



Uttarakhand ranks 7th in Food Security Index, 2021-22 | Uttarakhand | 08 Jun 2022

Why in News?

- On the occasion of World Food Day (June 7, 2022) Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya released the 4th State Food Safety Index (**SFSI**) of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (**FSSAI**), in which Uttarakhand has been ranked 7th.

Key Points

- Mandaviya launched various innovative initiatives including The Eat Right Research Awards and Grants Phase-II, Eat Right Creativity Challenge Phase-III, a competition at the school level by FSSAI.
- Tamil Nadu topped the Food Security Index, 2021-22 among 17 large states with 82 points, while Gujarat is second with 77.5 points and Maharashtra is third with 70 points.
- Uttarakhand is at the 7th position with 55 points in the category of big states.
- Among the smaller states, Goa retained its top ranking, while Manipur and Sikkim secured the second and third positions. Among the Union Territories, Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi and Chandigarh secured the top three ranks.
- It may be recalled that the states have been assessed on five parameters of food security - human resources and institutional data, compliance, food testing facilities, training and capacity building and consumer empowerment.
- The Food Security Index was launched in 2018-19 with the aim of bringing about a competitive and positive change in the food security ecosystem in the country. The move was also taken to motivate the states and Union Territories to work towards ensuring safe food for citizens.

Amrit Sarovar will also be Built in less than One Acre of Land in Devbhoomi | Uttarakhand | 08 Jun 2022

Why in News?

- On June 7, 2022, Mohammad Aslam, state coordinator of Mission Amrut Sarovar, informed that the Central Government has relaxed the standard of area earmarked for construction of sarovar in Uttarakhand under the ambitious programme Mission Amrut Sarovar. Now, in Uttarakhand, lakes can be built in less than one acre of land.

Key Points

- The Centre has given this exemption in view of the heterogeneous geographical conditions of the state of Uttarakhand.
- The renovation and rejuvenation of the lakes will cost Rs 132.91 crore.

- It may be recalled that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced Mission Amrit Sarovar on April 24 this year with a view to conserve water for the future.
- Combining it with the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence, a target has been set to build 75 Amrit Sarovar's in each district. These reservoirs are to be constructed before 15th August next year.
- As per the prescribed standard, the area of a lake (reservoir) should be one acre or more.
- In the plains of Uttarakhand with heterogeneous geographical conditions, there is availability of one acre or more of land for reservoir construction, but this was not happening in the mountains. On this, the state government requested for relaxation in the standard of area, which was accepted by the Centre.
- Mohammad Aslam, state coordinator of the mission, said that 1017 lakes have been selected against the target of 975 lakes set for all the 13 districts. So far, 530 lakes have been sanctioned, out of which work has started on 333.
- Construction and revitalization of other lakes will begin soon. Most of the lakes will be constructed under MGNREGA.

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