



Uttarakhand to Translocate Four Tigers to Rajasthan | Uttarakhand | 30 Mar 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the Uttarakhand government has agreed to translocate four tigers to Rajasthan following a request from the authorities.

Key Points

According to guidelines of the [National Tiger Conservation Authority \(NTCA\)](#), the tigers to be sent to Rajasthan will not be captured from the protected forest area but from the [buffer zone](#).

- A similar request for the **relocation of three tigers to Odisha** has also been received and it is under consideration.
- The requests from the Rajasthan and the Odisha governments for the translocation of tigers were received following the successful operation of the **tiger relocation project** in Uttarakhand under which four big cats were translocated from the [Corbett Tiger Reserve](#) to [Rajaji Tiger Reserve](#).

TIGER

Royal Bengal Tiger (*Panthera tigris*) is the National animal of India.

Subspecies of Tiger

- ✦ The continental (*Panthera tigris tigris*)
- ✦ The Sunda (*Panthera tigris sondaica*)

Habitat

Tropical rainforests, evergreen forests, temperate forests, mangrove swamps, grasslands, and savannas

Countries Where Tiger Population is Found

- ▣ Found only in 13 Tiger Range countries- India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Russia, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam
- ◆ As per the latest report by IUCN, tiger has gone extinct in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam

Protection Status

- ▣ IUCN Red List: Endangered
- ▣ CITES: Appendix I
- ▣ WPA 1972: Schedule I

Threats



- ▣ Habitat loss
- ▣ Poaching and illegal trade
- ▣ Human-Wildlife conflict

Conservation Efforts

- ▣ International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA): For conservation of seven big cats namely Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar and Puma (launched by India)
- ▣ Tx2 campaign: Launched by WWF; stands for 'Tiger times 2' signaling the goal to double the tiger population by 2022
- ▣ National Tiger Conservation authority (NTCA): Constituted under the WPA, 1972
- ▣ Project Tiger: Launched in 1973
- ▣ Tiger Census: Every 4 years

Tigers In India

- ▣ India has the largest population
 - ◆ As of 2022, India has 3167 tigers
 - ◆ Largest population has been found in Central Indian Highlands & Eastern Ghats Landscape
- ▣ Tiger Reserves: India now has 53 tiger reserves
 - ◆ Ranipur in UP is the latest
 - ◆ Nagarjun Sagar (Andhra Pradesh) is the largest while Orang (Assam) is the smallest (Core area)

 
Drishti IAS

National Tiger Conservation Authority

- It is a **statutory body** under the **Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change**.
- It was established in **2005** following the recommendations of the Tiger Task Force.
- It was constituted under enabling provisions of the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**, as amended in 2006, for strengthening tiger conservation, as per powers and functions assigned to it.

Rajaji Tiger Reserve

- It is located in **Haridwar (Uttarakhand)**, along the foothills of the Shivalik range. It is part of **Rajaji National Park**.
- Rajaji National Park was established in the year 1983 after amalgamating three sanctuaries in the Uttarakhand i.e., Rajaji, Motichur and Chila.
- It was **named after the famous freedom fighter C. Rajgopalachari**; popularly known as "Rajaji".
- It was declared a **Tiger Reserve** in 2015 as the 48th tiger reserve of the country.

Indian Railway & Uttarakhand Tourism Launches Manaskhand Express | Uttarakhand | 30 Mar 2024

Why in News?

The **Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board**, along with the **Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC)**, has introduced a new tourist train called the "**Manaskhand Express**" to promote the hidden gems of the **Kumaon Region** in Uttarakhand.

Key Points

- The "**MANASKHAND EXPRESS - BHARAT GAURAV TOURIST TRAIN**" is a special 10 Nights/11 Days tour.
- This unique journey is designed to showcase the divine beauty and cultural richness of Uttarakhand's Devbhoomi, known for its **spiritual significance and heritage sites**.
- **Departing on 22 April 2024**, the tour offers a comprehensive exploration of various destinations across Uttarakhand.
 - The train's **boarding and deboarding stations** include Pune, Lonavala, Panvel, Kalyan, Nashik, Jalgaon, Bhusawal, Khandwa, Itarasi, and Rani Kamlapati, ensuring accessibility for travelers from different regions.
 - Some of the highlights of the tour include visits to Champawat/Lohaghat to explore Baleshwar, Tea Gardens, and Mayawati Ashram, **paying homage at Nanda Devi & Kainchi Dham - Baba Neem Karoli Temple**, and seeking blessings at Nanakmatta Gurudwara - **Khatima & Naina Devi - Nainital**.
 - Additionally, participants will have the chance to discover the spiritual aura of **Jageshwar Dham & Golu Devta - Chitai** and visit **Haat Kalika Temple & Patal Bhuvneshwar**.

India Employment Report 2024 | Bihar | 30 Mar 2024

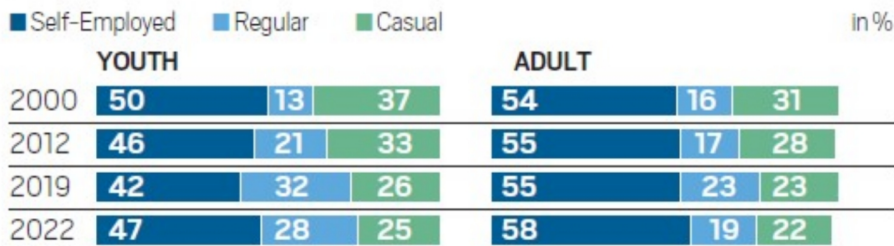
Why in News?

