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Telangana News Summary

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Telangana News Summary

Telangana begins Rice Export to South East Asia from Kakinada Anchorage Port

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Mar/30/telangana-to-establish-two-hydropower-projects-in-himachal>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Economy

Context:

Telangana Begins Rice Exports to the Philippines from Kakinada Port

Why in News

- Telangana has begun exporting rice to the Philippines, marking the first shipment of 12,500 metric tonnes as part of an MoU to export 8 lakh metric tonnes.

Introduction

- The Telangana government has initiated its rice exports to the Philippines from Kakinada Anchorage Port, marking a significant milestone in the state's agricultural exports.
- Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy launched the rice loading process on Monday, with the first shipment consisting of 12,500 metric tonnes of rice valued at Rs. 45 crore.
- This export is part of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Telangana and the Philippines, which aims to supply a total of 8 lakh metric tonnes of rice.

Key Highlights:

- Inauguration of Shipment:** Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy inaugurated the rice loading

process at Kakinada Anchorage Port.

- Shipment Details:** The rice, bound for the Philippines, is being loaded onto a Vietnam-registered ship.
- First Export Shipment:** The initial shipment includes 12,500 metric tonnes of rice, valued at Rs. 45 crore.
- MoU Details:** Telangana Civil Supplies Corporation signed an MoU with the Philippines for the export of 8 lakh metric tonnes of rice.
- Handling of Shipment:** Aditya Birla Global Trading (Singapore) PTE Limited is handling the export on behalf of the Philippines government.



Telangana's Agricultural Impact:

- Paddy Production:** Telangana is a leader in paddy production, having produced 153 lakh metric tonnes of rice during the Kharif season. The state is expected to harvest an additional 122 lakh metric tonnes in the second crop.
- Farmers' Welfare:** The government's focus is on ensuring fair prices for farmers and allocating rice for domestic consumption, local markets, and exports. This initiative aims to provide a better economic return for the farming community.

Rice Varieties in Telangana

- Telangana, known for its rich agricultural heritage, is one of the major rice-producing states in India. The state cultivates a variety of rice suited to its diverse climate and soil types. Here are some key rice varieties grown in Telangana:

1. Sona Masuri

- **Description:** A popular medium-grain rice variety, Sona Masuri is known for its aromatic fragrance and light texture. It is widely used in everyday cooking and for preparing biryanis and other rice-based dishes.
- **Region:** Grown predominantly in the Khammam, Warangal, and Nalgonda districts.

2. BPT (Basmati)

- **Description:** While not as aromatic as traditional Basmati, the BPT variety is grown in some regions of Telangana and is often referred to as "semi-basmati" due to its long grains and moderate fragrance.
- **Region:** Cultivated in regions like Karimnagar and Warangal.

3. Jaya

- **Description:** Known for its higher yield, Jaya is a short-duration variety with high adaptability to local climatic conditions. It is also known for its drought resistance.
- **Region:** Mostly grown in the Telangana region, particularly in areas with less irrigation.

4. RNR-15048

- **Description:** A high-yielding, medium-grain rice variety, RNR-15048 is designed to withstand various climatic challenges. It is grown primarily for its resilience and improved productivity.
- **Region:** Primarily in the Khammam and Karimnagar districts.

5. MTU 1010

- **Description:** A hybrid rice variety that has gained popularity for its resistance to pests and diseases, as well as its high yield potential.
- **Region:** Commonly grown in the irrigated areas of Telangana.

6. IR-64

- **Description:** A popular high-yielding variety, IR-64 is known for its ability to withstand both drought conditions and waterlogged fields. It is commonly used for the preparation of rice in various forms.
- **Region:** Cultivated in many parts of

Telangana, especially in areas with assured irrigation.

7. Ponni

- **Description:** Ponni is a medium-grain rice known for its soft texture and is often used in cooking traditional rice dishes. It is also popular in the southern parts of India.
- **Region:** Grown in areas like Nalgonda and Medak districts.

8. Samba

- **Description:** A variety used primarily for its high-quality grains, Samba is cultivated mainly during the Kharif season and is known for its robustness and high yield.
- **Region:** Found in several districts like Khammam and Karimnagar.

Agricultural Significance:

- **Paddy Production Leadership:** Telangana is a leading state in paddy production, with 153 lakh metric tonnes produced in the Kharif season. The state expects to harvest an additional 122 lakh metric tonnes in the upcoming second crop.
- **Support for Farmers:** The Telangana government has been focused on securing better prices for farmers, ensuring that rice is allocated for domestic consumption, local markets, and exports.
- **Boost to Exports:** This rice export initiative marks a major step in strengthening Telangana's agricultural export infrastructure.
- **Economic Impact:** This export will likely open doors for more international partnerships, benefiting farmers and the state's economy.

500-Year-Old Telugu Rock Inscription Found In Telangana's Anantgiri

Source: NDTV

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/500-year-old-telugu-rock-inscription-found-in-telangana-anantgiri-8048816/amp/1>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Art and Culture

Context:

500-Year-Old Telugu Rock Inscription

Why in News

- A 500-year-old Telugu rock inscription dating back to 1517 CE was recently discovered in Narasimhulagutta, Anantagiri, Telangana, shedding light on the region's historical and religious heritage.



Introduction

- A significant archaeological discovery was made in Telangana, where a 500-year-old Telugu rock inscription dating back to 1517 CE was found.
- This inscription, located at Narasimhulagutta in Anantagiri, Rajanna Sircilla district, was uncovered by a team from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- The find highlights the region's rich historical and cultural heritage.

Details of the Discovery

- **Location:** The inscriptions were discovered at Narasimhulagutta, a hilltop site in the Anantagiri area of Rajanna Sircilla district in Telangana.
- **Content of the Inscription:** The inscription primarily praises various local Hindu gods and records the construction of a Vishnu temple on top of the hill. The presence of the inscription in the Telugu language adds valuable insight into the linguistic and cultural development of the region during the 16th century.
- **Significance of the Find:** This discovery is part of a larger trend of archaeological findings that shed light on the region's religious and cultural history. It provides evidence of the construction of temples dedicated to Hindu deities, reflecting the influence of Hinduism in the area during that period.

Similar Discoveries in the Region

- **Previous Discoveries:** Earlier this year, similar inscriptions and rock art were discovered in neighboring Andhra Pradesh, including the Lankkamala Reserve Forest, which yielded inscriptions ranging from 800 to 2000 years old. These finds included prehistoric paintings depicting animals, geometric patterns, and human figures, made using natural materials.
- **Historical Context:** Telangana has a long history of rock inscriptions, which offer glimpses into its past. Notable earlier inscriptions include those from the Chalukya period in Vikarabad's Kankal village and the Keesara Gutta inscription, which dates back to 420 CE. Such findings contribute to the understanding of the region's historical developments, religious practices, and linguistic evolution.

Broader Archaeological Implications

- The discovery of this 500-year-old Telugu rock inscription in Telangana is part of ongoing archaeological efforts in India to uncover historical sites that reflect the country's ancient cultural practices.
- It follows a series of significant discoveries in the region, such as those made in Andhra Pradesh, which includes some of the largest archaeological finds in recent times.
- These inscriptions not only enrich our understanding of regional history but also provide valuable insights into the religious practices and cultural values of past societies.
- The preservation and study of such inscriptions are crucial for understanding the socio-religious landscape of medieval South India.

Conclusion

- The finding of the 500-year-old Telugu inscription in Telangana underscores the importance of archaeological exploration in understanding India's ancient history.
- With its connection to the construction of a Vishnu temple, the inscription is a testament to the region's rich religious and cultural heritage.

- This discovery, along with other archaeological efforts in nearby regions, highlights the role of rock inscriptions in piecing together the historical and cultural puzzle of ancient India.

Iron-Rich Mahua Laddus by Adivasi Women in Telangana's Utnoor

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/iron-rich-mahua-laddus-made-by-ativasi-womens-cooperative-in-telanganas-utnoor-earns-praise-from-pm/article69395465.ece/amp/>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Health

Context:

Iron-Rich Mahua Laddus by Adivasi Women in Telangana's Utnoor

Why in News

- The Mahua laddus initiative in Telangana's Adilabad district is enhancing tribal women's economic empowerment while addressing anaemia through traditional nutrition.

Introduction

- The nutrient-rich 'Mahua laddus' made by the Adivasi women of the Utnoor-based Bheembai Adivasi Mahila Sahakara Sangham in Adilabad district, Telangana, have garnered national recognition.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted their contribution in the 120th episode of his 'Mann Ki Baat' programme, appreciating their role in income generation and nutritional support.

Income Generation and Nutritional Support

- The Adivasi women of Utnoor are engaged in making laddus from Mahua (Ippa) flowers, which are rich in iron and other essential nutrients.
- This initiative not only provides financial stability to the tribal women but also

strengthens the nutritional interventions in Telangana's tribal heartland.

- Their efforts preserve the rich tribal heritage while addressing malnutrition challenges.

Iron-Rich Laddus for Schools

- Under the aegis of the Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), Utnoor, these iron-rich laddus are being supplied to ashram schools and anganwadi centres in the erstwhile undivided Adilabad district.
- This initiative significantly contributes to the health and well-being of children in tribal regions by combating malnutrition and iron deficiency.

Recognition and Awards

- Khushboo Gupta, Project Officer of ITDA, Utnoor, received two prestigious SKOCH awards for her transformative projects – 'Girijan Poshan Mitra' and 'Girijan Canteen' – on March 29, 2025, in New Delhi.



Girijan Poshan Mitra: A Milestone in Combating Anaemia

- The 'Girijan Poshan Mitra' project focuses on anaemia screening, targeted supplementation, and the distribution of Mahua laddus in ashram schools.
- This initiative has yielded remarkable results in reducing anaemia levels among tribal girls.

Impact of the Nutrition Initiative

- According to ITDA sources, the project has led to a significant reduction in anaemia levels.
- The percentage of severely anaemic girls dropped from 15% to less than 1% within just four months.
- This highlights the effectiveness of

traditional, locally sourced food in addressing nutritional deficiencies and promoting public health.

Conclusion

- The Mahua laddus initiative stands as a testament to the power of community-driven solutions in tackling malnutrition while preserving indigenous knowledge and traditions.
- The success of this programme underscores the importance of integrating traditional food resources with modern nutritional strategies for sustainable development in tribal areas.

Hyderabad paddler Snehit creates history, breaks into top 100 world rankings

Source: TelanganaToday

<https://telanganatoday.com/hyderabad-paddler-snehit-creates-history-breaking-into-top-100-world-rankings>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Sports

Context:

Top 100 World Rankings in Table Tennis

Why in News

S Fidel R Snehit becomes the first paddler from Telugu-speaking states to break into the top 100 world rankings..

Introduction

- City-based paddler S Fidel R Snehit has created history by becoming the first player from the Telugu-speaking states to break into the top 100 world rankings in table tennis.
- His stellar performance in the WTT Star Contender Championship in Chennai helped him climb 34 places, securing the World No. 89 ranking.

Key Highlights of His Performance

- Defeated **World No. 29 Yukiya Uda (Japan)** in the **Round of 32**.
- Achieved a significant victory over **Indian**

legend Sharath Kamal in the **Round of 16**.

- Reached the **quarterfinals** before bowing out of the singles competition.
- Partnered with **Sharath Kamal** in **men's doubles** and advanced to the **semifinals**.



Journey and Future Aspirations

- Began his training at the **Global Table Tennis Academy** in Naveennagar.
- Missed a **Paris Olympics** berth due to an injury but remains determined to achieve greater milestones.

Support System and Training

- Credited his **coach Somnath Ghosh** and **fitness trainer Hirak Bagchi** for their guidance and unwavering support.
- Acknowledged the encouragement from the **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) leadership**, which has helped him balance his career as an **auditor and a professional athlete**.

Indian Players Ahead in World Rankings

- The Indian paddlers ranked ahead of Snehit are:
 - Manav Thakkar – Rank 47
 - Harmeet Desai – Rank 68
 - Manush Shah – Rank 73
 - Sharath Kamal – Rank 80

Conclusion

- Snehit's achievement marks a significant milestone for Indian table tennis, particularly for players from the Telugu-speaking states.
- His rise in global rankings serves as an inspiration for young talents, showcasing the potential of Indian players on the international stage.

Nagole STP wins award for Environmental excellence

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/nagole-stp-wins-award-for-environmental-excellence/article69404664.ece>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards

Context:

Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at Nagole

Why in News

- Hyderabad's 320 MLD Nagole Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) received the Water Digest World Water Award 2025 for its contributions to environmental sustainability, wastewater treatment, and public health.



Introduction

- Hyderabad's 320 MLD (Million Litres per Day) Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at Nagole has been honoured at the prestigious Water Digest World Water Award 2025.
- The award acknowledges the plant's significant contributions to environmental sustainability, efficient wastewater treatment, and public health enhancement.

Significance of the Award

- The Water Digest World Water Award is a globally recognized accolade that celebrates

excellence in water management and conservation efforts. The recognition of the Nagole STP underscores its pivotal role in:

- Enhancing Hyderabad's sewage treatment capacity.
- Fostering a cleaner and healthier environment for the city's residents.
- Promoting sustainable urban water management practices.

Environmental Impact and Sustainability

The Nagole STP has significantly reduced environmental pollution by implementing advanced water management strategies and circular economy policies. Some of the key sustainable initiatives include:

- Wastewater Reuse:** The treated water is utilized for non-potable purposes, promoting water conservation.
- Circular Economy Approach:** The plant adopts strategies to recycle and repurpose byproducts from sewage treatment.
- Advanced Treatment Technologies:** The facility employs state-of-the-art wastewater treatment methods to ensure high-quality effluent discharge.

Operational Efficiency and Public Health Benefits

- The 320 MLD plant plays a crucial role in managing the city's wastewater effectively. It receives sewage from multiple nalas across Hyderabad, starting from Chaderghat, and treats it before releasing the cleaned water into the Musi River. The improved sewage treatment capacity helps in:
- Reducing waterborne diseases by preventing the contamination of natural water bodies.
- Enhancing urban sanitation and hygiene standards.
- Supporting ecological balance by minimizing pollutant discharge into the Musi River.

Conclusion

- The recognition of Hyderabad's Nagole STP at the Water Digest World Water Award 2025 highlights the city's commitment to sustainable urban water management.

Warangal Chapata Chilli gets the GI tag

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tehrangana/warangal-chapata-chilli-gets-the-gi-tag/article69404460.ece>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Warangal Chapata Chilli

Why in News

The Warangal Chapata Chilli (Tomato Chilli) from Telangana received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag on March 28, 2025.

Introduction

- The **Warangal Chapata Chilli**, also known as **Tomato Chilli**, from Telangana has been granted the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** by the **GI Registry, Government of India**, on **March 28, 2025**.
- This marks the **18th agricultural produce** from Telangana to receive the prestigious GI tag, boosting its recognition and market potential.

Unique Characteristics of Warangal Chapata Chilli

- The chilli derives its name "Tomato Chilli" due to its **bright red colour and round shape**, resembling a tomato.
- It is **less spicy** but imparts a **vibrant red colour** and **rich flavour**, attributed to its **capsicum oleoresin properties**.
- There are three distinct fruit types of Warangal Chapata Chilli:
 - Single Patti
 - Double Patti
 - Odal

Historical and Geographical Significance

- The cultivation of Warangal Chapata Chilli has been ongoing for **over 100 years**, with farmers passing down seeds through generations.

- It has been cultivated in **Nagaram village of Jammikunta mandal** for over 80 years, while **Nadikuda village and mandal** are considered among the oldest sources.
- The **Velama community** played a crucial role in spreading its cultivation by sharing seeds within their families.

GI Application and Recognition

- The GI application **number 984** was filed in 2022 by:
 - Thimmampet Chilli Farmer Producer Company Limited
 - Janna Reddy Venkat Reddy Horticultural Research Station, Malyal, Mahabubabad
 - Sri Konda Laxman Telangana Horticultural University
- The application process was led by **Subhajit Saha**, GI Practitioner and Founder of **Resolute4IP**.

