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## Haryana Governor Visits Srinagar's Vachar Nag Temple | Haryana | 10 Apr 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, **Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya** visited the ancient **Vachar (Vichar) Nag Shiva temple in Srinagar** and joined **Kashmiri Pandits** in a special puja on the occasion of [Navreh, the Kashmiri New Year](#).

### Key Points

- During the visit, he released a special calendar to commemorate 5,100 years of the '**Saptarishi system**'.
- The **Vachar (Vichar) Nag temple** was closed in the 1990s when Pandits left the Valley in the wake of rising militancy.

### Navreh

- It is celebrated on the first day of the **bright half (Shukla Paksha)** of the month of **Chaitra (March-April)** in the Kashmiri Hindu calendar.
- It is the Sanskrit word '**Nav-Varsha**' from which the word '**Navreh**' has been **derived**.
- Kashmiri Pandits dedicate the Navreh festival to their **Goddess Sharika** and pay homage to her during the festival.

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## Shakti - Festival of Music and Dance | Madhya Pradesh | 10 Apr 2024

### Why in News?

To rejuvenate the Temple Traditions in the country, [Sangeet Natak Akademi](#), under the series of **Kala Pravah**, is organising the festival under the title '**Shakti a festival of music and dance**' during the holy **Navaratri from 9th April 2024**.

### Key Points

- The inauguration of the Shakti festival will begin from the [Kamakhya Temple, Guwahati](#) and this will be continued at **Mahalakshmi Temple, Kolhapur, Maharashtra, Jwalamukhi Temple, Kangada, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura Sundari, Udaipur, Tripura, Ambaji Temple, Banaskantha, Gujarat, Jai Durga Shaktipeeth, Deoghar, Jharkhand** and it will be concluded on 17th April, 2024 at **Shaktipeeth Maa Harsidhi Temple, Jaisinghpur, Ujjain, Madhya**

Pradesh.

## Sangeet Natak Akademi

- It is **India's national academy for music, dance and drama.**
- It was **created** by a resolution of the (then) Ministry of Education, Government of India, in **1952 with Dr P.V. Rajamannar as its first Chairman.**
- It is presently an **Autonomous Body** of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India and is fully funded by the Government for implementation of its schemes and programmes.
- It has been working towards the **preservation, research, promotion and rejuvenation of performing art forms of the country** expressed in the form of music, dance, drama, folk and tribal art forms and other allied art forms of the country.

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## First Edition of the Ujjain Trade Fair | Madhya Pradesh | 10 Apr 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the first edition of the **Ujjain trade fair** concluded with more than **23,700 vehicles** sold in over a month making a business of over **Rs 1,200 crore.**

### Key Points

- According to the **Ujjain Regional Transport Office (RTO), tax rebate and revenues** on vehicles sold in the **40-day long Ujjain trade fair** stood at more than Rs 125 crore.
  - It is higher by over 20% from the tax exemptions offered in the **Gwalior mela** concluded in February 2024.
- The state government had offered a **50% discount in the lifetime motor vehicle tax rate** on the sale of non-transport vehicles and light transport vehicles in the Ujjain Vikram Trade Fair.
  - **Non-transport light motor vehicles** are for personal use like a car, while **light transport motor vehicles** are used for carrying passengers and goods.

# SALES CHART

➤ Vehicles sold in Vikram Trade Fair as on April 8

➤ Motor cars -  
15,653



➤ Motorcycles/  
scooters, one  
adopted  
vehicle - 4,942



➤ School bus - 1

➤ E-rickshaws - 1

➤ Goods  
carriers - 702



File Pic



➤ Maxicabs - 18

➤ Mopeds - 2

➤ Motor cabs - 222

Omni  
buses  
(personal  
use)  
32

➤ Three-wheeler  
passenger  
vehicles - 15



## Gudi Padwa | Madhya Pradesh | 10 Apr 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, people celebrated the auspicious occasion of [Gudi Padwa](#) symbolising the commencement of the **Hindu New Year** with joy and religious fervour.

### Key Points

- Devotees also embarked on the nine-day **Chaitra Shukla Pratipada**:
  - It marks the beginning of the **new year of the Vikram Samvat** also known as the **Vedic [Hindu] calendar**.
  - Vikram Samvat is based on the day when the emperor Vikramaditya defeated Sakas, invaded Ujjain and called for a new era.
  - Under his supervision, astronomers formed a new calendar based on the **luni-solar system** that is still followed in the northern regions of India.
  - It is the first day during the waxing phase (in which the visible side of the moon is getting bigger every night) of the moon in the **Chaitra (first month of Hindu calendar)**.

