

Infrastructure Development at J&K Tourist Sites

Why in News?

Recently, the <u>World Bank</u> has enlisted four places in Jammu and Kashmir to be developed as international tourist destinations.

 These places are Bhaderwah in Doda, Bradari in Reasi, Kokernag in Anantnag and Dodapathri in Budgam.

Key Points

- World Bank's Intention in Development:
 - The World Bank intends to fund infrastructure in specific locations in Jammu and Kashmir to meet international tourism standards.
- Planned Projects and Funding:
 - The World Bank plans to fund infrastructure projects, including:
 - Development of Bhal Padri meadow and Guldanda meadow
 - Upgradation of Jai Valley
 - Establishment of Gondola cable car services at Seoz meadows in
 - Bhaderwah
 - Interest has been shown in developing <u>the Kailash Yatra</u> route to leverage its significant pilgrimage tourism potential.
- Broader Revamp in J&K:
 - Other locations to benefit from the initiative include:
 - Dodapathri in Budgam district
 - Kokernag in Anantnag district
 - Bradari in Reasi district
 - **Collaboration and Approval:**
 - The project will be executed in collaboration with the central government.
 - Final approval for funding rests with the World Bank, which will assess the potential of these locations before proceeding.
- Significance of the Initiative:
 - The initiative aims to boost pilgrimage tourism, handicrafts, herbal tourism, and <u>adventure tourism</u> in the region.

World Bank

- About:
 - It was created in 1944, as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) along with the <u>International Monetary Fund (IMF)</u>. The IBRD later became the World Bank.
 - The World Bank Group is a unique global partnership of five institutions working for sustainable solutions that reduce poverty and build shared prosperity in developing countries.
 - The World Bank is one of the **United Nations**' specialized agencies.
- Members:
 - It has **189 member countries.**

- India is also a member country.
- Major Reports:
 - Ease of Doing Business (Stopped publishing).
 - Human Capital Index.
 - World Development Report.
- Its Five Development Institutions:
 - International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
 - International Development Association (IDA)
 - International Finance Corporation (IFC)
 - Multilateral Guarantee Agency (MIGA)
 - International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)
 - India is not a member of ICSID.

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The Vision