

1 सारनाथ को यूनेस्को विश्व धरोहर सूची में स्थान



- वाराणसी के पास स्थित प्राचीन बौद्ध स्थल सारनाथ शामिल।
- बुद्ध ने यहीं पहला उपदेश दिया (धर्मचक्र प्रवर्तन सुतत)।
- धर्म के चक्र के प्रथम प्रवर्तन स्थल।
- प्रमुख स्मारक: धम्मके स्तूप, चौखंडी स्तूप, अशोक स्तंभ, मूलगंध कुटी, पुरातत्व संग्रहालय।
- भारत के राष्ट्रपति प्रतीक (अशोक स्तंभ) की उत्पत्ति यहीं से।
- बौद्ध धर्म के चार प्रमुख तीर्थों में एक।

मूल्य संवर्धन: भारत की समृद्ध सांस्कृतिक विरासत को वैश्विक मान्यता।

मुख्य शब्द: यूनेस्को | धरोहर | बौद्ध धर्म | सारनाथ | अशोक स्तंभ

2 अमेरिका का फोर्सेड लेबर पर सेक्शन 301 निर्णय



- भारत को 10% निम्न टैरिफ श्रेणी में रखा गया।
- यह निर्णय US Trade Act, 1974 के सेक्शन 301 के अंतर्गत।
- निष्पक्ष व्यापार, बौद्धिक संपदा संरक्षण और फोर्सेड लेबर पर निगरानी हेतु।
- श्रम मानकों के अनुपालन को बढ़ावा।
- भारत के निर्यात और आपूर्ति श्रृंखला प्रतिस्पर्धा को बढ़ावा मिलेगा।
- श्रम शासन और ESG मानकों के साथ तालमेल मजबूत होगा।

मूल्य संवर्धन: श्रम अधिकार और व्यापार नीति का वैश्वीकरण जुड़ाव।

मुख्य शब्द: सेक्शन 301 | ट्रेड एक्ट 1974 | टैरिफ | श्रम अनुपालन

3 स्टार्ट-अप विलेज उद्यमिता कार्यक्रम (PIB पृष्ठभूमि)



- PIB पृष्ठभूमि पहल।
- ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय एवं DAY-NRLM द्वारा संचालित।
- SHG आधारित उद्यम प्रोत्साहन।
- ग्रामीण गैर-कृषि रोजगार पर जोर।
- प्रशिक्षण, ऋण, मार्गदर्शन और बाजार उपलब्धता।
- स्थानीय अर्थव्यवस्था एवं आत्मनिर्भर भारत को सशक्त बनाना।

मूल्य संवर्धन: ग्रामीण औद्योगिकीकरण और समावेशी विकास को बढ़ावा।

मुख्य शब्द: NRLM | उद्यमिता | ग्रामीण विकास | SHG | आत्मनिर्भर भारत

4 कैच द रेन अभियान - नंदयाल पहल



- राष्ट्रीय जल मिशन द्वारा संचालित।
- थीम: "जहाँ गिरे, जब गिरे, वहाँ जल संचय"।
- जल संचयन अवसंरचना को सशक्त करना।
- उपाय: चेक डैम, फार्म पॉन्ड, रिचार्ज पिट, पकोलेशन टैंक।
- भूजल पुनर्भरण और संरक्षण को बढ़ावा।
- जल सुरक्षा और जलवायु लचीलेपन के लिए महत्वपूर्ण।

मूल्य संवर्धन: विकेन्द्रीकृत जल प्रबंधन से जल संकट का समाधान।

मुख्य शब्द: जल संरक्षण | राष्ट्रीय जल मिशन | वर्षा जल संचयन | IWRM

5 ई-कोर्ट्स फेज III एवं डिजिटल न्याय पहल



- ई-कोर्ट्स फेज III से पेपरलेस न्यायपालिका।
- AI आधारित सेवाएँ और ऑनलाइन फाइलिंग।
- ई-फाइलिंग 3.0 से तेज और पारदर्शी प्रक्रिया।
- दिशा 2.0 से डिजिटल न्याय और कानूनी सहायता।
- टेली-लॉ से दूरस्थ क्षेत्र में न्याय तक पहुँच।
- न्यायिक अवसंरचना आधुनिक और तकनीक-समर्थ।

मूल्य संवर्धन: न्याय तक सुलभ, पारदर्शी और समयबद्ध पहुँच।

मुख्य शब्द: ई-कोर्ट्स | डिजिटल न्याय | दिशा | ई-फाइलिंग | न्यायिक सुधार

6 नए आपराधिक कानूनों के कार्यान्वयन की समीक्षा



- तीन नए आपराधिक कानूनों का देशभर में कार्यान्वयन।
- क्षमता निर्माण और तकनीक पर विशेष जोर।
- डिजिटल साक्ष्य और फोरेंसिक जाँच को बढ़ावा।
- पीड़ित केन्द्रित और समयबद्ध न्याय सुनिश्चित करना।
- पुलिस एवं न्यायपालिका का प्रशिक्षण महत्वपूर्ण।
- भारतीय न्याय प्रणाली में व्यापक सुधार का चरण।

मूल्य संवर्धन: आधुनिक आपराधिक न्याय प्रणाली की दिशा में बड़ा कदम।

मुख्य शब्द: BNS | BNSS | BSA | आपराधिक कानून | सुधार

7 महानदी ऑफशोर बेसिन - प्रथम मूल्यांकन कुआँ



- अपरेजल कुआँ MN-DWN18-1-HD की ड्रिलिंग शुरू।
- महानदी ऑफशोर बेसिन में अन्वेषण।
- घरेलू हाइड्रोकार्बन उत्पादन को बढ़ावा।
- आयात निर्भरता में कमी और ऊर्जा सुरक्षा को मजबूती।
- अपरेजल कुआँ से व्यावसायिक संभावनाओं का मूल्यांकन।
- आत्मनिर्भर भारत के ऊर्जा लक्ष्य में सहायक।

मूल्य संवर्धन: दीर्घकालीन ऊर्जा स्वावलंबन की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति।

मुख्य शब्द: Offshore | हाइड्रोकार्बन | अन्वेषण | ऊर्जा सुरक्षा | अपरेजल

8 भारत की हाइड्रोजन ट्रेन - स्वच्छ भविष्य की ओर



- लगभग 3,000 लीटर डीजल उत्सर्जन की जगह जल वाष्प।
- हाइड्रोजन + फ्यूल सेल से बिजली उत्पन्न।
- शून्य कार्बन उत्सर्जन।
- कम शोर, स्वच्छ और टिकाऊ परिवहन।
- राष्ट्रीय हरित हाइड्रोजन मिशन को बढ़ावा।
- भारत की हरित गतिशीलता में महत्वपूर्ण नवाचार।

मूल्य संवर्धन: स्वच्छ ऊर्जा आधारित परिवहन की दिशा में क्रांतिकारी कदम।

मुख्य शब्द: हाइड्रोजन | फ्यूल सेल | हरित गतिशीलता | NHHM

9 भारतीय तटरक्षक द्वारा बाढ़ राहत ऑपरेशन



- दमन, दादरा & नगर हवेली एवं दक्षिण गुजरात में बाढ़ राहत।
- 170 व्यक्तियों का सफल रेस्क्यू।
- खोज एवं बचाव (SAR) संचालन।
- मानवीय सहायता एवं आपदा राहत (HADR) में सक्रिय भूमिका।
- तटीय सुरक्षा और आपदा प्रतिक्रिया क्षमता को मजबूत बनाना।
- सेंडई फ्रेमवर्क (2015-2030) के अनुरूप कार्य।

मूल्य संवर्धन: त्वरित प्रतिक्रिया से जीवन रक्षा और आपदा प्रबंधन सशक्त।

मुख्य शब्द: तटरक्षक | बाढ़ राहत | SAR | HADR | सेंडई फ्रेमवर्क

अन्य महत्वपूर्ण एक-पंक्ति समाचार



प्रधानमंत्री ने सभी नागरिकों को आषाढी एकादशी की शुभकामनाएँ दी।



फ्रॉडपोलेंट एयर सुविधा 2.0 वेबसाइट्स से सावधान रहने की जन सलाह।



ECI द्वारा मतदाता सुविधियों का बहु-स्तरीय सुरक्षा के साथ गहन पुनरीक्षण।



MoRTH का कानपुर-कबीराई हाईवे लॉजिस्टिक्स और कृषि क्षेत्र को मिलेगा बड़ा लाभ।



संत गजानन महाराज के 150वें प्रकट दिन पर स्मारक सिक्का एवं डाक टिकट जारी।

1 SARNATH ADDED TO UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST



- Ancient Buddhist site near Varanasi, UP.
- Lord Buddha delivered First Sermon here.
- First Turning of Wheel of Dharma.
- Major monuments: Dhamek Stupa, Ashokan Pillar.
- Ashoka Lion Capital from Sarnath is India's emblem.
- One of Buddhism's four holiest sites.

