

## Prelim Bits 18-08-2023 | UPSC Daily Current Affairs

### UDGAM Portal

*Reserve Bank of India (RBI) unveils UDGAM portal for search of unclaimed deposits.*

- The RBI unveiled a Centralised Web Portal UDGAM (Unclaimed Deposits - Gateway to Access inforMation).
- The Portal has been developed for use by members of public to facilitate and make it easier for them to search their unclaimed deposits across multiple banks at one place.
- The web portal will aid users to identify their unclaimed deposits/ accounts and enable them to either claim the deposit amount or make their deposit accounts operative at their respective banks.
- RBI Technology Pvt. Ltd. (ReBIT), Indian Financial Technology & Allied Services (IFTAS), and participating banks have collaborated on developing the portal.
- To begin with, users would be able to access the details of their unclaimed deposits in respect of 7 banks currently available on the portal.
- **7 Banks** - State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Central Bank of India, Dhanlaxmi Bank, South Indian Bank, DBS Bank India, and Citibank.
- The search facility for remaining banks on the portal would be made available in a phased manner by October 15, 2023.
- **Unclaimed Deposits** - The deposits remaining unclaimed for 10 years in a bank are called unclaimed deposits.
- Such deposits are transferred to the Depositor Education and Awareness (DEA) Fund maintained by the Reserve Bank of India.

*As per the government, unclaimed deposits in public sector banks have increased by more than 70% between December 2020 and February 2023 and have more than doubled compared to December 2019.*

### References

1. [The Hindu - RBI unveils UDGAM portal](#)
2. [The Economic Times - UDGAM portal to help customers track unclaimed deposits in banks](#)

### Mountain Railways of India

*Heavy rain and floods batter famed Kalka-Shimla heritage railway line.*

### Kalka-Shimla Railway Line

- The Kalka Shimla Railway, a 96-km long, single track working rail link built in the

mid-19th century to provide a service to the highland town of Shimla.

- It is located in the State of Himachal Pradesh and is divided into four parts such as Kalka to Koti, Koti to Barog, Barog to Solan and Solan to Shimla.
- The scenic route, a popular tourist attraction, has 20 stations, 103 tunnels and 912 curves.

### **Kangra Valley Railways**

- It is located in the sub-Himalayan region of Kangra Valley and covers a distance of 164 Kms.
- It extends from Pathankot, Punjab to Jogindernagar in Himachal Pradesh, India.

### **Darjeeling Himalayan Railway**

- It is located in the state of West Bengal.
- It was the first hill passenger railway in India.
- It was opened in 1881 and its design applies bold and ingenious engineering solutions to the problem of establishing an effective rail link across a mountainous terrain of great beauty.

### **Matheran Hill Railway**

- A hill resort at an altitude of 800 meters, Matheran is 110km away from Mumbai on Mumbai-Pune rail route.

### **Nilgiri Mountain Railway**

- The construction of the Nilgiri Mountain Railway, a 46-km long metre-gauge single-track railway in Tamil Nadu State was first proposed in 1854.
- However, due to the difficulty of the mountainous location the work only started in 1891 and was completed in 1908.
- This railway, scaling an elevation of 326 m to 2,203 m, represented the latest technology of the time.



## References

1. [The Hindu - Heavy rain and floods batter famed Kalka-Shimla heritage railway line](#)
2. [UNESCO - Mountain Railways of India](#)

## Flood Watch Application

*India launches Flood Watch app for real-time flood updates.*

- **CWC** - The Central Water Commission (CWC) launched an app, called Flood watch, which can forecast the chances of floods a day in advance.
- It also provides a 7 day advisory on the chances of floods at various stations in the country where the CWC maintains its measurement gauges.
- The app has a map of India with coloured circles at water stations across the country indicating the current risk of flooding.
- **Colour Coding** - A 'green' circle indicates 'normal'; yellow, above normal; orange,

'severe' and red, 'extreme'.

- Clicking on a circle shows the current water level at the station, the highest level historically attained, the danger level and warning level.
- The warnings are in English or Hindi with an option for a voice-enabled prompt.
- The app will also provide State-wise/basin-wide flood forecast up to 24 hours or flood advisory, up to 7 days, that can be accessed via selecting specific stations.

## References

1. [The Hindu - India launches Flood Watch app](#)
2. [Live Mint - CWC to provide 7-day flood forecast, launches app Flood Watch](#)

## Traditional Medicine Global Summit

*The First WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit held between 17 and 18 August 2023 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India.*

- The summit will be held alongside the G20 health ministerial meeting.
- It aims to mobilize political commitment and evidence-based action on traditional medicine, which is a first port of call for millions of people worldwide to address their health and well-being needs.
- The Global Summit will be co-hosted by WHO and the Government of India, which holds the presidency of the G20 in 2023.
- **Stakeholders** - Stakeholders like traditional medicine workers, users & communities, policymakers, international organizations, academics, private & civil society organizations use his platform.
- The stakeholders will share best practices and game-changing evidence, data and innovation on the contribution of traditional medicine to health and sustainable development.

## Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM)

- The WHO's GCTM, headquartered in Jamnagar, Gujarat, accelerates advancements in traditional medicine globally.
- This is the first and only global out posted Centre (office) for traditional medicine across the globe.
- It is established with the support of the Government of India.

## References

- [The Hindu - WHO asks countries to work towards unlocking the power of traditional medicine](#)
- [WHO - The First WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit](#)

## Vindhyagiri

*President Droupadi Murmu launched the 'INS Vindhyagiri' in Kolkata at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE).*

- **Project 17A** - Vindhyagiri, named after the mountain range in Karnataka, is the sixth

ship of the Project 17A program, as per PTI reports.

*The Nilgiri-class frigates, formally classified as the Project-17 Alpha frigates, are a series of stealth guided-missile frigates (a type of warship).*

- Vindhyagiri, a technologically advanced Frigate, and a tribute to the erstwhile INS Vindhyagiri, the Leander Class ASW Frigate.
- **Old Vindhyagiri** - It is nearly 31 years of service from July 1981 to June 2012, had witnessed various challenging operations and multinational exercises.
- Under the Project 17A program, a total of 4 ships by Mazagon Dock Ltd (MDL) and 3 ships by GRSE are under construction.
- The project's first 5 ships have been launched by the MDL and GRSE between 2019 and 2022.
- Project 17A ships have been designed in-house by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau, the pioneer organization for all warship design activities.
- A substantial 75% of the orders for equipment and systems of Project 17A ships are from indigenous firms.

## References

1. [PIB - Launch of Y - 3024 \(Vindhyagiri\)](#)
2. [Live Mint - INS Vindhyagiri](#)

