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## MoU Signed Between IISWC and Sparsh Himalaya | Uttarakhand | 11 Dec 2021

### Why in News

- Recently **Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation (ICAR-IISWC)** and **Sparsh Himalaya** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to execute inter-organizational collaborative activities for promotion of Himalayan ecosystem, people and resources.

### Key Points

- M Madhu, Director, ICAR-IISWC, stated that the objective of the MoU is to encourage and facilitate cooperation and to promote common programs of mutual interest. That helps advance the interests of the Himalayan ecosystem and the associated intellectual life and cultural development.
  - National and international level collaborative programs and enhanced outreach and awareness of technical outcomes and success stories will be targeted through this MoU.
  - Potential areas of cooperation include research, training, capacity building, experience sharing and knowledge management and natural resource based sustainable livelihood promotion in the area of rural development.
  - The two organizations are developing a joint plan for a national conference in January 2022 on the technical contributions and success stories of R&D organizations working on the welfare of the Himalayas.
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## MoU Signed Between IIT and IWAI to Stabilize Ganga Shipping Channel | Uttarakhand | 11 Dec 2021

### Why in News

- Recently **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)** Roorkee has signed an MoU with **Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)** for stabilization of shipping channels at 17 locations along a stretch of river Ganga from Varanasi to Sahibganj. It follows an earlier morphological study of the Ganges by the Department of Civil Engineering, an institute sponsored by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

### Key Points

- Under this project, IIT Roorkee will undertake channel stabilization (river training) work at 17 locations along the Ganges river for development of navigation channels with eco-friendly technologies to enhance navigation capability on [National Waterway-1](#) (NW-1).
- The work is a part of IAWI's ongoing Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP), sponsored by the World Bank.
- JMVP envisages creation and improvement of integration opportunities with other surface transport

modes such as roads and railways, to improve the overall efficiency of the logistics chain by connecting waterways through various well equipped terminals and ferries.

- Speaking on the occasion, Professor Ajit K Chaturvedi, Director, IIT Roorkee said that this collaboration will ensure the progress of the nation's waterways and will especially benefit the farmers and people living in the entire Ganga belt.
- It will promote the development of small scale industries, generate employment opportunities and facilitate transportation of cargo. Thus there will be improvement in logistics through smaller jetties, which will lead to overall development of the area.

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## Second Supplementary Budget of the Financial Year Presented | Uttarakhand | 11 Dec 2021

### Why in News

- On December 10, 2021, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Banshidhar Bhagat presented the second supplementary budget of Rs 1,353.7908 crore for the current financial year in the state assembly.

### Key Points

- A provision of Rs 668.36 crore has been made for the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) in the supplementary budget, while a provision of Rs 80 crore has been made for the **Nanda Gaura Yojna** of the Women's Empowerment and Child Development Department.
- Similarly, Rs 100 crore has been kept for the Public Works Department (PWD) for works under the state sector. An amount of Rs 50 crore has been kept for repair and maintenance of bridges under PWD.
- The minister has presented the second supplementary budget of the government in this financial year. Earlier in August 2021, during the monsoon session of the Legislative Assembly, the House had passed a supplementary budget of Rs 5,780.80 crore.
- The then Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat presented a budget of Rs 57,400.32 crore for the financial year 2021-22 in Bharadwaj on March 4 this year.