



Dehradun's Clock Tower | Uttarakhand | 11 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **Dehradun's iconic Clock Tower** stopped ticking after thieves dismantled its copper innards.

Key Points

- **Historical Significance:**
 - Built in the 1940s and inaugurated by [Smt. Sarojini Naidu](#) in 1953.
 - Commissioned by Lala Sher Singh in memory of his father, Lala Balbir Singh.
 - A subtle reminder of [freedom fighters](#) who sacrificed their lives for [India's independence](#).
- **Architectural Design:**
 - **Hexagonal structure** with one clock on each of its six sides.
 - The tower stands around **85 meters** high, with its chimes once echoing through the city.
 - The Clock Tower symbolizes the **city's evolution** and serves as a monument of pride for Dehradun.



SAROJINI NAIDU
(February 13, 1879 - March 2, 1949)

BRIEF PROFILE

- A Political activist, Feminist, Poet
- Known as **Bharatiya Kokila** (The Nightingale of India)

*Her birth anniversary is observed as **National Women's Day** (13th February)*

CONTRIBUTION TO INDIAN FREEDOM MOVEMENT

- Joined the Indian National Movement in 1905 during the Partition of Bengal
- **First Indian Woman President** of Indian National Congress in 1925 (preceded by the English feminist Annie Besant in 1917)
- Accompanied Gandhi to London for the inconclusive **second session of the Round Table Conference** for Indian-British cooperation (1931)
- A significant leader of Salt Satyagraha Movement (1930); Led **Dharasana Satyagraha**
- Represented India at Various International Forums

OTHER CONTRIBUTION

- A **Renowned Poetess**: The Golden Threshold (1905), The Bird of Time (1912), The Broken Wing (1912), In the Bazaars of Hyderabad (1912)
- **Advocated Women Rights**: Member of the All India Women's Conference (founded in 1927)
- **India's First Woman Governor**: She was appointed the governor of Uttar Pradesh after India achieved independence in 1947

"We want deeper sincerity of motive, a greater courage in speech and earnestness in action"



UP Aims for Investment in Secure Data Storage | Uttar Pradesh | 11 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the Uttar Pradesh government has targeted a Rs.30,000 crore investment to boost secure data storage by establishing [data centers](#).

Key Points

- **Investment Target:** Uttar Pradesh aims to attract private players to set up 8 data centers with a total investment of **Rs.30,000 crore**.
 - The data centers will have a combined capacity of **900 MW** and will be located near Noida.
 - Companies like Hiranandani Group, Adani Group, NTT Japan, and Web Werks have launched or announced projects worth **Rs. 20,000 crore, adding 600 MW** capacity.
 - The state has allowed data centers to draw power from **two grids** for uninterrupted supply.
 - UP's amended Data Centre Policy now extends the **double-grid supply to 8 data** center parks to attract more investment.
- **Significance:**
 - Data centers centralise **IT** activities for storing, processing, and sharing information.
 - India's colocation data center capacity was **977 MW** across top 7 cities in 2023, with an additional **1.7-3.6 GW needed by 2028** due to rapid digital adoption.
 - Offshore data storage raises security risks, exposing sensitive information (banking, social media, health, etc.) to cyberattacks.
 - Domestic data centers will ensure enhanced security for India's growing digital data.
- **National Data Centre Capacity:**
 - India's under-construction colocation capacity for **2024-2028 stands at 1.03 GW**, providing businesses with secure server infrastructure and high-speed network connectivity.

Uttar Pradesh Data Centre Policy 2021

- **Capital Subsidy:** 7% up to Rs.10 crore for units over 10 years (excluding land & building).
- **Interest Subsidy:** 60% of annual interest, up to Rs.50 crore for 7 years for data center parks.
- **Land Subsidy:** 25-50% on sector rates, capped at Rs.75 crore.
- **Stamp Duty Exemption:** 100% on first transaction; 50% on second.
- **Electricity Benefits:** 100% duty exemption for 10 years; dual-grid power for the first 3 parks.

Delimitation Commission of Madhya Pradesh | Madhya Pradesh | 11 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the Madhya Pradesh government formed a [delimitation commission](#) to re-examine administrative boundaries and improve public access to services.

Key Points

- **Delimitation Commission Formation:**
 - Aim to improve public access to services and address existing anomalies.
 - Districts like Sagar, [Ujjain](#), Indore, and Dhar face administrative difficulties due to their size.
- **Delimitation:**
 - The process involves fixing the number of seats and boundaries of territorial constituencies, including the reservation of seats for [Scheduled Castes \(SC\)](#) and [Scheduled Tribes \(ST\)](#), based on data after every [decennial census](#).
 - The Constitution of India **mandates delimitation after each census**.
 - [Article 82](#) mandates the **readjustment of seats for the Lok Sabha**, while [Article 170](#) provides for the same exercise at the state level. The process is performed by a powerful body called the **Delimitation Commission**, appointed by the [President of India](#) at the central level.
 - [State governments](#) also appoint a Delimitation Commission to adjust the boundaries of **districts and divisions to improve administrative efficiency**.
 - The high-powered commission is headed by an officer appointed by the state government. Its orders have a force of law and **cannot be called into question before any court** in India.
 - Delimitation Commissions have been set up **four times** — 1952, 1963, 1973 and 2002 under the Acts of 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002.
 - The first delimitation exercise was carried out by the President (with the help of the [Election Commission](#)) in **1950-51**.