Economic Impact on Farmers

- The GI tag is expected to significantly boost the market value of Warangal Chapata Chilli.
- Farmers anticipate a near **doubling of the price** from **₹300 per kg to ₹550 per kg**, increasing their income and promoting large-scale cultivation.

Conclusion

- The GI recognition of Warangal Chapata Chilli is a major milestone for Telangana's agricultural sector. By enhancing its marketability, ensuring quality control, and preserving its unique characteristics, the GI tag will benefit farmers and promote the rich agricultural heritage of the region.

Adilabad airport plan gets a boost, IAF gives 'in principle' nod

Source: Times of India

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/adilabad-airport-plan-gets-a-boost-iaf-gives-in-principle-nod/articleshow/119916432.cms>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Infrastructure

Context:

Adilabad to Get a Civil Airport

Why in News

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has granted 'in-principle' approval for the development of a civil airport in Adilabad, Telangana.

Introduction

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) has given its '**in-principle**' approval for the development of a civil airport in **Adilabad**, Telangana.
- This is part of the **state government's initiative** to improve air connectivity across the region.

**Key Points from the Article**

1. **Approval for Adilabad Airport:**
 - The IAF has agreed to the **Telangana government's proposal** to develop an airport at **Adilabad**, which has an old **IAF airstrip** on the town's outskirts.
 - The **Ministry of Defence (MoD)** conveyed this approval via a letter on Tuesday.
2. **Why Adilabad?**
 - **Strategic Location:** The town is close to **Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra**, making it an ideal location for an airport.
 - **Long-Standing Demand:** Locals currently rely on airports in **Hyderabad or Nagpur** for air travel, which is inconvenient.
3. **Joint Use with IAF:**
 - The IAF suggested that **Adilabad Airport** should be developed as a **joint user airfield**, meaning it will handle both **civilian and military aircraft movements**.
 - The **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** has been asked to submit a **detailed proposal** for final approval.

4. Additional Airport at Mamnoon, Warangal:

- Along with Adilabad, the **Telangana government** also secured approval to construct a **civil airport in Mamnoon (Warangal)**.
- Once both airports are completed, **Telangana will have three airports**, including the **Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA)** in **Shamshabad, Hyderabad**.

5. Next Steps:

- The **AAI** needs to **finalize land acquisition** and prepare a **detailed project report**.
- The **state government** will submit a **comprehensive report** to the **central government** for final clearance.

6. Political Support & Acknowledgments:

- The **state minister** thanked **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, **Union Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu**, and **Telangana CM A. Revanth Reddy** for their efforts in securing approvals for both airports.

Significance of the Project

- **Boosts regional connectivity** and **economic development** in Telangana.
- **Improves travel convenience** for residents of **Adilabad, Warangal, and surrounding areas**.
- **Strengthens defense and aviation infrastructure** with an IAF training center at the **Adilabad airfield**.

T-Hub-Atal Innovation Mission's healthcare accelerator rolls out with 20 startups

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/t-hub-atal-innovation-missions-healthcare-accelerator-rolls-out-with-20-startups/article69407669.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

T-Hub-Atal Innovation Mission

Why in News

- The AIC T-Hub Healthcare Programme, in collaboration with T-Hub and Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), has launched its 5th cohort, selecting 20 startups to drive innovation in medtech, digital health, and healthcare accessibility in India.

**Introduction**

- The 5th cohort of the AIC T-Hub Healthcare Programme has been launched, selecting 20 startups from over 200 applicants.
- Conducted in collaboration with T-Hub and the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), the initiative aims to drive innovation in medtech, digital health, and healthcare accessibility.

Selection Criteria and Focus Areas

- The 20 startups were selected based on proof-of-concept readiness, technological innovation, regulatory preparedness, market potential, and the strength of their founding teams.
- The programme will focus on enhancing healthcare accessibility, medical technology (medtech), and digital health solutions.
- The initiative seeks to integrate cutting-edge innovation into the Indian healthcare ecosystem.

Programme Structure and Support for Startups

- The three-month programme, offered in hybrid mode, includes:
 - One-on-one mentorship from industry experts.
 - Investor engagement and funding

opportunities.

- Regulatory guidance for market compliance.
- Market access through collaborations with hospitals, corporates, and healthcare institutions.
- Strategic partnerships will facilitate real-world validation and pilot studies to ensure market readiness and clinical viability.

Selected Startups

- The startups chosen for the cohort include Artyem Care, Bioscafil, Chqup, Cloud Palliative Care, Dag2IL, Epi relief, Dr. DICOM (GLOCAL DIGITAL), Kashi Medicos, Nahush Pharma, Oui Medical, Planytics, Reyansh Technologies, Sigma Mozak, Signal Biomedical, Skinska, Tap Health, thebabyland, TurocratesAI, 365Veda, and Warkas.

Impact and Previous Cohorts

- AIC T-Hub has supported 53 healthcare startups through its previous cohorts.
- These startups have collectively raised over ₹60.46 crore in funding.
- The programme is strengthening clinical validation by collaborating with hospitals, research labs, and pharmaceutical companies.
- Plans are underway to onboard one or two international startups to integrate them into India's healthcare sector.

Future Prospects

- The 5th cohort will conclude in June 2025 with a demo day and investor connect event.
- The initiative aims to accelerate the commercial adoption of healthcare innovations and contribute to India's growing medtech sector.

Conclusion

- The AIC T-Hub Healthcare Programme represents a significant effort to foster healthcare innovation, entrepreneurship, and technological advancements in India's medical sector.
- By providing a structured ecosystem of mentorship, funding, and clinical

validation, the initiative is poised to transform India's healthcare landscape through startup-driven innovation.

Ragging in Telangana medical colleges

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/ragging-in-telangana-medical-colleges-a-rite-of-passage-or-a-lifetime-of-scars/article69410110.ece>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Ragging in Telangana medical colleges

Why in News

Despite anti-ragging laws and institutional measures, incidents of ragging persist in Telangana's medical colleges, highlighting deeper social and psychological issues.



Introduction

- Ragging in educational institutions, especially in medical colleges, continues to be a matter of grave concern in India.
- Despite strong legal frameworks and institutional protocols, the issue persists, with Telangana's medical colleges emerging as a troubling example.
- Recent incidents highlight the limitations of enforcement mechanisms and the psychological toll ragging imposes on victims.

The Case of Vikram: A Brutal Introduction to Medical College Life

- The ordeal of Vikram (name changed), a first-year MBBS student at Government Medical College, Khammam, reflects the entrenched culture of ragging.
- Humiliated for a simple haircut, mocked by seniors, and further degraded by an anti-ragging officer, Vikram's experience underscores the systemic failure in protecting vulnerable students.
- Although disciplinary action was initiated, the mild punishment (transfer) given to the officer raises questions about institutional commitment to justice.

Data and Trends: Alarming Disproportionality

According to the 2022–2024 *State of Ragging in India* report by the Society Against Violence in Education (SAVE):

- Medical students form **only 1.1%** of India's student population.
- They account for **38.6%** of total ragging complaints.
- Medical colleges witness **45.1%** of ragging-related deaths.
- **Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences** in Telangana recorded **25 ragging complaints** in two years.

These numbers starkly contrast with policies enacted to eliminate ragging.

Legal and Institutional Framework

- **Supreme Court of India (2001)**: Mandated the formation of anti-ragging committees.
- **UGC Regulations (2009)**: Required affidavits from students and parents acknowledging consequences of ragging.
- **National Medical Commission (NMC)**: Issued detailed guidelines to prevent and report ragging incidents.

Despite these, many institutions handle cases internally, often resulting in insufficient action.

Why Ragging Persists? Root Causes and Psychological Factors

Experts argue that ragging is not just about seniority or fun—it stems from power, control, and cultural acceptance:

- **Power Dynamics**: Seniors assert dominance, sometimes under the guise of "tradition."

- **Cycle of Abuse:** Victims often become perpetrators later.
- **Mental Health Impact:** Leads to shame, anxiety, and depression. In extreme cases, it may cause suicidal ideation.
- **Silence and Fear:** Many victims do not report due to fear of retaliation and institutional apathy.

Institutional Responses: Steps Taken and Gaps

- Colleges have implemented **awareness sessions** during admissions with involvement of local police.
- **Anti-ragging committees** include legal experts and social activists.
- Posters, booklets, and night-duty assignments for faculty in hostels are used to deter incidents.
- However, students from newer medical colleges report increased vulnerability due to mixed hostel setups.

Despite these, enforcement often lacks consistency, and mental health support remains inadequate.

Way Forward: Enforcement with Empathy

- **Strict Enforcement:** Institutions must act decisively, ensuring real consequences for perpetrators.
- **Mental Health Support:** On-campus counsellors must be made available and accessible.
- **Cultural Reforms:** Student-led initiatives and peer mentoring can transform toxic traditions.
- **Parent & Community Involvement:** Building awareness beyond campus is essential.
- **Transparent Reporting Mechanisms:** Ensure anonymity and protection for complainants.

Conclusion

- Ragging remains a severe impediment to the academic and emotional development of students, especially in medical colleges.
- While institutional mechanisms exist, their inconsistent application, coupled with cultural inertia and psychological neglect,

perpetuates the problem.

- A multidimensional approach combining **legal action, psychological care, student empowerment, and cultural transformation** is the need of the hour.

Rare honour for children's author Dasari Venkata Ramana

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/rare-honour-for-childrens-author-dasari-venkata-ramana/article69420267.ece>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Literature

Context:

Dasari Venkata Ramana's Literary Contribution

Why in News

- Dasari Venkata Ramana's children's book 'Anandam', recipient of the 2014 Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award, is being translated into 24 Indian languages.



Introduction

- In a significant move aimed at promoting regional children's literature across India, the **Kendra Sahitya Akademi** has decided to translate the award-winning book 'Anandam', a collection of children's stories by **Dasari Venkata Ramana**, into **24 Indian languages**. This decision further cements Ramana's position as a leading figure in contemporary Telugu literature, especially in the field of children's writing.

Background and Achievements

Dasari Venkata Ramana, a former officer with the

Telangana State Registration Department, received the **Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award in 2014** for 'Anandam'. The book has garnered wide appreciation for its simplicity, values-based storytelling, and focus on children's emotional and moral development.

- The **Hindi translation** of *Anandam* has already been completed by **Paranandi Nirmala**.
- One of the stories from the collection, titled 'Ananda', was **translated into Marathi** by **Budharam Renuka** and has been **included in the first-year curriculum** of **Solapur University, Maharashtra**.
- Earlier, his stories such as:
- 'Veguchukka' were included in the **Yuva Bharati 12th-grade textbook**, and
- 'Palleku Podam' was featured in the **8th-grade textbook** by the **Maharashtra Government Textbook and Curriculum Research Institute**, demonstrating the reach and impact of his literary works among students.

Academic and Creative Contributions

Apart from his accomplishments as a writer, Mr. Ramana holds a **Ph.D. from Osmania University** for his research titled '*Chandamama stories and personality development*'. His scholarly work highlights the role of traditional storytelling in shaping children's values and personality traits.

- His book '**Ammamanasu**' won the **Telugu University Award**, showcasing his versatility in writing for different age groups and audiences.
- He is also active in **producing message-oriented short films**, further expanding his outreach through multimedia platforms.

Significance

The translation of *Anandam* into 24 Indian languages signifies:

- The growing importance of **regional literature in national discourse**.
- The **recognition of children's literature** as a powerful tool for education and personality development.
- The **efforts of Sahitya Akademi** to bridge linguistic divides and promote **multilingual access** to culturally rooted stories.

Conclusion

- Dasari Venkata Ramana's literary journey, spanning storybooks, academic research, and films, reflects a deep commitment to enriching the minds of young readers.
- The nationwide translation of *Anandam* stands as a testament to the universal appeal of his stories and the role of regional authors in shaping India's literary heritage.

Hyderabad Doctor Receives International honour

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/hyderabad-doctor-receives-international-honour/article69416684.ece>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and Honours

Context:

Honorary Fellowship of AAAS for 2024

Why in News

- Dr. M. Sasikala, Director of Research at the Institute of Translational Science, AIG Hospitals, Hyderabad, has been awarded the Honorary Fellowship of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for the year 2024.



About the Award:

- The AAAS Honorary Fellowship is a prestigious international recognition conferred upon individuals who have made scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.

- The AAAS is the world's largest general scientific society and publisher of the *Science* family of journals.

Key Highlights:

- Recognition of Work:** Dr. Sasikala was honored for her *notable contributions to translational gastroenterology*, particularly for her pioneering research on the **molecular mechanisms behind endocrine pancreatic dysfunctions in diabetes**.
- Institutional Contribution:** Her research at AIG Hospitals has focused on bridging the gap between laboratory discoveries and their clinical application in the field of gastroenterology and metabolic diseases.

Significance:

- Boost to Indian Medical Research:** This recognition underscores the growing impact of Indian researchers in global medical science, especially in the field of *translational medicine*, which aims to transfer basic research into practical therapies.
- Global Acknowledgement of Indigenous Research:** The award reflects the increasing visibility and credibility of Indian institutions in conducting cutting-edge research with real-world clinical relevance.

Conclusion:

- Dr. M. Sasikala's recognition by the AAAS adds to the list of Indian scientists being acknowledged on international platforms, highlighting the country's advancing capabilities in biomedical research and innovation.

Telangana raises serious objections to A.P.'s Polavaram-Banakacherla link project at GRMB meet

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-raises-serious-objections-to-aps-polavaram-banakacherla-link-project-at-grmb-meet/article69424004.ece>

[meet/article69424004.ece](https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-raises-serious-objections-to-aps-polavaram-banakacherla-link-project-at-grmb-meet/article69424004.ece)

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Infrastructure

Context:

Polavaram-Banakacherla link project

Why in News

- Telangana raised objections to Andhra Pradesh's proposed Polavaram-Banakacherla link project at the 17th GRMB meeting, citing lack of transparency and statutory clearances.

Introduction

- At the 17th meeting of the **Godavari River Management Board (GRMB)** held on **April 7, 2025**, Telangana raised strong objections against the proposed **Polavaram-Banakacherla (Godavari-Krishna) link project** by Andhra Pradesh, citing lack of transparency and statutory clearances.

Key Issues Raised by Telangana:

- Non-Disclosure of Project Details:**
 - Telangana alleged that Andhra Pradesh was concealing key information about the Polavaram-Banakacherla link project.
 - The GRMB was also accused of not sharing the project documents or the letters received from the **Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS)** and other central agencies over the past five months.
- Concerns Over Clearances:**
 - Telangana claimed that A.P. was moving ahead with the project **without necessary approvals** from statutory bodies, raising environmental and inter-basin equity concerns.
- Demand for Transparency:**
 - Telangana officials demanded details about the **quantum of water to be diverted**, and the **potential impact on the Godavari basin areas in Telangana**.
- Allegations Against GRMB Member-Secretary:**
 - Concerns were raised about the functioning of **Member-Secretary R. Azhagesan**, citing complaints by several

deputed employees, including women, to the GRMB and MoJS.

Response by Andhra Pradesh:

- Andhra Pradesh officials **denied the allegations**, stating that the **Detailed Project Report (DPR)** was still under preparation.
- They clarified that the plan was to utilise **surplus floodwaters** currently flowing wastefully into the sea, and **not to harm** Telangana's interests.



GRMB's Position:

- The Board acknowledged that it had not received comprehensive information from Andhra Pradesh.
- It assured Telangana that **all available project-related documents would be shared**.
- Discussions were also held on:
 - **Handing over of projects** to GRMB as per the **Gazette Notification (July 2021)**.
 - Funding issues related to the Board's management.

