

What are the major challenges faced by Indian cities? | Explained •••••

What is the theme for this year's World Cities Day? What led to India's rapid urbanisation? How big of a threat does climate change and rising inequality pose to urban growth?

NDA CDS

Poverty-Driven Urbanization

Poverty-driven urbanization is the migration to cities due to lack of rural opportunities, leading to overcrowding, informal settlements, and pressure on urban infrastructure.

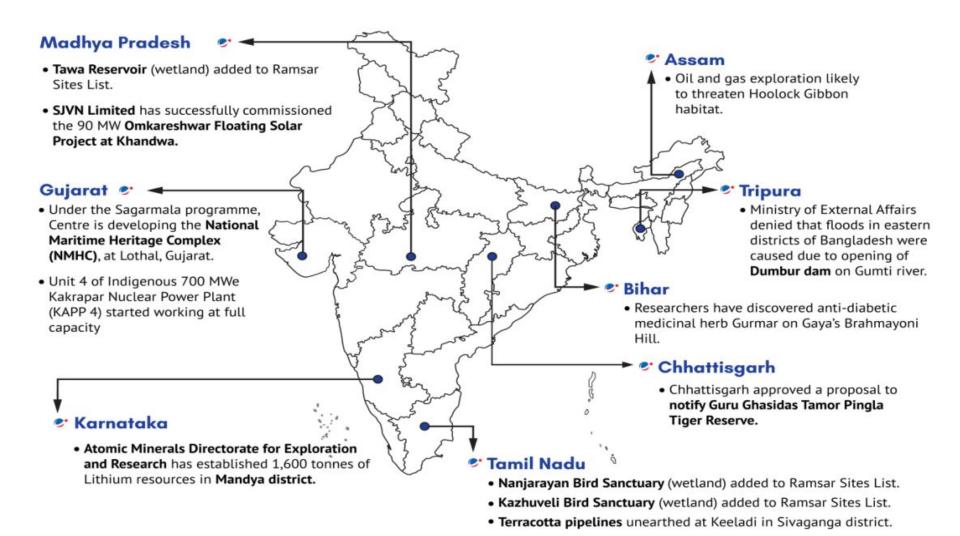
Examples:

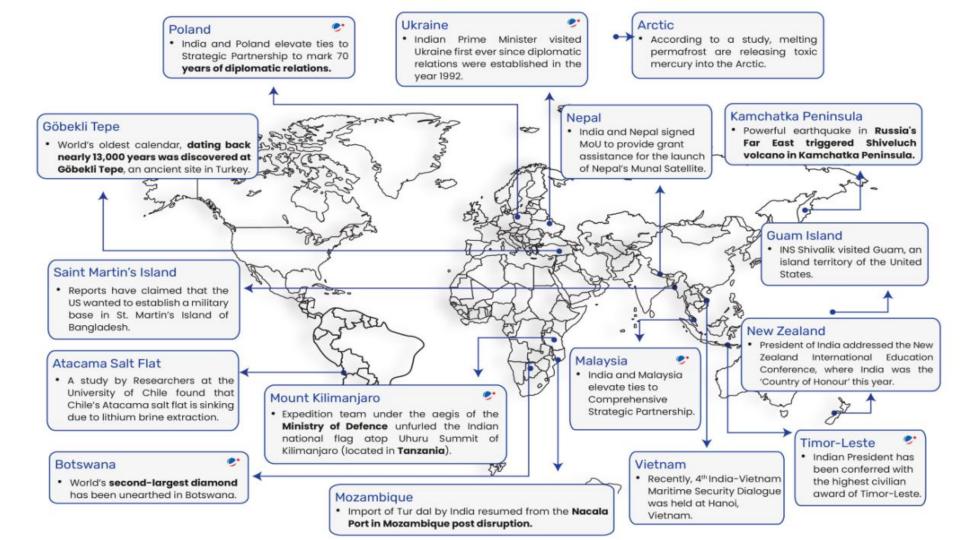
- Poverty-driven urbanization is driven more by push factors of economic and social distress of rural and semi-urban areas than the pull factors like economic and educational opportunites in the cities
- India's urbanisation is largely driven by economic distress, resulting in "poverty-driven urbanisation," with both rural-tourban and urban-to-urban migration.

