

DAILY PT POINTERS

28th October, 2023



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: GS 2-Polity and Governance (Page 1)

Panel holds back its report on crime Bills

Opposition protests the speed at which the Bills were reviewed by Parliamentary Standing Committee, and the lack of consultations

Crime and punishment

These are some of the recommendations by the Standing Committee, as per the draft report circulated so far



- Section 377 of the IPC be retained for cases of non-consensual intercourse with adults, all acts of carnal intercourse with minors, etc.

- The draft report seeks to retain section 497 IPC on adultery, making it gender neutral

- It recommends that handcuffs should not be used on economic offenders

- It rejects the Opposition's contention on the Hindi nomenclature of the Bills

- The government introduced three bills in the Lok Sabha to replace laws that form the backbone of criminal jurisprudence in India: the Indian Penal Code (1860), the Indian Evidence Act (1872), and the Criminal Procedure Act (1898). With Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Sakshya (BS), and Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) .
- the government aims to achieve a transformation in the criminal justice system and ensure delivery of justice within a maximum of three years.



HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu : GS 3- Cyber Crime (Page 1)

Dark pattern sales deemed 'cybercrime'

Online malpractices by airlines, travel portals are "cybercrime", says Consumer Affairs Secretary; Ministry to examine complaints about paid airline seats, denied boarding, delays in refunds

October 28, 2023 12:40 am | Updated 06:58 am IST - NEW DELHI

JAGRITI CHANDRA

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has received nearly 10,000 complaints related to **Dark patterns'** through the National Consumers Helpline over the last eight to nine months.

- A dark pattern refers to a design or user interface technique that is intentionally crafted to manipulate or deceive users into making certain choices or taking specific actions that may not be in their best interest. It is a deceptive practice employed to influence user behaviour in a way that benefits the company implementing it.
- The Department of Consumer Affairs and the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) recently held a joint consultation with stakeholders on the menace of 'dark patterns'.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu: GS 2-Polity and Governance (Page 5)

Bharadwaj seeks action against officials for stalling scheme for accident victims

'23,000 road accident victims have been provided cashless treatment at private hospitals under Dilli ke Farishtey scheme'

October 28, 2023 01:05 am | Updated 01:05 am IST - NEW DELHI:

- The Delhi government launched the Farishtey scheme on February 15, 2018, to reward people who offer immediate assistance to road accident victims within the 'golden hour' and provide cashless treatment at the nearest private hospital.
- Around 23,000 such victims have been provided treatment under the scheme since its launch.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu : GS 2/Polity and Governance (Page 10)

Merely liking a post not an offence under IT Act, rules Allahabad High Court

Sharing or retweeting a post would amount to “transmitting” under Section 67 of the Information Technology Act thereby attracting penal consequences, the High Court ruled

October 27, 2023 08:59 pm | Updated October 28, 2023 12:51 am IST - New Delhi

THE HINDU BUREAU

COMMENTS SHARE

READ LATER



- Liking a post on social media applications like Facebook or X (formerly Twitter) cannot be punishable under Section 67 of the Information Technology Act because it does not amount to “publishing or transmitting” the post, the Allahabad High Court has now held in a recent judgement, adding that the provision can be attracted if a person had instead shared or retweeted it.
- **Do you know ?**
The Information Technology Act, 2000 (“IT Act”) penalises publishing or transmission of material containing sexually explicit act in electronic form (section 67A and 67B) and publishing or transmitting of obscene material in electronic form (section 67), and makes them punishable with imprisonment for a period that may extend to three and five years respectively, and as per section 77B such cybercrimes are cognizable offences

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu : GS 3/ Economy (Page 14)

Mango exports rose 19% in April-August period as 41 countries bought pulpy fruit



- Mango exports from India have risen 19% in the first five months of 2023-24, with the U.S. importing more than 2,000 metric tonnes of the pulpy fruit which has found takers in 41 countries this year, including new markets like South Africa, Iran and the Czech Republic.
- While India exported almost 23,000 metric tonnes of mangoes worth a little more than \$40 million between April and August 2022, shipment volumes as well as values have risen 19% over the same period this year
- New Zealand emerged as the second highest importer of mangoes, with 110 metric tonnes of shipments, followed by Australia (58.4 MT) and Japan (43.1 MT). South Africa also imported 18.43 MT of mangoes after the nation's officials jointly supervised the fruit's pre-shipment vapour heat treatment with Indian authorities.

