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President's Greetings on the eve of Chaitra Sukladi, Ugadi, Gudi Padwa, Cheti Chand, Navreh and Sajibu Cheiraoba

Posted On: 01 APR 2022 5:37PM by PIB Delhi

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind has sent his greetings to fellow citizens on the eve of Chaitra Sukladi, Ugadi, Gudi Padwa, Cheti Chand, Navreh and Sajibu Cheiraoba.

In a message, the President has said, "I extend my greetings and best wishes to all fellow citizens on the auspicious occasion of Chaitra Sukladi, Ugadi, Gudi Padwa, Cheti Chand, Navreh and Sajibu Cheiraoba festivals.

Celebrated in diverse ways across the nation to welcome the spring and the beginning of the Indian New Year, these festivals strengthen the bond of our cultural and social unity. The joyous festivities strengthen the spirit of harmony and fraternity in our society.



Why In News- The President of India greeted the people on the eve of "Chaitra Sukladi, Ugadi, Gudi Padwa, Cheti Chand, Navreh and Sajibu Cheiraoba.".

These festivals of the spring season mark the beginning of the traditional new year in India.

Chaitra Sukladi: 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**.

Gudi Padwa and Ugadi: These festivals are celebrated by the people in the Deccan region including Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.

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**.

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

Cheti Chand: Sindhis celebrate the new year as Cheti Chand. Chaitra month is called 'Chet' in Sindhi.

The day commemorates the **birth anniversary of Uderolal/Jhulelal**, the patron saint of Sindhis.

Navreh: It is the lunar new year that is celebrated in Kashmir.

It is the **Sanskrit word 'Nav-Varsha'** from which the word **'Navreh'** has been derived. It falls on the first day of the **Chaitra Navratri**.

Sajibu Cheiraoba: It is the great ritual festival of Meiteis (an ethnic group in Manipur) which is observed on the first day of Manipur lunar month Shajibu, which falls in the month of April every year.



National Dairy Development Board in collaboration with the National Bee Board organized National Conclave on 'Production of Bees Wax'

Posted On: 31 MAR 2022 7:04PM by PIB Delhi

A National Conclave on "Production of Bees Wax" was organized by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), Gujarat in collaboration with the National Bee Board (NBB), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on 30th March, 2022. The conclave was supported by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) & Tribal Co-Operative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED). The objective of this National Conclave is to create awareness about the production of other high-value beekeeping products viz. Bees Wax, Bee pollen, Royal Jelly, Propolis, bee venom, etc.





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Dr. N. K. Patle, Executive Director, National Bee Board (NBB) has briefed about the central sector scheme entitled **National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM)** and practices aspects relating to beekeeping.

In Apr 2021 the Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare has launched "Madhu Kranti Portal & Honey Corners.

Madhu Kranti Portal: It is an initiative of National Bee Board (NBB), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare under National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM).

This **portal is being developed for online registration** to achieve a traceability source of Honey and other **beehive products on a digital platform**.

The platform will help in checking the quality and source of adulteration of honey.

Honey Mission: The Honey Mission was launched in August 2017 in line with the 'Sweet Revolution'. The 'Sweet Revolution' was launched in 2016 to promote beekeeping and associated activities.

National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd.

The NAFED is registered under the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act.

It was set up in **1958 with the objective to promote cooperative marketing** of Agricultural Produce to benefit the farmers.

National Bee Board: Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) registered the NBB as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 in 2000 and it was reconstituted (with the secretary as chairman) in June 2006.



Management of Plastic And Other Non-Biodegradable Material

Posted On: 31 MAR 2022 5:56PM by PIB Delhi

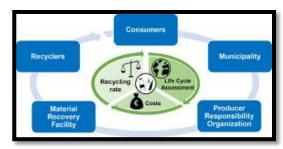
The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the Guidelines on the Extended Producer Responsibility for plastic packaging on 16th February, 2022. The enforceable prescription of targets under the EPR Guidelines, on the reuse of rigid plastic packaging and use of recycled plastic content in plastic packaging will reduce the use virgin plastic material in packaging across sectors. Further, the EPR guidelines promote development of plastic packaging which can completely biodegrade in the ambient environment subject to conditions and certified by regulatory entities.

