



Greenfield Airport in Kota | Rajasthan | 04 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Rajasthan Cabinet approved building of a [Greenfield airport in Kota](#) and an **aerocity project in Jaipur**.

Key Points

- According to the officials, **Cargo services will be initiated** at multiple airports in the state.
- Rajasthan aims to achieve **self-reliance in power generation**. New technology will be developed for [solar energy](#).
 - Three **flying schools will be opened** in the state in **Kishangarh, Bhilwara and Jhalawar**, which will generate employment opportunities.

Steps Government has Taken for the Aviation Sector

- [Goods and Services Tax \(GST\)](#) rate reduced to 5% from 18% for domestic [Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul \(MRO\) services](#).
- Benefits under [Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme \(ECLGS\) 3.0](#) have been extended to the civil aviation sector.
- [Operation of Regional Connectivity Scheme \(RCS\) - UDAN](#) (UdeDeshKaAamNagrik) flights promoted private investments in existing and new airports through the PPP route.
- Route rationalisation in the Indian airspace in coordination with the Indian Air Force for efficient airspace management, shorter routes and reduced fuel burn.
- [RCS-UDAN](#) was launched to promote air connectivity to unserved and underserved airports in Tier-II and Tier-III cities to stimulate regional growth and provide affordable air travel to the citizens.

Landslide in Dharchula | Uttarakhand | 04 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, A severe [landslide](#) has completely **blocked the road to Dharchula in Pithoragarh district** of Uttarakhand.

- Due to [heavy rain](#), six highways and 96 roads are closed in Uttarakhand. Landslides have blocked 47 rural roads.

Key Points

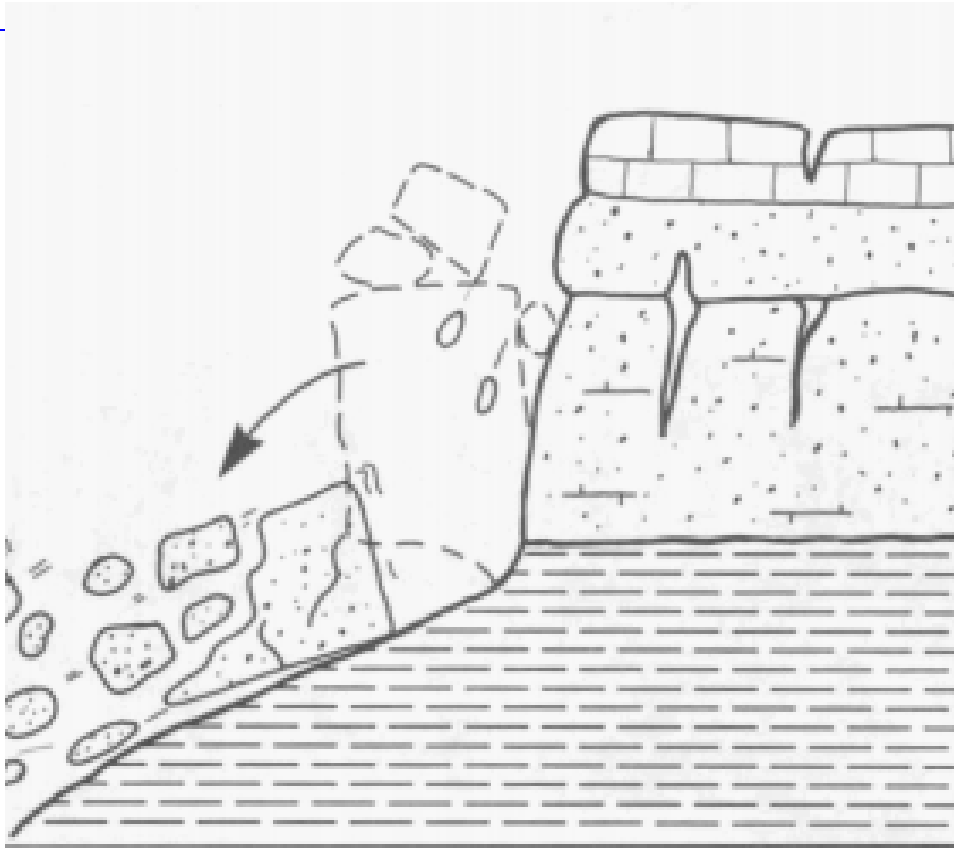
- **Heavy rainfall causes landslides and [accidents](#)**, posing a significant challenge for Uttarakhand

every monsoon.

