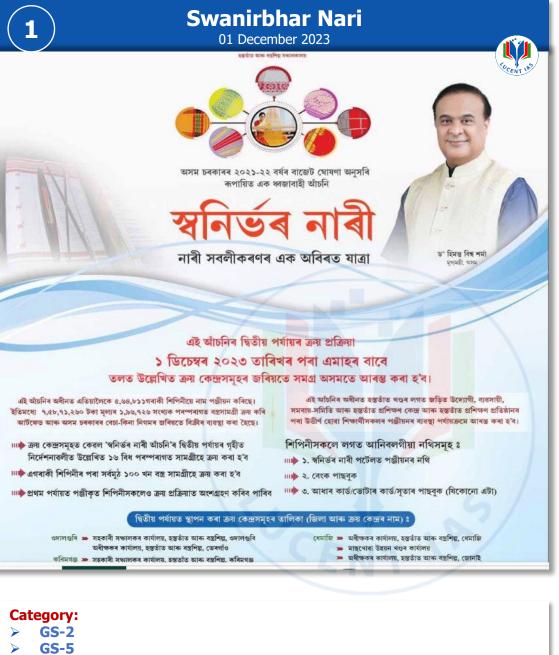
# Friday, December 1, 2023

# Daily Current Affairs









#### **Swanirbhar Nari:**

- In its endeavour to empower the indigenous weavers of the state and to provide financial support to the weavers families, the Government of Assam is implementing a flagship Scheme "SWANIRBHAR NAARI" through the Directorate of
- The scheme
  ensures direct
  procurement from
  weavers without
  the involvement of
  middlemen,
  thereby providing
  them fair market
  access and
  improved
  remuneration for
  their
  craftsmanship.

Handloom & Textiles, Assam.

 The scheme will be implemented with the help of ARTFED and AGMC under the administrative control of the Director,

Handloom Textiles, Assam 01 December 2023

## Withdrawal of notification on Garbhanga sanctuary worries environment activists

#### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, Nov 30: Voicing grave concern over the recent withdrawal of the notification on the Garbhanga Wildlife Sanctuary by the State Government, conservation NGO Early Birds on Thursday said that the regressive step has shocked everyone and that such a development had never taken

"Instead of declaring more pristine areas as Protected Areas (i.e., wildlife sanctuary and national park) in the State, the State Government has adopted a regressive step and set an extramaly disturbing prace

place in the State.

dent, which will create more such demands in the future," Early Birds president Molov Baruah said.

Garbhanga reserve forest, Rani RF, Jorasal RF and Kowasing RF - together with Nongkhylem Wildlife sanctuary in neighbouring Meghalaya - provided ample opportunity to bring the entire trans-border landscape under a strong legal protection mechanism and conserve the pristine forest area perpetually.

For Guwahati city too, such a step would have done a world of good in terms of maintaining the city's ecological health besides regulated tourism activities like trak

king, birding, etc. "The stretch from the Basistha Temple through Garbhanga RF offers a pristine 30-km trekking route for nature lovers including bird lovers. The local people living inside Garbhanga can also become active stakeholders in conservation by acting as guides, among other activities." Baruah said.

There are only 12 villages inside Garbhanga with a combined population of around 14,000, and many of them are already involved in guiding activities for trekkers and birders. Many foreign tourists also visit the area for bird watching.

"More than 300 eneries

of birds have been identified inside this pristine area and further documentation can vield the presence of more species. Other wildlife found in these jungles are leopard, jackal, hoollock gibbon, slow loris, wild boar, sambar, etc. Over 350 species of butterflies have also been identified inside Garbhanga RF till date. All these will continue to thrive only if Garbhanga is elevated to a wildlife sanctuary."

Baruah said. Early Birds had submitted a memorandum to Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on July 19, 2021 to declare Garbhanga as a wildlife concensor and it was brone

ly on the basis of this repr sentation that Garbhanga w declared as a proposed wi life sanctuary in March 202 Baruah said.

Pointing out that anthrop logical, commercial and dustrial pressures were the rise near Garbhang Baruah said that the decisi of the Government to can the wildlife sanctuary not cation would bleed Ga bhanga to death.

