



# DAILY PT POINTERS

1<sup>st</sup> January, 2024



# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



## The Hindu: GS2-Welfare Schemes / GS3-Economy (Page 1)

### Aadhar-linked pay becomes mandatory for MGNREGS workers

The Centre mandates payment of all MGNREGA wages through Aadhaar-based system though 34.8% of registered workers and 12.7% of active workers are not eligible; 7.6 crore job cards deleted since April 2022

December 31, 2023 08:09 pm | Updated 09:07 pm IST - NEW DELHI



SOBHANA K. NAIR

COMMENTS SHARE

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- The Government of India passed the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 in September, 2005.
- The Act gives legal guarantee of a hundred days of wage employment in a financial year to adult members of a rural household who demand employment and are willing to do unskilled manual work.
- As per the Para 15 of Schedule-II of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, “Priority shall be given to women in such a way that at least one-third of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



## The Hindu : GS2-Polity and Governance (Page 1 )

### Government appoints Arvind Panagariya as sixteenth Finance Commission chief

The Finance Ministry on Sunday notified President Draupadi Murmu's order for Mr. Panagariya's appointment as the chief of the critical Constitutional body, whose terms of reference were approved by the Cabinet on November 29

December 31, 2023 03:20 pm | Updated 04:39 pm IST - NEW DELHI

THE HINDU BUREAU

COMMENTS SHARE

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- The Finance Commission is a Constitutionally mandated body that is at the centre of fiscal federalism.
- Set up under Article 280 of the Constitution, its core responsibility is to evaluate the state of finances of the Union and State Governments, recommend the sharing of taxes between them, lay down the principles determining the distribution of these taxes among States.
- As per the terms of reference of the Sixteenth Finance Commission, apart from recommendations on the tax sharing formula between the Centre and the States, it has been tasked with reviewing the present arrangements for financing Disaster Management initiatives and mooted measures to augment States' consolidated funds in order to supplement resources available with Panchayats and Municipalities.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## The Hindu: GSIII-Security Agencies (Page 12)

### 'NIA achieved conviction rate of 94.7% in 2023'

DEVESH K. PANDEY  
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) achieved a phenomenal conviction rate of 94.7%, arrested 625 accused, and attached assets worth about ₹56 crore in 2023. The agency cracked down on the nexus between pro-Khalistan operatives, gangsters, and drug smugglers, and also carried out operations against the modules linked to the Islamic State and other banned terror outfits.

There was an increase of nearly 28% in the number of arrests compared with 490 in 2022. Among those arrested were 65 allegedly related to the IS, 114 in the other "jihadi terror" cases, 45 accused of human trafficking, 28 accused of terrorist and organised criminal activity, and 76 linked to the Left-Wing Extremism cases, the agency said on Sunday.

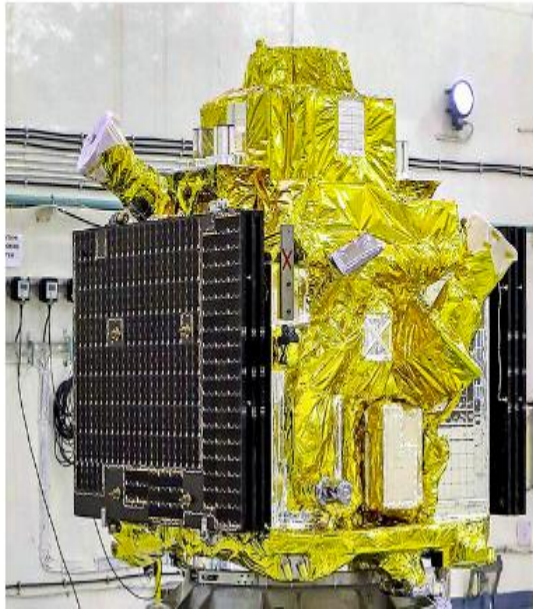
- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has been constituted under the NIA Act, 2008 to investigate and prosecute offences affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of India, security of State, friendly relations with foreign States and offences under Acts enacted to implement international treaties, agreements, conventions and resolutions of the United Nations, its agencies and other International organisations and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: GSIII-S&T (Page 20)

WHAT IS IT?

