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RAJASTHAN



'Rajasthan Film Tourism Promotion Policy - 2025' Released



Why in News?

- On December 24, 2025, the Government of Rajasthan released the 'Rajasthan Film Tourism Promotion Policy-2025', taking a significant step towards making the state a preferred destination for national and international filming.

RAJASTHAN FILM TOURISM PROMOTION POLICY



Key Points:

- Released by: Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma.
- Location: At the Tourism Conclave 'Haveli to Greenery' in Mandawa, Jhunjhunu.
- The new film tourism policy will establish the state as a filming hub, including comprehensive provisions for subsidies/incentives and ease of doing business.

Main Provisions of the Policy:

- Up to 30 percent subsidy on film expenditure: The policy provides for a subsidy of up to 30 percent of the expenditure incurred on shooting feature films, web series, TV serials, and documentaries in Rajasthan. The maximum subsidy limit is set at ₹3 crore for feature films, ₹2 crore for web series, ₹1.5 crore for TV serials, and ₹2 crore for documentaries.

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- **Note:** To avail the subsidy, a minimum expenditure of ₹2 crore for feature films and ₹1 crore for web series, TV serials, and Rajasthani language films will be mandatory in the state.

Provisions for receiving subsidy:

1. **Location Screen-Time Based Incentive:** Giving 5-15 percent, 16-30 percent, and more than 30 percent screen-time to locations in Rajasthan will entitle the production to a subsidy of 10 percent, 20 percent, and 30 percent respectively.
2. **50 percent shooting days in Rajasthan:** If 50 percent of the shooting days of a feature film are completed in Rajasthan and the minimum expenditure limit is met, a subsidy of up to 30 percent will be provided.
3. **100 percent shooting in Rajasthan:** If the entire film is shot in Rajasthan, an additional 5 percent subsidy will be given within the maximum subsidy limit.

- **100% Reimbursement of Fees at Government Locations:** 100% reimbursement of permission fees/charges (for a maximum of five days) will be provided for shooting locations under the control of the State Government and the Central Government.
- **Special Incentives for International/National Award-Winning Films:** Feature films shot in Rajasthan that have received international awards will receive an incentive of up to ₹1 crore, and films that have received the Government of India's National Film Awards will receive an incentive of up to ₹50 lakh.
- **Scholarship Scheme:** This policy also includes a provision for providing scholarships to students from Rajasthan studying/training at the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata, and the National School of Drama (NSD), New Delhi. Every year, 10 students will be selected and provided with 100% tuition fee assistance up to a maximum of ₹50,000 and a 100% stipend of up to ₹5,000 per month.

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- **Rajasthan Film Directory and Online Portal:** The Rajasthan Tourism Department will prepare a detailed directory of all shooting locations in the state. An online portal will also be developed, which will include a list of everyone from producers and directors to actors, musicians, choreographers, and line producers. This portal will be a one-stop solution for filmmakers.
- **Mandatory Theatrical Release:** To avail benefits under this scheme, it will be mandatory for Hindi films to be released on a minimum of 200 screens, Rajasthani films on 25 screens, and films in other languages on 100 screens.
- **Mandatory Credit to State Government and Tourism Department:** A special provision has been made under this policy that it will be mandatory to give credit to the State Government and the Tourism Department in all subsidized films.

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Three Players from Rajasthan Nominated for the Arjuna Award

Why in News?

- Recently, three athletes from Rajasthan have been nominated for the Arjuna Award for the year 2025.



Key Points:

Nominated Players:

Player Name	Sport	Related District	Achievement
Padmanabh Singh	Polo	Jaipur	Has served as the captain of the Indian Polo Team.
Nirmala Bhati	Kho-Kho	Nagaur	Member of India's winning team at the Kho-Kho World Cup held in New Delhi.
Rudransh Khandelwal	Para Shooting	Bharatpur	World record holder in pistol shooting. Represented India at the Paris Paralympics.



About the Award:

- The Arjuna Award is India's second-highest sporting honor after the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award. This award is presented annually by the President of India at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- **Established:** In 1961 by the Government of India.
- **Presented by:** Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.