"It is a most regressi step by the Government a it should immediately e vate Garbhanga - among t few pristine stretches of fe ests close to the city - to wildlife sanctuary before it babbe ad " atcl oot

#### Category:

GS-3

- Garbhanga Wildlife Sanctuary (formerly Garbhanga and Rani Reserve Forest) is a wildlife sanctuary on the southwestern side of Guwahati City, bordering the state of Meghalaya, India.
- The forested area is the key urban wildlife site and catchment area near Guwahati City.
- The Garbhanga Wildlife Sanctuary is surrounded by Guwahati City and Dipor Bill in the South, the Meghalayan ranges on the east and north, and Rani Range on the west.
- In earlier days, various NGOs and researchers witnessed rare animals such as serow, clouded leopard, and bison and wanted to study Garbhanga.

## **Garbhanga Wildlife Sanctuary**

01 December 2023



- Demanding the upgrading of Garbhanga-Rani Reserved Forests into a wildlife sanctuary for its better protection and care.
- Hydrological considerations Protection of the watershed areas of Guwahati
  city and its adjacent areas would regulate water flow, maintain water quality and
  nutrient cycles, and prevent soil erosion and sedimentation.
- Genetic and species considerations Protection of wild gene pools of flora and diverse avian, mammalian, reptilian, and other fauna.
- **Ethnobotanical considerations** Protection of medicinal plants traditionally used by tribal communities residing in and around the forested areas.
- **Economic considerations** Protection and maintenance of the areas with high scenic value for eco-tourism, which would provide economic opportunity to ethnic tribal inhabitants.
- Nongkhyllem Wildlife Sanctuary in Ri Bhoi district of Meghalaya has been found to be the best protected area (PA) in the North East, according to a management effectiveness evaluation (MEE) report of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries

01 December 2023



## Dr Banikanta Kakati Merit Award distributed across State

DIBRUGARH, Nov 30: Altogether 1908 meritorious students, who secured 75% marks and above in the Higher Secondary Final Examination-2023, were presented the Dr Banikanta Kakati Merit Award under the Pragyan Bharati scheme of the State government.

The beneficiary students were given away a scooty each as part of the award in the presence of State Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Ashok Singhal during a function held at the auditorium of the District Library here. State Minister of Industries and Commerce and Public Enterprises, Bimal Borah, Dibrugarh MLA Prasanta Phukan, Chabua MLA Ponakan Baruah. Duliaian MLA Terosh Gowala, Naharkatia MLA Tarang Gogoi and Moran MLA Chakradhar Gogoi, District Commissioner Bikram Kairi and several other dignitaries were in attendance.

and Urban Affairs Ashok Singhal, who attended the programme as the chief guest, spoke about the invaluable contributions of eminent linguist, researcher, educationist and critic Dr Banikanta Kakati to Assamese language and literature. He asked the students to draw inspiration from Dr Kakati. Attributing the development of various sectors in the State including Education sector to the leadership of Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, Singhal advised the students to prepare themselves to face any challenge in life and pursue their dreams with positive thinking, hard work, discipline and concentration. The minister also advised the students to drive their scooties carefully and follow the traffic laws and wear helmets.

Stat Minister Bimal Borah while appreciating the hard work of the students said that a better educational environment has been created

throughout the State by the present government. He advised the students to set goals in life and work hard to achieve those goals.

Nagaon Correspondent adds: State Minister of Public Health and Engineering today inaugurated the ceremonial distribution of Dr Banikanta Kakati Merit Award under the Pragvan Bharati scheme of the State government. The meritorious students of Nagoan and Hojai districts respectively were given away the award here at a function held at Nagaon Nehrubali field.

As part of the programme, the minister distributed scooties among 11 meritorious students who secured 75 per cent and above marks in the Higher Secondary Final Examination-2023 leaving distribution of the rest to the district administration.

A total of 2891 students from Nagaon district have qualified for the award while 1540 students from Hojai disprogramme was organized by the department of Education, Government of Assam in association with the district administration.