The prohibition of identified single use plastic items will also reduce the use plastic material in different sectors. As per the Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016, there is a complete ban on sachets using plastic material used for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala. The Ministry has also notified the Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021, on 12th August 2021, prohibiting manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of the identified single use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential with effect from the 1st July, 2022.



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As per the **Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016**, there is a complete ban on sachets using plastic material used for **storing**, **packing or selling gutkha**, **tobacco and pan masala**.

The local authorities are mandated for collection, processing and disposal of solid waste including non-biodegradable waste and plastic waste, as per Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has been taking measures for awareness generation for elimination of identified single use plastics.

In Aug 2021 the Ministry Of Environment Forest And Climate Change has notified the Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021.

These rules prohibit specific single-use plastic items which have "low utility and high littering potential" by 2022.

New Rules: The manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of the identified single-use plastic will be prohibited with effect from the 1st July, 2022.

The ban will not apply to commodities made of compostable plastic.

For banning other plastic commodities in the **future**, **other than those that have been listed in this notification**, **the government has given industry ten years** from the date of notification for compliance.

The permitted thickness of the plastic bags, currently 50 microns, will be increased to 75 microns from 30th September, 2021, and to 120 microns from the 31st December, 2022.

Plastic bags with higher thickness are more easily handled as waste and have higher recyclability.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Preserving Coastal Ecosystem

Posted On: 31 MAR 2022 6:02PM by PIB Delhi

The Central Government has enacted legislations like the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for protection and conservation of Environment, Forest and Wildlife area of the country. The Government has also issued the Coastal Regulation Zone Notifications under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 with a view to *inter-alia* ensure livelihood security to the fisher communities and other local communities living in the coastal areas, to conserve and protect coastal stretches and its unique environment and its marine areas.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) implements Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely, 'National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems' for conservation and management of wetlands; 'Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reef' for protection, conservation and management of mangroves and coral reef; and 'Development of Wildlife Habitats' for conservation and management of Protected Areas in the country.

The details of fund allocated during the last three years for the aforesaidSchemes are as under:



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The Government has also implemented Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project (ICZMP), a World Bank Assisted project, in identified stretches of Gujarat, Odisha and West Bengal from 2010 to 2020.

Further, MoEFCC approved the proposal for National Coastal Management Programme under Direct Budgetary Support of ₹87 Crores for the FY 2021-22 to 2025-26.

The budgetary allocation for the purpose for FY 2019-20, FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22 is ₹ 75 Crores, ₹61 Crores and ₹22 Crores respectively.

With a view to protect and conserve the environment and control and abate pollution in coastal beaches and sea waters, the Ministry has identified beaches for the purpose of internationally recognized 'Blue Flag' Certification.

In Sep 2021, Foundation for Environment Education (FEE), Denmark has awarded the Blue Flag Certification to Kovalam (Tamil Nadu) and Eden (Puducherry), taking the total number of such beaches in the country to 10.

A waving "Blue Flag" is an indication of 100% compliance to the 33 stringent criteria and sound health of the beach.

About: It is an **internationally recognised eco-label** that is accorded based on **33 criterias.**





Government's Borrowing plan for First Half (H1) FY 2022-23

Posted On: 31 MAR 2022 7:21PM by PIB Delhi

The Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, has finalized its borrowing programme for the first half (H1) of FY 2022-23.

Out of Gross market borrowing of ₹14.31 lakh crore[1] estimated for FY 2022-23, ₹8.45 lakh crore is planned to be borrowed in the first half (H1).

The borrowing is scheduled to be completed in 26 weekly tranches of ₹32,000-33,000 crore. The borrowing will be spread under 2, 5, 7, 10, 14, 30 and 40 year securities and Floating Rate Bonds of various tenors. The share of borrowing under different maturities will be: 2 year (6.15%), 5 year (13.85%), 7 year (10.77%), 10 year (20%), 14 year (15.98%), 30 year (13.25%), 40 year (13.85%) and FRBs (6.15%). FRBs of various tenors will be issued on fortnightly basis

The Government will continue to carry out switching of securities to smoothen the redemptions.

The Government may continue to exercise greenshoe option to retain an additional subscription upto ₹2,000 crore against each of the securities indicated in the auction notification.



