

Bihar Special

New Tourist Attraction in Bodh Gaya

Why in the news?

Tourists visiting Gaya and Bodh Gaya will soon be able to see replicas of the world's seven wonders in Bodh Gaya. This new attraction aims to boost local tourism and create employment opportunities.

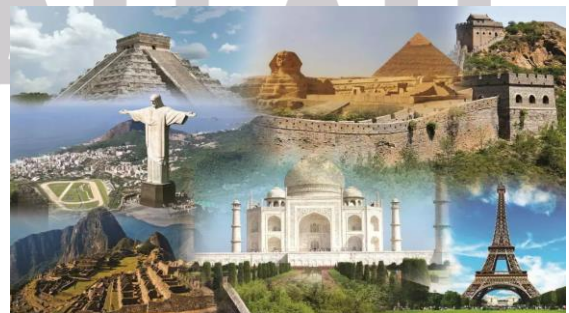
❖ Location and Budget:

- The replicas will be constructed in Silonja, near Bodh Gaya.
- The tourism department has approved a budget of ₹14.85 crore for this project.

❖ Replicas of the Seven Wonders:

- **Great Pyramid of Giza:** The largest pyramid of ancient Egypt, also known as the tomb of Pharaoh Khufu. It stands 439 feet tall.
- **Roman Colosseum:** A large Roman amphitheater used for various games and performances.
- **Taj Mahal:** A white marble mausoleum in Agra, known as a symbol of love, built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal.

- **Great Wall of China:** A defensive structure built to protect China, stretching approximately 21,000 kilometers.
- **Petra:** Known as the "Rose City," this ancient city in Jordan is famous for its rock-cut architecture and numerous caves and temples.
- **Christ the Redeemer:** A large statue of Jesus Christ in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, symbolizing Brazilian Christianity.
- **Machu Picchu:** An ancient Inca city located in the Andes Mountains of Peru, often referred to as the "Lost City of the Incas."



INSPIRE Award

Why in the news?

The 16 child scientists from Bihar were selected under the INSPIRE Award scheme, which supports young students in science and innovation.

- ❖ **State-Level Competition:** The selection was based on their performance in a state-level project and exhibition competition organized by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT).

Details of the State-Level Competition:

- ❖ **Organizer:** SCERT, Bihar.
- ❖ **Dates:** The competition took place over two days, August 29 and August 30, 2024.
- ❖ **Participants:** A total of 209 child scientists from 37 districts participated. Out of them, the selected 16 child scientists will represent Bihar at the national level.

District Representation:

- ❖ **Nalanda:** The district with the highest representation, having three child scientists selected for the national competition.

Selected Child Scientists for the National Competition

- ❖ The Selected Child Scientists will compete in **National Exhibition Competition**, a prestigious event where child scientists from across the country showcase their projects.
- ❖ This competition will be held from September 17 to September 19, 2024, in Delhi.

Book Launch and Tribute: Dr. Vishnu Kishor Jha 'Bechan'

Why in the news?

A book launch and tribute ceremony was held in memory of Dr. Vishnu Kishor Jha 'Bechan'.

About Dr. Vishnu Kishor Jha 'Bechan':

- ❖ **Background:** Dr. Jha was a renowned critic and scholar in Hindi literature.
- ❖ **Affiliation:** He served as the Vice-Chancellor of Bhagalpur University and was President of the Bihar Hindi Sahitya Sammelan.
- ❖ **Books Launched:**
 - "Ek Adhoori Kahani" - A collection of stories by Dr. Bechan.
 - "Dr. Bechan Samagra (Volume 2)" - Edited by senior literary figure Braj Kishor Pathak.



Appointments in Bihar

❖ New Chief Secretary

- **Appointed:** Amrit Lal Meena
- **Previous Position:** Secretary, Ministry of Coal
- **Replaced:** Brijesh Mehrotra
- **Details:** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the repatriation of Amrit Lal Meena, a 1989 batch IAS officer of the Bihar cadre, to serve as Bihar's new Chief Secretary.

❖ New Director General of Police (DGP)

- **Appointed:** Alok Raj
- **Previous Position:** Director General of the Vigilance Investigation Bureau
- **Details:** The Home Department has appointed Alok Raj, a 1989 batch IPS officer, as the new DGP of Bihar. He will serve until December 31, 2025, covering the Assembly elections.



Bihar's Overseas Employment Trends

Why in the news?

After the COVID pandemic, the number of people from Bihar going abroad has increased.

- ❖ **Key Districts:** Patna, Siwan, Gopalganj, Champaran, and Kishanganj have high numbers of people going abroad for work.

Historical Data

- ❖ **2019:** 368,048 people from India went abroad for work, including 55,423 from Bihar.
- ❖ **2020:** 94,145 people left India for work, with 13,911 from Bihar due to the pandemic.
- ❖ **2021:** 132,673 people went abroad from India, including 24,526 from Bihar.
- ❖ **2022:** The number rose to 329,699 people from India, with 53,781 from Bihar.
- ❖ **2024 (up to March):** 7,417 people from Bihar had gone abroad for work.

IFFCO Literary Awards 2024

Why in the news?

The Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has announced the Shri Lal Shukla Smriti IFFCO Literary Award for the year 2024.