- In 2023, nearly 100 people died and many went missing from June to September.
- The CM Pushkar Dhami called for a **safety audit of all transformers during the monsoon** and urged for **rapid development of industrial institutions in the state to boost power generation.**

Landslide

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- A **landslide** is defined as the **movement of a mass of rock, debris, or earth down a slope.**
- They are a **type of mass wasting**, which denotes any downward movement of soil and rock under the direct influence of gravity.
- The term landslide encompasses **five modes of slope movement: falls, topples, slides, spreads, and flows.**
- **Causes:**
 - Slope movement occurs **when forces acting downward** (mainly due to gravity) exceed the strength of the earth materials that compose the slope.
 - Landslides are caused due to three major factors: **geology, morphology, and human activity.**
 - **Geology** refers to characteristics of the material. The earth or rock might be weak or fractured, or different layers may have **different strengths and stiffness.**
 - **Morphology refers to the structure** of the land. For example, slopes that lose their vegetation to fire or drought are more vulnerable to landslides.
 - Vegetation holds soil in place, and without the root systems of trees, bushes, and other plants, the land is more likely to slide away.
 - **Human activity** which includes agriculture and construction increases the risk of a landslide.
- **Landslide-Prone Areas:**
 - The entire **Himalayan** tract, hills/mountains in **sub-Himalayan terrains** of **North-east India, Western Ghats, the Nilgiris in Tamil Nadu Konkan areas** are landslide-prone.

Hemant Soren to Return as Chief Minister of Jharkhand | Jharkhand | 04 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Jharkhand Chief minister Champai Soren is likely to resign to pave the way for Hemant Soren's return as Jharkhand's CM after he was released on [bail](#).

Key Points

- Formalities for the new government formation would begin accordingly and an **unanimous decision in this regard** was taken **at the legislature party meeting** of the ruling **Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM)-led alliance**.
- Champai Soren assumed the role of chief minister after the [Enforcement Directorate \(ED\)](#) arrested Hemant Soren over [money laundering charges](#) related to an alleged land scam.

Directorate of Enforcement (ED)

- The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) is a **multi-disciplinary organization** mandated with **investigation of offences of [money laundering](#) and violations of foreign exchange laws**.
- It functions under the **Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance**.
- As a premier financial investigation agency of the Government of India, the Enforcement Directorate functions in strict compliance with the **Constitution and Laws of India**.

Money Laundering

- Money laundering is **concealing or disguising the identity of illegally obtained money** so that they appear to have originated from legitimate sources. It is frequently a component of other, much more serious, crimes such as drug trafficking, robbery or extortion.
- According to the [International Monetary Fund \(IMF\)](#), global money laundering is estimated between **2 to 5% of World [Gross Domestic Product \(GDP\)](#)**.

Bihar Appeals Supreme Court | Bihar | 04 Jul 2024

Why in News?

Recently, The Bihar government appealed to [the Supreme Court](#) against the **Patna High Court's** decision to **strike down the new reservation law** in the state.

Key Points

- The quota was raised by the Bihar government after it carried out a [caste survey](#) in the state.
- The Patna High Court struck down the Bihar government's decision to increase the reservation

quota from 50% to 65% for [Backward Classes \(BC\)](#), [Extremely Backward Classes \(EBC\)](#), [Scheduled Castes \(SC\)](#) and [Scheduled Tribes \(ST\)](#) in educational institutions and government jobs.

Reservation

- [Reservation](#) is a **form of positive discrimination**, created to **promote equality among marginalised sections** and to protect them from social and historical injustice.
- It gives **preferential treatment to marginalised sections** of society **in employment and access to education**.
- It was also originally developed to correct years of discrimination and to give a boost to disadvantaged groups.

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