

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS—FEBRUARY 8, 2021

STATES

- **Uttar Pradesh government - has introduced a system of issuing a unique 16-digit Unicode to mark all kinds of landholdings in the state.**



- ✓ Out of the 16 digits, first six digits are based on the population of the land.
- ✓ The next 4 digits would determine the unique identity of the land, while the digits from 11 to 14 would represent the number of divisions of the land.
- ✓ The last 2 digits would contain the details regarding the category of the land viz. residential, agricultural and commercial land.
- ✓ The introduction of the Unicode will provide a unique identity to every piece of land in the state
- ✓ It would help in checking the cases of land disputes and end the fake registration of disputed lands
- ✓ The Unicode will be issued by the revenue department of UP government for all kinds of agricultural, residential and commercial land in the state.

NATIONAL

- **India - vaccinated the third highest number of people against Covid-19 in the world, as on February 7**

- ✓ The country has given first dose of the vaccine to more than 58 lakh health and frontline workers, as per the health ministry
 - ✓ The US and the UK are ahead of India
 - ✓ Both these countries had started vaccinations against Covid-19 much earlier.
 - ✓ The health ministry's observation about global ranking does not include China.
 - ✓ Among Indian states, Uttar Pradesh alone accounted for 6,73,542 of all vaccinated people, followed by Maharashtra
 - ✓ Around 12 states have vaccinated more than 2 lakh people each
 - ✓ Of the total 58,03,617 people who received vaccine doses, 53,17,760 were health workforce and 4,85,857 were frontline workers
 - ✓ The country has launched the vaccination drive on January 16
 - ✓ The recipients will be given the second dose from February 13 after a gap of four weeks
 - ✓ Further, the government is planning to cover the elderly population starting from March 2021
- **On February 7, a portion of the Nanda Devi glacier - broke off near Raini village in Tapovan area of Chamoli district in the eco-sensitive Garhwal Himalayas region of Uttarakhand**
- ✓ The glacier burst had triggered off an avalanche and a deluge in the Alaknanda river system, reminiscent of the 2013 Kedarnath tragedy
 - ✓ The 13.2 MW Rishiganga hydropower project near Raini village was washed away completely, while the 520 MW NTPC hydro project on the Dhauliganga river was partially damaged
 - ✓ The sudden flood in the Dhauli Ganga, Rishi Ganga and Alaknanda rivers — all intricately linked tributaries of the Ganga — triggered large-scale devastation in the high mountain areas.
 - ✓ Over 125 people have been reported missing, while bodies of seven men were recovered
 - ✓ Most of the missing men are believed to be workers involved in the hydropower projects.
 - ✓ The rescue operation was coordinated by the Army and Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
 - ✓ The water level of the Dhauliganga river at Joshimath breached all records at 1,388 metres on the day
 - ✓ During the 2013 Uttarakhand flash floods, the highest level at Joshimath was 1,385.54 metres.
 - ✓ Chief Minister Trivendra Rawat, who conducted an aerial survey and visited areas near the disaster site, announced ₹4 lakh relief to the next of kin of those who had died
 - ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi also announced an exgratia of ₹2 lakh for the families of the deceased.

- ✓ The Rishiganga hydroelectric power project had been red-flagged by locals as an “impending disaster”.
- ✓ The Snow and Avalanche Study Establishment (SASE), working under the nodal head DRDO, is investigating the cause of the disaster.

WHAT HAPPENED?

Around 10am on Sunday, huge chunk of what is suspected to be a glacier in the Nanda Devi landscape breaks and falls into Dhauliganga river near Raini village, 26km from Joshimath in Garhwal Himalayas, sending a massive wave of water, mud and rocks downstream

THE DAMAGE

- 7 bodies recovered from the site so far, 5 persons injured
- 170 people missing. Most of those killed or missing believed to be workers at hydropower projects
- 5 bridges washed away
- 2 hydropower projects hit. The 13.2MW Rishiganga hydropower project washed away. Another 520 MW run-of-the-river Tapovan-Vishnugad hydropower project partially damaged
- Around 200MW power supply to national grid cut from major plants

