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Telangana News Summary

TOPICS

- Telangana Formation Day 2025..... 4
- Telangana sees 11 per cent dip in cybercrime cases 5
- Telangana Industries Dept Gets ISO Certification for Digital Reforms 6
- 16% of young women in Telangana married before 18 7
- Swift Women Action Team to manage female protestors..... 9
- Telangana marks 11 years of statehood with pride 10
- ICRISAT launches Agri co-op centre for Global South..... 10
- Telangana handloom weavers to get wage incentives..... 12
- Telangana Horticultural University leads GI push for Armour turmeric 14
- Telangana Clears Metro 2B, DA Hike & ₹33K Cr for Roads 15
- Ram Chander Naik to be Deputy Speaker 17
- Surgical technique developed by OGH doctor gets international recognition 18
- T Wallet clocks 16 lakh registered users in 8 years 19
- World's first extreme heat-tolerant pigeonpea developed via speed breeding 20
- Kakatiya-era sculpture of warriors unearthed in Telangana's Polasa..... 21
- MeeSeva crosses 20 crore transactions in Telangana 22
- App-based gig platform exclusively for women 24
- Deal signed to provide Rs 1crore insurance cover for power staff 25
- Telangana building norms set for an overhaul 26
- Bharat Biotech in-licences GSK's Shigella vaccine 28
- TGSRTC gets its first woman driver..... 30
- Earliest known reference to Telangana in a 600-year-old stone inscription in Tellapur, Hyderabad..... 31
- Global Young Scientists summit concludes at IITH 32
- FLO's rural skill centre to empower women opened in Bhongir..... 34
- Telangana Gaddar Film Awards shine bright with star-studded ceremony..... 35
- Tensions between Telugu states escalate over Godavari-Banakacharla project proposed by Andhra..... 36
- Warangal students win \$5,000 in prestigious Generative AI Hackathon..... 37
- BSNL soft-launches SIM-less, 100% home-grown 5G fixed-wireless service 'Quantum 5G FWA' 38

- **Telangana's Kodad find biggest collection of Vengi Chalukya copper plates..... 40**
- **ALEAP president shortlisted for UN Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize..... 42**
- **India Post helps transform geolocation with DIGIPIN..... 43**
- **Telangana records over 50,000 new cancer cases every year..... 45**
- **GI application filed for Balanagar Custard Apple 46**
- **Telangana's VeriFast app sets national benchmark in passport verification 47**
- **Telangana tops India in child labour rescues, arrests 49**
- **Telangana govt integrating AI into TG-iPASS industrial system to enhance transparency, speed of approval 51**
- **Centre, Telangana join hands for 3,245 acres Zaheerabad Industrial Area project 52**
- **Muslim woman's right to Khula is absolute54**
- **Telangana CM launches EAGLE task force for united fight against drug abuse..... 56**
- **National Analytical Facility for Nutrition and Metabolism Research..... 57**
- **Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurate Turmeric Board headquarters in Nizamabad 59**
- **Aspirational Blocks Programme: Telangana's Gattu block placed fifth in NITI Aayog rankings..... 60**



Telangana News Summary

Telangana Formation Day 2025

Source: Indian Express

<https://indianexpress.com/article/when-is/teLANGANA-formation-day-2025-date-history-significance-wishes-10042954/>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Telangana Formation Day 2025

Why in News

- Telangana Formation Day is observed on June 2 to commemorate the state's creation in 2014 following decades of socio-political struggle for separate statehood from Andhra Pradesh.

Introduction

- On June 2, 2025, the state of Telangana celebrates its 11th Formation Day, marking over a decade since it became the 29th state of India.
- The day commemorates the long-standing struggle, people's resilience, and the socio-political movement that led to the creation of India's youngest state on June 2, 2014.
- This occasion holds immense historical and emotional significance for the people of Telangana.

Historical Background

- The demand for a separate Telangana state can be traced back to 1956, when the Andhra State and the Telangana region of Hyderabad State were merged to form Andhra Pradesh under the States Reorganisation Act.
- Dissatisfaction over issues such as employment, water distribution, education,



and cultural identity soon led to repeated agitations.

- The 1969 agitation and later movements in the 2000s under the leadership of K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and others intensified the demand.
- In response to decades of demands, protests, and political negotiations, the Congress Working Committee passed a resolution in favor of statehood in 2013.
- The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Bill was passed by the Parliament in February 2014.
- Telangana officially came into existence on June 2, 2014.

Formation and Governance

- **Capital:** Hyderabad was designated the joint capital of both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh for a period of 10 years.
- Andhra Pradesh is in the process of developing Amaravati as its capital.
- The first government was led by K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) of the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS).
- In 2023, Revanth Reddy of the Indian National Congress became the Chief Minister.

Significance of Telangana Formation Day

- **Remembrance and Tribute:** The day is a

solemn occasion to remember the sacrifices of martyrs, especially the youth who laid down their lives for statehood.

- **Celebration of Identity:** Telangana Formation Day is a celebration of the distinct cultural, linguistic, and social identity of the Telangana people.
- **Symbol of Democratic Struggle:** The creation of Telangana through constitutional and democratic means serves as a model for federalism and participatory governance in India.

Achievements in the Past Decade

- **Irrigation Projects** like the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme boosted agriculture.
- The **IT and Pharma sectors** in Hyderabad saw significant growth.
- **Mission Bhagiratha** and **Mission Kakatiya** aimed at improving rural water supply and restoring tanks.
- The government focused on **Dalit Bandhu, Rythu Bandhu**, and other rural development schemes.

Challenges Ahead

- **Unemployment** and **youth migration** remain key concerns.
- There are ongoing **interstate water disputes** with Andhra Pradesh.
- A significant **urban-rural divide** exists in terms of infrastructure and development.
- Ensuring **inclusive growth** and preventing the **marginalization of weaker sections** remains a challenge.

Conclusion

- Telangana Formation Day is not just a celebration of statehood, but a renewed call for justice, equity, and sustainable development.
- As Telangana enters its second decade, it stands at a critical juncture—balancing the aspirations of the past with the demands of the future.

- The real tribute to the martyrs lies in ensuring that the fruits of statehood reach every citizen, particularly the most vulnerable.

Telangana sees 11 per cent dip in cybercrime cases

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/telangana-sees-11-per-cent-dip-in-cybercrime-cases-during-january-to-april-period-of-2025>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Cybercrime cases in Telangana

Why in News

- Telangana reported an 11% decline in cybercrime cases in early 2025 due to data-driven enforcement, public awareness, and inter-agency coordination.

Introduction

- Telangana has reported an 11% **decline in cybercrime cases** during the first four months of 2025, in contrast to a 28% **rise during the same period in 2024**.
- This achievement stands out especially as **national cybercrime-related financial losses rose by 12%** in the same period.

Key Highlights:

- **Reduction in Cybercrime Incidents:** From January to April 2025, Telangana witnessed an 11% **drop** in cybercrime cases compared to the same period in 2024.
- **Financial Impact:**
 - Cybercrime-related losses decreased by 19% year-on-year (Jan-Apr 2025 vs Jan-Apr 2024).
 - There was a 30%+ **reduction** compared to the previous quarter (Sep-Dec 2024).
- **Improved Money Recovery Rate:**
 - Telangana's **percentage of recovery (POH)** of lost money improved from

13% in 2024 to 16% in 2025.

- This reflects enhanced complaint redressal and coordination with banks and financial platforms.
- **Increase in FIRs and Arrests:**
 - FIRs registered rose from 6,763 (2024) to 7,575 (2025).
 - FIR-to-complaint conversion rate improved from 18% to 19%.
 - Arrests **tripled**, increasing from 230 in 2024 to 626 in 2025.



Measures Adopted by Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB):

1. Data-Driven Enforcement:

- Use of **advanced analytics, digital profiling, and Open Source Intelligence (OSINT)** tools to identify cyber criminals.

2. Technological Interventions:

- Deployment of the **1930 chatbot** and improved **Interactive Voice Response (IVR)** systems for faster response and complaint lodging.

3. Public Awareness:

- State-wide **cyber awareness campaigns** have educated citizens about fraud prevention.

4. Inter-Agency Collaboration:

- Real-time coordination with **banks and digital platforms** enabled faster **fraud detection and transaction blocking**.

5. Process Streamlining and Police Coordination:

- Enhanced synergy with **district police** and improved back-end infrastructure.

ISO Certification for Digital Reforms

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/31/telangana-industries-department-earns-iso-90012015-certification-for-digital-investor-friendly-reforms>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

ISO Certification for Digital Reforms

Why in News

- The Commissionerate of Industries, Telangana, has received ISO 9001:2015 certification for its efficient governance, digital reforms.

Introduction

- The Commissionerate of Industries, Government of Telangana, has been awarded ISO 9001:2015 certification, recognising its efficient governance practices, digital initiatives, and effective execution of industrial schemes and policies.

Detailed Background and Significance

- The ISO 9001:2015 certification, a globally recognised quality management standard, was conferred upon the Commissionerate of Industries, Government of Telangana, following a rigorous two-stage audit conducted by Det Norske Veritas (DNV).
- This certification signifies adherence to international standards in public administration and industrial facilitation.
- The audit evaluated key operational areas including:
 - Transparency and service delivery
 - Stakeholder engagement and grievance redressal
 - Timelines for industrial clearances
 - Adoption of automation and digitisation
 - Effective execution of state industrial schemes and policies

Telangana Industries Dept Gets

This achievement reflects Telangana's commitment to a governance model that prioritises efficiency, accountability, and investor support.



Key Initiatives Recognised

1. Digital-first and Proactive Governance:

- The Commissionerate's emphasis on digitisation and process automation has improved service delivery and administrative efficiency.
- These efforts align the industrial ecosystem with global standards, reducing bureaucratic delays.

2. Revenue-Based Financing for MSMEs:

- Praised by NITI Aayog, Telangana's pilot project on revenue-based financing provides micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with credit based on projected revenues rather than traditional collateral.
- This approach eases the initial financial burden and improves access to institutional funding.

3. TG-iPASS (Telangana State Industrial Project Approval and Self-Certification System):

- TG-iPASS is a self-certification-based single-window clearance system. It simplifies statutory approvals for industries, reduces inspections, and ensures faster project execution.
- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) recognised TG-iPASS as a model for industrial facilitation, inviting Telangana to mentor other states.

Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) Performance

- Telangana continues to be among the best-

performing states in the national EoDB rankings.

- The Commissionerate of Industries, serving as the nodal agency for EoDB reforms, successfully implemented all 449 reform action points in the current evaluation cycle.

16% of young women in Telangana married before 18

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/31/16-of-young-women-in-telangana-married-before-18-survey>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Social Justice

Context:

Early Marriage and Motherhood in Telangana

Why in News

- Recent Survey shows 16% of Telangana women married before 18 and 22% became mothers by 19.

Background

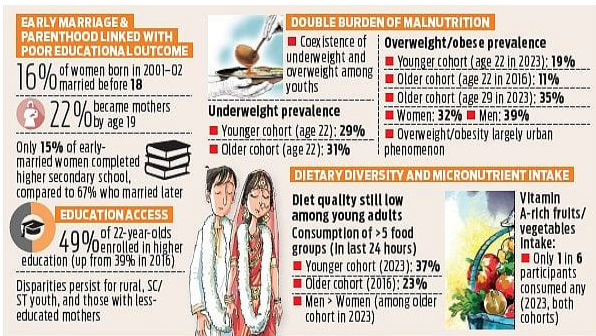
- Early marriage and adolescent motherhood continue to be pressing social challenges in Telangana, as highlighted in the preliminary findings of the 'Young Lives Round 7 Survey (2023-24)'.
- The report shows that 16% of women from the Younger Cohort (YC) in Telangana were married before the legal age of 18, and 22% became mothers by age 19.
- The data underscores the persistence of gender-based vulnerabilities, especially among adolescent girls, despite legal safeguards and welfare programmes aimed at curbing such practices.

About the Young Lives Survey

- Young Lives is a longitudinal study initiated in 2002 to examine childhood poverty over time.
- The study tracks 12,000 children across four

countries:

- India, Ethiopia, Peru, and Vietnam
- In India, the study focuses on the **undivided Andhra Pradesh**, across **20 mandals**:
 - 13 in Andhra Pradesh
 - 7 in Telangana
- The study includes **two cohorts**:
 - **Younger Cohort (YC)**: Born in 2001–02, now **22 years old**
 - **Older Cohort (OC)**: Born in 1994–95, now **29 years old**



Key Findings from Telangana (Round 7, 2023–24)

- 16% of women from the Younger Cohort were married before 18, violating the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.
- 22% became mothers before age 19, indicating a high incidence of adolescent motherhood.
- The survey covered 948 participants from 33 villages in Telangana, including:
 - Karimnagar
 - Bhupalpally
 - Nagarkurnool
 - Mahbubnagar
 - Jogulamba Gadwal
 - Hyderabad

These findings were unveiled by **Women and Child Welfare Minister Dansari Anasuya (Seethakka)** at the **Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS)** in Hyderabad.

Social Implications and Challenges

1. Violation of Legal and Human Rights

- Child marriage is illegal under Indian law, but its persistence reflects **gaps in enforcement, patriarchal norms, and**

poverty-related compulsions.

- Early marriage and motherhood deprive girls of **education, employment, and health opportunities.**

2. Health Risks

- Adolescent mothers are at greater risk of **maternal mortality, anemia, and complications during childbirth.**
- Children born to young mothers often face higher rates of **infant mortality and malnutrition.**

3. Educational Disruption

- Girls who marry early are more likely to **drop out of school**, reinforcing the cycle of **poverty and dependence.**

4. Intergenerational Poverty

- Early motherhood reduces the economic potential of women, which impacts the next generation's access to **nutrition, education, and healthcare.**

Policy Relevance and Government Response

- The findings call for **strengthening implementation** of the **Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006** and **POSCO Act, 2012.**
- **Awareness campaigns, community-based monitoring, and incentivising girls' education** can serve as deterrents to early marriage.
- Integration with schemes like:
 - **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao**
 - **Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav**
 - **SABLA Scheme (Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls)**

Conclusion

- The Young Lives survey offers critical longitudinal evidence showing that early marriage and adolescent motherhood remain deeply entrenched social issues in parts of Telangana.
- These challenges threaten women's empowerment, public health, and developmental progress. Addressing them requires multi-sectoral strategies, combining legal enforcement, education, community

engagement, and targeted welfare schemes.

Swift Women Action Team to manage female protestors

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/hyderabad-police-launches-swift-women-action-team-to-manage-female-protestors/article69652347.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Swift Women Action Team (SWAT)

Why in News

Hyderabad Police launched the Swift Women Action Team (SWAT) to handle female protestors during rallies and dharnas.

Introduction

- With the rise in public protests and the operational complexities involved in handling female demonstrators, the Hyderabad City Police has taken a progressive step by launching a dedicated women's action unit – the Swift Women Action Team (SWAT).

Key Highlights:

- 1. Launch of Swift Women Action Team (SWAT)**
 - Purpose: To address challenges in managing and detaining female protestors during agitations, rallies, and dharnas.
 - Composition: The initial team consists of 35 trained women constables.
 - Training: Personnel have undergone specialized training in karate, protest handling, and safe detention procedures specific to women protestors.
 - Demonstration: The SWAT team showcased its skills in crowd control and criminal restraint at the Goshamahal Police Headquarters.

- Expansion Plan: Plans are in place to recruit more personnel and scale the team up to two full platoons with a total of 42 members.

2. Infrastructure Reallocation and Modernization

- Context: Due to the ongoing construction of the new Osmania General Hospital building within the Goshamahal Police Stadium premises, existing police infrastructure had to be relocated.

- Relocation Measures:

- Stables and grounds were temporarily shifted within the stadium.
- All other police departments at the site were formally handed over to the Medical Department.

3. New Police Infrastructure Developments

- Land Allocation: 11.5 acres at the stadium site designated for Hyderabad City Police.
- Key Facilities Under Construction:
 - Two five-storey buildings:
 - One for the City Security Wing (CSW).
 - One for seized vehicle storage and parking, covering all seven police zones.
 - A new horse stable and training ground for the Mounted Police Unit.
- Additional Allocation: Two more acres near the Traffic Training Institute (TTI) allocated to the police department.
- Financial Sanction: ₹55 crore sanctioned by the state government under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.
- Execution Agency: The Police Housing Corporation is responsible for completing construction within one year.

Significance:

- Gender-Sensitive Policing: The launch of SWAT demonstrates a forward-looking approach to law enforcement, ensuring dignity and professionalism in handling women protestors.
- Enhanced Operational Capacity: The infrastructure upgrades aim to boost the city police's capability in security, logistics, and

training.

- **Urban Planning Integration:** The redevelopment around Goshamahal aligns with broader goals of smart policing infrastructure and inter-departmental coordination.

