



# Global Housing Technology Challenge-India

## Why in News

The Prime Minister has laid the foundation of **LightHouse Projects (LHPs)**, as part of the **Global Housing Technology Challenge-India (GHTC-India)** initiative, at **six sites** across six states via videoconference.

- He also announced the winners under **Affordable Sustainable Housing Accelerators - India (ASHA-India)** and gave away annual awards for excellence in implementation of **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U) Mission**.
- He also released a **certification course on innovative construction technologies** named **NAVARITIH** (New, Affordable, Validated, Research Innovation Technologies for Indian Housing).

## Key Points

- **Global Housing Technology Challenge-India:**
  - The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** has conceptualized a Global Housing Technology Challenge - India (GHTC- India) which **aims to identify and mainstream a basket of innovative technologies** from across the globe **for the housing construction sector** that are sustainable, eco-friendly and disaster-resilient.
  - The Prime Minister declared the **year 2019-20** as '**Construction Technology Year**' while **inaugurating GHTC-India in March 2019**.
  - **3 Components of GHTC-India:**
    - **Grand Expo and Conference:** It is **organized biennially** to provide a platform to all stakeholders associated with housing construction for the exchange of knowledge and business.
    - **Proven Demonstrable Technologies for the Construction of Lighthouse Projects:** These projects **demonstrate the merits of the selected technologies** and serve as live laboratories for research, testing, technology transfer, increasing mass awareness and for mainstreaming them in the country.
      - The **funding** for the LHPs is **as per the guidelines of PMAY-U**.
    - **Potential Future Technologies for Incubation and Acceleration Support:** Potential future technologies from India that are applicable to the housing sector **will be supported and encouraged through the ASHA (Affordable Sustainable Housing Accelerators) India program**.
- **LightHouse Projects at Six Sites:**
  - Six LHPs **consisting of about 1,000 houses each with physical & social infrastructure facilities** are being constructed at six places across the country namely Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Rajkot (Gujarat), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Ranchi (Jharkhand), Agartala (Tripura) and Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).
  - These projects will **showcase the use of the six distinct shortlisted innovative technologies** for field level application, learning and replication.
  - LHPs will **demonstrate and deliver ready to live mass housing** at an expedited pace as compared to conventional brick and mortar construction and will be more economical, sustainable, of high quality and durability.
- **Affordable Sustainable Housing Accelerator - India (ASHA India):**
  - The aim of ASHA-India is to **catalyze research and development in the housing**

- construction sector, building materials and related products** by providing a suitable platform to promote and showcase India's vibrant and dynamic community of innovators.
- It will **support the potential future technologies developed in India** by the way of incubation and acceleration.
    - Incubation and acceleration support is provided to potential future technologies that are **not yet market ready (pre-prototype applicants)** or to the technologies that are **market ready (post prototype applicants)** respectively.

**Source: PIB**

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