



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Phosphor-Gypsum in National Highway Construction

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) along with the Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers **will take up field trials on NHAI projects for the use of Phosphor-Gypsum in National Highway construction** to achieve a [circular economy](#) in the use of Gypsum.

Phosphor-Gypsum, **a waste product from manufacturing fertilizer, emits radon, a radioactive gas.** It also contains the radioactive elements uranium, thorium and radium.

NHAI is also **encouraging the use of waste plastic in road construction, which has been tested very successfully.** Studies have established that **roads built using plastic waste are durable, sustainable and increase the life of bitumen** (a substance produced through the distillation of crude oil).

Similarly, NHAI has used [Fly Ash](#) for the construction of Highways and flyover embankments. **Fly ash is an unwanted unburnt residue of coal combustion in a coal thermal power plant.** It is emitted along with flue gases (a waste gas from a combustion process) during the burning of coal in a furnace and **collected using electrostatic precipitators.**

Read More: [National Highways Authority of India \(NHAI\)](#), [Solid Waste Management](#)

Sinthan Top

For the first time, **the road to Sinthan Top has been opened in the month of February 2023** with an aim to promote tourism to this off-beat destination in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sinthan Top is a high mountain pass that is **located between the Breng valley in Anantnag district and Kishtwar of J&K which connects Kashmir to Chenab Valley.**

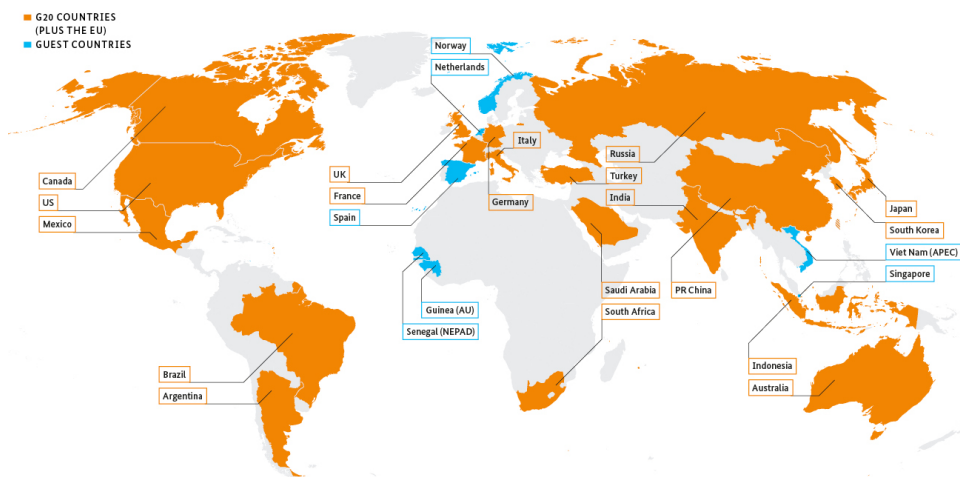
[Jammu and Kashmir \(J&K\)](#) is a Union Territory, **located in the country's northern part and a global tourist destination.** In addition to traditional recreational tourism, vast scope exists for adventure, pilgrimage, spiritual, and health tourism. The natural beauty and picturesque locations have made it a favoured destination for tourists across the world. **Jammu is famous for its temples, while Kashmir Valley is known for its lakes and gardens.**

Some of the famous destinations include: Srinagar, Pahalgam, Jammu, Sanasar, Zanskar, Gulmarg, Sonmarg, Patnitop, Katra/ Vaishnodevi, Kargil, Nubra Valley.

Read More: [Tourism in India](#)

First Meeting of the Culture Working Group

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Under the presidency of India in G20, the **first meeting of the Culture Working Group has begun at Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh** recently. The meeting was chaired by the Union Minister for Culture and Tourism.

On the first day of the meeting Padam **Shri Mr. Nek Ram known as the Millet man** has been invited to celebrate the **International Year of Millets (IYM) 2023**.

The **temples at Khajuraho were built during the Chandella dynasty**, which reached its peak between 950 and 1050 AD. Only about 20 temples remain; they **fall into three distinct groups and belong to two different religions - Hinduism and Jainism**. The **UNESCO site of 'Khajuraho Group of Monuments' is famous for its Nagara-Style architecture** and graceful sculptures of nayikas (Hindu Mythological female protagonists) and deities.

Read More: [International Year of Millets](#), [Presidency of India in G20](#)

Law Commission of India

Recently, the Union Cabinet **extended by one-and-a-half years the term of the 22nd Law Commission** which is mandated to identify laws that are **"no longer relevant"** and recommend for **their repeal**. The term of the panel has been extended up to August 31, 2024. It is also **mandated to suggest enactment of new legislation as may be necessary to implement the Directive Principles** and to attain the objectives set out in the **Preamble** of the Constitution.

The Law Commission of India is a **non-statutory body constituted by the Government of India from time to time**. The **first Law Commission was established during the British Raj era in 1834** by the Charter Act of 1833 and was **chaired by Lord Macaulay**. The **first Law Commission of independent India was established in 1955 for a three-year term**.

Read More: [Law Commission of India](#)