



Krishna Pradeep's 

Since : 2003

21st Century IAS 

Producing Next Generation Leaders for Good Governance

A/C Campus

TGPSC

News Summary

Current Affairs

MAY - 2025

<https://t.me/kpiasacademy/6154>

Telangana News Summary

TOPICS

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey completed for 4,000 km of rural roads under HAM infrastructure initiative in Telangana 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indira Solar Giri Water Development scheme 17 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telangana government extended the term of the Commission of Inquiry (CoI) headed by Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Right to Information applications remain pending in Telangana..... 19 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gundaram inscriptions in Peddapalli district shed light on Satavahana era 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miss World 2025 opens in Telangana.... 20 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bhu Bharati Act amended to streamline inheritance procedures SPEED CEO 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Padma Shri Mohan Reddy appointed as NITW BoG chairperson..... 22 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telangana Launches Sarathi Portal for Issuing Driving Licences 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telangana's Maternal Mortality Ratio .. 23 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crisis at Telangana's massive Kaleshwaram irrigation project 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telangana government to provide loans worth Rs 19K crore to 3.55 lakh SHGs... 24 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bhu Bharati to be operational in 28 mandals of 28 districts..... 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cradle centre 'Ooyala' for abandoned newborns opens in Telangana 27 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 18 lakh asthma cases estimated in Telangana; construction dust, pollution among triggers..... 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife deaths in Telangana highlight data gaps, enforcement challenges 28 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paintings of bulls, stags, dogs and other Neolithic rock art found in Telangana's Nalgonda..... 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telangana government accepts Governor's recommendation on houses for vulnerable tribals..... 30 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telangana gets Chief Information Commissioner after 2.5 years 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> About Indira Solar Giri Jal Vikasam'' scheme 31 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global award for anti-narcotics efforts. 12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telangana records highest elderly deaths in 2021 during Covid peak..... 32 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future of Telangana's De-notified Tribes 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 220-million-year-old fossils found in Telangana..... 34 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finishing school for biotechnologists inaugurated 15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hyderabad's grandmaster Rithvik bags spot in World Cup 2025 36 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CM to launch Indiramma Giri Jala Vikasam for tribals 37 |

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telangana to train 5K licensed surveyors to oversee land transactions 38 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telangana’s groundwater crisis47 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of the Kaleshwaram Commission of Inquiry..... 39 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telangana government launches Rs 1 crore insurance scheme for electricity workers.....49 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nallamala Declaration by Telangana CM unveiled 40 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telangana to allot Indiramma housing to transgender traffic assistants50 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firms Joined Hands to Drive Product Innovation in Telangana..... 41 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rajiv Yuva Vikasam scheme51 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two IIT Hyderabad professors elected as Fellows of Royal Society..... 43 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youngest Indian to complete 7 Summits challenge52 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telangana allotted 10.26 TMC of Krishna River water 44 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New scheme to curb anaemia in adolescent girls.....54 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telangana emerges as India’s top state in Per-Capita GVA..... 45 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hyderabad’s James Street Police Station gets a new lease of life.....55 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telangana objects to AP's plan to draw Polavaram dead storage water..... 46 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First edition of Telangana Film Awards56 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supreme Court upholds Telugu test for judicial posts.....58 |



TELANGANA NEWS Summary

Survey completed for 4,000 km of rural roads under HAM infrastructure initiative in Telangana

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/survey-completed-for-4000-km-of-rural-roads-under-ham-infrastructure-initiative-in-telangana/article69509456.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Infrastructure

Context:

Telangana's HAM-Based Rural Roads Expansion Project

Why in News

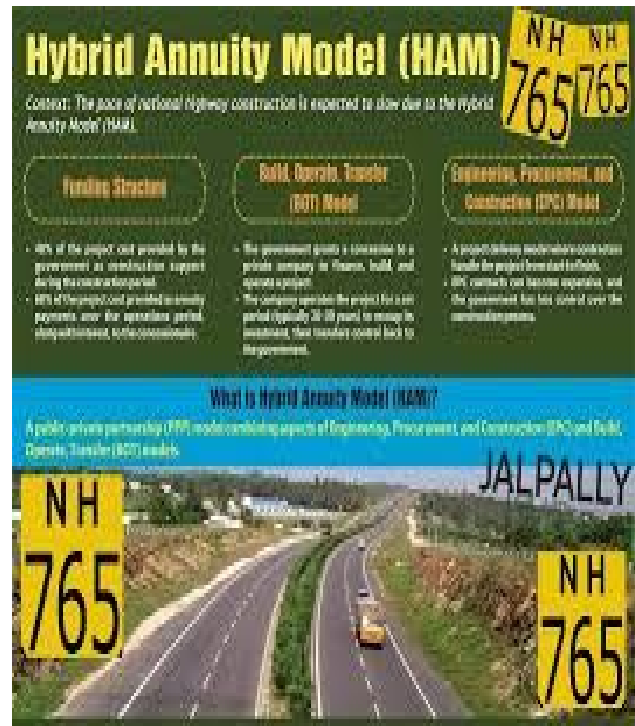
- Telangana is upgrading 30,000+ km of rural roads under the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) to enhance connectivity from village panchayats to district and state capitals.

Introduction:

- The Telangana government has embarked on a major rural infrastructure initiative to upgrade and expand road connectivity using the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM).
- Aimed at improving access from village panchayats to mandal, district, and state-level hubs, the project is being implemented by the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department.

Key Features of the Project:

- 1. Survey and Scope:**
 - A survey covering 4,000 km of rural roads has been completed across nine erstwhile combined districts.
 - The project targets the development of



18,484 km of Panchayat Raj roads and 12,000 km of Roads & Buildings (R&B) roads.

2. Phased Implementation:

- The project will be executed in three phases:
 - Phase I: 7,393 km (Start: January 2026)
 - Phase II: 5,545.20 km (Start: March 2026)
 - Phase III: 5,545.80 km (Start: June 2026)

3. Execution & Oversight:

- The Panchayat Raj Engineering Department is the nodal agency.
- Engineer-in-Chief (ENC) will serve as the programme convenor.

4. Technical & Financial Evaluation:

- A consortium of AARVEE Associates and LEA Associates is conducting feasibility studies and preparing

Detailed Project Reports (DPRs).

- Road proposals were finalized after consultation with local MLAs.

5. Funding & Model:

- The HAM model involves shared financing—private contractors bear part of the cost and maintain roads for 15 years.
- No government guarantee is provided under HAM.
- Final funding will be determined post State Cabinet approval of DPRs.

6. Monitoring Mechanism:

- A Special Officer at the Panchayat Raj Engineering Department HQ has been appointed to ensure project monitoring and adherence to timelines.

Major Schemes and Initiatives

a) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

- **Implemented in Telangana** by the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department.
- **Objective:** Provide **all-weather road connectivity** to unconnected habitations.
- **Achievements (as of 2024):**
 - **Over 13,500 km** of rural roads constructed since 2014.
 - **More than 4,500 habitations** connected under PMGSY-I and II.
 - Current works ongoing under **PMGSY-III**, which targets upgrading existing rural roads.

b) State Government Programmes

- **Telangana Ku Haritha Haram** indirectly supported rural road development via plantation drives along rural roadways.
- **Rythu Bandhu Pathways:** Rural road segments improved to help farmers transport produce more efficiently.
- **Palle Pragathi:** Rural infrastructure enhancement programme that includes laying of internal village roads and approach roads to health centres and schools.

Telangana government extended the term of the Commission of Inquiry (CoI) headed by Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/ghose-panel-term-extended-till-may-end/article69506413.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Irrigation projects

Context:

Term of the Commission of Inquiry (CoI)

Why in News

- The Telangana Government has extended the term of the Commission of Inquiry (CoI) headed by Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose, which was set up to investigate irregularities in the Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages of the Kaleshwaram Project.



Introduction

- On **April 29, 2025**, the Telangana government extended the term of the **Commission of Inquiry (CoI)** headed by **Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose** by **one more month** (from **May 1 to May 31, 2025**) to probe irregularities in the **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP)** barrages.

Key Details:

1. **Purpose of the Commission:**
 - To investigate alleged irregularities in the **planning, design, construction, quality control, operation, and maintenance** of:

- Medigadda Barrage
 - Annaram Barrage
 - Sundilla Barrage
2. **Constitution of Commission:**
- Formed on **March 14, 2024**, initially for **three months**.
 - The CoI is a **one-man commission** headed by **Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose**, former Chairperson of the **Lokpal of India** and former Supreme Court judge.
3. **Extensions So Far:**
- Term extended multiple times:
 - June 2024
 - August 2024
 - November 2024
 - December 2024
 - February 2025
 - Latest: **April 29, 2025** – extended till **May 31, 2025**
4. **Administrative Authority:**
- The latest extension order was issued by **Principal Secretary (Irrigation) Rahul Bojja**.

Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) - Barrages Overview

- **Location:** Telangana
- **Purpose:** One of the **world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation projects**, designed to **divert water from the Godavari River** to drought-prone regions in Telangana.
- **Launched:** 2016; inaugurated in 2019.
- **Target Irrigation Area:** Over **18 lakh acres**.
- **Unique Feature:** Lifts water up to **500 meters** through a series of lifts and barrages.

Key Features of the Barrages

- **Medigadda Barrage:**
 - Acts as the **primary point of water diversion**.
 - Has recently faced **structural safety concerns**, with reports of pier misalignment and damage (noted in 2023–24).

- **Annaram&Sundilla:**
 - Enable **staged lifting** of water to higher altitudes through massive pump houses.
 - Integrated with **reservoirs, tunnels, and canals** to distribute water across Telangana.

Significance

- Crucial for **irrigation, drinking water supply, and industrial use** in Telangana.
- Aims to stabilize agriculture in the **Telangana plateau**.
- Integral to **Mission Bhagiratha** and other rural water supply schemes.

Gundaram inscriptions in Peddapalli district shed light on Satavahana era

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/gundaram-inscriptions-in-peddapalli-district-shed-light-on-satavahana-era/article69521393.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Art and Culture

Context:

Epigraphical Discovery in Telangana

Why in News

- The ASI's recent discovery of 11 inscriptions in Telangana's Gundaram Reserve Forest provides critical evidence of Satavahana-era political, religious, and cultural dynamics in the Deccan.

Introduction:

- In a major development in the study of ancient Indian history, particularly of the **Satavahana period**, the **Epigraphy Branch of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** has documented **eleven inscriptions** during a recent survey in the **Gundaram Reserve Forest**, located approximately 10 km from **Peddapalli** district headquarters in Telangana.

Key Highlights of the Discovery

- The survey was conducted on under the supervision of **K. Munirathnam Reddy**, Director (Epigraphy), ASI, with support from the **Telangana Forest Department**.
- The inscriptions span from the **1st century BCE to the 6th century CE**, providing valuable evidence of the **early historic period of the Deccan**, especially linked to the **Satavahana dynasty**.
- All inscriptions were engraved on a rock surface known locally as **Sitammalodi** near **Gattusingaram village**.



Notable Inscriptions and Their Significance

- **Two inscriptions stand out** for their exceptional historical value:
 - One, in **early Brahmi script**, records a cave excavation by a person of the **Hāritiputra lineage**, likely from the **Chūṭu dynasty**, identifying himself as a **friend of Kumāra Hakusiri**, a Satavahana prince.
 - This suggests **political and social ties** between the **Satavahanas** and the **Chūṭus**, both influential dynasties in early Deccan polity.
- Another inscription begins with symbols of **trident** and **damaru**, marking the **first known instance of religious iconography** (Shaivite symbols) accompanying inscriptions in **early South India**.
- It also mentions land ownership by **Siri Devarāna**, hinting at an early **link between political authority and religious symbolism**.

- Other inscriptions from the site reference royal figures such as **Kumāra Sakasiri** and **Akusiri**, reinforcing the Satavahana presence in the region.

Connection to Asmaka Mahājanapada

- The findings complement earlier discoveries at **Mukkutraopet village** in **Velgatur mandal** (Karimnagar district), which had established Telangana as part of **Asmaka**, one of the **Sixteen Mahājanapadas** mentioned in ancient texts.
- Dr. Reddy emphasized that the new inscriptions **strengthen Telangana's identification as a core area of the ancient Asmaka janapada** and enhance our understanding of the political and cultural dynamics of early Deccan.

Buddhist Connections

- The team also noted that the area near the rock inscriptions likely functioned as a **burial site for Buddhist monks**, indicating the **religious diversity and monastic activities** prevalent during the period.

Bhu Bharati Act amended to streamline inheritance procedures

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/01/telangana-bhu-bharati-act-amended-to-streamline-inheritance-procedures>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Bhu Bharati Act, 2025

Why in News

- The Telangana government amended the Bhu Bharati Act, 2025 to simplify and decentralise the land inheritance (succession) process by empowering tahsildars to handle mutations directly.

Introduction

- In a major reform to simplify and expedite land inheritance procedures, the Telangana State Government has amended the *Telangana Bhu Bharati (Records of Rights in Land) Act and Rules, 2025*.
- The amendments aim to ensure timely succession of agricultural land rights, improve efficiency, and enhance transparency in land record management.



Key Features of the Amendment:

- **Decentralisation of Authority:** Under the revised rules, *tahsildars* (*Mandal Revenue Officers*) are now empowered to initiate and complete the succession process based on applications received. This eliminates the earlier requirement of approvals from higher authorities such as district collectors.
- **Simplified Mutation Process:** Upon receiving an application for succession, the *tahsildar* must issue a formal public notice inviting objections from legal heirs or other stakeholders. If no objections are received within the stipulated notice period, the mutation will be processed in favour of the rightful successor(s).
- **Responsibility of RDOs in Special Cases:** In cases where the claimants do not possess a *pattadar passbook* (official land ownership document), the mutation will be handled by the *Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO)*.
- **Reduction in Bureaucratic Delays:** The amended process replaces the earlier cumbersome system where succession approvals were routed through multiple levels of bureaucracy, causing delays and

sometimes litigation.

- **Post-Dharani Transition:** The reforms come in the wake of the phasing out of the *Dharani* portal—a centralised digital land record management system—under which district collectors were the approving authorities for land succession. Procedural gaps identified in the post-Dharani system led to the need for this legislative amendment.

Implications:

- Faster resolution of land inheritance claims
- Reduction in revenue-related disputes and litigation
- Enhanced citizen satisfaction with land administration
- Improved ease of doing agriculture and rural property transactions.

Telangana Launches Sarathi Portal for Issuing Driving Licences

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/telangana-rolls-out-centralised-online-services-for-driving-licences-and-vehicle-registration/article69510730.ecce>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Transportation

Context:

Sarathi Portal



Why in News

- The Telangana government has launched the Sarathi portal, a centralized digital platform developed under the Ministry of Road

Transport and Highways. This marks a major shift towards digital governance in transport services.

Key Features of the Sarathi Portal:

- **Comprehensive Online Services:**
 - Citizens can apply for **driving licences, learner's permits, conductor licences,** and various vehicle-related services.
 - Facilities include **renewal of licences, change of address,** and addition of new vehicle classes.
- **Integration with Vahan:**
 - Linked with the national **Vahan** system for unified access to vehicle and licence data across states.
 - Enables **real-time verification** and minimizes chances of document forgery.
- **Digital Payments:**
 - Entire process is digitized with cashless **transactions,** enhancing transparency and convenience.
- **Nationwide Access:**
 - Services like vehicle registration transfer and licence renewals can be done from any location in India.

Launch Details:

- Inaugurated by the state's Transport Minister at the Secunderabad RTO office.
- First licences under this system were issued to Agniveers, symbolizing outreach to defense personnel.

Context and Significance:

- Replaces the earlier contractor-managed system with a **government-run digital platform.**
- Aligns Telangana's transport services with **national digital governance standards.**
- Expected to improve **efficiency, transparency,** and **user experience** in public service delivery.

Crisis at Telangana's massive Kaleshwaram irrigation project

Source: Indian Express

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-crisis-at-kaleshwaram-why-telanganas-massive-irrigation-project-is-distressed-9982867/>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Infrastructure

Context:

Crisis at Kaleshwaram project

Why in News

The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project in Telangana, once hailed as a mega irrigation initiative, is under distress due to serious structural flaws, with the National Dam Safety Authority confirming design and construction defects.



What is the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP)?

- **Location:** On the Godavari River in Telangana's Jayashankar Bhupalpally district.
- **Purpose:** To provide water for **irrigation, industrial use,** and **domestic consumption** across **13 districts** in northern Telangana.
- **Scale:**
 - One of the **world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation projects.**
 - Covers **500 km** with a canal network of **1,800 km.**
 - Uses **lifting technology** to pump water to high-altitude areas, unlike gravity-fed irrigation.
- **Water Allocation** (out of 240 TMC):

- 169 TMC for irrigation (≈70%)
- 30 TMC for Hyderabad's municipal needs
- 16 TMC for industrial use
- 10 TMC for drinking water

What are the issues?

1. Structural Collapse at Medigadda Barrage:

- On **October 21, 2023**, **pillar No. 20 of Block-7** of the Medigadda barrage **sank**, causing **flooding**.
- This triggered an urgent inspection by the **National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA)** – a statutory body under the **Dam Safety Act, 2021**.

2. NDSA Findings (April 29, 2025):

NDSA found **severe design and construction flaws**, including:

- **Poor geo-technical investigations**
- **Design deficiencies** (engineering flaws)
- **Construction defects** (poor execution)
- **Lack of structural modelling studies**
- **Ignored dam safety protocols**
- **Weak quality control**
- **Operational and maintenance failures**

Quote from the report:

“The Medigadda barrage suffered from severe settlement and cracking of piers in Block-7 with notable tilting.”

- **Annaram and Sundilla**, the other two barrages, also showed **signs of seepage and piping distress** (indicative of water flow through structural cracks).

What has the NDSA recommended?

A **comprehensive rehabilitation and safety program**, including:

1. **Immediate stabilization** to prevent further collapse.
2. **Detailed geo-technical and geophysical studies** to understand ground and structural integrity.
3. **Updated hydraulic and structural modelling** using modern software tools.
4. **Redesign and structural strengthening** of

the barrages.

