

April 2020

1. Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) becomes the first state in India to initiate Pool Testing of COVID-19.

- Note: ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research) has given its approval for pool testing to Uttar Pradesh (UP), making latter the first state to do so.

2. Uttar Pradesh becomes the first state to geotag its community kitchens and community shelters.

- The state government has also tied up with Google to ‘Geo-map’ the locations of all these establishments on the Google Maps app for ease of beneficiaries

3. Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) becomes the 1st state in India with a software-based in-house facility of virtual courts.

- The Allahabad High Court (U.P.) started new initiatives to facilitate court proceedings through video conferencing and recently software has been installed in the high court and district courts of the state

4. For the First time in India Railways uses New Track Construction machine for track construction:

- The Khurja-Dadri section is the connecting link between the Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridors on which freight trains run at a speed of 100 kmph ensuring fast logistics movement.

- Khurja-Dadri section of the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor, which is among the first tracks in India where the New Track Construction (NTC) machine is being used.
- The machine helps in bringing substantial ease and efficiency in track construction with integrated logistic arrangements for mechanized handling, movement and laying of heavy track components.

5. MHA (Ministry of Home Affairs) has approved the renaming of Manduadih railway station in Uttar Pradesh as 'Banaras'.

- While Kashi is the ancient name of the city, Varanasi is the amalgamation of *Varuna* and *Asi*, name of the two rivers in the region. Banaras, on the other hand, means *bana rahe ras*, which actually reflects the original culture of the city as people here know how to enjoy and live their lives to the fullest.

6. Uttar Pradesh(U.P.) Government Launches 'Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana' To Build Roads To 19 International Players Houses

- Under this Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana scheme 19, international players from the state will get road connectivity to their houses. Indian pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar, former pacer Praveen Kumar, Piyush Chawla and Mohammad Kaif are among the 19 athletes who will be benefited from the scheme.