

21st August 2024

Madhya Pradesh govt's Religious Dept to function from Ujjain

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav inaugurated the office of the Department of Religious Trust and Endowment in Ujjain.

Key Points-

- ❖ The department, which falls under the Religious Department of the state government, was functioning from the Satpura Bhavan in Bhopal. However, it has now been decided to shift to Ujjain.
- ❖ The step has been taken in view of the Simhastha (Kumbh) mela, the largest congregation of Hindus once in 12 years in Madhya Pradesh's religious city of Ujjain.
- ❖ During the Kamal Nath government, the department was renamed 'Addhyatm', which was later changed to Religious Trust and Endowment during the former Shivraj Singh Chouhan's tenure.



Madhya Pradesh is the biggest victim of lightning hazard

Madhya Pradesh continues to be at the top with the highest lightning strikes (count 6,55,788) in 2021-22 and highest reported deaths (496) in 2021 and 2022.

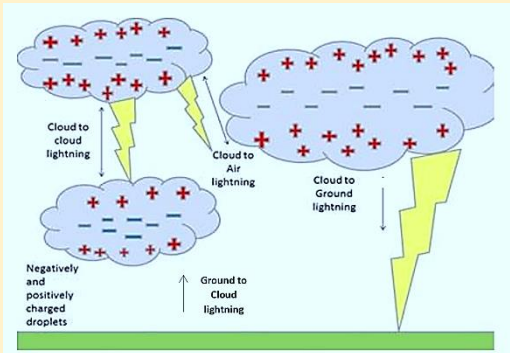
Key Points-



- ❖ According to the report of 2024 on Strengthening State Preparedness for Disaster Risk Management prepared by the Rajya NITI Aayog, lightning has claimed the maximum lives in comparison to other hazards like floods, heat stroke and cold exposure.
- ❖ In 2022, 15 people died due to flood, 27 due to heat stroke, 24 due to cold exposure and 496 due to lightning.
- ❖ As many as 496 people died due to lightning in 2021, 429 in 2020, 400 in 2019, 381 in 2018 and 452 in 2017.
- ❖ The report further stated that the state lies in the heatwave zone. Average number of severe heatwave and heatwave days reported in the last five years (2018-22) were 7, 13, 2, 1, 13, respectively.

Lightening in India

- ❖ Lightning is a powerful and visible electrical phenomenon that takes place when there is a buildup of electrical charges within clouds and between clouds and the ground.



- ❖ The discharge of this electrical energy results in a brilliant flash of light and a rapid expansion of air, creating the characteristic thunder that accompanies lightning.
- ❖ Cloud-to-ground (CG) lightning is dangerous because it can electrocute people due to its high electric voltage and current.
- ❖ India ranks among the five countries worldwide with an early warning system for lightning.
 - The system provides forecasts ranging from five days to as close as three hours before the occurrence of lightning.

UNICEF lauds Madhya Pradesh CM's efforts to promote menstrual health among adolescents

The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) India unit praised Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav's initiatives for promoting menstrual health among adolescents in the state.



Key Points-

- ❖ UNICEF India said that a total of Rs 57.18 crores has been deposited into the accounts of 19 lakh school-going girls in Madhya Pradesh through the cash transfer scheme.
- ❖ Under the sanitation and hygiene scheme, funds have been transferred for sanitary napkins to girl students of classes 7 to 12.
- ❖ Under the scheme, being run as part of the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan of the school education department, information has been provided to school and college girls about the importance of cleanliness and its measures.



Key Points

- ❖ The 17th Summer Paralympics for disabled athletes will take place in Paris, France, from 28 August to 8 September 2024.
- ❖ The International Paralympics Committee organises the Summer and Winter Paralympics games.
- ❖ Since the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics, the Paralympics have been held shortly after the conclusion of the Summer Olympics.
- ❖ The 33rd Summer Olympics ended on 11 August 2024 in Paris.
- ❖ India is sending its largest-ever contingent to the Summer Paralympics, consisting of 84 athletes, including 32 women.

India's Paralympic History

- ❖ India's involvement in the Paralympics dates back to the inaugural Summer Paralympic Games held in Rome in 1960. Since then, the country has competed in 11 editions of the Summer Paralympics.
- ❖ Prior to the 2024 Paris Paralympics, India's overall medal count in the Paralympic Games stands at 31 medals, comprising:

- 9 gold medals
- 12 silver medals
- 10 bronze medals
- ❖ The 2020 Tokyo Paralympics saw India secure its highest medal tally with 19 medals (5 gold, 8 silver, 6 bronze).
- ❖ **Murlikant Petkar** holds the distinction of being the first Indian to win a Paralympic medal. He clinched a gold medal in the men's 50m freestyle 3 event at the 1972 Heidelberg Games.
- ❖ **Deepa Malik** became the first Indian woman to win a Paralympic medal when she secured a silver in the Women's shot put (F53 category) at the 2016 Rio Summer Paralympics.
- ❖ **Avani Lekhara** was the first Indian woman to win a gold medal at the Paralympics. Her victory came in the women's 10m air rifle shooting (standing SH1 category) at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics.

NEHHDC achieves Oeko-Tex Certification for Eri Silk, marking milestone for Northeast's unique vegan silk

The North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHHDC) has successfully obtained the prestigious Oeko-Tex certification for its Eri Silk, from Germany.



About Oeko-Tex certification:

- ❖ It is a label for textiles tested for harmful substances. It sets the benchmark for textile safety, from yarn to finished product.

Eri Silk:

- ❖ Eri silk is a protein fiber derived from cocoons made by the *Samia Cynthia Ricini* moth or *Philosamia Ricini* moth.
- ❖ The Isothermal properties of Eri silk makes it cool in summer and its thermal properties make it warm in winter.
- ❖ Eri Silk is renowned as the world's only vegan silk, where, unlike other silks, the moth inside the cocoon is not killed.
- ❖ Eri silk is hydrophilic, a fiber that loves water and can absorb it well
- ❖ It enjoys a Geographical Indication (GI) certification from Assam.

News Shorts

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh government has issued an order barring Hindu students from enrolling in the madrasas, regulated by the state madrasa board.

- ❖ *Sadbhavana Diwas* is observed on August 20 every year.
- ❖ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the appointment of a senior IAS (Indian Administrative Service) officer, **Rajesh Kumar**, as the next Defence Secretary.
- ❖ The Indian Army mourns the passing of General Sundararajan Padmanabhan (Retired), who served as the 20th Chief of the Army Staff.
- ❖ Sudan is experiencing a cholera outbreak, killing nearly 22 people and sickening over 354 in recent weeks.
- ❖ Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) became the 1st airport in India to achieve the status of "Net Zero Carbon Emission" (NZCE) (Level 5 certification) under the Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) program of the Airport Council International (ACI).

Important Daily Current Affairs Question

Q. In which city of Madhya Pradesh the inauguration ceremony of the Directorate of Religious Trust and Religion Department was held?

- (a) Bhopal
- (b) Indore
- (c) Ujjain
- (d) Gwalior

Answer- C

Q. Which state recently prohibited Hindu students from enrolling in Madrasas?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Bihar

Answer- C

