

February 2019

1. **Buddhist Tourism Circuit**

- Union Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned five new projects under the Buddhist Circuit.
- The five states where the project under Buddhist Circuit has been sanctioned are Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh.
- The Buddhist Circuit is one among the fifteen thematic circuits identified for development under Swadesh Darshan Scheme.

Related Information

Swadesh Darshan Scheme

- It is a Central Sector Scheme, was launched in 2014 -15 for integrated development of theme-based tourist circuits in the country.

2. **Union Home Minister launched ITSSO and Safe City Implementation Monitoring Portal for women safety**

- Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and Minister for Women and Child Development Maneka Gandhi launched a range of citizen safety initiatives in New Delhi.
- It includes the **Emergency Response Support System, ERSS**, for women safety in 16 states and Union territories.
- The states include Andhra Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Jammu and Kashmir. The service has already been launched in Himachal Pradesh and Nagaland.
- Persons in distress can dial a pan-India number: 112.
- Under this system, all the states have to set up a dedicated Emergency Response Centre, ERC.
- The ERCs are connected to District Command Centres and the Emergency Response Vehicles, and assistance to victims is facilitated through them.
- The Home Minister also launched two portals - **Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences and Safe City Implementation Monitoring Portal**.

3. **Two new NIDs inaugurated at Bhopal and Jorhat**

- National Institutes of Design (NID) at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh and Jorhat in Assam were inaugurated by Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu.
- They are autonomous institutions and under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- In order to promote design programs, was given by National Design Policy (2007), four new NIDs have been set up in Andhra Pradesh (Amaravati), Assam (Jorhat), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal) and Haryana (Kurukshetra) with a total outlay of Rs. 434 crores.
- The project has been executed and implemented by NBCC (India) Ltd. (formerly known as National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd.).

4. Railway Sports Promotion Board lifted the 9th Senior National Men's Hockey Championship crown at Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
5. **Cheetahs from Namibia to be kept at Nauradehi sanctuary: NTCA**
 - African cheetahs, to be translocated in India from Namibia, will be kept at Nauradehi wildlife sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh.

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