Telangana marks 11 years of statehood with pride

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Jun/03/telangana-marks-11-years-of-statehood-with-pride>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Telangana Day

Context:

Early Marriage and Motherhood in Telangana

Why in News

Telangana celebrated its Formation Day marked by major announcements on employment through NIMZ, women entrepreneurship via Indira Kranthi scheme.

Economic Development: NIMZ Project in Sangareddy

- C Damodar Rajanarasimha, in Sangareddy, made a significant announcement regarding the **National Investment and Manufacturing Zone (NIMZ)**.
- **Employment Impact** - The NIMZ is projected to generate **35 lakh jobs**:
 1. **Direct employment:** 15 lakh
 2. **Indirect employment:** 20 lakh
- **Investment and Infrastructure** -
 - Total project investment: ₹17,303 crore
 - Land acquired so far: 6,100 acres
- **TGIIC** (Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation) has completed a 9 km four-lane highway to connect the project area, inaugurated recently by CM Revanth Reddy.
- This project reflects Telangana's thrust on

industrial expansion, employment generation, and regional economic development.

Women Empowerment Initiatives by GHMC

- **Hyderabad Mayor** - Gadwal Vijayalakshmi laid out ambitious targets under the **Indira Kranthi Scheme**:

Key Highlights:

Group Enterprises

- Target: 7,000 women-only enterprises in 30 GHMC circles
- Support: ₹410 crore in FY 2025-26
- Each group: ₹20 lakh
- So far: 648 groups supported with ₹49 crore

Individual Enterprises

- Target: 6,000 individual enterprises
- Total fund allocation: ₹210 crore annually
- Each enterprise: ₹3.5 lakh
- So far: 5,768 individuals supported with ₹106.5 crore

These schemes aim to strengthen **women-led entrepreneurship**, improve **financial independence**, and integrate women more effectively into the **urban economic framework**.

Conclusion

- The Telangana Formation Day celebrations in 2025 were not only ceremonial but also served as a platform for asserting political vision, showcasing governance outcomes, and announcing future developmental trajectories.
- From industrial infrastructure to women empowerment and political positioning, the event reflected the multidimensional priorities of the state government.
- The integration of policy with public participation and symbolism reaffirmed the state's commitment to inclusive growth.

ICRISAT launches Agri co-op centre for Global South

Source: Indian Express

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/icrisat-launches-agri-co-op-centre-for-global-south-10046895/>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

South-South Cooperation in Agriculture (ISSCA)

Why in News

India has launched the ICRISAT Centre of Excellence for South-South Cooperation in Agriculture (ISSCA) in Hyderabad.

Introduction

- India continues to expand its role as a key development partner in the Global South, especially in the domain of agriculture.
- A recent initiative in this direction is the establishment of the ICRISAT Centre of Excellence for South-South Cooperation in Agriculture (ISSCA), launched jointly by the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS).



- This initiative strengthens India's development diplomacy by promoting agricultural transformation in developing countries.

Background and Context

- South-South Cooperation (SSC) refers to collaboration among countries of the Global South – particularly developing nations in Asia, Africa, and Latin America – in areas such as technology transfer, policy exchange, and capacity building.
- India has been a strong proponent of SSC,

leveraging its own development experiences to support other countries with similar socio-economic conditions.

- The agricultural sector, being central to the livelihoods of millions across the Global South, offers immense scope for cooperation. Climate change, land degradation, and low productivity in dryland regions make research-based cooperation vital.
- India, through institutions like ICRISAT and RIS, is promoting scalable agricultural models tailored to semi-arid conditions.

About the Centre: ISSCA

- Name: ICRISAT Centre of Excellence for South-South Cooperation in Agriculture (ISSCA)
- Location: Hyderabad, Telangana

Collaborating Institutions:

- ICRISAT: An international agricultural research institute headquartered in Hyderabad, focusing on dryland crops like millets, chickpea, groundnut, and pigeon pea.
- RIS: A policy research institute under the Ministry of External Affairs, focusing on international development cooperation and trade policy.

Objectives of the ISSCA

- Knowledge Transfer: To share India's successful agricultural practices and technologies with developing countries.
- Policy Translation: To convert agricultural research into effective policy frameworks that can be adopted by partner nations.
- Institutional Capacity Building: To help countries establish frameworks in areas such as seed systems, irrigation, marketing, and value chains.
- South-South Platform: To act as a collaborative platform for agricultural innovation and policy exchange among Global South countries.

Significance of the Initiative

1. Strengthening South-South Cooperation

- India is reinforcing its role as a knowledge provider by building institutional partnerships in agriculture.
- The Centre acts as a policy and innovation hub for dryland agriculture, relevant to many African and Asian countries.

2. Extending India's Development Diplomacy

- Countries such as Ethiopia and Kenya have sought support for institutional development of their private seed industries.
- This demonstrates growing demand for Indian technical expertise.

3. Aligning with Global Goals

The initiative aligns with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly:

SDG 2: Zero Hunger

SDG 13: Climate Action

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

4. Leveraging India's Research Capabilities

- India's research institutions like ICRISAT and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have developed numerous innovations in rainfed agriculture, soil health, and crop diversification that can now be exported as public goods.

Linkages with Government Schemes and Policies

- India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS): Agriculture is a major focus in India's partnership with Africa.
- e-VidyaBharti and e-ArogyaBharti (e-VBAB): Similar soft power initiatives promoting online education and health services.
- Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs): India's decentralized agriculture extension network, a model that can be replicated.
- Development Partnership Administration (DPA): Coordinates India's bilateral and multilateral development assistance under MEA.

Challenges:

- Differing agro-climatic zones may limit

direct replicability of Indian practices.

- Financing and logistics of long-term institutional support to multiple countries.
- Ensuring adaptation to local political and socio-economic conditions.

Way Forward:

- Strengthen research exchange and fellowships among agricultural universities of the Global South.
- Expand public-private partnerships for agricultural machinery, seeds, and services export.
- Regular monitoring and evaluation of the ISSCA's impact on partner countries.

Conclusion

- The establishment of the ICRISAT Centre of Excellence for South-South Cooperation in Agriculture marks a significant step in India's foreign policy and development cooperation strategy.
- By sharing its agricultural innovations and institutional frameworks, India not only strengthens its ties with fellow developing nations but also contributes to global food security and sustainable development.
- The Centre embodies India's vision of being a knowledge hub for inclusive development in the Global South.

Telangana handloom weavers to get wage incentives

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Jun/04/telangana-handloom-weavers-to-get-wage-incentives>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Economy

Context:

Nethannaku Bharosa Scheme

Why in News

The Telangana government has launched wage incentives for handloom weavers under the revamped Nethannaku Bharosa scheme.

Background

- In a significant welfare initiative aimed at supporting the traditional handloom sector, the Telangana government, under the leadership of Textiles Minister Thummala Nageswara Rao, has announced a fresh infusion of financial assistance to handloom weavers through the revitalized Telangana Nethannaku Bharosa scheme.
- This move underscores the government's commitment to sustaining the livelihoods of handloom artisans while promoting the state's rich textile heritage.

Key Features of the Revised Nethannaku Bharosa Scheme

- **Objective:** To provide **direct financial support** to handloom weavers and allied workers, thereby encouraging sustained engagement in the traditional craft and improving socio-economic conditions.
- **Budget Allocation:** A total of **₹48 crore** has been earmarked for the financial year for implementation of this scheme.
- **Guideline Release:** The official operational guidelines were issued on **June 2, 2025**, paving the way for structured and accountable disbursal.



Benefits to Beneficiaries

- **Weavers with Geo-Tagged Looms:** Those who operate geo-tagged handlooms will receive an annual incentive of ₹18,000.

- **Allied Sector Workers:** Workers involved in activities such as dyeing, warping, sizing, and marketing will be eligible for an annual support of ₹6,000.
- **Mode of Disbursal:** The amount will be credited directly into the bank accounts of beneficiaries in two equal instalments, ensuring transparency and ease of access.
- **Estimated Coverage:** Approximately 40,000 handloom and allied workers are expected to benefit from this scheme.

Technological Integration for Transparency

- **Geo-Tagging of Looms:** Geo-tagging enables precise identification of active looms and ensures that only genuine beneficiaries receive support, minimizing leakages and duplications.
- **Product Authentication and Branding:** An official logo will be affixed on all handloom products produced under this scheme. This label will provide consumers with:
 - Information about the weaver
 - Product quality
 - Origin details
- This is expected to build consumer trust, enhance brand value, and boost marketability, especially in national and international markets.

Impact and Significance

Economic Empowerment: Regular financial incentives will provide a **safety net** for traditional weavers, many of whom are in economically vulnerable conditions.

Promotion of Indigenous Crafts: Through logo-based branding and enhanced visibility, Telangana's handloom products could see increased demand and recognition in **global markets**.

Sustainable Livelihoods: The initiative promotes **sustainable employment** in rural areas, particularly among communities historically dependent on weaving.

Cultural Preservation: The scheme indirectly

encourages younger generations to continue family traditions in weaving by making the profession more viable.

Conclusion

- The revamped Nethannaku Bharosa scheme reflects the Telangana government's proactive approach to reviving the handloom sector by integrating welfare support with digital technology and market-oriented branding.
- By providing direct financial aid and ensuring product authenticity, the initiative not only uplifts the weaver community but also enhances Telangana's presence in the global handloom market.
- This model could serve as a blueprint for other states aiming to combine heritage preservation with socio-economic development.

Telangana Horticultural University leads GI push for Armoor turmeric

Source: Indian Express

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/icrisat-launches-agri-co-op-centre-for-global-south-10046895/>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

GI Tag Application for 'Erra Guntur' Turmeric

Why in News

The recent study on 'Erra Guntur' turmeric in Nizamabad has multi-dimensional significance

Introduction

- Agricultural scientists and researchers have completed a detailed study on the cultivation practices and market characteristics of turmeric in Nizamabad district, Telangana.
- The data will support a Geographical Indication (GI) tag application for the

popular 'Erra Guntur' turmeric variety, which is known for its vibrant colour and high yield.



Background:

The study, involving scientists from the **Turmeric Research Station in Kammarpally**, supported by NABARD and local farmers, focused on:

Agricultural Practices and Inputs

- **Varietal Data:** Identification of turmeric varieties in cultivation, with a special focus on 'Erra Guntur', which accounts for **over 80%** of the turmeric grown in the district.

Land and Soil Characteristics:

- Turmeric is cultivated in **black cotton soil** and **red soil enriched with tank silt**, both known for moisture retention and fertility.

Cultivation Techniques:

- Use of **traditional and modern tools**, **seed treatment**, **organic and inorganic fertilizers**, and **systematic sowing and irrigation methods**.
- **Post-harvest Practices:** Focused on **drying, polishing, and storage**, which influence quality and export value.

Market and Trade Insights

Detailed documentation of:

- **Arrival patterns** at the **Agricultural Market Committee (AMC)**, Nizamabad.
- **Pricing trends** over time and factors affecting price volatility.
- Types of **turmeric products** sold: fresh turmeric, dried turmeric fingers, turmeric powder, and value-added products.

About the 'Erra Guntur' Variety

Feature	Description
Colour	Deep orange-red (Erra means "red" in Telugu)
Quality	High curcumin content, good aroma, and texture
Yield	High productivity per acre
Dry Recovery Rate	Excellent (more output per unit of fresh turmeric)
Market Demand	Strong domestic and international export potential
Farming Preference	Popular among local farmers due to profitability and adaptability

GI Tag Application Status

- The researchers and officials have compiled most of the data required for the Geographical Indication (GI) application, which will be submitted shortly.

The GI tag would:

- Recognize and protect the unique qualities of Erra Guntur turmeric.
- Help farmers get premium prices in domestic and international markets.
- Boost branding and export prospects.
- Promote rural economic development in Nizamabad and surrounding areas.

Geographical Indications (GI)

- A Geographical Indication (GI) is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess distinct qualities, characteristics, or a reputation essentially linked to that origin.
- In India, GI is governed under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999, and the products are registered through the GI Registry based in Chennai.
- Obtaining a GI tag provides legal protection to the registered product, enhances its brand value, enables market differentiation, and often leads to increased income for the producers, especially in the rural and traditional sectors.

Significance of the Turmeric Study in Nizamabad

The recent study on 'Erra Guntur' turmeric in Nizamabad has multi-dimensional significance:

- Agricultural Research:** The documentation process serves as a scientific backing to traditional crop cultivation practices, validating their agronomic and economic viability.
- Farmer Empowerment:** It helps farmers by enhancing their market visibility and bargaining power, ultimately contributing to better income realisation through quality recognition.
- Policy Support:** The study aligns with the goals of schemes like the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), which promotes organic farming, and NABARD's rural value-chain development programs, which support infrastructure and branding.
- Export Potential:** By identifying and promoting the unique properties of 'Erra Guntur' turmeric, the study strengthens India's position in the global spice trade, especially in the growing nutraceutical and food-processing industries that rely on high-curcumin turmeric varieties.

Telangana Clears Metro 2B, DA Hike & ₹33K Cr for Roads

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/cabinet-clears-da-hike-metro-phase-2b-expansion-and-33000-crore-for-road-development/article69662427.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Telangana Cabinet decisions

Why in News

The Telangana Cabinet approved major infrastructure and welfare projects including

Hyderabad Metro Phase-2B, Earth Sciences University, etc.

Background

- The Telangana State Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, approved a wide range of developmental and welfare decisions.
- These include expansion of the Hyderabad Metro Rail, the establishment of Telangana Earth Sciences University, construction of over 13,000 km of roads, financial support for women's self-help groups, and several employee welfare measures.



Expansion of Hyderabad Metro Rail: Phase-2B

- Estimated Cost: ₹19,579 crore
- Implementing Agencies: Jointly by the State and Central governments
- Total Length: 86.1 kilometers
- Corridor Details:
- Corridor-1: Shamshabad Airport to Future City (39.6 km)
- Corridor-2: Jubilee Bus Station to Medchal (24.5 km)
- Corridor-3: Jubilee Bus Station to Shamirpet (22 km)
- The proposals will be submitted to the central government for approval and financial participation.
- The state government has urged Union Ministers to support the project at the central level for early clearance.

Two Dearness Allowance (DA) Installments for Government Employees

- DA Arrears from January 1, 2023, will be released immediately.
- Second DA installment will be paid after six months.
- Arrears will be cleared in 28 monthly installments.
- ₹700 crore per month will be released to clear pending employee bills.

Health Care Trust for Employees

- A Health Care Trust will be created for government employees.
- Contribution model:
- ₹500 per month by employees
- ₹500 per month by the state government
- The Chief Secretary will head the trust.
- The trust will offer direct medical assistance without reliance on third-party insurance.

Additional reforms:

- **Annual DPC meetings** for promotions
- Establishment of a **State-level Medical Invalidation Committee**

Telangana Earth Sciences University

- The Cabinet approved the establishment of Telangana Earth Sciences University in Kothagudem.
- The university will be named after former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh in recognition of his contribution to the formation of Telangana.
- It will be the first university in India dedicated exclusively to Earth Sciences.
- Operations are expected to begin in the current academic year.

Road Infrastructure Development: ₹33,194 Crore Investment

- Total length of roads: 13,137 kilometers
- Panchayat Raj roads: 7,947 km
- Roads and Buildings Department roads: 5,190 km
- Investment Model: Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM)

- Contractors will construct roads in 2 years
- Maintenance responsibility for 15 years
- Executed as district-level packages across former joint districts
- Total investment: ₹33,194 crore
- ₹16,780 crore for Panchayat Raj roads
- ₹16,414 crore for Roads & Buildings roads

Welfare Support for Women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

- The government will provide ₹10 lakh ex-gratia to the family of deceased SHG members.
- The amount will be directly disbursed, avoiding insurance intermediaries or third-party premium costs.
- For 385 SHG members who passed away in the last year, ₹38.5 crore will be distributed to their families.

Bonus for Fine Rice Variety to Continue

- To support paddy cultivation, the Cabinet decided to continue offering bonuses for the production of fine rice variety.
- This is part of the broader effort to incentivize high-quality agricultural output and improve farmers' income.

Significance of the Decisions

These Cabinet approvals represent a comprehensive effort by the Telangana government to:

- Improve urban and rural infrastructure
- Enhance the welfare and satisfaction of government employees
- Strengthen healthcare access through institutional mechanisms
- Promote scientific education and research through specialized universities
- Provide targeted financial support to women's groups and bereaved families
- Support agricultural productivity and quality through sustained incentives

Ram Chander Naik to be Deputy Speaker

Source: Indian Express

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/ram-chander-naik-to-be-deputy-speaker/article69672374.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Polity

Context:

Deputy Speaker

Why in News

Dr. Ram Chander Naik, first-time MLA from Dornakal (ST), is likely to be appointed Deputy Speaker of the Telangana Assembly.

Introduction

- Dr. Ram Chander Naik, a first-time MLA from Dornakal (ST) constituency in Mahabubabad district, is likely to be appointed as the Deputy Speaker of the Telangana Legislative Assembly.

