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## Bihar Floods | Bihar | 15 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

In the **Muzaffarpur district** of Bihar, the rapid increase in water levels in the **Bagmati River** has led to **flood** waters entering thousands of houses in **18 panchayats**.

### Key Points

- The **flooding has led lakhs of people across panchayats to lose contact** with their block headquarters and district headquarters for aid.
- **Several schools in the region have also been filled with floodwater**, disrupting education facilities for hundreds of children.
- Bagmati River is a **transboundary river between Nepal and India**.
  - It **starts its journey from Kathmandu**, Nepal and it **ends in the Koshi River** near Bornesthan, Bihar, India.
- The total length of the Bagmati is 3 km.
- Hindus see the Bagmati as sacred and possess great spiritual significance for them.
- The **Pashupatinath Temple**, located on the river's edge, is another famous **Hindu pilgrimage site dedicated to Shiva**.
- **Bishnumati River, Dhobikhola River and Manohara River** are **tributaries** of the Bagmati river.

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## Early Lightning Detection System | Uttar Pradesh | 15 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

According to the sources, The **Uttar Pradesh government** plans to establish an **early lightning detection and warning system**.

- This system **aims to avert casualties caused by lightning strikes** in the state, particularly during the monsoon period.

### Key Points

- According to an **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** report **Uttar Pradesh ranks** among the states with the **highest lightning strike casualties in the country**.
- On the direction of the chief minister, the **State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA)**, decided to **set up a state-of-the-art lightning detection system** based on **time of arrival (ToA) technology**, which is more time and location accurate, across the state.
  - The **IMD currently relies on radar-based systems and satellite data** to warn about the possibility of lightning strikes in an area but it is **not considered a real-time**

**warning.**

- The **ToA-based system can successfully detect and warn** about the possibility of lightning in a particular area at least **30 minutes in advance.**
- The **Uttar Pradesh Lightning Alert Management System** will be set up in **three phases.**
  - In the **first phase**, it will be implemented in **37 districts.**
  - It is expected to be set up in **20 and 18 districts** respectively in the **second and third phases.**

## Radar (Radio Detection and Ranging)

- It is a device which **uses electromagnetic waves in the microwaves region** to detect **location (range & direction), altitude, intensity and movement** of moving and non-moving objects.

## India Meteorological Department

- IMD was **established in 1875.** It is the **National Meteorological Service** of the country and the principal government agency in all **matters relating to meteorology and allied subjects.**
  - It works as an **agency of the Ministry of Earth Sciences** of the Government of India.
- It is headquartered in **New Delhi.**
- IMD is also one of the **six Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres of the [World Meteorological Organization.](#)**

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## Rajasthan Tribal Movement | Rajasthan | 15 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

A popular movement in the **tribal-dominated regions of southern Rajasthan** is working to **preserve [indigenous seed varieties](#)**, many of which are on the brink of extinction. This effort is promoting **[crop diversity](#)** and enhancing **[climate resilience.](#)**

### Key Points

- In the **tribal belt at the tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat**, thousands of tribal people, from about 1,000 villages and hamlets took part in a series of **Beej Utsavs**, or seed festivals.
    - The seed festivals **exhibited traditional seeds** and held **interactive sessions on their properties and significance.**
    - The tribals were encouraged to **protect their rich heritage of biodiversity** through farm practices handed down through several generations.
  - **Indigenous seeds** are an important legacy preserved by tribal communities in the midst of the increasing influence of **[multinational companies](#)** in the **[agriculture sector.](#)**
  - Banswara-based voluntary group **Vaagdhara** was the **main organiser of the Beej Utsav** events, which were facilitated by **other [tribal rights groups](#)**, such as **Krishi Evum Adivasi Swaraj Sangathan, Gram Swaraj Samooh, Saksham Samooh, and Baal Swaraj.**
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## Uttarakhand Repopulation Measures | Uttarakhand | 15 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, [Uttarakhand's Rural Development and Migration Prevention Commission](#) submitted a report to the Chief Minister revealing that **11 villages near the Indo-China border** have no residents remaining.

### Key Points

- The report was submitted following a **ground survey of 137 border villages** in 2023.
  - Out Of the 11 villages, six are in **Pithoragarh district**- Gumkana, Lum, Khimling, Sagri Dhakdhauna, Sumatu, and Poting.
  - Three are in **Chamoli district**- Rewal Chak Kurkuti, Fagti, and Lamtol and two are in **Uttarkashi district**- Nelang and Jadung.
- The report submitted by the commission comprises several suggestions for the government, such as:
  - Promoting border tourism in those areas by **relaxing accessibility norms**.
  - **Providing 200 days' employment instead of 100 days** under the [MGNREGA program](#) in the border villages.
  - Develop the places situated near the 51 border villages identified as '[Vibrant Villages](#)' by the Centre.