Indian Express : Infrastructure (GSIII) Page 5

Enhancing infrastructure and security along India's northern border

In response to the ongoing geopolitical tension and security concerns along its northern border with China, the Central government embarked on a comprehensive initiative to bolster infrastructure and security in the region. The key components and implications of this multi-faceted project include the allocation of funds for the Vibrant Villages Programme and the construction of the Shinku-La tunnel.

The Union Cabinet of India approved the allocation of Rs 4,800 crore for the Vibrant Villages Programme and authorised the induction of over 9,000 troops into the ITBP. These initiatives are part of a broader strategy to enhance the living conditions in border areas, strengthen security measures and facilitate better connectivity in the northern regions of Uttarakhand and other states.

VIBRANT VILLAGES PROGRAMME

The Vibrant Villages Programme, a centrally sponsored scheme, is designed to revitalise villages in border regions. Of the total allocated amount, Rs 2,500 crore will be invested in creating vital road infrastructure, which is crucial for connectivity and accessibility in these remote areas. The programme aims to transform 663 border villages, reducing migration and fortifying border security.

The Ministry of Home Affairs emphasised the importance of encouraging residents to stay in their native villages, ultimately enhancing security by increasing the local population's in-

KEY FEATURES OF VIBRANT VILLAGES PROGRAMME

- A total of 2,967 villages situated in 46 blocks across 19 districts along the northern border regions of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Ladakh have been earmarked for comprehensive development.

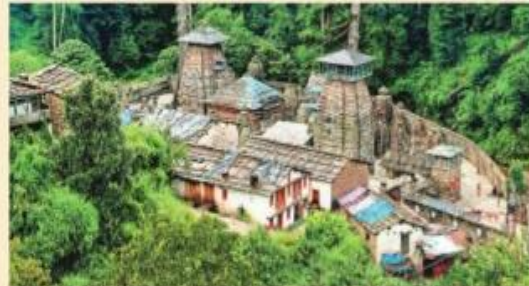
- The first phase of the programme will encompass 662 villages within these 46 blocks, benefitting approximately 1.42 lakhs of the population.

- A substantial sum of Rs 4,800 crore has been allocated for expenditure between 2022 and 2026. The first phase encompasses 11 districts, 28 blocks, and 1,451 villages.

- The ambitious development work under this project revolves around three primary objectives, guided by the 'Hub and Spoke Model':

- i. The first objective focusses on promoting social entrepreneurship, empowering youth and women through skill development and entrepreneurship.

- ii. The second stage aims to unlock tourism potential by showcasing local



culture, traditional knowledge, and heritage.

- iii. The final stage envisions sustainable eco-agribusiness based on the concept of 'One Village One Product' (OVOP) through community-based organisations and NGOs.

- The three main phases of implementation intend to halt migration from villages along the entire northern border, promote tourism and provide urban-like facilities.

- The programme also includes plans to establish several ITBP (Indo-Tibetan Border Police) units and en-

hance their infrastructure with an investment of Rs 120 crore, which is crucial for bolstering the security framework in the border areas.

- The government has set a target of achieving these objectives within a five-year timeframe, aiming to uplift India's border regions that have faced developmental challenges. Collaborative efforts involving pan-chayats, Gram sabhas and various administrative entities at the block, district, and state levels are integral to reaching these goals in the border areas.

- Government has approved Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP) as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 15th February, 2023 for comprehensive development of the select villages in 46 blocks in 19 districts of abutting northern border in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and UT of Ladakh.
- The programme envisages focused areas of interventions in the select villages for creation of opportunities for livelihood generation through promotion of tourism & cultural heritage, skill development & entrepreneurship and development of cooperative societies including agriculture/horticulture, cultivation of medicinal plants/herbs etc. the interventions also include providing road connectivity to unconnected villages, housing & village infrastructures, energy including renewable energy, television & telecom connectivity.
- The objective of the programme is to create sufficient incentives for people to stay on in the selected villages.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



Indian Express: GS II / Polity and Governance (Page 8)

PM to lay foundation for Amrit Vatika

The Vatika will be situated adjacent to the Netaji Bose statue under the Grand Canopy and the National War Memorial, the newest landmark will celebrate 75 years of Independence and honour the valour of the unsung freedom fighters.

