



**TATHASTU**  
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# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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1.	DIGI YATRA EXPANDED
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## DIGI YATRA EXPANDED

**SOURCE:** [THE HINDU](#)

**TAG: MAINS EXAMINATION:** GS II: **Governance.**

### Why in News:

- ❖ Digi Yatra e-gates are also being ramped up at airports to cover various checkpoints such as baggage drop and boarding gates.
- ❖ The vision is to aid seamless movement across India, says CEO of Digi Yatra Foundation, Suresh Khadakbhavi.

### About Digi Yatra:

- ❖ The Digi Yatra initiative, launched in 2022, uses biometrics to enable paperless movement through airport checkpoints. The initiative covers 14 airports and is expected to expand to 15 more by the end of 2024.
- ❖ The Digi Yatra Central Ecosystem saves a hash value or numerical value that identifies the content of the file, preventing data leakage.
- ❖ The initiative was initially launched to improve passenger throughput at airports, but the proposed use-case for hotels and public places suggests its role could extend beyond air travel.
- ❖ The Digi Yatra Foundation is a consortium of five private airports and the Airports Authority of India, which holds a combined 74% shareholding. The initiative is expected to be implemented at more touch points, such as boarding gates and baggage drops.

### Benefits of the Digi Yatra initiative:

- ❖ **Time-saving:** By automating the identification process, Digi Yatra significantly reduces the time spent in queues for various checks, allowing passengers to save valuable time during their travel.
- ❖ **Paperless travel:** With Digi Yatra, passengers can travel paperless as their biometric information serves as their identification, reducing the need to carry physical documents.
- ❖ **Data protection:** Digi Yatra adheres to strict data protection guidelines, ensuring the privacy and security of passenger data, which is purged from the system within 24 hours of journey completion.
- ❖ **Seamless and hassle-free travel experience:** Digi Yatra eliminates the need for physical verification of travel documents, reducing queue times and making the overall travel process more convenient and efficient.

### Other travel initiatives launched by the Indian Government:

- ❖ **SAATHI (System for Assessment, Awareness, and Training for Hospitality Industry):** This initiative focuses on providing training, certification, and capacity-building programs for the hospitality sector, ensuring consistent service standards and skill development.



- ❖ **Dekho Apna Desh:** This initiative, launched in 2020, encourages Indians to explore and travel within their own country by offering incentives and discounts on accommodation, transportation, and tourist attractions.
- ❖ **UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik):** The Regional Connectivity Scheme, launched in 2016, aims to make air travel affordable and accessible to the common citizen by promoting regional air connectivity to underserved and unserved airports.
- ❖ **Incredible India 2.0:** Launched in 2017, this is a revamped tourism promotion campaign aimed at showcasing India's diverse cultural heritage, natural beauty, and hospitality to attract more international tourists.

#### Conclusion:

- ❖ The expansion of the Digi Yatra initiative across more airports in India will revolutionize the air travel experience by leveraging biometric technology, ensuring seamless passenger processing, enhancing security, and promoting the adoption of digital solutions in the aviation sector.



## KERALA MIGRATION SURVEY 2023

**SOURCE:** [THE INDIAN EXPRESS](#)

**TAG: MAINS EXAMINATION: GS II: Governance — Government Policies – Interventions for Development in Various sectors.**

### Why in News:

- ❖ The 2023 edition of the Kerala Migration Survey draws attention to a surge in student migration. Similarly, it also suggests that international migration has nearly hit its peak.
- ❖ Additionally, the data observes that there are more emigrants returning home now, with a noticeable increase in women leaving the state.

### Surge in Returnees:

- ❖ One of the key findings of the survey is the substantial increase in the number of returnees from abroad.
- ❖ The report indicates that over 14.3 lakh emigrants have returned to Kerala since 2011, with a significant portion citing job loss, expiry of employment contracts, and adverse economic conditions in the host countries as the primary reasons for their return.
- ❖ This surge in returnees has implications for the state's economy and job market, necessitating effective reintegration strategies and skill development programs.