Political and Administrative Significance

- **Deputy Speaker Role:** The Deputy Speaker performs the duties of the Speaker in their absence. The appointment is governed by Article 178 and 180 of the Indian Constitution at the state level.
- **Representation of Tribals:** Dr. Naik hails from an ST (Scheduled Tribe) reserved constituency. His elevation will enhance tribal representation in the legislative process.
- **Professional Background:** His background as a medical professional brings a **technocratic edge** to the assembly leadership.
- **Congress Strategy:** By appointing a new, young, tribal MLA, the party appears to be reinforcing its commitment to **inclusive governance and tribal welfare**.

Constitutional Provisions Related to Deputy Speaker

- Article 178: Every Legislative Assembly shall choose two members to be Speaker and Deputy Speaker.
- Article 180(1): The Deputy Speaker performs the Speaker's duties when the office is vacant or the Speaker is absent.
- Tenure: The Deputy Speaker holds office until he ceases to be a member of the Assembly or resigns or is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of the Assembly.

Forward Linkages

- Governance & Tribal Empowerment: The possible appointment aligns with welfare and representation goals for tribal communities in Telangana.
- Healthcare Policy Influence: As a medical doctor, Dr. Naik could contribute substantively to public health policies.
- Legislative Conduct: His educational background may support balanced, rational debates within the Assembly.

Surgical technique developed by OGH doctor gets international recognition

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/surgical-technique-developed-by-ogh-doctor-gets-international-recognition/article69668711.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

'Pallam's Painless Hybrid Laser Sandwich Procedure'

Why in News

Dr. Pallam Praveen's surgical innovation 'Pallam's Painless Hybrid Laser Sandwich Procedure' for treating advanced haemorrhoids gained international recognition.

Background

- A surgical innovation developed by Dr. Pallam Praveen, Professor and Head of General Surgery at Osmania General Hospital (OGH), Hyderabad, has received international recognition after being accepted for publication in the International Journal of Surgery.
- **Procedure Name:** *Pallam's Painless Hybrid Laser Sandwich Procedure*
- **Purpose:** Designed for the treatment of Grade III and Grade IV haemorrhoids, which are advanced stages of the condition characterized by prolapse and bleeding.



Key Features of the Procedure

- **Minimally Invasive Technique:** Combines the precision of laser surgery with the effectiveness of conventional methods.
- Involves minimal tissue damage, which reduces trauma and speeds up recovery.
- **"Hybrid" Approach:** The "sandwich" method integrates multiple surgical layers and techniques, optimizing haemorrhoid removal without damaging the anal sphincters.
- **Pain-Free Recovery:** Drastically reduces post-operative pain, a common complication in traditional surgeries.
- Patients reportedly experience negligible discomfort after surgery.
- **Same-Day Discharge:** Patients can walk out of the hospital on the same day of surgery, a major advantage in terms of patient convenience and healthcare

resource efficiency.

- **No Incontinence Risk:**

The procedure carefully avoids damage to the anal sphincters, thereby eliminating the risk of incontinence, a serious concern in conventional haemorrhoidectomies.

- **Near-Zero Recurrence Rate:**

The innovation has shown very low recurrence, marking a significant advancement over older techniques which often see relapse.

Clinical Application and Results

- Experience: Over 500 patients treated in the past four years using this procedure.
- Outcomes: High success rate with consistent results, and no major complications reported.
- Recognition: International Journal of Surgery's publication marks it as a technique of global clinical relevance.

Significance

- For Patients: Enhances comfort, reduces hospital stay and cost, and offers long-term relief without major side effects.
- For Indian Healthcare: Demonstrates the potential of indigenous medical innovations to contribute meaningfully to global surgical practices.
- For Global Surgery Standards: Could pave the way for adoption of minimally invasive laser-based procedures for proctological disorders internationally.

T Wallet clocks 16 lakh registered users in 8 years

Source: Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Jun/06/t-wallet-clocks-16-lakh-registered-users-in-8-years>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

T Wallet

Why in News

T Wallet has reached 16 lakh registered users and processed over four crore transactions.

Background

- T Wallet was launched by the Telangana government in 2017.
- It is India's first state-managed digital wallet promoting financial inclusion through real-time IMPS-based services.

About T Wallet

- **Launched:** June 1, 2017
- **Developed by:** ITE&C Department, Government of Telangana
- **Background:** Introduced in response to the **2016 demonetisation** to promote **cashless transactions** and improve digital financial inclusion.



Key Features:

- **IMPS Integration:**
- Real-time bank transfers using Immediate Payment Service (IMPS).
- Operates 24/7 with direct bank account transfers, unlike conventional wallets relying on P2P transfers or UPI.

Wide Service Range:

- Utility bill payments
- Government service fee payments
- Merchant transactions
- Seamless integration with MeeSeva centres (4,500+) and Fair Price Shops (11,000+)

Multi-Channel Accessibility:

- Mobile app
- Web platform

- Assisted service model for citizens without smartphone access

Significance:

- Digital Inclusion:** Focuses on rural and remote areas, ensuring accessibility through assisted services and integration with public service centres.
- Financial Empowerment:** Bridges the digital divide by promoting secure and real-time digital payments across socio-economic segments.
- State-Driven Innovation:** Serves as a model for state-led e-governance initiatives aiming for citizen-centric service delivery.

Implications for Governance and Policy:

- Promotes the Digital India agenda at the state level
- Enhances efficiency in service delivery
- Strengthens public trust in government-led digital infrastructure
- Encourages cashless economy in post-demonetisation India

Way Forward:

- Expansion of services across more government departments
- Integration with national platforms like DigiLocker and Jan Dhan
- Adoption of AI for fraud detection and transaction analytics
- Public awareness campaigns to increase digital literacy

Conclusion:

T Wallet exemplifies how state governments can play a proactive role in promoting **digital financial ecosystems**. Its successful implementation underscores the importance of **inclusive, secure, and citizen-friendly digital payment solutions** in India's governance and financial landscape.

World's first extreme heat-tolerant pigeonpea developed via speed breeding

Source: The Hindu

<https://telanganatoday.com/worlds-first-extreme-heat-tolerant-pigeonpea-developed-via-speed-breeding-at-icrisat-in-hyderabad>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Agriculture

Context:

ICPV 25444 Pigeonpea Cultivar by ICRISAT

Why in News

Scientists at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) have developed ICPV 25444 pigeon pea cultivar.



Background

- In a landmark development for Indian agriculture, scientists at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), headquartered in Hyderabad, have developed **ICPV 25444**, a first-of-its-kind pigeonpea (*Cajanus cajan*) cultivar capable of thriving in extreme summer conditions.

Key Features of ICPV 25444:

- Heat Tolerance:** Capable of withstanding extreme temperatures of up to 45°C.
- Short Duration:** Matures in just 125 days, making it ideal for multiple cropping systems.
- Photo- and Thermo-Insensitive:** Unlike traditional pigeonpea varieties, ICPV 25444 is not dependent on specific light or

temperature conditions, allowing flexible sowing windows.

- All-Season Cultivation: Can be cultivated during the summer season in addition to the traditional kharif season, marking a significant shift in pigeonpea farming.
- High Yield: Demonstrated yield of 2 tons per hectare in field trials across Karnataka, Odisha, and Telangana.

Scientific Breakthrough:

- The development of ICPV 25444 was facilitated by ICRISAT's 2024 innovation – the world's first pigeonpea speed-breeding protocol.
- This protocol allows for up to four generations per year, significantly accelerating the breeding cycle from the conventional 15 years to just 5 years.

Implications:

- Addressing Pulse Shortages: Enhances the availability of pigeonpea, a critical source of plant-based protein in India.
- Climate Resilience: Offers a robust solution for regions facing increased temperatures due to climate change.

Kakatiya-era sculpture of warriors unearthed in Telangana's Polasa

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/jun/06/t-wallet-clocks-16-lakh-registered-users-in-8-years>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Art and Culture

Context:

Kakatiya dynasty

Why in News

A rare sculpture from the Kakatiya period was discovered near the ancient Sri Poulastheswara

Swamy temple in Polasa village, Telangana.

Background

- A rare sculpture dating to the Kakatiya period, depicting warriors in horseback combat, was recently discovered after heavy rains in Polasa village, near Jagtial, Telangana.
- This artefact, found near the ancient Sri Poulastheswara Swamy temple, reinforces the region's importance during medieval Deccan history.
- Experts suggest that further excavations may uncover more about the Kakatiya dynasty and earlier rulers such as the Chalukyas and Rashtrakutas.



About the Kakatiya Dynasty

- **Time Period:** 12th to early 14th century CE (c. 1163–1323 CE).
- **Capital:** Warangal (formerly Orugallu), Telangana.
- **Founder:** Prola II; major ruler – Rudradeva (Rudra I).
- **Peak under:** Ganapati Deva, Rani Rudrama Devi, and Prataparudra.
- **Downfall:** Ended with the invasion of Ulugh Khan (later Muhammad bin Tughlaq) in 1323.

Key Contributions of the Kakatiyas

Cultural and Architectural Heritage

- Distinctive temple architecture with star-shaped sanctums, massive stone gateways (Kirti Toranas), and exquisite carvings.
- Ramappa Temple (also called Rudreshwara Temple) near Warangal, constructed under

Recherla Rudra, a Kakatiya general – inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2021.

- Development of tank-based irrigation systems, many of which are still in use.

Regional and Administrative Significance

- Promoted decentralized administration through a system of nayankaras (feudal lords), which was later adopted by the Vijayanagara Empire.
- Strengthened local self-government by empowering village assemblies.
- Maintained a warrior ethos while encouraging trade and agrarian development.

Notable Rulers

- Rani Rudrama Devi (reigned c. 1262–1289 CE) - one of the few female monarchs in Indian history, celebrated for her administrative skill and military leadership.
- Adopted title “Rudradeva Maharaja” and led successful campaigns to protect Kakatiya sovereignty.

Polasa’s Historical Importance

- Identified as the capital of Polavasadesa, ruled by feudatories of the Rashtrakutas.
- Ruins of temples, sculptures, and a mud fort with a moat still exist.
- The recent discovery highlights continuous occupation and strategic importance from early medieval to late medieval periods.

Significance at the National and State Level

Level	Contribution
National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architectural styles influenced the Vijayanagara and later Deccan Sultanate art. • Rani Rudrama Devi’s rule is a milestone in gender-inclusive governance in medieval India.
State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kakatiya legacy is central

(Telangana)	<p>to Telangana's cultural identity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warangal Fort, Ramappa Temple, and irrigation tanks are symbols of regional pride.
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Conclusion

- The recent unearthing at Polasa is not just a local archaeological event but a window into a glorious past dominated by the Kakatiyas, whose contributions shaped the political, cultural, and hydraulic landscape of South India.
- It underscores the need for systematic excavations and preservation efforts, which can enrich both historical scholarship and public memory.

MeeSeva crosses 20 crore transactions in Telangana

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Jun/11/meeseva-crosses-20-crore-transactions-in-telangana>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Economy

Context:

MeeSeva platform

Why in News

Telangana’s MeeSeva platform has emerged as one of India’s most successful state-run digital governance models, recently crossing 20 crore transactions.

Background

- MeeSeva (meaning “At Your Service”) is a pioneering e-Governance initiative by the Government of Telangana aimed at providing citizen-centric, transparent, and accessible public services through digital means.
- MeeSeva has surpassed a significant milestone of 20 crore cumulative

transactions, reflecting its growing role in enhancing digital service delivery.

Genesis and Evolution

Launched in 1999 in the undivided Andhra Pradesh, MeeSeva initially offered just **four bill payment services**.

- Post the bifurcation in 2014, Telangana continued to expand the platform’s capabilities under its Digital Telangana initiative.
- Over time, it evolved into one of India’s largest state-run digital service delivery platforms, providing access to over 600 G2C (Government-to-Citizen) and B2C (Business-to-Citizen) services.



Key Features and Achievements

- **Integrated Services:** Linked with DigiLocker, T-Wallet, Aadhaar, and e-KYC to ensure secure and authenticated transactions.

Diverse Access Channels:

- 108 government-run MeeSeva centres in urban areas.
- 4,500+ authorised franchise centres across rural and urban Telangana.
- 500+ Palle Samagra Seva Kendralu (PSSKs) in villages, operated by women entrepreneurs, promoting digital inclusion and rural empowerment.
- MeeSeva online portal and mobile app (Android & iOS).

Recent Milestone:

- In FY 2024-25, served **1.33 crore citizens**, processing transactions worth **₹7,150 crore**.

National and State-Level Parallels

Scheme	State/National	Key Features
e-District Mission Mode Project	National	Provides online delivery of citizen services (certificates, licenses, etc.) under NeGP. Implemented across states.
Apna Seva Kendra / Atal Seva Kendra	Haryana, Rajasthan, and other states	Rural service centres delivering G2C services; similar to MeeSeva PSSKs.
Seva Sindhu	Karnataka	Unified platform for citizen services, integrating various departmental workflows.
Jan Seva Kendra	Uttar Pradesh	Similar model of delivering public services via digital centres across districts.
Digital India Initiative	National	Umbrella programme promoting digital empowerment and service delivery via e-Governance. MeeSeva contributes to its objectives.

Significance

- Promotes good governance, transparency, and accountability.
- Reduces the need for citizens to physically visit government offices.
- Empowers women entrepreneurs through PSSKs.
- Enhances digital literacy and financial inclusion in rural Telangana.

Conclusion

- MeeSeva exemplifies citizen-first digital governance, setting a benchmark for other states in India.
- Its inclusive approach, technological

integration, and commitment to service delivery have made it a model of scalable, people-centric governance under the broader umbrella of Digital India.

App-based gig platform exclusively for women

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/app-based-gig-platform-exclusively-for-women-launched/article69679920.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

SITHA App

Why in News

Telangana has launched "SITHA," India's first women-exclusive gig platform, to promote flexible, skill-based employment opportunities for women.

Background

- To address the underemployment of women due to rigid work structures and personal commitments, the Government of Telangana launched SITHA, a mobile-based gig platform exclusively for women.
- The initiative was inaugurated by Minister for Industries and IT D. Sridhar Babu.



Objectives

The platform aims to:

- Empower women by turning their skills into income.
- Offer dignified and flexible work.
- Bridge the employment gap caused by career

breaks or family responsibilities.

Key Features of the SITHA Platform

- Women-Only Access:** A secure and verified space where women can offer and receive services.
- Gig Categories:** Covers both technical and non-technical domains such as:
 - Home services
 - Tutoring and teaching
 - Legal and digital consulting
 - Beauty and wellness
 - Artisanal and handmade products
- AI-Powered Gig Matching:** Uses algorithms to match women with relevant jobs based on their skills.
- Secure Payments and Onboarding:** Ensures verified profiles, structured onboarding, and reliable payment gateways.
- International Market Access:** Helps rural artisans and skilled women access global markets for their products.
- Skill Development:** Includes tools and support for upskilling, digital literacy, and professional development.

Significance

- Addresses Underemployment: Especially for skilled women not engaged in the formal economy.
- Promotes Financial Independence: Women can earn without compromising on caregiving roles.
- Fosters Digital Inclusion: Encourages women to participate in the digital economy.
- Supports Rural Women and Artisans: Opens economic opportunities for those in remote areas.

Government Support

- The Telangana government views SITHA not just as an app, but as a movement to provide **equal access to opportunity, economic independence, and leadership for women across backgrounds.**

Deal signed to provide Rs 1crore insurance cover for power staff

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/jun/11/deal-signed-to-provide-rs-1crore-insurance-cover-for-power-staff>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Economy

Context:

Accident Insurance and Green Energy

Why in News

Telangana Deputy CM launched Accident Insurance Scheme and New Green Energy Policy.

Accident Insurance Scheme for Power Utility Employees

An agreement was signed between the Telangana government and the State Bank of India (SBI) to provide accident insurance coverage to employees working in the power sector. The scheme will benefit staff from the following organizations:

- Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (SPDCL)
- Northern Power Distribution Company Limited (NPDCL)
- Telangana Power Generation Corporation Limited (GENCO)

Coverage Details:

- ₹1 crore accident insurance coverage per employee
- ₹80 lakh coverage in the case of permanent disability
- ₹10 lakh coverage in the case of natural death
- ₹20 lakh combined insurance coverage for the employee and four family members
- Additional benefits include access to education and marriage loans for SBI account holders
- **Beneficiaries:** The scheme will cover a total of 51,868 employees across various positions, from linemen to Chairpersons and Managing Directors.

- **Objective:** The initiative aims to provide financial protection and social security to the families of electricity workers who often perform hazardous duties, especially during emergencies and natural disasters.

Accident Insurance Scheme – Key Highlights

- **₹1 Crore Coverage** Each power department employee is provided with accident insurance worth ₹1 crore – the first such initiative in India.
- **Eligible Beneficiaries** Covers around 51,868 employees, including linemen, engineers, MDs, and even chairpersons of the state's power utilities.