Value Addition: Reflects India's rich civilizational legacy.

Keywords: UNESCO | Heritage | Buddhism | Sarnath

2 US FINAL SECTION 301 MEASURES ON FORCED LABOUR



- India placed in 10% lower tariff tier.
- Part of US Trade Act, 1974.
- Targets unfair trade practices & forced labour.
- Favors compliant supply chains.
- Boost to India's exports & competitiveness.
- Strengthens labour governance standards.

Value Addition: Trade now linked with labour & ESG norms.

Keywords: Trade Act 1974 | Tariff | Labour Compliance

3 START-UP VILLAGE ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME

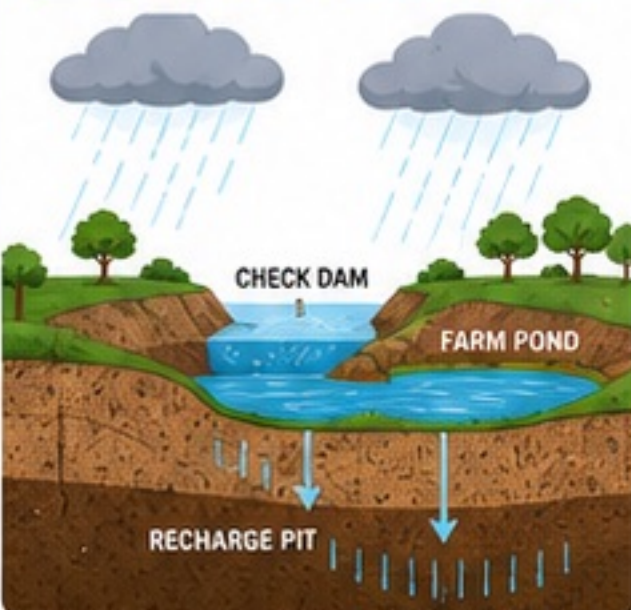


- PIB Backgrounder initiative.
- Implemented by Ministry of Rural Development.
- Promotes rural enterprises & self-employment.
- Focus on SHGs & local livelihoods.
- Provides training, credit, mentoring & market access.
- Supports Aatmanirbhar Bharat & inclusive growth.

Value Addition: Strengthens rural economy & local value chains.

Keywords: Rural Development | NRLM | Entrepreneurship

4 CATCH THE RAIN CAMPAIGN – NANDYAL INITIATIVE



- Led by National Water Mission.
- Theme: 'Catch the Rain- Where it Falls, When it Falls'.
- Strengthens storage infrastructure.
- Measures: check dams, farm ponds, recharge pits, tanks.
- Enhances groundwater recharge & conservation.
- Supports water security & climate resilience.

Value Addition: Promotes decentralized water management.

Keywords: Water Conservation | NWM | IWRM

5 eCOURTS PHASE III & DIGITAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES



- eCourts Phase III for paperless courts.
- AI-enabled & technology driven services.
- e-Filing 3.0 for faster online filing.
- DISHA 2.0 for technology-enabled legal aid.
- Tele-Law for remote justice access.
- Judicial infrastructure modernisation.

Value Addition: Enhances ease of justice & efficiency.

Keywords: eGovernance | Judicial Reforms | Access to Justice

6 NEW CRIMINAL LAWS – IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW



- Implementation of BNS, BNSS & BSA under review.
- Focus on training & capacity building.
- Emphasis on forensic investigation.
- Victim-centric & time-bound justice.
- Integration of technology & digital evidence.
- Strengthens rule of law & criminal justice system.

Value Addition: Modern, transparent & efficient legal framework.

Keywords: BNS | BNSS | BSA | Criminal Justice

7 MAHANADI OFFSHORE BASIN – APPRAISAL WELL

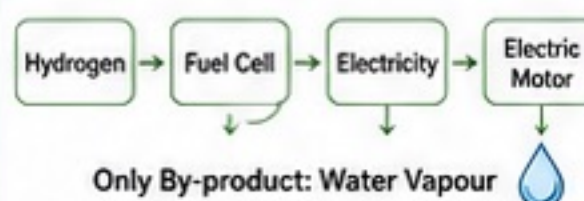


- Spudding of appraisal well MN-DWN18-1-HD begins.
- Mahanadi basin offshore exploration.
- Boosts domestic hydrocarbon production.
- Reduces import dependence & strengthens energy security.
- Supports Atmanirbhar Bharat in energy sector.
- Appraisal well assesses commercial viability.

Value Addition: Key to long-term energy self-reliance.

Keywords: Offshore Exploration | Hydrocarbons | Energy Security

8 INDIA'S HYDROGEN TRAIN – CLEAN FUTURE ON TRACK



- Replaces ~3,000 litres diesel emissions.
- Hydrogen + Fuel Cell = Electricity.
- Zero carbon emissions, only water vapour.
- Cleaner, quieter & sustainable transport.
- Supports National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- Paving way for green mobility in India.

Value Addition: Step towards net-zero & green railways.

Keywords: Hydrogen | Fuel Cell | Green Mobility | Sustainability

9 INDIAN COAST GUARD FLOOD RELIEF OPERATIONS



- Rescued 170 persons in flood-affected areas.
- Operations in Daman, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and South Gujarat.
- Expert in Search & Rescue (SAR) and HADR.
- Supports civil authorities in disaster response.
- Enhances coastal safety and humanitarian aid.
- Aligned with Sendai Framework (2015-2030).

Value Addition: Ensures safety, resilience & timely response.

Keywords: Disaster Management | HADR | Indian Coast Guard

OTHER IMPORTANT ONE-LINERS



PM greeted citizens on Ashadhi Ekadashi.



Relaxed norms for fraudulent Air Suvidha 2.0 websites.



ECI conducting intensive revision of electoral rolls with safeguards.



MoRTH's Kanpur-Kabrai Highway will boost logistics & agriculture.



Commemorative coin & stamp to mark 150th Prakat Din of Sant Gajanan Maharaj.

Srijan India One | NCERT ONE! VEDIC AGE History

1 TWO PHASES OF VEDIC AGE

- **Early Vedic Period:** c. 1500–1000 BCE
- **Later Vedic Period:** c. 1000–600 BCE
- From pastoral tribal society to settled agricultural society.
- Shift from Punjab (Sapta Sindhu) to Ganga-Yamuna Doab.



THEME: Social, political and economic transformation.

2 VEDIC LITERATURE

- Four Vedas: Rigveda, Samaveda, Yajurveda, Atharvaveda.
- Rigveda is the oldest and key source for Early Vedic Age.
- Later literature:
 - Brahmanas (rituals)
 - Aranyakas (forest texts)
 - Upanishads (philosophy)



THEME: Evolution from ritualism to philosophical inquiry.

3 POLITICAL ORGANISATION

- Basic unit: Kula (family) → Grama → Vis → Jana.
- Tribal chief known as Rajan.
- Important tribal assemblies:
 - Sabha
 - Samiti
 - Vidatha
- Kingship was not fully hereditary in Early Vedic period.

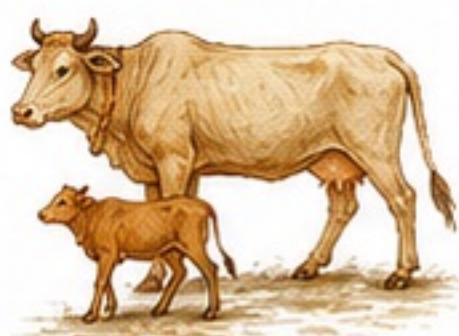


THEME: Growth of political institutions and monarchy.

4 ECONOMY

Early Vedic

- Pastoral economy.
- Cattle were the chief measure of wealth.
- Limited agriculture.