5. **Improved quality control** and long-term safety measures.

Implications of the Crisis

- **Safety Risk:** Structural failure in such a massive project can lead to **flooding, loss of life, and damage to property and environment**.
- **Economic Loss:** Huge public investment is at risk; repairing or redesigning the project will cost additional thousands of crores.
- **Political Fallout:** The issue has become a major point of contention between the **current Congress government** and the **previous BRS administration**.
- **Future of KLIP:** A comprehensive overhaul is now necessary to restore its utility and safety.

Bhu Bharati to be operational in 28 mandals of 28 districts

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/bhu-bharati-to-be-operational-in-28-mandals-of-28-districts-from-today/article69537394.ece>

IGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Bhu Bharati Act, 2025

Why in News

The Telangana government is expanding the **Bhu Bharati Act and portal**, a new land record and grievance redressal initiative, to **28 mandals** (one per district) starting **May 4, 2025**.

Background:

- The **Bhu Bharati (Record of Rights) Act, 2025** was introduced by the Congress government under **Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy**.
- It replaces or supplements the **controversial Dharani portal**, which was introduced by the

previous BRS government.

- The Dharani portal, though launched with the aim of digitizing land records, allegedly caused widespread grievances among landowners, especially farmers, due to lack of transparency and redressal mechanisms.

Key Developments:

1. Pilot Phase:

- Bhu Bharati was tested on a **pilot basis** from **April 17 to 30** in **four mandals of four districts**.
- Based on the success of this pilot, the portal is now being extended to **28 more mandals** across the state.



2. Revenue Sadassus (Public Grievance Meetings):

- From **May 4 to May 20**, the **Revenue Department** will conduct '**Revenue Sadassus**' in these mandals.
- Objective:
 - To **create awareness** about the Bhu Bharati Act.
 - To **accept and resolve grievances** from landowners, especially those affected by the Dharani portal.
- **District Collectors** have been instructed to attend these meetings to ensure public concerns are addressed in simple terms.

Purpose of the Bhu Bharati Act:

- **Redressal of grievances** caused by Dharani portal.
- **Restoration of land rights** to genuine landowners.
- **Reduction in land-related litigations**, which have significantly increased over the past decade.

- Ensure **fair and transparent land administration** by involving people, officials, and elected representatives.

Political Criticism of Dharani:

- The Dharani portal was accused of facilitating a '**land business**' and allegedly favored vested interests under the BRS government.
- Many landowners were **stripped of ownership**, leading to legal and livelihood crises.
- There was **no grievance mechanism** under Dharani, leaving people helpless.

Vision of the Current Government:

- To **restore trust** in land records management.
- To ensure **transparency, accountability, and farmer-friendly policies**.
- To **legally protect** landowners, especially small and marginal farmers.

Conclusion:

- The implementation of the Bhu Bharati Act in 28 additional mandals marks a significant move by the Telangana government to address long-standing land issues, undo the alleged damage caused by the Dharani portal, and provide a transparent, people-centric land record system.

Over 18 lakh asthma cases estimated in Telangana; construction dust, pollution among triggers

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/over-18-lakh-asthma-cases-in-telangana-construction-dust-pollution-among-triggers/article69540430.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Public Health

Context:

Rising Asthma Burden Among Urban Children in Telangana

Why in News

- On World Asthma Day 2025, experts highlighted a surge in asthma cases among urban children in Telangana due to poor air quality, lifestyle changes, and widespread misconceptions about asthma management.

Introduction

- On the occasion of **World Asthma Day 2025**, medical experts and public health professionals have raised concerns over the rising incidence of asthma in urban and semi-urban regions of Telangana, particularly among children and women.
- The chronic respiratory condition, once dismissed by many as a seasonal allergy, has now emerged as a persistent and debilitating public health issue, driven by environmental and lifestyle factors.



Alarming Trends and Vulnerable Groups

- According to recent estimates, **over 18 lakh people** in Telangana are currently living with asthma, with cities such as **Hyderabad, Warangal, and Karimnagar** reporting the highest number of cases. Children under the age of 11 and women are particularly vulnerable.
- Studies suggest that **between 5 to 15 out of every 100 children** in this age group across India suffer from asthma.
- The case of **nine-year-old Zoya** from Hyderabad, who collapsed during a school sports event and was later diagnosed with asthma, is indicative of a broader trend affecting school-going children in polluted

urban areas.

Understanding Asthma: Symptoms and Misconceptions

Asthma is a **chronic inflammatory condition** that affects the airways, making breathing difficult. Key symptoms include:

- **Wheezing**
- **Coughing**
- **Chest tightness**
- **Shortness of breath**, especially at night or in the early morning

Doctors emphasise that asthma is **treatable but not curable**, and that consistent management is essential.

- Asthma is **not just a seasonal allergy** and should not be treated as such. Misconceptions surrounding the use of **inhalers** continue to pose a barrier to effective treatment, with cultural stigma contributing to delayed or inconsistent care.

Environmental Triggers and Urbanisation

Experts identify several **key asthma triggers** exacerbated by rapid urbanisation:

- Poor air quality and pollution
- Construction dust
- Pollen-heavy landscaping
- Increased vehicular emissions
- Worsening air quality is directly contributing to the rise in asthma cases across all age groups, particularly in densely populated urban centres.

Institutional Responses and Public Awareness

Healthcare institutions across Telangana are responding to the asthma surge through **preventive care initiatives**. For example, **Medicover Hospitals** has implemented:

- Personalised asthma care plans
- Digital follow-ups for patients
- Community awareness programmes

These efforts have reportedly led to a **reduction in emergency hospital visits and school absenteeism** among children with asthma. However, pulmonologists continue to stress the need for

greater public awareness, early diagnosis, and stigma-free treatment approaches.

Conclusion

- The increasing prevalence of asthma, especially among urban children in Telangana, reflects the **urgent need for integrated public health interventions**, improved air quality, and cultural shifts in the perception and management of chronic diseases.
- On World Asthma Day 2025, stakeholders are reminded that asthma, though common, must be taken seriously and managed through continuous care, education, and supportive community health policies.

Paintings of bulls, stags, dogs and other Neolithic rock art found in Telangana's Nalgonda

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/paintings-of-bulls-stags-dogs-and-other-neolithic-rock-art-found-in-telangana-nalgonda/article69538023.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: History and Art and Culture of Telangana

Context:

Prehistoric Neolithic Rock

Why in News

- A Neolithic rock art site (6000–4000 BCE) depicting hunting scenes was discovered near Ramalingalagudem village in Telangana on May 4, 2025.



Background:

- On May 4, 2025, a significant prehistoric rock art site dating back to the **Neolithic period (6000–4000 BCE)** was discovered on the outskirts of **Ramalingalagudem village**, Tippiarathi mandal, **Nalgonda district**, Telangana.
- The discovery was made by renowned archaeologist **Dr. E. Sivanagireddy**, CEO of **Pleach India Foundation**, accompanied by archaeology enthusiast **Silpi Venkatesh**.

Key Findings:

- **Rock Art Imagery:** The site features **pictographs** depicting a variety of scenes including:
 - Bulls
 - Stags
 - Dogs
 - Human figures
 - A dramatic scene of a man fighting a tiger
- **Technique Used:** The paintings were created using **stone implements** with a **hitting technique**, reflecting a distinct Neolithic artistic practice.
- **Archaeological Significance:**
 - The artwork offers rare insights into **prehistoric human lifestyle**, particularly their **hunting practices**, interactions with wild animals, and symbolic expression.
 - **Rock shelters** nearby are believed to have served as **temporary campsites**. These shelters contain **grooves** likely used for **sharpening stone axes**.

Conservation Concerns:

- Experts emphasize the **urgent need to protect** these prehistoric artworks, which are **archaeologically and culturally significant**. Preservation of such sites is vital for understanding India's **prehistoric heritage**.

Neolithic Sites in Telangana

1. **Piklihal**, located in the Mahbubnagar district of Telangana (and partly in Karnataka), is one of the earliest Neolithic sites, known for

its ash mounds and evidence of cattle herding.

2. **Tadkanhalli**, situated near the Karnataka-Telangana border (Narayanpet/Mahbubnagar), shows evidence of microlithic tools and early domestication practices, reflecting the South Indian Neolithic cultural pattern.
3. **Palavoy** in Mahbubnagar district is another notable Neolithic site where excavations have revealed ash mounds, bone tools, and handmade pottery.
4. The **Kurnool-Bellary-Mahbubnagar belt**, which cuts across Telangana, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh, is central to the Ashmound Neolithic tradition, associated with pastoral and semi-sedentary communities.
5. Sites like **Gachibowli** (in modern-day Hyderabad) and **Kondapur** (Sangareddy district) have yielded evidence of Neolithic habitation, such as polished stone tools and early ceramics.

Neolithic cultures in Telangana

- Neolithic cultures in Telangana are typically characterized by **circular or oval huts, stone axes, microliths, handmade red ware, and ash mounds**, indicating domestication of animals and shifting cultivation.
- The Neolithic phase in Telangana is generally dated between **2500 BCE and 1000 BCE**, though some sites show overlapping traits with earlier Mesolithic and later Chalcolithic phases.

Telangana gets Chief Information Commissioner after 2.5 years

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-gets-chief-information-commissioner-after-two-and-half-years-ifs-officer-chandrasekhar-reddy-appointed-appointed-to-the-post/article69544244.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Telangana State Chief Information Commissioner

Why in News

- G. Chandrasekhar Reddy, a 1991-batch IFS officer, has been appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner of Telangana after a vacancy of over 2.5 years.



Introduction

- The recent appointment of **G. Chandrasekhar Reddy**, a 1991-batch Indian Forest Service officer, as the **Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of Telangana** marks a significant development in the state's administrative landscape.
- Coming after a prolonged vacancy of over two and a half years, this appointment addresses a key institutional gap in the functioning of the **Right to Information (RTI) mechanism**, which is vital for ensuring transparency and accountability in democratic governance.

Role and Significance of the State Information Commission

- Established under the **Right to Information Act, 2005**, the State Information Commission is an independent statutory body mandated to adjudicate appeals and complaints relating to access to information held by public authorities.
- The **Chief Information Commissioner**, as the head of this body, plays a crucial role in upholding citizens' fundamental right to

information.

- According to **Section 16 of the RTI Act**, as amended in 2019, the CIC holds office for a period of **three years** or until attaining the age of **65 years**, whichever is earlier. The act also outlines terms and service conditions to ensure independence and functional autonomy.
- The vacancy ins Telangana's CIC post since **September 25, 2022**, had led to the piling up of thousands of pending appeals.
- Civil society groups and RTI activists raised concerns over the delay in reconstitution, stressing that it weakened one of the core instruments of transparency in the state.

Broader Implications

- The appointment comes at a time when the RTI framework is under scrutiny for **increasing delays** and **vacancies across Information Commissions** in many states. The **Supreme Court of India**, in multiple judgements, has emphasized the **need for timely appointments** to ensure that information commissions do not become dysfunctional.
- Filling the CIC post is thus a **step toward restoring public faith** in the state's transparency institutions. It is also aligned with India's broader commitments under international instruments like the **UN Convention against Corruption**, which encourages proactive disclosure and citizen participation.

Conclusion

- Transparency is one of the pillars of democratic governance. The operational effectiveness of mechanisms like the RTI Act depends largely on the functionality of institutions such as the Information Commissions.
- The appointment of Mr. G. Chandrasekhar Reddy as Telangana's Chief Information Commissioner is not merely an administrative decision—it is a reaffirmation of the **state's commitment to transparency, accountability, and citizen empowerment**.

Global award for anti-narcotics efforts

Source:The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/paintings-of-bulls-stags-dogs-and-other-neolithic-rock-art-found-in-telanganas-nalgonda/article69538023.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance:Award

Context:

World Police Summit 2025

Why in News

- Hyderabad Police's H-NEW unit won first place in the 'Excellence in Anti-Narcotics' category at the World Police Summit 2025, organised by Dubai Police.

Introduction:

- In a significant global recognition of India's efforts in combating narcotics, **Hyderabad City Police Commissioner C.V. Anand** and the **Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing (H-NEW)** have been awarded **first place** in the category of 'Excellence in Anti-Narcotics' at the **World Police Summit (WPS) 2025**.
- The award will be formally presented during a high-profile ceremony on the final day of the summit, scheduled to be held from **May 13 to 15, 2025**, at the **Dubai Police Officers Club**.

About the World Police Summit (WPS):

- **Organised by:** Dubai Police
- **Purpose:** To bring together global law enforcement agencies to discuss and collaborate on pressing challenges in modern policing.
- **Participants:** Over **138 countries**, including world-renowned agencies like:
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), USA
 - New York City Police Department (NYPD), USA

- Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), USA
- Metropolitan Police, UK
- Australian Federal Police
- German Federal Police

The summit promotes **strategic dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and best practices exchange** in the field of law enforcement.

Award Evaluation Process:

The 'Excellence in Anti-Narcotics' category underwent a **rigorous two-stage evaluation process** led by an expert jury and the Dubai Police. Entries were assessed on the following key parameters:

- **Reduction in drug supply**
- **Decline in substance abuse**
- **Community engagement and awareness efforts**
- **Level of inter-agency collaboration and international coordination**

Why H-NEW Was Chosen: Key Factors Behind the Recognition

- The Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing's victory is attributed to its **comprehensive, multi-pronged strategy** to combat the narcotics menace. Some of its **noteworthy initiatives** include:

1. Inter-agency and Institutional Coordination:

H-NEW works in close coordination with multiple national and state-level agencies:

- Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)
- Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)
- Enforcement Directorate (ED)
- Goods and Services Tax (GST) Department
- Excise Department
- Drugs Control Administration
- Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO)
- Counter Intelligence Units

2. Aggressive Crackdown on Drug Networks:

- Targeting **interstate and international drug syndicates**
- Monitoring and curbing **drug trafficking via the dark web**

- **Deportation of foreign offenders** involved in the drug trade

3. Community Engagement and Public Awareness:

- Extensive **community outreach programmes**
- School and college-level **awareness campaigns on drug abuse**
- Creating local networks of **citizen volunteers** to support early reporting and prevention

4. Focus on Rehabilitation:

- Emphasis on **treating drug addiction as a health issue**
- Linking affected individuals to **rehabilitation and de-addiction services**
- Ensuring a **balance between enforcement and social reintegration**

Other related information

Operation Chabutra

- **Operation Chabutra** is a **community policing and behavioral reform initiative** launched by **Hyderabad Police** to engage with **youth loitering late at night** in public spaces, particularly in the **Old City areas**.
- The word '**Chabutra**' in Urdu refers to a **cemented platform** alongside a house, traditionally used for seating.
- The operation **targets youth involved in late-night nuisance**, idle gatherings, or potential group clashes—especially in areas like **Kalapather and Falaknuma**.

Key Features:

- Youth are not arrested or punished, but are taken to **nearby function halls**, not police stations.
- They are given **water, chairs, and counseling sessions** by police officials.
- **Parents are also engaged**, and advised to monitor their children's behavior.
- The goal is to **motivate youth toward education, employment, and discipline**.
- Helps **prevent escalation into criminal activities**, such as gang fights or street violence.

Future of Telangana's De-notified Tribes

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/opinion-can-telanganas-de-notified-tribes-hope-for-better-future>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Tribal Welfare

Context:

Telangana's Historic Reservation Bills

Why in News

The Telangana Assembly recently passed two Bills aimed at increasing the reservation for OBCs, SCs, and STs, which include significant provisions for De-notified Tribes (DNTs).

Introduction

- In a significant development, the Telangana Assembly recently passed two landmark Bills: *The Telangana Backward Classes, Scheduled Caste, and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of Seats in Educational Institutions and Appointments or Posts in Services under the State) Bill, 2025* and *The Telangana Backward Classes (Reservation of Seats in Rural and Urban Local Bodies) Bill, 2025*.



- These Bills propose a substantial increase in the reservation for backward classes, which includes an increase in OBC reservation to 42%, Scheduled Castes (SC) to 15%, and Scheduled Tribes (ST) to 10%, breaking the 50% cap set by the Supreme Court's ruling in the *Indra Sawhney case* (1992).
- The move aims to foster inclusive development, particularly for marginalized

sections of society.

Key Provisions of the Bills

- The newly passed Bills aim to address historical inequalities by increasing the reservation percentages for OBCs, SCs, and STs.
- Notably, the Backward Classes Welfare Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar highlighted that these Bills are designed to ensure the comprehensive development of marginalized classes, which had been a significant concern during the Telangana movement.
- The Bills are based on robust data collected from social, economic, educational, employment, political, and caste census, with input from a commission led by former bureaucrat Busani Venkateshwara Rao.
- While these provisions offer a promising shift in the state's approach to addressing socio-economic disparities, a critical question arises about the fate of Telangana's De-notified Tribes (DNTs), a group largely placed under the OBC-A list.

Understanding De-notified Tribes (DNTs)

- DNTs are communities historically subjected to harsh treatment under the British colonial regime, particularly through the *Criminal Tribes Act (CTA)* of 1871, which labeled many of them as "born criminals."
- This Act subjected DNTs to surveillance, forced registration, and constant stigma, disrupting their traditional livelihoods.
- Despite being de-notified from this colonial label in 1952, these tribes continue to face socio-economic challenges and widespread prejudice.
- In Telangana, several DNT communities, including the Dommaras, BudagaJangams, Budubukkalas, Gangireddulas, and others, continue to live on the fringes of society.
- These communities, once engaged in traditional occupations such as acrobatics, storytelling, and bullock performances, still struggle with issues of poverty, illiteracy, and stigma.