Nagaon Deputy Commissioner, Narendra Kr Shah welcomed the guests and other dignitaries present in the programme. Local MLA Rupak Sarma, Raha MLA Sashi Kanta Das, Hojai District Commissioner Lasit Das, president of Nagoan Zila Parishad Munmoni Das Bora, chairman of Nagaon Municipality Board (NMB) Ambika Mazumdar, vice chairman of NMB Simanta Bora and others attended the programme, Dr Sarat Borkatoki, principal of Nowgong College was present as a special invitee and he also spoke on

Goalpara Correspondent adds: Tankeswar Rabha, CEM of Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council, ceremonially distributed keys of scooties to seven students of Goalpara district today in a function organised at the Natasurya Phani Sharma Bhavan here.

the occasion.

ary Final examination-2023 with 75% or more marks. He said that 570 students who passed in the first division of Goalpara district and 117 students who passed with more than 75% marks were presented the Dr Banikanta Kakati Merit Award. The District Commissioner also congratulated the students

for receiving the award. The meeting was attended by Kalyani Konkona Das, Additional Commissioner, Dr Subhash Barman, Nodal Officer of the award ceremony and Principal, Goalpara College, Dr Prakash Kashyap, Director, APDCL, Dr Manisha Bhattacharya, Principal, West Goalpara College. Inspector of Schools Sadulla Khan, teachers, parents and awardees.

ANN Service from Patacharkuchi adds: Ranieet Kumar Dass, State Cabinet minister and local MLA formally kicked off the ceremonial distribution of the Dr. Banikanta Kakati Merit Award of the State Education department.

Five meritorious students of Bajali district, among the selected beneficiary stu-

Jintu Choudhury, president AGP Baiali district committee, Jayanta Tahbildar, chairman, Patacharkuchi Municipal Board, Ranjit Kumar Saloi, president, Bajali Zila Parishad, were present on the occasion.

Staff Correspondent from Silchar adds: A total of 2,934 students from Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi districts who, secured 60 per cent or more and 75 per cent or more marks in this year's HSSLC examination, were presented the prestigious Dr Banikanta Kakati Merit Award on Thursday.

State Minister of Water Resources, Information & Public Relations, Pijush Hazarika ceremonially gave away the awards in the form of scooties in the presence of MLAs Dipayan Chakraborty, Kaushik Rai, Khalil Uddin Majumder, Mihir Kanti Som, Superintendent of Police Numal Mahatta.

Highlighting the life and works of Dr Banikanta Kakati, Hazarika said, "The scooties are being distributed to create a healthy competition among the students to improve the quality of education. The award winners have become an inspiration to their younger ones and I hope the number of students receiving the awards will increase next year." He added that the State Government led by Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sharma has endeavoured to transform Assam into one of the top five States of the country in the field of education, health, communication, in-

The legislators and the Cachar SP congratulated the students and emphasized the quality of education in the State, the need for helmets, licence while riding two wheelers to keep themselves safe. Earlier, Cachar District Commissioner Rohan Kumar Iha delivered the welcome address, Cachar Zila Parishad president Amitabh Rai, District BIP president Bimalendu Roy, Nitya Bhushan Dey, Kanad Purkayastha also attended the event.

come etc.

Biswanath Chariali Correspondent adds: Dr Banikanta Kakati Merit Award-2023 under Pragvan Bharati scheme of the State government was distributed in Biswanath district at Srimanta Sankaradeva auditorium, Borgang, Biswanath on Thursday along with rest of the State.

This year a total number of 804 students received the award in Biswanath district.

In the award distribution ceremony, State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Keshab Mahanta distributed the scooters. MLAs Ranjit Dutta from Behali and Utpal Borah from Gohpur, Dr Neha Yaday, District Commissioner, Biswanath, Subhashish Baruah, Superintendent of Police, Biswanath, Prabin Hazarika, former minister and Chairman, Seed Corporation, Diganta Baishya, CEO, Biswanath Zila Parishad, Dhrubajyoti Das, Additional District Commissioner (Education) cum District Mission Coordinator, SSA, Biswanath and others were present on the

#### Category:

### GS-5

#### Dr. Banikanta Kakati:

- Banikanta Kakati was a prominent linguist, literary figure, critic and scholar in Assamese language.
- Banikanta Kakati's writings both in English and Assamese mark a distinct achievement in the history of Assamese scholarship

#### In English:

- Assamese: Its formation and Development
- Mother Goddess Kamakhya
- Life and Teachings of Sankardeva
- Vaishnavite Myths and legends

