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## 5 Airfields to be Built in Uttarakhand | Uttarakhand | 13 Jan 2024

### Why in News?

The [Border Roads Organisation \(BRO\)](#) is set to develop **five airfields in Uttarakhand, including Gunji, Kalsi, Tanakpur, Ghansali, and Navidhang.**

### Key Points

- This initiative is necessary for **enhancing the management of resources near the border with China.**
- The meeting also discussed the **widening and strengthening work of the 10.9 km stretch, the strategic Auli-Joshimath route in Chamoli district.**
- The **construction of the 15km alternative route from Bargaon in Joshimath to Auli** is also proposed to be entrusted to the BRO.
- Lt Gen Srinivasan shared details of the **ongoing BRO projects, including roads from Baluwakote to Tawaghat and Lipulekh to Jolingkong in Pithoragarh district.**

### Border Roads Organisation (BRO)

- BRO was **conceived and raised in 1960** by [Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru](#) for coordinating the speedy development of a network of roads in the North and the North Eastern border regions of the country.
  - It **works under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence.**
  - It has diversified into a large spectrum of construction and development works comprising airfields, building projects, defence works and tunneling and has endeared itself to the people.
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## Uttar Pradesh to have 5 more Airports | Uttar Pradesh | 13 Jan 2024

### Why in News?

According to Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, **five new airports** will be **inaugurated in Uttar Pradesh.**

### Key Points

- The airports at **Azamgarh, Aligarh, Moradabad, Chitrakoot and Shravasti** will come up in the State that will take the **total number of airports in the state to 19.**
- [Ayodhya airport](#) **will be expanded** and the runway will be **extended to allow landing of bigger aircraft and operation of international flights.**
  - Its **second phase expansion** will start soon and more flights will be connecting the city.

- The [Maharishi Valmiki International Airport](#) in Ayodhya was **inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 30, 2023.**

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## Indore: Cleanest City for Seventh Consecutive Time | Madhya Pradesh | 13 Jan 2024

### Why in News?

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav received the award from President of India Droupadi Murmu at the [Swachh Survekshan Award 2023](#) ceremony held in New Delhi.

- **Indore became the cleanest city of the country for the seventh consecutive time.**

### Key Points

- Indore has **shared the title** of cleanest city with **Surat**.
- Like every year in the Swachh Survekshan-2022 conducted by the Government of India, **Madhya Pradesh once again set records of cleanliness.**
- **Achievements of the State in Swachh Bharat Mission:**
  - **Garbage collection** is being done in **100% urban areas of the state**. For this, **motorized vehicles** have been provided to the urban bodies. Global Positioning System (GPS) systems have been installed in these vehicles.
  - Home composting is being encouraged for processing and execution of wet waste. **Compost of wet waste** stored in **centralized composting units of bodies** is made. This compost is used as manure in rural areas adjoining urban areas.

### Swachh Survekshan 2023

- Swachh Survekshan was introduced by **the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in 2016** as a competitive framework to encourage cities to improve the status of urban sanitation while encouraging large scale citizen participation.
- Over the years, Swachh Survekshan has emerged as the largest Urban sanitation survey in the world.

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## Jamshedpur: Cleanest City in Jharkhand | Jharkhand | 13 Jan 2024

### Why in News?

**Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee (JNAC)**, the civic utility for Jamshedpur town area, continues to be **the best in Jharkhand in terms of cleanliness.**

- **Jamshedpur bagged the top spot for the fifth time in succession** (since 2019), as well as **43<sup>rd</sup> position in the population category** of 1-10 lakh nationwide in the pan-India survey and

over-all it has been ranked 78th among 4500+ cities in India.

## Key Points

- JNAC bagged the **top spot in the cities under population category of 1-10 lakh in Jharkhand** in the **Swachh Survekshan 2023**.
- In Swachh Survekshan 2023, JNAC has received a total of 7042.4 marks out of 9500. Besides, **Jamshedpur city also has [Open Defecation Free \(ODF++\)](#) and 3 Star certification**.
- JNAC also claimed to host regularly “**Indian Swachhta League 2.0**”, “**Recycle Reduce and Reuse (RRR) Campaign**”, “**Home Composting**”, **Swachhta Hi Seva, Swachhta Ke Do Rang, “Kabaad Se Jugaad”** to spread **awareness for better waste management** apart from workshops on topics like plastic ban.
- **Awareness** was also spread through “**wall painting**”, **cleanliness ranking among schools, hotels, hospitals, residential apartments, cleanliness related messages and hoardings**.

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## Rise of Child Marriages | Bihar | 13 Jan 2024

### Why in News?

A recent **Lancet** study on [child marriage](#) in India highlighted an overall decrease in child marriage across the country. However, it emphasized that certain states, specifically **Bihar (16.7%), West Bengal (15.2%), Uttar Pradesh (12.5%), and Maharashtra (8.2%)**, collectively contributed to over half of the total headcount burden of child marriages in girls.

### Key Points

- According to the [National Family Health Survey 4 \(NFHS 2015-16\)](#), 39.1% of women within 20-24 years are married before 18 years.
  - This means 2 out of 5 adolescent girls are married off before they complete their higher secondary education.
- As per the **District Level Household Survey (DLHS-4, 2015-16)**, child marriage in the intervention areas of **CRY-supported projects** in Bihar, **Supaul had the highest percentage of child marriage, followed by Begusarai, Jamui, Samastipur and Gaya districts**.
- As the latest [Census \(2011\)](#) data reveals, there are over **13 million adolescent girls** who are **married between 10 to 19 years of age**.
  - A startling **3.8 million adolescent girls in India have children**, of which **1.4 million had two or more children**, even before completing adolescence.
  - A brief analysis of their education profile reveals that **39% of girls** who were **illiterate had begun child bearing**, compared to **26% who were literate, proving that even a little education goes a long way in empowering girls**.
- **To address the issue of child marriage** on a sustainable basis, the need of the hour is **to ensure inter-departmental convergence** where **schools, [Integrated Child Development Scheme \(ICDS\)](#), and [panchayati-raj institutions](#)** need to play a pivotal role.
- Following the mandate of [Integrated Child Protection Scheme](#), formation and **strengthening of Child Protection Committees at the Gram Panchayat and block level** needs immediate attention, and these units would have to be accountable to address issues related to child marriage.

### NFHS-4

- In addition to the 29 states, NFHS-4 **included all six union territories for the first time and**

**provided estimates of most indicators at the district level** for all 640 districts in the country as per the 2011 census.

- The **survey covered a range of** health-related issues, including fertility, infant and child mortality, maternal and child health, perinatal mortality, adolescent reproductive health, high-risk sexual behaviour, safe injections, **tuberculosis**, and **malaria, non-communicable diseases, domestic violence, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)** knowledge, and attitudes toward people living with HIV.

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