Government Initiatives for DNTs

- In recognition of their socio-economic plight, the government established the National Commission for De-notified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (NCDNT) in 2005, which recommended measures like separate reservations, census enumeration, and state-specific welfare schemes for DNTs.
- The government also launched the SEED scheme under the Development and Welfare Board for De-Notified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Communities (DWBDNCs), aimed at providing livelihood support, coaching, health insurance, and scholarships.
- Despite these initiatives, many DNTs remain excluded from welfare programs due to factors like illiteracy, mobility, lack of awareness, and administrative neglect.

Will the Quota System Help DNTs?

- The passing of the 42% reservation for BCs in Telangana presents an opportunity for DNTs, particularly those listed under BC-A and BC-E, to gain better access to educational and employment opportunities.
- This move is expected to enhance political participation, increase socio-political awareness, and potentially improve the economic status of these communities.
- However, several challenges persist. The lack of awareness about welfare benefits, illiteracy, and competition from better-off individuals within the same category could hinder the full realization of the benefits of the new reservation.
- Furthermore, DNTs face the challenge of cultural stigma and long-standing social exclusion.
- Although the reservation provides opportunities, it does not immediately address deep-rooted issues such as health problems, lack of skills, and the social stigma attached to these communities.

Learning from Tamil Nadu's Experience

- A viable solution may lie in following the path of Tamil Nadu, which has successfully implemented an enhanced reservation system since 1990.

- Tamil Nadu's approach, which involved amending the Indian Constitution's 9th Schedule to protect reservation laws from judicial review, has ensured the stability and effectiveness of reservation policies.
- A similar legal safeguard in Telangana could help solidify the new reservation laws and prevent challenges that could undermine their impact.
- For DNTs, a separate reservation category aligned with the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) could provide targeted support without overlapping with existing quotas.
- Additionally, establishing a dedicated help desk to assist DNTs in accessing welfare benefits, alongside skill development programs in areas like tailoring, mechanics, and other trades, would be essential for empowering the youth of these communities.

Conclusion

- The new reservation Bills passed by the Telangana Assembly mark a significant step towards uplifting marginalized communities, including the DNTs.
- However, the success of these Bills will depend on the state's ability to implement them effectively, address the challenges faced by DNTs, and ensure that they benefit from the broader socio-economic opportunities the Bills promise.
- Only with sustained efforts, political will, and a focus on community-specific issues can Telangana's DNTs break free from the historical chains of stigma and poverty, paving the way for a more inclusive future.

Finishing school for biotechnologists inaugurated

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/finishing-school-for-biotechnologists-inaugurated/article69549111.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Bridging the gap between academia and industry

**Why in News**

- FABA, IIL, and ABF have launched a collaborative finishing school programme at the Agri Biotech Foundation in Rajendra Nagar to bridge the industry-academia gap in biotechnology with hands-on training.

Introduction:

- The Federation of Asian Biotech Associations (FABA), Indian Immunologicals Limited (IIL), and Agri Biotech Foundation (ABF) have launched a collaborative finishing school programme at the Agri Biotech Foundation, Rajendra Nagar.
- This initiative aims to bridge the gap between academia and industry, particularly in the field of biotechnology.

Objective of the Programme:

- **The one-month course** is designed to provide hands-on training in advanced biotechnology, focusing on industry-specific skills.
- The programme will primarily utilize **state-of-the-art wet lab facilities**, allowing participants to gain practical experience in various biotechnology applications, essential for future industry careers.

Future Prospects and Industry Impact:

- The collaborative programme is expected to **strengthen the linkages** between academia and the biotechnology industry, providing students with essential industry insights and hands-on experience.
- With biotechnology being one of the fastest-growing sectors in India, initiatives like these

are crucial for creating a skilled workforce capable of driving innovation and supporting sectors such as **agriculture, healthcare, and pharmaceuticals**.

What is Biotechnology?

- Biotechnology is a **multi-disciplinary field** that combines biological sciences with technology to develop products and solutions that can improve lives and the environment.
- It involves the use of living organisms or biological systems to create or modify products, processes, or applications for specific purposes.

Key Areas of Biotechnology:

1. **Healthcare and Medicine:**
 - **Medical Biotechnology** focuses on the development of new drugs, therapies, and diagnostic tools using biological organisms. This includes **gene therapy, biopharmaceuticals, and vaccines**.
 - Example: **Insulin production** using genetically modified bacteria.
2. **Agriculture:**
 - **Agricultural Biotechnology** involves the use of technology to improve crop yields, resistance to diseases, pests, or environmental conditions, and the nutritional quality of food.
 - Example: **Genetically modified crops** like Bt cotton, which are engineered to resist pests.
3. **Industrial Biotechnology:**
 - This area involves using microorganisms or enzymes in manufacturing processes, reducing the need for chemical reagents and helping to make processes more efficient and environmentally friendly.
 - Example: The use of **yeast** in the production of **biofuels**.
4. **Environmental Biotechnology:**
 - This area focuses on using biological systems to address environmental challenges, such as waste management and pollution control.

- Example: **Bioremediation**, where microorganisms are used to clean up oil spills or other toxic contaminants.

Indira Solar Giri Water Development scheme

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/stage-being-set-for-launch-of-indira-solar-giri-water-development-scheme/article69554185.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Schemes

Context:

Indira Solar Giri Water Development scheme

Why in News

- The Indira Solar Giri Water Development Scheme is a Telangana government initiative aimed at empowering tribal communities by providing irrigation facilities and promoting sustainable agriculture, primarily using solar-powered systems.



Introduction

- The **Indira Solar Giri Water Development Scheme** is an important initiative by the Telangana State Government aimed at empowering tribal communities and improving their agricultural productivity.
- The scheme primarily focuses on bringing lands allotted to tribal communities under the **Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights Act, 2006)** or **RoFR Act** into

agricultural use.

- This is done to enhance their economic conditions by providing a reliable and sustainable irrigation system, using solar energy as a key resource.

Objective of the Scheme

The main objectives of the **Indira Solar Giri Water Development Scheme** are:

- **Empowerment of tribal communities:** The scheme aims to uplift tribal farmers who traditionally rely on Podu cultivation but face challenges due to lack of water and power supply.
- **Sustainable cultivation:** It intends to bring **tribal lands under productive cultivation** by facilitating **irrigation** and **solar-powered water systems**.
- **Economic growth:** The initiative is expected to economically empower tribal farmers by providing them with irrigation facilities, enabling them to cultivate land that was previously difficult to farm due to lack of water and energy.

Background on the RoFR Act

- The **RoFR Act**, passed in 2006, aims to recognize the rights of tribal communities and other traditional forest dwellers over the land they have been cultivating for generations.
- This includes providing land titles to these communities and ensuring they can access resources to improve their agricultural practices. However, tribal farmers often face challenges, especially in **Podu cultivation**, where they clear forest areas for farming.
- The lack of irrigation facilities and electricity supply limits the productivity of these lands, which is where the Indira Solar Giri Water Development Scheme comes in.

Scope and Expected Benefits

The scheme will cover **6 lakh acres of land** that is expected to benefit around **2.1 lakh tribal farmers** over the next five years. The key benefits include:

- **Irrigation support:** The provision of solar-powered irrigation systems will help farmers

access water for their crops, addressing the key issue of water scarcity in tribal areas.

- **Economic empowerment:** By making these lands more cultivable, the scheme will allow tribal farmers to engage in productive farming, thereby improving their income levels.
- **Sustainability:** The use of solar-powered systems ensures that the irrigation methods are eco-friendly and reduce the dependence on conventional power sources.

Key Components of the Scheme

The scheme will involve multiple components designed to improve water accessibility, agricultural practices, and the overall economic condition of tribal farmers:

a) Survey and Identification of Land

- Only tribal villages that have received land titles under the **RoFR Act** will be considered for the scheme.
- A **survey** will be conducted to assess the **water availability** in the identified areas, ensuring that the selected lands have the necessary resources for irrigation.

b) Infrastructure Development

- **Borewells** will be drilled in identified areas to access groundwater.
- **Solar-powered pump sets** will be installed to lift water from the borewells, reducing the dependence on grid power.
- **Drip irrigation systems** will be set up to ensure efficient water use and reduce wastage.

c) Crop Selection and Plantation

The scheme will focus on growing **high-value crops** that can generate good income for farmers. Some of these crops include:

- Avocado
- Bamboo
- Pomegranate
- Dragon fruit
- Fig

These crops are chosen because they are more profitable and suitable for the conditions of tribal

areas.

- Moreover, **short-term crops** will be encouraged to help farmers generate income quickly, as some crops like **palm oil** and **bamboo** take longer (up to three years) to provide returns.

Implementation Mechanism

The scheme will require coordinated efforts from various departments and agencies. The key players involved in the implementation include:

- **ITDA (Integrated Tribal Development Agency):** This agency will play a crucial role in coordinating efforts on the ground.
- **Electricity Department:** Responsible for providing solar-powered irrigation systems.
- **Horticulture Department:** Will provide expertise on crop selection, plantation techniques, and overall agricultural guidance.
- **Forest Department:** Will oversee the compliance with land-use policies and manage potential conflicts arising from land clearance for cultivation.

The scheme's success will depend on the effective coordination among these departments and the smooth clearance of bureaucratic hurdles, particularly with the **Forest Department**, as the land involved is near or within forest areas.

Challenges and Administrative Issues

- Despite the potential benefits, the scheme has faced **administrative delays**, especially in obtaining necessary **clearances** from the concerned departments, particularly the **Forest Department**.
- This delay has hindered the timely implementation of the project, especially since tribal farmers are eagerly awaiting the promised free power supply to support their cultivation.

Expected Outcomes and Impact

The **Indira Solar Giri Water Development Scheme** is expected to bring several positive outcomes:

- **Economic Growth:** The scheme will generate income for tribal farmers by making their lands more productive.

- **Sustainable Development:** The use of solar-powered systems will promote the use of renewable energy, reducing dependency on non-renewable resources and contributing to the sustainability of the project.
- **Improved Agricultural Practices:** The introduction of **drip irrigation** and other modern farming techniques will help improve the efficiency of farming in tribal areas.
- **Social Upliftment:** By improving the livelihood of tribal farmers, the scheme will contribute to their social and economic inclusion.

Conclusion

- In conclusion, the **Indira Solar Giri Water Development Scheme** has the potential to transform tribal farming in Telangana by improving agricultural productivity and ensuring economic empowerment.
- However, its success will depend on overcoming the **administrative challenges** and ensuring smooth implementation across multiple departments.

Right to Information applications remain pending in Telangana

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/right-to-information-applications-remain-pending-in-telangana>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Polity

Context:

Right to Information applications

Why in News

- The Telangana Government is facing criticism over its delayed processing of Right to Information (RTI) applications and the failure to upload Government Orders (GOs) online.

Introduction:

- The Telangana Government is facing

criticism over its claims of **transparent and accountable governance**, as a significant number of **Right to Information (RTI)** applications remain **pending** across various departments.

- This backlog suggests issues with the **implementation and enforcement** of the RTI Act, despite official rhetoric promising transparency.

Pending RTI Applications

- Several RTI applications filed by citizens remain **unaddressed**.
- Although officials have **not disclosed exact figures**, reports suggest the **volume is substantial**.
- Delayed or unprocessed applications undermine the **public's right to know** and violate the **RTI Act provisions**, which mandate timely responses.

Government Action & IT Department Circular

- The **Information Technology, Electronics, and Communications Department** has issued directives to all departments to:
 - Clear pending RTI applications.
 - Ensure that **designated Public Information Officers (PIOs)** regularly check the **online RTI portal**.
 - Respond to applicants **within the prescribed time frame** (typically 30 days under the RTI Act).
- This action is in line with **Supreme Court directions** urging governments to provide RTI services through **electronic modes**, enabling easier access and transparency.

Failure to Upload Government Orders (GOs) Online

- Civil society groups, including the **Forum for Good Governance**, have complained about the **non-availability of Government Orders (GOs)** on the official government website.
- Currently, only **routine orders** (like sanctioning leaves for employees) are available online.

- **Important GOs** (related to policies, schemes, or major administrative changes) are **not uploaded**, forcing citizens to:
- File RTI applications.
- Visit government offices in person, which delays information access and burdens the public.

Forum for Good Governance's Appeal

- President **Padmanabha Reddy** urged the Chief Secretary to:
- Upload **all GOs** on the official government website.
- This would enhance **transparency**, reduce **RTI workload**, and benefit:
 - Civil society organizations
 - Media personnel
 - Common citizens

Appointment of Chief Information Commissioner

- The State Government appointed **G Chandrashekhar Reddy** as the **State Chief Information Commissioner**, with **Raj Bhavan's approval**.

Pending Appointments of Information Commissioners

- Reports say the government recommended **eight names** for the post of **Information Commissioners**.
- These appointments are **still awaiting approval** from Raj Bhavan.
- The delay has triggered **apprehensions**:
 - Questions about **political favoritism** in appointments.
 - Concerns about the **effectiveness and independence** of the Information Commission.

Implications

- The **RTI Act is a crucial tool** for ensuring transparency in governance.
- **Delays in responses**, failure to **upload GOs**, and **slow appointments** to oversight bodies damage:
 - Public trust

- Administrative accountability
- The spirit of participatory democracy

Conclusion

- Despite its promises, the Congress Government's performance in implementing the **Right to Information framework** is being questioned. **Systemic inefficiencies, lack of proactive disclosures, and delays in appointments** to the Information Commission suggest the need for **urgent reforms**.
- Steps like **uploading all GOs, enforcing time-bound RTI responses, and ensuring timely, impartial appointments** would go a long way in restoring faith in transparent governance.

Miss World 2025 opens in Telangana

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/11/miss-world-2025-opens-in-telangana-with-bridal-gold-and-tribal-soul>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Art and Culture

Context:

72nd Miss World pageant's grand opening in Telangana

Why in News

- The 72nd Miss World pageant's grand opening in Telangana showcased Indian cultural heritage alongside global representation, enhancing Telangana's image as a hub for international events.

Cultural Integration with Global Pageantry

- **Venue:** The grand opening of the **72nd Miss World pageant** was held in **Telangana**, a state known for its deep cultural roots and historical richness.
- **Purpose:** The event served as a **global platform** to promote **Telangana's culture**

and India's soft power, blending international glamour with regional traditions.

Highlights of the Opening Ceremony

a. State Anthem and Traditional Dance

- The event began with 50 vocalists performing "Jaya Jaya He Telangana", the state anthem, symbolizing pride and identity.
- This was followed by a massive Perini dance performance by 250 artists.
 - Perini is a traditional warrior dance, known as Perini Shivatandavam, often associated with inspiration (prerna) and valour.

b. Cultural Showcases

- A Telangana Tourism video was played to promote the state's scenic and cultural richness.
- Folk dances followed:
 - **Kommukoya** led by artist Ramakrishna
 - **Gussadi tribal dance** from the tribal communities of Telangana
 - **Lambada dance**, another local tribal tradition
 - **Oggu Dolu**, a high-energy drum performance rooted in folk worship

Continental Parades and International Representation



- Contestants from the Americas and Caribbean appeared first, wearing national costumes.
- Africa, Europe (33 contestants), and Asia (22 contestants) followed.
 - India's representative, Nandini Gupta,

dressed in a traditional bridal outfit, received huge applause.

- She also walked proudly with the Indian national flag, stirring emotions and national pride.

Symbolism and Diplomacy

- The official opening was declared by Miss World CEO Julia Morley and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.
- The anthem "One Love, One World" concluded the night, symbolizing unity in diversity.

Kommukoya

- **Origin:** Telangana (noted among the tribal communities, especially in Adilabad district).
- **Type:** Folk sport / cultural tradition.
- **Description:** Kommukoya is a traditional hunting game involving bow and arrow used by tribal youth as a part of a community event or festival, often linked to martial skills and rituals.
- **Cultural Significance:** It is both a recreational activity and a way to preserve indigenous archery skills, particularly among tribes like Gond and Kolam.

Gussadi Tribal Dance

- **Region:** Adilabad district, Telangana
- **Community:** Raj Gond tribe
- **Occasion:** Performed during Diwali (Deepavali) and post-harvest festivals.
- **Costume & Features:**
 - Dancers wear headgear made of peacock feathers, body painted with ash.
 - Accompanied by drums and traditional flutes.
- **Significance:** It is a warrior dance celebrating valor and tribal identity. The Gussadi troupe visits villages to bless homes during the festive season.

Lambada Dance

- **Community:** Lambadi / Banjara tribe.
- **Region:** Telangana and Andhra Pradesh

(also present in Maharashtra, Karnataka).

- **Type:** Folk dance.
- **Features:**
 - Performed by **women** wearing colorful, mirror-embroidered traditional dress and heavy jewelry.
 - Danced to **folk songs** with rhythmic clapping and graceful movements.
- **Cultural Role:** Reflects the **nomadic traditions** and **festive spirit** of the Lambadi people; often seen during **festivals and marriage ceremonies**.

Oggu Dolu

- **Origin:** Telangana, especially among **Kuruma and Yadava communities**.
- **Type:** Folk percussion performance.
- **Description:**
 - A **drum-based musical tradition**, where performers narrate stories of gods like **Mallanna, Beerappa, and Yellamma**.
 - Uses **Oggu drums, conch, and wind instruments**.
- **Cultural Significance:** A **devotional folk art**, often part of **temple festivals** and **processions** honoring village deities.

Padma Shri Mohan Reddy appointed as NITW BoG chairperson

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/12/telangana-mp-ramasahayam-raghuram-reddy-helps-boy-secure-rs-3-lakh-for-surgery>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Appointments

Context:

National Institute of Technology (NIT)

Why in News

- Padma Shri Dr. BVR Mohan Reddy has been appointed Chairperson of the Board of

Governors at NIT Warangal for a six-month term or until further orders.



Background and Achievements:

- **Founder of Cyient Ltd** (formerly Infotech Enterprises), a global engineering and technology solutions company headquartered in Hyderabad.
- **Padma Shri Awardee (2017)** for his contributions to trade and industry.
- A prominent **industrialist and educationist**, widely respected in the Indian tech sector.
- Former **Chairman of NASSCOM** (National Association of Software and Service Companies), where he played a critical role in policy advocacy and shaping India's IT and engineering R&D sectors.
- Currently serves as the **Chairperson of IIT Hyderabad and IIT Roorkee**, reflecting his strong presence in the field of higher technical education.

