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- Home
- UPSC
- Current Affairs IAS
- **-** 0000 000000 000 000000
- Quiz IAS
- 00000 00 000 00000000000
- 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
 - **-** 000000 000000 000000
 - Daily Himachal GK Quiz

- 00000 000000 HPAS
-Himachal News Editorial (□□□□□/Eng)
-Answer Writing (□□□□□ /Eng)
-Himachal Essay (□□□□□/Eng)
▪ Giriraj
■ Magazine
■ Giriraj Quiz
- 000000
- 000000
- 000000 000000000
HP Government Schemes
- 000000 00000 00000 00 000000
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
• 000000 00000 000000
• HCS Quiz
• 000000 00000000000000000000000000000
Haryana News Editorial (□□□□□/Eng)Answer Writing (□□□□□ /Eng)
- Haryana Essay (□□□□□/Eng)
■ HR Government Schemes
• nnnnnn nn nnnnn
- Syllabus Mains Haryana HCS
• Syllabus Prelims Haryana HCS
■ HCS Prelims Test Series

- 000000 00000000 00000
■ 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
- 00000 00000
■ Concept Mindmaps
- Polity (□□□□□ / Eng)
- Geography (□□□□□ / Eng)
-Enviroment (□□□□□ / Eng)
-History (□□□□□ / Eng)
- Economics (□□□□□ / Eng)
Science and Technology (□□□□□ / Eng)
- CSAT Concepts (□□□□□ / Eng)
- Maps (□□□□□ / Eng)
• Art and Culture (□□□□□ / Eng)
•International Affairs (□□□□□ / Eng)
Punjab PCS Concepts
- Himachal HPAS Concepts (□□□□□ / Eng)
Haryana HCS Concepts (□□□□□ / Eng)
- Rajasthan RAS Concepts (□□□□□ / Eng)
• Concept Quiz
- Polity Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)

- Geography Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
 Enviroment Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
 History Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
 Economics Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Science and Technology Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- CSAT Concepts Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Maps Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Art and Culture Quiz (☐☐☐☐/Eng)
- Punjab PCS Concepts Quiz
- Himachal HPAS Concepts Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Haryana HCS Concepts Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Rajasthan RAS Concepts Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Mains
 - UPSC Answer Writing (□□□□/Eng)
 - HPPSC Answer Writing (□□□□□/Eng)
 - Haryana HCS Answer Writing (□□□□□/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
 - 0000000 00 000 0-000000
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 - Punjab Exams
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January 24, 2020

Topic: - Economy of Punjab

News:-Finance Minister meets CEOs at an economic forum.

Context: -A delegation from Invest Punjab led by Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal took part in two sessions at the World Economic Forum on Wednesday.

- Finance Minister(Punjab) joined the discussions with the heads of multinational companies in the session on "The 50L Home Coalition: Joining Forces to Reinvent Urban Living" to address the global water crisis.
- During another session "Dubai Silk Road: Reinventing Trade and Logistics", FM(Punjab) joined UAE leaders in deliberating upon the transformation of global trade systems.
- Punjab's water table is declining and the availability of water in our rivers is decreasing.



About the World Economic Forum: -

■ The World Economic Forum, based in Cologny-Geneva, Switzerland, is an NGO, founded in 1971.

Mission: -

■ The WEF's mission is cited as "committed to improving the state of the world by engaging business, political, academic, and other leaders of society to shape global, regional, and industry agendas".

Headquarters: Cologny, Switzerland.

2020, World Economic Forum:-

• The World Economic Forum Annual Meeting convenes in Davos, Switzerland, and brings together world leaders to discuss global, regional and industry agendas at the beginning of each year.

Important: -

• India on Wednesday joined as a founding government member the World Economic Forum's Reskilling Revolution, an initiative to provide one billion people with better education, skills and jobs by 2030.

(Source: - WEF & The Tribune)

Topic: - Historic Building.

News:-12 yrs later, Harivallabh Bhawan still incomplete, Structure ready on Jalandhar temple premises, but lacks equipment, amenities.

Context:-Planned more than a decade ago, the Harivallabh Bhawan project here hangs fire due to the lack of funding from the government.

• The project was drawn up to house an academy and preserve the history of 144-year-old Harivallabh Sangeet Sammelan. Though not a government project, it is dependent on government funding, much like the sangeet sammelan itself.

Why govt denies grant?

• Even as the grant has often been denied by the government claiming that the building was a religious structure, the Harivallabh Sangeet Mahasabha refutes the charge. It says it bought the land from Devi Talab

Mandir and the land registration is in its name.

Does MP mull funding?

• MP Santokh Singh Chaudhary said, "I will provide a grant under the MPLAD scheme the moment I get sufficient proof that it is not a religious establishment. Documents provided by the Harivallabh committee so far do not adequately substantiate the claim that it's non-religious."

About Harballabh Sangeet Sammelan: -

• Harballabh Sangeet Sammelan is the oldest festival of Indian Classical Music in the world, which is celebrated every year at the sacred seat of music, the samadhi of Baba Harballabh — a saint and an exponent of Hindustani Classical Music.

(Source: - The Tribune)

Topic:-Health

News:-Health Dept advisory on coronavirus.

Context:-The state Health Department has put all districts on alert following the outbreak of novel coronavirus in China. It has issued a health advisory to all district headquarters, whereby officials have been told to look out for patients with respiratory symptoms and a history of travel to China and Thailand. Besides, the department has made an appeal to the people — with a travel history of China and Thailand — to report to the nearest Government Health Centre for screening.

• Dr Gagan Grover, State Programme Officer, Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme, said though the Government of India had not put Punjab on high alert, they had taken precautionary measures.

About Coronavirus: -

• The coronavirus is a family of viruses that can cause a range of illnesses in humans including the common cold and more severe forms like SARS and MERS which are lifethreatening. The virus is named after its shape which takes the form of a crown with protrusions around it and hence is known as coronavirus.

(Source: - The Tribune)

Important facts for Punjab PCS Prelims:-

- National Livestock Championship and Agri Expo-2020′ from 27th February to 2nd March 2020. Five-day event to be held at Batala and owners of the winning animals in milking & breed competitions to be awarded prizes amounting ₹2 Cr, announced Cabinet Minister Tript Rajinder Singh Bajwa.
- Amrit Singh, an Indian-American law enforcement officer

to becomes the *first-ever turban-wearing Sikh* to be sworn in as Deputy Constable in Texas, USA.

Please visit Regular Quiz Section for important questions.

Punjab PCS —> See Second (Regular Quiz)

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- **-** 00000000 00000 000000
- **-** 0000000
- 0000000000
- **-** 0-000000
- **-** 0000 000 00000
- **-** 00000000 00000 00000

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- **-** 0000 00000000
- OOOOOO OOOOOOO
- **-** 0000 0-000000
- **-** 000000 000 000 0000
- **-** 000000 000000000 00000 00000

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- Punjab Mindmaps
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- HCS Mindmaps
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- HCS Free Mock Test
- HCS Prelims Test Series

- 000000 000000000000
- 000000 0000000
- 000000 0000000000
- **-** 000000 0-000000
- **-** 00000 000 000 0000
- **-** 00000 00000000 00000 00000

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- CSAT
- **-** 00000

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