Compensation Details

- Permanent Disability: ₹80 lakh
- Natural Death: ₹10 lakh
- Additional Coverage: ₹20 lakh for the employee and four family members

Extra Banking Benefits (for SBI account holders)

- Education/wedding loans
- Zero balance account
- Waivers on ATM & cheque book charges
- **No Cost to Employees** The insurance premium is paid by the government, meaning the scheme is completely free for employees.
- **Purpose** The scheme aims to provide financial security to workers and their families in case of on-duty accidents or death.

Importance

- Inspired by the model implemented in Singareni Collieries, the scheme has now been extended to Telangana power sector workers.
- The move recognizes the critical role of power workers, especially in maintaining power during emergencies and record-high demand (17,162 MW).

Telangana Power Sector: Performance and Challenges

- **Peak Power Demand in 2025:** The state recorded a peak power demand of 17,162 MW in 2025, which marks a 2,000 MW increase from 2023. Despite this surge, Telangana managed to maintain uninterrupted power supply.
- **Identified Challenges:** One of the major issues affecting the power sector is the absence of a dedicated state electricity policy for over a decade. This lack of a clear policy direction has placed Telangana at a strategic disadvantage compared to other Indian states.

Launch of the 2025 New Green Energy Policy



Objectives of the Policy:

- To optimize the use of local renewable energy resources
- To contribute meaningfully to India's broader green energy goals
- To promote sustainable development through clean energy initiatives
- **Target:** The policy aims to generate 20,000 MW of green energy by the year 2030.

Infrastructure Upgrades:

- The state is undertaking modernization of power supply systems with the goal of meeting 75 percent of the state's peak electricity demand through green energy sources.

Significance of the Announcement

- **For Governance:** The initiatives reflect a people-centric and welfare-oriented approach to governance. By focusing on the well-being and security of frontline workers

in the electricity sector, the government demonstrates its commitment to inclusive development.

- **For Energy Security:** The push towards renewable energy aligns with national targets and enhances Telangana's self-reliance in power generation, reducing dependency on fossil fuels.
- **For Policy Reforms:** The introduction of a comprehensive state-level energy policy addresses a critical gap in strategic planning. It lays the foundation for long-term sustainability and structured growth in the power sector.

Telangana building norms set for an overhaul

Source: The Hindu

[https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/ad/app-based-gig-platform-exclusively-for-women-launched/article69679920.ece](https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/app-based-gig-platform-exclusively-for-women-launched/article69679920.ece)

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Telangana Building Rules

Why in News

The Telangana government has initiated a comprehensive revision of its 2012 building rules to align them with modern urban needs and updated national codes like the NBC 2023 and ECBC.

Background

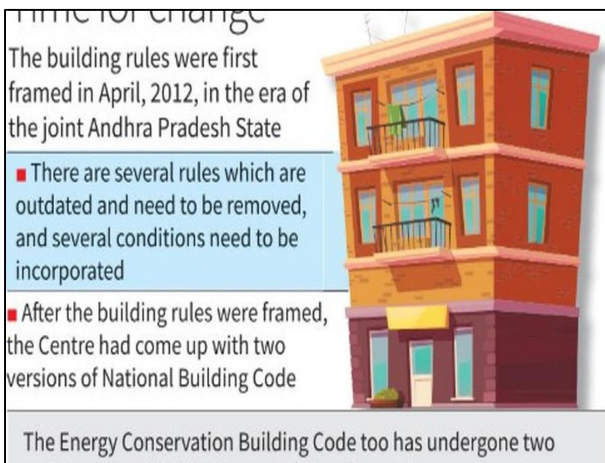
- The Telangana government has initiated a revision of the Telangana Building Rules, which form the legal and technical basis for granting building permissions across the state.
- These rules, originally adopted in 2012 (from the era of the unified Andhra Pradesh), have been amended multiple times, and are now deemed outdated and inconsistent with modern urban needs and national regulations.

Background:

- The existing building rules were notified in April 2012 under the unified Andhra Pradesh government.
- After Telangana's formation in 2014, these rules were adopted without any major changes.
- Since then, although amendments have been made, many provisions are now obsolete or conflict with newer environmental, safety, and planning guidelines.

National-level updates like:

- **National Building Code (NBC)** – Revised in 2016 and again in 2023.
- **Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC)** – Revised **twice**, most recently in line with India's climate and energy goals.

**Need for Revision:****Outdated Provisions:**

- Several norms do not reflect contemporary urban realities or modern construction technologies.
- Redundant or ambiguous rules have made the permission process cumbersome and less transparent.

Multiple Amendments:

- Frequent piecemeal amendments have created inconsistencies, leading to confusion and implementation hurdles.
- **Alignment with National Codes:** The current rules are not fully aligned with **NBC 2023** and **ECBC**, which emphasize:

- Green buildings
- Accessibility
- Fire safety
- Structural integrity
- Energy efficiency

Ease of Doing Business:

- The government aims to simplify and digitize the building approval process, aligning with initiatives like the National Single Window System (NSWS) for faster clearances.

Urban Growth Pressures:

- Rapid urbanisation in cities like Hyderabad, Warangal, and Nizamabad has necessitated zoning reforms, Floor Area Ratio (FAR) flexibility, parking norms adjustments, and high-rise guidelines.

New Committee for Draft Norms:

- A committee headed by the Commissioner of Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) has been constituted.

The committee is mandated to:

Review each and every norm under the existing rules.

Conduct wide stakeholder consultations with:

- Builders and real estate developers
- Architects and urban planners
- Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs)
- Environmental and fire safety experts
- Prepare draft recommendations for revised building rules.

Although the initial deadline was one month, delays have occurred. So far:

- Two internal committee meetings have been held.
- Stakeholder consultations are pending.
- Expected timeline for draft rules: 2 to 3 months.

Objectives of the Overhaul:**Simplification and User-Friendliness:**

- Streamline permission procedures
- Use of online platforms to improve efficiency

and reduce red tape

Sustainability:

- Integration of **green building standards**
- Promotion of **solar energy, rainwater harvesting, and energy-efficient designs**

Safety and Accessibility:

- Updated fire and earthquake safety codes
- Universal accessibility for persons with disabilities

Affordable Housing and Urban Inclusivity:

- Revisiting norms for EWS (Economically Weaker Section) and LIG (Low Income Group) housing
- Incentives for mixed-use development and vertical growth

Forward Linkages:

- Urban Reforms: Aligned with Smart Cities Mission, AMRUT, and RERA.
- Environmental Goals: Supports India's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) under the Paris Agreement.
- Digital India: Push for e-governance and digital approval systems.

Challenges in the Revision Process:

- Balancing stakeholder interests – Builders may push for liberal norms; RWAs may prefer stricter controls.
- Delay in consultations – Ground-level consensus may take time.
- Implementation capacity – ULBs may lack trained personnel or digital infrastructure.

Conclusion:

- The proposed overhaul of the Telangana Building Rules is a crucial step towards responsive, resilient, and future-ready urban planning.
- By aligning state-level regulations with national and global standards, and by incorporating stakeholder voices, the state government aims to ensure a transparent, efficient, and sustainable urban development

regime.

Bharat Biotech in-licences GSK's Shigella vaccine

Source: Times of India

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/bharat-biotech-in-licences-gsks-shigella-vaccine/articleshow/121810448.cms>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Public Health

Context:

Vaccine Candidate

Why in News

Bharat Biotech has in-licensed GSK's Shigella vaccine candidate altSonflex1-2-3 to develop, manufacture, and commercialize it for use in low- and middle-income countries.

Accident Insurance Scheme for Power Utility Employees

- In a significant development in the global public health domain, Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) has in-licensed the under-development Shigella vaccine candidate – altSonflex1-2-3 from GlaxoSmithKline (GSK).
- This move marks a major step forward in tackling Shigellosis, a bacterial infection causing severe diarrhoea, particularly affecting children under the age of five in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

About the Vaccine Candidate: altSonflex1-2-3

- **Disease Targeted: Shigellosis**, a form of bacterial diarrhoea caused by *Shigella* species.
- **Affected Population:** Primarily infants and young children under five years in LMICs.
- **Vaccine Platform:** Based on Generalised Modules for Membrane Antigens (GMMA) – a novel technology using outer membranes of bacteria to deliver the O-antigen to the immune system.

Early Clinical Trials:

- Phase I trials in Europe: Demonstrated a favourable safety profile and strong immunogenicity.
- Phase II trials in Africa: Conducted in 9-month-old infants. Reported no safety concerns and met immunogenicity goals (as per interim 2024 results).

Role of Bharat Biotech

Under the **in-licensing agreement**, Bharat Biotech will now:

- Take the vaccine into Phase III clinical trials.
- Handle regulatory approvals, manufacturing, and commercialisation.
- Focus on scaling up production for global access.

BBIL's Executive Chairman, **Dr Krishna Ella**, highlighted that with **no licensed vaccine for Shigella** currently available and **rising antimicrobial resistance (AMR)**, this vaccine could fill a critical gap in child health protection.

**Support from GSK**

Despite transferring the development rights, GSK will:

- Support trial design.
- Help secure external funding.
- Assist with access strategy and global delivery planning.

This ensures continued scientific and operational collaboration for effective vaccine roll-out.

Public Health Significance**What is Shigellosis?**

- An infectious disease caused by the Shigella bacteria.
- Spread through contaminated food and

water.

- Leads to diarrhoea, fever, stomach cramps, and in some cases, life-threatening complications.
- WHO classifies Shigella as a priority pathogen due to growing resistance to antibiotics.

Why is this important?

- No approved vaccine exists currently.
- High burden in LMICs, especially in Africa and South Asia.
- Contributes significantly to childhood morbidity and mortality.
- A vaccine can reduce the need for antibiotics, thereby helping combat antimicrobial resistance.

Broader Context and Bharat Biotech's Role in Global Health

Bharat Biotech has an **established portfolio of vaccines for diarrhoeal and enteric infections**, including:

- Rotavirus
- Typhoid
- Polio
- Cholera
- Non-typhoidal Salmonella
- Paratyphi

In **2021**, Bharat Biotech also signed a **product transfer agreement** for **RTS, S**, the **world's first malaria vaccine**, from GSK – reinforcing its role as a **key vaccine manufacturer for global health**.

Conclusion

- This collaboration between Bharat Biotech and GSK represents a critical advancement in vaccine development for one of the most neglected tropical diseases.
- The in-licensing of altSonflex1-2-3 reinforces India's role in vaccine innovation and production for global use, especially in areas with limited access to healthcare.
- Given the urgency to address AMR and reduce childhood diarrhoeal deaths, the

success of this vaccine could have transformative public health outcomes.

TGSRTC gets its first woman driver

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/tgsrtc-gets-its-first-woman-driver/article69697875.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

TGSRTC Inducts First Woman Driver

Why in News

TGSRTC appointed its first woman driver, V. Saritha, marking a milestone in gender inclusivity and sustainable public transport in Telangana.



Background

- In a landmark development aimed at promoting gender inclusivity in the transport sector, the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) has appointed its first woman bus driver, Ms. V. Saritha.
- This progressive move marks a milestone in the male-dominated sector and reflects the growing emphasis on women's empowerment in public service domains.

Key Highlights:

- **Trailblazer in Transport Sector:** V. Saritha, a native of Sithya Thanda in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district, has become the first woman to be inducted as a driver in TGSRTC.
- She will operate electric buses along the Hyderabad–Miryalguda route, contributing to both gender diversity and the promotion of sustainable public transport.

Experienced

Ms. Saritha previously worked with a transport corporation in Delhi, where she gained experience as a professional driver. Her request to return and serve in her home state was acknowledged by Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, following which she was appointed to the Miryalguda bus depot.

Professional:

- **Symbol of Women Empowerment:** Her induction holds symbolic importance in encouraging more women to join traditionally male-dominated fields like public transport.
- **Posting and Operational Role:** Posted at the Miryalguda depot, Ms. Saritha is now responsible for operating electric buses—a growing focus area for the state in reducing its carbon footprint and modernising its fleet.

Significance:

- **Gender Inclusivity:** Her appointment aligns with broader national and state-level goals of improving female participation in the workforce, especially in sectors where their representation remains minimal.
- **Public Sector Reforms:** This development reflects ongoing reforms in public institutions aimed at fostering diversity, efficiency, and social representation.
- **Sustainable Mobility:** Her operation of electric buses also supports Telangana's push towards clean energy in public transportation.

Earliest known reference to Telangana in a 600-year-old stone inscription in Tellapur, Hyderabad

Source: Times of India

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/earliest-known-reference-to-telangana-in-a-600-year-old-stone-inscription-in-tellapur-hyderabad/article69695073.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Art and Culture

Context: Early Epigraphic Reference to Telangana

Why in News

- A 1418 CE stone inscription discovered in Tellapur, Hyderabad, may be the earliest known reference to the term Telangana ("Telunganapura") etched in stone, dating back to the Bahmani Sultanate era.

Background

- A recently highlighted 600-year-old stone inscription discovered in Tellapur, a suburb of Hyderabad, may contain the earliest known reference to the word 'Telangana' etched in stone.
- Dated January 8, 1418, the inscription refers to the region as "Telunganapuram", which is believed to be the root from which the modern name "Telangana" evolved.
- This find is historically significant as it establishes the usage of the term 'Telangana' during the Bahmani Sultanate era, and offers insights into the political and cultural history of the Deccan region in the 15th century.

Location and Setting

- Tellapur, now part of Hyderabad's expanding urban sprawl and near the Financial District, was once a quiet village.
- The location of the inscription is unassuming – situated near a Pochamma temple, an old graveyard (qabristan), and surrounded by residential buildings. The Pochamma temple and snake pit sculpture hint at the region's

deep cultural layers, where folk traditions coexisted with imperial legacies.

- The graveyard is named after Habeeb Hasan Habshi, suggesting African connections, which were not uncommon in the Deccan due to the presence of Habshi (Abyssinian) soldiers and administrators, like Malik Ambar, the founder of Khidki (now Aurangabad).



The Inscription: Features and Content

- Located at the base of two tapering stone monoliths, the inscription is carved in Telugu and remains legible despite weathering over centuries.
- It belongs to the tradition of recording civic acts such as well-digging on stone, a common practice in medieval India.

According to Sibghat Khan of the Deccan Archive:

- The inscription commemorates the construction of a well during the reign of Firuz Shah Bahmani, the ruler of the Bahmani Sultanate based in Gulbarga (Karnataka).
- The royal entourage halted at Telunganapuram, en route to the Panagal fort, a significant military outpost in Telangana.
- The inscription bears motifs like the sun and crescent moon, symbols often associated with Islamic patronage.

Historical Value

The inscription serves multiple purposes in historical reconstruction:

- **First Epigraphic Evidence of 'Telangana':** The mention of **Telunganapuram** is possibly the earliest **epigraphic reference to Telangana** – critical for understanding the regional identity and historical naming of the area.
- **Bahmani Political Control:** It confirms that the Telangana region, including Tellapur, was under the **Bahmani Sultanate's dominion** in the early 15th century.

Cross-Cultural Interactions:

- The inscription is in Telugu, not Persian or Arabic, which were administrative languages under Muslim rulers, indicating linguistic inclusivity and cultural syncretism.
- Names mentioned include Rudroju Sirigiroju (scribe) and Nagoju (artisan), reflecting a Hindu artisan class employed in royal service, even crafting gold ornaments for the Sultan's queen.

Linguistic and Cultural Significance

- That the inscription is written in Telugu and details local village-level projects like well-digging implies a strong continuity of local languages and traditions even under Sultanate rule.
- It also demonstrates the localization of Islamic rule, where regional scripts and languages were adopted for public inscriptions – a fusion of Persianate governance with Telugu vernacular culture.

Broader Implications for Historical Research

- The discovery underscores the importance of archaeological and epigraphic research in reconstructing regional histories.
- It showcases the multi-ethnic and multi-lingual character of the Deccan, especially during the Bahmani rule.
- It hints at urbanization patterns, where

historical villages like Tellapur are now part of a metropolis, yet retain historical artifacts that reveal deep-rooted cultural identities.

Historical Significance:

- **Linguistic and Regional Identity:** The inscription represents the earliest recorded usage of the term *Telangana* in any permanent form. The use of *Telunganapuram* illustrates regional nomenclature from over six centuries ago.
- **Cultural Syncretism:** The site contains both a Hindu temple (dedicated to Pochamma) and an adjacent Muslim graveyard, reflecting the pluralistic socio-religious character of the Deccan region during the medieval period.
- **Deccan-African Connection:** The graveyard is associated with *Habeeb Hasan Habshi*, suggesting the presence of African-origin individuals in the Deccan—a phenomenon well documented through the legacy of figures like *Malik Ambar*.

Epigraphic Heritage: The stone inscription exemplifies the practice of **recording public works like well construction**, showcasing administrative customs under the Bahmani Sultanate.

Global Young Scientists summit concludes at IITH

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/tgsrtc-gets-its-first-woman-driver/article69697875.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Network of Asia-Pacific Young Academies (NAYA)

Why in News

- At IIT Hyderabad, 12 National Young Academies from the Asia-Pacific region adopted the Hyderabad Declaration, launching the Network of Asia-Pacific

Young Academies (NAYA).