What is the Role of the Chairperson of NIT's Board of Governors?

- The **Board of Governors (BoG)** is the top decision-making body of an NIT.
- The Chairperson leads this board, influencing the **vision, governance, strategic direction, and policy matters** of the institute.
- The Chairperson ensures **alignment of the institute's goals with national educational and industrial priorities**.
- He/She acts as a bridge between **academic**

institutions and industry, helping shape the institute's relevance in real-world applications.

Telangana's Maternal Mortality Ratio

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telegana/slight-rise-in-telanganas-maternal-mortality-ratio-but-remains-lower-than-national-average/article69566719.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Social Issue

Context:

Maternal Mortality Ratio

Why in News

- Telangana's Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) increased slightly to 45 (2019-21), yet remains significantly below the national average of 93.

Cultural Integration with Global Pageantry

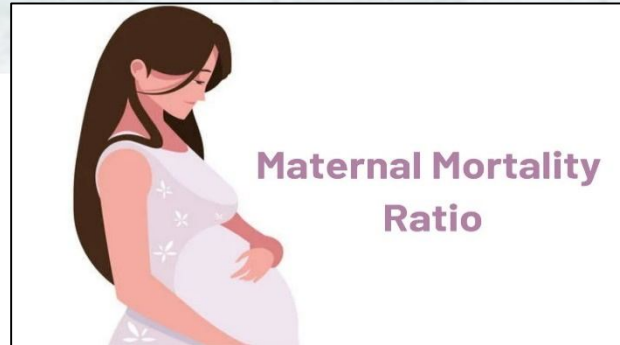
- The **Special Bulletin on Maternal Mortality in India 2019-21**, released by the Registrar General of India, provides valuable insights into **maternal health trends** across Indian States and Union Territories. It uses the Sample Registration System (SRS) to calculate the **Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)** – a key health indicator.

What is Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)?

- MMR is the **number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births** during a given time period.
- **WHO Definition of Maternal Death:** A maternal death occurs **during pregnancy or within 42 days of termination** of pregnancy, due to causes **related to or aggravated by pregnancy or its management**. It **excludes accidental or incidental causes** like road accidents, etc.

Why is MMR important?

- It reflects the overall **quality of health services, nutritional status, and access to maternal healthcare**.



Key Findings from the 2019-21 Report

Telangana's Performance:

- **MMR: 45** per 100,000 live births (2019-21)
- **Slight increase** from 43 (2018-20)
- **Still well below** the **national average** of 93

Despite the slight rise, **Telangana remains among the best-performing states** in maternal health outcomes.

National Scenario:

- **India's overall MMR** has improved: From **97** (2018-20) → to **93** (2019-21)

This steady decline is part of India's **progress toward the SDG target** of reducing the global maternal mortality ratio to **less than 70 per 100,000 live births by 2030**.

Regional Disparities: South vs EAG States

The report categorizes states into **three broad groups** to assess trends:

1. Southern States – Better health infrastructure and outcomes

| State | MMR (2019-21) |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Kerala | 20 (lowest in India) |
| Maharashtra | 38 |
| Telangana | 45 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 46 |
| Tamil Nadu | 49 |
| Karnataka | 63 |

These states consistently perform better due to:

- Strong **primary healthcare networks**
- Better **institutional delivery rates**

- More skilled birth attendants
- Higher female literacy

2. EAG States (Empowered Action Group) - Historically weak health indicators

| State | MMR (2019-21) |
|----------------|----------------|
| Madhya Pradesh | 175 |
| Assam | 167 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 151 |
| Bihar | ~118 (approx.) |

Challenges in EAG states:

- Poor health infrastructure
- Low female literacy and awareness
- Inadequate access to quality maternal care
- High prevalence of child marriage and early pregnancies

Other States/UTs:

These fall between the Southern and EAG groups in terms of performance. Includes states like Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana, and several Union Territories.

Interpretation and Significance

- **Telangana's stable and relatively low MMR** suggests that its health system is delivering effective maternal care, even though **constant vigilance is needed** to prevent upward trends.
- The **regional divide** emphasizes the **need for targeted intervention** in EAG states.
- **Kerala's success** is often attributed to:
 - High literacy (especially female)
 - Community health workers
 - Focus on antenatal/postnatal care

Way Forward

To further reduce MMR across India:

1. **Strengthen primary healthcare** in rural and remote areas.
2. **Increase institutional deliveries** and access to skilled birth attendants.
3. **Promote maternal health awareness** through ASHA workers and local

campaigns.

4. **Address nutritional deficiencies** and anemia in adolescent girls and pregnant women.
5. **Improve transport and emergency referral systems** for maternal care.

Conclusion

- While India is making steady progress in reducing maternal mortality, **state-level disparities** remain stark.
- States like **Telangana, Kerala, and Maharashtra** demonstrate what is achievable with **sustained investment in health infrastructure and awareness**, whereas **EAG states need focused policy attention** and resource allocation to bridge the gap.

Telangana government to provide loans worth Rs 19K crore to 3.55 lakh SHGs

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/13/telangana-to-launch-1000-experimental-pre-schools>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

SERP Action Plan

Why in News

- The Telangana government's 2025-26 SERP Action Plan aims to disburse ₹19,838.58 crore in loans to 3.55 lakh SHGs, backed by a 98.5% repayment rate and a focus on women's financial empowerment.

Introduction

The announcement made by Telangana's Women & Child Welfare Minister Dansari Anasuya (popularly known as **Seethakka**) highlights a significant initiative aimed at strengthening women's economic empowerment through **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)** and bank linkages.

Key Highlights of the Announcement

1. Loan Target for SHGs in 2025-26

- The Telangana government has set a **loan disbursal target of ₹19,838.58 crore** to be provided to **3,55,138 SHGs** during the **2025-26 financial year**.
- This initiative is part of the **Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP)** Annual Action Plan.

2. What is SERP?

- SERP** is a government initiative under the **Rural Development Department** of Telangana aimed at empowering rural women by promoting SHGs.
- It works to **eradicate rural poverty** by enabling poor women to access financial resources, skill development, and social empowerment.



Importance of the Announcement

1. Economic Empowerment of Women

- This action plan acts as a **roadmap for women's economic empowerment**, particularly in rural areas.
- By ensuring credit access through **bank linkages**, women in SHGs are given the tools to start or expand income-generating activities like agriculture, dairy farming, tailoring, food processing, etc.

2. Promotion of Financial Literacy

- Alongside the action plan, Seethakka launched a **financial literacy booklet**.
- This aims to **educate SHG members** about managing money, taking loans responsibly,

repayment discipline, and using digital banking tools.

Past Performance and Confidence in the Plan

1. Success in 2024-25

- In the previous year, SHGs not only met but **exceeded their credit targets**, obtaining an **additional ₹5,000 crore** in loans.
- This success story builds trust and credibility between SHGs and banks.

2. Exceptional Repayment Record

- The **repayment rate of SHGs in Telangana is 98.5%**, which is extremely high.
- In fact, this is **better than the repayment rates of many large corporate borrowers**, who often account for high **Non-Performing Assets (NPAs)** in banks.

Appeal to Banks and Future Assurance

1. Request for Continued Bank Support

- Minister Seethakka urged banks to **continue supporting SHGs** by facilitating smooth credit flow without unnecessary delays or hesitations.
- She emphasized that SHGs have **demonstrated their creditworthiness**.

2. Assurance of Zero NPAs

- Seethakka confidently declared that **every rupee borrowed** by women's SHGs in 2025-26 will be **repaid**.
- She promised that **no loan will turn into an NPA**, which reassures banks and boosts confidence in the system.

Broader Implications

| Aspect | Impact |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Rural Development | Increases income, self-reliance, and economic security for rural families. |
| Women Empowerment | Encourages leadership, entrepreneurship, and financial independence among women. |
| Banking Sector | Improves bank-SHG relations, increases credit outreach, and |

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | reduces risk due to strong repayment rates. |
| Social Impact | Reduces poverty, improves standard of living, and enhances women's participation in local governance and decision-making. |

Conclusion

- This initiative is a **model of inclusive and sustainable rural development**, where **empowered women play a central role** in reshaping their communities.
- By building on past successes and focusing on financial literacy, accountability, and strong institutional support, the Telangana government, through SERP and SHGs, is **paving the way for a more resilient and equitable rural economy**.
 - **First-ever moonlight wildlife census carried out in Kawal Tiger Reserve**

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/first-ever-moonlight-wildlife-census-successfully-carried-out-in-telanganas-adilabad>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Environment and Ecology

Context:

Kawal Tiger Reserve



Why in News

- The unique wildlife census conducted in the Utnoor forest division of Kawal Tiger Reserve in Telangana marks an important step in community-driven conservation and

innovative wildlife monitoring.

Buddha Purnima Census

- The census was conducted **on the night of Buddha Purnima**, a full moon day which is spiritually significant but also *symbolic in conservation* since full moon nights are often exploited by **poachers** due to better visibility.
- This initiative was a **first of its kind in Telangana**, carried out **under moonlight and without artificial light or sound**, thereby minimizing disturbance to wildlife.

Purpose of the Census

- Wildlife Monitoring:**
 - To monitor **waterhole-based wildlife** – that is, wild animals that gather at natural or man-made water sources, especially in **peak summer**.
 - Such observations are critical for understanding **species diversity, animal behavior, and water dependency** during harsh seasons.
- Anti-poaching Strategy:**
 - Full moon nights are **high-risk periods for poaching**.
 - By occupying these waterholes with volunteers and forest staff, the **census acted as a preventive mechanism** against illegal activity.
- Community Involvement:**
 - To **empower local communities and involve them in conservation** as active participants rather than passive observers.
 - This builds a sense of **ownership and responsibility** towards protecting the forest and its fauna.

How the Census Was Conducted

- Led by Forest Officer Prashanth Patil:**
 - The operation was led by the **District Forest Officer (DFO), Prashanth Patil**, who emphasized turning the forest's vulnerability into its strength through citizen involvement.
- Selection of Waterholes:**

- Officials identified **five key waterhole zones** across **forest fringe villages**, known to be both wildlife hotspots and poaching-prone areas.

3. Machans (Watch Towers):

- Temporary **machans** (watch towers) were built using **camouflage techniques** (natural materials like leaves and branches) to blend in with the surroundings and **not disturb wildlife movement**.

4. Volunteer Participation:

- Volunteers from **Adilabad, Karimnagar (Telangana)** and **Chandrapur, Yavatmal (Maharashtra)** participated.
- They were trained in:
 - Observation protocols**
 - Safety guidelines**
 - Silent vigil ethics** (e.g., no use of mobile phones, flashlights, or talking)

Precautions and Safety Measures:

- Backup patrol teams, emergency kits, and logistical support** were kept ready to ensure the safety of all participants.
- The entire activity was conducted with **zero artificial light** to preserve the natural ambiance.

Outcomes and Future Implications

1. Data Collection:

- Observations were **meticulously recorded**.
- Data will contribute to **long-term monitoring** of habitats and species in Kawal Tiger Reserve.

2. Model for Other States:

- The initiative drew **inspiration from Maharashtra**, where such moonlight censuses are:
 - Scientific tools**
 - Public awareness campaigns**

3. Empowerment Against Poaching:

- Engaging locals helps:
 - Build **local vigilance**
 - Deter poachers**
 - Create a protective **network of citizens**

About Kawal Tiger Reserve and Uttoor Division

- Kawal Tiger Reserve** is one of Telangana's prime tiger habitats.
- The **Uttöor forest division** includes several **fringe villages**, areas that are:
 - Rich in wildlife
 - Prone to timber **smuggling** (especially teak)
 - Historically affected by **illegal hunting**

Conclusion

- This **moonlight waterhole wildlife census** is a **holistic conservation approach** that combines **science, community participation, and strategic protection**.
- It transforms vulnerable full moon nights from poaching threats into **opportunities for wildlife protection**, setting a **model for participatory conservation** across India.

Cradle centre 'Ooyala' for abandoned newborns opens in Telangana

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/cradle-centre-ooyala-for-abandoned-newborns-opens-in-telanganas-karimnagar>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Ooyala' cradle centre

Why in News

- The 'Ooyala' cradle centre is a child protection initiative launched by the district administration of Karimnagar to safeguard abandoned newborn babies and provide them with proper care and protection.

Purpose of the 'Ooyala' Cradle Centre

Many newborn babies are **abandoned in unsafe places** such as roads, garbage dumps, or public restrooms due to social stigma, poverty, or inability to care for them. This initiative aims to:

- Prevent unsafe abandonment of babies
- Provide a **safe and anonymous alternative** to abandonment
- Ensure that the babies receive **medical care, protection, and a chance for adoption**

Location and Setup

- The first 'Ooyala' centre has been established at the **Mother and Child Health Centre (MCH), Karimnagar**.
- It is run by the **Child Protection wing** of the **Women and Child Welfare Department**.

How It Works

1. Anonymous Drop-off Facility

- The centre allows parents or guardians who cannot care for their newborns to **safely leave the babies** at the centre **without fear of legal consequences**.
- Importantly, **no CCTV surveillance** is installed to protect the identity of the person leaving the baby.
- **No enquiry or investigation** will be done about the person dropping off the baby.

2. Medical Care and Protection

- If the newborn is in poor health, the child will be given **immediate medical attention**.
- After initial care, the baby will be shifted to the **Shishu Gruha**, a government-run shelter home for children.



Adoption Support

- Many **childless couples** are in contact with the administration to **adopt children**.
- The babies left at the 'Ooyala' centres will be made available for adoption **through proper legal procedures** under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act.

Future Expansion

To increase accessibility and coverage, similar

'Ooyala' centres will be opened at:

- Jammikunta Government Hospital
- Huzurabad Government Hospital
- Choppadandi Government Hospital
- Public spaces like bus stands and railway stations

Emergency Contacts and Confidentiality

- People who wish to **hand over a child directly** can contact the organisers at: **94908 81098**. All details will be kept **confidential**.
- In case of emergencies or to report abandoned children, the **Child Helpline Number 1098** can be used.

Significance of the Name 'Ooyala'

- In Telugu, 'Ooyala' (ఊయల) means 'cradle', symbolizing care, protection, and love for infants.
- The name evokes the image of a **safe space** where a child can be nurtured, even when their biological parents cannot take care of them.

Why This Is Important

- **Reduces infant mortality** due to unsafe abandonment.
- **Encourages responsible choices** among those unable to raise children.
- Provides an opportunity for **infertile couples to adopt legally**.
- Promotes a more **humane and compassionate society**.

Wildlife deaths in Telangana highlight data gaps, enforcement challenges

Source: Times of India

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/wildlife-deaths-in-telangana-highlight-data-gaps-enforcement-challenges/articleshow/121145454.cms>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Environment and Ecology

Context:

Wildlife Deaths in Telangana (2014–2024)

Why in News

- Telangana witnessed a rise in wildlife deaths and poaching cases between 2014 and 2024, highlighting infrastructural challenges and lack of transparency in wildlife protection efforts.

**Background**

- An RTI application filed by activist Robin Zaccheus revealed that Telangana reported **135 wildlife crime cases** between **2014 and 2024**, according to data from the **Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)**.
- This figure is relatively low compared to the **6,877 cases reported across India** during the same period.
 - **Uttar Pradesh** topped the national list with **817 cases**.
 - Followed by **West Bengal** with **785 cases**, and states like **Tamil Nadu** and **Haryana**.

Trends in Telangana

Despite lower overall numbers, Telangana showed a **concerning spike** in certain years:

- In **2023**, the state recorded **52 wildlife deaths**, the **highest** in the last decade.
- In **2024**, the number dropped to **23 deaths**.
- **Poaching cases** reported:
 - **4 in 2023**
 - **1 in 2024**
- **Train collisions** caused:
 - **3 deaths in 2023**
 - **1 in 2024**

- **Other types of accidental deaths** over the decade: **12 in total**

Nationally, India reported **485 accidental wildlife deaths**, with **Maharashtra** and **Uttar Pradesh** leading in such incidents.

Activist's Concerns and Criticism

Robin Zaccheus criticized the WCCB for its **lack of transparency and inadequate response**:

- RTI queries related to **electrocution, habitat loss, and whistleblower complaints** were frequently rejected.
- Many requests were denied under **Section 8(1)(j)** of the RTI Act, citing irrelevance to WCCB's mandate.
- Zaccheus cited alarming national statistics:
 - **461 elephant electrocutions** (2009–2017)
 - **49 elephants killed by trains** (2016–2018)
- He pointed out that there has been **no significant policy shift** or investment in **preventive infrastructure** to reduce such incidents.
- Also raised concern about the **low conviction rate** for wildlife crimes, which reportedly stood around **2% between 2012 and 2018**.

Demands Made by Zaccheus

1. Creation of a **public database** of all wildlife deaths.
2. **Stronger enforcement mechanisms** against poaching and habitat disruption.
3. **Greater accountability** in infrastructure projects affecting wildlife corridors.

Government and Official Response

- Noted that:
 - There were **two railway lines**, with a **third line under construction**.
 - Previously, there were **no underpasses** for animal crossings.
 - The government is now **insisting on building underpasses** for safe wildlife movement.

Ongoing Evaluations

- The **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** and **Wildlife Institute of India (WII)** are expected to **visit and assess the corridor** and recommend further actions.

Anti-Poaching Measures

- Efforts are being taken to **strengthen intelligence and surveillance systems**:
 - Use of **camera traps** to monitor wildlife movements.
 - Deployment of **anti-wildlife crime squads**:
 - Based in Hyderabad
 - Operational teams in Nirmal and Amrabad
 - Flying squad teams for rapid response to threats

Conclusion

- The data on wildlife deaths in Telangana highlights the need for **improved transparency, stricter enforcement, and infrastructure planning** that prioritizes wildlife safety.
- Despite limited disclosures and low case numbers compared to other states, the **rising trend of wildlife deaths**—especially due to accidents and infrastructure—calls for **urgent, coordinated action** from both state and central authorities.

