



Current Affairs of the Day

GS II

- PM unveils project for affordable housing

GS III

- GST collections touch an all-time high in December

PM unveils project for affordable housing

Highlights:

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday laid the foundation stone of six Light House Projects in six cities as part of the Global Housing Technology Challenge-India (GHTC-India) initiative.
2. The aim of the programme is to build around 1,000 houses each in Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Rajkot (Gujarat), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Ranchi (Jharkhand), Agartala (Tripura) and Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh) over a period of 12 months. Modern construction practices from countries such as France, Germany and Canada would be adopted.
3. The GHTC provided the scope for incubating new technologies for construction and innovation, he pointed out and called upon planners, architects and students to visit the project sites, learn from the technologies, and mould them for use in accordance with the local requirements.
4. He said another major initiative — the Central rental housing complex project — was conceived last year, for migrant labourers. The project was being implemented in coordination with industrialists and other investors.

GST collections touch an all-time high in December

Highlights:

1. Gross revenues from the Goods and Services Tax (GST) hit a record high in December 2020, with collections of ₹1,15,174 crore, 12% higher than a year ago and 9.7% greater than the previous month's inflows.
2. December marks the fourth month in a row that GST collections have grown year-on-year after revenues collapsed in the first quarter of 2020-21 amid the COVID-19 lockdown.
3. The 12% year-on-year growth recorded in December was the highest in 21 months. The government said the highest monthly GST kitty since the introduction of the indirect tax in 2017, was a reflection of a rapid economic recovery underway.
4. It also attributed part of the gains to better compliance following an official crackdown on malpractices to weed out taxpayers evading GST or using fake bills to defraud the exchequer.



Collection improves

Gross GST revenue collected in December 2020 was ₹1,15,174 crore, a 11.6% increase from Dec. 2019