Additional Issue – Peddavagu Project:

- The meeting discussed the **Peddavagu inter-State project** in **Khammam district**, which suffered damage in the previous monsoon.
- A decision was made to undertake **temporary repairs costing ₹15 crore**, with **cost-sharing based on command area** between A.P. and Telangana.

Significance:

- Highlights continuing inter-State water disputes post-bifurcation.
- Reflects the challenges of federal coordination in river water governance.
- Emphasizes the need for institutional transparency and early resolution mechanisms under river boards.

Telangana Governor inaugurates tribal museum in Bhadrachalam

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tehrangana/2025/Apr/08/tehrangana-governor-inaugurates-tribal-museum-in-bhadrachalam>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Social Justice

Context:

Tribal Museum at ITDA

Why in News

- Governor Jishnu Dev Varma inaugurated a Tribal Museum at ITDA Bhadrachalam, showcasing tribal heritage and promoting sustainable livelihoods.

About the Award:

- Governor **Jishnu Dev Varma** inaugurated a newly established **Tribal Museum** on the premises of the **Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA)** in **Bhadrachalam**, Telangana, highlighting the importance of preserving and promoting tribal culture and heritage.



Key Highlights of the Visit:

- The Governor was received with a **traditional tribal welcome**, symbolising the cultural richness of tribal communities.
- He toured the museum exhibits, which showcase:
 - **Tribal heritage**
 - **Customs and rituals**
 - **Traditional mud houses and structures**

Significance of the Museum:

- Serves as a **repository of tribal culture**, aimed at educating **future generations**.
- Emphasises the **importance of cultural preservation**, especially among vulnerable and marginalised communities.
- Governor advocated for the **modernisation** of the museum to further enhance its educational and cultural impact.

Developmental and Economic Suggestions:

- Urged promotion of **sustainable livelihood** through:
 - **Handcrafted items** by tribal artisans
 - Setting up **souvenir outlets** within museum premises
- Emphasised need for **continuous development** of tribal communities across sectors including:
 - Education
 - Healthcare
 - Employment
 - Skill development

Integrated Tribal Development Agency(ITDA)

- It is an administrative setup in India designed to promote the development and welfare of **Scheduled Tribes (STs)** in tribal-dominated regions. ITDAs are part of the tribal sub-plan (TSP) strategy initiated by the Government of India.

Key Features of ITDA:

1. **Target Area:**
 - ITDAs are established in **areas with more than 50% tribal population**.
 - These areas are usually identified under the **Fifth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution.
2. **Objectives:**
 - Accelerate **socio-economic development** of tribal communities.
 - Bridge the gap between tribal and non-tribal populations in terms of **health, education, livelihood, and infrastructure**.
 - Protect tribal rights over **land, forests, and natural resources**.
3. **Activities/Programs:**

- Implementation of **tribal welfare schemes** in education, health, skill development, agriculture, and minor irrigation.
- Construction of **roads, schools, hostels, health centers, and livelihood promotion** programs.
- Promotion of **tribal crafts, culture, and eco-tourism**.

4. **Governance:**

- Each ITDA is headed by a **Project Officer (PO)**, often a senior bureaucrat.
- Works under the **Tribal Welfare Department** of the respective state government.

5. **Funding:**

- Funded through a mix of **Central and State government schemes**, such as:
 - Pradhan Mantri Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana
 - Article 275(1) grants
 - Special Central Assistance (SCA) to TSP

Examples of ITDA Regions:

- **Telangana:** ITDAs in Bhadrachalam and Utnoor.
- **Andhra Pradesh:** Seethampeta (Srikakulam), Rampachodavaram (Alluri Sitharama Raju district), Paderu, Parvathipuram.
- **Odisha:** ITDAs in Koraput, Kandhamal, Mayurbhanj, etc.
- **Maharashtra, Gujarat, Jharkhand,** and other tribal-rich states also have ITDAs.

All commercial buildings, hospitals to be brought under the purview of Fire Services Act

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/all-commercial-buildings-hospitals-to-be-brought-under-the-purview-of-fire-services-act/article69432223.ece>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Fire safety regulations

Why in News

- Telangana is planning to amend its Fire Services Act, 1999 to include non-high-rise commercial buildings and hospitals under mandatory fire safety regulations, aligning with the Model Fire Services Bill, 2019.

About the Award:

- In response to a series of tragic fire accidents in recent years, the Telangana Fire Services Department, in consultation with the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and other stakeholders, is considering significant amendments to the Telangana Fire Service Act, 1999.
- These proposals aim to bring non-high-rise commercial buildings and hospitals under the ambit of fire safety regulations.

**Need for Reform:**

Currently, the Fire Services Act mandates a No Objection Certificate (NOC) only for:

- Commercial buildings above 15 metres in height
- Residential buildings above 18 metres in height

However, multiple deadly fire incidents have occurred in commercial establishments **below 15 metres**, revealing a critical gap in regulation. High-profile accidents since 2022 include:

- **Bhoiguda, March 2022:** 12 migrant labourers perished in a scrap godown fire.
- **September 2022:** 8 lives lost in an EV showroom blaze.

- **Minister Road, January 2023:** 3 deaths due to fire in a commercial building.
- **Swapnalok Complex, March 2023:** 6 people killed in a major inferno.

These incidents highlighted the **vulnerability of non-high-rise commercial buildings** and the **lack of fire compliance in sensitive areas like hospitals**.

Proposed Amendments:**1. Inclusion of Non-High-Rise Commercial Buildings:**

- All commercial buildings, regardless of height, may be brought under the regulatory framework.
- Objective: Mandatory fire safety clearance and regular inspections to avoid fire-related casualties.

2. Bringing Hospitals Under the Fire Act:

- Recognising hospitals as high-risk spaces due to patient immobility and high occupancy.
- Mandatory fire audits and emergency planning protocols to be enforced.

3. Integration of Disaster Response Mechanisms:

- In line with the **Model Fire Services Bill, 2019**, the proposed amendments may include the **merging of Disaster Response Services** with Fire Services.
- This aims to build a comprehensive emergency response framework at the State level.

4. Adoption of Model Fire Services Bill, 2019:

- Drafted by the Ministry of Home Affairs, this model bill provides a **uniform framework** for States.
- Telangana's initiative is aligned with national efforts to modernize fire and emergency response mechanisms.

Conclusion:

- The Telangana government's move to amend the Fire Services Act is a **proactive step** in response to recent fire tragedies.
- By expanding the regulatory net and aligning with national standards, the State aims to create **safer urban spaces** and protect its citizens more effectively from fire-related disasters.

Gujarat, Telangana excel as govt releases first Panchayat Advancement Index data

Source: The Hindustan Times

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/gujarat-telangana-excel-as-govt-releases-first-panchayat-advancement-index-data-101744207146982.html>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Panchayati Raj Institutions

Context:

Panchayat Advancement Index data

Why in News

- The Government of India has launched the Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI) to assess and monitor the progress of gram panchayats on nine themes of localised Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Launch & Purpose:

- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has introduced the **Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI)** to evaluate the performance of **2.55 lakh gram panchayats** on nine key development themes aligned with the **National Indicator Framework**.
- The PAI aims to promote data-driven governance at the grassroots level by tracking localized progress on **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

Nine Themes of Localized SDGs:

1. Poverty-free and enhanced livelihoods
2. Healthy panchayat
3. Child-friendly panchayat
4. Water-sufficient panchayat
5. Clean and green panchayat
6. Panchayat with self-sufficient infrastructure
7. Socially just and secured panchayat
8. Panchayat with good governance
9. Women-friendly panchayat

Categorization of Panchayats:

- Based on performance scores, gram

panchayats are classified into:

- **Achiever** (none qualified so far)
- **Front Runner** – 699 GPs (346 from Gujarat, 270 from Telangana)
- **Performer** – 77,298 GPs
- **Aspirant** – 1,32,392 GPs
- **Beginner** – 5,896 GPs

State-wise Insights:

- Gujarat and Telangana** lead with the highest number of **Front Runners**.
- States with many Performers:** Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh.
- States with higher Aspirant-level GPs:** Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh – indicating the need for focused interventions.

Data Framework:

- Based on **435 unique local indicators** and **566 data points** aligned with the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** framework.
- Data from **2,16,285 panchayats** was validated and processed.
- Data from **11,712 panchayats** from five States/UTs was excluded due to pending validation.

No Inter-State Comparison Yet:

- The first round of PAI does not provide comparative rankings between states but focuses on individual panchayat performance.

Hyderabad-Amaravati greenfield expressway gets Centre's nod after 11 years wait

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/hyderabad-amaravati-greenfield-expressway-gets-centres-nod-after-11-years-wait/article69435081.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Infrastructure

Context:

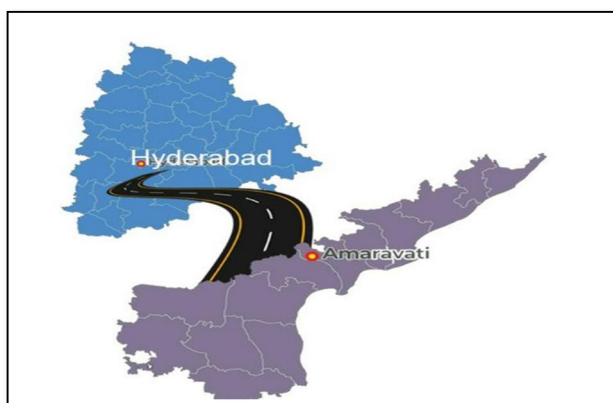
Hyderabad–Amaravati Greenfield Expressway project

Why in News

- The Hyderabad–Amaravati Greenfield Expressway project is now set to move forward with the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR).

Introduction

- The long-pending **Hyderabad–Amaravati Greenfield Expressway** project has been revived, with the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** directing the **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)** to prepare a **Detailed Project Report (DPR)**.
- This marks a major step toward implementing assurances under the **Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act (APRA), 2014**, more than a decade after the bifurcation of the united Andhra Pradesh.

**Hyderabad–Amaravati Greenfield Expressway Project: Key Facts**

- Nature of Project:**
 - A **greenfield expressway** connecting **Hyderabad (Telangana)** and **Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh)**.
- Mandate & Legal Backing:**
 - Proposed as part of **Schedule XIII** of the **Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act (APRA), 2014**.
 - The Act mandates **rapid rail and road connectivity** between the capitals of the successor states.
- Nodal Agency:**
 - Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** is

coordinating bifurcation-related commitments.

- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)** is tasked with preparing the **Detailed Project Report (DPR)**.

- Purpose & Benefits:**

- Improve **infrastructure connectivity** between **Telangana** and **Andhra Pradesh**.
- Facilitate economic **growth** and ease of transport for goods and people.
- Support **industrial hubs**, including proposed **dry ports** near **Hyderabad–Vijayawada** corridor.

Background and Constitutional Mandate

- The demand is based on **Schedule XIII** of the **APRA, 2014**, which mandates:
 - Establishing **rapid rail and road connectivity** from **Andhra Pradesh's** capital (**Amaravati**) to **Hyderabad**.
- The issue was raised again during a **review meeting on February 3, 2025**, chaired by **Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan**.
- MoRTH** was directed to:
 - Initiate the **DPR preparation process**.
 - Consider **in-principle approval** of the expressway project.

Strategic Importance

- Strengthens **connectivity** between the capital cities of **Telangana** and **Andhra Pradesh**.
- Aims to:
 - Boost **economic integration**.
 - Facilitate **faster movement of goods and people**.
- Key step toward resolving **pending bifurcation-related infrastructure commitments**.

Next Steps and Challenges

- MoRTH** noted the proposal as **new**, requiring:
 - Alignment clearance** before proceeding.
 - A detailed **feasibility study**.
- DPR** to assess:
 - Land acquisition, environmental impact, and project financing**.

Significance

- Fulfills a **long-pending legal commitment** under APRA.
- Enhances **infrastructure** and **inter-state cooperation**.
- Supports economic growth through **logistics development** (dry ports, freight corridors).
- Could act as a **confidence-building measure** between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

RGIA bags 'Best Airport Staff in India and South Asia' award

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/rgia-bags-best-airport-staff-in-india-and-south-asia-award/article69435436.ece>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport

Why in News

- Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) has been awarded the title of 'Best Airport Staff in India and South Asia' for 2025 by Skytrax, marking the fourth time it has received this recognition.

Launch & Purpose:

- In a remarkable achievement, **Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA)** has been honored with the prestigious title of '**Best Airport Staff in India and South Asia**' for the year 2025.
- This recognition, awarded by **Skytrax**, marks the fourth time RGIA has received this accolade, underscoring its consistent excellence in providing top-tier services to passengers.

Key Highlights of the Recognition:

- **Award Details:**
 - The award was announced at the **Passenger Terminal Expo 2025**, held in **Madrid, Spain**, where RGIA was distinguished as the **top performer**

among all airports in **India and South Asia**.

- The accolade reflects the airport's outstanding service standards, focusing on **staff dedication**, **professionalism**, and **hospitality**.

**Significance of the Award:**

- This achievement highlights **Hyderabad RGIA's commitment** to enhancing passenger satisfaction through **quality customer service** and operational excellence.
- The recognition reinforces RGIA's position as a **leader** in airport service quality in the highly competitive aviation sector in South Asia.

Conclusion:

- Hyderabad's **Rajiv Gandhi International Airport** continues to set benchmarks in the aviation industry, not only for its infrastructure but also for its exemplary staff, making it a **model airport** for others in India and the region.
- With this repeated acknowledgment, RGIA demonstrates that **excellence in service** is central to its operations, ensuring a **world-class experience** for all passengers.

High-speed broadband project T-Fiber service ready in over 7,100 gram panchayats

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/high-speed-broadband-project-t-fiber-service-ready-in-over-7100-gram-panchayats/article69435506.ece>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Telangana's T-Fiber Project

Why in News

- Telangana's T-Fiber project aims to provide high-speed broadband connectivity across the state, focusing on government institutions, households, and private enterprise.

Introduction

- The Telangana government's T-Fiber project, a high-speed broadband initiative, is poised to significantly enhance digital infrastructure across the state.
- Designed to provide broadband connectivity to households, government institutions, and private enterprises, the project is set to transform the digital landscape by expanding internet access and services via an optical fiber backbone.

Key Features and Developments

- **Expansion Beyond Proof of Concept (POC):** The T-Fiber project has moved beyond the proof of concept (POC) stage, connecting a total of 8,891 gram panchayats (GPs) and 424 mandals across Telangana. Out of these, 7,187 GPs in 336 mandals are already service-ready, offering broadband connectivity and other digital services to local residents and institutions. The project is a significant step towards improving digital connectivity in rural and urban areas alike.
- **Targets and Timelines:** T-Fiber aims to connect 30,000 government institutions in the current year, with plans to extend connectivity to 60,000 more by 2027. This progressive approach will ensure that Telangana's public sector institutions are well-equipped for the digital era.
- **Launch of T-NxT and Next-Generation Services:**
At the launch event, IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu unveiled T-NxT, a suite of next-generation services designed to enhance digital governance and service delivery. Key services under T-NxT include:
 - Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI)
 - Native Cloud - DC & DR as a Service
 - Security Operations Center (SoC)

- Application Development in Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- AI Consulting Services
- Integrated Digital Ads and App Management
- Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing (VAPT)
These services aim to promote innovation, cybersecurity, and digital transformation within government and private sectors.

- **Sovereign Cloud and Chatbot Launch:** The project also marked the introduction of T-Fiber's **Sovereign Cloud**, a secure, state-owned platform to host Telangana government's data. In addition, an **AI-powered chatbot** named TeRA was launched to enhance user engagement and service accessibility.

Strategic Collaborations and Infrastructure Development

- **Partnerships and Collaborations:** T-Fiber has entered into multiple agreements with industry partners to expedite the rollout of services and ensure high-quality delivery. Additionally, the partnership with **L&T Metro** and **TGSPDCL** for establishing backbone connectivity in Hyderabad is crucial in strengthening the project's infrastructure.
- **Fiberisation of Mobile Towers:** The initiative also aims to improve mobile network efficiency by facilitating the fiberisation of mobile towers, which will contribute to enhanced mobile broadband and data services.