Later Vedic

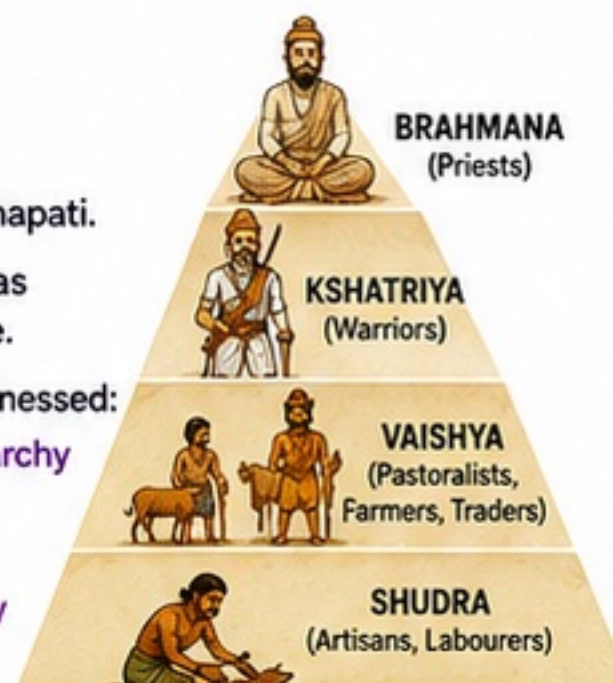
- Agriculture became dominant.
- Iron tools increased cultivation.
- Trade and surplus production expanded.



THEME: Shift from pastoralism to agriculture.

5 SOCIETY

- Patriarchal society.
- Family headed by Grihapati.
- Early Vedic society was comparatively flexible.
- Later Vedic society witnessed:
 - Stronger social hierarchy
 - Emergence of rigid Varna system
 - Growth of hereditary occupations.



THEME: Evolution of social stratification.

6 RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY

Early Vedic Gods

- Indra, Agni, Varuna, Soma, Vayu, Surya.
- Nature worship dominated.



Later Vedic

- Rise of Prajapati and Vishnu.
- Sacrifices (Yajnas) became elaborate.
- Upanishads emphasised:
 - Brahman
 - Atman
 - Karma
 - Moksha



THEME: From nature worship to philosophical thought.

7 WOMEN IN VEDIC AGE

Early Vedic

- Women participated in religious ceremonies.
- Education was allowed.
- Learned women:
 - Gargi
 - Maitreyi
- Widow remarriage existed.



Later Vedic

- Decline in women's status.
- Property and educational rights became restricted.
- Patriarchal control increased.



THEME: Changing status of women.

8 IRON AND TERRITORIAL EXPANSION

- Iron (Shyama Ayas/Krishna Ayas) became important in Later Vedic period.
- Forest clearing enabled cultivation.
- Expansion into the Ganga plains.
- Rise of territorial kingdoms paved the way for the Mahajanapadas.



THEME: Technology and state formation.

9 NCERT THEMES FREQUENTLY ASKED IN UPSC

- Transition from tribe to state.
- From pastoral economy to agriculture.
- Evolution of the Varna system.
- Discuss the status and administrative institutions.
- Growth of rituals and Brahmanical dominance.
- Emergence of Upanishadic philosophy.
- Increasing use of iron technology.
- Territorial expansion towards eastern India.
- Foundations for the Second Urbanisation and Mahajanapada period.



UPSC PRELIMS ONE-LINERS

- Oldest Veda: Rigveda
- Most important Early Vedic assembly: Samiti
- Chief wealth: Cattle
- Earliest iron use: Later Vedic Age

- Famous women philosophers: Gargi and Maitreyi
- Main source of Early Vedic history: Rigveda
- Basic political unit: Jana
- Four Vedas: Rig, Sama, Yajur, Atharva
- Philosophical culmination of Vedic literature: Upanishads

UPSC MAINS THEMES

- Compare the Early and Later Vedic periods.
- Explain the transition from pastoral to agrarian society.
- Analyse the evolution of the Varna system.
- Discuss the status of women during the Vedic Age.
- Examine how iron technology contributed to political and economic change.
- Assess the significance of the Upanishads in Indian intellectual history.

A growth story that needs women at work

India aspires to become a developed country (Viksit Bharat) by 2047, yet youth unemployment is already double the rate of 2012. India, especially the government, may be forced to recognise the weaknesses of India's economy due to the West Asia war shock. However, weakness pre-dates this exogenous shock. Policy-induced shocks (GST and (Seroes Tax, NBFC, COVID pandemic management) to the economy had already reversed structural change (rise in farm employment, falling manufacturing share of gross value added and in employment) non-farm job growth had slowed. The economy became more unequal, and hence aggregate demand collapsed, and with it investment/GDP ratio. So, GDP growth is much slower (even if government figures of 6.2% p.a. are believed (it is actually at best 4.5%, as the former Chief Economic Adviser recently argued).

An engine of growth

Further, India's growth story will remain incomplete without increasing the work participation rate (WPR) of half the population, i.e., women. In a new study, we estimate that a 10-percentage-point increase in India's female WPR could add nearly two percentage points to GDP growth, making women's employment one of the strongest drivers of economic growth. To sustain rapid growth of 8%-9% and emerge as a global economic power, the nation must harness the immense potential of its youth, especially young women.

Increased female WPR could contribute to economic growth in multiple ways. First, it increases the overall labour supply, thereby expanding productive capacity. When more women enter paid employment, household incomes rise, consumption increases, and savings improve. Higher household incomes also lead to children, thereby strengthening long-term human capital. Women's work participation can also improve productivity and innovation. Based on cross-country evidence, Nobel laureate Claudia Goldin argues efficient, creative, and competitive. Including women in the workforce is not merely a welfare measure but also a strategy for enhancing national productivity.

However, the work participation rate (WPR) of women in India remains below 30% – among the lowest in the world, comparable to that of countries such as Saudi Arabia and Yemen and West Asia. India's female labour force



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Jajati Keshari Parida

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standards, even when compared with countries at similar levels of per capita income. Worse, it declined steadily between 1983 and 2018. As overall job growth in both the farm and non-farm sectors fell between 2012 and 2018, how did women fare? This is a critical question, especially since women are now much better educated than earlier.

Decline in women's work

In the 1980s and during the early 1990s, the WPR for women was high, primarily due to high participation in agricultural activities. However, this trend began to decline as economic growth and structural transformation led to a shift away from agriculture from 2004-05 to 2012. Many rural women withdrew from the workforce due to mechanisation and reduced demand for manual labour.

Fortunately, this period also saw a rise in educational attainment among young women, leading to increased school attendance. In other words, the Indian economy experienced a downward movement in female WPR in the first half of the U-shaped curve until 2018-19, consistent with the argument of Claudia Goldin.

Much has been made by government economists of the increase in women's work participation in India, post 2020. However, this increase built upon a GDP growth slowdown since 2017. Further, COVID-19 had induced economic distress, and large-scale return migration from urban to rural areas. With male workers losing urban employment and moving back to villages, women were compelled to intensify their role in subsistence agriculture and allied activities, often as unpaid family labour (UFL). This surge in UFL reflected a "distress-driven feminisation of agriculture", as women entered or remained in insecure, informal, and unremunerated agricultural work, due to shrinking non-farm opportunities and reinforced gender norms that limited mobility. The share of such work was falling from 1983 to 2012, as was the absolute number of women in such work. The collapse of non-farm work for men and women now meant that adult, poorly educated women returned to agriculture.

The structure of India's economic growth has also contributed to weak female employment generation. Much of India's recent GDP growth has been concentrated in capital-intensive sectors such as finance, information technology, and organised manufacturing, which do not absorb large numbers of workers. Labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, food processing, and small-scale manufacturing saw a decline between

2013 and 2019. In fact fewer women were employed in manufacturing in 2019 than in 2004, which shows how manufacturing jobs collapsed, despite all the hype about "Make in India" and Performance-Linked Incentives for manufacturing. It was not until 2022 that manufacturing work for women rose to a level found in 2004. In much of India, manufacturing, or women's work has not received sufficient policy support.

The north-south divide

We show that young girls' unemployment is much higher than for young men. However, there is a real north-south divide, as highlighted in the book, *India Out of Work*. What is achievable is demonstrated by Tamil Nadu, which has been one of India's fastest-growing States. More than 40% of India's women factory workers are employed in Tamil Nadu. This is remarkable, given that Tamil Nadu accounts for only about 5%-6% of India's population. This concentration is driven primarily by the State's strong presence (Sriperumbet, at well as by higher female literacy, greater mobility, and well-developed hostel and transport facilities for women workers.

Similarly, Hindi-belt States need to invest in the health (not insurance-based) and public education for all, especially of girls and women, to reduce higher-than-African level malnutrition and stunting rates – as the Southern states have done. They can then also see similar outcomes. There is no chance for India being 'Viksit' without gender equality in all dimensions, especially in north India.

