



CURRENT ISSUES AND ANALYSIS FOR HPSC

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Haryana to celebrate International Gita Mahotsav 2018

- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced to organise International Gita Mahotsav in Kurukshetra, Haryana from 7 to 23 December, 2018.

Facts

- The event will be jointly Organized by Kurukshetra Development Board, Haryana Tourism, District Administration, North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala & Information and Public Relations Department, Haryana.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has written a letter to Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani to invite Gujarat as a partner state in the International Geeta Jubilee Festival being organized this year.
- As soon as the Gujarat government gets its approval, the two states will start work on preparations for the International Geeta Festival.
- Last year, the participant state of this program was Uttar Pradesh.
- From 2016 onwards, the present Haryana Government has been organizing the Gita Jayanti Mahotsava of international level.
- This year, event would set a world record with the recitation of 'Ashtadash Shloki Gita' by as many as 18,000 students at one go.

- Besides, it is for the first time that it would be simultaneously chanted by hundreds of people in many countries of the world.
- President Pranab Mukherjee is scheduled to inaugurate Gita Mahotsav on December 7.
- The main attraction of this festival will be the International Crafts Fair, International Geeta Seminar and exhibition of spiritual establishments and grand cultural programs based on Geeta, Mahabharat and Sri Krishna katha.
- During the 'Mahotsav', youth from 574 districts across the country would reach Kurukshetra, showcasing one Shloka each scripted on their traditional dresses.
- They would also bring along sand from their respective districts which would be utilized to make an idol of Lord Krishna to symbolise unity and integrity of the country.
- These verses would be available to the participants through YouTube.
- Vaishvik Path of Bhagvad Gita will also be held at Brahma Sarovar and Jyotisar, the birthplace of Bhagvad Gita.
- The countries where global chanting would be held include India, Australia (Canberra), Bahrain, Canada (Vancouver), Paris in France, Hong Kong, Jakarta in Indonesia, Kenya, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritius, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, UAE, Britain, California, Arizona, Chicago and New York in the US.
- Since Lord Krishna is deeply concerned with Gujarat, in such a situation if the Gujarat government accepts this proposal, then mainly the participation of traditional recipes of Gujarat in the Crafts Fair and cultural programs and their participation in cultural exhibition of Gujarat. A cultural evening participant will be dedicated to the state in the cultural programs organized by the Haryana Government from December 14 to 18, 2018.

Bhagwad Gita

- Bhagavad Gita is a 700 verse Hindu scripture in Sanskrit that is part of Hindu epic Mahabharata. It is set in narrative framework of dialogue between Pandava prince Arjuna and his guide and charioteer Lord Krishna. The Bhagavad Gita presents a synthesis of the concept of Dharma, theistic bhakti, yogic ideals of moksha through jnana, bhakti, karma, and Raja Yoga and Samkhya philosophy.

Kurukshetra Development Board

- The Kurukshetra Development Board was constituted by the Haryana Government w.e.f 1.8.1968 under the Chairmanship of Sh. Gulzari Lal Nanda. There a board was registered under the Societies Registration XXI of 1860. After Sh. Gulzari Lal Nanda left the Chairmanship of the Board, Governor of Haryana was appointed as Chairman of the Board w.e.f. 27.6.1990.

The broad functions for which the Board was constituted are as under :

- To undertake the overall comprehensive development of the Kurukshetra including its landscaping, renovation of historical building and tanks.
- Provision of sheds and huts etc. for pilgrims .
- Provision of civic amenities for pilgrims .
- Provision of suitable accommodation arrangement for tourists.
- Maintenance of cleanliness at all the sacred places throughout the year.

Thank You

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