Benefits and Impact

- **Digital Empowerment:** T-Fiber is expected to play a vital role in the digital empowerment of Telangana's residents. Every household will receive a smart TV, offering access to a wide range of services via the broadband network. This service delivery model will make digital access more inclusive and widespread.
- **Boosting Government and Enterprise Connectivity:** T-Fiber's focus on extending broadband services to both government institutions and private enterprises will

foster greater digital inclusion and economic growth. The availability of secure and high-speed connectivity will enhance operational efficiency in public services and offer enterprises a reliable digital infrastructure for business growth.

Future Plans and Expansion

- T-Fiber plans to take over the optic fiber infrastructure established by **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL)** in districts like Rangareddy, Nizamabad, and Khammam.
- This move will help the state leverage existing infrastructure while enhancing the fiber network's reach and scalability.

Conclusion

- The T-Fiber project is a comprehensive effort by the Telangana government to modernize the state's digital infrastructure.
- With a focus on high-speed broadband connectivity, smart services, and digital inclusion, T-Fiber is poised to serve as a model for similar projects in other states.
- As Telangana continues to expand and enhance this initiative, it will play a key role in the state's overall socio-economic development and digital transformation.

Justice Shameem Akther appointed SHRC chairperson

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/justice-shameem-akther-appointed-shrc-chairperson-justice-rajasekher-reddy-is-lok-ayukta/article69439717.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) and the Lok Ayukta

Context:

Key Appointments in Telangana

Why in News

- The Telangana government made two significant appointments, enhancing the functioning of its statutory institutions—the

State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) and the Lok Ayukta.

Appointment of SHRC Chairperson

- Justice **Dr. Shameem Akther**, retired judge of the High Court, has been appointed as the **Chairperson of the Telangana State Human Rights Commission (SHRC)**.
- The appointment was made under **Section 22(1) of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993**, as per the notification issued by Chief Secretary A. Santhi Kumari.

Details

- **Tenure:** Three years from the date of assuming office or until the age of 70, whichever is earlier.
- **Background:** Justice Akther had earlier led a one-man Commission of Inquiry to examine **sub-categorization within Scheduled Castes (SCs)** in Telangana.
- The panel's recommendations led to categorizing SCs into **three groups**, and a Bill was passed by the state legislature based on its findings.
- **Other SHRC Appointments**
 - **Sivadi Praveena**, Retired Selection Grade District Judge – **Member (Non-Judicial)**
 - **B. Kishore**, Retired IAS Officer – **Member (Non-Judicial)**



Justice Shameem Akhtar Justice A. Rajasekher Reddy

Appointment of Lok Ayukta

- Justice **A. Rajasekher Reddy**, former judge of the High Court, has been appointed as the **Lok Ayukta of Telangana**.
- **Tenure:** Five years from the date of assuming office.
- **Status:** Will hold the status equivalent to the **Chief Justice of a High Court** during the

tenure.

Appointment of Upa Lok Ayukta

- **B.S. Jag Jeevan Kumar**, former District and Sessions Judge, has been appointed as the **Upa Lok Ayukta** for a term of **five years**.
- **Status**: Will hold the rank of a **High Court Judge**.

State Human Rights Commission (SHRC)

- The **State Human Rights Commission (SHRC)** is a **statutory body** established to protect and promote **human rights** at the state level in India.
- **Legal Basis**
 - Established under **The Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993**.
 - This Act also provides for the **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)**.
- **Definition of Human Rights**: According to the Act:

"Human Rights" means the **rights relating to life, liberty, equality, and dignity** of the individual guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in international covenants and enforceable by courts in India.

Composition of SHRC

As per the Act:

- **Chairperson**: A retired Chief Justice or Judge of a High Court.
- **One Member (Judicial)**: A serving or retired judge of a High Court or District Court.
- **One Member (Non-Judicial)**: An expert in human rights or related fields.
- **Secretary**: Functions as the Executive Officer of the Commission.

What is Lok Ayukta?

- The **Lok Ayukta** is an **ombudsman institution** in India, established to **address complaints of corruption and maladministration** by public officials and government employees.
- It is a vital body for **ensuring accountability, transparency, and good governance** at the state level.
- **Legal Basis**
 - The **Lok Ayukta Act** was initially

enacted by several states following the model set by the **Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013** at the national level.

- The Lok Ayukta is established by a **state law** and operates under the **provisions of Article 253** of the Constitution.



- **Composition of Lok Ayukta**: The structure typically consists of:
 - **Chairperson**: A retired **Chief Justice of a High Court** or a judge of a High Court.
- **Upa Lok Ayukta (Deputy)**: A retired judge, typically from a **District Court** or **State Judicial Service**.
- **Other Members**: Some states also appoint **non-judicial members**, often with a background in public administration or law enforcement.
 - These members may include **eminent persons** from fields such as administration, law, or civil society.

Significance for Governance and Accountability

- These appointments are crucial for strengthening **human rights enforcement** and **institutional mechanisms for redressal of corruption and maladministration** in Telangana.
- The SHRC plays a pivotal role in protecting the rights of citizens, while the Lok Ayukta acts as a watchdog against abuse of power by public officials.

Telangana's green warrior Vanjeevi Ramaiah dies of heart attack

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/veteran-green-warrior-vanjeevi-ramaiah-dies-of-heart-attack/article69442195.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Environment

Context:

Green warrior Vanjeevi Ramaiah

Why in News

- Veteran environmentalist and Padma Shri awardee Daripalli Ramaiah, popularly known as 'Vanjeevi Ramaiah', passed away due to a heart attack in Khammam, Telangana.

Introduction:

- The passing of **Daripalli Ramaiah** (April 12, 2025) marks the loss of one of India's most respected environmental activists, widely known as *Vanjeevi* (meaning "Forest Man").
- His life's work of planting and nurturing trees, particularly in the region of **Khammam** in Telangana, stands as a monumental contribution to India's environmental conservation efforts.
- He is remembered not only for his immense contribution to **afforestation** but also for his **visionary efforts** to make tree planting a part of everyday life, inspiring countless individuals to take up similar causes.

Who Was Daripalli Ramaiah?

- Daripalli Ramaiah was a **native of Reddypalli village** in the **Khammam rural mandal** of Telangana. He is fondly called *Vanjeevi*, a term that signifies his lifelong commitment to the forest and environment.
- Born in **1939**, Ramaiah spent over **six decades** of his life working tirelessly on increasing the tree cover in his region, primarily focusing on **fruit-bearing trees** and **bio-diesel plants**.
- His deep connection to nature, combined

with his belief in environmental activism, turned him into a symbol of grassroots green movements in India.

- In recognition of his immense contribution, Ramaiah was conferred with the prestigious **Padma Shri** in **2017**, which is India's **fourth highest civilian award**.



Afforestation and Tree Plantation:

- **Green Crusader:** Ramaiah is credited with the planting and nurturing of **countless saplings** throughout his lifetime. His focus was primarily on **fruit-bearing species** of trees, which could contribute to both **environmental sustainability** and **food security**.
- **Biodiesel Plants:** He also worked on planting **bio-diesel plants**, which have both **environmental and economic significance**, especially in the context of **renewable energy**.
- **Sustainability:** His work went beyond simple plantation; he took a hands-on approach in ensuring the saplings were nurtured and developed into full-grown trees, thus emphasizing the importance of **tree care** over merely planting.

Social Forestry Initiatives:

- Ramaiah was a pioneer in **social forestry**, an approach that involves involving local communities in the planting and management of forests. He successfully integrated **villagers** and **local communities** into environmental efforts, empowering them to take responsibility for their local ecosystems.
- His work gained substantial recognition and was a key reason behind his Padma Shri award.

Advocacy for Green Messages:

- Ramaiah was not just involved in planting trees but also worked on spreading awareness about environmental conservation. One of his most unique ideas was the suggestion that **green messages** related to **environmental protection** be printed on **currency notes**. He believed that the currency, being used by millions daily, could be an effective tool for spreading eco-friendly awareness across India.

Lifelong Mission:

- What set Ramaiah apart from many other environmental activists was his unwavering **dedication** to his mission. He was a **self-taught** environmentalist, deeply driven by his passion for protecting the planet.
- His work was largely **self-funded**, with little to no support from large organizations, making his efforts even more commendable.

Ethical Leadership and Societal Contributions

- Ramaiah's work is a prime example of **ethical leadership**. He led by example, dedicating his life to a cause greater than himself, demonstrating **sustainability**, **self-reliance**, and **community empowerment**.
- Gandhian Values:** Ramaiah's approach to environmental activism was rooted in **Gandhian principles** of simple living, non-violence, and community service. His work reflects the idea of **ahimsa** (non-violence) toward nature and **sarvodaya** (welfare of all), where the welfare of the community and the planet was his primary concern.
- Moral Leadership:** His life exemplifies **moral leadership**, where leadership is not about titles or authority but about making a **positive impact on society**.
- His **selflessness** and **vision** are qualities that can inspire ethical leaders in various fields.

Community Engagement:

- Ramaiah's emphasis on **community involvement** in his forestry projects shows the importance of **participation** in sustainable environmental practices.
- He believed that a **collective effort** was needed to address issues like deforestation and climate change, and his work became a model for **community-driven**

environmental movements.

Conclusion:

- Daripalli Ramaiah's life is a shining example of **selfless service**, **ethical leadership**, and **environmental stewardship**. His efforts remind us of the power of **individual action** in addressing larger societal issues.
- As we move forward in the fight against climate change and environmental degradation, his legacy will continue to inspire future generations to embrace **sustainability** and take **responsibility** for the planet's well-being.

Telangana notifies heatwave as 'State-specific disaster'

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-notifies-heatwave-as-state-specific-disaster-enhances-ex-gratia-to-4-lakhs/article69451710.ece>

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-notifies-heatwave-as-state-specific-disaster-enhances-ex-gratia-to-4-lakhs/article69451710.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Disaster management

Context:

State-Specific Disaster

Why in News

- The Telangana government has declared heatwaves as a 'State-Specific Disaster' and enhanced financial relief for victims, acknowledging the growing severity of heatwave events in the state due to climate change.

introduction

- In a significant move to address the increasing severity of heatwaves in the state, the Telangana government has officially declared heatwaves, sunstrokes, and sunburns as a '**State-Specific Disaster**'.
- This declaration comes with the enhancement of financial relief for the families of heatwave victims.
- The new measure, which was announced by Special Chief Secretary for Disaster

Management, Arvind Kumar, on **April 15, 2025**, introduces a significant increase in compensation—raising the relief from ₹50,000 to ₹4 lakh per deceased person.

Financial Relief and Support Measures

- The government order (G.O.) issued in April 2025 specifies that the enhanced relief will be drawn from the **State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)**.
- The move addresses the rising concern over the health risks posed by extreme heat conditions, which have become more frequent and intense due to global climate change.
- Previously, under the **Apathbandhu scheme**, families of heatwave victims were provided with a meager ₹50,000, which was inadequate in addressing the dire consequences of such extreme weather conditions.
- The enhanced relief amount signifies the government's commitment to better protecting vulnerable populations, including farmers, workers, and the elderly, who are at higher risk during heatwave events.



Growing Impact of Heatwaves in Telangana

- The decision to recognize heatwaves as a specific disaster is largely driven by the growing frequency and intensity of heatwave events in the state.
- According to reports from the **Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)**, 2024 saw at least **15 heatwave days** across Telangana, with several districts—particularly **Nalgonda, Mancheri, Peddapalli, and Jagtial**—recording more than **30 heatwave days**.
- Urban areas, especially **Hyderabad**, have been further affected by the **Urban Heat**

Island effect, which exacerbates the impacts on construction workers and daily wage earners working under sweltering conditions.

Vulnerability of Workers and Rural Populations

- While heatwaves have long been an under-recognized hazard, their effects are far-reaching and mostly internal, impacting human health significantly.
- Unlike other natural disasters like floods or earthquakes, which result in visible damage, heatwaves cause internal harm, such as dehydration, heat strokes, and long-term health problems, which often go under-reported.
- The vulnerability of certain groups—especially the **elderly, children, women, farmers, and daily wage workers**—makes them particularly susceptible to the devastating impacts of extreme heat.
- In rural areas, farmers, who often spend long hours in the fields, are particularly at risk.
- The government's decision to enhance financial compensation for heatwave victims acknowledges these socio-economic realities and the urgent need for more substantial support.

Heatwave Criteria and Ex-Gratia Compensation

- Under the new guidelines, **deaths due to heatwaves** will be eligible for compensation only if they meet the IMD's criteria for a heatwave.
- According to the IMD, a **heatwave** is defined as a condition where the **temperature reaches at least 40°C**, with a deviation of **5 to 6°C** from the normal, or if the temperature remains **above 45°C** for an extended period.
- The order also introduces an interesting provision for **registered farmers** under the **Rythu Bima scheme**. In cases where a registered farmer loses their life due to a heatwave, the family will have the option to claim the **higher of two compensation amounts**: either the **Rythu Bima insurance compensation** or the **SDRF relief**.

Mitigation Measures and Local Efforts

- While the government order focuses on large-scale relief measures, localized efforts to mitigate the impact of heatwaves have already been initiated in various districts.
- For instance, efforts like distributing **ORS (Oral Rehydration Solution) packets** and setting up **drinking water kiosks** in public spaces have been in place to support affected populations.
- However, the lack of a formal notification previously hindered the ability to offer comprehensive financial relief to victims.

Conclusion:

- The Telangana government's decision to declare heatwaves as a State-Specific Disaster marks a significant shift in how extreme heat events are perceived and managed.
- With increasing temperatures linked to global climate change, Telangana's proactive approach to providing financial relief and support to heatwave victims reflects the growing need for comprehensive disaster management policies to address climate-related hazards.
- The new financial relief measures, along with efforts to improve the resilience of vulnerable communities, will go a long way in mitigating the impact of future heatwaves in the state.

Nageshwar Reddy honoured with 'Legends of Endoscopy' award in Tokyo

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/nageshwar-reddy-honoured-with-legends-of-endoscopy-award-in-tokyo/article69449425.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and honours

Context:

'Legends of Endoscopy' Award

Why in News

- Dr. D. Nageshwar Reddy, chairman of AIG

Hospitals, was honored with the 'Legends of Endoscopy' award at the Tokyo Live Global Endoscopy 2025 event for his significant contributions to gastrointestinal endoscopy.

Introduction:

- Dr. D. Nageshwar Reddy, the chairman of AIG Hospitals, has been bestowed with the prestigious 'Legends of Endoscopy' award by a distinguished community of Japanese gastroenterologists.
- This honor comes as a recognition of his remarkable contributions to the field of Gastrointestinal (GI) Endoscopy, a specialized branch of medical science focused on diagnosing and treating diseases of the digestive tract.

Key Highlights:

- **Award Recognition:**
 - Dr. D. Nageshwar Reddy received the 'Legends of Endoscopy' award at the Tokyo Live Global Endoscopy 2025 event.
 - The award was presented by the community of Japanese gastroenterologists in recognition of his contributions to the advancement of GI Endoscopy.
- **Event Details:**
 - The event was held at the SHOWA Medical University Koto Toyosu Hospital in Tokyo.
 - Dr. Reddy performed live demonstrations of complex endoscopic procedures, sharing his expertise with global experts.
- **Contributions to GI Endoscopy:**
 - Dr. Reddy has pioneered numerous innovative techniques in gastrointestinal endoscopy.
 - His work has significantly improved patient outcomes and elevated the quality of healthcare in the field.
 - He has been a leader in the training and education of gastroenterologists, promoting global standards in medical practices.
- **Live Demonstrations:**

- At the event, Dr. Reddy performed live, complex endoscopic procedures, demonstrating advanced diagnostic and therapeutic techniques.
- These demonstrations provided attendees with valuable insights into the latest practices in GI endoscopy.
- **Global Impact and Recognition:**
 - The 'Legends of Endoscopy' award is one of the most prestigious accolades in the field, recognizing Dr. Reddy's global standing as a leader in medical innovation.
 - His recognition brings global attention to India's growing prominence in the healthcare sector, particularly in gastrointestinal health.