### Vibrant Villages Programme

- It is a **Centrally sponsored scheme**, announced in the **Union Budget 2022-23 (to 2025-26)** for development of villages on the **northern border, thus improving the quality of life of people living** in identified border villages.
- It will cover the border areas of **Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh**.
- It will cover 2,963 villages with 663 of them to be covered in the first phase.
- Vibrant Village Action Plans will be created by the district administration with the help of Gram Panchayats.
- There will **not be overlap with the Border Area Development Programme**.

### Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) Scheme

- Launched in **2005** by the Ministry of Rural Development, MGNREGA stands as one of the **world's largest work guarantee programs**.
- This initiative provides a legal guarantee, ensuring a **hundred days of employment each financial year** for adult members of any rural household.
  - Participants engage in unskilled manual work related to public projects, earning the statutory minimum wage.

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## Muslim Board to Challenge SC Ruling | Uttarakhand | 15 Jul 2024

## Why in News?

Recently, the [All India Muslim Personal Law Board](#) announced its plan to challenge the [Supreme Court's](#) recent ruling that permits **divorced Muslim women to claim maintenance after the 'Iddat' period**.

- The board also intends to challenge the newly enacted [Uniform Civil Code \(UCC\)](#) law in Uttarakhand.

## Key Points

- These decisions were made during a working committee meeting, under which eight resolutions were approved.
- One of the resolutions concerns the Supreme Court's judgment, which contradicts **Sharia law**.
- Recently, the Supreme Court unequivocally ruled that [Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure \(CrPC\)](#) applies to all married women, including Muslims.
  - The court emphasized that **Indian men must unequivocally recognize the significance of homemakers** by providing unwavering **financial support**, such as **joint accounts and unfettered access to ATMs**.
- The board highlights that diversity is our country's identity, protected by **the Constitution**. The UCC aims to erase this diversity, challenging both constitutional and religious freedoms.
- The legal committee is **preparing to challenge the UCC law enacted in Uttarakhand**.

## Section 125 of the CrPC

- Section 125 of the CrPC mandates that a **Magistrate of the first class** may order a **person with sufficient means to make a monthly allowance for the maintenance** of:
  - His wife, if she is unable to maintain herself.
  - His legitimate or illegitimate minor child, whether married or not, unable to maintain itself.
  - His legitimate or illegitimate adult child with physical or mental abnormalities or injuries that render them unable to maintain themselves.
  - His father or mother, unable to maintain themselves.

## Iddat Period

- A divorced Muslim woman is **entitled to a reasonable and fair provision and maintenance** from her former husband, to be paid within the **iddat period**.
- **Iddat is a period, usually of three months**, which a woman must observe after the death of her husband or a divorce before she can remarry.

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## Chhattisgarh's First Digital Planetarium | Chhattisgarh | 15 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

According to the sources, **Chhattisgarh's first digital planetarium** being established in the insurgency-affected **Dantewada district**, with support from the Government of India.

### Key Points

- The initiative has been taken by the **district administration of Dantewada** with the help of

the **Ministry of Culture and National Council of Science Museums (NCSM)**.

- The plan to establish a digital planetarium in Karli, Dantewada, will soon begin under the **Ministry of Culture's Science and Culture Promotion Scheme, 2021**.
- The district administration requested support for the planetarium, and the proposal for full **financial assistance under Category III (population less than 5 lakh) has been approved**.
- The initiative encompasses various elements such as **educational advancement, scientific consciousness, cultural and societal progress**, as well as engaging **audiovisual experiments**.
- A **budget of Rs 7.95 crore has been approved** for the construction of the planetarium.
  - Nestled amidst dense forests, this digital planetarium will be a **major tourism initiative**.
  - It will play a vital role in shaping the future of local children, **inspiring future generations to pursue careers in space science**.

## **National Council of Science Museums (NCSM)**

- **In 1978, the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) was established** as a **central coordinating agency** for national science museums.
- It is an autonomous Science & Technology institution **under the Ministry of Culture jointly with the Department of Science & Technology (DST)**.
- NCSM is the **world's largest network of science centres** and museums that functions under a single administrative umbrella.

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PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/statepcs/15-07-2024/print>

