Delhi–Dehradun Expressway

Prelims: *Current events of national importance | Infrastructure and Development*

Why in News?

Prime Minister inaugurated the Delhi–Dehradun Expressway, a project reducing travel time between Delhi and Dehradun with Asia's largest elevated wildlife corridor integrated into its design.

- **Project Name –** Delhi–Dehradun Economic Corridor.
- **Built under -** The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).
- **Nodal Ministry –** Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH).
- **Length –** 210–213 km (6-lane, access-controlled).
- **Connectivity –** Originates at Akshardham in Delhi, enters Uttar Pradesh near Loni in Ghaziabad district.
- It then connects with the Eastern Peripheral Expressway at Mandola, creating a seamless regional transport network.
- Within Uttar Pradesh, the expressway passes through 4 districts, Ghaziabad, Baghpat, Shamli and Saharanpur.



- **Travel time -** The route is expected to bring down the current travel time of over 6 hours to roughly 2 and a half hours.
- **Assigned Speed –** Designed for minimum 100 kmph driving.
- **Wildlife Corridor –** 10.97 km elevated stretch through Rajaji Tiger Reserve and the Shivalik region which includes 340-m Daat Kali tunnel.
- **Eco-Mitigation –** 165.5 hectares afforested, 1,95,000 trees planted, sound & light barriers installed.
- **Wildlife Use Evidence –** Camera traps recorded 18 wild species including elephants, nilgai, sambar, jackals.
- **Safety measure -** Fitted with an Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS), will enable quick detection of accidents, with emergency assistance expected to reach within 10 minutes.
- **Expected CO_2 reduction –** 240 million tonnes over 20 years (equivalent to 6–6.8 million trees).
- Wildlife Institute of India study confirmed safe use of underpasses by elephants and other species.
- Landslide mitigation as per Indian Roads Congress (IRC) provisions.

References

1. Indian Express | Delhi–Dehradun Expressway
2. The Hindu | Delhi-Dehradun Expressway



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