Some increase of female WPR (who re-entered agriculture) across India since 2020 was due to older adult women engaging in animal husbandry and poultry farming – a welcome development for household incomes.

However, what about educated young girls? The gross enrolment rate at the secondary level was universalised between 2010 and 2015, with gender parity achieved even in rural Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. However, educated young rates

Worse, the number of young women (aged 15-29 years) who were neither looking for work nor in education, was under 70 million until 2004. It increased to 84 million in 2012 and rose to over 100 million by 2018. Bihar's female WPR is only 15%. Hence, India will remain out of work, and cannot become a developed country by excluding half its population from productive work.



- Women's work participation is key to India's growth.
- A 10% rise in female WPR can add ~2% to GDP growth.
- Current female WPR < 30% – among the lowest globally.



- Low WPR limits labour supply, productivity and demand.
- More women in jobs → higher incomes, savings, human capital.
- Gender-diverse workplaces are more efficient & innovative.



- 1980s-90s: High WPR due to agriculture.
- 2004-12: Decline due to structural change, mechanisation.
- 2018-19: Low point; U-shaped curve.



- Post-2020 rise in WPR linked to COVID distress.
- Return migration → more women in unpaid family labour.
- Distress-driven feminisation of agriculture.



- Manufacturing jobs for women fell (2013-19).
- 2019 levels lower than 2004.
- Policy support for women in manufacturing is insufficient.



- North-South divide in women's employment.
- Tamil Nadu leads – 40% of India's women factory workers.
- Key factors: industry, literacy, mobility, hostels, transport.



- Invest in health, public education & nutrition.
- Reduce malnutrition & stunting.
- Essential for gender equality, especially in North India.



- Post-2020 increase partly due to animal husbandry & poultry.
- Supports household income.



- Educated young women face high unemployment.
- 100+ million young women neither in work nor education (by 2018).
- Bihar's female WPR only 15%.
- Excluding women = India remains 'out of work'.



Hope hangs by a cloud: A farmer ploughs a paddy field on a tractor on the outskirts of Hyderabad on Thursday. El Nino conditions have weakened monsoon this year, leading to a severe rainfall deficit across the State. NAGARA GOPAL

Caught between a dry spell and despair

Delayed rains, falling groundwater levels and the looming impact of El Niño have left thousands of farmers across Telangana anxiously watching the skies. While the State has rolled out a rolled-out a contingency plan urging a shift to less water-intensive crops, many of their traditional choices, hoping the monsoon will revive. As reservoirs run low and crop stress mounts, they remain caught between official advisories and age-old cropping patterns, report **K. Shiva Shanker** and **P. Laxma Reddy**

Standing in his eight-acre rainfed farm in Aroor village of Sangareddy district in mid-July, P. Narasimulu gently pulls out a black gram sapling from the parched soil. The frail plant barely reaches above it, he says, "By now, it should have been this tall."

Last monsoon, excess rain had washed away nearly 33 lakh that the 40-year-old tenant farmer had invested in his cotton crop. This year, it is the absence of rain that threatens to leave him counting losses again.

"I have spent around ₹60,000 for ploughing and ₹40,000 to sow black gram and redgram (kandl pappu) in eight acres this Vanakalam (rainy season). There are no rains so far. If we receive good rains in the coming days, I might recover some of the harassment. Else, I cultivate leased land."

The vegetation growing between the crop rows offers another reminder of how little rain the fields have received. "We used to weed it out by this time," he says, pointing to the stunted growth.

His anxiety is shared by several of farmers across Telangana, where a delayed southwest monsoon and the looming impact of El Niño have raised fears of crop losses, shrinking groundwater reserves and a difficult agricultural season.



I have spent around ₹60,000 for ploughing and ₹40,000 to sow black gram and redgram in this revenue land."

P. NARASIMULU, Tenant farmer in Sangareddy

cient mainly to meet essential needs such as drinking water supply, leaving little irrigation unless the remaining monsoon brings substantial inflows.

For a State where agriculture remains the source of livelihood, the implications are dire. According to the Telangana ministry, according to the Telangana accounts for different Outfits for the State of total employment in the State, with 22.2% in industry and 56.3% in rural Telangana, nearly 62.6% of the population depends on agriculture and allied activities.

Political blame game and preparedness

Political differences over the crisis have sharpened as the dry spell continues.

Senior leaders of the main Opposition, Bharat Rashtra Samithi, accused the State government of inaction in meeting of creating an "artificial drought" by operating the pump at Kaleshwaram Irrigation Scheme (KLIS).

The party's Deputy Floor Leader, T. Harish Rao, said the project was criticised to ensure farmers would no longer remain at the mercy of uncertain monsoons if Godavari into Telangana's reservoirs.

Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the Madigadda, Antaram and Sundilla barrages of KLIS would permit the operation of the inflow experts but critical, geological and geoscientific studies recommended as part of the studies following the damage to the barrages were nearing completion, were

gram, black gram, castor and select vegetables. But one crop that is conspicuously absent from the list is paddy.

The paddy paradox

The omission is significant because paddy and cotton together accounted for a little over 87% of the 1.37 crore acres cultivated during Vanakalam 2025. Paddy alone covered 69.98 lakh acres. The total area sown during the previous kharif season 1.38 crore acres in 2024-25, making for just 50% of the State's geographical area of 27.65 lakh acres, according to the Telangana Socio-Economic Outlook 2026.

According to Uttam Reddy, the State achieved a rare double of record paddy production and procurement in the 2025-26 kharif season. "We procured 74.61 lakh tonnes of paddy worth ₹19,000 crore during kharif, benefiting over 10 lakh farmers," he said.

Farmers have largely stayed with the same crops they cultivated during the previous Vanakalam.

Compared with the corresponding period last year, the area under paddy till July 14 increased from 5,66,710 acres to 6,37,586 acres. Cotton acreage rose from 37,48,842 acres to 41,52,337 acres while redgram increased from 3,26,333 acres to 3,53,845 acres and soybean from 13,35,665 acres to 3,35,685 acres.



We are going to recommend supply of seeds of pulses and cereals to the farmers on maximum credit support on the loans.

Planning board vice-chairman

Hope and worry. The search for transplantation, but without fail, they cannot be moved to the main field. "We have been this," "We go ahead with the at least mode of our fields for paddy with the preparation of our field loans."

G. CHINNA REDDY, Irrigation Minister, said the project was criticised to ensure farmers would no longer remain at the mercy of uncertain monsoons if Godavari into Telangana's reservoirs.

A 27-member State-level expert committee headed by Planning Board vice-chairman G. Chinna Reddy, said the project was criticised to ensure farmers would no longer remain at the mercy of uncertain monsoons if Godavari into Telangana's reservoirs.

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He urges the government to link the WBG RAM programmes with agriculture to support farmers' production and procurement.

In Vikarabad's Amrati Kalan village, another farmer, Salauddin, says he chose not to cultivate any cotton after the India fit the season.

They warned of a weak monsoon. Instead, it is not the first dose. In the village, the first dose is not the first dose. "We have to monitor the first dose of the monsoon here between the first dose and the second dose to irrigation water for cultivation."



Highly mobile migrant workforce may miss 2nd dose gives uneven protection (better hospitalisation for DENV-2 in seronegative children).



Qdenga may be too expensive for urban slum populations. Govt must negotiate lower price for wider uptake.



Vaccine administration & rollout in population is complex. Rollout must be cautious, targeted & closely monitored.



- First dengue vaccine (Qdenga) approved in India by CDSCO.
- Licensed in 40+ countries; WHO prequalified.
- Urgent need due to India's worst dengue years and rising burden.



- Aedes mosquitoes spreading into semi-urban & rural areas.
- Conventional vector control is hard to sustain.



- 4 dengue serotypes: DENV-1 to DENV-4.
- Risk of 'second infection' → more severe disease via antibody-dependent enhancement.
- Qdenga can be given without prior dengue infection screening (unlike Dengvaxia).



- Highest protection: DENV-2, then DENV-1.
- Uncertainty for DENV-3 & DENV-4 in dengue-naïve people.
- DENV-2 common in India; DENV-3 prevalence increasing.



- Two doses required, 3 months apart.
- First dose gives uneven protection (better for DENV-1 & DENV-2).
- Exposure between doses (e.g., DENV-3) may not be prevented.



- Highly mobile migrant workforce may miss 2nd dose.
- TIDES trial showed "negative efficacy" against hospitalisation for DENV-3 in seronegative children.