## XPoSat: ISRO's X-ray eye in the sky



- XPoSat (X-ray Polarimeter Satellite) is India's first dedicated polarimetry mission to study various dynamics of bright astronomical X-ray sources in extreme conditions.
- The spacecraft will carry two scientific payloads in a low earth orbit.
- The primary payload POLIX (Polarimeter Instrument in X-rays) will measure the polarimetry parameters (degree and angle of polarization) in medium X-ray energy range of 8-30 keV photons of astronomical origin.
- The XSPECT (X-ray Spectroscopy and Timing) payload will give spectroscopic information in the energy range of 0.8-15 keV.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: GSII-Health

## Over 1 lakh people availed free treatment under Delhi Arogya Kosh scheme till October

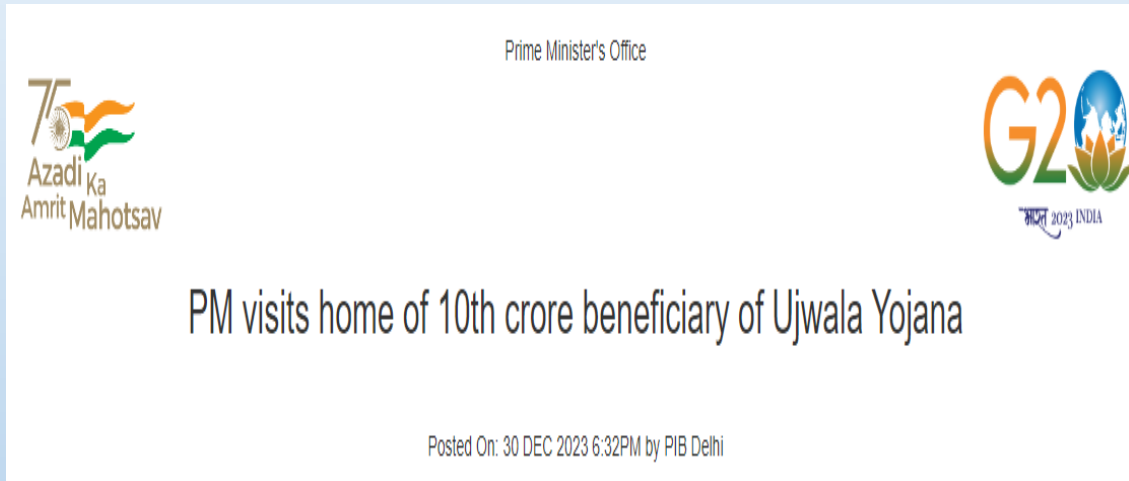
The data also shows that treatment provided under the Farishtey Scheme has been increasing in comparison to 2022. Officials said the amount spent under the scheme had also increased.



Delhi Arogya Kosh” (DAK) is a registered society which provides financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 5 lacs to the needy eligible patients for treatment of any illness /disease in Government Hospital

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: GSII-Health / GSIII-Environment



- In May 2016, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOPNG), introduced the 'Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana' (PMUY) as a flagship scheme with an objective to make clean cooking fuel such as LPG available to the rural and deprived households which were otherwise using traditional cooking fuels such as firewood, coal, cow-dung cakes etc. Usage of traditional cooking fuels had detrimental impacts on the health of rural women as well as on the environment.
- The scheme was launched on 1st May 2016 in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri. Narendra Modi.
- The beneficiaries are identified either from Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) list or from seven other identified categories such as Scheduled Caste(SC) Households, Scheduled Tribe(ST) Households, Most Backward Classes (MBC), Beneficiaries of PM Awas Yojana (Gramin), Beneficiaries of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Forest Dwellers, Resident of islands/ river islands, Tea garden / ex-tea garden workers or Poor households not covered under the above categories.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

**Air: GSIII-Defence**

Joint Military Exercise 'Desert Cyclone 2024'  
between India and UAE to be held in  
Rajasthan



- The Joint Military Exercise 'Desert Cyclone 2024' between India and UAE will be held from January 2 to January 15 in Rajasthan.
- The joint drills under 'Desert Cyclone 2024' will aim to enhance interoperability by learning and sharing best practices in urban operations
  - The first-ever India-UAE Joint Air Forces exercise took place in September 2008 at the Al-Dhafra base in Abu Dhabi.



## HEADLINES OF THE DAY

**Air: Miscellaneous**

Three-day National Street Food Festival 2023  
concludes at JLN Stadium in New Delhi

- The three-day National Street Food Festival 2023 concluded yesterday at JLN Stadium in New Delhi.
- The street food festival was organized by the National Association of Street Vendors of India NASVI.
- It is the first Zero Waste Street Food Festival in India. Stalls from 22 Indian states along with from Turkey, Afghanistan and Nepal participated in the festivals.