Written by [Divya A](#) [Follow](#)

New Delhi | October 28, 2023 05:53 IST



ADVERTISEMENT



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone for Amrit Vatika Tuesday evening, for which the soil from across 766 districts has been collected.
- The Vatika will be situated adjacent to the Netaji Bose statue under the Grand Canopy and the National War Memorial, the newest landmark will celebrate 75 years of Independence and honour the valour of the unsung freedom fighters.
- The event will also mark the finale of the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign at Kartavya Path, wherein representatives from all 766 districts will be present.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

**Indian Express: Polity and Governance –GS II/
Environment –GS III (Page 14)**

PM eBus Sewa: Tenders for 3,000 electric buses for small cities soon

The PM e-Bus Sewa had found a mention in the India-United States joint statement released after the meeting of US President Joe Biden with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in September.



- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved a bus scheme “PM-eBus Sewa” for augmenting city bus operation by 10,000 e-buses on the PPP model.
- The Scheme would have an estimated cost of Rs.57,613 crore, out of which support of Rs.20,000 crore will be provided as Central assistance.
- The Scheme will support bus operations for 10 years and will cover cities of three lakh and above population as per the census 2011 including all the Capital cities of Union Territories, North Eastern Region and Hill States. Under this scheme, priority will be given to cities having no organized bus service. The scheme will generate 45,000 to 55,000 direct jobs through the deployment of around 10,000 buses.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: Miscellaneous (Page 15)

The biggest science awards go to... the mer

Since 1958, only 20 of the 592 Bhatnagar prizes – among the most prestigious science awards in India have gone to women scientists. Why the glass ceiling is so hard to punch through

Written by [Anuradha Mascarenhas](#) [Follow](#)



ADVERTISEMENT



The award is named after the founder Director of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) India, the late Dr (Sir) Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar and is known as the 'Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar (SSB) Prize for Science and Technology'. The Prize is given each year for outstanding contributions to science and technology.

Nature of the Prize

SSB Prizes, each of the value of Rs 5,00,000 (Rupees five lakh only), are awarded annually for notable and outstanding research, applied or fundamental, in the following disciplines: (i) Biological Sciences, (ii) Chemical Sciences, (iii) Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences, (iv) Engineering Sciences, (v) Mathematical Sciences, (vi) Medical Sciences and (vii) Physical Sciences.

Eligibility

Any citizen of India engaged in research in any field of science and technology up to the age of 45 years as reckoned on 31st December of the year preceding the year of the Prize. Overseas citizen of India (OCI) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) working in India are also eligible.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: Economy (Page 20)

Inform customers when banks ask for their credit score: What RBI has told credit bureaus

You can also access your full credit report for free once a year. What other instructions has the central bank issued to banks and credit information companies?



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed credit information companies (CICs) to alert customers through SMS or email when their Credit Information Report (CIR) is accessed by banks and non-banking finance companies (NBFCs).
- CICs maintain and analyse the consumer and business credit information of individuals and companies across the country, as provided to them by banks and NBFCs.
- Based on this information, a CIC calculates and generates credit scores for individuals and credit ranks for companies as per their creditworthiness and past credit history.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB : Economy (GS 3)

From November 1st, 2023, bidders can purchase 200 MT wheat through Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic)

Total wheat quantity offered per e-auction also increased to 3 LMT from 2 MT

To avoid hoarding of wheat stocks, 1627 checks made

- Under the Open Market Sale Scheme, the FCI from time to time sells surplus food grains from the central pool especially wheat and rice in the open market to traders, bulk consumers, retail chains and so on at pre-determined prices.
- The Corporation does this through e-auctions where open market bidders can buy specified quantities at the prices set at the start of a cycle and revised routinely