### Gudi Padwa and Ugadi

- The people of **Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka** celebrate the New Year as **Ugadi** while **Maharashtra and Goa** mark the day's celebrations with **Gudi Padwa**.
- The common practice in the celebrations of both the festivals is the festive food that is prepared with a **mix of sweet and bitter**.
- A famous concoction served is jaggery (sweet) and neem (bitter), called **bevu-bella** in the South, signifying that life brings both happiness and sorrows.
- **Gudi** is a doll prepared in **Maharashtrian** homes.
  - A bamboo stick is adorned with green or red brocade to make the gudi. This gudi is placed

prominently in the house or outside a window/ door for all to see.

- For **Ugadi**, doors in homes are adorned with **mango leaf** decorations called **toranalu or Torana in Kannada**.

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## Government Disbursed Funds for Underprivileged Kids Education | Uttar Pradesh | 10 Apr 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the state government, under the **Right of Free and Compulsory Education Act or [Right to Education Act, 2009](#)**, has disbursed funds exceeding Rs 250 crore for the education expenses of more than 3.25 lakh underprivileged children attending private schools.

### Key Points

- Each child from the **disadvantaged and weaker sections** enrolled in **private schools** under the RTE will receive a **monthly budget allocation of Rs 450**.
- This initiative aims to **support the educational needs of these children** and ensure their access to quality education.
- In adherence to RTE Act, aspirations of 35,666 students, the highest number hailing from **Lucknow district** have been realized as they pursue their studies in private schools.
- In addition to covering the fees, the government also provides **Rs 5,000 annually per child for educational materials** like books, notebooks, and uniforms.

### Educational Initiatives by UP Government

- **Atal Awasiya Vidyalaya Yojana:** This initiative launched to provide free education to children of construction workers employed in the informal sector. Under this scheme, two children of registered workers between the ages of 6 and 16 receive free residential education in dedicated schools.
- **Mahadevi Verma Shramik Pustak Kraya Dhan Yojana (MVSPKDPY):** Launched in 2022, is a commendable initiative aimed at empowering daughters of construction workers.
- **SC/ST Pre Matric Scholarship:** This scholarship program recognises the importance of education in empowering students from marginalised communities and aims to bridge the financial gap that might otherwise hinder their academic progress.

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## Allahabad High Court to Hear Plea for Mathura Mosque Removal | Uttar Pradesh | 10 Apr 2024

### Why in News?



The Allahabad high court has fixed a date for hearing a plea regarding the removal of the [Shahi Idgah mosque in Mathura](#) , which stands adjacent to the Krishna Janmasthan temple.

## Key Points

- The suits filed by Bhagwan Shrikrishna Virajman at Katra Keshav Dev Khewat and 17 others claim that the mosque was built on **13.37-acre land of Katra Keshav Deo temple**.
- History of the Disputed Land:
  - Raja Veer Singh Bundela of Orchha had also built a temple on the same premises in 1618 and the mosque was built by **Aurangzeb in 1670** on the site of an earlier temple.
  - The **Krishna Janmasthan temple in Mathura** is believed to have been built **around 2,000 years ago, in the 1st century CE**.
  - A survey has been ordered due to demands by Hindu representatives for complete ownership of the premises where the Keshava Deva temple was destroyed on the orders of **Mughal emperor Aurangzeb in 1670**.
    - The area was regarded as [nazul land](#) — non-agricultural state land owned by the Marathas, and then the British.
  - The temple was originally built in **1618** during the **reign of Jahangir** and was patronized by **Aurangzeb's brother** and rival, [Dara Shukoh](#).
  - In **1815**, the **Raja of Benaras** purchased the 13.77-acre land from the **East India Company**.
  - Later, the **Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi Trust** was established.
    - The trust acquired ownership rights over the temple, and in **1951**.
    - The 13.77-acre land was placed under the trust with the condition that it would never be sold or pledged.
    - In **1956**, the **Shri Krishna Janmasthan Sewa Sangh** was set up to manage the affairs of the temple.
    - In 1968, an agreement was signed between the **Sri Krishna Janmasthan Seva Sangh and the Shahi Idgah Masjid Trust**, where the temple authority conceded a portion of the land to the **Idgah** as part of the settlement.
  - The current dispute involves temple petitioners seeking possession of the entire piece of land.