



DAILY PT POINTERS

15th January, 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: Art and Culture (GS1) (Page 2)

Sabarimala gears up for Makaravilakku; pilgrims crowd hills

THE HINDU BUREAU
PATHANAMTHITTA



Makaravilakku festival is observed on the day of Makar Sankranti in Kerala. The auspicious festival of Makar Sankranti marks the transition of the sun to the Makara Rashi (Capricorn) from the Dhanu Rashi (Sagittarius). It is said that the northward journey of the sun (Uttarayan) begins on this day, making the celebrations quite auspicious.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

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- Bihu is the essence of Assam and is celebrated across the state with a tremendous zeal and enthusiasm.
- There are three Bihu festivals namely 'Bohag Bihu' celebrated in the month of 'Bohag' (Baisakh, the middle of April), 'Magh Bihu' celebrated in the month of 'Magh' (the middle of January), and 'Kati Bihu' celebrated in the month of 'Kati' (Kartik, the middle of October).
- Each of the Bihu festival has its own significance and is celebrated with its own traditions.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu –Welfare Schemes (GS II)-Page 5

Modi to release ₹540 crore for PM-JANMAN beneficiaries



- The Union Cabinet has approved Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN) with total outlay of Rs.24,104 crore (Central Share:Rs.15,336 crore and State Share: Rs.8,768 crore) to focus on 11 critical interventions through 9 line Ministries.
- The PM-JANMAN (comprising Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes) to focus on 11 critical interventions through 9 Ministries including Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- It is aimed to improve socio-economic conditions of the PVTGs by saturating PVTG households and habitations with basic facilities such as safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health and nutrition, electricity, road and telecom connectivity, and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

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The Hindu : Art and Culture (GS1) Page 6

Rising sea, shrinking sands erode vibrancy of Ganga Sagar Mela



- Every year during Gangasagar mela, devotees from all over the country gather at the confluence of the Ganga and the Bay of Bengal to take a sacred dip during Makar Sankranti (mid-January).
- Gangasagar is an island in the Ganges delta located on the continental shelf of the Bay of Bengal roughly 100 kilometres (54 nautical miles) south of Kolkata,
- The mela is said to be India's second largest pilgrimage gathering after the Kumbh Mela

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The Hindu : Art and Culture (GS1) Page 6

The spirit of Pongal evokes 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat': PM



- Pongal is a harvest festival celebrated by the Tamil community. It is a celebration to thank the Sun, Mother Nature and the various farm animals that help to contribute to a bountiful harvest. Celebrated over four days, Pongal also marks the beginning of the Tamil month called *Thai*, which is considered an auspicious month. It usually falls on the 14th or 15th of January each year.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu : Indian Express- (GS2) Page 17

Govt likely to unveil new PMAY-G version with 85% higher financial assistance

PRASANTA SAHU
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 14

THE GOVERNMENT may unveil a new version of the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana- Gramin (PMAY-G) for the next five years, with financial assistance 85 per cent higher than under the current scheme for each beneficiary, to build pucca houses in rural areas.

Currently, under the PMAY-G, the beneficiaries are provided financial assistance of Rs 1.2 lakh in plains and Rs 1.3 lakh in hilly states – Northeastern states and union territories (UTs) of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh – as well as difficult areas and Integrated Action Plan (IAP) districts. Under the revamped scheme, the cash support will likely be enhanced to an average of Rs 2.39 lakh/housing unit, according to official sources.

The current version of PMAY-G will run only till the end of the current fiscal.



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is being offered under PM JANMAN, the official added.

An announcement could be expected in interim Budget 2024-25 to be presented in Parliament on February 1.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that uplifting the poor, youth, women and farmers are his priority areas to make the country a developed nation.

