



21 Sep 2024

## Andhra Pradesh State Regional News

<p><b>AP to launch tours linking Shakti Peethas</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The state government has announced a new tourism package linking important religious and cultural sites across Andhra Pradesh.</li> <li>This initiative aims to <b>boost tourism and take advantage of central schemes for infrastructure development</b>, including the <b>Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) scheme</b> and <b>Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SSASCI) funding</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The tourism package will <b>connect prominent Shakti Peethas and Pancharama Kshetras</b> to attract religious pilgrims.</li> <li>Additionally, new tourism projects are being planned, such as an <b>ecotourism project at Srisailem</b> and a cultural circuit covering heritage sites in Kakinada, Konaseema, and the Godavari districts.</li> <li>The state plans to open four iconic tourist centers with a total investment of ₹400 crore, <b>developing beaches, temples, and adventure centers</b>.</li> <li>A significant boost will also be given to local film industry development, with efforts underway to establish film studios in the state.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Important Summits: Andhra Pradesh – Vietnam Tourism Conclave 2024</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recently, the Andhra Pradesh – Vietnam Tourism Conclave 2024 was held in Vijayawada on the importance of promoting tourism in Andhra Pradesh as well as in Vietnam.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Andhra Pradesh – Vietnam Tourism Conclave 2024 is a prestigious event <b>aimed at fostering partnerships and exploring opportunities in the tourism and trade sectors</b> between Andhra Pradesh and Vietnam.</li> <li>The conclave will bring together <b>industry leaders, government officials, and key stakeholders from both regions</b> to discuss emerging trends, share insights, and create new avenues for collaboration.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Bharatmala Project</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The central government has sanctioned Rs 6,585 crore to develop 384-km long seven national highways projects in the State under Bharat Mala project.</li> </ul>



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Key Points:

- Bharatmala Project is the **second largest highways construction project in the country** under the **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways**.
- Under this, almost **50,000 km** of highway roads were **targeted** across the country.

PCPNDT Act

Why in news?

- Health and Family Welfare Commissioner C Hari Kiran stressed the need for effective implementation of the PCPNDT Act to combat gender-based discrimination and promote the health of women and children.

Key Points:

- The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 (PCPNDT Act) is a law that **prohibits the determination and disclosure of a fetus's sex**, and the **advertisement of prenatal sex determination**.
- The Act also regulates the **use of prenatal diagnostic techniques to detect genetic abnormalities, metabolic disorders, and other conditions**.
- It was amended in **2003** to improve the regulation of **sex selection technology**.



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