On guard

The dengue vaccine must be made affordable to those at greatest risk

The CDSCO's approval of the Qdenga dengue vaccine – the first in India's history – follows the vaccine's licensing in over 40 countries and a WHO prequalification, and some of the country's worst dengue years *vis-à-vis* the disease's burden, although that is evidence of better surveillance as well. The Aedes mosquitoes that spread the disease are expanding into semi-urban and rural districts, where conventional vector control is harder to sustain. The time to develop the vaccine itself is understandable. The four antigenically distinct dengue serotypes and the possibility of a 'second infection', by a different serotype producing more severe disease through antibody-dependent enhancement mean that an effective shot has to induce strong immunity against all four at once. This constraint nearly derailed the first licensed dengue vaccine, Dengvaxia, and the controversy in the Philippines in 2017 prompted greater regulatory caution. The design of Qdenga, by Japan-based Takeda, differs from that of Dengvaxia and, unlike the latter, can be administered without screening for a prior dengue infection.

Its protection against the serotypes varies from highest against DENV-2, followed by DENV-1, while uncertainty remains regarding protection against DENV-3 and DENV-4 in people without prior exposure to dengue. This is concerning because while DENV-2 is more common in India, DENV-3 prevalence is increasing. If the DENV-3 serotype dominates the 2026 monsoon season, Qdenga's impact could be substantially lower than anticipated, especially if many recipients are dengue-naïve. Qdenga also requires two doses across three months apart. Clinical data suggest that the first dose protects unevenly, with stronger evidence against DENV-1 and DENV-2 than DENV-3 and DENV-4. If a seronegative person takes the first shot on July 1, when the monsoon begins, and encounters DENV-3 in August, the shot may not suffice to prevent severe illness. Ensuring the highly mobile migrant workforce receives its second dose will be significantly difficult, too; those falling through the cracks may also be exposed to concerns raised in the TIDES trial of a 'negative efficacy' against hospitalisation related to DENV-3 among seronegative children. Finally, following Takeda's tiered pricing strategy worldwide, Qdenga may be too expensive for people living in dense urban slums with poor drainage. To ensure sufficient uptake among the populations at greatest risk, the government must negotiate a lower price. In the end, administering a dengue vaccine properly in a population is no less tricky than developing a vaccine against dengue, and the Qdenga rollout should give no cause for complacency.



- Qdenga is the first dengue vaccine approved in India by CDSCO.
- Licensed in 40+ countries and WHO prequalified.
- Urgent need due to rising dengue burden and better surveillance.



- Aedes mosquitoes expanding into semi-urban and rural areas.
- Conventional vector control is harder to sustain in these regions.



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- Qdenga may be too expensive for urban slum populations.
- Government must negotiate a lower price for wider uptake.



- Proper vaccine administration in the population is as complex as vaccine development.
- Qdenga rollout should be cautious, targeted and monitored closely.

India's foreign policy must look seaward

At sea, nationality is usually clear. Responsibility seldom is. An Indian seafarer may be recruited in Mumbai, hired by a company based in Singapore, placed on a ship flying the flag of Panama, carrying Kuwaiti oil, attacked off the coast of Oman, and detained in a fifth country. His family may know that he is in danger without knowing which government, shipowner, or insurer is responsible for bringing him home. No single authority is fully in charge. For thousands of Indian seafarers, this uncertainty is not an exception but a routine part of ordinary working life.

Of the 14 Indians killed in attacks connected to the conflict in West Asia since February 28, at least eight were seafarers aboard commercial ships. Other Indian seafarers have been injured or stranded because their vessel, its owner or its cargo made them targets in a war they did not choose.

Forgotten maritime workforce

India tends to regard seafarers as a shipping matter until trouble arises. Then, they become a consular case. Government figures put the workforce at about 3.2 lakh as of June 2025, nearly three times its size in 2014. The 2026 Seafarer Workforce Report ranks it second behind the Philippines, narrowly ahead of China, with just over 12% of global supply.

They work abroad without ever settling abroad. Their workplace moves. That mobility sits awkwardly with a consular system organised by territory. During a single voyage, a seafarer can cross several jurisdictions. No authority follows him all the way. An Indian mission may not even know that one of its nationals is nearby until his ship is seized, abandoned or hit.

India cannot wait for an emergency to find out where its seafarers are. Data compiled by the International Transport Workers' Federation show that 1,125 Indian seafarers were abandoned in 2025, more than from any other country. In such cases, the file ricochets among a flag State, the port State, the shipowner, insurer and India.



Syed Akbaruddin

Former Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations and, currently, Dean, Kautilya School of Public Policy, Hyderabad

Indian seafarers need protection beyond borders, flags, and jurisdictions

mission. After the recent strikes in West Asia, the government announced its Seafarer First response.

Officials must now account for every Indian seafarer in West Asia, whatever flag the vessel flies. A dashboard will track ships, threats and crew welfare; each affected family will have a liaison officer.

West Asia is not the only danger zone. In the Black Sea and Red Sea, crews now face missiles, drones and mines. Piracy and hostage-taking persist around the Gulf of Aden and off West Africa. On July 15, the government told shipowners, managers and recruitment agencies to avoid deploying Indian seafarers on vessels passing through the Strait of Hormuz until further orders. The dashboard and liaison system should remain available whenever a region is identified as high-risk.

There is a lifeline, there are gaps

Technology adds a peculiar cruelty here. A family in Kochi can watch a ship crawl, dot by dot, across a tracking app and still have no idea whether the person aboard is injured, detained or being sent into danger. A moving dot is a poor substitute for a phone call.

The dashboard can locate a ship. It cannot compel an owner or flag State to act, or secure access to a detained seafarer. Continuous tracking is unrealistic. When the system is activated, recruitment agencies should supply current crew and route data from owners and managers. India needs a standing maritime consular protocol that specifies who takes charge from the moment a distress signal is received.

In major shipping centres, Indian missions need a designated officer who knows the port authority, hospitals, insurers and local lawyers. Such relationships cannot be improvised after a ship is hit. Some flag States are quick to register a ship and slow to enforce the Maritime Labour Convention when wages stop, a crew is abandoned or repatriation is due. India must press this at the International Maritime Organization and in bilateral talks.

India's bilateral maritime agreements usually recognise Indian certificates and expand access to jobs. However, they say little about legal assistance, consular access, or repatriation. Shipowners choose the flag under which vessels operate, but they still need crews. The Philippines and Indonesia face similar challenges. Together, the three countries could push for common standards on repatriation, detention, and deployment in conflict zones through the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization. Otherwise, an owner constrained by one country's rules can simply hire elsewhere.

A cook in the ship galley does not become a combatant because the cargo is disputed or the owner has acquired enemies. India should oppose attacks on commercial shipping, whoever carries them out. Open sea lanes mean little if civilian crews cannot sail through them safely.

The right to know

Before signing a contract, a seafarer has a right to know who really owns the vessel, where it will sail, whether it is under sanctions, whether its insurance is valid and whether its owners have abandoned a crew before. Routes can change after departure. A seafarer ordered into a designated high-risk region should be able to refuse and return home without penalty.

On May 14, the Directorate General of Shipping prohibited licensed recruitment agencies from placing Indian seafarers on 366 vessels linked to abandonment unless specified compliance requirements were met. A seafarer should not have to hunt for the list. Recruitment agencies must show it to him before he signs and face penalties if they ignore it.

India's maritime ambitions are usually measured in ports, corridors, naval deployments and tonnage. In a seafarer's home, the questions are more immediate. Where is he? Who employs him? Who is responsible if he does not return? The flag above the vessel may be foreign. India's responsibility to its nationals is not.



- Indian seafarers face multi-layered risk across flags, owners, insurers and jurisdictions.
- No single authority is fully responsible for their safety and repatriation.



- 14 Indians killed in West Asia attacks since Feb 28; at least 8 were seafarers.
- Uncertainty is a routine part of seafarers' working life.



- Workforce: ~3.2 lakh (June 2025), nearly 3x of 2014.
- 2nd largest globally (after Philippines); ~12% of global supply.



- 1,125 Indian seafarers abandoned in 2025 – highest globally.
- Data sharing & early tracking are critical.



- Government launched Seafarer First response.
- Dashboard to track ships, threats, crew welfare; liaison officer for each affected family.



- Avoid deployment via Strait of Hormuz till further orders.
- High-risk zones: West Asia, Black Sea, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden & West Africa.



- Need standing maritime consular protocol & designated officers in major ports.
- Push for better enforcement of Maritime Labour Convention.



- India with Philippines & Indonesia can set common standards on repatriation, detention & deployment.



