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UNESCO Delists Liverpool of Its World Heritage Status

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Why in News

Recently, the city of Liverpool, England has been removed from **UNESCO's (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)** list of world heritage sites.

Earlier six Indian places were added to the **tentative list of UNESCO's** world heritage sites.

Key Points



- **Liverpool:**

- The port city was **included in the prestigious list for its architectural beauty** and in recognition of its role as **one of the world's most important ports** during the **18th and 19th centuries**.
- It was **named a World Heritage Site in 2004**, joining cultural landmarks such as the Great Wall of China, the **Taj Mahal**, and the Leaning Tower of Pisa.
The city is only the **third place to be removed from the prestigious list**.

- **Reasons for Delisting:**
 - The **new buildings including a football stadium** undermine the attractiveness of its Victorian docks and were destroying the **heritage value of its waterfront**.
 - The over development would **irreversibly damage the heritage of the historic port**.
- **Other Delisted Sites:**
 - **Wildlife sanctuary in Oman in 2007.**
Reason: poaching and habitat loss.
 - **Dresden Elbe valley in Germany in 2009.**
Reason: A four-lane motorway bridge was built over the river.

World Heritage Site

- **About:**
 - A World Heritage Site is a place that is **listed by UNESCO for its special cultural or physical significance**. The list of World Heritage Sites is maintained by the international '**World Heritage Programme**', administered by the **UNESCO World Heritage Committee**.
 - It seeks to **encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage** around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity.
 - This is embodied in an **international treaty called the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage**, adopted by UNESCO in **1972**.
It provides a **framework for international cooperation in preserving and protecting cultural treasures** and natural areas throughout the world.
- **Types:**
 - **Cultural heritage sites** include historic buildings and town sites, important archaeological sites, and works of monumental sculpture or painting.
 - **Natural heritage sites** are restricted to natural areas.
 - **Mixed heritage sites** contain elements of both natural and cultural significance
- **Sites in India:**

India has **38 world heritage sites**, including **30 cultural properties, 7 natural properties and 1 mixed site**. The latest one included is **Jaipur city, Rajasthan**.

Source: TH