Background

- At the culmination of the Global Young Scientists Summit held at IIT Hyderabad, 12 National Young Academies (NYAs) from the Asia-Pacific Region adopted a consensus statement known as the Hyderabad Declaration.
- The summit emphasized regional coordination, science diplomacy, capacity building, and sustainable development as its core goals.



Network of Asia-Pacific Young Academies (NAYA)

- The Declaration marked the official launch of the Network of Asia-Pacific Young Academies (NAYA), envisioned as a regional collaborative platform to connect, empower, and mentor early and mid-career researchers.
- It aims to facilitate the exchange of best practices, promote interdisciplinary research, and align regional efforts with global scientific challenges.
- According to Chandra Shekhar Sharma, past co-chair of the Global Young Academy (GYA), the groundwork for NAYA began five years ago. The Hyderabad Declaration is a pivotal step towards institutionalizing scientific cooperation in the Asia-Pacific.

Participating Academies

Led by the **Indian National Young Academy of Science (INIAS)**, the deliberations included participation from:

- National Young Academy of Nepal
- Young Scientist Network Malaysia
- Vietnam Young Academy
- Sri Lankan Academy of Young Scientists
- Royal Society of New Zealand ECR Forum
- The Hong Kong Young Academy of Sciences
- Thai Young Scientists Academy
- Young Academy of Japan
- Australian EMCR Forum
- World Association of Young Scientists, China
- Global Young Academy

This broad participation reflects a **pan-regional commitment** to leveraging young scientific talent for collective progress.

GYA Annual General Meeting: Theme and Sessions

The GYA Annual General Meeting, held alongside the summit, was themed 'Confluence of Visionaries: Empowering Science for Global Change' and was inaugurated by Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

The week-long conference included thematic sessions on:

- Industry 5.0
- Nutrition and well-being
- Human-machine interaction
- Foresight and futures thinking
- Science-society interface
- Role of early and mid-career researchers

These discussions helped shape GYA's strategic direction, with a focus on science-led solutions for global challenges.

Significance for India and the Region

- The Hyderabad Declaration reinforces India's leadership in promoting scientific cooperation in the Asia-Pacific.
- It reflects the country's commitment to science diplomacy and inclusive innovation.
- By anchoring NAYA, India contributes to nurturing a next-generation scientific

ecosystem that is collaborative, globally connected, and socially relevant.

Conclusion

- The Hyderabad Declaration and the formation of NAYA mark a new chapter in the regional collaboration of young scientists.
- It aligns with India's larger goals of Viksit Bharat, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and science for sustainable development, and strengthens global efforts to empower science as a force for positive change.

FLO's rural skill centre to empower women opened in Bhongir

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/flos-rural-skill-centre-to-empower-women-opened-in-bhongir/article69695046.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Rural Skill Centre

Why in News

- FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) launched a Rural Skill Centre in Bhongir, Telangana, to empower rural women through skill training and entrepreneurship.

Background

- To address the rural-urban skill gap and promote women's empowerment at the grassroots level, the **FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO)** has established a **Rural Skill Centre** in **Bhongir**, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district of Telangana. The centre was inaugurated by **MLA Kumbham Anil Kumar Reddy** in the presence of **District Collector M. Hanumantha Rao** and **FLO National President Poonam Sharma**.

Objective and Vision

The skill centre aims to:

- Empower rural women by equipping them with employable skills and entrepreneurial capabilities.
- Promote self-reliance, dignity, and economic inclusion among women.
- Contribute to women's participation in the state's vision of achieving a \$1-trillion economy, as emphasized by MLA Reddy.

Training Programmes Offered

The centre will offer **structured 45-day courses** in:

- Tailoring
- Handloom techniques
- Basic IT skills
- Micro-entrepreneurship

These programmes will be conducted in **collaboration with local experts and industry mentors**, ensuring practical and market-relevant skill development.

Scale and Outreach

FLO has set an ambitious target to train:

- **200 women per discipline**
- **2,000 rural women in total** during the year

The initiative aligns with FLO's broader **national agenda** of:

- **Promoting** entrepreneurship
- **Sustainability**
- **Revival of traditional heritage** through skill development
- **Stakeholder Remarks**

Significance

- This initiative represents a successful model of public-private partnership (PPP) in rural capacity building and women empowerment. By enhancing the skill capital of rural women, it also contributes to inclusive growth, gender equality, and sustainable development.

Telangana Gaddar Film Awards shine bright with star-studded ceremony

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/tgsrtc-gets-its-first-woman-driver/article69697875.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and Honours

Context:

Telangana Revives State Film Awards

Why in News

The Telangana government revived its state film awards after 14 years as the Gaddar Telangana Film Awards (TGFA) in 2024.

Background



- After a gap of 14 years, the Government of Telangana has revived the State Film Awards, newly rebranded as the Gaddar Telangana Film Awards (TGFA), in tribute to the legendary revolutionary poet and balladeer Gaddar.
- The awards were conferred during a grand ceremony attended by prominent film personalities and top government officials.

Major Award Winners:

Award Name	Recipient	Contribution
NTR National Film Award	Nandamuri Balakrishna	Acting and legacy of N.T. Rama Rao

Paidi Jairaj Film Award	Mani Ratnam	Contribution to Indian cinema
BN Reddy Film Award	Sukumar	Direction, especially for <i>Pushpa 2</i>
Kantha Rao Film Award	Vijay Devarakonda	Emerging acting talent
Raghupathi Venkaiah Film Award	Yandamuri Veerendra nath	Writing and screenplay contributions
Best Actor (Male)	Allu Arjun (<i>Pushpa 2</i>)	Lead performance

- Allu Arjun, receiving the first TGFA Best Actor Award, dedicated the award to his director Sukumar, producers, and fans.

Tribute to Gaddar:

- The renaming of the awards after Gaddar reflects a cultural-political tribute to his legacy as a revolutionary balladeer, poet, and people's voice.
- Gaddar Foundation Chairman and his son Suryakiran participated in the event.

Institutional Support:

- Organised under the aegis of the Telangana State Film Development Corporation (TGFDC).
- Jury chaired by veteran actor M. Muralimohan, with jury members and contributors like designer Ramavath Nagula Naik and critic Ponnam Ravichandra also honoured.

Significance:

- Cultural Revival: Marks the return of State-sponsored recognition for excellence in cinema after 14 years.
- Regional Identity & Legacy: Honors Telangana's contribution to the Telugu film industry while integrating icons like Gaddar and NTR into the cultural memory.
- Support to Artists: Encourages cinematic excellence across categories – acting,

direction, writing, and design.

- Public-Private Cultural Collaboration: Involvement of both government officials and film industry professionals reflects a collaborative governance model.

Tensions between Telugu states escalate over Godavari-Banakacharla project proposed by Andhra

Source: Deccan Herald

<https://www.deccanherald.com/india/andhra-pradesh/tensions-between-telugu-states-escalate-over-godavari-banakacharla-project-proposed-by-andhra-3590303>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Polavaram–Banakacharla Link Project Dispute

Why in News

- The Polavaram–Banakacharla Link Project, proposed by Andhra Pradesh to divert Godavari floodwaters to Rayalaseema.



Background

- The proposed Polavaram–Banakacharla Link Project by the Andhra Pradesh government has sparked a significant inter-state dispute with Telangana.
- The project, intended to divert surplus floodwaters of the Godavari River to the drought-prone Rayalaseema region, has led to objections from Telangana on legal and

environmental grounds.

Background and Project Overview

- Project Proponent: Government of Andhra Pradesh
- Objective: To divert floodwaters from the Godavari River at Polavaram to Banakacharla (Kurnool district) to supply irrigation and drinking water in Rayalaseema.
- Claim by AP: Only floodwaters/surplus water flowing into the sea will be diverted. No breach of existing allocations.

Telangana's Objections

Telangana has strongly opposed the project on the following grounds:

- Violation of the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal (GWDT) Award (1980).
- Contravention of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, which mandates approval for new inter-basin or inter-state water projects.
- Lack of environmental and inter-state clearances.
- Potential reduction in Telangana's rightful water share from the Godavari basin.

Andhra Pradesh's Standpoint

AP Irrigation Minister defended the project:

- The Godavari sees ~3000 TMC of water wasted into the sea annually.
- The river flows with 50 lakh cusecs at peak flood.
- Only seawater-mixed floodwater will be used, which is otherwise unutilizable.
- Rayalaseema, a water-scarce region, stands to gain immensely.
- Criticized Telangana for initiating projects like Kaleshwaram, Palamuru–Ranga Reddy, etc., without prior clearance.

Legal and Interstate Implications

- GWDT Award (1980): Restricts inter-basin water transfers without consensus among

basin states.

- AP Reorganization Act (2014): Mandates Centre's clearance for new projects affecting both successor states.
- Central Water Commission (CWC): Currently reviewing the pre-feasibility report submitted by Andhra Pradesh.

Conclusion

- The Polavaram–Banakacharla dispute reflects deeper tensions over interstate water sharing, regional equity, and federal coordination.
- As water security becomes more pressing due to climate variability and developmental needs, it is essential that states respect legal mandates, cooperative federalism, and ensure sustainable river basin management.
- The role of the Union government as a neutral arbiter remains critical to avoid escalation and ensure equitable water distribution across the region.

Warangal students win \$5,000 in prestigious Generative AI Hackathon

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/warangal-students-win-5000-in-prestigious-generative-ai-hackathon/article69709364.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Science and Technology

Context:

IBM Generative AI Hackathon 2025

Why in News

- KITS Warangal students won first prize in the IBM Generative AI Hackathon 2025 for developing 'Content Hub', an AI-powered social media content generator using IBM Granite models.

Overview of the Event

- The IBM Generative AI Hackathon 2025, powered by IBM Granite AI models, was a global 48-hour coding marathon that brought together over 1,931 participants across 267 teams worldwide.
- It was organized to encourage innovation in business process efficiency, automation, and digital transformation using generative AI technologies.
- The challenge required teams to conceptualize and build solutions that could integrate Granite AI APIs to develop tools that transform business and communication workflows.



Indian Winners: Pavushetty Yashwanth Krishna and Eesha Belladi

- Two third-year B.Tech (CSE-Networks) students from Kakatiya Institute of Technology and Science, Warangal (KITSW) – Pavushetty Yashwanth Krishna and Eesha Belladi – emerged as global winners.
- Their project, titled "Content Hub", secured 1st prize, standing out for its creativity and real-world applicability.

The Winning Solution: 'Content Hub'

Content Hub is an AI-powered social media platform that:

- Transforms raw social media interactions (e.g., user ideas, comments, interactions) into **personalized, SEO-optimized content**.
- Produces various formats of dynamic digital content such as:
 - Tweets
 - Twitter Threads
 - LinkedIn Posts

- Analytics Reports
- Uses **IBM Granite AI APIs for inference**, enabling the platform to:
 - Learn and mimic the user's unique voice.
 - Generate engaging and platform-specific content in seconds.
 - Provide actionable engagement analytics to refine user strategies.

This product combines **natural language processing (NLP)** and **personalization algorithms** for content creation, suitable for influencers, businesses, and marketing agencies.

Awards and Recognition

The winning team received:

Cash Prize: \$5,000

IBM Cloud Credits: \$500

- **Special Prize: Conference pass to IBM TechXchange Conference 2025**, Orlando, Florida – a global event for emerging tech and AI practitioners.

About IBM Granite AI

- IBM Granite is a suite of enterprise-grade foundation models developed by IBM for generative AI use cases.
- Offers APIs for text generation, summarization, personalization, and analytics.
- Tailored for secure and scalable business applications across industries.
- Key emphasis: Responsible AI, Data Privacy, and customization for enterprise needs.

Conclusion

- The victory of Indian students in a global AI hackathon reflects the emerging talent ecosystem in India's Tier-2 and Tier-3 educational institutions.

BSNL soft-launches SIM-less, 100% home-grown 5G fixed-wireless service 'Quantum 5G FWA'

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/bsnl-soft-launches-sim-less-100-home-grown-5g-fixed-wireless-service-quantum-5g-fwa/article69709020.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Science and Technology

Context:

Quantum 5G FWA and Micro Data Centre

Why in News

- BSNL has launched India's first indigenous Quantum 5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA), Micro Data Centre, and International Gateway in Hyderabad.

Background

- Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) launched India's first **Quantum 5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA)** services in Hyderabad, Telangana, alongside a **Micro Data Centre** and an **International Gateway**, marking a major step in indigenous 5G technology deployment under the *Atmanirbhar Bharat* initiative.

Quantum 5G FWA (Fixed Wireless Access)

- **What is FWA?** FWA is a wireless broadband solution that delivers high-speed internet to homes and enterprises using mobile network towers, eliminating the need for physical fiber.

Key Features of BSNL Q-5G FWA:

- **SIM-less technology:** Utilizes a unique authentication mechanism with no physical SIM card required.
- **Indigenous Stack:** Developed entirely in India through partnerships with Indian vendors; aligns with Atmanirbhar Bharat.

- **First launch:** Hyderabad (Ameerpet Exchange) becomes the first city in India to host this service.
- **Speeds offered:** Up to 300 Mbps, suitable for UHD streaming, cloud gaming, and remote work.
- **Coverage:** Reaches 85% of Hyderabad households using existing BSNL tower infrastructure.

No trenching or fibre laying: Enables faster deployment and reduced installation time.

Tariff Plans:

- ₹999/month for 100 Mbps
- ₹1,499/month for 300 Mbps



Micro Data Centres

- **Definition:** Compact, self-contained data processing and storage units that bring cloud computing closer to the end user (edge computing).

Applications:

- **Healthcare:** Real-time access to patient records and imaging.
- **Manufacturing:** Local analytics and process control.
- **Retail:** Real-time billing, data storage, and security management.

Advantages:

- Reduces latency
- Ensures data privacy
- Offers virtual servers, storage, and localized security
- Can be hired by small and medium businesses

International Gateway

- **Purpose:** To connect domestic telecom networks with international counterparts for **seamless voice, SMS, and data services.**

Impact:

- Enhanced international communication quality
- Boost to cross-border digital business and roaming services

6G Technology Research

- **Future readiness:** BSNL is collaborating with the Government of India on 6G research and development.
- **Innovative concept:** Each mobile device could act as an antenna, enabling a decentralized and ultra-high-speed network structure.

Pilot Expansion Plan

BSNL aims to extend its **Quantum 5G FWA** services to:

- Bengaluru
- Pondicherry
- Visakhapatnam
- Pune
- Chandigarh
- Gwalior

Target Date: September 2025

Significance and Implications

For Digital India & Atmanirbhar Bharat:

- Promotes self-reliant telecom infrastructure and reduces dependence on foreign telecom giants.
- Enhances rural and urban digital penetration without relying on fibre cables.
- **For Socio-Economic Development:**
- Empowers MSMEs, healthcare, and education sectors with high-speed internet and computing power.
- Creates new jobs and opportunities in tech deployment and data services.
- **For India's Strategic Autonomy:**
- Indigenous 5G stack and data centres reduce cyber vulnerabilities.

- Lays foundation for India's leadership in future 6G deployment.

Conclusion

- The BSNL launch of Quantum 5G FWA, Micro Data Centres, and International Gateway in Hyderabad marks a significant technological milestone for India.
- It aligns with national objectives like Digital India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and future 6G readiness, placing BSNL back on the telecom innovation map with indigenous and secure solutions.

Telangana's Kodad find biggest collection of Vengi Chalukya copper plates

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Jun/19/telanganas-kodad-find-biggest-collection-of-vengi-chalukya-copper-plates>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Art and Culture

Context:

Discovery of Vengi Chalukya Copper Plates

Why in News

- The Archaeological Survey of India is preserving the largest-ever set of copper plates linked to the Vengi Chalukya dynasty.

Background

- The Science Branch of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is currently engaged in the **chemical treatment and preservation of nine sets of copper plates** that were recently unearthed from a **Muslim graveyard in Kodada village**, located in Suryapet district of Telangana.
- These plates are now under the custody of the **Heritage Department of Telangana**.

Details of the Discovery:

- **Location of Discovery:** Kodada village, Suryapet district, Telangana.
- **Custodianship:** The plates were handed over by the Suryapet District Collector to the Archaeological Survey of India.
- **Material and Composition:** The inscriptions are engraved on copper plates, which is a common medium for issuing royal decrees and land grants in ancient India.
- **Volume:** A total of nine sets of copper plates, each set comprising four individual plates, making it the largest such collection attributed to the Vengi Chalukya dynasty.
- **Current Condition:** The plates initially appeared to be heavily covered with mud and had turned greenish due to corrosion, a common occurrence in copper artifacts due to oxidization.
- **Present Location and Treatment:** The plates are undergoing scientific conservation procedures including chemical treatment to remove corrosion and to stabilize the metal for future study and preservation.