Recipients

❖ Chandra Kishore Jaiswal

- **Hometown:** Madhepura district, Bihar
- **Notable Works:** Gawah Gair Haziar, Chiranjeev, Paltaniya, Nakeesar Kaga Le Bhagaa, Dukhiya Das Kabir, Kitaab Mein Likha Hai, Aaghaat Pushp, Khatte Nahin Angoor, Hum Azaad Ho Gaye, Singhasan, Cheer-Haran, Ratajga, Trahimam, Jabaan Ki Bandish

❖ Reenu Yadav

- **Current Role:** Assistant Professor at Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida
- **Hometown:** Gorakhpur
- **Notable Works:** Mahadevi Verma Ke Kavya Mein Vedna Ka Manovishleshan, Main Mukht Hoon, Sakshaatkaron Ke Aaine Mein.



International Relations

India-China 31st WMCC Meeting

Why in the news?

The 31st meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) was held on 29th August 2024 in Beijing.

About the WMCC

❖ Establishment and Purpose

- The concept was first proposed by Wen Jiabao, the then Premier of China, in 2010.
- Created through an agreement in 2012, the WMCC emerged to address the need for a formalized mechanism for information exchange on border matters.

❖ Composition and Function

- The WMCC comprises representatives from both countries' Foreign and Defence Ministries.

❖ Purpose

- To address and resolve issues along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and improve bilateral relations.



Environment And Geography

Cyclone Asna

Why in the news?

Cyclone Asna, which formed in the Arabian Sea on August 30, 2024, is notable as the first land-to-sea cyclone in 48 years, last appearing in 1976.

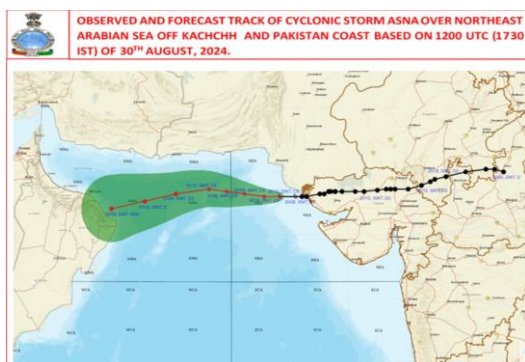
Cyclones that occurred in 2023:

Name of the Cyclone	Date	Country Where It Occurred	Wind Speed (in km/h)
Cyclone Mocha	9th May	India, Bangladesh, Myanmar	280 km/h
Cyclone Fabien	13th May	Bermuda	193 km/h
Cyclone Biparjoy	15th June	South to north across Rajasthan, India	195 km/h
Cyclone Tej	22nd October	Towards Oman and Yemen coast	205 km/h
Cyclone Hamoon	21st October	Northwest Bay of Bengal	120 km/h
Cyclone Midhili	18th November	Between Khepupara and Mongla in Bangladesh	80 km/h
Cyclone Michaung	4th December	Coast of Tamil Nadu (India)	110 km/h
Cyclone Jasper	13th December	North of the town of Port Douglas	220 km/h

- ❖ This deep depression transitioned into a cyclonic storm after originating from western Gujarat, moving towards the Arabian Sea.

What is a cyclone?

A cyclone is a large-scale air mass that rotates around a strong center of low atmospheric pressure. It is characterized by its spiral arrangement of thunderstorms that produce strong winds, heavy rainfall, and often severe weather conditions.



Miscellaneous

Government Prepares for WAVES 2024 Summit

Why in the news?

The Government is set to host the first-ever World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) to strengthen India's media and entertainment industry and enhance its global presence.

- ❖ The event will be held in Goa from November 20th to November 25th, 2024.

Launch of 'Create in India Challenge - Season 1'

- ❖ **Announcement:** Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Ashwini Vaishnaw, launched 25 challenges under the 'Create in India Challenge - Season 1' on August 22nd, 2024.
- ❖ **Focus Areas:** The challenges span disciplines such as animation, film-making, gaming, comics, and music.



20th - 24th NOVEMBER 2024

Sports

Paris 2024 Paralympics

Why in the news?

As of now, India secured four medals at the Paris Paralympic Games 2024

No.	Athlete	Sport	Event	Medal
1	Avani Lekhara	Shooting	Women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1	Gold
2	Mona Agarwal	Shooting	Women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1	Bronze
3	Manish Narwal	Shooting	Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1	Silver
4	Preethi Pal	Athletics	Women's 100m T35	Bronze



News in Short

- ❖ Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Heeramandi is nominated for 'Best OTT Original' and 'Best Original Song' at the Busan International Film Festival.
- ❖ Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd (SECI), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has been granted the Navratna status on 30th August 2024 by the Ministry of Finance.

- ❖ The World Gold Council (WGC) has increased its forecast for India's gold consumption in 2024 to 850 tonnes, up from the previous estimate of 750 tonnes.
- ❖ PM Narendra Modi to visit Brunei, Singapore from September 3 to 5, 2024.
- ❖ India's forex reserves reach a record high of \$681 billion.
- ❖ The revenue department of the finance ministry has established a panel to simplify the Income Tax Act, led by V.K. Gupta, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax.
- ❖ Pakistan has invited Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attend the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit.



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