NEWS IN SHORTS

S. No.	News
1.	<p>New Emblem of the Lokayukta Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recently, the new logo (emblem) of the Rajasthan Lokayukta Secretariat was unveiled by the Chief Secretary of Rajasthan, V. Srinivas.The emblem bears the inscription 'Nyayo Niti: Cha Shasanam' (Justice and Policy: The Rule of Law).Lokayukta of Rajasthan: Justice Pratap Krishna Lohra.
2.	<p>Single Holistic Procurement Portal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">On December 24, 2025, the Rajasthan Finance Department launched the 'Single Holistic Procurement Portal (SHPP)' with the objective of making the public procurement system more transparent, effective, and completely digital.SHPP is an integrated system that combines platforms such as e-procurement, Government e-Marketplace (GeM), and Work and Asset Management (WAM) to develop a single digital platform.Four main modules of SHPP: Request for Quotation, Limited Bidding, Procurement from Notified Agencies, Vehicle on Hiring.
3.	<p>7th Women's and Men's Roll Ball World Cup – 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Event: Held in Dubai (United Arab Emirates) from December 14 to 18, 2025.The Indian women's team won the title in this tournament, with Preetika Tarawat from Ajmer participating.

4.

Rajasthan's Performance in 'Special Olympics Bharat'

- **Event:** Held in Bokaro (Jharkhand).
- **Organizer:** National Sports Federation.
- **Rajasthan's Performance:** Cyclists from Rajasthan won 1 Gold, 3 Silver, and 2 Bronze medals. Rajni Bawaria won Gold in the 10 km road race and Silver in the 5 km road race, Raj Singh Jodha won Silver in the 1 km and 2 km road races, and Parth Gupta won Bronze medals in the 500 meters and 1 km cycling races.

5.

Release of the book 'Sanatan Sanskriti Ki Atal Drishti' (Unwavering Vision of Sanatan Culture)

- Recently, Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan released the book 'Sanatan Sanskriti Ki Atal Drishti' (The Unwavering Vision of Sanatan Culture) written by Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani.
- **The book's subject:** Based on the life and thoughts of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

6.

Subhash Chaudhary: Gold medal at the Hong Kong International Junior Squash Championship

- Subhash Chaudhary from Jaipur won the gold medal in the Boys Under-17 category at the Hong Kong International Junior Squash Championship.
- In the final match, Subhash defeated Rehan Singh of Singapore 11-4, 11-4, 11-5.
- **Competition held:** December 19 to 24, 2025.



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Why in News?

- The United Nations General Assembly has unanimously appointed former Iraqi President Barham Salih as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Key Points:

- Term:** 5 years, starting January 1, 2026.
- Replaces:** He will replace Filippo Grandi of Italy.
- Salih is the first head of the UNHCR from the Middle East since the late 1970s.

Other Important Points:

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR):

- Establishment:** By the United Nations General Assembly in 1950 (United Nations Refugee Convention in 1951).
- Headquarters:** Geneva.
- Organizational Structure:** It operates through an Executive Committee and a Secretariat, led by the High Commissioner elected by the UN General Assembly.
- Funding:** Funded by voluntary contributions from governments, private donors, and organizations.
- Mandate:** To protect and assist refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and stateless persons worldwide.
- Recognition:** UNHCR won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1954 and 1981 for its work in protecting refugees worldwide.

Nansen Refugee Award:

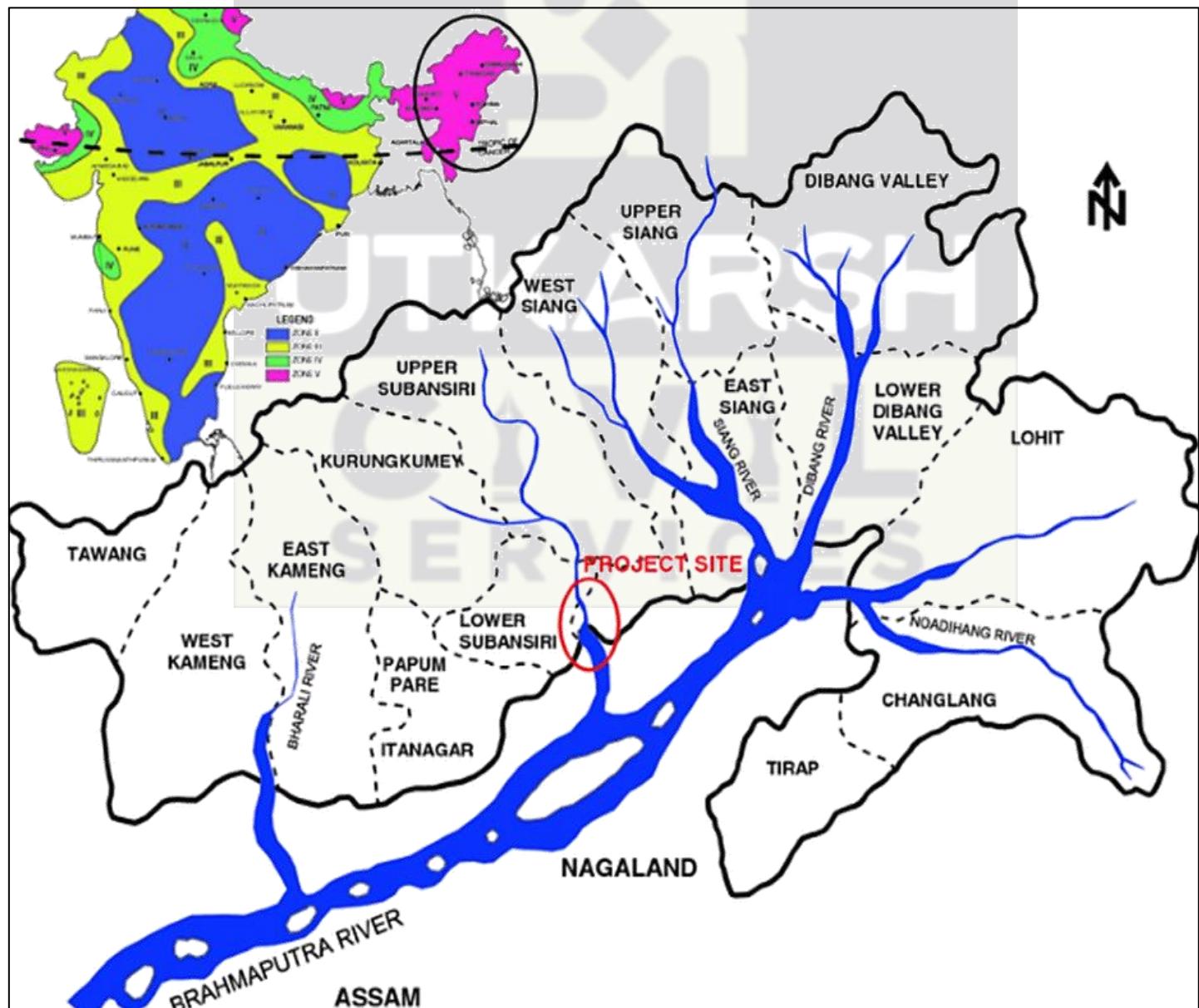
- UNHCR's award.
- Established:** 1954
- In honor of Fridtjof Nansen (the first High Commissioner).
- First recipient:** 1954: Eleanor Roosevelt.



Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project (SLHEP)

Why in News?

- India's largest hydroelectric project, the 2000 MW Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project, has become operational after nearly 20 years with the commissioning of its first 250 MW unit.





