

UP Specific Current Affairs March 2021

UP government orders removal of all roadside religious structures

• Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has taken strict steps to remove the increasing encroachment on the roads. The UP government has issued orders to remove encroachments on roads in the name of religious places.

Uttar Pradesh government to launch Arjuna Sahayak irrigation Project

• The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath informed on March 10, 2021, that Arjuna Sahayak Irrigation Project worth Rs. 2,600 crores will bring positive changes in the lives of the farmers of Hamirpur, Mahoba, and Banda in the Bundelkhand region which was denied to them by the previous governments.

Shri Ram University will be built in Ayodhya with the help of private sector

• The government of Uttar Pradesh is going to build Sri Ram University in Ayodhya. This university will be the largest center for research on Lord Rama's culture. Proposals were also sought from private sector for this work. With the construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya, development has also knocked.

• Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Dinesh Sharma said that the Sri Ram University will be set up in Ayodhya in the private sector, with research on various Ramayanas. Ritual training will also be given. He said that if the proposal is received from the Ayodhya Festival Trust, then it will be provincialized like Deepotsav.

58,000 bank correspondents Sakhi appointed

• At least 58,000 Bank Correspondent (BC) Sakhis have been appointed in UP under the "Ek Gram Panchayat Ek Banking Correspondent" scheme.

• Through these, promotion and awareness of various financial inclusion products along with banking facilities will be carried out in the future.

Noida airport signs agreement with UP govt.

• Noida International Airport (NIA) and the Government of UP have signed a state support agreement.

• The agreement lays down the state government's support to establish and continuously improve surface access to the airport.

• In Oct 2020, UP govt had signed a concession agreement with Zurich Airport International (ZAIA) to commence the development of the Noida International Airport at Jewar.

Communicable disease control drive in Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has launched the communicable disease control drive and Dastak Abhiyan in Varanasi.
- The communicable disease control drive will run from March 1-31, 2021.
- The CM also informed that there has been a 75 percent drop in the Japanese encephalitis (JE) cases and a 95 percent fall in the number of JE deaths since 2017.

Dr. Harsh Vardhan inaugurates 'Desikan Bhawan'

- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the new research building 'Desikan Bhawan' on 6 March 2021 at ICMR-NJIL and OMD, Agra.
- The building is dedicated to research facilities like animal experimentation, COVID-19 diagnosis, whole-genome sequencing, etc.
- The capacity of COVID-19 Diagnostic Laboratory is around 1200 samples per day.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurates 27 power substations

- UP CM Yogi Adityanath on 6 March 2021 inaugurated 27 power substations developed at a cost of Rs 1,920 cr by UP Power Transmission Corporation Limited (UPPTCL).
- He informed that electricity is being provided to farmers of the state and it has helped reduce the cost of farming and improve productivity.

First flight to Bareilly flagged off

- Hardeep Singh Puri, Civil Aviation Minister, on 8 March 2021, flagged off the first flight from Delhi to the newly upgraded Trishul Military Airbase, Bareilly Airport, Uttar Pradesh.
- The Bareilly airport has been upgraded for commercial flight operations under the Regional Connectivity Scheme of the Government of India.
- It marks the commencement of the 56th airport under the UDAN scheme.

Two-day Gur Mahotsav underway in Lucknow

- Gur Mahotsav or Jaggery Festival, two-day event was inaugurated by CM Yogi Adityanath on 6 March 2021 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- The aim of this event is to motivate the jaggery producers to make high-quality jaggery & its products and create awareness about health benefits of jaggery.

UP govt launches 2nd phase of Mission Shakti

- Uttar Pradesh government launched the 2nd phase of Mission Shakti on the occasion of International women's day on 8 March 2021.
- Under this Mission, CM Yogi Adityanath inaugurated women's special Police stations in 18 districts along with pink booths and pink toilets.
- The 'First Adarsh Mahila Barrack' in Mahila Thana, Muzaffarnagar was also inaugurated.

Uttar Pradesh to get 16 new ITIs

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has issued directives to set up 16 new Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) based on a PPP model, across the state.
- The move is a part of the initiative to make the youth efficient and skilled and to provide them with decent job opportunities.
- At present, over 1.72 lakh students are undergoing skill training at 305 ITIs in Uttar Pradesh.

Uttar Pradesh government launches a campaign

- Uttar Pradesh govt has launched a campaign to make golden cards of the Ayushman Bharat scheme across the state.
- It aims to drive awareness about Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) across the state.
- The campaign will run from 10-24 March'21.
- Under this, a free Ayushman golden card will be given to those families who have still not taken the benefit of the scheme.

3000 HP cape gauge locomotive flagged off

- Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal flagged off 3000 HP Cape Gauge Locomotive for export to Mozambique on 10 March 2021.
- These locomotives are developed indigenously by Banaras Locomotive Works, Varanasi.
- Indian Railways is exporting the first batch of 2 locomotives as part of the total order of 6 locomotives of 3000 HP cape gauge locomotive.

Prof AK Singh: New VC of PRSU, Prayagraj

- Prof Akhilesh Kumar Singh has been appointed as the new Vice-Chancellor of Prof Rajendra Singh (Rajju Bhaiya) University Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh.

- He has been appointed by the Chancellor of the university and UP Governor Anandiben Patel for a term of three years.

'Kalanamak' Rice Festival held in UP

- The Uttar Pradesh govt organised a three-day 'Kalanamak Rice Festival' in the Siddharthnagar district from March 13, 2021.
- UP CM Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the festival.
- Kala Namak Rice, grown in this region, is One District One Product (ODOP) of some Eastern UP districts.
- Those who attended the festival tasted the dishes made with Kala Namak rice and also purchased Kala Namak paddy seeds.