### Shift in Destinations:

- ❖ The survey also reveals a notable shift in the preferred destinations for Keralites seeking employment opportunities abroad.
- ❖ While traditional destinations like the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia continue to attract a substantial number of emigrants, countries such as the United States, United Kingdom, and Australia have witnessed a significant increase in the influx of Keralite migrants.
- ❖ This diversification of destinations can be attributed to factors like changing job market dynamics, educational opportunities, and the pursuit of better living standards.

### Rising Female Emigration:

- ❖ One of the most striking findings of the Kerala Migration Survey 2023 is the substantial rise in female emigration from the state.
- ❖ The survey indicates that the number of female emigrants has increased by nearly 40% since the previous survey in 2018.
- ❖ This trend can be attributed to various factors, including better educational attainment, increased job opportunities in sectors like healthcare and education, and the growing empowerment of women in Kerala.
- ❖ However, it also highlights the need for effective support mechanisms and safeguards to ensure the well-being and protection of female migrants in their host countries.



### Remittances and Economic Impact:

- ❖ The survey estimates that the total remittances received by the state in 2022 amounted to approximately ₹1.2 lakh crore, which accounts for a significant portion of Kerala's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP).
- ❖ These remittances contribute to household consumption, investment, and overall economic development in the state.

### Conclusion:

- ❖ The dynamic nature of migration patterns and the challenges and opportunities posed by these trends underscore the need for comprehensive policies and programmes to address them. Effective reintegration strategies for returnees, skill development initiatives and targeted support for women migrants are critical to ensuring the State's sustainable and inclusive growth.



## GOA SET TO BRING NEW TOURISM BILL

**SOURCE:** [THE INDIAN EXPRESS](#)

**TAG: MAINS EXAMINATION:** GS II, GS III: **Government Policies and Interventions, Economic Development.**

### Why in News:

- ❖ The proposed draft Bill seeks to repeal two existing legislations that govern state tourism-The Goa, Daman and Diu Registration of Tourist Trade Act, 1982 and The Goa Tourist Places (Protection and Maintenance) Act, 2001.

### About The Goa Tourism Promotion, Management and Regulation Bill, 2024:

- ❖ Called 'The Goa Tourism Promotion, Management and Regulation Bill, 2024', the stated aim of the proposed law, drafted by the state's department of tourism, is to consolidate and amend the laws applicable to tourism and to "protect, preserve and retain the natural and cultural heritage of the state to ensure that it remains a destination of choice for tourists".
- ❖ The new draft bill empowers the tourism department to work with the police under the ambit of a "tourism security force" to curb touting and harassment of tourists.
- ❖ The Bill also has proposed a "tourism development and sustainability" fee on all the tourism enterprises in the state and incentives for encouraging adoption of sustainable tourism such as waiver of registration or renewal fee for complying with the applicable standards or codes of practice, scheme for grant or capital subsidy for adoption of sustainable technology and practices.

### Challenges in India's Tourism Sector:

- ❖ **Infrastructure:** Inadequate infrastructure such as transportation, accommodation, and sanitation facilities in many tourist destinations.
- ❖ **Safety and Security:** Concerns over safety and security for tourists, especially in certain regions and for solo travelers.
- ❖ **Regulatory Issues:** Complex regulatory frameworks, permits, and bureaucratic hurdles that can hinder tourism development.
- ❖ **Environmental Impact:** Potential negative environmental impacts from tourism activities on fragile ecosystems and natural habitats.
- ❖ **Seasonality:** Uneven distribution of tourists throughout the year, leading to seasonal fluctuations in business for tourism operators.

### Conclusion:

- ❖ The introduction of the new Tourism Bill in Goa is a proactive step towards addressing current challenges and promoting sustainable growth in the tourism sector, thereby potentially establishing Goa as an even more attractive destination while also preserving its cultural and environmental integrity.