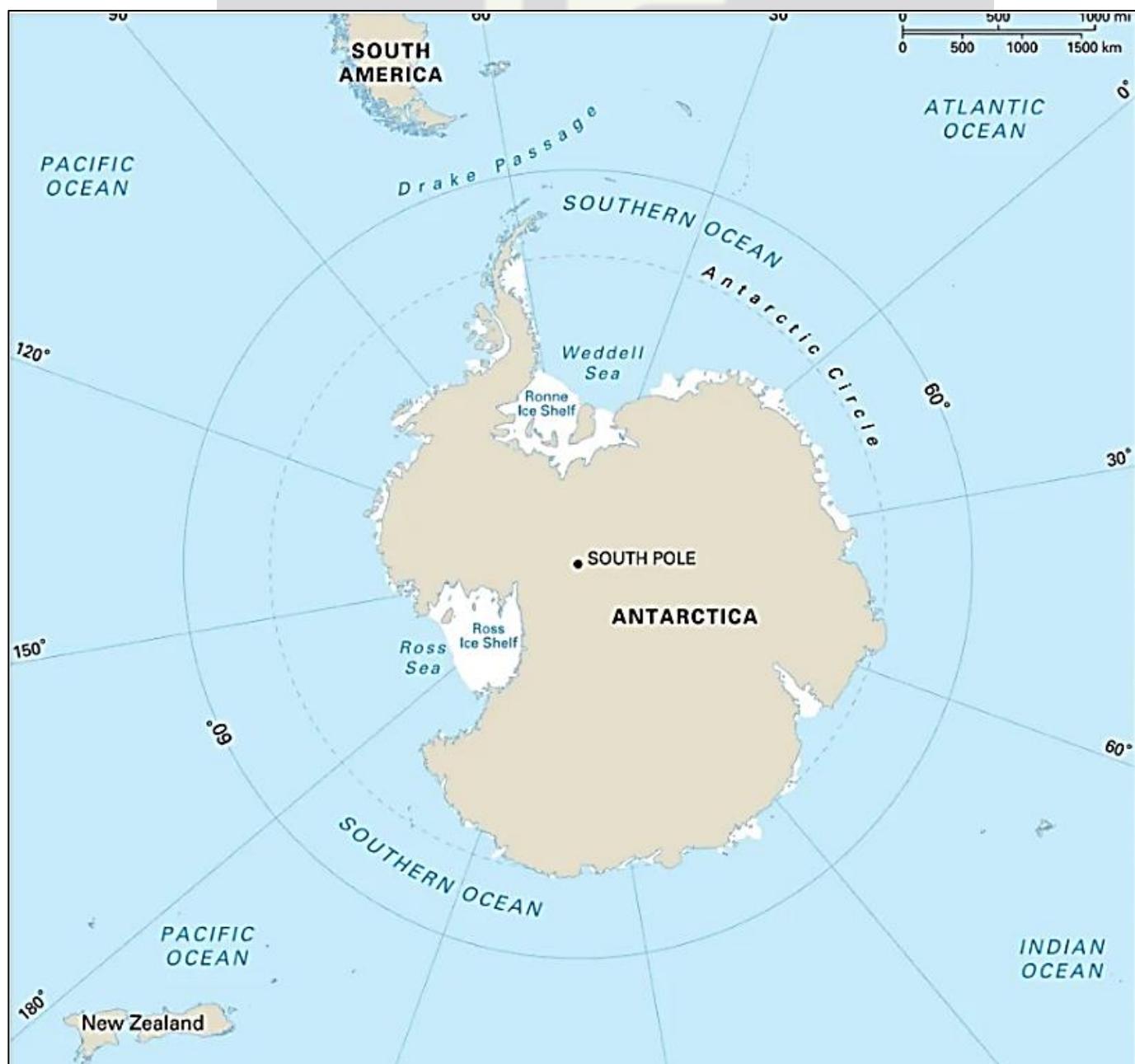
Key Points:

- It is a run-of-the-river hydroelectric project.
- **Location:** Gerukamukh, on the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh border.
- **Total Capacity:** 2000 MW (will become India's largest hydroelectric project upon full commissioning)
- **Implementation:** NHPC Limited (National Hydroelectric Power Corporation)
- **River:** Subansiri River (largest tributary of the Brahmaputra)
- **Project Approved:** Year 2003
- **Challenges:** Progress was delayed from 2011 to 2019 due to environmental impact studies, seismic safety reviews, and public protests in the downstream areas of Assam.
- **Commencement of Operation:** The first 250 MW unit commenced operation in December 2025.
- **Timeline/Full Operation:** The remaining 7 units (250 MW each) will be commissioned by 2026 and 2027.
- **Dam:** Concrete gravity dam.

