand on **1 January 2007**.

About Uttarakhand

- location - **Northwestern part of the country**
- Capital - **Dehradun**
- Formation - November 9, 2000 as **27th state** of India
- Chief Minister - **Pushkar Singh Dhami**
- Governor - **Gurmit Singh**
- State Animal - **Alpine Musk Deer**
- State Bird - **Himalayan Monal**
- State Flower - **Brahma Kamal**
- Districts - **13**

5. World's first Vedic clock to be installed in Ujjain (Nov. 6, 2022)

[Madhya Pradesh](#) education minister Mohan Yadav laid the foundation stone of the world's **first Vedic Clock** at the 300-year-old Jiwaji Observatory in **Ujjain**, Madhya Pradesh. The Jiwaji observatory was constructed by Maharaja Sawai Raja Jaisingh of Jaipur in 1719.

The clock to be built at an estimated cost of Rs 1.62 crore aims to make people familiar with the Vedic time calculation.

Vedic Clock

Elaborating on the Vedic clock the minister said that the Vedic clock will be based on Vedic calculation of the time, in which the 24 hours of the day are divided into Muhurats. The Vedic clock will be synced with the position of the Sun.

He said that there will be a dedicated mobile application for the readings of the Vedic Clock, and citizens will be able to use it on their smartphones, computers, televisions, and other devices.

He also said “the application will also have information on Vedic Hindu Panchang, planetary positions, Muhurats, astrological calculation, and predictions, etc.

Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh: **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**

6. Rising Sun Water Fest-2022 on ‘Umiam Lake’ ends in Meghalaya (Nov. 6, 2022)

Rising Sun Water Fest-2022

The first of its kind Rising Sun Water Fest ended on 5 November 2022 with a grand closing ceremony at **Umiam Lake**, Meghalaya showcasing the cultural heritage of the North eastern region.

The water sports and cultural extravaganza held from November 3-5 was aimed at encouraging the sports loving youth to take up water sports like Rowing and Sailing. It also aimed at promoting tourism in the North East.

Organizers of the Fest

The Rising Sun Water Fest was organised by the **Eastern Command** of the Indian Army in cooperation with the governments of **Assam** and **Meghalaya**.

The Festival was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Meghalaya **Conrad Sangma** on 3 November.

The Chief minister of Assam **Himanta Biswa Sarma** and Lt Gen RP Kalita, Army commander Eastern Command were the chief guests at the closing ceremony on 5 November.

Speaking on the occasion Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said that Assam and Meghalaya will work with the Indian Army to transform the Umiam Lake into a world-class venue for aquatic sports.

Umiam Lake

The **Umiam Lake also known as Barapani Lake** is an artificial lake which was created after a dam was built on the river Umiam in early 1960s. Umiam hydroelectric project supplies electricity to Meghalaya and Assam. The lake lies in the capital city of Meghalaya, Shillong.

State of Meghalaya

Meghalaya means the **abode of clouds**.

Meghalaya was created as an **autonomous state** within Assam in 1970 and achieved full statehood on **January 21, 1972** by carving out hilly areas of the Khasi, Jaintia and Garo.

It has the **wettest region** in the world, **Mawsynram** village near Cherrapunji. Mawsynram has recorded rainfalls of 700mm per year.

The capital of Meghalaya is **Shillong** which was made Assam's capital in 1874, remained so till January 1972,

Some of the famous cultural festival of Meghalaya

Nongkrem dance festival

Ka Pomblang Nongkrem dance, also popularly known as Nongkrem dance, is a five day religious festival of the **Khasis tribe**. It is celebrated during November month. Nongkrem Dance Festival is performed to appease the all-powerful Goddess **Ka Blei Synshar** for a rich bumper harvest and prosperity of the people.

Wangala Festival

The Wangala Festival is also known as the **100 drums festival**. It is a most popular festival among the **Garos tribes** of Meghalaya. Wangala Festival is a harvest festival held in honour of **Saljong**, the Sun-god of fertility.

Behdienkhlam Festival

Behdienkhlam Festival is the most celebrated Cultural festival among the **Pnars tribes**. Behdienkhlam (chasing away the Demon of Cholera) is celebrated annually in July after the sowing period, the most important dance festival of the Jaintia tribes

7. Novelist Sethu wins Ezhuthachan Puraskaram 2022 (Nov. 5, 2022)

Ezhuthachan Puraskaram 2022

Noted Malayalam novelist **Sethu (A. Sethumadhavan)** has been honoured with the prestigious **Ezhuthachan Award** for the year 2022.

Important facts

- It is the highest literary award of the **Kerala Sahitya Akademi** and is given for lifelong contribution to literature.
- Sethu was selected for the award by a committee headed by Kerala Sahitya Akademi president **K Satchidanandan**.
- M K Sanu, Vaishakhan, MV Narayanan and Rani George, Principal Secretary, Department of Cultural Affairs, were the other jury members.
- His writings cover innumerable streams of literature including **short stories, novels and children's literature**.
- He also held key positions in the banking and publishing sector such as the Chairman of South Indian Bank, Director of State Bank of Travancore and Chairman of National Book Trust of India.

- He has been honoured with **Kendra Sahitya Akademi** and **Kerala Sahitya Akademi Awards**.
- His famous works include **Pandavapuram, Kaimudrakal, Adayalangal, Kiratam, Aramathe Penkutty and Kilimozhikalkappuram**.