Telangana government accepts Governor's recommendation on houses for vulnerable tribals

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/14/telangana-government-accepts-governors-recommendation-on-houses-for-vulnerable-tribals>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

launched housing for all PVTG families

Why in News

- Telangana government has launched housing for all PVTG families under the Indiramma Housing Scheme and will build three-storey housing complexes for Hyderabad slum dwellers.

Who are PVTGs?

- **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)** are the most marginalized and deprived sections among Scheduled Tribes (STs), identified based on criteria like:
 - Pre-agricultural level of technology
 - Low literacy
 - Declining or stagnant population
 - Economic backwardness
- They require focused and tailored welfare measures due to their extreme vulnerability.

Government's Initiative

- The Telangana State Government has decided to **provide housing to all identified PVTG families in saturation mode**.
 - **Saturation Mode** means *every eligible PVTG family will receive housing benefits without exception*.
- A total of **9,395 PVTG families** have been identified across the state's **Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA)** areas.



ITDA Areas Targeted

- **Utnoor, Bhadrachalam, and Eturnagaram** are ITDA regions where many PVTGs reside.
- These areas are designated for the implementation of tribal development schemes and are crucial for this housing rollout.

Role of the Governor

- **Governor Jishnu Dev Verma**, in his capacity as the **custodian of the Sixth Schedule areas** (tribal regions with special governance structures), has recommended this move.
- The state has pledged to **respect and act upon his recommendations** to ensure PVTGs receive permanent and dignified housing.

Additional ST Beneficiaries

- Apart from PVTGs, the government has also proposed to allocate an **additional 20% of houses to eligible Scheduled Tribe (ST) families**.

Urban Housing Challenges

- Hyderabad has numerous **urban slums** where people live in overcrowded and poor conditions.
- Previously, **19,000 houses** were sanctioned under the **BRS regime** (the former state government), but most remained **unoccupied** due to lack of interest or poor infrastructure.

New Urban Housing Plan

- The government plans to build **three-storey housing complexes** in Hyderabad slum areas to:
 - Utilize space efficiently
 - Provide **permanent, well-equipped homes** for slum dwellers
- The model is inspired by the **Mumbai slum redevelopment model**, where such buildings have been successful.

Why Three Storeys?

- Minister **Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy** emphasized that **limiting to three floors** ensures:
 - Accessibility for all, especially the elderly
 - Better community living
 - Avoiding the alienation that comes with high-rise flats

About Indira Solar Giri Jal Vikasam" scheme**Source:**The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/govt-issues-orders-allocating-12600-crore-for-indira-solar-giri-jal-vikasam-scheme/article69580706.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance**Context:**

Indira Solar Giri Jal Vikasam" scheme

Why in News

- The Indira Solar Giri Jal Vikasam scheme is a Telangana government initiative to provide solar-powered irrigation and agricultural support to tribal farmers holding land under the Forest Rights Act (2006).

Background: Forest Rights Act (RoFR), 2006

- Enacted by the UPA government in 2006, the **Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act**, commonly known as the **Forest Rights Act (RoFR)**, aims to recognize the rights of forest-dwelling tribal communities over the land they have traditionally occupied and cultivated.
- In Telangana, under this Act, the government has recognized land ownership rights for:
 - **2,30,735 tribal farmers**
 - Across **6.69 lakh acres** of forest land
 - By issuing **RoFR title deeds**
- However, while land rights were legally recognized, **no major irrigation or agricultural support schemes** were implemented in the past decade to make these lands agriculturally productive.

Launch of the Indira Solar Giri Jal Vikasam Scheme

- The scheme is scheduled to be officially inaugurated on **May 18** at **Macharam village, Amrabad Mandal, Achampet Constituency**

by CM A. Revanth Reddy.

- The Telangana government has **allocated ₹12,600 crore** for its implementation.



Key Features of the Scheme

1. **Solar-Powered Irrigation**
 - Solar irrigation systems will be installed to **irrigate 6 lakh acres** over **five years**.
 - This will benefit approximately **2.10 lakh tribal farmers** holding RoFR titles.
2. **Support for Horticulture**
 - The scheme includes assistance for cultivating **horticultural crops**.
 - **Drip irrigation** systems will be provided to conserve water and improve efficiency.
3. **Plant Saplings Supply**
 - Farmers will receive **necessary plant saplings** to grow long-term crops such as fruits and commercial trees.
4. **Interim Income Support**
 - Until the main horticulture crops start yielding produce, farmers will be supported through **intercropping systems**, allowing them to grow short-term crops in the interim.

Significance of the Scheme

- **First-of-its-kind initiative** in the country to combine solar irrigation and agricultural support specifically for tribal farmers with RoFR land titles.
- Aims to **enhance agricultural productivity**, improve **economic conditions**, and ensure **sustainable livelihoods** for tribal communities.
- Marks a significant **policy shift**—from merely granting land rights to actively

supporting **land use and cultivation**.

- Addresses a **historic gap**: despite having land rights for over a decade, tribal farmers lacked basic infrastructure to cultivate the land effectively.

Political and Developmental Implications

- Demonstrates the Congress-led Telangana government's commitment to **tribal welfare** and **inclusive rural development**.
- Could become a **model for other states** with significant tribal populations and RoFR titleholders.
- Encourages the integration of **clean energy solutions (solar power)** in agriculture.

Telangana records highest elderly deaths in 2021 during Covid peak

Source:New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telegana/2025/May/15/telegana-records-highest-elderly-deaths-in-2021-during-covid-peak>

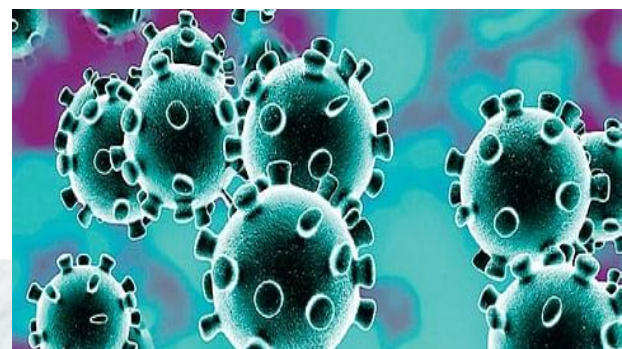
TGPSC Syllabus Relevance:Health

Context:

Civil Registration System (CRS) report on covid

Why in News

- The Civil Registration System (CRS) report for Telangana in 2021 highlights a spike in elderly deaths during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, with possible underreporting in rural areas.



Total Deaths Registered in Telangana (2019-2021)

| Year | Total Deaths Registered |
|------|-------------------------|
| 2019 | 2,28,294 |
| 2020 | 2,03,127 |
| 2021 | 2,34,425 |

Explanation:

- There was a significant increase in registered deaths in 2021 compared to 2020, which corresponds to the peak period of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Despite the ongoing pandemic, the number of deaths in 2020 was lower than in 2019, which raises concerns about possible underreporting during the initial year of the pandemic.
- The sharp rise in 2021 deaths suggests both a higher mortality impact and possibly better reporting, though doubts remain about the completeness of rural data.

Deaths by Age Group in 2021

| Age Group | Number of Deaths |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 65-69 years | 85,945 |
| 70 years and above | 51,516 |
| 55-64 years | 42,349 |

Explanation:

- The highest number of deaths was reported in the 65-69 age group, which is unusual, as typically mortality increases with age.
- The lower number of deaths in the 70+ category compared to 65-69 raises questions, possibly indicating issues in age-wise reporting or underregistration.
- These age-specific figures hint at a strong impact of COVID-19 among older populations, though they do not align perfectly with expected patterns, suggesting inconsistencies or gaps in the data.

Infant Deaths (2019-2021)

| Year | Infant Deaths |
|------|---------------|
| 2019 | 6,349 |
| 2020 | 5,550 |

| | |
|------|-------|
| 2021 | 6,281 |
|------|-------|

Explanation:

- Infant deaths remained relatively stable over the three years, with a slight drop in 2020 followed by a rise in 2021.
- These numbers show that, unlike older adults, infants did not see a dramatic shift in mortality during the pandemic, suggesting COVID-19 had a limited direct impact on infant deaths.

Urban vs Rural Deaths in 2021

| Location | Number of Deaths |
|----------|------------------|
| Urban | 1,26,098 |
| Rural | 1,08,327 |

Explanation:

- Urban areas recorded more deaths than rural areas, which can be attributed to:
 - Higher population density and exposure to COVID-19 in urban settings.
 - Better infrastructure and death registration systems in cities.
- The relatively lower rural death numbers might also reflect underregistration due to logistical or administrative challenges during the pandemic.

Gender-wise Deaths in 2021

| Gender | Rural Deaths | Urban Deaths | Total Deaths |
|--------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Male | 61,653 | 74,072 | 1,35,725 |
| Female | 46,674 | 52,026 | 98,700 |

Explanation:

- Male deaths were significantly higher than female deaths across both rural and urban areas.
- This gender disparity is consistent with broader national and international trends, where men were more susceptible to severe COVID-19 outcomes.
- The data further underscores the gendered impact of the pandemic and aligns with findings from other health research.

District-wise Deaths in 2021

| District | Number of Deaths |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Hyderabad | 41,451 |
| Nizamabad | 16,796 |
| Warangal Urban (Hanamkonda) | 16,522 |

Explanation:

- Hyderabad, the most populous and urbanized district, reported the highest number of deaths, which reflects the higher transmission rate and concentration of COVID-19 cases in metropolitan areas.
- Other major urban districts like Nizamabad and Warangal Urban also reported high death tolls, again highlighting the greater impact in urban centers.

Concerns About Underreporting

- The CRS report explicitly mentions **possible underreporting in rural areas**.
- Several factors might have contributed to this:
 - Limited access to health services in rural regions.
 - Administrative delays or failures in death registration.
 - Cultural and logistical barriers to timely registration.
- COVID-19 is cited as a major reason for underreporting, especially in areas overwhelmed by the pandemic or lacking infrastructure.

Conclusion

- The Civil Registration System data for Telangana in 2021 reveals the intense mortality burden during the peak COVID-19 year, especially among the elderly and urban populations. However, inconsistencies in age-wise and rural data indicate potential underreporting, raising concerns about the completeness and reliability of the data.
- These findings underline the need for stronger health surveillance, especially in rural regions, and improvements in

registration systems for better policy planning and crisis response.

220-million-year-old fossils found in Telangana

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/18/220-million-year-old-fossils-found-in-telangana-give-fresh-insights-into-dinosaur-evolution>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Art and Culture

Context:

Maleriraptorkuttyi

Why in News

- Maleriraptorkuttyi is a newly identified Late Triassic carnivorous dinosaur from India, marking the first confirmed herrerasaurian discovery in Gondwana.

Overview of the Discovery

- A significant new dinosaur species, *Maleriraptorkuttyi*, has been identified from fossil remains discovered near **Annaram village** in the **Pranahita-Godavari Valley**, a region spanning Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in India.
- The species lived over **200 million years ago** during the **Norian stage** of the **Late Triassic period**, a time marked by significant ecological transitions.

Scientific Significance

- The fossil has provided the **first confirmed evidence of a herrerasaurian dinosaur in Gondwana**, the southern supercontinent that included present-day India, Africa, South America, Antarctica, and Australia.
- Until this discovery, all confirmed herrerasaurian dinosaurs were found only in **South America**, particularly **Argentina** and **Brazil**.

Background of the Fossil

- The fossil specimen, catalogued as **ISIR 282**,

was **originally excavated in the 1980s**.

- However, its significance was recognized much later, and the species was officially described in a **2024 study published in the journal *Royal Society Open Science***.
- The fossil was discovered by the late Indian palaeontologist **T.S. Kutty**, and the species name *kuttyi* was given in his honor.



Classification and Evolutionary Importance

- *Maleriraptorkuttyi* belongs to the group **Herrerasauria**, one of the earliest known groups of dinosaurs.
- However, it lies **outside the Herrerasauridae**, the South American subgroup, suggesting a distinct evolutionary path.
- Its discovery shows that herrerasaurians were **more widely distributed** than previously thought, indicating **early dinosaur dispersal across continents** during the Triassic.

Anatomical Features

- The dinosaur was **bipedal and carnivorous**.
- It ranged in length from approximately **1.2 to 6 metres**.
- Key features include:
 - A **vertically oriented pubis**, unlike many other herrerasaurians.
 - A **distinct pelvic structure**.
 - Absence of the **broad "pubic boot"**, a feature seen in other herrerasaurians, which suggests an **independent evolutionary lineage**.

Naming and Geological Context

- The **genus name "Maleriraptor"** is derived from:
 - The **Upper Maleri Formation**, the geological formation in which the fossil was found.
 - The Latin word *raptor*, meaning "thief", referencing its carnivorous diet.
- The **Upper Maleri Formation** belongs to a well-known sedimentary sequence of the Pranhita-Godavari Valley, which preserves fossils from both the **Triassic and Jurassic** periods.

Broader Palaeontological Context

The Pranhita-Godavari Valley is considered **one of India's richest fossil belts**, contributing significantly to our understanding of early dinosaur evolution. Other important fossil discoveries from this region include:

- **Kotasaurusyamanpalliensis**
- **Barapasaurustagorei**
- **Dandakosaurus indicus**
- **Alwalkeriamaleriensis**
- **Jaklapallisaurusasymmetrica**

These species span various stages from the Late Triassic to the Early Jurassic, making the region crucial for the study of early dinosaur development and diversification.

Environmental and Evolutionary Insights

- During the Late Triassic, India was part of the supercontinent **Pangaea** and had **climatic conditions similar to present-day southwestern North America**.
- This similarity may have led to **parallel evolution** of dinosaur species across distant regions.
- The discovery of *Maleriraptorkuttyi* also highlights how **environmental factors and continental configurations** influenced dinosaur distribution and evolution.
- The **absence of similar herrerasaurian fossils in contemporary South American sites** suggests that local environmental changes may have shaped their survival and fossil preservation.

Conclusion

- The discovery of *Maleriraptorkuttyi* is a landmark moment in Indian palaeontology.
- It not only expands our understanding of dinosaur evolution and migration patterns across ancient continents but also emphasizes the scientific importance of the Pranahita-Godavari Valley as a window into the deep past.

Hyderabad’s grandmaster Rithvik bags spot in World Cup 2025

Source:New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telegana/2025/May/17/hyderabadsgrandmaster-rithvik-bags-spot-in-world-cup-2025>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance:Sports

Context:

Asian Individual Chess Championship 2025



Why in News

- Grandmaster Raja Rithvik from Hyderabad qualified for the Chess World Cup 2025 after finishing 6th at the Asian Individual Chess Championship 2025 held in Al Ain, UAE.

Background

- **Grandmaster Raja Rithvik**, a promising young chess player from **Hyderabad, Telangana**, has earned a place in the **Chess World Cup 2025**, an elite global chess tournament.
- His qualification is a result of his strong performance at the **Asian Individual Chess Championship 2025**, held in Al Ain, UAE

from **May 6 to May 16, 2025**.

About the Asian Individual Chess Championship 2025

- This championship is one of the **most prestigious chess events in Asia**, organized under the aegis of the **Asian Chess Federation** and recognized by **FIDE** (World Chess Federation).
- The event featured **154 top chess players** from **33 countries**, including strong chess nations like:
 - China
 - Japan
 - Philippines
 - Kazakhstan
 - Iran
 - India
- The tournament followed a **9-round Swiss system**, where each player plays 9 games against opponents with similar scores.

Raja Rithvik’s Performance

- Rithvik’s excellent performance against a competitive field placed him **within the top 10**, securing his **automatic qualification** for the **Chess World Cup 2025**, as per **FIDE** rules.

India’s Representation

- Along with Rithvik, **six other Indian players** also qualified for the World Cup based on their performance in the same tournament. This reflects **India’s strong standing in Asian chess**.

About Raja Rithvik

- **Full Name:** Raja Rithvik R
- **Title:** Grandmaster (GM)

Recent Achievements

Rithvik has demonstrated consistent form in recent tournaments:

| Tournament | Medal |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|
| Laplagne International Chess Championship | Silver |
| National Blitz Championship | Silver |

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|
| Cappelle International Chess Championship | Bronze |
| National Rapid Championship 2024 | Bronze |

These achievements have contributed to his rising profile both nationally and internationally.

Chess World Cup 2025 - India as Host

- The **2025 Chess World Cup** is likely to be hosted in India this November, making Rithvik's qualification even more special, as he may get to compete on home soil.
- The **FIDE Chess World Cup** is a knockout tournament featuring the world's top players, and it is a pathway to the **Candidates Tournament**, which eventually leads to the **World Chess Championship**.

CM to launch Indiramma Giri Jala Vikasam for tribals

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/cm-to-launch-indiramma-giri-jala-vikasam-for-tribals/article69590765.ec>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Indiramma Giri Jala Vikasam for tribals



Why in News

- The Indira Soura Giri Jala Vikasam scheme is a major new initiative by the Government of Telangana under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, aimed at transforming the agricultural landscape for tribal farmers in the state.

What is the Indira Soura Giri Jala Vikasam Scheme?

- "Soura" = Solar, "Giri" = Hills/Tribes, "Jala Vikasam" = Water Development
- The name of the scheme reflects its focus on using solar power to develop irrigation facilities in tribal areas, especially those in forested and hilly regions.

Objective of the Scheme

To provide solar-powered irrigation facilities to tribal farmers who have been granted land titles under the Recognition of Forest Rights (RoFR) Act.

The goal is to:

- Improve agricultural productivity.
- Enable horticultural development.
- Uplift the economic and living standards of over 2.1 lakh tribal farmers.
- Achieve self-sufficiency and sustainable agriculture for tribal communities.
- Operate on a 100% subsidy basis – farmers pay nothing.