Conclusion:

- Dr. D. Nageshwar Reddy's recognition with the 'Legends of Endoscopy' award underscores his invaluable contributions to medical science and his relentless pursuit of excellence in the field of gastrointestinal endoscopy.
- His achievements not only elevate the standard of healthcare but also bring global attention to the advancements taking place in medical practices in India.

Phone Mitra: A lifeline for homesick students Telangana Social Welfare Residential Institutions

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/phone-mitra-a-lifeline-for-homesick-students/article69449821.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

'Phone Mitra'

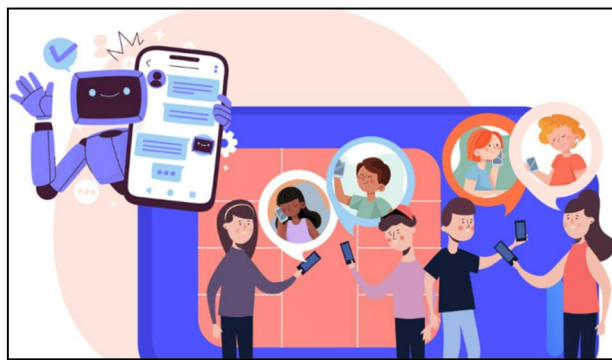
Why in News

- Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TSWREIS)

has launched 'Phone Mitra', a state-wide telephone-based outreach programme

Introduction

- In a commendable initiative to address **homesickness and emotional well-being** among residential school students, the **Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TSWREIS)** has launched 'Phone Mitra', a state-wide telephone-based outreach programme.
- This initiative reflects the growing recognition of students' mental health and emotional needs, especially those staying away from home in **Gurukuls (residential schools)**.



Key Features of 'Phone Mitra'

- **Unlimited Calling Facility:** Each group of **four students** shares a calling card, enabling **unlimited calls to five pre-registered numbers**, usually of parents or guardians.
- **AI-driven Chatbot Integration:** The **fifth number** on every card is linked to an **AI-based chatbot**, where students can:
 - Register grievances
 - Offer suggestions
 - Seek emotional or emergency support
- **Call Monitoring & Control:** Telephones are **restricted to only pre-registered numbers**, ensuring **safety and preventing misuse**.
- **Infrastructure Setup:**
 - To be implemented in **268 residential facilities** across Telangana.
 - Each school/college to receive **10-15 telephones**, based on student strength.

Psychological Support: Project Mitra

Parallel to Phone Mitra, 'Project Mitra' ensures emotional and psychological support through:

- **Training of Teachers:** Headmasters and faculty are trained as 'Mental Health Warriors', capable of:
 - Identifying emotional distress
 - Intervening early
 - Supporting students in a safe psychological environment
- **Goal:** To nurture **emotional intelligence**, prevent **mental health crises**, and reduce instances of **depression or self-harm**.

Significance of the Initiative

- Addresses **psychological and emotional needs** of students, often away from home for the first time.
- Enhances **student-parent connection**, reducing alienation and anxiety.
- Creates a **supportive mental health framework** within educational institutions.
- Encourages **student participation** in governance via grievance redressal.

University of Hyderabad team basks in glory as LHC wins Breakthrough Prize

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/uoh-team-basks-in-global-glory-as-large-hadron-collider-wins-2025-breakthrough-prize/article69452680.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and honours

Context:

2025 Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics

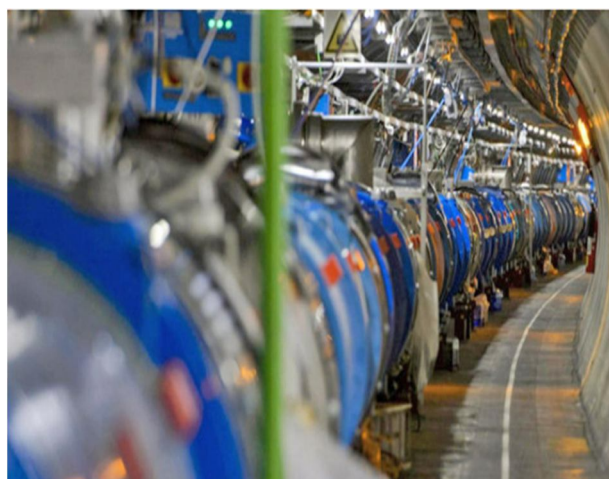
Why in News

- The 2025 Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics was awarded to the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) experiment at CERN, with a key contribution from an Indian team led by Dr. Bhawna Gomber at

the University of Hyderabad.

Introduction:

- **Context and Overview:** The 2025 Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics has been awarded to the **Large Hadron Collider (LHC) experiment at CERN**, Europe's premier research center for particle physics.
- This accolade recognizes the pioneering work of international scientists involved in the LHC experiments, including the **groundbreaking 2012 discovery of the Higgs boson**, which has significantly expanded our understanding of the universe's fundamental nature.
- Notably, a key contributor to this global achievement is a team from the **University of Hyderabad (UoH)**, led by **Dr. Bhawna Gomber** at the **Centre for Advanced Study in Electronics, Science, and Technology (CASEST)**, School of Physics.

**The LHC and the CMS Experiment:**

- The **Large Hadron Collider** is the world's largest particle accelerator and plays a crucial role in high-energy physics research.
- It is situated at **CERN** in Switzerland and is used for exploring the fundamental particles that constitute the universe. Among the most significant experiments at the LHC is the **CMS (Compact Muon Solenoid)** experiment, which is focused on studying particle interactions and discovering new particles.
- India's contribution to the CMS experiment has been instrumental in achieving the success of the LHC.

- The **UoH team** led by **Dr. Gomber** has been actively involved in **data analysis, trigger electronics, and research on high-energy particle interactions**.
- Their primary focus has been to explore physics beyond the Standard Model, particularly in **searching for dark matter particles, large extra dimensions, and anomalous trilinear gauge couplings**.

India's Growing Role in High-Energy Physics:

- India's involvement in the LHC experiments dates back to the early 2000s, with the **University of Hyderabad** being a key player in this international scientific effort.
- The high-energy physics group at **UoH**, originally started by professors **Bindu Bambah** and **Rukmani Mohanta**, became part of the **NOVA collaboration** and contributed to the **Indian institutes at Fermilab** collaboration in the USA.
- The university's consistent and valuable contributions have bolstered India's reputation in the field of **particle physics research** on the global stage.

Significance of the Award:

- The 2025 Breakthrough Prize is a significant milestone for the scientific community worldwide, recognizing the monumental discoveries that have shaped our understanding of the universe.
- For the Indian scientific community, the award is a matter of immense pride, as it highlights the country's growing influence in cutting-edge scientific research.
- It's a proud moment not just for our team, but for the Indian scientific community as a whole."

Conclusion:

- India's involvement in the **LHC experiments** and the recognition through the **2025 Breakthrough Prize** is a testament to the country's increasing prominence in global scientific research.
- With contributions in high-energy particle interactions and the search for new physics phenomena, Indian researchers are playing a key role in shaping the future of **fundamental physics**.

Telangana Gig Workers Welfare Act

Source: New Indian Express

https:
[//www.newindianexpress.com/states/tehrangana/2025/Apr/15/tehrangana-gig-workers-welfare-act-to-come-into-force-from-may-1](https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tehrangana/2025/Apr/15/tehrangana-gig-workers-welfare-act-to-come-into-force-from-may-1)

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Economy

Context:

Gig and Platform Workers Welfare Act

Why in News

- Telangana is set to implement India's first dedicated welfare law for gig and platform workers from May 1, 2025, ensuring insurance, job security, and social protections.

Introduction

- The Telangana government is taking a pioneering step toward social security and labour welfare in the informal digital economy by implementing the **Gig and Platform Workers Welfare Act** from **May 1, 2025**, aligning the rollout with **International Workers' Day**.



- This legislative move is aimed at safeguarding the rights and wellbeing of gig workers—those engaged in food delivery, ride-hailing, and courier services—who form a significant and growing part of the workforce in today's digital economy.

Background and Context

- **Gig and platform workers** operate outside the ambit of traditional employment laws, lacking formal contracts, job security, and

welfare benefits.

- As gig-based work expands with the rise of tech platforms (like food delivery apps and cab aggregators), the need for regulation and protection has become urgent.
- Telangana Chief Minister **A. Revanth Reddy** had promised during the election campaign to introduce a law for the **safety and welfare** of these workers.
- In a meeting held with gig workers' union representatives and senior government officials, the CM directed the finalisation of the draft bill and ordered its placement in the **public domain** to invite **suggestions and objections** from citizens and stakeholders.

Who are Gig Workers?

- Gig workers are individuals engaged in **temporary, flexible jobs**, often facilitated through **digital platforms** or **aggregators**.
- These jobs are usually **task-based or assignment-based**, without long-term employment contracts.

Key Characteristics:

- **Flexibility:** Workers choose their working hours and assignments.
- **Task-based Payment:** Paid per delivery, ride, task, or service.
- **Lack of Traditional Benefits:** No job security, paid leave, or pension.
- **Mediated by Digital Platforms:** Work assigned through apps like Zomato, Uber, Ola, Swiggy, Urban Company, etc.

Key Features of the Proposed Act

- **Coverage:**
 - Targets nearly **4 lakh gig and platform workers** in Telangana.
 - Includes workers involved in **food delivery, cab driving, and package delivery** services.
- **Welfare Provisions:**
 - Ensures **job security, accident insurance, and social protection** for workers.
 - Emphasizes **coordination between digital platforms and workers** to resolve disputes and streamline operations.

- **Insurance Scheme:**

- Telangana is already the **first state in India** to implement **accident insurance of ₹5 lakh** for gig workers in case of death.
- This insurance policy was issued via government orders on **December 30, 2023**.

- **Public Consultation:**

- The draft bill has been uploaded to the official portal for **public feedback**.
- The deadline for submitting **suggestions and objections** is **April 25, 2025**.
- This participatory approach ensures inclusivity and responsiveness in policymaking.

- **Implementation Date:**

- The Act will officially come into force on **May 1, 2025**.

Significance of the Act

- **Recognition of Gig Workers:** Formal acknowledgment of gig workers as a legitimate and protected workforce.
- **Labour Rights Expansion:** Extends **social security nets** to previously unregulated informal employment.
- **Model for India:** Sets a **national precedent** and could influence central policy for platform-based work.
- **Democratic Law-Making:** The use of **public consultations** ensures the law reflects the voices of all stakeholders.

Conclusion

- The **Telangana Gig and Platform Workers Welfare Act** is a landmark initiative that reflects a **forward-looking labour policy** tailored for the 21st-century workforce.
- By addressing the challenges faced by gig workers—such as lack of security, insurance, and representation—this Act positions Telangana as a **progressive leader in labour reforms**, setting a path that other Indian states may soon follow.

poor have been included.

- Prescribed **fees** for services like registration, mutation, succession, and RoR correction ensure a structured service delivery.

Comparison with Previous Framework

- The **Telangana Rights in Land and Pattadar Pass Books Act, 2020**, enacted by the previous government, lacked an accompanying rules framework, leading to **administrative chaos and procedural ambiguity**.
- Learning from that experience, the current Act and Rules were implemented **simultaneously**, ensuring clarity from the outset.

Significance and Way Forward

- The Bhu Bharati Act and its Rules mark a **major reform in land governance**, enhancing legal certainty, citizen services, and administrative efficiency.
- With **digital integration, defined authority, and legal backing**, the system is expected to reduce land disputes, improve transparency, and empower rural and urban landholders alike.

Siddipet mountaineer inscribes his name in the International Book of Records

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/telangana-siddipet-mountaineer-inscribes-his-name-in-the-international-book-of-records>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Sports

Context:

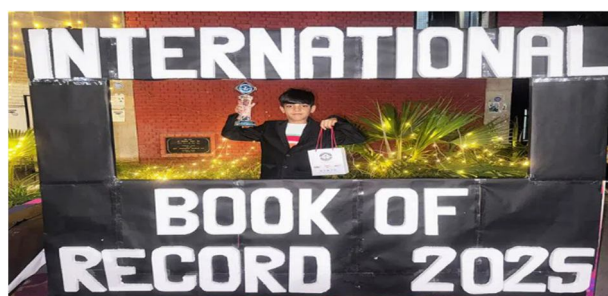
International Book of Records

Why in News

- Jatoth Vihanram, an eight-year-old from Siddipet, Telangana, has earned international acclaim for his extraordinary mountaineering achievements at a remarkably young age.

Key Highlights:

- **Record Achievement:** Vihanram has been officially included in the **International Book of Records** for climbing the **highest number of mountain peaks** at the age of **eight years and five months**.
- **Significant Peaks Conquered:** He successfully scaled:
 - **Mount Patalsu** (located in Himachal Pradesh, India)
 - **Gilman's Point** on **Mount Kilimanjaro** (Tanzania), which is one of the three main summit points on Africa's highest mountain.
- **Recognition:**
 - Vihanram and his family were felicitated during a special event held by the **International Book of Records** in Amritsar.
 - He had earlier registered his name in the **Indian Book of Records** for similar feats.



About International Book of Records (IBR)

- The **International Book of Records (IBR)** is a global record-keeping organization that recognizes and certifies **extraordinary human achievements, talent, and innovative feats** across various domains.
- It aims to encourage individuals, especially youth, to pursue excellence in diverse fields.

Key Features:

- **Global Platform:** Though based in **India**, it accepts entries and applications from individuals and groups worldwide.
- **Wide Range of Categories:** Records are accepted in areas such as:
 - Adventure and endurance (e.g., mountaineering)
 - Arts and creativity
 - Education and academics

- Technology and innovation
- Human feats and social contributions
- **Recognition:**
Certified record holders receive:
 - A **certificate** of achievement
 - A **medal/trophy/memento**
 - Inclusion in the official **IBR database** and sometimes annual publications.

Comparison with Other Record Bodies:

Record Body	Key Focus	Base Country
Guinness World Records	Global and entertainment-focused	UK
Limca Book of Records	Indian achievements	India
International Book of Records	Global participation with a focus on youth and talent	India

Significance

- **Youth Achievement and Inspiration:**
Vihanram's accomplishment is a reflection of **India's growing culture of adventure sports**, even among children, and serves as an inspiration for promoting physical fitness, resilience, and goal-setting from a young age.
- **International Recognition of Indian Talent:**
His record brings global attention to **Indian youth potential** and highlights the role of **family support and structured training** in nurturing excellence.

Telangana's Bhu Bharati act: A legislation to resolve land issues

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telanganas-bhu-bharti-act-a-legislation-to-resolve-land-issues-explained/article69459966.ece>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

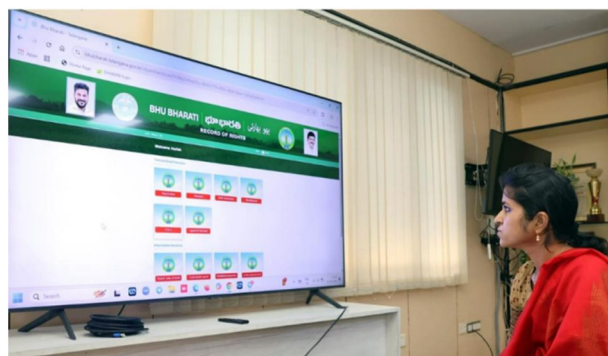
Telangana Bhu Bharati Act, 2025

Why in News

The Telangana government has enacted the Bhu Bharati (Record of Rights) Act, 2025 to resolve widespread land record issues and ensure a decentralised, farmer-friendly grievance redressal system.

