Nationwide month-long Clean India Programme to be launched on 1 October

• The Department of Youth Affairs of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports organized the nationwide Clean India Programme from 1-31 October 2021.

• It was organized in 6 lakh villages of 744 districts across the country.

• The cleanliness drive was launched from Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh by the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sport, Anurag Thakur.

Kangana Ranaut named brand ambassador of Uttar Pradesh govt's ODOP scheme

• The Uttar Pradesh government on 1 October 2021 named actor Kangana Ranaut as the brand ambassador of its ambitious 'one district-one product' program.

• The UP government has launched the one district-one product (ODOP) program with the aim to create product-specific traditional industrial hubs across 75 districts of the state.

Nationwide River Ranching Programme launched in Uttar Pradesh

• The Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala, launched the River Ranching Programme at Brijghat, Garh Mukteshwar, UP, on 8 Oct'21.

• It was programmed to address increased fish catch, improved livelihood of fishers and to maintain the cleanliness of the river.

• It has been introduced as special activity under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana.

Uttar Pradesh govt increases honorarium of MGNREGA workers

• The Uttar Pradesh government has announced an increase in the honorarium of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) workers in the state from October 2021.

• The honorarium will now be Rs 10,000 to MGNREGA gram rozgars Rs 15,156 to computer operators, Rs 34,140 to an additional program officer, and Rs 15,656 to technical assistants.
PM Modi inaugurated Conference-cum-Expo in Lucknow on 5 October

- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated ‘Azadi@75 – New Urban India: Transforming Urban Landscape’ Conference-cum-Expo on 5th October 2021 in Lucknow.

- The Conference was organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) from 5-7 Oct'21.

- Prime Minister also announced the setting up of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Chair in Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU), Lucknow.

CRISP-M tool for Mahatma Gandhi NREG Scheme launched

- Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Giriraj Singh on 13 October 2021 launched Climate Resilience Information System and Planning (CRISP-M) tool.

- It has been launched for integration of climate information in Geographic Information System, GIS-based watershed planning.

- It has been launched in 7 states- MP, UP, Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh.

Uttar Pradesh government to set up 'Arogya Vatika' in schools

- Uttar Pradesh government has directed all state secondary schools to set up ‘Arogya Vatika’ (salubrity garden) in their premises.

- It will help conserve the environment, boost the immunity and well-being of students and their families.

- Plants like Tulsi, Giloy, Ashwagandha, stevia, Indian gooseberry, khas, Guava, Haldi, Sandal, Sahjan, and many more would be planted in the Vatika.

Seven UP aspirational districts in top 10 list of delta ranking

- UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has announced that of the eight aspirational districts in the state, seven had figured in the list of top 10 in the national July-August 2021 “delta ranking”.
• The seven districts are Fatehpur, Siddharthnagar, Sonbhadra, Chitrakoot, Bahraich, Shravasti, and Chandauli.

• “Delta ranking” is done by NITI Aayog of all the 112 aspirational districts in the country.

**Varanasi to become first Indian city to use ropeway services**

• India will be the third country in the world after Bolivia and Mexico city, to have a ropeway for public transport.

• The city of Varanasi will soon become the first Indian city to use ropeway services in public transportation.

• The ropeway service will cover a distance of 4.2 km aerially in the city of Varanasi.

• Nearly, 220 cable cars will run on the ropeway.

**Hunar Haat was organized in Rampur, Uttar Pradesh from 16-25 October 2021**

• Hunar Haat was organized in Rampur, Uttar Pradesh from 16th to 25th October 2021.

• It was based on the theme of "Best from Waste".

• It was organized as a part of series of 75 Hunar Haat going to be organized across the country under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

• Vishwakarma Vatika was one of the main attractions in Hunar Haat to be organized across the country.

**IIT Kanpur team identifies a novel target to treat prostate cancer**

• Researchers at IIT Kanpur have discovered that a particular gene (DLX1) has an important role to play in the growth and development of prostate cancer.

• It plays an important role in the development of jaws, skeleton, and interneurons in the brain.

• DLX1 protein is found at elevated levels in prostate cancer patients, the reason why the DLX1 protein has been used as a urine-based biomarker.

**Abhidhamma Day : 20 October 2021**
• Abhidhamma Day was observed on 20 October 2021.

• It is celebrated on the full moon of the seventh month of the Burmese lunar year.

• The seventh month corresponds to October.