- Right to know before contract: ownership, route, sanctions, insurance, past abandonment.
- Refuse high-risk deployment without penalty.



- DG Shipping barred placement on 366 non-compliant vessels.
- Recruiters must disclose list; penalties for violation.



- India's maritime responsibility to its nationals is non-negotiable.
- Safety of seafarers = strength of India's maritime future.



"India's experience of state reorganization reflects a continuous balancing between regional aspirations and national integration." Discuss with suitable examples.



INTRODUCTION

State reorganization in India is the constitutional process of creating new states or altering their boundaries under **Articles 2, 3 and 4**.

Since Independence, India has accommodated regional aspirations while preserving the unity and integrity of the nation through democratic and constitutional means.



I. HOW STATE REORGANIZATION ACCOMMODATED REGIONAL ASPIRATIONS



Linguistic Identity

Creation of Andhra State (1953) after Potti Sriramulu's movement led to the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, recognizing linguistic diversity.



Ethnic & Tribal Aspirations

Formation of Nagaland (1963), Meghalaya (1972), Mizoram (1987) and Arunachal Pradesh (1987) safeguarded the unique identity and culture of tribal communities.



Administrative Efficiency

Creation of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand (2000) improved governance in geographically and socio-economically distinct regions.



Developmental Concerns

Telangana (2014) emerged from demands for equitable resource distribution and balanced regional development.



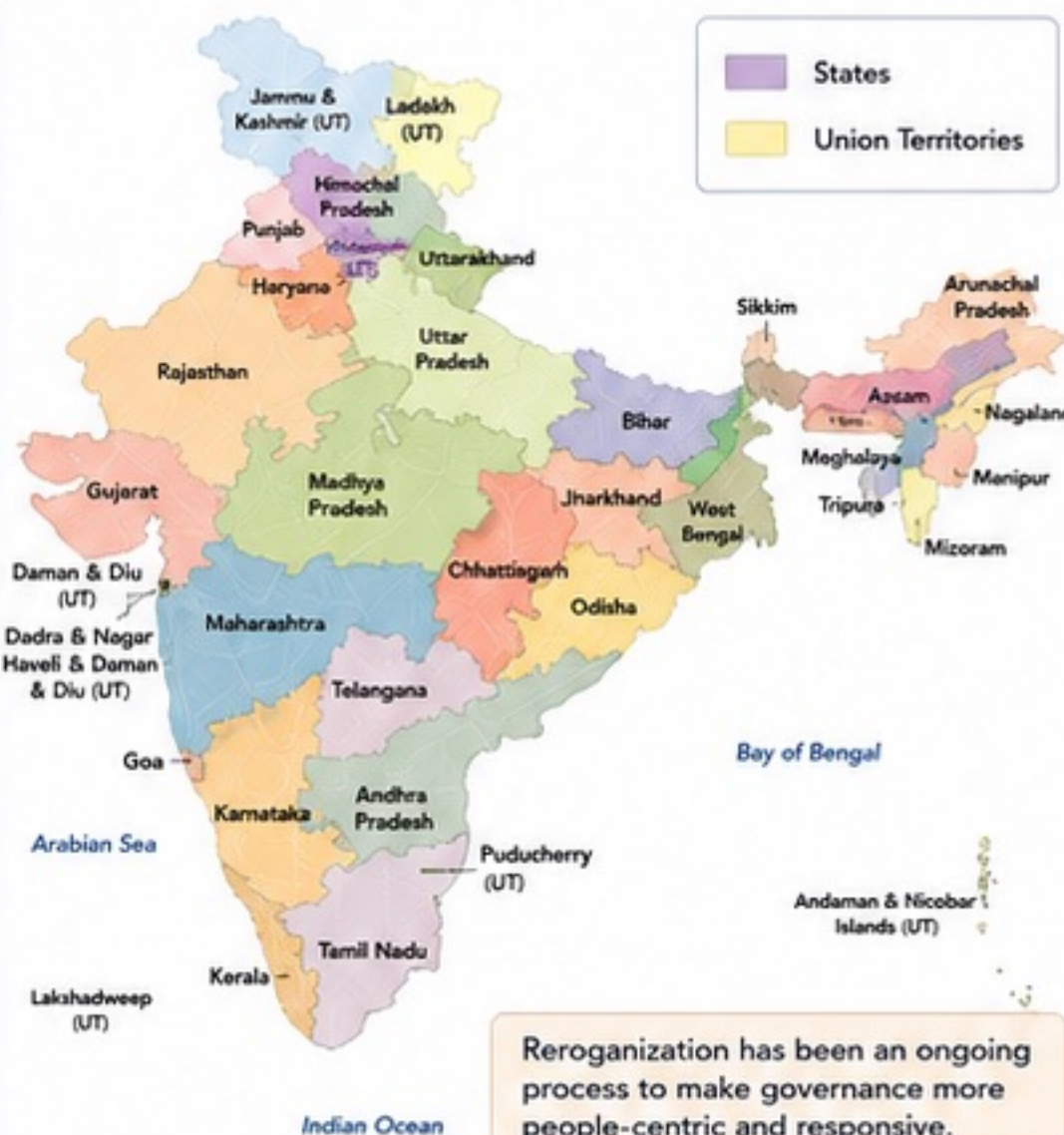
Constitutional Accommodation

All reorganizations were carried out through parliamentary legislation, reinforcing democratic legitimacy rather than extra-constitutional means.

II. MAJOR MILESTONES IN STATE REORGANIZATION

- 1953** Andhra State (first linguistic state)
- 1956** States Reorganisation Act, 1956 (14 States & 6 Union Territories)
- 1960** Maharashtra & Gujarat
- 1963** Nagaland
- 1966** Haryana (Carved out of Punjab)
- 1972** Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya
- 1975** Sikkim becomes 22nd State
- 1987** Goa, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram
- 2000** Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand
- 2014** Telangana
- 2019** Jammu & Kashmir Reorganized into UTs (J&K and Ladakh)

INDIA – CURRENT STATES (28) & UNION TERRITORIES (8)



Reorganization has been an ongoing process to make governance more people-centric and responsive.

III. CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL INTEGRATION



Strengthened Federalism: Peaceful constitutional accommodation enhanced citizens' faith in the federal system.



Reduced Separatist Tendencies: Granting statehood to regions like Mizoram and Nagaland integrated previously disturbed areas into the constitutional framework.



Improved Governance: Smaller states enabled better administration, citizen participation and service delivery.



Unity in Diversity: Reorganization acknowledged India's pluralism while maintaining sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Union.

IV. CONTINUING CHALLENGES



Persistent demands for Vidarbha, Gorkhaland, Bodoland, Bundelkhand, Tulu Nadu, Harit Pradesh, etc.



Inter-state boundary disputes: Maharashtra – Karnataka (Belagavi), Assam – Mizoram, Assam – Meghalaya, etc.



Resource sharing, river-water disputes and fiscal imbalances.



Risk of identity politics overshadowing developmental objectives.

V. CONSTITUTIONAL BASIS



Article 2: Admission or establishment of new States.



Article 3: Formation of new States and alteration of areas, boundaries or names of existing States.



Article 4: Supplemental provisions relating to Articles 2 and 3.



Parliament has the power to reorganize states; State Legislature's views are sought but not binding.

VI. WAY FORWARD



Evaluate demands objectively based on administrative viability, economic sustainability and national interest.



Strengthen Inter-State Council, Zonal Councils and NITI Aayog for dialogue, cooperation and dispute resolution.



Promote cooperative and competitive federalism through balanced regional development.



Ensure equitable distribution of resources, opportunities and infrastructure across regions.



Encourage inclusive governance and participatory democracy to reduce regional disparities.

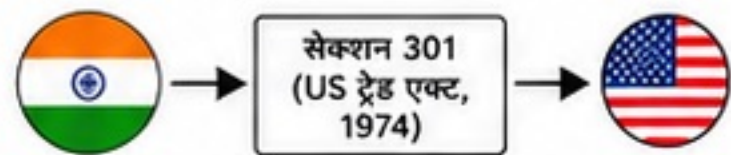


CONCLUSION

India's state reorganization demonstrates the flexibility and resilience of its constitutional framework. By accommodating legitimate regional aspirations through democratic processes while safeguarding national unity, India has transformed diversity into a source of strength. Future reorganizations should continue to balance identity, development and constitutional values to deepen cooperative federalism and national integration.