According to the **India Employment Report 2024**, released by the Institute for **Human Development and International Labour Organisation (ILO)** the 'Employment Condition Index' of the states have improved between 2004-05 and 2021-22.

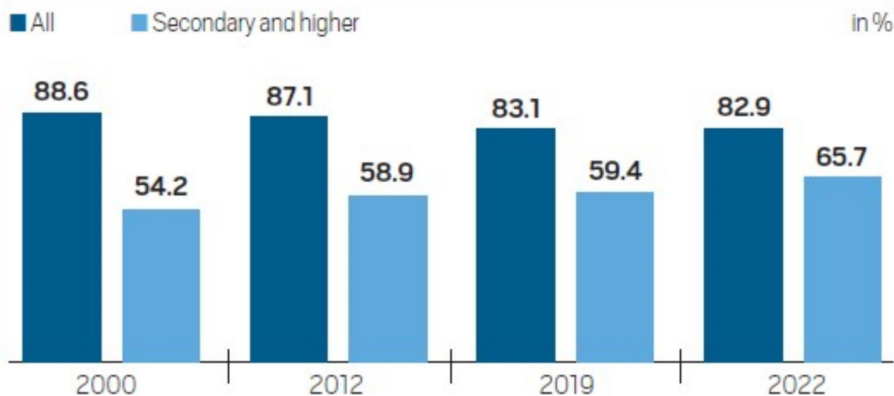
Key Points

- The "Employment Condition Index" has improved between 2004-05 and 2021-22, but some states such as **Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, and UP have remained at the bottom throughout this period.**
 - While some others **Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Uttarakhand, and Gujarat** have **stayed at the top.**
- The index is based on **seven labour market outcome indicators:**
 - percentage of workers employed in regular formal work;
 - percentage of casual labourers;
 - percentage of self-employed workers below the poverty line;
 - work participation rate;
 - average monthly earnings of casual labourers;
 - unemployment rate of secondary and above-educated youth;
 - youth not in employment and education or training.
- The report has **flagged concerns about poor employment conditions:** the slow transition to non-farm employment has reversed; women largely account for the increase in self-employment and unpaid family work; youth employment is of poorer quality than employment for adults; wages and earnings are stagnant or declining.
- **Employment Quality:** Almost 82% of the workforce is engaged in the informal sector, and nearly 90% is informally employed. Self-employment and unpaid family work has also increased, especially for women.
- **Participation of Women:** The [female Labour Force Participation Rate \(LFPR\)](#) in India remains among the world's lowest. Female LFPR declined by 14.4% points (compared to 8.1% points for males) between 2000 and 2019.
 - The trend reversed thereafter, with female LFPR rising by 8.3% points (compared to 1.7% points for male LFPR) between 2019 and 2022.
- **Structural Transformation:** The share of agriculture in total employment fell to around 42% in 2019 from 60% in 2000. This shift was largely absorbed by construction and services, the share of which in total employment increased to 32% in 2019 from 23% in 2000.
- **Youth Employment:** There has been a rise in youth employment, but the quality of work remains a concern, especially for qualified young workers. In 2022, the share of unemployed youths in the total unemployed population was 82.9%.

STATUS OF EMPLOYMENT (UPSS) OF YOUTHS AND ADULTS



SHARE OF UNEMPLOYED EDUCATED YOUTHS (SECONDARY OR HIGHER) IN TOTAL UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (UPSS)



GST Evasion: Fake Credit Claims Worth Rs 19,690 Crore | Haryana | 30 Mar 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **Haryana** along with Delhi, **stood at the top in terms of value** detected in **fake Input Tax Credit (ITC) claims** as [Goods and Services \(GST\)](#) Evasion.

Key Points

- A total of 1,999 cases have been booked for fake ITC claims in India in the ongoing financial year 2023-24 (till January), involving an amount of Rs 19,690 crore.
- The amount involved in fake ITC claims in FY24 (till January) is **49% higher** than Rs 13,175 crore detected in 1,940 cases in FY23.
- In **terms of value detected, Haryana and Delhi stood at the top** with an amount of Rs 10,851 crore, as per data. Haryana and Delhi together account for **55% of the total amount** of Rs 19,690 crore detected in the fake ITC claims under GST in the current financial year.

Input Tax Credit

- It is the **tax that a business pays on a purchase** and that it can use to reduce its tax liability when it makes a sale.
- It means **at the time of paying tax on output, one can reduce the tax that has already**

been paid on inputs and pay the balance amount.

- **Exceptions:** A business under **GST composition scheme cannot avail** of input tax credit. ITC cannot be claimed for personal use or for goods that are exempt.

GST Council

- **Article 279A** - GST Council to be formed by the President to administer & govern GST. It's Chairman is Union Finance Minister of India with ministers nominated by the state governments as its members.
- The council is devised in such a way that the centre will have **1/3rd voting power and the states have 2/3rd**.
- The decisions are taken by 3/4th majority.

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/statepcs/30-03-2024//print>