• PM Modi was attend Abhidhamma Day Programme in UP on 20 October.

• Kushinagar is the final resting place of Gautama Buddha, where he attained Mahaparinirvana after his death.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurates Kushinagar International Airport

• The people of Uttar Pradesh have got another big gift. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 20 October 2021 inaugurated the Kushinagar International Airport built in Uttar Pradesh as part of an effort to connect Buddhist pilgrimage sites around the world.

• This will be the third international airport in Uttar Pradesh after the launch of Kushinagar Airport. At present there are international airports in Lucknow and Varanasi only. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that Kushinagar airport is the fruit of decades of expectations.

• The runway of Kushinagar International Airport is 3.2 km long and 45 meters wide, which is the longest runway in UP. Its runway can handle 8 flights every hour. This airport has been built at a cost of Rs 260 crore in collaboration with the Central and State Governments.

Conference on ‘Tourism in Buddhist Circuits – A way forward’ held

• Ministry of Tourism is organizing a two-day conference titled “Tourism in Buddhist Circuit – A way forward” on 20-21 Oct’21 at Kushinagar.

• The conference was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Tourism, Culture G. Kishan Reddy.

• During his address, he highlighted the Buddhist circuit around Kushinagar, Sravasti, and Kapilvastu that is being developed as a part of the SWADESH Darshan scheme.

Ashfaqullah Khan's birth anniversary : 22 October

• Ashfaqullah Khan's 121st birth anniversary was observed on 22 October 2021.

• Ashfaqullah Khan was an Indian independence activist and co-founder of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association.
• A strong opposer of the British Raj in India, Khan was born on October 22, 1900, in Shahjahanpur Uttar Pradesh.

• Khan was hanged to death with Ram Prasad Bismil, for their role in the Kakori train robbery of 1925.

**Uttar Pradesh government to rename Faizabad railway junction**

• Uttar Pradesh government has decided to rename Faizabad railway junction as Ayodhya Cantt railway station.

• Uttar Pradesh government in 2008 had renamed Faizabad as Ayodhya.

• Opened in 1874, the Faizabad railway station comes under the Northern Railway zone.

• The government had also changed the name of Mughalsarai railway junction to Pt Deen Dayal Upadhyay junction earlier.

**Shafey Kidwai comes up with book on Sir Syed Ahmad Khan**

• Shafey Kidwai has come up with his new book titled “Sir Syed Ahmad Khan: Reason, Religion And Nation”.

• The book is about Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, who was the founder of Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College that later became Aligarh Muslim University.

• He was an Islamic pragmatist, reformer, philosopher, and educationist.

• 17 October 2021 marked the 204th birth anniversary of Sir Syed Khan.

**PM Modi launched the Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana (PM-ASBY)**

• Prime Minister Narendra Modi was visited Uttar Pradesh to launch Pradhan Mantri Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana (PM-ASBY) on 25 October 2021.

• He also inaugurated nine medical colleges in the State.

• This Yojana will be one of the largest pan-India schemes for strengthening healthcare infrastructure across the country.

• It will be in addition to the National Health Mission.
Ahmedabad and Lucknow: The two new teams of the IPL

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on 25 October 2021 unveiled Ahmedabad and Lucknow as the two new teams for the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022.
- The RPSG Group picked Lucknow with a winning bid of Rs 7090 crores while CVC Capital Partners have opted for Ahmedabad with a bid of Rs 5625 crores.
- The IPL 2022 season will comprise ten teams and will have 74 matches.

52nd edition of IHGF-DELHI FAIR – AUTUMN 2021 inaugurated

- The 52nd edition of IHGF-DELHI FAIR – AUTUMN 2021 was held from 28th to 31st Oct 2021 at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida Expressway.
- It was inaugurated by Ramdas Athawale, Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment.
- India Handicraft and Gift Fair (IHGF) is amongst Asia’s largest gifts & handicrafts fair, held biannually (Spring & Autumn edition).

Ganga Utsav 2021 to be organised from 1st to 3rd November

- Ganga Utsav 2021 will be organised in 150 districts from 1st to 3rd Nov’21.
- This year, the aim will be to take Ganga Utsav 2021 to the various river basins in India and promote the celebration of ‘Nadi Utsav’ (River Festival)
- National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) celebrates Ganga Utsav every year to mark the anniversary of the announcement of River Ganga as the ‘National River’.