1. अमेरिका ने स्थायी टैरिफ घोषित किए; भारत पर 10% बरकरार



- भारत पर 10% टैरिफ जारी रहेगा; 12.5% से राहत।
- जबरन श्रम (Forced Labour) पर जांच पूरी।
- भारत ने जबरन श्रम से बने उत्पादों के आयात पर प्रतिबंध लगाया, इसलिए राहत मिली।
- अतिरिक्त उत्पादन क्षमता पर अलग जांच जारी।
- वैश्विक सप्लाई चेन व निर्यात प्रतिस्पर्धा पर प्रभाव।
- श्रम मानकों व ESG अनुपालन का महत्व बढ़ा।

सेक्शन 301 • जबरन श्रम • USTR • टैरिफ
GS II • अर्थव्यवस्था • अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संबंध • व्यापार नीति

4. भारत की विदेश नीति को समुद्र की ओर देखना होगा (संपादकीय)



- भारत के 95% से अधिक व्यापार समुद्री मार्गों से होता है।
- कर्जा सुरक्षा, सप्लाई चेन और रणनीतिक हित समुद्र से जुड़े।
- लाल सागर में अशांति ने समुद्री जोखिमों को उजागर किया।
- पहलें: SAGAR, IPOI, IFC-IOR, क्वाड सहयोग।
- मजबूत नौसेना, पोर्ट-आधारित विकास व ब्लू इकॉनमी जरूरी।
- संतुलित महाद्वीपीय-समुद्री रणनीति की आवश्यकता।

SAGAR • इंडो-पेसिफिक • SLOC • क्वाड
GS II • अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संबंध • समुद्री सुरक्षा

2. 'ऑन गार्ड' (संपादकीय)



- कानून-व्यवस्था व संवैधानिक स्वतंत्रताओं में संतुलन आवश्यक।
- शांतिपूर्ण विरोध का अधिकार संवैधानिक संरक्षण का विषय।
- अत्यधिक बल का प्रयोग लोकतांत्रिक वैधता को कमजोर करता है।
- पुलिस की जवाबदेही लोकतंत्र को मजबूत बनाती है।
- नागरिक स्वतंत्रताओं की सुरक्षा में न्यायपालिका की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण।
- पेशेवर पुलिसिंग व पारदर्शी जांच जरूरी।

अनुच्छेद 19 • अनुच्छेद 21 • नागरिक स्वतंत्रताएं
GS II • राजनीति • आंतरिक सुरक्षा

3. एक विकास कहानी जिसे चाहिए महिलाएँ काम पर (संपादकीय)



- महिला श्रम बल भागीदारी दर बहुत कम।
- सामाजिक मान्यताएँ, देखभाल का बोझ व अनौपचारिकता प्रमुख बाधाएँ।
- अधिक महिला रोजगार से GDP, कर आधार व सामाजिक कल्याण बढ़ता है।
- डे-केयर, सुरक्षा, कौशल, लचीला कामकाज आवश्यक।
- योजनाएँ: स्किल इंडिया, क्रेच योजना, SHG, मुद्रा, स्टैंड-अप इंडिया आदि।
- विकास समावेशी तभी जब महिलाएँ केंद्र में हों।

FLFP • लैंगिक समानता • समावेशी विकास
GS I • महिलाएँ • GS III • अर्थव्यवस्था

6. बदलते शहर में मतदाताओं का पता लगाना (स्पॉटलाइट)



- बेंगलूरु में विशेष गहन पुनरीक्षण (SIR) चल रहा है।
- प्रवास, पता परिवर्तन से सत्यापन जटिल हुआ।
- नाम, भाषा, दस्तावेज़ अंतराल बढ़ी चुनौतियाँ।
- BLO पर भारी कार्यभार और समय की कमी।
- सही मतदाता सूची से चुनावी अधिकार व अखंडता सुरक्षित।
- अनुच्छेद 324 के तहत ECI की जिम्मेदारी।

अनुच्छेद 324 • मतदाता सूची • BLO
GS II • राजनीति • चुनाव

5. सूखे की मार और किसानों की निराशा के बीच (स्पॉटलाइट)



- देरी से मानसून; तेलंगाना के किसानों की चिंता बढ़ी।
- 18 जिलों में भूजल स्तर गिरा; जलाशय न्यूनतम स्तर के पास।
- वर्षा घाटा; फसल पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव।
- 'एल नीनो केंट्रिजेंसी प्लान' जारी।
- कम जल वाली फसलें अपनाने की सलाह।
- जलवायु-लचीली कृषि उपायों की आवश्यकता।

एल नीनो • जलवायु लचीलापन • कृषि
GS III • कृषि • आपदा प्रबंधन • जल सुरक्षा

7. फ्रांस ने बच्चों (<15) के लिए सोशल मीडिया पर रोक लगाई (न्यूज एनालिसिस)



- 15 वर्ष से कम आयु के बच्चों के लिए सामाजिक मीडिया पर प्रतिबंध।
- प्लेटफॉर्म को आपू सत्यापन व अभिभावकीय सहमति जरूरी।
- उद्देश्य: लत, साइबरबुलिंग, हानिकारक सामग्री से सुरक्षा।
- डिजिटल व्यक्तिमत्ता डेटा संरक्षण अधिनियम, 2023 भारत में भी प्रासंगिक।
- अधिकार और सुरक्षा के बीच संतुलन की आवश्यकता।

बाल सुरक्षा • डेटा गोपनीयता • डिजिटल अधिकार
GS II • सुशासन • GS III • विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी

8. AI कैमरे और ड्रोन से दिल्ली पुलिस जंतर मंतर पर रखती है निगरानी



- AI सक्षम कैमरे, ड्रोन और निगरानी वाहन तेनात।
- उद्देश्य: भीड़ प्रबंधन, सुरक्षा, त्वरित प्रतिक्रिया।
- लाभ: व्यापक कवरेज, रीयल-टाइम मॉनिटरिंग, भविष्य पूर्वानुमान, तेज समन्वय।
- चिंताएँ: गोपनीयता, डेटा सुरक्षा, निगरानी का दुरुपयोग।
- अनुच्छेद 21 के तहत गोपनीयता मौलिक अधिकार।
- पारदर्शिता, जवाबदेही और कानूनी सुरक्षा आवश्यक।

AI निगरानी • गोपनीयता • अनुच्छेद 21
GS III • आंतरिक सुरक्षा • प्रौद्योगिकी

9. अतिक्रमण से नष्ट मैंग्रोव बहाल किए जाएंगे: मंत्री



- सुंदरबन में अतिक्रमण से नष्ट मैंग्रोव पुनर्स्थापित होंगे।
- मछली के बाड़े (भरी) बनाकर प्राकृतिक मैंग्रोव क्षेत्र नष्ट हुए।
- पश्चिम बंगाल में भारत के कुल मैंग्रोव का 42.45% (लगभग 2,119 वर्ग किमी) है।
- मैंग्रोव: तटीय सुरक्षा, जैवविविधता, ब्लू कार्बन के लिए महत्वपूर्ण।
- खतरे: अतिक्रमण, समुद्र-स्तर वृद्धि, तटीय कटाव।
- निगरानी, समुदाय की भागीदारी और बेहतर प्रबंधन आवश्यक।

मैंग्रोव • ब्लू कार्बन • सुंदरबन
GS III • पर्यावरण • जैव विविधता

त्वरित समाचार (Quick News)

- SC ने पुलिस अत्याचार के आरोपों वाली याचिकाएँ सुनने का निर्णय लिया। अत्यधिक बल के प्रयोग की जांच पर सहमति।
- गुजरात में भारी बारिश से मानसून घाटा खत्म। मौसमी बारिश सामान्य से ऊपर पहुँची।
- SC ने NEET सुधार पर केंद्र से जवाब तलब किया। चिकित्सा परीक्षा सुधार पर सुनवाई जारी।
- दिल्ली HC ने OpenAI के खिलाफ ANI की अंतरिम रोक की याचिका खारिज की। AI प्रशिक्षण व डेटा उपयोग पर विवाद।
- SC ने कोर्ट की अनधिकृत रिकॉर्डिंग व व्यावसायिक उपयोग पर रोक लगाई। न्यायिक कार्यवाही की पवित्रता व गोपनीयता पर बल।
- CCI ने ज़ोमैटो की प्लेटफॉर्म फीस व डिलीवरी लेवी को दुरुपयोग ऑफ डोमिनेंस नहीं माना। प्रतिस्पर्धा के विरोधी नहीं हैं ये शुल्क।
- EU ने पाया कि TikTok बच्चों की गोपनीयता की पर्याप्त सुरक्षा करने में विफल। कड़े नियमों की आवश्यकता पर बल।
- लाइबेरिया रबर का निर्यात करता है, परंतु घरेलू टायर निर्माण क्षमता सीमित। निर्यात पर अत्यधिक निर्भरता।
- "इतिहास और आधुनिकता का शानदार मेल" — सांस्कृतिक व ऐतिहासिक धरोहरों पर विशेष लेख।