Ongoing Processes and Future Steps:

Chemical Treatment:

- Being carried out by the Science Branch of ASI.
- Aims to remove surface corrosion and restore the readability of the inscriptions without damaging the artifact.

Epigraphic Analysis:

- To be conducted by the Epigraphy Branch of

ASI.

- Will involve estampage (an ink impression technique), followed by decipherment, transcription, and translation of the text.
- The inscriptions will help reconstruct the historical, administrative, and social context of the period in which they were created.

Symbolism and Inscription:

- The seal on the copper plates includes the symbol of a bull, a motif often associated with dynastic authority and religious symbolism.
- The accompanying inscription reads "Svasti Tribhuvanamkusa", a traditional royal invocation suggesting the plate was issued by a sovereign authority of the time.

Historical Context: The Chalukyas of Vengi

- The Vengi Chalukyas, also known as the Eastern Chalukyas, were a prominent South Indian dynasty that ruled from the 7th to the 12th century CE.
- Their territory covered large parts of what is now Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- The dynasty originally established its capital at Vengi (near modern-day Eluru) and later came under the influence of the Cholas of Tamilakam.
- They played a significant role in the development of regional languages like Telugu, art, architecture, and temple culture in peninsular India.
- The Vengi Chalukyas issued many copper plate inscriptions, usually related to **land grants, temple endowments, and royal edicts**.

Importance of Copper Plate Inscriptions in Indian History

- Copper plates served as durable records of land grants, typically issued to Brahmins, temples, or local chieftains.

They often included:

- Genealogies of kings

- Details of donation or land grant
- Geographical references
- Names of witnesses and dates, often using traditional Indian calendars.
- Such inscriptions are crucial **primary sources** for the reconstruction of **political, social, and economic life** in early and medieval India.
- The discovery of such an extensive collection provides new insights into the administrative practices and territorial extent of the Vengi Chalukyas.

Significance of the Current Discovery

- This is the **largest known collection** of copper plates related to the Vengi Chalukya dynasty, which makes it an exceptional archaeological find.
- The inscriptions may reveal new information about land ownership patterns, religious practices, patronage networks, and inter-dynastic relations during the period.
- The context of discovery—a Muslim graveyard—adds a layer of cultural and historical complexity, showcasing how historical layers accumulate in Indian settlements over centuries.
- Once deciphered, the plates could become an important addition to the epigraphical records of South India.

Conclusion

- The unearthing of the Vengi Chalukya copper plates from Suryapet district represents a milestone in Indian archaeology and epigraphy.
- The ASI's ongoing efforts in chemical treatment and scholarly analysis will likely lead to valuable contributions to the study of early medieval South India.
- This discovery underscores the importance of systematic conservation, documentation, and interpretation of India's archaeological heritage to understand its layered history.

ALEAP president shortlisted for UN Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/jun/20/aleap-president-shortlisted-for-un-nelson-rolihlahla-mandela-prize>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and Honours

Context:

UN Nelson Mandela Prize 2025

Why in News

- Rama Devi Kanneganti, President of ALEAP, has been shortlisted for the UN Nelson Mandela Prize 2025.

Background

- Rama Devi Kanneganti, President of ALEAP, has been shortlisted for the **United Nations Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize 2025**, in recognition of her efforts to promote women's empowerment through entrepreneurship.

About the United Nations Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize

- Established by:** United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/68/275 in 2014.
- First awarded:** 2015.
- Awarded every:** Five years.
- Purpose:** To honour the outstanding achievements and dedication of individuals (one **male** and one **female**) who have rendered exceptional service to humanity in line with the principles of **Nelson Mandela**, such as reconciliation, social justice, and human rights.
- Awarding Body:** United Nations Department of Global Communications and a selection committee appointed by the President of the General Assembly.

Significance of the Shortlisting

- Global Recognition:** Among 330 nominees worldwide, Rama Devi's inclusion in the shortlist brings **international acknowledgment** to grassroots women's entrepreneurship movements in India.
- Prestigious Honour:** Being shortlisted, even without winning, is considered a mark of exceptional global contribution to social development and empowerment.
- India's Global Image:** Highlights India's growing recognition in **inclusive development and gender equity**.



About Rama Devi Kanneganti and ALEAP

Founder and President of ALEAP (Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of India).

Founded in 1993, ALEAP is one of India's most influential women entrepreneur networks.

Membership: Over 10,000 women entrepreneurs across sectors.

Work:

- Providing skill development and capacity building programs.
- Facilitating market linkages and financial literacy.
- Advocacy for women-friendly industrial policies.
- Establishing Women Industrial Parks, such as at Gajwel, Telangana.
- Promoting social entrepreneurship, sustainable businesses, and digital innovation by women.

Conclusion

- Rama Devi Kanneganti's shortlisting for the UN Nelson Mandela Prize is a landmark

recognition of the silent revolution led by women entrepreneurs in India.

- Her journey through ALEAP showcases how localized leadership rooted in community service can garner global acknowledgment.
- This event not only serves as a model of transformative leadership but also strengthens India's image as a champion of inclusive and sustainable development.

India Post helps transform geolocation with DIGIPIN

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/india-post-helps-transform-geolocation-with-digipin/article69721846.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Science and Technology

Context:

About DIGIPIN

Why in News

- India Post launched DIGIPIN, a 10-digit alphanumeric geolocation code, to improve precision in mail delivery and public services across India, including Telangana.

Background

- More than five decades after the introduction of the six-digit Postal Index Number (PIN), India Post has rolled out the Digital Postal Index Number (DIGIPIN) — a transformative, high-precision geospatial addressing system.
- This new system aims to overcome the limitations of the traditional PIN code by offering location accuracy up to four metres and supporting modern applications such as drone deliveries, emergency response, and digital commerce.

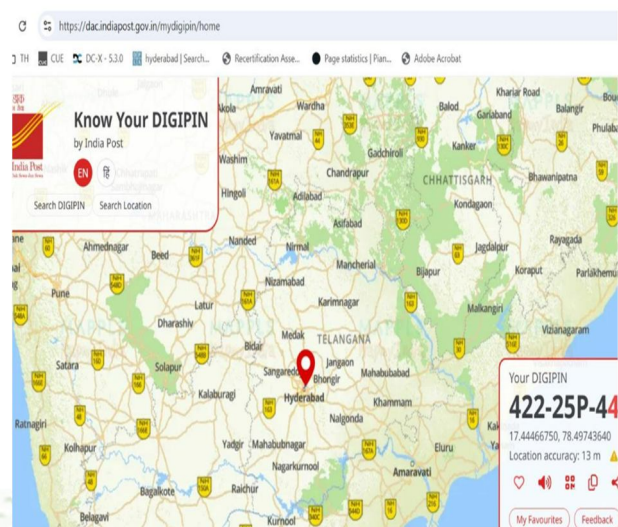
What is DIGIPIN?

- DIGIPIN is a **10-digit alphanumeric code**

that represents **precise geographic coordinates**. Unlike the older six-digit PIN code system that denotes a broad area averaging 170 square kilometres, the DIGIPIN maps each unique 4x4 metre square grid across India, allowing for location identification with an accuracy of up to four metres.

Salient Features of DIGIPIN

- **Format:** A 10-character alphanumeric code (e.g., AB12CD3456).
- **Coverage:** The entire Indian landmass has been divided into **uniform 4m x 4m grids**. Interestingly, the grid system also extends into some neighbouring areas, such as parts of Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar.
- **Location Accuracy:** Offers high-precision geolocation, significantly improving upon the broad coverage of the traditional PIN code.
- **Accessibility:** DIGIPIN can be generated using devices with GPS/location enabled via the India Post portal.
- **Integration:** Part of **India Post's IT 2.0 initiative**, it will be embedded into mobile devices provided to postal staff to support digital delivery of postal, financial, and insurance services.



Institutional Collaboration

DIGIPIN is the result of a multi-institutional collaboration involving:

- **India Post** – National postal infrastructure and implementation
- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad** – Technical design and development
- **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)** – Satellite-based data and mapping
- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** – Spatial intelligence and satellite coordination

Why DIGIPIN Was Needed

- The traditional six-digit PIN code, introduced in 1972, was designed for efficient mail sorting, not precise delivery.
- With rapid urbanisation, e-commerce growth, and the increasing need for emergency response efficiency, several shortcomings of the older system became apparent:
- **Lack of precision:** One PIN code often covers large and densely populated areas.
- **Dependence on local knowledge:** Delivery relied heavily on the familiarity of postal staff with local addresses.
- **Manual errors:** Addresses were often written without PIN codes, leading to delays and misrouting.

DIGIPIN addresses these challenges by offering **machine-readable, GPS-based precision** that enables automated and reliable service delivery.

Potential Applications of DIGIPIN

- **Postal and Courier Services:** Ensures accurate delivery, especially for last-mile services and in informal settlements or rural areas.
- **Drone Deliveries:** Facilitates navigation for drone-based postal or commercial deliveries.
- **Emergency Response:** Enables rapid dispatch of ambulances, disaster relief, or law enforcement to exact locations.
- **E-Governance and Utility Services:** Assists in land record digitisation, property tax mapping, and infrastructure planning.

- **Financial Services:** Can be used to verify the address in digital banking and insurance, similar to Aadhaar or UPI.
- **E-commerce and Logistics:** Enhances customer experience with accurate delivery times and real-time tracking.

Challenges and Limitations

- **Urban Complexes:** In high-rise buildings or dense apartment clusters, multiple residences may share a common 4x4 metre grid, making unit-level differentiation difficult.
- **Digital Literacy and Access:** Awareness, mobile device access, and GPS availability may be limited in rural areas.
- **Data Privacy Concerns:** Geolocation-based services require strict data protection measures to avoid misuse.
- **Future Roadmap**
- India Post is planning the introduction of a Digital Address Layer, which will function similarly to a UPI ID.
- Users may be able to customise and manage their addresses in formats like `username@domain`, linking descriptive addresses to the precise DIGIPIN for easier sharing and usage.

Conclusion

- DIGIPIN represents a major step forward in India's digital infrastructure, aligning the postal system with modern-day needs for precision, automation, and scalability.
- With applications ranging from mail delivery to disaster management, it has the potential to become a foundational layer for India's evolving digital public infrastructure.
- Successful implementation will depend on widespread awareness, technical integration, and addressing urban and privacy-related challenges.

Telangana records over 50,000 new cancer cases every year

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-records-over-50000-new-cancer-cases-every-year/article69724427.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Public health

Context:

Cancer care centre

Why in News

- To address the rising burden of cancer in Telangana, the State government announced mobile screening units and cancer care centres at the district level during the silver jubilee of Basavatarakam Indo American Cancer Hospital.

Background

- Telangana records around 50,000 to 55,000 new cancer cases annually, underscoring an urgent public health crisis.
- On June 22, 2025, during the silver jubilee celebrations of the Basavatarakam Indo American Cancer Hospital and Research Institute in Hyderabad, Telangana Health Minister C. Damodar Raja Narasimha outlined a strategic response to this growing burden.

Key Announcements: Decentralised Cancer Care Strategy

To strengthen early detection and treatment of cancer, the Telangana government announced the following interventions:

Mobile Cancer Screening Units:

- Planned for every district.
- Aim: To provide early detection services at the grassroots level, especially in rural and semi-urban areas where access to specialist care is limited.

Dedicated Cancer Care Centres:

- To be established across districts.

- These centres will offer a comprehensive range of services, including:
 - Screening and early diagnosis
 - Day-care chemotherapy
 - Palliative support
- Goal: Reduce patient load on urban tertiary hospitals and make cancer treatment equitable and accessible.

The Minister emphasised that **early detection is key to survival**, and timely diagnosis and intervention can significantly improve outcomes.



Role of Basavatarakam Indo American Cancer Hospital

Founded in 2000 as a 110-bed facility, the hospital has expanded over 25 years into a 700-bed comprehensive cancer treatment centre. Key developments:

- Leadership: Actor and MLA Nandamuri Balakrishna, serving as chairman, has been instrumental in its development.
- Donor Support: Growth has been driven by strong public trust and philanthropic contributions.

Future Plans:

- A 1,000-bed cancer hospital in Andhra Pradesh is in the pipeline.
- Phase 1 construction is set to begin soon, furthering regional access to high-quality cancer care.

Technological Upgrade: Inauguration of Linear Accelerator

At the event, Governor Jishnu Dev Varma inaugurated a **Linear Accelerator**, a modern radiotherapy machine.

This equipment enhances the hospital's

capability to deliver **targeted radiation therapy** with precision, reducing damage to surrounding healthy tissues.

Significance of the Initiatives

Strengthening Public Health Infrastructure:

- The decentralised model aims to integrate cancer care into district-level health services.
- Reduces travel and financial burden on rural patients.

Promotion of Preventive Health Culture:

- Mobile units encourage proactive screening, improving early-stage detection rates.

Public-Private Synergy in Healthcare:

- The role of charitable institutions like Basavatarakam Hospital showcases the potential of philanthropy in bridging gaps in advanced healthcare services.

Technological Advancement in Cancer Treatment:

- Investments in state-of-the-art equipment like the Linear Accelerator demonstrate a shift toward **precision oncology**.

Model for Other States:

- Telangana's initiative may serve as a **replicable model** for other states to manage the rising burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) like cancer.

GI application filed for Balanagar Custard Apple

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/india-post-helps-transform-geolocation-with-digipin/article69721846.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Science and Technology

Context:

Balanagar Custard Apple

Why in News

- The Balanagar Custard Apple has been proposed for a Geographical Indication (GI)

tag for its unique flavour and nutrient profile shaped by rain-fed, rocky terrain cultivation.

Background

- The Balanagar Custard Apple, a unique wild variety of custard apple grown in parts of Telangana, has been officially proposed for a Geographical Indications (GI) tag, with application number 1569 filed in June 2025.
- The move aims to protect and promote this indigenous fruit variety by acknowledging its distinctive characteristics and promoting it in domestic and international markets.

Geographical Coverage and Origin

The Balanagar Custard Apple is native to three districts in **Telangana**:

- Mahbubnagar: 5 mandals
- Rangareddy: 3 mandals
- Vikarabad: 3 mandals

The fruit grows **wild**, primarily in **rain-fed**, rocky terrains without the support of irrigation or chemical fertilizers.

Unique Features of Balanagar Custard Apple

1. Distinct Nutrient Profile

- As per research conducted by **Sri Konda Laxman Telangana Horticultural University**, the rocky soil and terrain-specific weathering in this region impart a **unique micro and macro nutrient composition** to the fruit.

2. Cultivation Conditions

- The fruit is **non-commercially cultivated** in **non-irrigated, natural settings**.
- According to horticulture scientist **Saidaiah Pidigam**, irrigation and the use of fertilizers **diminish the natural flavour**, making the Balanagar variety **superior in taste**.

3. Agro-Morphological Traits

- Scientific documentation has highlighted the distinct agro-morphological characteristics (such as shape, colour, and texture) of this variety compared to other custard apples.

- Its robust flavour profile, resistance to pests in natural conditions, and low-input farming compatibility are seen as key attributes.



GI Application and Stakeholders

The application was filed by **Subhajit Saha**, a GI practitioner from **Resolute4IP**.

Filed on behalf of:

- **Pomal Farmer Producer Company Limited**
- **Balanagar Farmer Producer Company Limited**
- **The Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society**
- The initiative is **financially supported by NABARD** (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development).

Significance of GI Tag

1. Legal Protection and Branding

- The GI tag would provide legal protection against unauthorized use of the name "Balanagar Custard Apple".
- It would also strengthen brand identity by linking the fruit with its geographical origin.

2. Market Access

- A GI tag will help access premium domestic and international markets where consumers value origin-based and chemical-free produce.
- It can improve the livelihoods of local farmers by fetching higher prices.

3. Conservation and Rural Economy

- It encourages the conservation of traditional, climate-resilient crops.
- Promotes **sustainable agricultural practices** in rain-fed regions, helping improve **rural**

income without ecological degradation.

Way Forward

- **Awareness and Training** for farmers on post-harvest processing, branding, and GI compliance.
- Marketing support from state and central agencies to link the produce with food processing industries and export chains.
- Establishing farmer-producer cooperatives for quality control, certification, and branding.

Conclusion

- The GI application of the Balanagar Custard Apple represents more than a legal milestone – it is a step toward sustainable agriculture, farmer empowerment, and the promotion of indigenous biodiversity.
- With support from institutions like NABARD and scientific backing from horticultural universities, this initiative can transform a wild fruit into a symbol of Telangana's agro-heritage and a contributor to the state's rural economy.

Telangana's VeriFast app sets national benchmark in passport verification

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telanganas-verifast-app-sets-national-benchmark-in-passport-verification/article69728717.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

VeriFast App

Why in News

- Telangana Police topped India in passport verification efficiency due to their digital platform VeriFast, which enables fast,

transparent, and fraud-resistant processing.