Southern Ocean Carbon Anomaly

Why in News?

- According to a study published in *Nature Climate Change*, the Southern Ocean continues to absorb CO₂, contrary to climate model predictions, resulting in carbon-rich deep water not reaching the surface and remaining accumulated at lower levels.



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Key Points:

- As a major global carbon and heat sink, the weakening of stratification increases the likelihood of the accumulated carbon being released, potentially transforming the Southern Ocean from a carbon sink to a carbon source.

Southern Ocean Carbon Anomaly:

- **Contrary to climate model predictions:** Climate models predicted that the combined effect of increasing greenhouse gas concentrations and ozone layer depletion would intensify the westerly winds over the Southern Ocean and shift them towards the poles.
- This change in atmospheric circulation was expected to increase oceanic upwelling (the process of bringing deep, carbon-rich water closer to the surface).
- As a result, the intensified meridional overturning circulation would bring this carbon-rich deep water into contact with the atmosphere, potentially weakening the Southern Ocean's role as a carbon sink.
- However, since the early 2000s, the Southern Ocean has continued to absorb increasing amounts of carbon dioxide, as the carbon-rich circulating deep water remains accumulated approximately 100–200 meters below the surface, preventing its release into the atmosphere.
- **Role of Stratification:** Increased rainfall, Antarctic ice melt, and sea ice movement have increased the amount of freshwater in the ocean's surface layer. Freshwater is lighter than saline water, so it forms a stable layer on top.
- **Importance:** If surface stratification weakens in the future, the stored carbon could be rapidly released into the atmosphere, accelerating the pace of climate change.



PERSONALITY



Ram V. Sutar

Why in News?

- Recently, Ram V. Sutar, the designer and sculptor of the 'Statue of Unity', passed away.

Statue of Unity

World's Tallest Statue
(182 m)

Location

Near Sardar Sarovar Dam, on Sadhu Bet island, on the banks of River Narmada

Metal scrap was collected from over 6 lakh villages all over India under the 'Loha Campaign' and was used to make the statue

Can withstand wind velocity upto 69 m/s, vibrations and earthquake



Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

A lawyer and freedom fighter, he was the first home minister of India and due to his undying efforts, the integration of over 500 princely states into the Indian Union was brought about.

The statue is so named because of this very contribution of his to unify and integrate India.



Key Points:

- Honored with: Padma Shri (1999), Padma Bhushan (2016), Maharashtra Ratna Award.

Contributions:

1. Statue of Unity.
2. Restoration of Ajanta-Ellora sculptures.

Other Important Points:

Statue of Unity:

- Inauguration:** October 31, 2018 (143rd birth anniversary of Sardar Patel).
- Location:** Sadhu Bet island, Narmada River, Kevadia, Gujarat.
- Dedicated to:** Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- Feature:** World's tallest statue (182 meters).
- Note:** Spring Temple Buddha statue (China): 23 meters shorter than the Statue of Unity.

S. No.	Statue	Location	Height	Dedicated To
1.	Statue of Honor	Omkareshwar (Madhya Pradesh)	180 feet	Adi Shankaracharya (Advaita philosophy)
2.	Statue of Social Justice	Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)	125 feet	Bhimrao Ambedkar
3.	Statue of Valor (Bronze Statue)	Jorhat (Assam)	125 feet	Ahom General Lachit Borphukan
4.	Statue of Union (Bronze Statue)	Texas (USA)	90 feet	Lord Hanuman
5.	Statue of Oneness	Near Sarayu River, Mandhata Mountain, Khandwa (Madhya Pradesh)	108 feet	Adi Shankaracharya
6.	Statue of Equality	Telangana (Hyderabad)	216 feet	Ramanujacharya
7.	Statue of Knowledge	Latur (Maharashtra)	70 feet	Bhimrao Ambedkar

