



Tourism in Uttarakhand's Border Villages

Why in News

Recently, the Central government has decided to **boost tourism in Uttarakhand villages that border China.**

- Uttarakhand **shares a 350-km border** with China.

Key Points

- In the backdrop of the [Galwan Valley standoff](#), the Centre is planning to build a **second line of defence** in border villages of Uttarakhand by relaxing tourism-related activities.
- The Central government wants to make India's border villages safe, for which it has mooted the concept of **tribal tourism**.
- The first step in the direction will be to free some parts of Uttarakhand from the [Inner Line Permit \(ILP\) system](#).
- Once the ILP system is lifted, the state tourism department would **encourage houses in the villages to be developed as homestays** which will directly help the village economy.
 - Visitors in border villages would also get to taste **tribal cuisine**.
- The Uttarakhand government has also announced steps to improve critical infrastructure, promote tourism and civilian settlements in the border areas of the state.

Benefits:

- It will **ensure safety and surveillance of border villages** and troops will get additional support.
- It will **boost the economy** of bordering villages **and provide employment**.
- It will also **stop outward migration**.
 - Most of the border villages see outward migration owing to a lack of livelihood opportunities.

Source: IE

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