Background:

- The **Dharani portal**, launched under the **Telangana Rights in Land and Pattadar Passbooks Act, 2020** by the previous BRS government, aimed to serve as a **one-stop digital platform** for land transactions.
- Despite claims that 93% of land records were rectified through the **Land Record Updation Programme (LRUP)**, the digitalisation process led to **serious land disputes**, including:
 - Patta lands being listed under **Part-B (prohibited)** category.
 - Removal of the **"enjoyment column"** in land documents.
 - **Missing survey numbers** and unauthorized registration of land.
 - **No field verification** before updating records.
 - **Centralised grievance redressal**, accessible only through senior officials like the Collector or Chief Commissioner.



Telangana Bhu Bharati (Record of Rights) Act, 2025

- **Objective:** To rectify the issues arising from the Dharani portal and provide a transparent, participative, and decentralised land administration system.
- **Participatory Drafting Process:**
 - Draft bill was placed in the public domain.

- **Three-month consultations** were held with farmers and stakeholders.
- **Expert committee** analyzed field-level grievances and proposed reforms.

Salient Features of the Bhu Bharati Act, 2025:

1. **Rectification of 2020 Dharani Errors:**
 - Errors in land records post-2020 to be addressed with legal provisions.
 - Mandatory **survey and mapping** before registration/mutation to prevent litigation.
2. **Decentralised Grievance Redressal:**
 - Two-tier mechanism: **RDO** (first level) → **Collector** → **District Land Tribunal** (appeal).
 - Farmers can **register grievances within 1 year** of the Act's implementation.
 - **Free of cost** grievance redressal for farmers (unlike Dharani).
3. **Regularisation of Sada Bainamas:**
 - Based on **ground reality**, recognising informal sale deeds made on plain paper.
4. **Time-bound Mutations:**
 - Especially for **hereditary transfers**, to prevent delays and disputes.
5. **Legal Accountability:**
 - Provision to **scrap land rights** of individuals found to have illegally acquired **government, Bhoodan, assignment, endowment or Waqf lands**.
6. **Pilot Implementation:**
 - Portal launched in **four mandals** to test software efficiency.
 - **State-wide rollout by June 2** (Telangana Formation Day) targeted.

Significance:

- **Restores public confidence** in land administration.
- Ensures **accessibility and affordability** for rural landowners.
- Enhances **transparency**, reduces legal burden on courts.
- Promotes **equity** and addresses long-pending **agrarian grievances**.

Telangana promotes Ethephon over banned Calcium Carbide for fruit ripening

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-promotes-ethephon-over-banned-calcium-carbide-for-fruit-ripening/article69474252.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Health

Context:

Safe Fruit Ripening Awareness Drive

Why in News

- Telangana Food Safety Department launched an awareness drive promoting the use of Ethephon for safe ripening of fruits, banning harmful Calcium Carbide.

Introduction

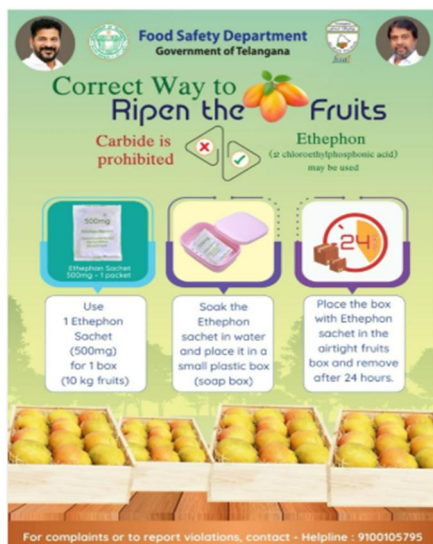
- With the onset of the mango season, the **Telangana Food Safety Department** launched a public awareness drive on **April 21, 2025**, to educate farmers, traders, and consumers on **safe methods for fruit ripening**.
- The initiative aims to **curb the use of banned chemicals** such as **Calcium Carbide**, commonly misused for artificial ripening, and promote **approved, health-safe alternatives**.

Key Highlights of the Initiative:

- **Ban on Calcium Carbide:** The use of **Calcium Carbide** for artificial ripening is strictly **prohibited under the Food Safety and Standards Act**, due to its toxic effects. It can lead to **serious health hazards**, including respiratory issues, neurological damage, and even cancer in the long term.
- **Ethephon as a Safer Alternative:** The department recommends **Ethephon (2-chloroethylphosphonic acid)**, a **plant growth regulator** approved for controlled ripening. It helps accelerate fruit ripening in a **scientific and safe manner**.

How Ethephon is Used for Ripening:

- One 500 mg sachet of Ethephon is sufficient for 10 kg of fruit.
- The sachet is soaked in water and placed inside a small plastic container (like a soap box).



- The container is kept in an airtight fruit box and sealed for 24 hours for effective and uniform ripening.

About Ethephon:

- Ethephon is widely used in agriculture to:
 - Promote fruit ripening.
 - Enhance flowering.
 - Facilitate leaf and fruit drop for easier harvesting.

Public Participation and Grievance Redressal:

- The public is encouraged to report violations involving the use of banned chemicals.
- **Complaint Helpline:** Citizens can call 9100105795 to register complaints regarding unsafe ripening practices.

Significance for Public Health and Agriculture:

- This drive is part of a broader effort to promote food safety, protect consumer health, and support scientific farming practices.
- It aligns with the goals of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to ensure chemical-free and hygienic food across the country.

Indian Galapagos islands:**Hyderabad scientists dive into Western Ghats' biodiversity**

Source: Telangana today

<https://telanganatoday.com/indian-galapagos-islands-hyderabad-scientists-dive-western-ghats-biodiversity>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Environment and Ecology

Context:

Hyderabad scientists research into Western Ghats' biodiversity

Why in News

- The Western Ghats, a global biodiversity hotspot, contribute nearly 40% to India's biodiversity and are a key site for evolutionary and ecological research.

Background:

- The Western Ghats, stretching along the western coast of India, have long been recognized as a global biodiversity hotspot.
- Recent scientific research conducted by Dr. Jahnvi Joshi and her team from the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, has further highlighted the evolutionary significance and biological richness of this ancient mountain chain.

Scientific Research Highlights

- The study, published in *Proceedings of the Royal Society* (April 2023), involves exhaustive biodiversity modeling and DNA



analysis of 470 species across the Western Ghats.

- The **southern Western Ghats** are identified as both a **museum** (preserving old lineages) and **cradle** (origin of new lineages) of **woody plant evolutionary diversity**.
- Genetic analysis traced **centipedes** and **millipedes** back to organisms from the **supercontinent Gondwana**, establishing a link between the Indian and Australian continents.

Why the Western Ghats Matter

- The Western Ghats **cover only 5%** of India's land area but contribute to **nearly 40% of the country's total biodiversity**.
- They host:
 - **8000+ plant species** and **7000+ animal species**
 - **1500+ endemic plant species**
 - About **100 species of mammals** (11% endemic)
 - Nearly **200 species each of amphibians and reptiles**
 - Over **300 species of freshwater fish**
 - Around **500 species of birds**
 - Around **600 species of trees**

Global Significance

- The region is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and ranks among the top global ecosystems for **conservation and evolutionary biology**.
- Research in the Ghats contributes to global understanding of:
 - **Species adaptation and survival**
 - **Climate resilience**
 - **Evolutionary lineage tracking**

Research and Innovation

- The CCMB team is using **DNA barcoding and distribution modeling** to understand why the region supports such high levels of **biodiversity and endemism**.
- Insights from this research are crucial for **conservation policy, ecosystem management, and scientific exploration** of evolutionary processes.

Gangaram Block tops in Delta Ranking under Aspirational Blocks Programme across nation

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/gangaram-block-tops-in-delta-ranking-under-aspirational-blocks-programme-across-nation/article69478853.ece>

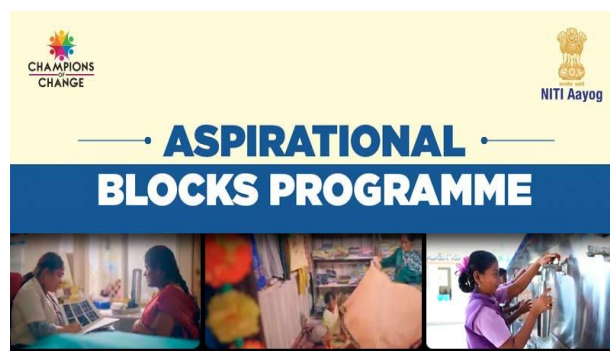
TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP).

Why in News

- Gangaram Block in Mahabubabad district has achieved top spot in the Delta ranking under the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP).



Overview of the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP)

- Launched on January 7, 2023, the **Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP)** is a key initiative aimed at improving governance and the quality of life in the most backward and underdeveloped blocks of India.
- The programme focuses on **consolidating existing welfare schemes** and ensuring their effective implementation in these underdeveloped areas.
- The ABP employs **40 key performance indicators (KPIs)** spread across **five main sectors**:
 - **Health and Nutrition**
 - **Education**

- **Agriculture and Allied Sectors**
- **Infrastructure**
- **Social Development**
- These KPIs are used to monitor the progress of development initiatives at the block level, ensuring that these areas receive focused attention in terms of governance, infrastructure, and essential services.

Gangaram Block's Achievement

- Gangaram Block, located in **Mahabubabad district, Telangana**, has made remarkable progress in the latest **Delta Ranking for September-December 2024** released by **NITI Aayog**, securing the **top spot** among **500 aspirational blocks** across India.
- This ranking places Gangaram Block at the forefront of development, especially given that it is located in one of the most backward areas of the state.
- In recognition of this achievement, Gangaram Block will receive an **additional ₹3 crore** incentive under the ABP.
- The funds are intended to further enhance development initiatives in the block, addressing key sectors such as **health, education, agriculture, and infrastructure**.

Incentives for Other Blocks

- Other blocks in the state of Telangana have also performed well and will receive financial support under the ABP:
 - **Kannaigudem block in Mulugu district:** ₹2 crore
 - **Narva block in Narayanpet district:** ₹1.5 crore
 - **Pembi block in Nirmal district:** ₹1 crore
- To qualify for these incentives, the respective blocks are required to submit a **plan of action/project proposal** to **NITI Aayog** by **May 25, 2025**.
- The proposal will outline how these funds will be utilized to improve governance and meet the targets set by the ABP.

Strategic Utilisation of Funds

- Mahabubabad District Collector, **Adwait Kumar Singh**, expressed pride in Gangaram

Block's performance, stating that the allocated funds would be **strategically and transparently utilized**.

- The funds will be used to ensure that the block aligns with the five **key themes** of the ABP and targets improvement in the **40 KPIs**. Key focus areas for Gangaram Block's development include:
 - **Maternal and Childcare:** Addressing issues related to maternal health, infant mortality, and nutrition.
 - **Tuberculosis Eradication:** Strengthening efforts for the elimination of tuberculosis in the block.
 - **Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Screening:** Focusing on screening and early detection of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and hypertension.
 - **Improvement of Farmer Indicators:** Enhancing agriculture-related KPIs, supporting farmers, and improving their livelihoods.
 - **Quality Education:** Ensuring better educational outcomes, especially for rural children.
 - **Anganwadi Workers:** Empowering Anganwadi workers to identify and address **malnutrition** in children, as well as supporting **maternal health**.

Previous Achievement: Tiriyani Block's Success

- In the **first Delta Rankings** of the ABP, **Tiriyani Block** from **Kumuram Bheem Asifabad district** secured the top position. This demonstrates the sustained efforts and achievements under the ABP in Telangana.
- The success of both **Gangaram Block** and **Tiriyani Block** highlights the state's commitment to focusing on the **most backward regions** to ensure they are not left behind in the broader development trajectory.

Implications and Future Outlook

- Gangaram Block's performance and its financial incentives mark a **significant step forward** in improving governance and infrastructure in Telangana's backward

areas.

- With a **focused approach** on maternal health, education, and agriculture, the block is poised to make substantial progress in the coming months.
- Additionally, the ABP provides a **model for other states** to replicate, showcasing how targeted interventions, financial incentives, and a **data-driven approach** can lead to measurable improvements in governance and quality of life in underdeveloped areas.
- The continued success of the ABP will depend on the **effective utilization** of the funds, the alignment of development activities with **NITI Aayog's KPIs**, and the **active involvement** of local authorities and communities.
- If these objectives are met, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana can serve as **models of best practices** for other states, accelerating inclusive growth across India.
- **safety**, protect **consumer health**, and support **scientific farming practices**.
- It aligns with the goals of the **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** to ensure chemical-free and hygienic food across the country.

Telangana's heat divide: Why some districts are facing extreme temperatures than others?

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telanganas-heat-divide-why-some-districts-are-facing-extreme-temperatures-than-others/article69478125.ece>

TSPSC Syllabus Relevance: Environment and Ecology

Context:

Telangana's Heatwave Action Plan (HAP)

Why in News

- In 2024, Telangana's heatwave distribution

varied, with Nalgonda experiencing 81 heatwave days, while Hyderabad recorded none, as per the Telangana Heatwave Action Plan 2025.

Introduction to Telangana's Heatwave Action Plan (HAP) 2025

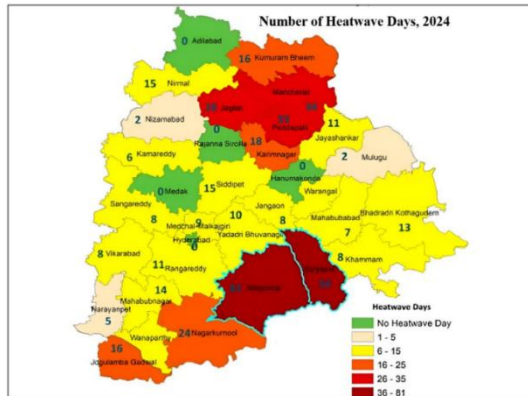
- Telangana, like many regions in India, faces severe summer heat due to its diverse topography and climatic conditions.
- The **Telangana Heatwave Action Plan (HAP)** was first introduced in 2016, in response to guidelines from the **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** and the **Telangana High Court**.
- The plan aims to prepare the state for heatwaves, mitigate their effects, and provide actionable measures to protect vulnerable populations.
- The **HAP 2025** update reveals stark contrasts in the **frequency** of heatwave days across different districts, particularly in 2024, highlighting the **uneven distribution** of heatwaves.
- Some regions, such as **Nalgonda** and **Suryapet**, experienced prolonged heatwaves, while other areas like **Hyderabad** and **Rajanna Sircilla** remained largely unaffected.

Key Findings from the 2024 Heatwave Report

1. **Heatwave Duration in Districts:**
 - **Nalgonda** faced the highest number of heatwave days — a staggering **81 days**, which is the highest in the state.
 - **Suryapet** recorded **54 heatwave days**.
 - On the other hand, **Hyderabad**, **Hanamkonda**, **Medak**, **Adilabad**, and **Rajanna Sircilla** recorded **no heatwave days** in 2024.
2. **Climatic and Topographical Influences:**
 - The report attributes the **uneven distribution of heatwaves** to **topographical and climatic differences** across the state.
 - **Eastern and northern districts** like **Mancherla**, **Jagtial**, and **Peddapalli** consistently experience **more than 10 heatwave days annually** due to their

lower elevation and increased exposure to high temperatures.

- In contrast, the western-central districts, including **Hyderabad, MedchalMalkajgiri, and Rangareddy**, are at **higher elevations**, where temperatures are generally **cooler**, resulting in fewer heatwave days.



- **Heatwave Classification and Criteria:**
 - According to the HAP report, **heatwave conditions** are declared when:
 - The maximum temperature in the plains reaches **40°C or more**.
 - In coastal areas, it is **37°C or more**.
 - In hilly regions, the threshold is **30°C or more**.
- This is consistent with national definitions used for heatwave classification.
- 4. **Use of Weather Data and Forecasting:**
 - Telangana uses data from **1,089 automated weather stations** across the state to track heatwave risks and provide **district-level forecasts** and advisories.
- The data is collected to issue warnings and ensure that preventive measures are taken in areas with the highest risk.