Rewa Airport | Madhya Pradesh | 11 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **Rewa** Airport in Madhya Pradesh received operational license approval from the [Directorate General of Civil Aviation \(DGCA\)](#), marking a significant step toward enhancing regional connectivity and economic growth.

Key Points

- With the addition of Rewa, Madhya Pradesh now has **6 airports**, the others being located in Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Gwalior, and Khajuraho.
 - Rewa is known for its **cultural and historical landmarks**, and the airport will make these attractions more accessible, potentially drawing in more visitors and businesses.
- This airport development aligns with the **PM's vision** of a '[Developed India-Developed Madhya Pradesh \('Viksit Bharat Viksit Madhya Pradesh'\)](#)', ensuring that it becomes a cornerstone for the development of the [Vindhya region](#).

Major Projects under Viksit Bharat Viksit Madhya Pradesh

- **Irrigation Projects:** Upper [Narmada](#) Project, Raghavpur Multipurpose Project, Basaniya Multipurpose Project (Rs 5500 crores).
- **Micro-Irrigation Projects:** Parasdoh Micro Irrigation Project, Aulliya Micro Irrigation Project (Rs

800 crores).

- **Railway Projects:** Third line projects on Virangana Lakshmibai Jhansi – Jakhlaun route, Gauge conversion project, Powarkheda-Jujharpur rail line flyover (Rs 2200 crores).
- **Industrial Projects:** Mega Leather and Footwear Cluster at Sitapur, Garment Industry Plug and Play Park in Indore, Industrial Park Mandsaur, Upgradation of Pithampur Industrial Park (Rs 1000 crores).
- **Coal Sector Projects:** Jayant OCP CHP Silo, NCL Singrauli; Dudhichua OCP CHP-Silo (Rs 1000 crores).
- **Power Sector:** Six substations in Panna, Raisen, Chhindwara, and Narmadapuram districts.
- **Water Supply Projects:** Various [AMRUT 2.0](#) projects, water supply augmentation in Khargone (Rs 880 crores).
- **Cyber Tehsil Project:** Launched in 55 districts for digital solutions in revenue records and mutation of sale-purchase records.

Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)

- It is an attached office of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- It is the **regulatory body in the field of Civil Aviation** primarily dealing with safety issues.
- It is **responsible for regulation of air transport services to/from/within India** and for enforcement of civil air regulations, air safety and airworthiness standards.
- It also co-ordinates all regulatory functions with the [International Civil Aviation Organisation](#).

Vande Metro Projects | Madhya Pradesh | 11 Sep 2024

Why in News?

Recently, the Madhya Pradesh government announced the introduction of "[Vande Metro](#)" projects in key urban areas of Madhya Pradesh during a development review meeting in Indore.

Key Points

- **Vande Metro Initiative:** Capable of reaching speeds up to 160 km/h, doubling the current metro rail's maximum speed of 80 km/h.
 - Aim is to enhance commuting efficiency and reduce travel times.
- The metro network will be extended to Ujjain ahead of the **Simhastha Kumbh Mela** in 2028, to accommodate millions of visitors.

Simhastha Kumbh Mela

- Celebrated when **Jupiter ascends into the Leo quarter of the zodiac or the Simha constellation** along the [Shipra river](#).
 - **Significance:**
 - The river Shipra, in [Ujjain](#), is believed to enhance life due to the presence of the divine nectar.
 - The [Kumbh Mela](#) is held to commemorate this event.
 - Millions of devotees gather at the ghats of the **Shipra River** for a holy dip.
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Haryana's Unemployment Crisis | Haryana | 11 Sep 2024

Why in News?

The high unemployment rate in Haryana, reflected in the Union government's [Periodic Labour Force Survey \(PLFS\)](#) survey, has become a focal point as the state approaches upcoming elections.

Key Points

▪ Unemployment Rate Trends:

- **PLFS** for January-March 2024 shows urban unemployment for those above 15 years has decreased to **4.1%**, down from **8.8% in 2023**, and is now below the national average of **6.7%**.
- Contrast this with annual PLFS results for 2021-22, where Haryana's unemployment rate was **9%, more than double the national rate of 4.1%**.
 - Previous high [unemployment](#) attributed to global post-Covid economic slowdown affecting sectors like hospitality and aviation.

▪ Increase in Youth Migration:

- Growing trend of Haryana youth emigrating for better opportunities due to lack of local job prospects.
- Government jobs remain a top preference, but insufficient appointments have led to increasing emigration.
- Demand for [skilled workforce](#) remains high, but government skill development programs are criticised for not meeting industry needs.
 - This calls for incentivizing industries for skill training and treating [Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises \(MSMEs\)](#) with the same importance as the agriculture sector for credit facilities.

▪ Government Initiatives:

- Approximately 30,000 regular government jobs filled this year (2024), with a target of 50,000 jobs before the Assembly polls on 5th October, 2024.
- "[Mission 60,000](#)" announced for youth employment in [Below Poverty Line \(BPL\)](#) families through various roles and training programs.

▪ New Projects:

- Proposed Maruti Suzuki and Suzuki Motorcycle plants in [Kharkhoda](#) expected to generate around 15,000 direct jobs.
- The government is emphasizing job creation through industrial projects and infrastructure development.