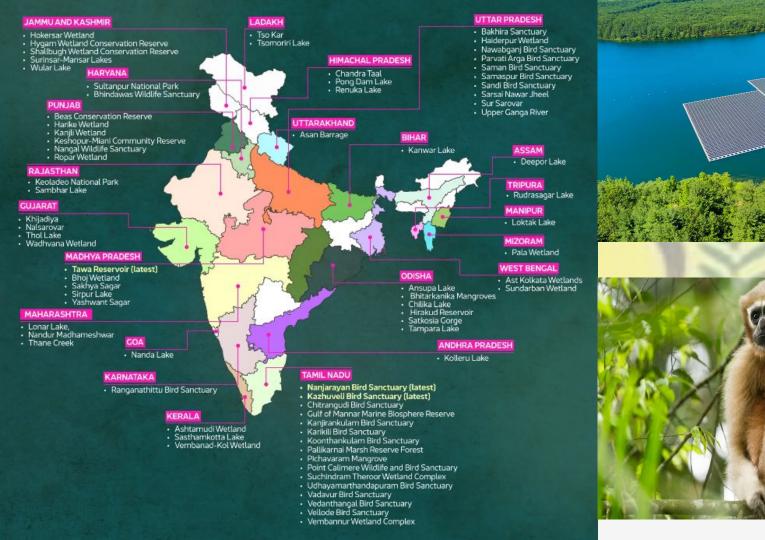














Gallantry Awards

- Purpose: Recognize acts of bravery and sacrifice by Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces
 personnel.
- Order of Precedence (highest to lowest):
 - Param Vir Chakra
 - Ashoka Chakra
 - Mahavir Chakra
 - Kirti Chakra
 - Vir Chakra
 - Shaurya Chakra
- Award Cycles: Twice a year Republic Day and Independence Day.
- Types:
 - Wartime Gallantry Awards: Param Vir Chakra, Maha Vir Chakra, Vir Chakra (instituted in 1950).
 - Peacetime Gallantry Awards: Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra (instituted in 1952, renamed in 1967).
- Recent Awards: 103 Gallantry awards approved on Independence Day 2024.

- Wartime Gallantry Awards are given for bravery in the face of the enemy.
- Peacetime Gallantry Awards are given for bravery other than in the face of the enemy.













PM-KUSUM Scheme

Objectives:

- Promote renewable energy in agriculture.
- Replace diesel with solar energy for irrigation.
- Reduce electricity subsidies and aid DISCOMs.
- Help farmers access subsidized solar pumps.
- Facilitate the use of barren land for solar power generation.



Salient Features:

- Ministry: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- Launch Year: 2019
- Target: 34,800 MW solar capacity by March 2026
- Type: Central Sector Scheme
- Eligibility: Individual farmers, groups of farmers, farmer producer organizations, Panchayats, cooperatives, Water User Associations.
- Three components of the scheme

Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4)

- NDA CDS
- Mission: Fourth private astronaut mission to the International Space Station (ISS).
- Organizers: NASA and Axiom Space (a private US company).
- Launch Provider: SpaceX.
- Mission Duration: 14 days docked at the ISS.
- Indian Astronauts:
 - Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla (primary)
 - Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair (backup)
- Training: Shukla and Nair will train in the US.
- Benefits for India: Experience gained will contribute to India's human space program (Gaganyaan)





Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar echoes Bhagwat, equates 'demographic disorder' with atom bombs

Demographic Disorder

Demographic disorder refers to a significant imbalance or disruption in a population's structure, often caused by factors like aging, migration, low fertility rates, or rapid population growth, leading to social and economic challenges.

Examples:

- The demographic disorder caused by Bangladeshi immigrants in the tribal lands of North East India led to wide spread agitation like the Assam Movement in the 1970s.
- Rapidly declining fertility rates in countries like Japan, Italy and Greece has led to a demographic disorder with an aging population and a shrinking workforce, posing long-term economic risks.