Vulnerability Mapping and Mandal Classification

The report outlines the **heatwave vulnerability map** created by the **Telangana State Development Planning Society (TGDPs)**. This map categorizes **mandals (administrative units)** into five tiers based on their vulnerability to heatwaves:

1. **Severe:** Six mandals fall under the 'Severe' category, indicating areas that are highly vulnerable to extreme heat.

2. **Critical:** 106 mandals fall under the 'Critical' category, reflecting regions that experience regular and intense heatwaves.
3. **Semi-Critical:** 189 mandals are categorized as 'Semi-Critical,' indicating moderate heatwave risks.
4. **Vigilant:** These areas are at lower risk, but monitoring and preparedness are still necessary.
5. **Safe:** These mandals face minimal risk from heatwaves and are relatively insulated from extreme temperatures.

Over **16.18 million people** live in the **Severe, Critical, and Semi-Critical** zones, making it essential to focus on these areas for heatwave mitigation.

Revisions and Annual Updates to the Plan

The **Telangana Heatwave Action Plan (HAP)** has been revised regularly since its inception, with updates in **2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2024**. These revisions are based on feedback from various stakeholders, including the **NDMA, scientific institutions**, and the **India Meteorological Department (IMD)**.

For the year **2025**, the **Revenue (Disaster Management) Department** of Telangana has initiated a further revision of the heatwave preparedness plan. This revision involves a **collaborative effort** from various stakeholders, including:

- **District administration** (across 33 districts)
- **Line departments** (such as health and agriculture)
- **IMD** (India Meteorological Department)
- **TGDPs** (Telangana State Development Planning Society)
- **UNICEF Hyderabad Field Office** (focusing on vulnerable populations such as children).

Conclusion

- The **Telangana Heatwave Action Plan (HAP)** plays a crucial role in protecting the state's residents from the adverse impacts of heatwaves.
- By using weather data, mapping vulnerability, and issuing district-level advisories, the state is taking significant steps toward mitigating the risks posed by extreme heat.

- The ongoing revisions and collaboration with various departments ensure that the state remains prepared to handle heatwaves in the coming years.

Mall Gram Panchayat wins ₹1 crore assistance under Atma Nirbhar Panchayat special award

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/mall-gram-panchayat-wins-1-crore-assistance-under-atma-nirbhar-panchayat-special-award/article69483273.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Atma Nirbhar Panchayat Special Award (ANPSA)

Why in News

- Mall Gram Panchayat of Telangana has won the first prize in the **Atma Nirbhar Panchayat Special Award (ANPSA)** for exemplary efforts in local revenue generation and self-reliant governance.

Introduction

- Mall Gram Panchayat of Yacharam Mandal in Ranga Reddy District, Telangana, has been awarded the **first prize in the Atma Nirbhar Panchayat Special Award (ANPSA)** category.
- It is awarded for its exemplary efforts in promoting **financial self-reliance** and generating **own sources of revenue**.

About the Award

- The **Atma Nirbhar Panchayat Special Award (ANPSA)** is a recognition under the broader framework of incentivizing Panchayati Raj Institutions for best practices.
- The award will be presented on **National Panchayati Raj Day (NPRD)**, observed annually on **April 24**, during an event in Bihar.
- The **financial incentives** for the top three Panchayats are:

- ₹1 crore for 1st position,
- ₹75 lakh for 2nd position,
- ₹50 lakh for 3rd position.

- Winners will also receive **trophies and certificates**.



Key Highlights: Mall Gram Panchayat

- Population:** 3,211 (Census 2011).
- Revenue Generation:**
 - ₹67 lakh in FY 2023–24,
 - ₹71 lakh in FY 2024–25,
 - Projected ₹82 lakh in FY 2025–26.
- Revenue earned through **tax collections and other local sources**.
- The award will be received by a team led by **District Panchayat Officer Suresh Mohan** and **Zilla Parishad CEO Krishna Reddy**.

Other Awardees

- Second Place:** Hatbadra Gram Panchayat, Mayurbhanj District, Odisha.
- Third Place:** Gollapudi Gram Panchayat, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh.

Telangana Panchayat Raj Act, 2018

- The **Telangana Panchayat Raj Act, 2018** was enacted to enhance democratic decentralization and improve rural governance.
- It provides a framework for a **three-tier Panchayati Raj system** in the state comprising **Gram Panchayats, Mandal Praja Parishads, and Zilla Praja Parishads**.

National Panchayati Raj Day

- NPRD is observed every year on **April 24** to commemorate the **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992**, which came into effect in 1993.
- This amendment institutionalized

Panchayati Raj as a three-tier system of local self-governance in rural India.

- **Significance:**
The day highlights the importance of **decentralized governance**, **grassroots democracy**, and the empowerment of **Gram Sabhas** and **rural communities**.
- **First Observed:** It was first celebrated in 2010.
- **Key Objective:**
To recognize the critical role of Panchayats in **inclusive development**, **rural welfare**, and effective **last-mile governance**.

Significance

- The recognition under ANPSA serves as a **benchmark for village-level governance reforms** and **self-sufficiency in local development**.
- Reflects the successful **decentralization of power** and the spirit of **fiscal federalism** at the grassroots level.
- Encourages other Panchayats to adopt **innovative revenue-generation models** for sustainable development.

Southern States to set up regional cyber crime coordination cell

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/southern-states-to-set-up-regional-cyber-crime-coordination-cell/article69483139.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Cybercrime coordination cell

Why in News

Telangana hosted a regional DGPs conference to enhance cybercrime coordination among southern states through a dedicated regional cyber coordination cell.

Introduction

- In a significant move to bolster regional cyber security infrastructure and combat rising

digital threats, a **dedicated regional coordination cell** will soon be set up for the **southern States of India**.

- This decision was announced during the **Regional Quarterly Meeting of Southern State DGPs Coordination Conference** held in **Hyderabad**.

Participating States and Territories

Senior police officials from the following participated in the high-level meeting:

- Telangana
- Andhra Pradesh
- Karnataka
- Tamil Nadu
- Kerala
- Puducherry
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Objectives of the Coordination Cell

The proposed coordination cell aims to:

- **Streamline investigations** across States.
- **Share real-time intelligence** to act swiftly against cyber offenders.
- **Fast-track legal action** and procedural responses.
- Promote **cross-border collaboration** in the southern region.



Key Priorities Highlighted

1. **Enhanced Inter-State and Inter-Sectoral Coordination:**
Emphasis was laid on seamless cooperation between police departments, financial institutions, and telecom service providers.
2. **Tackling Cryptocurrency Misuse:**
Deliberations focused on the increasing use of cryptocurrencies in cybercrimes and the need for regulatory and enforcement measures.

3. **Leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI):** AI-driven tools were proposed to identify, predict, and neutralize cyber threats. Suggestions were made for cross-state AI integration and data sharing mechanisms.
4. **Public Awareness and Cyber Training:** States recognized the need for robust public outreach programs and cyber hygiene training for both citizens and law enforcement personnel.
5. **Legal and Procedural Reforms:** Participants discussed bridging legal gaps to ensure **timely justice** and effective prosecution in cyber crime cases.

Significance

- The initiative is a **regional extension of the national cyber strategy**, complementing the efforts of I4C under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- It reflects India's growing focus on **cybersecurity as a critical component of national security**.
- Sets a precedent for other regions to establish **regional cyber coordination mechanisms**.

Way Forward

- **Institutionalize the regional cell** with a clear mandate, SOPs, and funding.
- Regular **joint cyber drills and simulations** to build preparedness.
- Strengthen **legal and investigative frameworks** through interstate collaboration.

Scientist hailing from Telangana to head CSIR-AMPRI (Bhopal)

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/scientist-hailing-from-telangana-to-head-csir-ampri-bhopal/article69487167.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Appointments

Context:

Director of CSIR-AMPRI, Bhopal

Why in News

- Dr. Thallada Bhaskar, Chief Scientist at CSIR-IIP, Dehradun, has been appointed as the Director of CSIR-AMPRI, Bhopal, by Prime Minister of India.



Introduction

- Dr. Thallada Bhaskar, the Chief Scientist and Head of the Material Resource Efficiency Division at the CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP), Dehradun, has been appointed as the Director of CSIR-Advanced Materials and Processes Research Institute (CSIR-AMPRI), Bhopal.
- His appointment was made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, marking a significant milestone in his career in the field of scientific research and development.

Academic and Professional Background

- Hailing from Thurpugudem Village in Suryapet District, Telangana, Dr. Bhaskar has made remarkable contributions to the field of **chemistry and materials science**.
- He completed his M.Sc. in Chemistry from Osmania University, followed by a Ph.D. from the CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (CSIR-IICT), Hyderabad.
- Dr. Bhaskar has specialized in **material resource efficiency**, which has significant applications in **sustainable technologies** and the **development of advanced materials**.

Contributions and Achievements

- Dr. Bhaskar has been recognized for his significant contributions to **technology innovation**, receiving the prestigious National Award for Technology Innovation

from the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

- He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (UK) and has been acknowledged by the Telangana Academy of Sciences as well as several other international scientific societies.

Significance of His Appointment

- Dr. Bhaskar's appointment as the Director of CSIR-AMPRI comes at a time when the country is prioritizing advancements in materials science, particularly in sustainable and energy-efficient materials for various industrial applications.
- As the head of CSIR-AMPRI, he is expected to play a pivotal role in furthering research and development in advanced materials, processing technologies, and environmentally-friendly innovations that contribute to national growth and technological self-reliance.

About CSIR

- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is one of the largest and most prominent research and development organizations in India.
- Established in 1942, CSIR operates under the Ministry of Science and Technology and aims to drive innovations in various fields including science, technology, industry, and engineering.
- CSIR conducts cutting-edge research in areas like aerospace, biotechnology, environmental science, and materials science, among others, contributing significantly to India's technological self-reliance and industrial growth.

CSIR-AMPRI's Role

- The CSIR-Advanced Materials and Processes Research Institute (CSIR-AMPRI) in Bhopal is a premier institute under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- It focuses on the development of advanced materials and technologies that contribute to the nation's industrial growth, energy sustainability, and technological advancements.

Hyderabad Metro to launch 'Tutem' mobile app to embolden women's safety

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/hyderabad-metro-to-launch-tutem-mobile-app-to-embolden-womens-safety/article69487395.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Transport

Context:

TUTEM (Technologies for Urban Transit to Enhance Mobility and Safe Accessibility).

Why in News

- Hyderabad Metro Rail (HMR) is set to launch TUTEM (Technologies for Urban Transit to Enhance Mobility and Safe Accessibility).

Introduction

- The Hyderabad Metro Rail (HMR) is set to launch a new technology-driven mobile application called TUTEM (Technologies for Urban Transit to Enhance Mobility and Safe Accessibility).
- This initiative is specifically designed to improve the safety and accessibility of metro travel, with a particular focus on women's safety during their journeys.
- The app, which is in the final stages of development, aims to ensure safe and seamless travel for women commuters by offering features to alert authorities and loved ones in case of emergencies.

Key Features of TUTEM

- The TUTEM app will include two distinct components: the Driver App and the User App, both geared towards enhancing the safety and comfort of metro passengers.
- While the app primarily covers metro rail travel, it also integrates modes of transport such as walking, two-wheelers, cars, buses, and auto-rickshaws, ensuring that women travellers are provided with a safe journey from their starting point to their final destination.

- A standout feature of the app is its **emergency alert system**, which allows users to notify the police control center, as well as their family members and relatives, if they feel unsafe during any part of their journey.
- This function aims to provide an added layer of security for women, especially in late-night travel scenarios.

Collaborative Development and Support

- The app's development is being undertaken with financial assistance from the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**, with contributions from **BITS Pilani-Hyderabad, Hyderabad Police, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Bombay, and Hyderabad Metro Rail (HMR)**.
- The initiative is being implemented under the guidance of **Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy**, in response to growing concerns over public safety, particularly for women.

Commitment to Innovation and Safety

- At the **user workshop** held at the **BITS Pilani Hyderabad campus**, **N.V.S. Reddy**, the Managing Director of **Hyderabad Metro Rail**, emphasized the role of public transportation in addressing the complex traffic challenges in urban areas.
- TUTEM will significantly enhance the safety of women travellers and contribute to the larger goal of ensuring safe, efficient, and environmentally-friendly travel across the city.
- In addition to the app, HMR continues to focus on innovative solutions to improve the metro system's operational efficiency and environmental sustainability.
- With nearly **half a million passengers** utilizing the metro service daily, HMR is committed to promoting public safety and social welfare through technological advancements.

Future Plans and Expansion

- The TUTEM app is seen as a pilot project that could eventually be extended to other cities facing similar transportation and safety issues. Experts from **BITS Pilani, IIT Bombay, and IIT Kharagpur** are working to refine the app and enhance its capabilities for

wider deployment.

- The **ADB** is also closely involved in the initiative, recognizing its potential to address socio-economic challenges through innovative engineering and technology solutions.
- **V. Ram Gopal Rao**, Vice Chancellor of **BITS Pilani**, highlighted the app's unique focus on women's safety during late-night hours, and emphasized the university's role in ensuring the technical robustness of the platform.

Conclusion

- With the launch of the **TUTEM** app, Hyderabad Metro Rail is taking a significant step towards ensuring the safety and security of women in urban public transportation.
- This initiative is an example of how **technology** can be leveraged to create smarter, safer, and more inclusive transport systems for the future.

Telangana had more preventable C-sections among southern States

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/telangana-had-more-preventable-c-sections-among-southern-states/article69491894.ece#:~:text=The%20percentage%20of%20preventable%20C%2Dsections%20among%20overall%20C%2Dsection,and%207%25%20for%20Tamil%20Nadu>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Public Health

Context:

Women Health in Telangana

Why in News

- A recent study revealed that preventable C-sections constitute a significant portion of deliveries in southern India, with Telangana having the highest percentage and Kerala the lowest.

Introduction

- A recent study published in *PLOS ONE* on April 23, 2025, sheds light on the prevalence and impact of preventable Caesarean sections (C-sections) in the southern states of

India – Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.

- The research, which included 21,499 women in the reproductive age group (15-49 years), found that preventable C-sections constitute between **3.1% and 8.4%** of all deliveries in these states.
- With **6.2%** of the total deliveries being preventable C-sections, the findings highlight significant public health concerns, especially given the potential long-term consequences for mothers and infants.

Key Findings

1. Prevalence of Preventable C-sections

- The study found that the overall percentage of C-sections across these five states ranged from **31.5% to 60.7%**. Notably, **Kerala** had the lowest proportion of preventable C-sections at **3.1%**, while **Telangana** recorded the highest at **8.4%**.
- In the national context, **preventable C-sections** were defined as those conducted without any medical necessity such as breech presentation, transverse lie, or excessive bleeding. These were primarily determined based on the **gestational age, timing of the decision** for the C-section, and **absence of complications during delivery**.



2. Impact of Preventable C-sections

- The study emphasizes that preventable C-sections place an unnecessary burden on both the healthcare system and the health of the mother and child.
- These procedures increase the risk of **post-operative complications, intraoperative risks, and inefficient use of healthcare resources**.
- Moreover, they contribute to **high out-of-pocket expenses**, especially when carried out

in private healthcare facilities.

3. Regional Variations

- The southern states, particularly **Kerala**, showed a high proportion of planned C-sections, with **73.26%** of C-sections in Kerala being decided prior to the onset of labor.
- This reflects both **high-quality antenatal care** and the growing trend of **elective C-sections** in the state.
- In contrast, **Karnataka** had about **45%** of its C-sections decided after the onset of labor, suggesting a more varied approach to C-section decisions.
- Other states such as **Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana** exhibited varying trends with complications like **excessive bleeding** and **prolonged labor** being common among C-section deliveries.

