Atal Setu: India's Longest Sea Bridge

Why In News

- **PM is scheduled to travel to Mumbai** to inaugurate and take the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link or the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewri-Nhava Sheva Atal Setu, to Navi Mumbai.
- The Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL) or Atal Setu, longest sea bridge in India.



Atal Setu

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewri-Nhava Sheva Atal Setu in Maharashtra on December 12. Atal Setu is the longest bridge and also the longest sea bridge in the country.
- The bridge has been named after former prime minister and late BJP veteran Atal Bihari Vajpayee.



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- 21.8 km in length and having six lanes, the bridge has been constructed at a whopping cost of ₹18,000 crore.
- The bridge **originates from Sewri in Mumbai** and ends at **Nhava Sheva** in Uran taluka in Raigad district. It is expected to boost economical development in Navi Mumbai and other nearby areas.
- It has shortened the distance between Mumbai and Navi Mumbai to **just 20** minutes which earlier took 2 hours. Authorities claim it will also resolve the problem of traffic jams in the region.





- The ime minister's vision is to improve the **'ease of mobility' of citizens** by strengthening **urban transport infrastructure** and connectivity.
- In line with this vision, Mumbai Transharbour Link (MTHL), now named 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewri-Nhava Sheva Atal Setu' has been built.
- It will provide faster connectivity to Mumbai International Airport and Navi Mumbai International Airport.



- It will also reduce the travel time from Mumbai to Pune, Goa and South India. It will also improve connectivity between Mumbai Port and Jawaharlal Nehru Port.
- The cabinet proposal mentioned that the distance between Panvel in Raigad district to Sewri in south-central Mumbai will be reduced by 15 kilometres, while travel time will come down from around two hours to 15 to 20 minutes.
- The saving in fuel cost would be around ₹500 per journey, the official said.



Other Projects

- Prime Minister will lay the **foundation stone of the underground road tunnel** connecting Eastern Freeway's Orange Gate to Marine Drive.
- The 9.2 km tunnel will be built at a cost of more than ₹ 8700 crore and will be a significant infrastructure development in Mumbai which will reduce travel time between Orange Gate and Marine Drive.
- Prime Minister will dedicate phase 1 of the Surya regional bulk drinking water project to the nation.

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- The project, developed at a cost of more than ₹ 1,975 crore will provide drinking water supply to the Palghar and Thane districts of Maharashtra, benefiting about 14 lakh people.
- During the programme, Prime Minister will dedicate about ₹ 2000 crore of railway projects to the nation.
- The Prime Minister will inaugurate 'Bharat Ratnam' (Mega Common Facilitation Centre) for the gems and jewellery sector at Santacruz Electronic Export Processing Zone- Special Economic Zone (SEEPZ SEZ), which is first of its kind in India with "best available machines in world including 3D Metal printing".



 This will house a training school for the skilling of the workforce for this sector, including specially abled students. The Mega CFC will transform the export sector in the gems and jewellery trade and will also help domestic manufacturing.