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- 
- 
- Home
- UPSC
 - Current Affairs IAS
 -    
 - Quiz IAS
 -     
 - UPSC News Editorial (/Eng)
 - Answer Writing ( /Eng)
 - UPSC Essay (/Eng)
 - UPSC GS (/Eng)
 - UPSC GS 1 ( /Eng)
 - UPSC GS-2 ( /Eng)
 - UPSC GS-3 ( /Eng)
 - UPSC GS-4 ( /Eng)
 - Kurukshetra ( /Eng)
 - Yojana ( /Eng)
 - IAS Strategy for Prelims
 - General Studies
 - CSAT
 - IAS Strategy for Mains
 - IAS GS 1
 - IAS GS 2
 - IAS GS 3
 - IAS GS 4
 - IAS Test Series
- Himachal HPAS
 - Himachal Daily Current Affairs
 -   
 - Daily Himachal GK Quiz

- Himachal HPAS
- Himachal News Editorial (Hindi/Eng)
- Answer Writing (Hindi /Eng)
- Himachal Essay (Hindi/Eng)
- Giriraj
 - Magazine
 - Giriraj Quiz
- Himachal
 - Himachal
 - Himachal Himachal
- HP Government Schemes
- Himachal Himachal Himachal Himachal
- Syllabus Prelims Himachal HPAS
 - GENERAL STUDIES
 - CSAT
 - English
 - Hindi
- Syllabus Mains Himachal HPAS
 - English,Hindi,Essay & One Optional
 - HPAS GS 3
 - HPAS GS 2
 - HPAS GS 1
- Himachal HPAS Test Series
- All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS
- HARYANA HCS
 - Haryana Current Affairs
 - Himachal Himachal Himachal
 - HCS Quiz
 - Himachal Himachal Himachal
 - Haryana News Editorial (Hindi/Eng)
 - Answer Writing (Hindi /Eng)
 - Haryana Essay (Hindi/Eng)
 - HR Government Schemes
 - Himachal Himachal Himachal Himachal
 - Syllabus Mains Haryana HCS
 - Syllabus Prelims Haryana HCS
 - HCS Prelims Test Series

- [Punjab PCS](#)
- [Punjab PCS Current Affairs](#)
- [Daily Quiz Punjab PCS](#)
- [Punjab News Editorial \(Eng\)](#)
- [Answer Writing \(Eng\)](#)
- [Punjab Essay \(Eng\)](#)
- [All you need to know about Punjab PCS Exam 2021](#)
- [Syllabus Prelims Punjab PCS](#)
 - [General Studies](#)
 - [Prelims GS 1](#)
- [Syllabus Mains Punjab PCS](#)
 - [PCS GS 1](#)
 - [PCS GS 2](#)
 - [PCS GS 3](#)
 - [PCS GS 4](#)
 - [Online PUNJAB PCS TEST SERIES 2020](#)
- [CSAT](#)
 - [CSAT English](#)
 - [Punjab PCS CSAT](#)
- [Concept Mindmaps](#)
 - [Polity \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [Geography \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [Environment \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [History \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [Economics \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [Science and Technology \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [CSAT Concepts \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [Maps \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [Art and Culture \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [International Affairs \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [Punjab PCS Concepts](#)
 - [Himachal HPAS Concepts \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [Haryana HCS Concepts \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
 - [Rajasthan RAS Concepts \(Hindi / Eng\)](#)
- [Concept Quiz](#)
 - [Polity Quiz \(Hindi/Eng\)](#)

- Geography Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- Environment Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- History Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- Economics Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- Science and Technology Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- CSAT Concepts Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- Maps Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- Art and Culture Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- Punjab PCS Concepts Quiz
- Himachal HPAS Concepts Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- Haryana HCS Concepts Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- Rajasthan RAS Concepts Quiz (हिंदी/Eng)
- Mains
 - UPSC Answer Writing (हिंदी/Eng)
 - HPPSC Answer Writing (हिंदी/Eng)
 - Haryana HCS Answer Writing (हिंदी/Eng)
 - Punjab PCS Answer Writing
- Exam Blogs
 - UPSC Exam Blogs
 - Himachal Exam Blogs
 - Punjab exam Blogs
 - Haryana Exam Blogs
 - Rajasthan Exam Blogs
 - E-Magazine
 - E-Magazine for HPAS
 - हिंदी/English में हिंदी-हिंदी/English
 - E-Magazine for Punjab PCS
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 - National Exams
 - Himachal Pradesh Exams
 - Punjab Exams
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November 20, 2019

Topic: Eminent Punjabi scientists.

