



Structural Audit of Bihar's Bridges | Bihar | 06 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, a lawyer filed a petition in [the Supreme Court](#) highlighting over **10 bridge collapses across Bihar since 2022** while seeking a **structural audit** of recently completed, under-construction and old bridges in the State.

Key Points

- The petition urged the court to set up an **expert committee to identify unsafe bridges** in the State.
- The Bridges which have collapsed were in districts of Siwan, Saran, Madhubani, Araria, East Champaran and Kishanganj. The issue is grave as Bihar was a [flood-prone State](#).

New Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court | Jharkhand | 06 Jul 2024

Recently, **Justice Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi** took oath as the **15th** [Chief Justice of the Jharkhand High Court](#).

Key Points

- [Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan](#) administered the oath of office at the Raj Bhavan in Ranchi.
- [Chief Minister Hemant Soren](#) and **Speaker Rabindra Nath Mahato** attended the swearing-in ceremony, besides several judges and senior government officials.

Appointment of High Court Judges

- **Article 217 of the Constitution** states that the **Judge of a High Court** shall be **appointed by the President** in consultation with the [Chief Justice of India \(CJI\)](#) and the [Governor of the State](#).
- In the case of appointment of a Judge other than the Chief Justice, the **Chief Justice of the High Court is consulted**.

Rajasthan to Form Tourism Board | Rajasthan | 06 Jul 2024

Why in News?

The **Rajasthan government** is taking steps to **establish a [tourism board](#)** to enhance the industry's role in economic development.

Key Points

- The tourism sector has experienced substantial growth [post-pandemic](#), contributing 14% to the state's [Gross Domestic Product \(GDP\)](#).
- More than 1,200 tourism units are benefiting from industry status advantages.
 - Plans to include **international tour operators** in the upcoming tourism mart aim to increase foreign tourist inflow.

Initiatives Related to Tourism in India:

- [Swadesh Darshan Scheme](#): It was launched to develop **theme-based tourist circuits** across India, leveraging cultural, historical, and natural heritage.
 - Improved infrastructure and tourist experiences in circuits like the [Buddhist Circuit](#), **Coastal Circuit, Desert Circuit, and Eco Circuit**.
- [PRASAD Scheme](#): Focuses on the development and beautification of pilgrimage sites.
- [HRIDAY \(Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana\)](#): Aims to preserve and revitalize heritage cities.
- **Paryatan Parv**: A nationwide campaign to encourage domestic tourism, involving cultural events and activities
- [Dekho Apna Desh Initiative](#): This initiative encourages domestic tourism by promoting the exploration of India's diverse landscapes and cultural heritage.
- [Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat](#): It promotes cultural integration through state pairings, encouraging exchange and collaboration and fostering unity and diversity, enhancing domestic tourism and cultural appreciation.

Kashi to Open Agri Junction Centres | Uttar Pradesh | 06 Jul 2024

Why in News?

According to the officials, 20 **agri junction centres** for **trained youth agrarians** are to be opened in **Kashi**.

Key Points

- The district has been given a target of opening **20 agri junction centres for trained youth agrarians in the current financial year**.
- This **scheme was launched by the state government in 2016-17**. Between 2016-17 and 2023-24, a total of 104 centers were opened, with **71 currently active**.
 - Any agriculture or agribusiness management graduates who hold degrees in agriculture and allied subjects such as [horticulture](#), [animal husbandry](#), [forestry](#), [dairy](#), [veterinary](#), [poultry](#) and similar activities from any state or central university or any other university recognised by [Indian Council of Agricultural Research \(ICAR\)](#) or [University Grants Commission \(UGC\)](#) will be eligible to apply for establishment of agri junction centres.
- Apart from this, experienced diploma holders, intermediate qualified candidates in agriculture will be considered.

- After selection beneficiaries will also be given a 13-day training in **Rural Business Development Scheme (RIDP)**.
 - RIDP **provides grant funding through local development corporations** to support business relocation and expansion efforts.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

- It was **established on 16 July 1929** as a **registered society** under the [Societies Registration Act, 1860](#).
- It is an **autonomous organisation** under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**, Government of India.
- It is headquartered at **New Delhi**.

University Grants Commission

- It came into existence on 28th December, 1953 and became a **statutory Organization of the Government of India by the [University Grants Commission Act, 1956](#)**, for the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of teaching, examination and research in university education.
- The UGC operates under the **Ministry of Education**, the Central Government appoints a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and ten other members to the UGC.
 - The Chairman is chosen from people **who are not officers of the Central Government or any State Government**.

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