HFCL wins order worth ₹221 crore

- Telecom equipment major HFCL has won a ₹221 crore order from the Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation for setting up telecommunication systems for the Kanpur and Agra metro projects.
- It will set up the telecommunication systems for 32.4 km (corridors one and two) of Kanpur Metro and 14 km (corridor one) of Agra Metro projects.
- The work for projects will be completed in the next 33 months.

Memorial of Captain Manoj Pandey

- Chief of Army Staff General MM Naravane has dedicated to the people the memorial of Param Vir Chakra awardee Captain Manoj Pandey at his native village Rura in Sitapur district of Uttar Pradesh.
- Captain Pandey had laid down his life in the 1999 Kargil war.
- The memorial was constructed under the aegis of Surya Command.

Shehnai festival starts at Banaras Hindu University

- As a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, a 3-day Shehnai festival started at Banaras Hindu University campus Varanasi on 21 March 2021.
- The Sangeet Natak Academy and the music and performing arts faculty of BHU have come together to organize this music festival.
- This musical evening is organized to remember the shehnai Maestro Bharat Ratna Ustad Bismillah Khan on his birth anniversary.

Uttar Pradesh CM to establish 3 PAC women battalions

- UP CM Yogi Adityanath has announced to establish three PAC women battalions named after female warriors.
- The Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) battalions will be established after women warriors- Rani Avantibai Lodhi, Uda Devi, and Jhalkaribai who sacrificed themselves in India's freedom struggle.
- These will be set up in Badaun, Lucknow, and Gorakhpur.

Uttar Pradesh cabinet approves a proposal

- The Uttar Pradesh cabinet has approved a proposal for the acquisition of another 1,365 hectare land in Jewar for the second phase of the upcoming Noida International Airport.
- The cabinet also approved an expenditure of ₹2,890 crore for the land acquisition, besides resettlement and rehabilitation of the people who will be affected by the expansion of the greenfield project.

Uttar Pradesh CM launches UPFPO Shakti Portal

- UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has launched UPFPO Shakti Portal as part of Kisan Kalyan Mission.
- The portal, which is the first of its kind in the country, is aimed at benefitting the farmers at the grassroots level.
- The Farmer Producer Organization-centric (FPO-centric) portal will bring farmers, producer groups, traders, and the agriculture and other allied departments on one platform.

Jal Shakti Ministry ties up with UN

- The Jal Shakti Ministry has entered a partnership with the United Nations Office for Project Services and the government of Denmark.
- It will help bring tap water connections to 11 water-scarce districts in Uttar Pradesh's water-starved Bundelkhand and Vindhya regions under the Jal Jeevan mission.
- The project will include capacity-building support, with the creation of village action plans.

UP government organises 'banana festival'

- UP government organised a 'Banana Festival' in Kushinagar from March 22 to 25, 2021.
- It witnessed the participation of at least 35 farmers and entrepreneurs.

- At least 4,000 farmers are linked to banana cultivation and after inclusion in the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme, around 500 people are employed in its processing.

Kanpur to be made police Commissionerate

- The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has given its nod to change two more cities – Kanpur and Varanasi – into police Commissionerate.
- The police Commissionerate system was introduced earlier in Lucknow and Gautam Budh Nagar (Noida) districts.
- The system gives more powers, including magisterial powers, to police officers and is aimed at better and effective policing.

Gram Ujala Yojana started in Varanasi

- Union Power Minister RK Singh launched the Gram Ujala Yojana in Varanasi on 24 March 2021.
- Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL), a subsidiary company of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) under this program, provides high quality LED bulbs per bulb in rural areas of Varanasi.
- Under the first phase of the Gram Ujala program, 1.50 crore LED bulbs will be distributed in the villages of five districts.

Gorakhpur-Lucknow flight to be flagged off

- UP CM Yogi Adityanath will flag off a flight service from Gorakhpur to Lucknow on 28 March 2021.
- With this new flight service from Gorakhpur, the number of flights to seven major cities including New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Prayagraj will increase to 12.
- He will also lay the foundation stone for the expansion of the Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath Airport terminal building.

UP government to launch rental housing scheme

- The Uttar Pradesh government will start an affordable rental housing scheme for the students, poor people living in cities and the urban migrants.
- A proposal for the Affordable Rental Housing and Complexes (ARHC) scheme was approved by the Uttar Pradesh cabinet on 26 March 2021.
- Preference will be given to people belonging to SC/STs, OBCs, widows, working women and minorities.

Residential Hockey centre of excellence

- A centre of excellence in hockey will be soon set up in the Uttar Pradesh capital, Lucknow.
- This would be the first advanced excellence centre for hockey in the state
- 100-bed hostel for boys and girls, modern sports medicine and physiotherapy centres as well as top coaches would be part of the centre.
- It will be run by the Uttar Pradesh Sports Directorate.

UP State with maximum international airports

- Uttar Pradesh will soon be the state with maximum number of international airports in the country.
- The state will soon have five international airports.
- The Jewar international airport is coming up in the NCR region, will be ready by 2023.
- International airport in Ayodhya is expected to start in early 2023.
- Upcoming Kushinagar airport will be the 3rd licensed international airport in UP.

UP Shaheed Ashfaq Ulla Khan Park inaugurated

- Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath inaugurated Shaheed Ashfaq Ulla Khan Zoological Park in Gorakhpur on 27 Mar'21.
- This is the 1st zoo in Purvanchal and 3rd in the state.
- The zoo has been named after great freedom fighter Shaheed Ashfaq Ullah Khan.
- The zoo also has 7D theatre with state-of-the-art facilities where audience will experience 13 effects, such as rain, lightning, fog & fragrance.