4. Factors Influencing Preventable C-sections

- Age and Education:** The study found that **mothers aged 25-34 years** and those with **higher education** were more likely to undergo preventable C-sections.
- Primiparas** (first-time mothers) were particularly vulnerable, as **37%** of mothers were first-time mothers, with **18%** of them opting for a C-section delivery.
- Socio-economic Factors:** Women from **richer backgrounds**, those with **higher levels of antenatal care**, and those who were **unemployed** had a higher likelihood of undergoing a preventable C-section.
- Additionally, women from **nuclear families** had a greater probability of opting for this mode of delivery.

5. Healthcare Facility Types

- The **private sector** was found to be a major contributor to preventable C-sections.
- Women who delivered in **private healthcare facilities** were nearly **three times** more likely to undergo preventable C-sections compared to those who delivered in **public healthcare facilities**.
- The **private healthcare sector** accounted for **29.6%** of all institutional deliveries, but it recorded a much higher percentage of C-sections (**48%**) compared to the public sector.
- Over time, the incidence of C-sections in

private hospitals has increased significantly, as noted by the **17% rise** in C-sections from NFHS-4 to NFHS-5.

Implications of the Study

1. Quality of Care and Awareness

- The study calls attention to the need for improving **clinical guidelines** around C-sections to reduce unnecessary interventions.
- While antenatal care is critical for ensuring the health of both mother and child, the study suggests that there should be more focus on reducing **elective** and **non-medically necessary** C-sections, particularly in private healthcare settings.

2. Improving Antenatal Care

- The study also highlights the **importance of full antenatal care**, which was shown to be low in **Andhra Pradesh** and **Telangana**.
- Ensuring that women have access to adequate prenatal services is crucial for reducing complications that lead to unnecessary C-sections.
- Full antenatal care coverage has been found to be strongly associated with better delivery outcomes, including reduced rates of preventable C-sections.

3. Policy Recommendations

- **Regulation of C-sections in private facilities:** The study suggests tighter regulation on **C-sections** in the private sector, where a high percentage of preventable procedures are occurring.
- **Education for healthcare providers:** Educating healthcare providers, especially in regions with high rates of unnecessary C-sections, is essential. This includes training on **evidence-based practices** and **informed consent** procedures for patients.
- **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Public health initiatives should focus on educating women, particularly in rural and economically disadvantaged areas, about the risks associated with unnecessary C-sections and the importance of **informed decision-making**.

Conclusion

- The study provides crucial insights into the high incidence of **preventable C-sections** in

southern India, particularly in states with relatively high institutional delivery rates.

- While these states, especially Kerala, boast of high-quality maternal healthcare, the rising trend of elective C-sections, especially in private hospitals, necessitates urgent attention.
- Policymakers, healthcare providers, and communities must work together to reduce unnecessary interventions and promote **safe delivery practices** that prioritize the health and well-being of mothers and infants.

TAC approves Sitarama lift irrigation, Sitamma Sagar projects for Telangana

Source: The New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Apr/25/tac-approves-sitarama-lift-irrigation-sitamma-sagar-projects-for-telangana>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Irrigation and Agriculture in Telangana

Context:

Integrated Sitarama Lift Irrigation and Sitamma Sagar Multipurpose Project

Why in News

- The Integrated Sitarama Lift Irrigation Project (SRLIP) and Sitamma Sagar Multipurpose Project in Telangana, approved by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS).

Introduction

- The **Integrated Sitarama Lift Irrigation Project (SRLIP)** and **Sitamma Sagar Multipurpose Project** have received approval from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS).
- This clearance marks a significant milestone for Telangana, benefiting both agriculture and drinking water supply across various districts, including **Bhadrachalam**, **Kothagudem**,

Khammam, and Mahbubabad.

Key Project Details

- **Water Utilisation:** The project will utilize 67.05 TMC (Thousand Million Cubic Feet) of water.
- **Irrigation Coverage:** It aims to irrigate 7.87 lakh acres of farmland.
- **Drinking Water Supply:** The project will also provide drinking water to the region through lift irrigation.
- **Pump Houses:** It will use 11 pump houses with a total capacity of 757 MW.
- **Completion Timeline:** The project is expected to be completed by the Rabi season of 2026.

Economic Viability

- **Benefit-Cost (BC) Ratio:** The project has a BC ratio of 1.57, indicating its strong economic feasibility.
- **Total Project Cost:** The total cost is Rs 19,955 crore (as per June 2023 price levels), including Rs 927 crore allocated for the hydropower component.

Project Features

- **Barrage Length:** The barrage will have a total length of 1,332.75 metres.
- **Flood Discharge Mechanism:** The project will feature 67 radial gates, including 55 vents of 15m x 15m and 12 vents of 15m x 16m.
- **Storage Capacity:** It will have a storage capacity of 36.57 TMC at a Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of 63 metres.
- **Hydropower Generation:** The hydropower generation component will have a total capacity of 282.80 MW through seven units of 40 MW and one unit of 2.8 MW.

Progress and Development

- As of January 2025, approximately 57% of the project works have been completed with an expenditure of Rs 11,320 crore.
- This indicates significant progress, and the project is on track to be completed as planned.

Economic and Social Impact

This multipurpose project is designed to:

- **Enhance Agricultural Productivity:** By stabilizing irrigation under existing schemes like Nagarjuna Sagar, Wyra, and Paleru.
- **Improve Livelihoods:** The project will stabilize the agricultural landscape and improve water accessibility, which in turn will benefit local farmers and communities.

Approval and Coordination

- The 157th TAC meeting had previously withheld approval, citing concerns about structural issues at the Medigadda Barrage.
- However, after further review and input from the Central Water Commission (CWC), the project received clearance during the 158th TAC meeting.

Conclusion

- This project will significantly impact the agricultural and economic landscape of Telangana by improving water distribution and generating hydropower, in addition to creating positive ripple effects on local communities.

50 women change-makers receive special awards

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/50-women-change-makers-receive-special-awards/article69502032.ece#:~:text=The%20Telangana%20Chamber%20of%20Events,creative%20arts%20and%20social%20change>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and Honours

Context:

Stri Shakti Awards 2025

Why in News

- The Stri Shakti Awards 2025, organised by the Telangana Chamber of Events Industry (TCEI), recognised the contributions of 50 women across various sectors.

Introduction

- The *Telangana Chamber of Events Industry*

(TCEI) organised the prestigious **Stri Shakti Awards 2025** on April 28, 2025, at HICC, Madhapur, Hyderabad.

- The event celebrated the achievements of **50 distinguished women** across various sectors, including **hospitality, creative arts, entrepreneurship, and social change**.



Award Categories:

- The awards were conferred under four distinctive categories:
- Stri Ratna Award** – Highest recognition, awarded to prominent national women leaders.
- Stri Murti Award**
- Stri Shakti Award**
- SHG Women Segment Award** – For grassroots women achievers, including members of Self-Help Groups.

Partnership with SERP:

- The **Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP)** partnered with TCEI to recognise **grassroots-level women entrepreneurs**.
- SERP CEO **Divya Devarajan** announced training programs in **event management** for women, equipping them with practical skills to enter and thrive in the event industry.

Significance:

- Recognition of Women's Contribution:** The awards served as a platform to highlight the **multi-sectoral impact** of women leaders—from entrepreneurship and hospitality to arts and rural development.
- Institutional Support for Women's Skilling:** The collaboration between SERP and TCEI reflects an innovative **public-private partnership** to support **capacity-building for women**, especially in non-traditional

sectors like event management.

- Promotion of Creative Economy:** By spotlighting the **Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI)**, the event drew attention to a vital but often under-recognised sector that can contribute to **employment generation, especially for women and youth**.

Linkages with Government Schemes:

- Indira Mahila Shakti Scheme:** A flagship scheme of the Telangana Government aimed at **economic and social empowerment of women**, including access to finance, skill development, and entrepreneurship support.
- SHG Support Initiatives under SERP:** Empowering **Self-Help Groups** through upskilling, entrepreneurship, and access to markets.

Conclusion:

- The **Stri Shakti Awards 2025** are not just a celebration of individual excellence but a symbol of **collective women empowerment**.
- By aligning recognition with **policy support and training opportunities**, the initiative sets an example of **inclusive and sustainable development** driven by empowered women across all social strata.

Shaji N. Karun, creator of everlasting images, passes away

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/shaji-n-karun-creator-of-everlasting-images-passes-away/article69501683.ece#:text=Karun%2C%20who%20passed%20away%20in,for%20close%20to%2030%20films>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Art and Culture

Context:

Shaji N. Karun (1951–2025): Legacy of a Visual Poet

Why in News

- Shaji N. Karun, a renowned Indian filmmaker and cinematographer, is celebrated for his visually compelling and

emotionally rich films.

Introduction

- Shaji N. Karun, an eminent Indian filmmaker and cinematographer, passed away in Thiruvananthapuram at the age of 73 after a prolonged illness.
- Despite a limited filmography, his works left an indelible mark on Indian and world cinema. His films are celebrated for their visual lyricism, emotional depth, and international acclaim.



Key Contributions:

1. Cinematography Milestones:

- **Kanchana Sita (1977)** and **Kummatty (1979)** with **G. Aravindan** showcased his early visual brilliance.
- Collaborations with **K.G. George** in *Lekhayude Maranam Oru Flashback* and *Panchavadippalam* highlighted his technical excellence and storytelling finesse.
- Worked with legendary filmmakers like **Padmarajan**, **M.T. Vasudevan Nair**, and **Venu**.

2. As a Director:

- **Piravi (1988)**: A cinematic landmark portraying a father's grief during the Emergency era; won:
 - **Camera d'Or (Cannes)**
 - **Silver Leopard (Locarno)**
- **Swaham (1994)**: Explored familial grief and was selected for the **Palme d'Or** at Cannes.
- **Vanaprastham (1999)**: Featured Mohanlal as a Kathakali artist; selected for **Un Certain Regard** at Cannes.
- **Kutty Srank (2010)**: Experimented with multiple perspectives and won **National Awards**.

- Later films: *Swapaanam* (2013) and *Oolu* (2018) did not match earlier acclaim.

Institutional Legacy:

- Co-drafted the model for the **Kerala State Chalachitra Academy** – the first such state initiative in India.
- Played a key role in initiating the **International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK)**.
- Chaired the **Kerala State Film Development Corporation** (2019–2025), although his tenure faced criticism over inclusivity in government film projects.

Awards & Recognition:

- Multiple **international awards** (Cannes, Locarno).
- Received the **J.C. Daniel Award** (Kerala's highest honour in cinema) shortly before his death.

Themes in His Films:

- **Sorrow, loss, and human resilience** were recurring motifs.
- Deep engagement with **social realities**, including caste, poverty, and institutional oppression.
- Unique **visual language** that communicated emotions even in the absence of dialogue.

K Ramakrishna Rao appointed as Telangana's new Chief Secretary

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Apr/28/k-ramakrishna-rao-appointed-as-telanganas-new-chief-secretary>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Bureaucratic Reshuffle and Appointments in Telangana

Why in News

- Senior IAS officer K. Ramakrishna Rao has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Telangana, succeeding Santhi Kumari, who is retiring on April 30, 2025

Key Development

- **K. Ramakrishna Rao Appointed Chief Secretary:** Senior IAS officer K. Ramakrishna Rao has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Telangana, succeeding Santhi Kumari, who is retiring on April 30, 2025.
- **Assumes Charge on May 1, 2025:** Ramakrishna is expected to assume office as Chief Secretary on May 1, 2025.
- **Continues as Special Chief Secretary of Finance:** In addition to his new role, he will retain his position as Special Chief Secretary of Finance, holding full additional charge.

Profile of K. Ramakrishna Rao

- **Academic Background:** Ramakrishna is an engineering graduate from IIT Kanpur, holds a master's degree from IIT Delhi, and an MBA in investments.
- **Key Role in Finance:** He has prepared 14 state Budgets and played a key role in mobilizing funds for various welfare schemes under both the BRS and Congress governments.

Constitutional and Legal Position



- The Chief Secretary is the top-most executive officer and the senior-most IAS officer in the Telangana State Government.
- Appointed under the "pleasure of the Chief Minister", not by any constitutional article directly.
- Functions as the administrative head of the State Secretariat and ex-officio Secretary to the Cabinet.

Role and Responsibilities

- Acts as the chief coordinator among various departments of the state government.
- Principal advisor to the Chief Minister on policy implementation and administrative matters.

- Supervises and coordinates the work of all secretaries and heads of departments.
- Maintains inter-departmental coordination and ensures compliance with Cabinet decisions.
- Plays a crucial role in crisis management, law and order review, and disaster response.
- Oversees the promotion, posting, and service records of state cadre officers in consultation with the CM and DoPT (GoI).

Powers and Status

- Has no independent statutory powers, but derives authority from administrative conventions and service rules.
- Serves as the link between the political executive and permanent bureaucracy.
- Represents the state in inter-state meetings, central government consultations, and national committees.

Appointment and Tenure

- Appointed by the Chief Minister of Telangana in consultation with the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) and Chief Minister's Secretariat.
- Usually chosen from the senior-most serving IAS officers of the state cadre.
- No fixed tenure; serves at the pleasure of the state government.

Senior IAS officer Jayesh Ranjan assumes charge as Telangana's Investment Cell and SPEED CEO

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/senior-ias-officer-jayesh-ranjan-assumes-charge-as-telanganas-investment-cell-and-speed-ceo/article69505058.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

CEO of Industry & Investment Cell and SPEED Initiative

Why in News

- Jayesh Ranjan, a senior IAS officer in Telangana, assumed charge as CEO of the Industry & Investment Cell and the SPEED initiative in the Chief Minister's Office

Introduction

- Jayesh Ranjan**, a senior IAS officer in Telangana, assumed charge as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of the **Industry & Investment Cell** and the **Speed Proactive Efficient and Effective Delivery (SPEED)** initiative in the **Chief Minister's Office** as part of the latest **bureaucratic reshuffle**.
- In addition to his new roles, Mr. Ranjan has been given **Full Additional Charge (FAC)** as the **Special Chief Secretary** of the **Telangana Youth Advancement, Tourism and Culture** department.

Previous Role and Experience

- Mr. Ranjan previously headed the **State Information Technology (IT)** and **Industries** departments for nearly a **decade**.
- He was actively involved in attracting investments to the state, having led official delegations to several countries. His most recent visit was to **Japan**, alongside the Chief Minister, as part of his duties in his previous role.



SPEED Initiative: Smart, Proactive, Efficient, and Effective Delivery

Overview

- Launched:** August 2024 by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.
- Objective:** Accelerate the completion of 19 critical infrastructure and social development projects across Telangana.
- Approach:** Mission-mode execution with direct oversight from the Chief Minister.

Key Features

- Personal Monitoring:** The Chief Minister conducts monthly reviews to ensure timely progress.
- Dedicated Online Portal:** The Planning Department maintains a real-time tracking system for project updates.
- Departmental Action Plans:** Each department prepares specific plans with clear timelines and milestones.
- Inter-Departmental Coordination:** Streamlines processes by reducing bureaucratic delays and enhancing collaboration.

Priority Projects under SPEED

- Musi Riverfront Development
- Expansion of Hyderabad Metro Rail
- Development of Satellite Towns
- Reorganization of GHMC (Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation)
- Construction of Regional Ring Road (RRR)
- Development of Elevated Corridors in Hyderabad
- Construction of New Airports in Districts
- Establishment of Telangana Bhavan in New Delhi
- Implementation of Mahila Shakti Scheme
- Construction of Cooperative Buildings
- Development of Residential School Complexes
- Institutional Development of Amma Adarsh Schools Committees
- Establishment of Advanced Technology Centres at ITIs
- Construction of New Osmania Hospital
- Setting up of 15 New Nursing and 28 Paramedical Colleges
- Promotion of Health Tourism
- Development of Ecotourism Projects
- Creation of Temple Circuits for Tourism
- Implementation of Anti-Drugs Strategy