Background

- In a major recognition of efficient digital governance and public service innovation, Telangana Police has secured the top rank among all Indian States in passport verification efficiency, owing to the successful implementation of its indigenous digital platform VeriFast.
- This accolade comes ahead of **Passport Seva Divas (June 24, 2025)**, during which **Director General of Intelligence B. Shivadhar Reddy** will be conferred the **Certificate of Excellence** by the **Minister of External Affairs** in New Delhi.

Key Highlights of the Achievement:

- **Top National Rank in Efficiency** Telangana Police has consistently demonstrated the fastest average turnaround time (TAT) in India for passport verification, often completing cases within three working days, well ahead of national requirements.
- **High Volume, High Performance** The State handles over 2,000 verifications daily, with more than 8 lakh applications processed annually. This remarkable throughput is maintained with over 95% applicant satisfaction, showcasing both scale and quality.



VeriFast Platform: A Technological Breakthrough in Public Service

- **Purpose-built for Passport Verification** VeriFast was designed to streamline and digitize the passport verification process,

ensuring transparency, accountability, and reduced human delay.

- **Multi-Platform Compatibility** The application functions seamlessly across Android, iOS, Windows, and Linux, thereby eliminating dependence on expensive or specialized hardware.
- **Real-Time Communication and Transparency** Applicants receive real-time SMS alerts at every stage, enhancing trust and transparency. This system has been pivotal in achieving high user satisfaction levels.
- **Dynamic Reassignment System** The platform enables dynamic workload redistribution, allowing police stations to balance verifications efficiently and **maintain zero backlog** in most cases.

Integration with State Intelligence & Crime Prevention

- **Fraud Detection and Prevention** VeriFast is integrated with the State's intelligence and criminal databases, enabling field officers to detect fraudulent or suspicious applications early in the process.
- **Tiered Verification Workflow** - The system follows a structured three-tier verification process:
 - Field Verification Officer (FVO)
 - Inspector/Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP)
 - Passport Verification Cell (PVC)
- This hierarchy ensures **accurate, accountable, and speedy verification**, with proper checks at every level.
- **Data Analytics and Crime Analysis** - VeriFast incorporates a data analytics module that assists police in:
 - Monitoring daily trends in verification
 - Identifying hotspots of suspicious activity
 - Tracing patterns linked to illegal emigration, fake identity submissions, and document rackets

Upcoming Features and Improvements

- **Slot Booking for Applicants** - A future upgrade will allow citizens to book passport verification slots online, reducing uncertainty and making the process more convenient and applicant-friendly.
- **Enhanced Mobility and Surveillance** - Continued integration with mobile policing and surveillance networks is expected to enhance on-ground verification speed and security.

Significance of Telangana's Achievement:

- **Model for Other States** - Telangana's VeriFast platform sets a benchmark for digital transformation in law enforcement and citizen services.

Good Governance Example - It aligns with the goals of *Digital India* and *Minimum Government, Maximum Governance*.

- **Citizen-Centric Policing** - Reflects a shift towards proactive, technology-driven, and people-first policing in the country.

Conclusion:

- The success of VeriFast and the national recognition accorded to the Telangana Police underline the transformative potential of technology in public service delivery.
- By combining digital tools with administrative efficiency and institutional accountability, Telangana has not only optimized passport verification but also contributed to a safer, more transparent system of citizen identification and mobility.

Telangana tops India in child labour rescues, arrests

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-tops-india-in-child-labour-rescues-arrests-report/article69730641.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Social Justice

Context:

Telangana Leads India in Tackling Child Labour and Trafficking



Why in News

- Telangana led all Indian states in 2024–25 by rescuing over 11,000 children from child labour and trafficking, according to the "Building the Case for Zero" report by India Child Protection.

Background

- According to the report "Building the Case for Zero" released by India Child Protection, Telangana has emerged as India's top-performing state in combating child labour and child trafficking.
- In the financial year 2024–25, the state rescued 11,063 children, the highest among all states, and carried out 7,632 operations targeting child exploitation.
- This data is part of a national analysis conducted by Just Rights for Children (JRC), a coalition of over 250 NGOs working across 24 states.

Key Highlights from the Report:

National Trends:

A total of 53,651 children were rescued across India.

Of these, over 90% were engaged in the worst forms of child labour, including:

- Sweatshops and informal factories
- Domestic servitude
- Massage parlours and orchestras

- Street begging and other forms of forced labour

Performance of Telangana:

- Highest number of rescues: 11,063 children
- Total operations: 7,632
- Total arrests: 2,247 (including 2,226 for child labour and 21 for sexual exploitation)
- Strong coordination: Between civil society organisations and law enforcement agencies
- Legal follow-through: High rate of arrests and FIRs filed, unlike in many other states

Comparison with Other States:

- Uttar Pradesh rescued over 4,095 children but made only 167 arrests.
- Rajasthan, Bihar, and other states showed similar gaps between rescue and prosecution, pointing to weak enforcement.

Legal and Policy Issues Highlighted:

Challenges Identified:

High prevalence of **worst forms of child labour**

Poor legal prosecution in many states despite rescues

Limited rehabilitation and follow-up services

Hidden, unregulated sectors exposing children to abuse

Recommendations from the Report:

- Launch a National Mission to End Child Labour, with a strong enforcement and rehabilitation framework.
- Create a dedicated Central Child Labour Rehabilitation Fund for the financial and social reintegration of rescued children.
- Strengthen district-level child labour task forces for rapid response.
- Enforce universal free and compulsory education up to 18 years to prevent children from entering the labour force.
- Implement a zero-tolerance policy for the use of child labour in:
 - Public procurement contracts
 - Corporate and supply chains
 - Mandatory prosecution of employers and

traffickers to break the cycle of child labour.

Significance:

1. Ethical Governance and State Responsibility:

- Telangana's example reflects the importance of **political will, effective coordination, and accountability mechanisms** in enforcing child protection laws.
- Arrests and legal action serve as **deterrents** and reinforce the message of zero tolerance.

2. Protection of Fundamental Rights:

Rescuing children from labour and exploitation is directly linked to:

- Right to Education (Article 21A)
- Right against Exploitation (Article 23 & 24)
- Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986

3. Social Justice and SDGs:

Aligns with:

- SDG 8.7: Eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking, and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.
- SDG 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence against children.

Conclusion:

- Telangana's success in combating child labour and trafficking in 2024-25 provides a replicable model for other states.
- However, the report also signals a national gap in enforcement, legal action, and rehabilitation.
- Rescue operations must be supported by prosecution, sustained education efforts, and economic rehabilitation to ensure long-term eradication of child labour in India.

Telangana govt integrating AI into TG-iPASS industrial system to enhance transparency, speed of approval

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-govt-integrating-ai-into-tg-ipass-industrial-system-to-enhance-transparency-speed-of-approval/article69731210.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

TG-iPASS



Why in News

- Telangana government is integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) into its TG-iPASS industrial approval system to enhance transparency, speed, and governance efficiency.

Background

- The Telangana government has announced the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools into its pioneering Telangana State Industrial Project Approval and Self-Certification System (TG-iPASS).
- This move marks a significant step towards enhancing transparency, efficiency, and investment facilitation in the state's industrial ecosystem.
- The announcement was made by Industries and IT Minister D. Sridhar Babu during an interaction with a French business delegation

on June 24, 2025, highlighting Telangana's growing focus on emerging technologies.

What is TG-iPASS?

TG-iPASS: Origin and Evolution

- Launched: 2014-15 as TS-iPASS (renamed to TG-iPASS after the change in state abbreviation).
- Objective: Provide single-window clearance for industrial projects with self-certification.
- Legal backing: Enacted through the Telangana State Industrial Project Approval and Self-Certification System Act, 2014.
- Time-bound clearances: Mandates approvals within 15 days, making it one of the most efficient systems in India.
- First of its kind: At its launch, it was among the first systems in the country to institutionalize **right to timely approvals** for industries.

Achievements of TG-iPASS (2014-2025)

Category	Figures
Total Approved Projects	27,592
Total Investment	₹3,02,330.96 crore
Manufacturing Sector Projects	24,920
Services Sector Projects	2,667
Employment Generated	Over 1.89 lakh jobs

- These achievements have contributed to Telangana's emergence as a **leading investment destination**, particularly in manufacturing, IT, pharma, and aerospace.

Why Integrate AI into TG-iPASS?

Minister's Statement:

AI integration is aimed at enhancing:

- Transparency in the approval process.
- Speed and efficiency of industrial clearances.
- Monitoring and compliance through intelligent automation.

Although specifics were not disclosed, the broader goal is to modernize governance and align with Telangana's vision of becoming a **global innovation hub**.

Policy and Political Context

- Under BRS government (2014–2023): TG-iPASS was a flagship reform introduced by former CM K. Chandrashekar Rao, helping Telangana attract multibillion-dollar investments.
- Under Congress government (from 2023): CM A. Revanth Reddy initially hinted at policy tweaks and launched an MSME Policy to plug gaps in TG-iPASS. However, the latest move to integrate AI reflects **continuity with innovation** in governance.

AI and Emerging Tech Policy in Telangana

The AI-integration in TG-iPASS is part of a broader effort to promote **emerging technologies**:

Key Initiatives:

Future City Project:

- A proposed 30,000-acre global innovation hub near Hyderabad.
- Being developed under a public-private partnership (PPP) model.
- Focus areas: Clean energy, smart healthcare, AI, sustainable manufacturing, future-ready education.

Global Capability Centres (GCCs):

- In 2024 alone, **70 new GCCs** were set up in Hyderabad, reflecting investor confidence in Telangana's digital infrastructure.

Indo-French Collaboration in Telangana

The announcement was made during a meeting with the **Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI)**. French firms like **Sanofi, Capgemini, Dassault, Safran, Monin, Teleperformance**, and **Opella Healthcare** already operate in Telangana in areas such as:

- Aerospace
- Pharmaceuticals
- IT and AI
- Food Processing

The government invited French companies to explore:

- **Investment opportunities** in the Future City

- **Collaborations** in clean mobility, digital governance, and smart infrastructure

Significance for Telangana and India

For Telangana:

- Reinforces the state's position as a preferred industrial and tech destination.
- Leverages Hyderabad's status as a global IT hub.
- Promotes **data-driven, responsive governance**.

For India:

- Acts as a model for other states seeking to adopt smart governance mechanisms.
- Supports India's Digital India and Ease of Doing Business objectives.
- Attracts foreign direct investment (FDI) in key sectors aligned with sustainable development goals (SDGs).
- Conclusion
- The integration of AI into TG-iPASS represents a strategic policy shift towards smart, transparent, and future-ready industrial governance.
- Telangana's proactive approach in combining industrial policy with technological innovation is a step toward building a new-age economy that is inclusive, efficient, and sustainable.
- It sets a replicable model for other states looking to attract global investment while fostering digital transformation.

Centre, Telangana join hands for 3,245 acres Zaheerabad Industrial Area project

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/centre-telangana-join-hands-for-3245-acres-zaheerabad-industrial-area-project/article69732599.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance Governance

Context:

Smart Integrated Industrial City

Why in News

- The Central and Telangana governments will jointly develop a Smart Integrated Industrial City in Zaheerabad under the Hyderabad-Nagpur Industrial Corridor (HNIC).

Introduction

- The Zaheerabad Industrial Area (ZIA) is a strategic industrial development initiative taken up as a priority project under the Hyderabad-Nagpur Industrial Corridor (HNIC).
- It aims to transform Zaheerabad in Telangana into a Smart Integrated Industrial City, promoting manufacturing, infrastructure development, and regional connectivity in line with the Make in India and Act East Policy.

Key Features of the Zaheerabad Industrial Area (ZIA)

1. Project Scope and Location

- Spread across 3,245.48 acres in Nyalkal and Jharasangam mandals of Sangareddy district, Telangana.

Strategic location:

- ~125 km from Hyderabad airport.
- Close to Mahindra’s automobile plant.
- Near Krishnapatnam Port (320 km) and Manoharabad Multi-Modal Logistics Park (110 km).

2. Ownership and Governance Structure

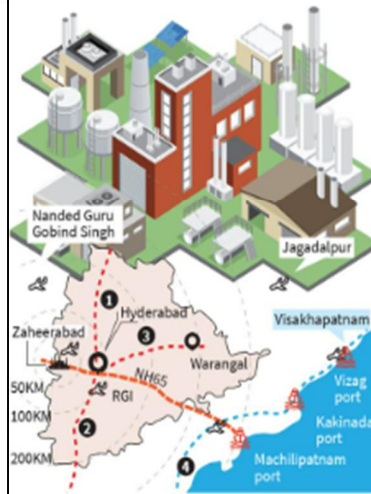
A **Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)** named **NICDIT Zaheerabad Industrial Smart City** has been formed.

Equity Holding:

- 49% - National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT), Government of India.
- 51% - Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIC), State Government.

Smart City project

Priority project under Hyderabad Nagpur Industrial Corridor, spans about **3,245 acres**



- Proposed in Nyalkal and Jharasangam mandals in Sangareddy district of Telangana
- Special purpose vehicle NICDIT Zaheerabad Industrial Smart City, a 49:51 JV between GoI’s NICDIT and Telangana government’s TGIIC has been set up for implementation of the project
- Set to boost manufacturing activity in Telangana
- Promote integrated development of industrial, urban, social and transport infrastructure
- To support Make in India and build on the Act East Policy

1. Hyderabad Nagpur Industrial Corridor | 2. Hyderabad Bengaluru Industrial Corridor | 3. Hyderabad Warangal Industrial Corridor | 4. Vizag Chennai Industrial Corridor

Objectives and Significance

1. Integrated Infrastructure Development

Development of **state-of-the-art industrial infrastructure** backed by **professional management**.

Includes:

- Roads, power supply, water, ICT, and common utilities.
- Urban and social infrastructure for liveability and workforce support.

2. Boost to Industrialisation

Expected to:

- Attract investments in manufacturing and allied sectors.
- Enhance Telangana’s share in national industrial production.
- Act as a regional growth node for the HNIC.

3. Employment and Economic Impact

- Likely to generate large-scale employment.
- Encourage SMEs, startups, and technology-driven industries.
- Develop Zaheerabad into a **self-sustaining economic zone**.

Strategic Relevance

Aspect	Details
Make in India	Facilitates domestic production and global competitiveness.
Act East Policy	Enhances connectivity between central India and eastern trade corridors.
Industrial Corridor Goals	Integrates infrastructure with manufacturing clusters for economic growth.
Logistics Connectivity	Links with NH network, major ports, and logistics parks.

Land Acquisition and Development Status

- 91% of land (2,961 acres) is already in government possession.
- Remaining 284.48 acres includes patta, assigned, and government land under acquisition.
- Infrastructure development will be in phases based on investment potential and sectoral focus.

Complementary Projects by TGICC

TGICC (State nodal agency):

- Previously developed land in Kancha Gachibowli near Hyderabad IT hub.
- Proposed major projects like Hyderabad **Pharma City**.
- This project adds to Telangana's profile as a **hub of industrial infrastructure innovation**.

Challenges

- Timely completion of land acquisition.
- Environmental clearances and sustainable development.
- Ensuring equity in local employment and rehabilitation (if applicable).

Way Forward

- Strengthen industrial policy for investor facilitation.
- Establish industrial training institutes in the

region.

- Integrate with national logistics and export promotion schemes.

Conclusion

- The Zaheerabad Industrial Area under the Hyderabad-Nagpur Industrial Corridor is a landmark initiative that underscores India's focus on industrial transformation through smart infrastructure.
- With strong central-state cooperation, it is poised to become a model for integrated industrial **city development**, contributing to both regional and national economic goals.

Muslim woman's right to Khula is absolute

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/muslim-womans-right-to-khula-is-absolute-telangana-hc/article69737339.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Social Justice

Context:

Woman's right

Why in News

- The Telangana High Court ruled that a Muslim woman's right to seek Khula (divorce initiated by her) is absolute and does not require the husband's consent or justification.

Background

- In a landmark judgment, the Telangana High Court ruled that a Muslim married woman's right to demand Khula – a form of divorce initiated by the wife – is absolute, does not require the husband's consent, and does not need to be based on specific causes.
- The judgment has reaffirmed and expanded judicial recognition of Muslim women's autonomy under personal law in India.

What is Khula?

- Khula (Arabic: "خلع", meaning "to remove" or "to take off") is a form of divorce under Islamic law wherein a woman initiates separation by offering to return her dower or other settlement.
- It is a non-adjudicatory, out-of-court method that may involve consultation with a Mufti or Dar-ul-Qaza, though such consultation is not legally mandatory, as clarified by the High Court.

Case Background:

- A man filed an appeal challenging a Family Court order that accepted his wife's decision to end the marriage through Khula.
- The appellant did not dispute the factual findings of the Family Court, nor did he deny that the marriage had effectively ended.
- His primary grievance was that **the Family Court lacked the jurisdiction** to recognize or formalize the *Khula*.



Key Observations by the Telangana High Court:

On the Absolute Right to Khula:

- A **Muslim woman's right to demand Khula is absolute** – it does **not require the husband's acceptance**, nor does it have to be justified by a cause.
- The court emphasized that this **right exists independently**, and **only a court's judicial stamp is needed** to finalize the termination of marriage.

