



Indo-Uzbekistan Joint Military Exercise 'DUSTLIK' Begins in Pithoragarh | Uttarakhand | 21 Feb 2023

Why in News?

On February 20, 2023, the 4th edition of joint military exercise 'DUSTLIK' between the Indian Army and Uzbekistan Army commenced today in Foreign Training Node, Pithoragarh (Uttarakhand).

Key Points

- 45 Soldiers each from Uzbekistan and Indian Army are participating in this exercise which is aimed at promoting positive relations between both the armies. The Indian Army contingent comprises of troops from an Infantry Battalion from the Garhwal Rifles Regiment.
 - The first edition of the exercise was held in Uzbekistan in November 2019 .
 - The 14 days long joint exercise would focus on joint counter-terrorist operations in mountainous and semi-urban scenario under UN mandate and will include field training exercises, combat discussions, lectures, demonstrations and culminate with a validation exercise.
 - Both sides will jointly train, plan and execute a series of tactical drills for neutralisation of likely threats, while learning to exploit new generation equipment and technology for conducting joint operations.
 - The bonhomie, esprit-de-corps and goodwill generated during the exercise will go a long way in further strengthening the bonds between both armies by enabling understanding of each other's organisation and methodology of conducting various operations.
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State Government Approves Four New Policies | Uttarakhand | 21 Feb 2023

Why in News?

On February 20, 2023, Uttarakhand Industries Minister Chandan Ram Das told in a review meeting of departmental schemes in the Vidhan Sabha office in Dehradun that the role of MSMEs is important in providing employment in the state. In view of this, the state government has approved four new policies.

Key Points

- In this meeting, the Minister of Industries told that the government will give exemption on capital investment within 10 years to the industries with investment of more than 200 crores in the state.
- Apart from this, a budget provision of Rs 40 crore will be made for startup schemes. The government will provide all possible help to the new entrepreneurs.
- Under Mukhyamantri Swarozgar Yojana, Mudra and Swanidhi Yojana, Mukhyamantri Nano Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Srujan Yojana, the target of providing 100 per cent employment was

achieved.

- Industries Minister Chandan Ram Das instructed the officers to revise the standards of the Chief Minister's Nano Self Employment Scheme. To create a private industrial sector, the investor should have his own land, in which the government will give grants to develop infrastructure.
- He said that grants will be given for the construction of logistics park, warehouse, cold store, truck terminal in the private industrial area.
- Financial assistance will be given by the government to restart 350 plastic industries in the state and do new business as a plastic alternative.
- It is known that due to the ban on single-use plastic, 350 plastic industries manufacturing in Uttarakhand were closed.

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