- ✓ There are five main tributaries of Alaknanda namely the River Dhauliganga, River Nandakini, River Pindar, River Mandakini and River Bhagirathi
- ✓ River Alaknanda is also called as the source stream of the Ganges and is one of its headstreams, other being River Bhagirathi
- **The first geothermal power project of India – is to be established at Puga village of eastern Ladakh.**
- ✓ In this regard, a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between ONGC Energy; LAHDC, Leh and the Power Department of UT Ladakh on February 6
- ✓ The agreement seeks to establish and implement the first phase of the project
- ✓ The first phase of the project will result into the generation of one megawatt (MW) power.
- ✓ Under the first phase, 24 hours free power supply for 10 neighbouring villages is being planned
- ✓ This geothermal project, known as Geothermal Field Development Project, is planned to be completed in four phases
- ✓ It will be commissioned by the end of 2022.

- ✓ In the second phase, deeper and lateral exploration of geothermal reservoirs will be done by drilling the optimal number of wells.
 - ✓ In the Puga Village, scientists have discovered a huge potential of more than 100 mw of geothermal energies.
 - ✓ The village is a part of the Himalayan geothermal belt and lies in the south-eastern part of Ladakh
 - ✓ The region has shown the evidence of geothermal activity in various form including the mud pools, hot springs, sulphur deposits and borax deposits.
- **The Centre - has allocated Rs. 16,000 crores for the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for the upcoming fiscal year 2021-22.**



- ✓ The grant will ensure that maximum benefit of crop insurance reaches to the farmers.
- ✓ This year's budgetary allocation is higher by Rs. 305 crore than the allocation of fiscal year 2020-21
- ✓ Pradhan Manti fasal Bima Yojana, the flagship crop insurance scheme was approved by the central government on January 13, 2016.
- ✓ The scheme aims to provide the coverage for the entire cropping cycle including from the pre-sowing to post-harvest at the lowest uniform premium by the farmers
- ✓ The scheme comprises of Crop Insurance App, Common Service Centres or the nearest agriculture officer and the Integration of land records with the PMFBY portal

- ✓ It has simplified the process for farmer to report crop loss within 72 hours of the occurrence of any event.
- ✓ Other key features of the scheme included remote-sensing technology, drones, Satellite imagery, artificial intelligence and machine learning to assess crop losses electronically
- **The Ministry of Education - has decided that the schools and hostels under the Samagra Shiksha scheme will now be renamed after Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose**
- ✓ The Samagra Shiksha Scheme is an integrated scheme for school education, extending from the pre-school to class XII.
- ✓ It ensures the inclusive and equitable quality education for all at all levels of school education.
- ✓ The scheme was launched after subsuming three schemes namely, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the Teacher Education (TE), the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA).
- ✓ Under the scheme, the Ministry of Education provides financial assistance to states and union territories for opening the residential schools and hostels in hilly terrain and in small and less populated areas
- ✓ So far, a total of 1,063 residential facilities including the 383 residential schools and 680 hostels have been sanctioned under the scheme.

SPORTS

- **On February 7, West Indian cricketer, Kyle Mayers - became the sixth player to score a double hundred in the fourth innings of a Test**
- ✓ The 28-year-old left handed batsman from Barbados scored an unbeaten double hundred on his Test debut

TOP SCORES BY DEBUTANTS IN 4TH INNINGS IN TESTS

Runs	Batsman	For	Vs	Venue	Series
210*	K Mayers	WI	Ban	Chattogram	2020-21
112	AA Baig	Ind	Eng	Manchester	1959
110*	du Plessis	SA	Aus	Adelaide	2012-13
109*	Md Wasim	Pak	NZ	Lahore	1996-97
106*	F Hayes	Eng	WI	The Oval	1973

HIGHEST SUCCESSFUL CHASES IN 4TH INNINGS

Score	By	Vs	Venue	Series
418/7	WI	Aus	St. John's	2002-03
414/4	SA	Aus	Perth	2008-09
406/4	Ind	WI	Port-of-Spain	1975-76
404/3	Aus	Eng	Leeds	1948
395/7	WI	Ban	Chattogram	2020-21

—Stats: Raiesh Kumar



- ✓ The knock helped West Indies claim an extraordinary three wicket victory over Bangladesh in the first Test in Chattogram.
- ✓ With this, the touring side completed the fifth-highest successful run chase in Test history.