News:- Dr Raghbir Singh Khandpur, Science Man of Punjab, dies at the age of 77 years.

About Dr Raghbir Singh Khandpur:-

- He was born at Safdarabad in Pakistan in 1942.
- He was an expert in the biomedical field.
- He had 7 patents to his credit

His achievements:-

- He had played an important role in setting up the Science City at Kapurthala.
- He had also served as the Science City's Director-General for 12 years.
- He had served as the founding director-general of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (Mohali).

- Besides, he had served as a chairperson of various bodies of the department of Science and Technology.
- In 2017, he was given the National Award for Outstanding Efforts in S and T communication.
- The scientist had a great contribution to the establishment of the first cancer diagnostic machine of the country.
- He had a commendable role in arranging various exhibitions in the Science City.

For example: -

1. Transparent man.
2. First 3-d laser show of Punjab.
3. 3 Climate change theatre.

(Source:- The Tribune news)

Topic: Industrial development in Punjab.

News: -

- Progressive Punjab Investors' Summit would focus on Development of MSMEs
- The summit would be held at the Indian School of Business (Mohali).

The theme of the summit is:-

" Building partnership for the inclusive growth-MSMEs in the Global value chain ".

- Besides, Punjab state MSME awards would be given during the summit.
- 9 MSME sectors would be awarded in this summit.
- 1 lakh cash prize would be awarded along with the presenting of a certificate to the winners.
- Punjab has already gained around 50000 crore rupees as the investments for the MSME section.

(Source:- The Tribune news)

Topic: Punjab Culture and Heritage

News :-

- Parliament amends Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial act, 1951.
- The changes have been done in the constitution of the trust that runs the Jallianwala Bagh memorial.
- The government has sought to change the criterion for choosing the president of the Jallianwala Bagh trust.
- Now, the say of people in the choice of the president would increase.
- So, the present trustee could be removed by the government. The government also need not give any

reasons for such removal.

- Also, the Jallianwala Bagh would be renovated for improvement of the experience of the tourists.
- The memorial would also be opened up for more hours.

(Source:- The Tribune news)

Topic: Banking

News:- Punjab witnessed negative growth in farm credit.

Important:-

- This is for the first time ever that Punjab has seen negative growth in Agricultural loans sector.
- The state-level banker's Committee of Punjab had released these figures.
- A decrease of 0.41% could be seen this year.
- Whereas the growth rate of Agricultural loans was 3.65 % in the last reference year.

Reasons for this decline:-

- Over-dependence on the informal loan providers.
- The overall decline in the economic growth of the country.
- Low level of development of food processing industry in the state.
- Low level of awareness.

Thinking point:-

- Punjab is promoting diversification of Agriculture, especially goat rearing and piggery.
- Also, horticulture is also being promoted.
- But, drying up of loans is not a good indication as Agricultural situation is already in a bad condition.

(Source:- The Tribune news)

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- HPAS Quiz
- HP Editorials
- HP Mindmaps
- HPAS E Magazine
- HPAS Free Mock Test
- HPAS Prelims Test Series

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- Punjab Current Affairs
- PPSC Quiz
- Punjab Mindmaps
- Punjab Editorial
- Punjab E-Magazine
- PPSC Free Mock Test
- PPSC Prelims Test Series

Haryana HCS

- Haryana Current Affairs
- HCS Quiz
- HCS Editorials
- HCS Mindmaps
- HCS E-Magazine
- HCS Free Mock Test
- HCS Prelims Test Series

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- उत्तर प्रदेश प्रश्न उत्तर
- उत्तर प्रदेश प्रश्न उत्तर
- उत्तर प्रदेश प्रश्न उत्तर
- उत्तर प्रदेश प्रश्न उत्तर
- उत्तर प्रदेश प्रश्न उत्तर
- उत्तर प्रदेश प्रश्न उत्तर
- उत्तर प्रदेश प्रश्न उत्तर
- उत्तर प्रदेश प्रश्न उत्तर

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