Role of Mufti or Dar-ul-Qaza:

- The **Khulanama** (certificate of dissolution) issued by a **Mufti** or Islamic body is **not**

binding on the courts.

- Such **opinions are advisory in nature**, and a **civil court's approval holds final authority** in legally recognizing the dissolution.

Judicial Scope:

- The role of the Family Court is to recognize and record the dissolution, not to refuse or invalidate the woman's autonomous decision.
- Any court inquiry should be summary in nature, avoiding prolonged litigation or detailed fact-finding.

On Reconciliation Efforts:

- Before proceeding, courts should attempt reconciliation between the couple, as per the Family Courts Act.
- However, failure to reconcile does not negate the **woman's right to Khula**.

Comparative Reference:

- The Bench referred to a similar precedent from the **Kerala High Court**, reinforcing that **Muslim women should not be subjected to prolonged uncertainty** post-Khula demand.

Impact and Significance:

Aspect	Implication
Women's Rights	Strengthens Muslim women's autonomy in matters of personal law and marriage dissolution.
Legal Certainty	Clarifies that judicial formalization of Khula is sufficient, without need for husband's consent.
Personal Law vs. Civil Law	Reiterates that civil courts are the final authority in matters of marriage dissolution under personal law.
Access to Justice	Reduces delays and confusion for Muslim women seeking exit from oppressive marital relationships.

Conclusion:

- This judgment by the Telangana High Court is a significant step in advancing **gender**

justice within the framework of Muslim personal law in India.

- It reaffirms that **patriarchal interpretation or procedural delay should not obstruct a woman's fundamental right to exit a marriage.**
- The ruling is likely to influence future cases and may serve as a guiding precedent across jurisdictions, enhancing the legal standing of *Khula* in India.

Telangana CM launches EAGLE task force for united fight against drug abuse

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-cm-revanth-calls-for-united-fight-against-drug-abuse-launches-eagle-task-force/article69741064.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance Governance

Context:

Anti-Narcotics Enforcement Unit "EAGLE"



Why in News

- Telangana launched the Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB) with a dedicated enforcement unit, EAGLE, to combat drug trafficking and cultivation in the state.

Introduction

- Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy launched the Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB) as part of the state's comprehensive strategy to combat the

growing threat of drug abuse.

- The newly created elite enforcement unit under TGANB, named **EAGLE** (Elite Action Group for Drug Law Enforcement), has been mandated to detect and destroy ganja cultivation in the state and intercept drug trafficking activities, particularly along state borders.

Key Features and Objectives

- The EAGLE unit will function as a **specialised drug enforcement wing** with operational freedom to act across jurisdictions.
- It has been tasked with identifying ganja fields, conducting intelligence-driven raids, and coordinating with other law enforcement agencies to stop drug inflows into Telangana.
- The unit is also expected to work closely with schools, colleges, and local institutions to help ensure that campuses remain drug-free.
- The initiative forms part of the Telangana government's zero-tolerance policy against drugs.
- The youth remain healthy, productive, and free from addiction is essential for the state's and the nation's future.
- The government is not limiting its efforts to law enforcement alone. Complementary measures include the launch of a comprehensive sports policy, which previous governments lacked, and the establishment of a Skills University to provide youth with employment-oriented education and training.
- The government has also promised to create special opportunities in both employment and politics for youth excelling in sports and academics, thereby channeling their energy towards constructive and nation-building activities.

Emphasis on Institutional Accountability and Vigilance

- The school and college managements would

be held accountable for any negligence in monitoring student behavior and allowing drug-related activities.

- Collective vigilance and social responsibility are the only ways to keep drugs out of Telangana.
- The youth to become role models through education, discipline, and sporting excellence, rejecting the false allure of shortcuts like drug use.

Anti-Narcotics Efforts in Other Indian States

- Other Indian states have also launched specialized initiatives to tackle the drug problem.
- Punjab has established a Special Task Force (STF) that focuses on enforcement, rehabilitation, and public awareness.
- Kerala has launched the “Vimukthi Mission,” which combines school monitoring, community engagement, and awareness programs.
- In Maharashtra, the Anti-Narcotics Cell (ANC) under the Mumbai Police has been active in cracking down on drug trafficking networks.
- Goa, due to its high tourism inflow, has taken steps in coordination with the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) to monitor coastal regions.
- In Himachal Pradesh and Manipur, where cannabis and poppy cultivation have been concerns, seasonal operations and state-wide campaigns like the “War on Drugs” have been carried out to curb cultivation and trafficking.

Significance of the Telangana Initiative

- The Telangana government’s strategy is notable for combining enforcement, prevention, and youth development.
- By forming a specialized enforcement unit like EAGLE, the state ensures targeted action against cultivation and trafficking.

- By enhancing sports infrastructure, creating education and skill-building platforms, and setting strict accountability standards for institutions, it adopts a multi-pronged approach that addresses both the supply and demand sides of the drug problem.
- Furthermore, Telangana positions the drug menace not merely as a social or health issue but as a matter of national interest, particularly in light of India’s demographic dividend.
- The emphasis on proactive governance, community responsibility, and institutional cooperation makes this a model that other states could consider replicating.

Conclusion

- The formation of the Telangana Anti Narcotics Bureau and the launch of the EAGLE enforcement unit mark a serious commitment to eliminating drug-related issues from the state.
- Through this initiative, the state is taking a firm stand on ensuring that its youth remain healthy, focused, and empowered.
- This step reflects a vision of Telangana as a state built on youth power, responsibility, and progressive governance, not one weakened by addiction or apathy.

National Analytical Facility for Nutrition and Metabolism Research

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/national-analytical-facility-for-nutrition-and-metabolism-research-inaugurated/article69739664.ece>

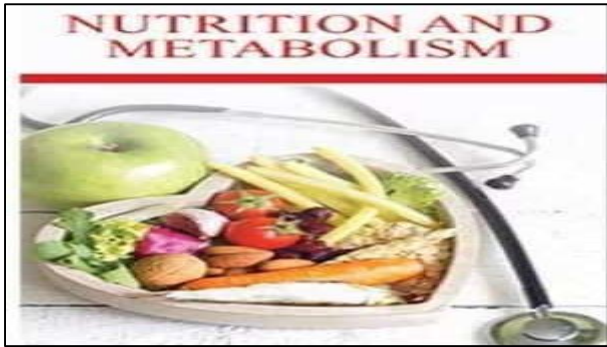
TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Public Health

Context:

National Analytical Facility for Nutrition and Metabolism Research

Why in News

- The National Analytical Facility for Nutrition and Metabolism Research at TIFR-Hyderabad was inaugurated to advance multidisciplinary research on metabolic disorders, malnutrition, and aging.



Background

- To address India's growing burden of lifestyle and metabolic diseases, the National Analytical Facility for Nutrition and Metabolism Research has been inaugurated at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Hyderabad (TIFRH).
- This marks a significant step in strengthening the country's research infrastructure in the field of nutrition, metabolism, and aging.
- The facility was inaugurated by the **Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)** on June 24, 2024.

Key Features of the Facility

- Host Institution: Tata Institute of Fundamental Research - Hyderabad (TIFRH)
- Established Under: ARUMDA - Advanced Research Unit on Metabolism, Development and Aging
- Unique Attribute: First-of-its-kind multidisciplinary research centre in India that integrates:
 - Basic biology
 - Clinical research
 - Community and public health

- Epidemiology

Research Focus Areas

The facility will primarily address:

- Anaemia and micronutrient deficiencies
- Obesity and diabetes
- Double burden of malnutrition (undernutrition coexisting with obesity)
- Lifestyle and metabolic disorders
- Age-associated diseases

The research considers **genetic, dietary, geographical, and socio-economic diversities**, which are major factors in the health transition currently observed in India.

Advanced Technologies and Capabilities

The facility is equipped with state-of-the-art technologies to conduct both **clinical and pre-clinical studies** in:

- Body composition analysis
- Energy expenditure measurement
- High-resolution metabolomics
- Targeted metabolomics
- Metallomics

These technologies allow precision analysis of:

- Iron status and anaemia
- Nutrient absorption and metabolism
- Obesity biomarkers
- Glycemic regulation and insulin sensitivity
- Growth trajectories in early life

Alignment with National Health Missions

The centre directly contributes to **national health programs**, supporting policy with scientific evidence:

- Anaemia Mukh Bharat: Strategies for iron-deficiency anaemia reduction.
- POSHAN Abhiyaan: Targets malnutrition through precision nutrition.
- Ayushman Bharat: Focus on preventive and metabolic healthcare.

Collaboration with ICMR and Public Health

The facility also serves as a **centre of advanced**

research for the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on:

- Normative Baseline for Childhood Development in India
- Setting metabolic standards for early childhood development.

Significance for India's Public Health and Science Ecosystem

- Bridges fundamental science and application: Enables translational research to address socially relevant health issues.
- Policy-relevant research: Offers data and insights to fine-tune public health interventions.
- Empowers Indian research: Builds indigenous capacity in nutritional science and metabolic research.

Conclusion

- The establishment of the National Analytical Facility for Nutrition and Metabolism Research is a timely intervention in India's quest to address lifestyle and age-related diseases.
- Through integration of cutting-edge science with public health priorities, it promises to generate meaningful insights for tackling malnutrition, diabetes, and related disorders – aligning with India's broader health and development goals.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurate Turmeric Board headquarters in Nizamabad

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/union-home-minister-amit-shah-inaugurate-turmeric-board-headquarters-in-nizamabad/article69751451.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Turmeric Board



Why in News

- Union Home Minister inaugurated the National Headquarters of the Turmeric Board in Nizamabad, Telangana.

Background and Context

Nizamabad, located in northwestern Telangana, is renowned for its turmeric cultivation. Farmers in this region have been **demanding a separate Turmeric Board** for years to address key issues such as:

- Lack of proper price realization.
- Inadequate marketing and processing facilities.
- Absence of export support.
- Need for scientific research in turmeric cultivation.

Central Government Support

The **Government of India has allocated ₹200 crore** for the functioning and expansion of the Turmeric Board. This funding is earmarked for:

- Improving the quality of turmeric.
- Establishing research and development facilities.
- Training farmers in scientific cultivation practices.

Enhancing income and export opportunities.

This initiative aligns with the Union Government's broader goal of doubling farmers' incomes and boosting India's agri-exports under the **Agriculture Export Policy**.

About the National Turmeric Board

Establishment:

- Announced by the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry in October 2023.

- Functions under the Department of Commerce.
- Headquarters: **Nizamabad, Telangana.**

Objectives:

- Promote growth and value chain development for turmeric.
- Facilitate research and innovation in turmeric cultivation and value addition.
- Enhance domestic and international marketing.
- Coordinate export facilitation, branding, and quality certification.
- Support farmer producer organizations (FPOs) and self-help groups (SHGs) engaged in turmeric farming.
- Promote **sustainable and organic cultivation** practices.

Structure:

Comprises experts from:

- Spices Board of India
- ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research
- Ministry of AYUSH
- Agriculture Ministry
- Farmer representatives
- Exporters and traders

Why the Turmeric Board Matters

India is the **largest producer, consumer, and exporter of turmeric** in the world. However, turmeric farmers have long struggled with:

- Price volatility.
- Lack of storage and processing infrastructure.
- Insufficient access to global markets.
- Limited research on disease-resistant or high-yield varieties.

The Turmeric Board is expected to bridge these gaps by:

- Creating stable market linkages.
- Promoting value-added products like turmeric oil, capsules, cosmetics, and wellness items.

- Supporting branding of Indian turmeric in international **wellness, pharma, and food markets.**

Implications for Telangana and India**For Telangana:**

- Strengthens Nizamabad's position as a national turmeric hub.
- Creates local employment through processing, packaging, and logistics.
- Helps in achieving agricultural diversification in the state.

For India:

- Reinforces India's dominance in the global turmeric trade.
- Supports the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat in agriculture.
- Encourages climate-resilient, organic farming practices for spice crops.

Conclusion

- The inauguration of the National Turmeric Board Headquarters in Nizamabad is more than a political milestone—it is a transformative development for India's turmeric economy.
- It represents a fusion of political will, farmer activism, and economic vision, aimed at empowering spice farmers, especially in regions like Telangana, with the tools and infrastructure they need to thrive in both domestic and global markets.
- This board is not only a platform for export growth, but also a beacon of hope for rural prosperity and agricultural innovation in India.

Aspirational Blocks Programme: Telangana's Gattu block placed fifth in NITI Aayog rankings

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Jun/28/aspirational-blocks->

[programme-telanganas-gattu-block-placed-fifth-in-niti-aayog-rankings](#)

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Aspirational Blocks Programme

Why in News

- Gattu block in Telangana ranked 5th nationally and 2nd in its zone in the Delta Rankings of the Aspirational Blocks Programme by NITI Aayog.

Introduction

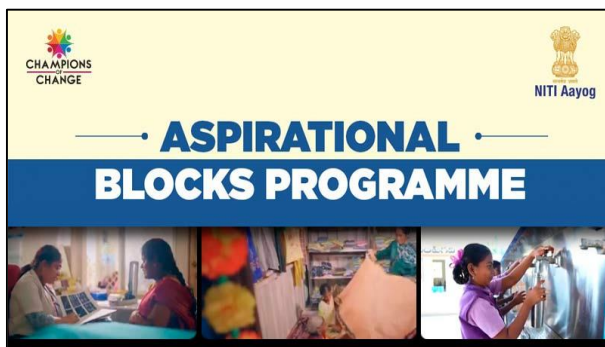
- The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) has announced the Delta Rankings for the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP) for the quarter January to March 2025.
- In this ranking, Gattu Block in Jogulamba Gadwal district of Telangana has made a significant mark by securing:
- 5th position at the national level among the 500 aspirational blocks evaluated.
- 2nd position in Zone-3, which comprises the southern states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala.
- This achievement highlights the remarkable developmental progress made by Gattu block across key performance areas.

Recognition and Incentives:

- Monetary Award:** Gattu Block is set to receive a cash incentive of Rs. 1 crore from NITI Aayog for its outstanding performance.
- Symbolic Recognition:** The block's achievement will be acknowledged on a "Wall of Fame" at NITI Aayog's headquarters in New Delhi, showcasing it as one of the top-performing aspirational blocks in India.
- These recognitions are part of NITI Aayog's efforts to incentivize good governance and development outcomes at the grassroots level.

Performance Overview:

- Gattu Block's composite score improved from 61.24 in the October to December 2024 quarter to 69.43 in the January to March 2025 quarter.
- This reflects a growth of 8.19%, demonstrating measurable progress in various sectors.



Delta Ranking Methodology:

- The **Delta Ranking** is determined based on **39 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**, which are distributed across five critical sectors:

Sector	Key Indicators Assessed
Health and Nutrition	Child immunization, institutional deliveries, child malnutrition, anaemia prevalence
Education	Enrolment rates, transition rates, availability of teachers, student learning outcomes
Agriculture and Allied Activities	Crop diversification, irrigation coverage, extension services, market access
Basic Infrastructure	Access to drinking water, electricity, road connectivity, digital and telecom connectivity
Social Development	Sanitation coverage, women's self-help group (SHG) participation, financial inclusion, safety

These indicators are assessed using data from government sources, surveys, and third-party validation mechanisms to ensure transparency and accuracy.

About Gattu Block:

- Gattu is a rural block located in the Jogulamba Gadwal district of Telangana, a region historically marked by low socio-economic indicators.
- Under the leadership of District Collector B. M. Santhosh, the block administration focused on effective scheme implementation, convergence of efforts, and regular monitoring, which contributed significantly to the improved ranking.

About the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP):

- **Launched:** January 2023 by NITI Aayog in partnership with the Ministry of Rural Development.
- **Objective:** To bring about rapid transformation in the most backward 500 blocks of India through targeted intervention, convergence of schemes, and outcome-based governance.
- The programme aims to replicate the success of the earlier **Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP)** by focusing on **block-level development**.

Significance of the Ranking:

- Highlights the successful implementation of data-driven governance and evidence-based policy making.
- Encourages competitive federalism and promotes a spirit of healthy competition among blocks to achieve developmental goals.
-

Reinforces the effectiveness of performance-based incentives in motivating administrative reforms at the local level.

Linkages with Broader Government Initiatives:

The development indicators and improvement recorded in Gattu Block are aligned with major national missions such as:

- Poshan Abhiyaan for nutrition
- Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan for education
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana for agriculture and irrigation
- Jal Jeevan Mission for drinking water access
- Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for rural connectivity

Conclusion:

- The outstanding performance of Gattu Block in the Aspirational Blocks Programme Delta Rankings demonstrates the potential for transformative change through focused planning, efficient implementation, and effective leadership.
- It serves as a model for other underdeveloped blocks across India to emulate and highlights the success of India's approach to **targeted regional development** through **grassroots empowerment** and **data-informed governance**.

