



DEVIKA REJUVENATION PROJECT



- ◆ Union Minister Jitendra Singh recently said that North India's first river rejuvenation project "Devika" is almost complete.
- ◆ Built on the lines of 'Namami Ganga' at a cost of over Rs 190 crore, the project was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ◆ The allocation is shared in the ratio of 90:10 between the Center and the Union Territory.
- ◆ Apart from liquid waste, the project also includes an important aspect of solid waste management. It involves the collection, disposal and management of solid waste generated by local communities.



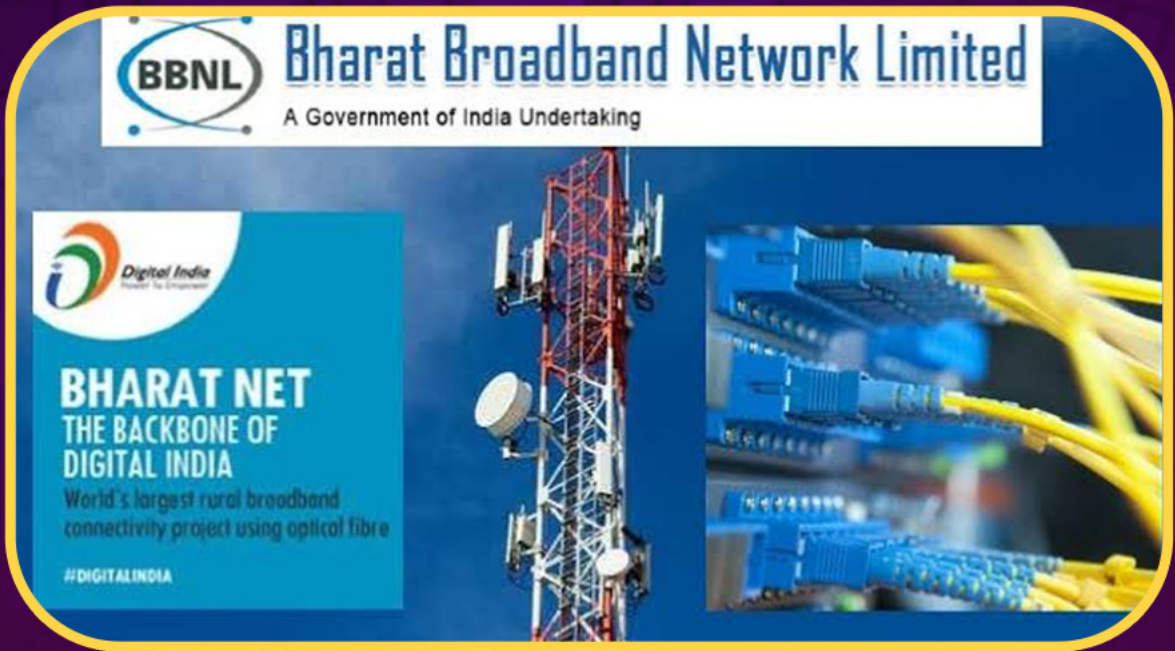
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- ◆ The Devika River originates from the Shuddha Mahadev temple hill in Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir and joins the Ravi River flowing towards western Punjab (now in Pakistan).
- ◆ The river holds religious significance as Hindus worship it as the sister of the river Ganga.
- ◆ It is believed that the Devika River is a manifestation of Goddess Parvati herself to bring benefits to the people of the Mader Desha covering the areas between the Ravi and Chenab rivers.



BHARATNET PROJECT



- ◆ The Union Cabinet has approved an expenditure of Rs 1.39 lakh crore to provide broadband connectivity to 6.4 lakh villages under the BharatNet project.
- ◆ At present 1.94 lakh villages have been connected under the BharatNet project and there is a possibility of connecting the remaining villages in two and a half years.
- ◆ Last-mile connectivity will be provided by BSNL branch Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) in collaboration with Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs).



- ◆ National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN) was launched in October 2011 and renamed Bharat Net Project in the year 2015.
- ◆ It is the world's largest rural broadband connectivity program using optical fibre which is also a flagship mission implemented by Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL).



- ◆ BBNL is a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) set up by the Government of India under the Companies Act, of 1956. It is being implemented by the Department of Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications.



- ◆ It aims to connect all 6,40,000 villages across India with high-speed internet access.
- ◆ It aims to provide broadband internet connectivity to each of the more than 2.5 lakh gram panchayats across the country.
- ◆ The government wants to provide a minimum of 100 Mbps bandwidth in each Gram Panchayat through BharatNet so that every person, especially people of rural India can access online services get access.

Phase I:

- ◆ By December 2017, more than one lakh Gram Panchayats were provided broadband connectivity by laying underground lines of Optic Fiber Cable (OFC).

Phase II:

- ◆ By March 2019, connectivity was provided to all Gram Panchayats in the country using an optimum mix of underground fibre, electric fibre lines, radio and satellite media.

Phase II:

- ◆ From 2019 to 2023, a state-of-the-art, future-oriented network with fibre will be built across districts and blocks with a ring topology.



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AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME (ABSS)



- ◆ AMRUT Bharat Station Yojana (ABSS) has been launched for the redevelopment of railway stations. Under this scheme, state-of-the-art public transport and world-class facilities will be provided at railway stations.
- ◆ It is based on master planning for a long period. Also, the implementation of the master plan will be as per the needs of the railway station.



- ◆ The stations will be developed as 'City Centres' based on an integrated approach for holistic urban development centred around the station.
- ◆ The design of the station buildings will be inspired by the local culture, heritage and architecture.

Indian Railways Initiatives for Modernization

- ◆ **Train Modernization:** Trains will be modernized with initiatives such as indigenously developed Vande Bharat trains, Vistadome coaches, smart coaches with state-of-the-art facilities, and increased speed of goods trains.
- ◆ **Signalling and protection systems:** These include new features like Real Time Information System (RTIS) for tracking Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches, indigenously developed Train Collision Avoidance System – Kavach, and Electronic Interlocking System.
- ◆ **Tackling Climate Change:** Initiatives such as setting up of Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs), electrification of all railway tracks and making Railways a zero carbon emission organization by 2030 will achieve this goal.



IMS - 1 SATELLITE BUS TECHNOLOGY



- ◆ ISRO has transferred its IMS-1 satellite bus technology to Alpha Design Technologies Pvt Ltd, promoting private industry participation in India's space sector.
- ◆ NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), the commercial arm of ISRO, facilitated the technology transfer.
- ◆ IMS-1 Satellite Bus is a platform developed by ISRO for cost-effective space access.
- ◆ It serves as a versatile vehicle for payloads, enabling functions such as Earth imaging, space science and remote sensing.



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- ◆ It weighs around 100 kg and carries a payload of up to 30 kg, has solar arrays generating 330 watts of power and provides precision pointing capabilities.
- ◆ This transfer is the first instance of ISRO sharing satellite bus technologies with private companies.
- ◆ The move is aimed at boosting India's industrial development, promoting technological self-reliance and encouraging private sector participation in space research and exploration.