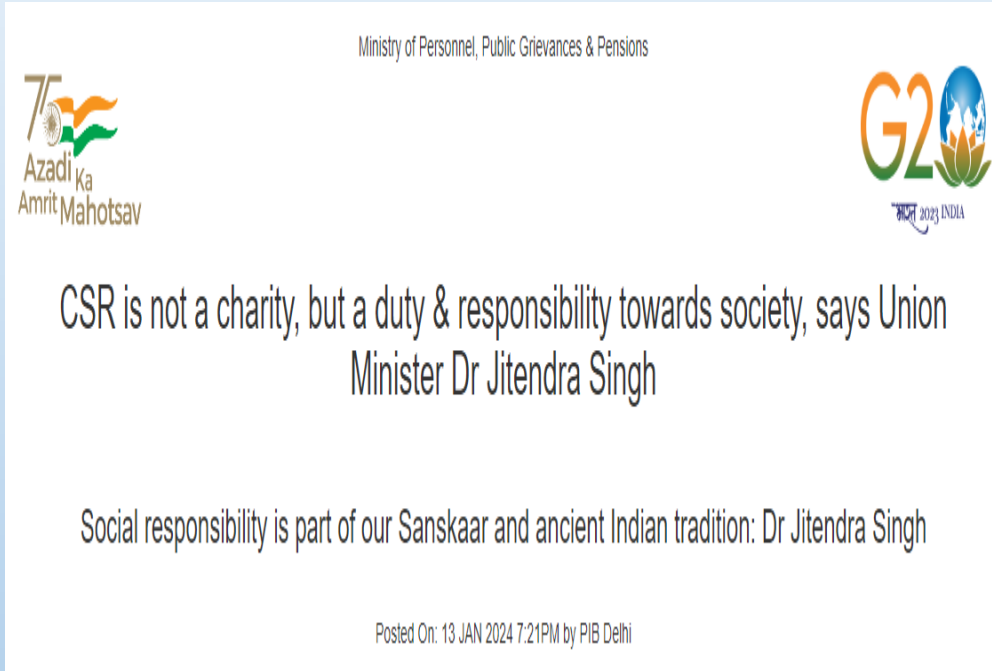
April 1, 2016, to assist in constructing 29.5 million pucca houses with basic amenities. Out of the overall target, 29.46 million houses have been sanctioned to states, out of which, 25.4 million houses have been completed as of January 14, 2024.

The government may save around Rs 18,000 crore in PMAY-

- The Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana- Gramin (PMAY-G) is being implemented with effect from 1st April, 2016 to provide assistance to eligible rural households with an overall target to construct 2.95 crore pucca houses with basic amenities by 31st March 2024
- The identification of beneficiaries under PMAY-G is based on the housing deprivation parameters and exclusion criteria prescribed under Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC)-2011 and due verification by the respective Gram Sabhas and completion of an Appellate Process.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Economy





- On April 1, 2014, India became the first country in the world to legally mandate corporate social responsibility.
- The rules in Section 135 of the Companies Act 2013 make it mandatory for companies of a certain turnover and profitability to spend 2% of their average net profit for the past three years on corporate social responsibility activities.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB : Miscellaneous

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

BEACH GAMES 2024, DIU

Madhya Pradesh emerges overall Champion of first ever Beach Games held in Diu

Tiny Lakshadweep stuns mighty Maharashtra to win Beach Soccer Gold

Successful conduct of Diu Beach Games lay foundation for exciting sporting events by the Sea – Shri Anurag Singh Thakur

Posted On: 13 JAN 2024 12:04PM by PIB Delhi



- The Beach Games 2024, the first multi-sports beach games in India, organized at the pristine blue flag certified Ghoghla Beach in Diu concluded with landlocked Madhya Pradesh emerging overall champion, topping the medal tally with a total of 18 medals, including an impressive haul of 7 golds.
- This remarkable feat not only showcased the sporting prowess of Madhya Pradesh's contingent but also highlighted the depth of talent fostered within the state.

Do you know ?

India is geographically gifted with some of the most beautiful beaches in the world. 12 of the beaches in India have Blue Flag certification given to cleanest beaches promoting sustainable tourism.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB : S&T (GSIII)



Ministry of Science & Technology



Call for Nominations announced under Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar 2024 in the field of Science, Technology, and Innovation

Fifty-six awards announced in four categories, viz., Vigyan Ratna, Vigyan Shri, Vigyan Yuva and Vigyan Team

The awards shall be announced on National Technology Day (11 May 2024)

Posted On: 14 JAN 2024 10:54AM by PIB Delhi

- The Government of India has announced the “Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar” in the field of Science, Technology and Innovation.

The National Award recognizes outstanding and inspiring scientific, technological and innovation contributions of researchers, technologists and innovators.

The Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar shall be given in the following 13 domains, namely: Physics, Chemistry, Biological Sciences, Mathematics & Computer Science, Earth Science, Medicine, Engineering Sciences, Agricultural Science, Environmental Science, Technology & Innovation, Atomic Energy, Space Science and Technology, and Others.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB : Species (GSIII)

Last Updated: Jan 14, 2024, 4:31PM

Rare Tibetan Brown Bear Discovered in Sikkim



- It is an omnivore with its diet generally consisting of marmots and alpine vegetation.
- It inhabits high-altitude alpine forests, meadows, and steppe above 4000 m
- The Tibetan brown bear also known as the Tibetan blue bear is one of the rarest subspecies of bears in the world, and is rarely sighted in the wild.
- It is uniquely adapted to the harsh conditions of the Tibetan Plateau.
- Until now, there were only a few confirmed records from Nepal, Bhutan, and the Tibetan plateau.
- Consequently, it has been accorded the highest protection status under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 by listing it under Schedule-I. It is also listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) as a protected species.