Background and Rationale

- Under the RoFR Act, 2006, many tribal farmers were given land titles.
- However, they lacked infrastructure, power, and irrigation, making farming unsustainable.
- Over 6 lakh acres of tribal land remained underutilized.
- Lack of power supply was a major barrier to development.
- Hence, the Telangana government decided to install off-grid solar-powered pumps to enable irrigation without reliance on grid electricity.

Key Features of the Scheme

| Feature | Details |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Target Beneficiaries | 2.1 lakh tribal farmers across Telangana |
| Land Area Covered | 6 lakh acres of land under RoFR |
| Irrigation | Solar-powered off-grid |

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Technology | pumpsets |
| Subsidy | 100% subsidy – pumpsets provided free to beneficiaries |
| Estimated Cost | ₹12,600 crore for 5 years |
| Cost per Pumpset | ₹6 lakh per pumpset |
| Implementation Period | 5 years (starting FY 2025) |
| Mode | Saturation mode (all eligible beneficiaries covered) |

Implementation Strategy

- The scheme will be implemented in **phased manner** across tribal areas.
- **Land development, irrigation infrastructure, and horticulture** will be promoted.
- Solar pumps will allow farming even in remote, **off-grid forested locations**.
- Tribal welfare departments and agriculture departments will work in coordination.

Benefits for Tribal Farmers

- **Year-round irrigation** using renewable energy.
- **Reduced dependence on rainfall** or diesel pumps.
- Opportunity to grow **horticultural crops** and cash crops.
- **Increased income**, better food security, and employment.
- Promotion of **eco-friendly agriculture** and climate resilience.

Wider Significance

- Supports **climate-friendly** and **sustainable agriculture**.
- Aligned with **India's renewable energy goals**.
- Redresses long-standing deprivation among **Scheduled Tribes**.
- Reinforces the spirit of the **RoFR Act**, by not just giving land titles, but making them economically viable.
- A potential **model for replication** in other tribal regions of India.

Telangana to train 5K licensed surveyors to oversee land transactions

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telegana/2025/May/20/kaleshwaram-inquiry-commission-summons-kcr-former-ministers-for-cross-examination-by-june-9>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Licensed Surveyors System

Why in News

- Telangana is introducing a licensed surveyors system to streamline land transactions and reduce disputes, following the successful model implemented in Karnataka.

Background

- The Telangana government is introducing a **licensed surveyors system** to ensure more **efficient, transparent, and accurate land transactions**.
- This move is inspired by the successful implementation of a similar system in **Karnataka**.

Key Highlights of the Announcement

1. Recruitment of Licensed Surveyors

- **5,000 licensed surveyors** will be inducted across Telangana.
- The **application deadline** for aspiring surveyors is **May 17**.
- Once selected, surveyors will be trained at the **Telangana Survey Training Academy**.

2. Deployment

- Surveyors will be **assigned at the mandal level**, based on the **land area** and **number of transactions**.
- This decentralized deployment aims to increase **localised access** to survey services and speed up land transaction processes.

Learning from Karnataka Model

Karnataka’s System:

- Karnataka implemented the **Licensed Surveyor Scheme** through the **Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1999**, operational from 2005–06.
- It is a **dual-system** with:
 - 6,000 licensed surveyors (private)
 - 4,000 government surveyors

Role of Licensed Surveyors:

- Before any **land registration**, a **mutation sketch** is prepared.
- These sketches include:
 - **Land measurements**
 - **Boundaries**
 - **Ownership titles**
- This pre-registration sketch ensures **clarity**, **prevents disputes**, and **simplifies documentation**.

Economic Viability:

- In Karnataka, on average:
 - Each licensed surveyor handles **23 applications/month**
 - They earn approximately **₹30,000/month**, making it a **sustainable livelihood option**

Why This Matters for Telangana

- Telangana has witnessed **numerous land-related disputes**, due to unclear boundaries, faulty records, and delays in surveys.
- Introducing **licensed surveyors**:
 - Reduces dependency on a limited number of government surveyors
 - Enhances **accountability, efficiency**, and **citizen** access
 - Supports the state’s larger goal of **land record modernization** (in sync with initiatives like **Dharani portal**)

Expected Benefits

| Benefit | Explanation |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Faster Land Transactions | With more surveyors, survey work and mutation |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | reports can be generated quicker |
| Reduction in Disputes | Accurate sketches help avoid boundary disputes and fraud |
| Empowerment & Employment | Creates thousands of skilled jobs |
| Boost to Digital Governance | Supports better record-keeping and e-governance through survey data |
| Transparency | Involvement of trained, certified personnel ensures better service delivery |

Conclusion

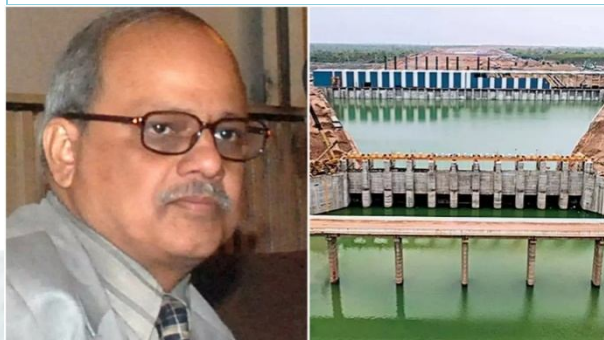
- The Telangana government's decision to adopt a **licensed surveyor system**, modeled after Karnataka, is a **progressive step** towards **land reforms**.
- It is expected to **streamline land transactions**, **empower youth through employment**, and ensure **long-term resolution of land disputes** through better survey infrastructure.

Extension of the Kaleshwaram Commission of Inquiry

Source: The Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telegana/2025/May/20/kaleshwaram-probe-panels-term-extended-by-two-months>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance



Context:

Kaleshwaram commission

Why in News

- The tenure of the Commission of Inquiry investigating alleged irregularities in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS) has been extended by two months, until July 31, 2025, by the Telangana government.

Background: Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS)

- Launched:** 2016
- Location:** Telangana
- Objective:** Lift water from the **Godavari River** to irrigate drought-prone regions in North Telangana.
- Features:**
 - World's **largest multi-stage lift irrigation project**
 - Covers **13 districts**, aims to irrigate **~45 lakh acres**
 - Involves massive infrastructure: **barrages, tunnels, pumps, reservoirs**

Why the Inquiry?

- Allegations of:
 - Cost escalation**, procedural violations
 - Substandard construction** of Medigadda Barrage (which developed cracks in 2023)
 - Potential corruption in awarding contracts
- Questions over **engineering safety**, **financial propriety**, and **project planning**

Commission of Inquiry Details

- Constituted on:** March 14, 2024
- Chairperson:** Justice P.C. Ghose, former Supreme Court judge
- Jurisdiction:** Will hold sittings in **Hyderabad**
- Initial Deadline:** May 31, 2025
- Extended Deadline:** **July 31, 2025**

Key Focus:

- Examination of contract procedures, project approvals, cost estimates
- Accountability of former ministers and bureaucrats

- Will reportedly summon:
 - Former CM K. Chandrasekhar Rao**
 - Former Irrigation Minister T. Harish Rao**
 - Former Finance Minister Eatala Rajender**

Legal and Ethical Considerations

- Natural justice principle:** Commission has decided not to submit its report **without giving a hearing to concerned political figures**, to avoid procedural impropriety.
- Upholding **fair hearing** and **due process** to ensure report credibility.

Significance

- Reflects growing accountability in **large public infrastructure projects**.
- May have implications on **inter-governmental water sharing**, especially in the **Godavari basin**.
- Could set a precedent for **judicial oversight** in mega-irrigation and dam projects across India.

Nallamala Declaration by Telangana CM unveiled

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/20/cm-revanth-reddy-unveils-nallamala-declaration-to-empower-scheduled-tribes>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Welfare program

Why in News

- On May 20, 2025, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy unveiled the Nallamala Declaration at Macharam village, Amrabad mandal (Nagarkurnool district), focusing on the empowerment of Scheduled Tribes (STs) and holistic development of tribal areas in the Nallamala region.

Key Highlights of the Nallamala Declaration

- **Objective:**
 - Address socio-economic backwardness of Scheduled Tribes, especially in **forest-dwelling and remote tribal belts** of Nallamala.

Major Announcements:

1. Indira Soura Giri Jala Vikasam Scheme:

- Focused on **holistic development** of lands covered under **Recognition of Forest Rights (RoFR) Act**, including irrigation and infrastructure support.

2. Indiramma Housing Scheme (PVTGs):

- All Particularly **Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)** families to receive housing **on saturation basis**.

3. Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme:

- Financial support of ₹1,000 crore for **1 lakh unemployed ST youth** for self-employment and entrepreneurship.



Significance and Context

- The declaration aligns with:
 - **Article 46** of the Indian Constitution – Promoting educational and economic interests of STs.
 - **Forest Rights Act, 2006 (RoFR)** – Ensuring developmental benefits for forest dwellers.
 - **National Tribal Policy goals** – Addressing exclusion, land alienation, and lack of access to welfare schemes.
- Nallamala Forest region is home to **Chenchu tribe**, a PVTG, and other forest-dwelling

groups facing displacement, livelihood loss, and ecological vulnerability.

Challenges in Tribal Welfare

- Implementation bottlenecks in RoFR land development.
- Persistent **lack of access to education, credit, and basic services** in interior tribal belts.
- Vulnerability of PVTGs due to habitat loss and environmental degradation.

Way Forward

- Ensure **community participation** and Gram Sabha-based planning in scheme implementation.
- Promote **eco-sensitive development** respecting tribal rights and traditional knowledge.
- Introduce **monitoring mechanisms** with civil society participation to track progress of targeted tribal schemes.

Firms Joined Hands to Drive Product Innovation in Telangana

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/digital-transformation-firm-ust-telangana-govts-t-works-to-collaborate-for-product-innovation/article69601403.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Technology

Context:

Product Innovation in Telangana

Why in News

- UST and Telangana's T-Works have signed an MoU to accelerate product innovation in manufacturing through integrated digital and hardware prototyping solutions.

Background

- In a significant step towards strengthening India's digital transformation and manufacturing ecosystem, digital transformation solutions provider UST has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding**

(MoU) with the Telangana government's hardware prototyping centre T-Works.

- The MoU was formally exchanged at UST's Thiruvananthapuram campus on May 20, 2025, in the presence of UST COO Alexander Varghese and T-Works CEO Joginder Tanikella.

Key Objectives of the Partnership

- Under the terms of the MoU, UST will act as the **systems integrator**, offering **end-to-end solutions** and supporting **startups at T-Works** to scale up.
- The collaboration aims to **accelerate product innovation in the manufacturing and engineering sectors**, focusing on the following areas:
 - Automotive AI platforms
 - Semiconductor ATE (Automatic Test Equipment) frameworks
 - Smart factory integration

The partnership envisions the **joint development and commercialisation of new IP**, including:

- **5G-enabled industrial IoT modules**
- **Incubation of Industry 4.0 solutions** through a **UST-powered accelerator** for automotive suppliers



Impact and Benefits

UST will **deploy its resources at T-Works**, providing **hands-on experience** across multiple stages of product development.

- The partnership combines **UST's IoT-driven digital prototyping capabilities** with T-Works' **physical manufacturing strengths**, creating a comprehensive innovation ecosystem.

This collaboration is expected to deliver the following benefits:

- **Up to 45% faster hardware-to-digital integration**
- **Approx. 40% reduction in R&D costs** through shared-risk innovation models and joint IP ownership
- **Improved access to advanced prototyping and digital transformation** for **startups, MSMEs, and large enterprises**

T-Works

- T-Works is India's largest integrated hardware prototyping center, established by the Government of Telangana to foster innovation and reduce barriers to hardware product development.
- Located in Raidurg, Hyderabad, the facility houses over 200 industry-grade tools and machines, including 3D printers, CNC machines, laser cutters, and PCB fabrication equipment, catering to startups, MSMEs, students, and hobbyists.
- T-Works operates as a Section 8 non-profit organization, emphasizing fair, non-discriminatory access without taking equity or intellectual property rights from its users.
- It offers various services such as prototyping, product development, workshops, and training programs.
- The center also plans to establish satellite centers in towns like Warangal, Karimnagar, Khammam, Siddipet, and Nizamabad to support innovators from smaller towns and rural areas

Strengthening the Startup Ecosystem

- The collaboration will provide startups within the **T-Works ecosystem** with **direct access to UST's global customer base**, significantly expanding their **market reach**.
- The partnership would facilitate **faster and more cost-effective product development**, empowering both **startups and enterprises** to convert breakthrough ideas into **market-ready solutions**.

Two IIT Hyderabad professors elected as Fellows of Royal Society

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/two-iit-hyderabad-professors-elected-as-fellows-of-royal-society/article69602684.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

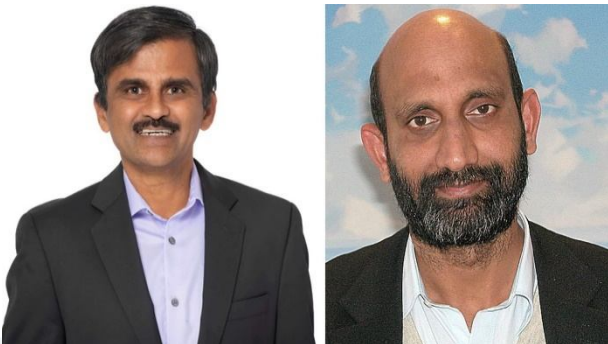
Fellows of the Royal Society

Why in News

- Two professors affiliated with IIT Hyderabad, Chennupati Jagadish and Mallikarjun Tatipamula, have been elected Fellows of the Royal Society (FRS) for their global contributions to science and technology.

Background

- In a significant recognition of Indian contributions to global science and technology, two professors associated with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad—Prof. Chennupati Jagadish and Prof. Mallikarjun Tatipamula—have been elected as Fellows of the Royal Society (FRS), one of the most prestigious honours in the global scientific community.



Fellowship of the Royal Society

- The Fellowship of the Royal Society, based in the United Kingdom, is awarded to individuals who have made substantial contributions to the advancement of natural

knowledge, encompassing disciplines such as mathematics, engineering, medical sciences, and physical and biological sciences.

- Established in 1660, the Royal Society is the world's oldest independent scientific academy and includes eminent scientists, engineers, and technologists as its Fellows.

Profile: Prof. Chennupati Jagadish

Prof. Chennupati Jagadish, currently a faculty member at the Australian National University (ANU), is globally recognised for his pathbreaking research in semiconductor optoelectronics.

- Notably, Prof. Jagadish is the first Indian and the first non-European Australian to be elected President of the Australian Academy of Science.

Profile: Prof. Mallikarjun Tatipamula

Prof. Mallikarjun Tatipamula, the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Ericsson, has been recognised for his outstanding work in the development of 5G and next-generation network technologies.

- With a career spanning three decades in the global telecom industry, Prof. Tatipamula has played a pivotal role in shaping the evolution of mobile networks, from 3G to 5G.

Significance of the Achievement

The election of Professors Jagadish and Tatipamula to the Fellowship of the Royal Society is a moment of pride for IIT Hyderabad and the broader Indian scientific community. It also highlights:

- The global impact of Indian-origin scientists in cutting-edge research and innovation.
- The growing recognition of Indian institutions like IITs in the international arena.
- The crucial role of scientific advisory and technological leadership in shaping national and global futures.

IIT Hyderabad

- IIT Hyderabad is the first IIT to offer B.Tech. in AI.

- Located in **Kandi, Telangana**, it was established in **2008**.
- IIT-H is known for its **Fabless Chip Design Incubator** supporting India's semiconductor push.
- It plays a key role in India's **Green Hydrogen** and **Cyber-Physical Systems** missions.

Telangana allotted 10.26 TMC of Krishna River water

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/telangana-allotted-10-26-tmc-of-krishna-river-water>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Irrigation

Context:

Krishna River Management Board (KRMB)



Why in News

- The Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) has allotted 14.26 TMC of water from Srisaïlam and Nagarjuna Sagar reservoirs to Telangana and Andhra Pradesh during the summer of 2025.

Background

- In response to water requirements raised by both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh during the summer season, the **Krishna River Management Board (KRMB)** has directed the release of **14.26 TMC (Thousand Million Cubic feet)** of water from two major Krishna basin reservoirs: **Srisaïlam** and **Nagarjuna Sagar**.

Key Highlights

- **Telangana** has been allocated **10.26 TMC** of water to meet its drinking and irrigation needs during the summer.
- **Andhra Pradesh**, despite having already exhausted its share for the current water year (which runs from June to May), was allotted an **additional 4 TMC** of water.
- The water release has commenced **with immediate effect** as per KRMB orders.

Release Specifications

- **Water Level Restrictions:**
 - Water can be drawn up to **800 feet** in Srisaïlam.
 - Water can be drawn up to **505 feet** in Nagarjuna Sagar.
- **Water Release for Andhra Pradesh:**
 - Water for Andhra Pradesh will be released through the **Nagarjuna Sagar Right Canal** at a rate of **5,500 cusecs per day**.

Minimum Reservoir Level Directive

- KRMB has instructed that a **minimum water level of 800 feet must be maintained in the Srisaïlam reservoir till the end of July**.
- This measure ensures the availability of water for future needs and ecological balance.

Krishna River Management Board (KRMB)

- The **Krishna River Management Board (KRMB)** is an **autonomous body** constituted under the **Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014**.
- It aims to manage and regulate the water resources of the **Krishna River** between the successor states of **Andhra Pradesh** and **Telangana**.

Legal Basis

- Constituted under **Section 85** of the **Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014**.
- The Act mandated the creation of two river boards:
 - **KRMB** for the **Krishna River**
 - **GRMB** for the **Godavari River**

Headquarters: **Hyderabad, Telangana** (temporary)

headquarters, as per the Act)

Jurisdiction

- Manages and regulates water from **Krishna River Basin** projects allocated by the **Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT)** within:
 - **Srisailem Reservoir**
 - **Nagarjuna Sagar Dam**
 - Other projects as notified by the Central Government

Telangana emerges as India's top state in Per-Capita GSV

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/telangana-emerges-as-indias-top-state-in-per-capita-gsva-icra-report>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Telangana Economy

Context:

Telangana Tops in Per-Capita GSV



Why in News

- Telangana has topped Indian states in per-capita GSV for 2023–24, reflecting its rapid economic growth driven by irrigation, agriculture, and industrial reforms.