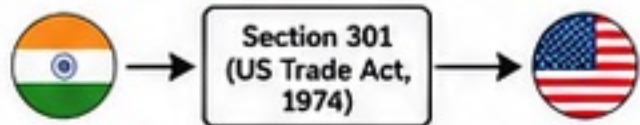
प्रिलिम्स तथ्य (Prelim Facts)

- हॉर्मुज़ जलडमरूमध्य — फारस की खाड़ी और ओमान की खाड़ी के बीच मुख्य जलमार्ग।
- मैंग्रोव — तटीय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र; तट सुरक्षा और ब्लू कार्बन के संरक्षक।
- एल नीनो — प्रशांत महासागर के गर्म होने से भारतीय मानसून कमजोर पड़ता है।
- सेक्शन 301 — US ट्रेड एक्ट, 1974 का भाग; अनुचित व्यापार प्रथाओं पर कार्रवाई का प्रावधान।
- अनुच्छेद 324 — चुनावों का पर्यवेक्षण, निर्देशन और नियंत्रण ECI के हाथ में।
- ILO — अंतर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन; श्रम अधिकार और सम्मानजनक कार्य को बढ़ावा देता है।
- SAGAR — 'सभी के लिए सुरक्षा और विकास'; भारत की समुद्री दृष्टि।
- सुंदरबन — विश्व का सबसे बड़ा मैंग्रोव वन; भारत व बांग्लादेश में स्थित।
- PMFBY — फसल बीमा योजना; किसानों को फसल हानि पर सुरक्षा प्रदान करती है।

शब्दावली (Vocabulary)

- समावेशन (Inclusion) — सभी को विकास की मुख्यधारा में शामिल करना।
- लचीला (Resilient) — प्रतिकूल परिस्थितियों से उबरने की क्षमता।
- जवाबदेही (Accountability) — उत्तरदायित्व निभाना और उत्तर देना।
- अनुपातिकता (Proportionality) — उद्देश्य के अनुरूप सीमित एवं संतुलित कार्रवाई।
- सततता (Sustainability) — वर्तमान आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति बिना भविष्य को नुकसान पहुँचाए।

1. U.S. Announces Permanent Tariffs; India Remains at 10%



- U.S. finalises permanent tariffs; India continues at 10%.
- Lower rate after India banned imports made with forced labour.
- Investigation under Section 301 concluded; overcapacity probe continues.
- Countries failing labour norms face 12.5%.
- Impacts export competitiveness & supply-chain compliance.
- Trade policy increasingly linked to labour & ESG standards.

Section 301 • Forced Labour • USTR
GS II • Economy • IR • Trade Policy

2. On Guard (Editorial)



- Balance public order with constitutional freedoms.
- Rights of speech & peaceful assembly need protection.
- Excessive force erodes democratic legitimacy.
- Accountability of police strengthens democracy.
- Courts vital to safeguard civil liberties.
- Professional policing & oversight essential.

Article 19 • Article 21
GS II • Polity • Internal Security

3. A Growth Story That Needs Women at Work (Editorial)



- Low female labour force participation limits growth.
- Social norms, care burden & informality are major barriers.
- More women at work boosts GDP, household welfare & tax base.
- Need childcare, safety, skills & flexible work.
- Schemes: Skill India, Creche Scheme, SHGs, Mudra, Stand-Up India.
- Inclusive growth must be people-centric.

FLFP • Gender Equality • Inclusive Growth
GS I • Women • GS III • Economy

4. India's Foreign Policy Must Look Seaward (Editorial)



- 95% of trade by volume travels by sea.
- Oceans critical for trade, energy & security.
- Challenges: Red Sea disruptions, piracy, chokepoints, great-power rivalry.
- Initiatives: SAGAR, IPOI, IFC-IOR, Quad maritime cooperation.
- Build stronger Navy, ports & blue economy.
- Balanced continental-maritime strategy required.

SAGAR • Indo-Pacific • SLOC • Quad
GS II • IR • Maritime Security

5. Caught Between a Dry Spell and Despair (Spotlight)



- Delayed monsoon hits Telangana farmers.
- Rainfall deficit in most districts.
- Groundwater down in 18 districts; reservoirs near minimum levels.
- El Niño Contingency Plan prepared.
- Advisories for less water-intensive crops.
- Need climate-resilient agriculture measures.

El Niño • Climate Resilience • Agriculture
GS III • Agriculture • Disaster • CC

6. Tracing Voters in an Ever-Evolving City (Spotlight)



- Special Intensive Revision in Bengaluru.
- Migration, address change complicate voter verification.
- Name mismatch, language & document gaps major issues.
- BLOs face heavy workload & short timelines.
- Accurate rolls ensure voting rights & electoral integrity.
- Article 324 empowers ECI for electoral rolls.

Article 324 • Electoral Roll • BLO
GS II • Polity • Elections

7. Social Media Ban for Children in France at 15 (News Analysis)



- France becomes first in Europe to ban social media for <15 years.
- Platforms must verify age; heavy penalties.
- Aims to protect from addiction, cyberbullying & harmful content.
- Global trend towards child online safety.
- India: DPDP Act, IT Act, POCSO Act relevant.
- Balance between rights, safety & privacy.

Child Safety • Data Privacy • Digital Rights
GS II • Governance • GS III • S&T

8. AI Cameras & Drones Keep Watch at Jantar Mantar



- Delhi Police use AI cameras & drones for surveillance.
- Aims: crowd management, safety, quick response.
- Benefits: wider coverage, real-time monitoring, evidence.
- Concerns: privacy, data protection, mass surveillance.
- Article 21: privacy is a fundamental right.
- Need legal safeguards & transparency.

AI Surveillance • Privacy • Article 21
GS III • Internal Security • Technology

9. Will Restore Mangroves Lost to Encroachments: Minister



- Govt to restore mangroves lost to encroachments in Sundarbans.
- Fish ponds converted natural mangrove areas.
- WB has 42.45% of India's mangrove cover (~2,119 sq. km.).
- Vital for coastal protection, biodiversity, blue carbon.
- Threats: encroachment, aquaculture, sea-level rise.
- Need tech monitoring & community role.

Mangroves • Blue Carbon • Sundarbans
GS III • Environment • Biodiversity

QUICK NEWS

- SC to hear pleas alleging police excesses**
Examining petitions on use of excessive force during protests.
- Gujarat deluge erases monsoon deficit**
Seasonal rainfall remains below normal despite heavy rain.
- SC seeks Centre's response on NEET reforms**
Court seeks government reply on medical exam reforms.
- Delhi HC Cecline's interim injunction against OpenAI**
In ANI copyright suit over AI training and data use.
- SC prohibits recording and monetisation of court videos**
Unauthorised commercial use of court proceedings barred.
- CCI: Zomato fees, delivery levy not abuse of dominance**
Platform fee and delivery levy not anti-competitive.
- EU finds TikTok failed to protect minors' privacy**
Regulatory action for inadequate child data protection.
- In Liberia, rubber produced but new tyres remain out of reach**
No domestic tyre manufacturing capacity despite exports.
- History and modernity blend in a riveting opening**
Culture and heritage reflected in an inspiring opening.

PRELIM FACTS

- Strait of Hormuz** – Key energy chokepoint between Persian Gulf & Gulf of Oman.
- Mangroves** – Blue carbon ecosystems; protect coasts & store carbon.
- El Niño** – Warmer Pacific; weakens Indian monsoon.
- Section 301** – Part of U.S. Trade Act, 1974; allows trade action.
- Article 324** – ECI conducts & superintends elections in India.
- ILO** – UN agency promoting labour rights & decent work.
- SAGAR** – India's maritime vision for IOR: Security & Growth for All.
- Sundarbans** – World's largest mangrove forest; India-Bangladesh.
- PMFBY** – Crop insurance scheme for farmers; risk mitigation.

VOCABULARY

- Equity** – Fairness in opportunity and outcomes.
- Resilience** – Capacity to recover quickly from adversity.
- Accountability** – Obligation to answer for actions.
- Inclusivity** – Ensuring no one is left behind.
- Sustainability** – Meeting present needs without harming future.