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To take care of temporary mismatches in **Government account, the Reserve Bank of India has fixed the Ways and Mean Advances (WMA)** limit for **H1 of FY 2022-23 at** ₹1,50,000 crore.

Ministry of Jal Shakti



Swachh Bharat Mission

Posted On: 31 MAR 2022 5:12PM by PIB Delhi

Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) [SBM (G)] was launched by the Government with effect from 2nd October, 2014, with the main aim to make the country Open Defecation Free (ODF) by 2nd October, 2019, by providing access to toilet facilities to all the rural households. Having achieved the outcomes of the ODF, Phase-II of SBM (G) is now being implemented with the focus on ODF sustainability and to make arrangements for Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) in all villages i.e. to transform the villages from ODF to ODF Plus, by 2024-25. The main features of SBM (G) Phase-II are:

- i. SBM(G) Phase-II is designed as novel model of convergence among different verticals of financing and various programmes of Centre and State Governments
- ii. Flexibility to States in designing delivery mechanisms taking into account their local culture, practices, sensibilities and demands
- III. Emphasis on capacity building of the implementing agencies to strengthen delivery of services at ground level
- iv. Emphasis on decentralized approach for effective Operation and Maintenance of assets constructed under SBM(G)



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SBM(G) Phase-II is designed as novel model of convergence among different verticals of financing and various programmes of Centre and State Governments.

Flexibility to States in designing delivery mechanisms taking into account their local culture, practices, sensibilities and demands.

As reported by the States/UTs on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of SBM(G), about 11 crore individual household latrines (IHHLs) and 1.97 lakh Community Sanitary Complexes (CSCs) have been constructed under the programme since 2014-15.

All the villages in the country have declared themselves ODF. 58,201 villages have been covered with Solid Waste Management and 33,962 villages have been covered with Liquid Waste Management.

To facilitate the States for effective and smooth implementation of the programme, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation has issued Operational Guidelines on Phase-II of SBM(G).

Cabinet



Cabinet approves USD 808 million for "Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance"

Posted On: 30 MAR 2022 2:23PM by PIB Delhi

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today approved a USD 808 million or Rs 6,062.45 crore, World Bank assisted programme on "Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance" (RAMP). RAMP is a new scheme and would commence in FY 2022-23.

Expenditure Involved:

The total outlay for the scheme is Rs.6,062.45 crore or USD 808 Million, out of which Rs.3750 crore or USD 500 Million would be a loan from the World Bank and the remaining Rs.2312.45 crore or USD 308 Million would be funded by the Government of India (GoI).



Why In News- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is implementing Rooftop Solar Programme Phase-II for which the guidelines were issued in August 2019.

Under this Programme 4000 MW rooftop solar (RTS) capacity addition is targeted through Central Financial Assistance (CFA) in residential sector including for households in rural areas.

For individual households CFA upto 40% of the benchmark cost is provided for RTS projects upto 3 kW capacity and upto 20% for RTS system capacity beyond 3 kW and up to 10 kW.

For Group Housing Societies/Residential Welfare Associations (GHS/RWA), CFA is limited to 20% for RTS plants for supply of power to common facilities of maximum 500 kW capacity.

Based on demand received from Distribution Utilities and other State implementing agencies, MNRE has allocated 3162 MW of RTS capacity against total 4000 MW capacity targeted under the Programme in residential sector and a total of 1252 MW capacity has been reported installed as on 28.02.2022.

The total solar power installed capacity in the country as on 28.2.2022 was 50.78 GW including 6.4 GW from rooftop solar.

The majority of rooftop solar installation are in urban areas. However, the bulk of total solar capacity is installed in rural areas.

Presently, the MNRE is providing financial support through schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan.

Pradhan Mantri Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan (PM KUSUM) Scheme was issued on **08 March 2019**.

The **Scheme consists of three components**:

Component A: 10,000 MW of Decentralized Ground Mounted Grid Connected Renewable Power Plants of individual plant size up to 2 MW.

Component B: Installation of 17.50 lakh standalone Solar Powered Agriculture Pumps of individual pump capacity up to 7.5 HP.

Component C: Solarisation of 10 Lakh Grid-connected Agriculture Pumps of individual pump capacity up to 7.5 HP.

Thank You