Background

- Telangana has emerged as the leading State in India in terms of **per-capita Gross State Value Added (GSV)** at current prices for the financial year **2023–24**, registering a

substantial rise from its 9th position in 2014–15.

- The data, released in a study by **ICRA (Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency)**, marks a significant milestone in Telangana's economic trajectory post its formation in 2014.

Key Findings:

- **Per-capita GSV Growth:** Telangana's per-capita GSV rose from around **₹1.25 lakh** in 2014–15 to approximately **₹3.5 lakh** in 2023–24, registering more than a **two-fold increase** over nine years.
- **Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR):** The State recorded a **CAGR of 6.8%**, significantly higher than the national average of **5.8%**, making it the fastest-growing State in terms of per-capita GSV.
- **Comparative Rankings:** Telangana now ranks **first**, followed by **Karnataka** and **Tamil Nadu**, displacing **Haryana, Uttarakhand, and Kerala** from their top spots in 2014–15.

Factors Behind Telangana's Growth:

The ICRA study attributed Telangana's economic performance to a combination of strategic interventions:

1. **Irrigation and Agricultural Development:** Large-scale investment in irrigation infrastructure like the **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project** enhanced agricultural productivity, especially in crop production.
2. **Industrial and Service Sector Growth:** Reforms and policy support led to robust industrial expansion and IT sector growth, particularly around **Hyderabad**, the capital.
3. **Governance and Visionary Leadership:** Former Chief Minister **K. Chandrashekhara Rao's administration** is credited for driving this growth through focused governance, strategic reforms, and investment in key sectors.

Conclusion:

- Telangana's rise in per-capita GSV offers an

instructive example of how **targeted public investment**, **sectoral reforms**, and **consistent governance** can drive rapid economic growth.

- The state's experience underlines the significance of long-term planning and institutional capacity in achieving sustained development, and serves as a potential model for other States aiming to boost their economic performance.

Telangana objects to AP's plan to draw Polavaram dead storage water

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/25/telangana-objects-to-aps-plan-to-draw-polavaram-dead-storage-water-calls-it-unauthorised>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Infrastructure

Context:

Proposed Lift Irrigation Scheme from Polavaram Dead Storage



Why in News?

- Telangana has objected to Andhra Pradesh's proposed Lift Irrigation Scheme from the dead storage of the Polavaram Project, citing violations of inter-state water-sharing norms and regulatory approvals.

Background

- The Telangana government has strongly opposed the Andhra Pradesh government's reported move to construct a new **Lift**

Irrigation Scheme (LIS) that proposes to draw water from the **dead storage level of the Polavaram Irrigation Project**.

- The issue has sparked inter-state concerns regarding water-sharing norms and regulatory mandates under the **Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act (APRA), 2014**.

Background:

- The **Polavaram Irrigation Project** is a multipurpose national project on the **Godavari River**, aimed at providing irrigation, drinking water, and hydropower.
- **Dead storage** refers to the part of a reservoir below the outlet level, usually not meant for regular extraction, except under extreme circumstances.
- The **Godavari River Management Board (GRMB)**, formed under the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014, is the key authority responsible for regulating and managing Godavari river waters between the successor states.

Key Developments:

- Telangana's **Engineer-in-Chief (General) G Anil Kumar** wrote to both the **Polavaram Project Authority (PPA)** and the **GRMB**, urging them to halt the scheme.
- A news report dated **May 21, 2025**, referred to **G.O. RT No. 134 (April 19, 2021)**, which forms the basis for the proposed LIS plan in Andhra Pradesh.
- The proposal involves **lifting water from the 35-metre level** of the Polavaram reservoir, which falls within the **dead storage zone**.

Telangana's Objections:

1. **Violation of Central Water Commission (CWC) Conditions:**
 - As per the **95th Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** meeting in 2009, drawing water from dead storage was not approved.
 - Such extraction violates conditions set during project approvals.
2. **Impact on Godavari Delta System (GDS):**
 - Drawing water from dead storage could

jeopardize the water supply to the **Godavari Delta System**, affecting downstream irrigation and drinking water needs.

3. Regulatory Oversight:

- Telangana urged the **GRMB and PPA** to **enforce regulatory measures** and ensure the project does not move forward without necessary approvals.

4. Contradictions in Andhra Pradesh's Approach:

- Telangana highlighted Andhra Pradesh's contradictory stance: while AP objects to Telangana's irrigation initiatives citing insufficient water availability, it is itself initiating new schemes.

5. Past Objections Ignored:

- Telangana had raised similar concerns in **November 2021 and May 2022**, but the project appears to be revived as per recent media reports, despite assurances during a **PPA-led meeting on April 8, 2025** that it was halted.

Legal and Institutional Framework:

- **Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act (APRA), 2014** mandates equitable water sharing and joint oversight via GRMB.
- GRMB's approval is mandatory for **new inter-state river water projects**, especially involving common reservoirs like Polavaram.

Way Forward:

- The GRMB and PPA need to urgently verify the status of the LIS proposal and assess its compliance with existing **inter-state agreements and environmental guidelines**.
- Interstate water-sharing issues must be resolved through **transparent dialogue**, adhering strictly to regulatory frameworks to avoid future conflicts.
- Strengthening the institutional mechanisms of river boards like the GRMB will be crucial for cooperative federalism and sustainable water management.

Conclusion:

- The current dispute underscores the **sensitive and complex nature of inter-state river water sharing in India**.
- With growing water stress, adherence to legal norms, environmental safeguards, and inter-state cooperation becomes vital for ensuring long-term water security and regional harmony.

Telangana's groundwater crisis

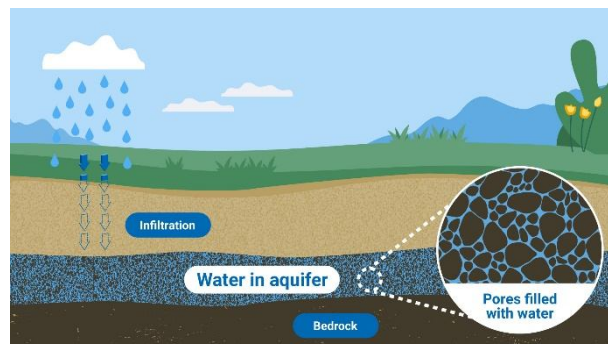
Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/telanganas-groundwater-crisis-deepens-500-villages-face-severe-depletion>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Telangana's Groundwater Crisis



Why in News

- Despite receiving excess rainfall in 2024-25, Telangana continues to face a severe groundwater crisis due to over-extraction, poor water management, and unsustainable agricultural practices.

Introduction

- Telangana is facing a mounting groundwater crisis, threatening the very foundation of its agrarian economy.
- Despite excess rainfall in the 2024-25 water year, several regions in the state continue to grapple with deepening water tables, unsustainable borewell dependency, and looming water insecurity.

- The distressing plight of farmers in districts like Nalgonda and Vikarabad exemplifies the scale and urgency of the problem.

Groundwater Depletion: A Statewide Concern

- Recent data from the Telangana Groundwater Department paints a grim picture.
- The average groundwater level across the state stood at 10.17 metres below ground level (mbgl) as of April 2025, with the deepest level recorded at 16.60 mbgl in Vikarabad.
- While 18 districts reported water levels between 5–10 m, 11 districts ranged between 10–15 m, and four districts—including Vikarabad—plunged beyond 15 m.
- In Marrigudem mandal's Vattipalli village (Nalgonda district), farmer Ananta Reddy drilled more than 130 borewells in a desperate attempt to save his 10-acre orchard, only to fail and ultimately sell his land at a throwaway price.
- Similar distress stories are reported from Koppole village, where over 70 borewells yielded no water, leaving crops and livelihoods in jeopardy.

Paradox of Surplus Rainfall and Declining Water Tables

- Despite receiving 1,083 mm of rainfall in the 2024-25 water year—22% above the normal 891 mm—Telangana witnessed worsening groundwater depletion.
- The area under *extreme groundwater depletion* (exceeding 20 m depth) rose from 3,452 sq km in April 2024 to 4,714 sq km in April 2025. Although this is an improvement over the decadal average (5,527 sq km during 2015–2024), it indicates persistent stress.
- This paradox highlights the inefficiency of rainwater percolation and storage due to poor surface water management, concretisation of land, and over-reliance on borewells.

District-Wise Trends and Causes

- **Siddipet** witnessed the steepest fall in

groundwater levels—2.54 m between April 2024 and April 2025.

- **Nagarkurnool** saw a decline of 3.57 m.
- **Nalgonda**, in contrast, reported a 2.92 m rise, providing a rare glimmer of hope.
- Urban districts such as **Medchal-Malkajgiri** and **Rangareddy** experienced acute stress due to unplanned urbanisation and industrialisation, with 10% of extracted groundwater allocated to non-agricultural uses.

Alarming Rise in Borewells

- The number of borewells in Telangana surpassed 26.97 lakh by 2022 and has been increasing steadily.
- Farmers, particularly in drought-prone areas, have been forced to dig deeper borewells due to falling water tables.
- In Koppole village alone, over 70 borewells were drilled in vain. Vikarabad recorded a significant drop to 11.98 mbgl in 2024, the deepest in the state.

Policy and Infrastructure Gaps

- While major irrigation projects like the **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme** initially contributed to groundwater recharge, poor maintenance and lack of integrated water resource management have diminished their impact.
- Experts also point to inefficient cropping patterns, absence of micro-irrigation systems, and neglect of traditional water harvesting techniques.

Way Forward

Experts and officials warn that the unchecked extraction of groundwater could severely impact agriculture and potable water availability in the near future. Immediate interventions are needed, including:

- **Promotion of rainwater harvesting** and revival of traditional tanks.
- **Regulation of borewell drilling** and imposition of groundwater usage norms.
- **Crop diversification** and adoption of **water-efficient practices** like drip irrigation.

- **Strengthening of surface water infrastructure** to reduce over-dependence on groundwater.

Conclusion

- Telangana's groundwater crisis is symptomatic of a larger issue plaguing several Indian states—unsustainable water resource management.
- The stories of farmers like Ananta Reddy are not isolated but reflect a systemic failure.
- Addressing this crisis requires urgent multi-pronged strategies, integrating policy reforms, community participation, and long-term ecological sustainability to ensure water security for future generations.

Telangana government launches Rs 1 crore insurance scheme for electricity workers

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/26/telangana-government-launches-rs-1-crore-insurance-scheme-for-electricity-workers>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Insurance Scheme for Electricity Workers

Why in News

- The Telangana government has launched a ₹1 crore accident insurance scheme for electricity department workers, offering financial security and compassionate appointments to families of deceased employees.

Background

- The Telangana Government, under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, has launched an accident insurance scheme offering a compensation of ₹1 crore for electricity department workers.
- This initiative represents a landmark step in

strengthening the social security framework for frontline workers operating in high-risk environments.

Key Developments:

- The scheme was formally acknowledged when Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka handed over a cheque of ₹1 crore to the family of Jogun Naresh, an employee of the Northern Power Distribution Company Limited (NPDCL), who lost his life in the line of duty.
- Alongside this monetary compensation, a compassionate appointment was provided to Naresh's wife, Ramesh Shrimati, in the Electricity Department, ensuring continued livelihood support for the bereaved family.
- The Deputy Chief Minister emphasized that such high-value insurance coverage for electricity workers was unprecedented in the state.
- He credited the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and referred to the initiative as a product of the "Indiramma government"—highlighting a commitment to people-centric governance.



Origin and Expansion of the Scheme:

- The insurance initiative was first introduced for workers of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), a state-run coal mining enterprise.
- It was later extended to employees of the Electricity Department, demonstrating the government's broader vision of occupational safety and welfare for high-risk public sector workers.

Significance of the Scheme:

1. **Improved Social Security:** The ₹1 crore

accident insurance coverage is the highest of its kind provided to electricity workers in Telangana. It reflects a proactive step toward securing the lives of individuals engaged in essential infrastructure services.

2. **Humane Governance:** The provision of both compensation and a job to the victim's family indicates a compassionate approach to governance. It also ensures that affected families receive long-term social and economic support, not just one-time relief.
3. **Administrative Execution:** The successful implementation of the scheme by NPDCL, under the leadership of its CMD Varun Reddy, highlights the capacity of the administrative machinery to translate political vision into meaningful action on the ground.
4. **Worker Morale and Confidence:** The assurance of such support in the event of an accident is likely to boost the morale and confidence of workers, potentially leading to greater job satisfaction and reduced apprehension.

Broader Implications:

- **Policy Innovation:** The scheme may serve as a model for other Indian states to emulate, especially in terms of expanding welfare coverage for hazardous professions in public service.
- **Occupational Safety Awareness:** The initiative brings renewed focus to occupational safety protocols and the importance of systemic reforms in ensuring the welfare of ground-level workers.
- **Inclusivity in Governance:** The Telangana Government's move reflects a broader commitment to inclusive development, where the welfare of even the most operationally vulnerable workers is given priority.

Conclusion:

- The Telangana Government's ₹1 crore accident insurance scheme for electricity department workers marks a progressive and humane approach to governance.

- By integrating financial compensation with employment support, the scheme balances immediate relief with long-term welfare.

Telangana to allot Indiramma housing to transgender traffic assistants

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/May/12/telangana-mp-ramasahayam-raghuram-reddy-helps-boy-secure-rs-3-lakh-for-surgery>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Social Scheme

Context:

Indiramma housing

Why in News

- The Telangana government has become the first in India to formally integrate transgender persons into public service by appointing them as traffic assistants and allotting them houses under the Indiramma Housing Scheme.

Background

- In a landmark move that has garnered national attention, the **Telangana government has decided to allot houses under the Indiramma Housing Scheme to transgender individuals** serving as **traffic assistants** in Hyderabad.
- This follows the **December 2024 appointment of 44 transgender persons** to these roles – a first in India.
- This initiative marks a **pioneering effort in inclusivity and social integration** for a historically marginalized community.

Key Highlights of the Initiative

1. Appointment of Transgender Traffic Assistants

- In **December 2024**, **44 transgender individuals** were appointed as traffic assistants under the **Hyderabad Police Traffic Department**.

- The recruitment was carried out in just **ten days**, under the direct supervision of **Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy**.
- Currently, **38 of the 44** appointed are actively serving.

2. Housing under the Indiramma Scheme

- The government will **allot houses to transgender traffic assistants** under the **disability quota of the Indiramma Housing Scheme**.
- This ensures not only financial and housing security but also provides dignity of living.

3. Dignity, Opportunity, and Inclusion

- Minister **Danasari Anasuya (Seethakka)** emphasized that this programme is not symbolic but a structural change meant to deliver **dignity, opportunity, and inclusion**.
- She reiterated the government's objective to **ensure equality in opportunity** and **mainstream integration** of the transgender community.



Supporting Measures and Future Plans

a. Maitri Clinics

- The government has established **Maitri Clinics** in various districts for transgender individuals to access healthcare with dignity and privacy.

b. Expansion of Job Opportunities

- The government is exploring ways to **extend recruitment of transgender persons to other government departments**.
- Private security jobs are also being considered, with support from Hyderabad Police.

Impact and Recognition

- Recognition from Other States

- The initiative has drawn **national attention**, with **other states seeking guidance** from Telangana on implementing similar programs.

- Positive Feedback from the Police Department

- **Police Commissioner C.V. Anand** stated that **no complaints** had been received regarding the performance or conduct of the traffic assistants.
- They have actively participated in duties such as **bandobast**, showing **discipline and dedication**.

Significance for India and Social Inclusion

This initiative stands as:

- **India's first formal integration of transgender persons into government service.**
- A **model of inclusive governance**, ensuring that **affirmative action** is not limited to symbolic gestures but translated into **tangible changes** in employment, housing, and public service.

Conclusion

- Telangana's proactive approach to transgender inclusion—through structured employment, housing rights, and institutional support—is a significant milestone in **India's journey towards social justice**.
- By ensuring that dignity, opportunity, and equality are not merely constitutional ideals but lived experiences, the state is setting an **example for inclusive development** across the nation.

Rajiv Yuva Vikasam scheme

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/deputy-cm-for-effective-coordination-between-welfare-depts-for-success-of-rajiv-yuva-vikasam/article69625200.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Schemes

Context:

Rajiv Yuva Vikasam scheme

**Why in News**

- The Telangana government launched the Rajiv Yuva Vikasam scheme to empower five lakh unemployed youth with self-employment opportunities by October 2, 2025.

Background

- Deputy Chief Minister of Telangana, **Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka**, recently directed officials to initiate the **Rajiv Yuva Vikasam** scheme's implementation from **June 2, 2025**, coinciding with the **Telangana Formation Day**.
- The scheme is aimed at providing self-employment and skill development opportunities to youth from underprivileged communities across the state.

About the Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme:

- Objective:** To empower **five lakh unemployed youth** in Telangana through **self-employment and skill training opportunities** by **October 2**, coinciding with **Gandhi Jayanti**.
- Target Groups:** Youth from **Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Backward Classes (BC), and Minority communities**.
- Coverage:** Both **rural and urban youth**. Special provisions for **urban youth** include the opportunity to purchase **two-wheelers** to work as **gig workers** (e.g., delivery personnel, ride-share drivers).

Key Implementation Details:

- Sanction Letter Distribution:** From **June 2** to

June 9, sanction letters will be distributed to selected beneficiaries.

- Training Phase:** Scheduled between **June 10 and 15**, at **district and constituency levels**.
- Grounding Phase (Implementation):** Begins **after June 15**, ensuring actual disbursement and operationalization of support.
- Monthly Phased Rollout:** The scheme is to be implemented in **phases every month**, indicating a **long-term structured approach**.