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8.	Statue of Prosperity (Sculptor – Ram V. Sutar)	Bengaluru (Karnataka)	108 feet	Sri Nadaprabhu Kempegowda (Founder of Bengaluru)
9.	Statue of Peace	Jaitpura, Pali, Rajasthan	27 feet	Jain Acharya Vijay Vallabh Surishwar Ji
10.	Statue of Peace of Sri Ramanujacharya	Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir	4 feet	Sri Ramanujacharya
11.	Statue of Unity (Sculptor – Ram V. Sutar)	Kevadia, Gujarat (Sadhu Bet Island), Narmada River	182 m (597 feet)	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
12.	Statue of Belief (Vishwas Swaroopam)	Nathdwara (Rajasthan)	369 feet	Lord Shiva

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IMPORTANT DAYS



Good Governance Day: December 25

Why in News?

- The birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee is celebrated annually as Good Governance Day.
- **Key Points:**
- **Objective:** To promote accountability, transparency, and citizen-centric public services in governance.
- 28th National Conference on e-Governance (NceG) on September 22-23, 2025 in Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh): Based on the theme 'Developed India: Civil Service and Digital Transformation', this conference adopted the National Awards for e-Governance and the Visakhapatnam Declaration for Digital Governance, which is in line with Developed India 2047.
- International Institute of Administrative Sciences – DARPG Conference in New Delhi from February 10-14, 2025:
- The book 'Developed India@2047 – Governance Transformed' was released.
- V. Srinivas, Secretary of DARPG, became the first Indian IIAS President (2025-2028) by winning with 62 percent of the votes.

Good Governance Index 2020–21:

- **Released:** On December 25, 2019, by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG).
- The index identified 10 sectors.
- Governance performance was measured based on 58 indicators.
- The states and Union Territories have been divided into 4 groups, considering the significant differences in geography, population, and level of development:

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Category A States	Category B States	North-Eastern & Hilly States	Union Territories
Gujarat (1st)	Madhya Pradesh (1st)	Himachal Pradesh (1st)	Delhi (1st)
Maharashtra (2nd)	Rajasthan (2nd)	Mizoram (2nd)	
Goa (3rd)	Chhattisgarh (3rd)		

Additional Information:

Atal Bihari Vajpayee (1924–2018):

- Served as Prime Minister of India 3 times, elected to the Lok Sabha 9 times and to the Rajya Sabha twice.
- **Honors:** Awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 1992 and the Bharat Ratna in 2015.
- Named Best Parliamentarian in 1994.

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NEWS IN SHORTS

S. No.	News
1.	<p>'Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres' Award</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ French honor.■ Recipient: Malayalam publisher Ravi DC.■ Contribution: For contributions to literature and Indo-French cultural exchange.
2.	<p>INS Sindhughosh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ The Navy's submarine INS Sindhughosh has been decommissioned.■ Commissioned: 1985■ It was the first submarine of the Sindhu class.■ It is the Indian version of Russia's Kilo-class submarines.■ 'Black Hole': Called a Black Hole due to being an extremely quiet diesel-electric submarine.■ Other submarines named Sindhu:■ INS Sindhurakshak: Crashed in 2013.■ INS Sindhuvaj: Decommissioned in 2022.■ INS Sindhughosh: Decommissioned in 2025.
3.	<p>Henley Passport Index, 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ In October 2025, the Indian passport's ranking in the Henley Passport Index, 2025, fell by 5 places from 80th (2024) to 85th (2025).■ Reasons:■ Several Asian and African countries have entered into new visa-free agreements during this period.■ Increased competition in global diplomacy.■ Visa rules have been tightened by some countries on the basis of reciprocity.■ Top country: Singapore

4.

'India's Economic Empowerment in the Modi Era' Book

- **Released by:** Vice President CP Radhakrishnan
- **Author:** Dr. Sikandar Kumar (MP)
- **Subject Matter:** Highlights major structural reforms such as bankruptcy laws, digital governance, and transparent banking systems. (Minimum government, maximum governance)



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