About Ezhuthachan Puraskaram

- It is the **Kerala** state government's **highest literary honour**.
- It has been named after **Thunchaththu Ramanujan Ezhuthachan**, a 16th century devotional poet, considered to be the **father of Malayalam language**.
- The award carries **Rs 5 lakh and a citation**.

8. Uttarakhand Chief Minister launches Lakhpati Didi Yojana (Nov. 4, 2022)

Lakhpati Didi Yojana

The Chief Minister of Uttarakhand **Pushkar Singh Dhami** launched the '**Lakhpati Didi**' Yojana in **Dehradun** on 4 November 2022. The scheme is part of the government to empower the women of the state.

Lakhpati Didi Yojana

The Lakhpati Didi Yojana is being launched by the Rural Development department of the Uttarakhand government under the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).

The government is aiming to enable at least 1.25 lakh women's associated with various self-help groups (SHG) in the state to earn over one lakh rupees per year (Lakhpati) by 2025.

Under the 'Lakhpati Didi' scheme for women belonging to Self Help Groups (SHGs), will be encouraged to take up micro-enterprises with skill development.

The government will tie up e-commerce platforms like Amazon, Flipkart, Government e-Marketplace (GeM) so that the SHG products get national and International markets.

Uttarakhand which was formed on 9 November 2000 after the bifurcation of Uttar Pradesh will turn 25 in 2025. To commemorate the occasion the state government has set the target to make 1.25 lakh women Lakhpati by 2025.

Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand was formed on 9th November 2000 as the 27th State of India. It was formed by carving out the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh.

It shares international boundaries with China (Tibet) in the north and Nepal in the east. On its north-west lies Himachal Pradesh, while on the south is Uttar Pradesh.

The state is also famous as **God's Land or Dev Bhoomi**.

It has a total of 13 districts.

Official state symbols

- State animal – Musk Deer
- State flower – Brahma Kamal
- State tree – Buransh (Rhododendron)
- State Bird – Monal
- State musical Instrument – Dhol

9. Kerala to host Track Asia Cup 2022 (Nov. 4, 2022)

Kerala to host Track Asia Cup 2022

Track Asia Cup-2022, one of the premier cycling competitions, will be held at the **LNCPE Outdoor Velodrome in Kerala** from **November 25 to 28**.

Important facts

- The event will see participation of over 200 cyclists from over 25 Asian countries and will be held outside Delhi for the first time in history.
- It is authorised by the **Asian Cycling Confederation and Cycling Federation of India**.
- The Track Asia Cup is also used to select Asian countries for the **2024 Summer Olympics in Paris**.
- The highlight of the event will be the participation of cycling stalwarts from **China, Japan, Korea and Kazakhstan**.
- Apart from these countries, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Indonesia will compete with India.

About Track Asia Cup 2022

- It is a flagship event of the **Asian Cycling Confederation (ACC)**.
- It showcases excellent competitive cycling exhibitions across Asia.
- Star cyclists including Olympic medalists will compete in various individual and team events.
- Track Asia Cup 2022 will play a vital role in developing cycling as a major sporting event in the state.
- This is probably the first time that a sporting event is being held in Kerala in which more than 20 countries are participating.

10. NCST Gives Nod To Include Pahari Community In ST List (Nov. 4, 2022)

Pahari Community In ST List

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) on 4 November, 2022 approved inclusion of **Pahari Ethnic Group, Paddari Tribe, Koli and Gadda** Brahmans in the **Scheduled Tribes (STs)**.

Important facts

- The proposal to include these groups in the list of STs was placed before the Commission on 7 October by the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- The Commission studied and approved the proposal in its meetings.
- The Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs will now submit a memorandum to the cabinet to approve the reservation for **Pahari ethnic group, Paddari tribe, Kolis and Gadda Brahmans** under the ST category.
- After the cabinet approval, the ministry will introduce a bill in the Parliament to amend the **Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1989** to include these communities in the STs.
- When approved by the Parliament, the President shall notify the revised schedule of the ST list under **Article 342** of the Constitution of India.
- On October 4 and 5, 2022, Home Minister Amit Shah had announced ST status for Pahari based on the **recommendations of the GD Sharma panel**.

About Pahari Community

- Pahari people is a term used for several heterogeneous communities settled in parts of **Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK)**.
- Pahari is a term used to describe the various northern Indo-Aryan languages spoken by the people, most of them found in the lower **Himalayas**.
- **In 1989**, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir had set up an advisory board for the development of the Pahari speaking people and the welfare of the Pahari people.

Four tribes to the list of Scheduled Tribes (ST)

- The **Hatti tribe** in the Trans-Giri area in Himachal Pradesh.
- The **Narikoravan and Kurivikkaran** hill tribes of Tamil Nadu.
- The **Binjhia** tribe in Chhattisgarh.
- The Cabinet also approved a proposal to bring the **Gond community** of Uttar Pradesh under the ST list.

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

- It has been established by amending **Article 338** and inserting a new **Article 338A** in the Indian Constitution through the 89th Amendment Act.

- It is a constitutional body.
- It consists of a **chairman, a vice-chairman** and three whole-time members (including a woman member).
- Its term is for **3 years** and the chairman is appointed by the **President**.
- It investigates and monitors matters relating to Safeguards provided for STs.
- Chairman - **Harsha Chauhan**
- Union Minister of Tribal Affairs - **Arjun Munda**