Institutional Coordination:

- Welfare departments (SC, ST, BC, Minority) are to work in **coordination with District Collectors and in-charge ministers**.
- Chairpersons of Welfare Corporations** have been tasked with receiving and reviewing applications, which are then forwarded to district authorities.
- Banking Support:** The government has consulted the **State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC)** to facilitate **financial support**, indicating a **credit-linked component** to the scheme.

Significance:

- Economic Empowerment:** The scheme aims to **reduce unemployment**, promote **entrepreneurship**, and increase **economic participation** among youth.
- Budget Allocation:** ₹8,000 crore has been earmarked in one year, marking one of the **largest self-employment investments** by a **state government** in recent times.

Youngest Indian to complete 7 Summits challenge

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/hyderabad-16-year-old-vishwanath-karthikey-padakanti-scales-the-globe-youngest-indian-to-complete-7-summits-challenge/article69625682.ece>

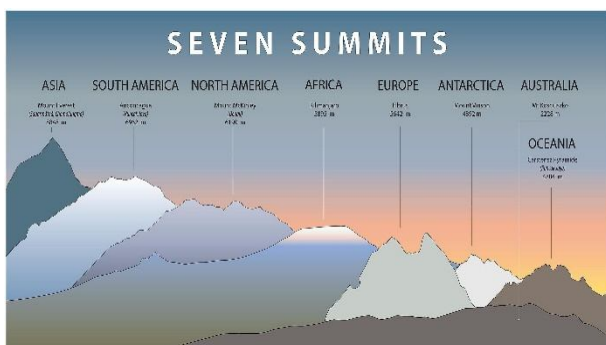
TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Sports

Context:

Youngest Indian to Complete 7 Summits Challenge

Why in News

- Vishwanath Karthikey Padakanti, a 16-year-old from Hyderabad, became the youngest Indian to complete the 7 Summits challenge by scaling the highest peak on each continent, including Mount Everest.



Background

- In a remarkable feat of endurance, determination, and youthful courage, **16-year-old Vishwanath Karthikey Padakanti from Hyderabad** has become the **youngest Indian and the second youngest person in the world** to complete the prestigious **7 Summits challenge** – climbing the highest peak on each of the seven continents.
- His **final ascent was Mount Everest (8,848 m)**, which he summited on **May 27, 2025**, bringing a climactic conclusion to an extraordinary journey that began five years earlier during the COVID-19 pandemic.

From Failed First Trek to Global Glory

- Vishwanath’s mountaineering journey began in **2020**, at the age of 11, inspired by his elder sister Vaishnavi's trekking plans.
- Although his initial trek to **Rudugaira** ended in failure, it sparked a passion that only grew stronger with time.
- He trained rigorously at the **Nehru Institute of Mountaineering**, investing five months in learning technical climbing skills. His **first summit attempt – Mount Elbrus in 2021** – was **unsuccessful**, but rather than giving up, he embraced the challenge.

- Over the years, Vishwanath went on to summit:
 - Mount Kilimanjaro (Africa)
 - Mount Elbrus (Europe)
 - Mount Kosciuszko (Australia)
 - Aconcagua (South America)
 - Denali (North America)
 - Vinson Massif (Antarctica)
 - And finally, Mount Everest (Asia)

Seven Summits Challenge – Key Facts

- The **Seven Summits Challenge** refers to the mountaineering feat of climbing the **highest mountain on each of the seven continents**.
- It is regarded as one of the **greatest achievements in global adventure and endurance sports**.

Significance for India

- Reinforces India’s presence in global adventure sports and youth achievements.
- Highlights the role of family support and structured training in nurturing talent.
- Promotes physical fitness, resilience, and goal-setting among young Indians.

The Seven Summits (Continental Highest Peaks)

| Continent | Peak Name | Elevation (m) | Location |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Asia | Mount Everest | 8,848 m | Nepal-China border |
| South America | Aconcagua | 6,961 m | Argentina |
| North America | Denali | 6,190 m | USA (Alaska) |
| Africa | Kilimanjaro | 5,895 m | Tanzania |
| Europe | Mount Elbrus | 5,642 m | Russia (Caucasus) |
| Antarctica | Vinson Massif | 4,892 m | Antarctica |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Australia/ Oceania | Mount Kosciuszko(AU STRALIA) or Carstenz Pyramid(OCEA NIA) | 2,228 m / 4,884 m | Austra lia / Indon esia |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|

New scheme to curb anaemia in adolescent girls

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telegana/2025/May/29/new-scheme-to-curb-anaemia-in-adolescent-girls>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Indiramma Amrutam Scheme

Why in News

- The Telangana government has launched the Indiramma Amrutam scheme to address anaemia among adolescent girls by distributing millet and peanut-based chikkis through Anganwadi centres.

Introduction

- The Government of Telangana has launched a new welfare initiative named **Indiramma Amrutam** to tackle the high prevalence of anaemia among adolescent girls aged **14 to 18 years**.
- The scheme focuses on **nutritional supplementation** through distribution of **millet and peanut-based chikkis (nutritious energy bars)** via Anganwadi centres.


Objective

The primary objective of the scheme is to:

- Prevent and reduce anaemia** among adolescent girls.
- Promote **nutritional awareness** and encourage the consumption of **locally produced, nutrient-rich food items**.
- Complement existing government programmes like **Iron and Folic Acid supplementation**.

PILOT PROJECT

| DISTRICT | NO. OF BENEFICIARIES |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Bhadradi-Kothagudem | 23,399 |
| Kumurambheem-Asifabad | 18,230 |
| Jayashankar-Bhupalpally | 8,640 |
| TOTAL | 50,269 |



Key Features of the Scheme

| Feature | Details |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Target Group | Adolescent girls aged 14-18 years |
| Implementation Mode | Through Anganwadi centres |
| Pilot Districts | Bhadradi Kothagudem, Kumurambheem Asifabad, and Jayashankar Bhupalpally |
| Nutritional Supplement | 30 chikkis per month per girl, delivered in two instalments |
| Nutritional Value (per chikki) | 600 calories, 18-20 grams of protein, micronutrients |
| Scheme Launch | To be launched by Women & Child Welfare Minister Danasari Anasuya (Seethakka) |

Background: Anaemia in Telangana

- According to NFHS-5, **64.7%** of adolescent girls in Telangana are anaemic.
- While iron and folic acid tablets are already being provided after Haemoglobin (Hb) tests, the government recognized the need for a **food-based approach** to provide **sustainable and culturally acceptable nutrition**.

Why Millets and Peanuts?

- Millets** are rich in iron, calcium, and dietary fibre.
- Peanuts and jaggery** provide **protein, energy, and natural iron**.
- Locally available, cost-effective, and **easy to distribute via existing ICDS infrastructure**.

Significance of the Scheme

- **Health impact:** Aims to **reduce anaemia-related fatigue, poor academic performance, and reproductive issues** later in life.
- **Social impact:** Promotes **girl-child health and empowerment**.
- **Economic impact:** Encourages **local production** of millets and chikkis, aiding small enterprises and farmers.
- **Administrative advantage:** Leverages existing **Anganwadi infrastructure** under the **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)** scheme.

Way Forward

- **Monitoring & Evaluation:** Regular Hb testing and nutritional assessment will be crucial to evaluate impact.
- **Expansion:** The scheme is expected to be **scaled up statewide** if the pilot yields positive results.
- **Community Participation:** Involving local women's self-help groups in chikki production may enhance local ownership and livelihood.

Conclusion

- The **Indiramma Amrutam** scheme represents a **holistic, food-based approach** to tackle anaemia among adolescent girls, complementing the medical route of supplementation.
 - It not only addresses a pressing public health concern but also supports **nutrition-sensitive development** by promoting **local, traditional food systems**.

Hyderabad's James Street Police Station gets a new lease of life

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/148-years-after-it-was-built-james-street-ps-gets-a-new-lease-of-life/article69630148.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Restoration of James Street Police Station

Why in News

- The 148-year-old James Street Police Station in Secunderabad, Telangana, has been restored to its original colonial-era form.

Background

- In May 2025, Telangana restored the 148-year-old **James Street Police Station** in Secunderabad to its original colonial architectural form, highlighting the growing importance of **urban heritage conservation** and **adaptive reuse** in India.



Introduction:

- The restoration of the James Street Police Station (now Ramgopalpet Police Station), constructed in **1877**, marks a significant milestone in the conservation of **colonial-era public architecture** in Telangana.
- Situated on the historic **James Street (now Sardar Patel Road)**, this building is emblematic of the **hybrid urban identity of Hyderabad-Secunderabad**, where British colonial styles fused with local construction methods.

Historical Significance:

- **Established:** 1877 during British rule.
- **Named After:** British Resident **James Achilles Kirkpatrick**.
- **Funded by:** **Seth Ramgopal**, a prominent local businessman.
- **Designated as Heritage Building:** 1998 by the Hyderabad Urban Development Authority.

- **Original Function:** Served as a local police station and civic institution.
- **Cultural Value:** A symbol of **Anglo-Indian civic architecture** that reflected colonial administrative order and local participation.

Architectural Highlights:

The building is a classic example of **British colonial architecture** with localized adaptations suited to India's climate. Key architectural elements include:

- **Palladian pediments** (triangular gable on façade)
- **Semi-circular arches**
- **Clock tower with a brass belfry**
- **Louver windows** for ventilation
- **Madras terrace roofing** (lime mortar and terracotta)
- **Jack arch roofing** (flat arch using brick and lime)
- All these elements reflect a blend of **European design** and **traditional Indian materials and methods**.

Restoration Efforts (2023–2025):

- **Duration:** 14 months
- **Led by:**
 - Conservation Architect: **Surya Narayan Murthy**
 - Execution Team: **Deccan Terrain**, led by **Mir Khan**

Challenges:

- Severely **damaged lime plaster**
- **Wooden rafters weakened** by moisture
- Cement-based 20th-century repairs had compromised structure
- Roof seepage and deterioration of traditional **Madras terrace**

Restoration Strategy:

- Based on **archival documentation and photographs**
- Emphasis on **geometric accuracy** and **original materials**
- Actions included:
 - Replacing **wooden rafters**
 - Removing **non-traditional cement**

layers

- Restoring **lime plaster and terracotta roofing**
- The **400-kg brass bell** was removed from the clock tower and conserved as a **museum exhibit**.

Current Status and Adaptive Reuse:

- Building now **structurally stabilized** and **aesthetically restored**
- Illuminated for public visibility
- Proposed functions:
 - **Hyderabad Police Heritage Museum**
 - **Police Outpost**

The concept of **adaptive reuse** reflects a growing global trend of using restored heritage buildings for **contemporary public functions**.

Significance

1. Urban Heritage Conservation:

- Aligned with **Heritage Telangana** initiative and **GHMC's Urban Heritage Wing**
- Restoration reflects a **public-private conservation model**

2. Cultural and Constitutional Linkages:

- Promotes **tangible and intangible heritage conservation**
- **Article 49 of the Indian Constitution** directs the State to protect all monuments and heritage structures of national importance.

3. Sustainable Urban Development:

Showcases how **heritage can coexist with modern governance**

First edition of Telangana Film Awards

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/first-edition-of-gaddar-telangana-film-awards-announced-kalki-2898-ad-selected-as-the-best-feature-film/article69632231.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and Honours

Context:

Gaddar Telangana Film Awards

Why in News

- The Gaddar Telangana Film Awards 2024 were instituted by the Government of Telangana to honour excellence in Telugu cinema.

Introduction

- The Government of Telangana has launched the **Gaddar Telangana Film Awards**, with the inaugural edition announced in 2024.
- Named in honour of the revolutionary balladeer **Gaddar**, these awards recognize excellence in **Telugu cinema**, while promoting **regional identity**, **socially conscious storytelling**, and **artistic innovation**.
- The awards were structured under the guidance of a **jury committee** appointed by the Telangana government.

Gaddar Telangana Film Awards

- The **Gaddar Telangana Film Awards 2024** marked the revival of the state's official film awards after a 14-year hiatus, replacing the erstwhile Nandi Awards.
- Named in honor of the late revolutionary balladeer **Gaddar**, these awards aim to celebrate excellence in Telugu cinema.

Key Award Categories and Winners**Best Feature Films**

1. **Best Feature Film:** *Kalki 2898 AD*, directed by **Nag Ashwin**. A futuristic science fiction film starring **Prabhas**, **Amitabh Bachchan**, **Kamal Haasan**, and **Deepika Padukone**.
2. **Second Best Feature Film:** *Pottel*, directed by **Sahit Mothkuri**.
3. **Third Best Feature Film:** *Lucky Baskhar*, directed by **Venky Atluri**, starring **Dulquer Salmaan** and **Meenakshi Chaudhary**.

Awards for Thematic and Social Relevance

- **Best Film on National Integration, Communal Harmony, and Upliftment of Depressed Classes:** *Committee Kurrollu*.
- **Best Children's Film:** *35 Chinna Kathakadu*.

- **Best Film on Environment, Heritage, and History:** *Razakar*.

Direction and Debut Recognition

- **Best Director:** Nag Ashwin (*Kalki 2898 AD*).
- **Best Debut Director:** Yadhu Vamsi (*Committee Kurrollu*).
- **Best Wholesome Entertainment Film:** *Aay... Mem Friends Andi*.

**Performance-Based Awards****Leading Roles**

- **Best Leading Actor:** Allu Arjun (*Pushpa-2*).
- **Best Leading Actress:** Nivetha Thomas (*35 Chinna Kathakadu*).

Supporting Roles

- **Best Supporting Actor:** S.J. Suryah (*SaripodaSanivaram*).
- **Best Supporting Actress:** Sharanya Pradeep (*Ambajipeta Marriage Band*).

Comedy

- **Best Comedian (Joint Award):** Satya and Vennela Kishore (*Mathu Vadalara-2*).

Music and Lyrics

- **Best Music Director:** BheemsCeciroleo (*Razakar*).
- **Best Male Playback Singer:** Sid Sriram for *Nizame Ne Chebutunna* (*Ooru Peru Bhairavakona*).
- **Best Female Playback Singer:** Shreya Ghoshal for *Suseti Aggi Ravva* (*Pushpa-2*).
- **Best Lyricist:** Chandra Bose (*Raju Yadav*).

Supreme Court upholds Telugu test for judicial posts

Source: TimesofIndia

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/supreme-court-upholds-telugu-test-for-judicial-posts/articleshow/120709019.cms>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context:

Supreme Court Upholds Telugu Proficiency Requirement



Why in News

- The Supreme Court recently refused to entertain a plea challenging the Telangana government's decision to make Telugu proficiency mandatory for appointments to the state judiciary under the Telangana Judicial (Service and Cadre) Rules, 2023.

Background

- The Supreme Court of India declined to entertain a plea challenging the Telangana government's decision to make **proficiency in the Telugu language mandatory** for appointments to the state judiciary under the **Telangana Judicial (Service and Cadre) Rules, 2023**.
- A **bench comprising Justices B.R. Gavai and A.G. Masih** refused to accept the petitioner's argument that the rule effectively excludes Urdu and discriminates against Urdu-speaking candidates.

Background

- Telangana Judicial (Service and Cadre) Rules, 2023:** These rules were notified by the

Telangana government to regulate recruitment, service conditions, and cadre structure in the state's judicial services.

- One of the clauses in the rules mandates **proficiency in Telugu** for candidates aspiring to join the **Telangana State Judicial Services**.
- The petitioner had approached the Supreme Court alleging that **the rule amounts to exclusion of Urdu**, which is also an official language of the state, thus violating the constitutional principles of equality and minority rights.

Supreme Court's Observation

- The court **rejected the petitioner's claim** that Urdu was "excluded" by the rule.
- The bench observed that **"Not excluded. The rule only states that Telugu is also needed."**
- Hence, the requirement of **Telugu language proficiency** does not mean **Urdu is barred**, but rather that Telugu is an **additional eligibility criterion**.

Legal and Constitutional Dimensions

1. Article 14 – Equality Before Law

- The petitioner claimed **discrimination** against Urdu-speaking candidates, citing **Article 14** of the Constitution.
- The Court, however, appeared satisfied that **a uniform language requirement for official work** in the judiciary is reasonable and does not amount to discrimination.

2. Article 347 and 345 – Official Languages

- States have the power under Article 345 to adopt any language used in the state as the official language.
- Telangana recognizes **both Telugu and Urdu** as its official languages.
- However, for administrative and judicial efficiency, the state may **prioritize Telugu** while **not de-recognizing Urdu**.

3. Article 16 – Equality in Public Employment

- Article 16 guarantees **equal opportunity in public employment**, but it also allows **reasonable classification**.
- Language proficiency has been upheld in

various rulings as a **legitimate criterion** for jobs involving **communication with local population and understanding local laws/documents**.

Implications

1. Emphasis on Regional Language

- The verdict **reinforces the role of regional languages** in public employment, especially in judiciary where communication with litigants and understanding regional documents is essential.

2. Not a Ban on Urdu

- The ruling **does not nullify Urdu’s official status** in Telangana.
- It only highlights that **knowledge of Telugu is additionally required**, not that knowledge of Urdu is irrelevant.

3. Impact on Minority Aspirants

- While the rule may pose challenges for **Urdu-speaking aspirants**, the court has recognized the state’s **administrative discretion** in fixing language requirements.
- Minority candidates may now be expected to **acquire Telugu proficiency** if they wish to join the judiciary in Telangana.

Criticism and Counterpoints

| Argument Against the Rule | Justification by the State/Supreme Court |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Excludes Urdu speakers | Telugu is only <i>additionally required</i> , not a replacement |
| Violates equality | Proficiency requirement is reasonable classification |
| Violates official status of Urdu | Urdu remains an official language, not removed |

Conclusion

- The Supreme Court’s refusal to entertain the plea reaffirms the principle that **states have the authority to impose language conditions** for roles requiring local interaction, such as the judiciary.
- While Urdu continues to be an official language of Telangana, **proficiency in Telugu has been deemed necessary** to ensure judicial efficiency. This case underlines the **delicate balance between linguistic diversity, administrative practicality, and constitutional equality**.