#### Dr. Banikanta Kakati Award Scheme

01 December 2023



#### **Assamese:**

- 1. Purani Kamrupar Dharmar Dhara
- 2. Purani Asamiya Sahitya
- 3. Kalita Jaatir Itibritta
- 4. Sahitya Aru Prem Pakhila

#### Anundoram Borooah (1850–1889)

- Was an Indian lawyer and scholar of <u>Sanskrit</u>.
- He was both the first graduate and the first Indian civil Service officer from the state of Assam.
- He was the first Indian to attain the post of district magistrate in India.
- First person to qualify for the civil services (I.C.S) from Assam and fifth from India in 1870, First graduate of Assam

## **Asom Divas**

01 December 2023





#### Category:

- > **GS-1**
- > GS-5

#### **Asom Divas**

01 December, 2023



#### **Assamese:**

- 1. Purani Kamrupar Dharmar Dhara
- 2. Purani Asamiya Sahitya
- 3. Kalita Jaatir Itibritta
- 4. Sahitya Aru Prem Pakhila

#### **Asom Divas:**

- Asom Divas, also known as Asom Day or Sukapha Divas, celebrates the legacy of the first king
  of the Ahom kingdom in Assam and commemorates his arrival in the region in the early 13th
  century
- Sukapha was born to Chao Chang-Nyeu (alias Phu-Chang-Khang) and Nang-Mong Blak-Kham-Sen in the Tai state of Mong Mao, close to present-day Ruili in Yunan, China.
- Chaolung Sukapha, was forced to migrate after the birth of a cousin blocked his path to his father's throne.
- And, after 13 years on the journey and crossing the Patkai mountains, he arrived in Namrup, in the southeast of the Indian state of Assam in 1228, and founded the Ahom kingdom.
- He is widely referred to as the architect of 'Bor Asom' or 'greater Assam' because of the
  amicable relationship he developed with the tribal communities living in Assam at the time of
  his arrival.

#### **Ahoms Festivals:**

- *Me-dam-me-phi* is termed as festival of unity rather than worship to facilitate its extensive celebrations. They observe it in different ways *Ban-phi* and *Fralung*.
- Hubachani Puja is another important ritual observed by some Ahom families in every two or three years. According to some scholars of Upper Assam it was not the traditional form and call it another form of *Durga puja*.
- Ceremonies of *Rik khvan, Deo ban, Ap-tang*, the relating of Buranji, presentation of Hengdan, exchange of gold rings, lime box and knife, oblation to the five deities are definitely Tai-Ahom

## **Logistics Policy**

01 Decembe, 2023



# Arunachal Pradesh Logistics Policy

he Arunachal Pradesh Cabinet's approval of the formulation of the Arunachal Pradesh Logistics Policy in alignment with the PM Gati Shakti Framework is seen as an effort to attracting major logistics players to the state. The policy aims at "Augmenting integrated, multi-modal, logistics ecosystem for a developed Arunachal Pradesh 2047". Implementation of the policy should ensure that development of logistics is sustainable in the fragile ecology of the state, which is also a key asset of the state. Accelerated development of road connectivity in the border state has unlocked new business opportunities for the people of the state. The Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) 2022 report identified key constraints in the development of logistics in the northeast region. These are: The geographical positioning, terrain, resource base and economic activity at large act as natural deterrents to development of a robust logistics infrastructure and its effective management. Limited access points, mostly via the (inefficient) ecosystems in West Bengal and centred primarily around Assam within the NER, only increase time and cost of cargo movement to/from the region. Lack of major industries/production centres across the entire region discour-

#### Logistics policy of Arunachal Pradesh

- Primary objective of the policy is to create an integrated, multi-modal logistics ecosystem, contributing towards the vision of a 'Developed Arunachal Pradesh 2047
- The policy aims to "augment integrated, multi-modal, logistics ecosystem for a developed Arunachal Pradesh 2047."
- National Logistics Policy was launched, with focus on bringing in efficiency and reducing costs -Arunachal Pradesh Logistics Policy in alignment with the PM Gati Shakti Framework is seen as an effort to attracting major logistics players to the state.
- The Logistics Ease Across
  Different States (LEADS) 2022
  report identified key
  constraints in the
  development of logistics in
  the northeast region.
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#### Category:



