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TGPSC NEWS Summary

Telangana state assembly passes Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill

Source: New Indian Express

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill

Why in News

The Telangana Assembly passed the Panchayat Raj (Third Amendment) Bill, 2025 and Municipalities (Third Amendment) Bill, 2025 to provide 42% reservations for Backward Classes in local body elections.

Introduction

- The Telangana State Legislative Assembly on Sunday unanimously passed the Telangana Panchayat Raj (Third Amendment) Bill, 2025 and the Telangana Municipalities (Third Amendment) Bill, 2025, providing for 42% reservations to Backward Classes (BCs) in local body elections.
- This move is part of the State government's broader commitment to extend social justice and ensure equitable political representation for marginalized groups.

Key Features of the Bills

1. **Reservation Provision:**
 - Both Bills aim to increase **Backward Classes (BC) reservations to 42%** in rural and urban local body elections.
2. **Earlier Attempts:**
 - The State government had previously sent two Bills and an Ordinance to the Governor to provide BC reservations in **education, employment, and local body elections.**

- The Governor, however, **referred them to the Central government**, which has not yet given its consent.
3. **Legislative Intent:**
 - Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy stressed the government's commitment to implement enhanced reservations despite hurdles.
 - He linked the measure to **Social Justice Day** (February 4), emphasizing the government's focus on empowering disadvantaged communities.



(Image Source: New Indian Express)

Constitutional and Legal Dimensions

1. **Supreme Court Ceiling on Reservations:**
 - In the *Indra Sawhney vs Union of India* (1992) judgment, the Supreme Court capped total reservations at **50%**, except in extraordinary cases.
 - Tamil Nadu, for instance, provides **69% reservations**, protected under the **Ninth Schedule**, making it less susceptible to judicial review.
2. **State-Centre Tussle:**
 - States can pass reservation laws, but for changes that exceed the ceiling or alter federal balances, **Central approval** and often **constitutional protection** are required.
 - Telangana's proposal of 42% BC quota

may face challenges unless backed by Ninth Schedule protection.

3. **Significance of the Ninth Schedule:**

- Inserted through the **First Amendment (1951)**, the Ninth Schedule shields certain laws from judicial review on the grounds of violating Fundamental Rights.
- Political consensus and Centre-State cooperation are required to include state laws in the Schedule.

Broader Significance

- **Social Justice:** Enhanced BC representation in local governance will strengthen **inclusive democracy** and address historical imbalances.
- **Federalism:** The episode highlights tensions between **state aspirations** and **central oversight** in reservation policies.
- **Political Mobilisation:** The debate reflects the increasing role of **caste-based mobilisation** in state politics, with parties competing to claim the mantle of championing BC rights.
- **Legal Precedent:** Telangana’s move could reignite national discussions on the **50% cap on reservations** and the scope for judicial versus political solutions.

Related Development: Ghose Commission Report

On the same day, the Assembly tabled the **665-page report of the Justice P.C. Ghose Commission** on the **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS)**.

- The House is set to hold a short discussion on the findings.
- This signals the government’s intent to combine **social justice reforms** with **accountability in governance and infrastructure projects**.

Conclusion

- The passage of the Telangana Panchayat Raj and Municipalities Amendment Bills, 2025, marks a significant step in the state’s push for

enhanced political representation of BCs.

- However, the sustainability of the move depends on **legal scrutiny, Central approval, and possible constitutional backing via the Ninth Schedule.**
- Alongside, the tabling of the Ghose Commission report reflects the state’s dual focus on **social equity and governance accountability.**

Committee formed for formulation of ‘Telangana Education Policy’

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Telangana Education Policy

Why in News

The Telangana government has constituted a **committee to formulate the Telangana Education Policy**, aligned with NEP 2020 and the State’s aspirations under *Telangana Rising 2047*.

Introduction

- On **August 29, 2025**, the **Government of Telangana** announced the formation of a **committee to formulate the Telangana Education Policy (TEP)**.
- This will serve as a guiding document for the State’s long-term development roadmap titled *‘Telangana Rising 2047’*.
- The policy will be developed by adapting the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** to Telangana’s unique socio-economic context, while also addressing the State’s education needs, skill development requirements, and aspirations for global competitiveness.
- The committee is tasked with submitting its report by **October 30, 2025**.

Objectives of the Telangana Education Policy

1. **Adaptation of NEP 2020**
 - Study the provisions of the National Education Policy.

- Modify and contextualise them to fit Telangana's specific needs.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

2. Focus on Emerging Skill Demands

- Align education with **emerging job markets** and global opportunities.
- Special emphasis on **digital transformation, innovation, and entrepreneurship**.

3. Strengthening Research & Industry Linkages

- Promote collaboration between **academia and industry**.
- Support innovation ecosystems and applied research.

4. Comprehensive Reform Coverage

- School education
- Higher education
- Technical and vocational education
- Professional and skilling sectors
- Accessibility, equality, and quality across levels

5. Future Orientation

- Develop an education system aligned with 'Telangana Rising 2047', the State's vision document.

Composition of the Committee

- **Chairperson:** Keshava Rao, Advisor to the Government
- **Members:**
 - Kadiyam Srihari, MLA
 - Akunuri Murali, Chairman, Telangana Education Commission

- K. Ramakrishna Rao, Chief Secretary
- V. Balakista Reddy, Chairman, Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE)

- **Member-Convener:** Yogita Rana, Secretary, Education Department

The composition reflects a mix of **policy-makers, administrators, and education experts**, ensuring multi-stakeholder participation.

Recent Related Initiatives

- The **Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE)** has initiated **revision of English curriculum** in line with NEP 2020.
- Ongoing reforms include strengthening **digital learning infrastructure, skilling programmes, and research collaborations**.

Significance of Telangana Education Policy

1. Localized Policy Approach

- While NEP 2020 provides a national framework, Telangana's policy will be **customised to State priorities**.

2. Skill-Oriented Development

- Ensures alignment with **future job markets**, reducing the gap between education and employability.

3. Inclusivity and Accessibility

- Focus on **equality, rural reach, and quality improvements** across all levels.

4. Innovation & Research

- Encourages **start-up culture, digital literacy, and research-industry collaboration**.

5. Long-Term Planning

- Embeds education into the State's vision document 'Telangana Rising 2047', ensuring continuity across governments.

Challenges Ahead

- Balancing **State-specific needs** with the **broad framework of NEP 2020**.
- Ensuring **adequate funding** and resources for proposed reforms.

- Addressing **regional disparities** in educational infrastructure.
- Managing **teacher training and capacity-building** for new curricula.

Conclusion

- The formulation of the **Telangana Education Policy-2025** marks an important step in creating a **State-specific roadmap for educational excellence**.
- By blending the **broad vision of NEP 2020** with Telangana's **unique socio-economic context**, the policy aims to promote accessibility, quality, innovation, and employability.
- If implemented effectively, TEP will not only support **Telangana's growth vision for 2047** but also serve as a model for other States seeking to localise national policy frameworks for education.

The long and short of Ghose panel report

Source: New Indian Express

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Justice P.C. Ghose Commission Report on Kaleshwaram Project

Why in News

The Justice P.C. Ghose Commission report on the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) held former CM K. Chandrasekhar Rao directly responsible for irregularities.

Introduction

- The **Justice P.C. Ghose Commission of Inquiry** submitted a detailed **665-page report** on the **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP)** in Telangana. The report held former Chief Minister **K. Chandrasekhar Rao** directly responsible for multiple irregularities in the conceptualisation, execution, and financing of the project.
- It also indicted other senior political leaders,

bureaucrats, and officials for negligence, suppression of reports, and financial mismanagement.

- The findings have triggered a major political debate in the Telangana Legislative Assembly, given the project's scale and its implications for state finances, governance, and accountability.

Background: Kaleshwaram Project

- **Objective:** Lift irrigation project to utilise water from the **Godavari River** for irrigation, drinking water, and industrial purposes.
- **Scale:** One of the world's largest lift irrigation projects, involving construction of three barrages at **Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla**.
- **Controversy:** Shift of the project site from **Tummadihatti** (initial plan under Pranahitha-Chevella project) to **Medigadda** raised concerns of technical viability, financial burden, and ecological risks.

TERMS OF REFERENCE & RECOMMENDATIONS	
<p>ON FINANCING AND PERMISSIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Commission held there was no proper planning for the three barrages. Estimates, administrative approvals and mandatory permissions from CWC were not obtained. <p>ON AWARD OF CONTRACTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contracts should have been awarded on a turnkey basis. Lump-sum contracts were "wrong and illegal". 	<p>ON CERTIFICATION AND BANK GUARANTEES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion certificates and release of bank guarantees were "wrong and illegal". Revised Estimates-II were approved with "malicious intention" to favour agencies. <p>ON FIXING RESPONSIBILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muralidhar Rao and B Hari Ram suppressed facts before the Advisory Committee in 2018 regarding lump-sum contracts. Action was recommended against Justice Swarna Sabharwal and others for bypassing Cabinet approval in issuing key GCs. Several chief engineers and executive engineers were also held liable for false depositions.
<p>ON REGULATORY AND MAINTENANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Commission said there was "absolutely no operation and maintenance". No O&M manual existed. It said <p>ON QUALITY CONTROL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report highlighted defects in designs and drawings and lapses in quality control. It concluded there was little scope for ensuring quality checks during construction. 	<p>KEY OBSERVATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In a letter to the prime minister, KCR projected the project cost at ₹7,430 crore before finalising the DPR. The Board Commission recommended constructing a barrage at Venkateswara on the Panathur site instead of Medigadda. The irrigation secretary and engineer-in-charge were found guilty of irregularity in processing approvals. Finance and irrigation secretaries were held liable for violating business rules while issuing GCs in 2016. Smrta Sabharwal was described as negligent and liable for action. Engineers of the Central Design Organisation (CDO) were held liable for critical lapses of trust over faulty designs.

(Image Source: new Indian Express)

Key Findings of the Commission

1. Direct Responsibility of Former CM

- The Commission observed that the **conceptualisation, re-engineering, planning, construction, and operation** of KLIP were solely directed by the then CM.
- His involvement bypassed institutional checks and expert recommendations, leading to irregularities.
- Accountability extended to planning, completion, and maintenance of the barrages.

2. Role of Ministers and Bureaucrats

- **Irrigation Minister (T. Harish Rao):** Issued instructions “at random” and ignored expert committee advice.
- **Finance Minister (Eatala Rajender) and Finance Secretary (K. Ramakrishna Rao):** Displayed “apathy” towards fiscal health and remained oblivious to the financing mechanisms.
- **Retired Chief Secretary (S.K. Joshi) and senior officials:** Suppressed the Expert Committee’s report and misled the process to facilitate construction at Medigadda.

3. Ignoring Expert Advice

- The **High-Power Committee** had not recommended construction at Medigadda.
- **CWC (Central Water Commission)** had raised objections in March 2015 that applied to both Tummadihatti and Medigadda.
- Despite this, the government granted **administrative approvals** and signed agreements without CWC vetting of the Detailed Project Report (DPR).

4. Suppression of Reports

- Senior officials, including **Engineer-in-Chief C. Muralidhar Rao** and **B. Hari Ram**, suppressed the Expert Committee report “with malicious intention”.
- Their conduct was described as **unfair, inexplicable, and intended to enable irregular construction.**

5. Financial Irregularities

- **Kaleshwaram Irrigation Project Corporation Ltd (KIPCL):** Loans were raised and disbursed without adequate scrutiny.
- Bills submitted by agencies, including **price adjustment claims**, were not properly examined.
- The Commission suspected **syphoning of public money** under the guise of construction.
- Finance and Irrigation departments failed to perform oversight duties, enabling unlawful

gains.

Broader Implications

1. Governance and Accountability:

- Demonstrates how **executive dominance** and bypassing of institutional checks can undermine governance.
- Highlights need for **independent oversight** of mega infrastructure projects.

2. Federalism and Regulatory Role:

- Non-compliance with **CWC approvals** shows weaknesses in coordination between state and central regulatory frameworks.

3. Fiscal Responsibility:

- Indifference to financing structures raises concerns over **debt sustainability and fiscal prudence** in state-led mega projects.

4. Administrative Ethics:

- Suppression of expert reports and bureaucratic silence point to failures of **administrative integrity and transparency.**

5. Public Interest:

- Irregularities undermine public trust and can lead to **sub-optimal project outcomes**, wasting scarce resources.

Conclusion

- The **Justice P.C. Ghose Commission report** on the Kaleshwaram Project is a critical case study in **governance, financial accountability, and institutional ethics.**
- It underscores the dangers of **politicisation of mega projects**, the risks of ignoring expert advice, and the importance of **regulatory oversight** in infrastructure development.

IIIT Hyderabad, Telangana Cyber Security Bureau launch 'Vyuha Labs' for cyber innovation

Source: The Hindu

TGpsc Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Vyuha Labs

Why in News

Telangana Cyber Security Bureau and IIIT Hyderabad have launched 'Vyuha Labs', a cyber innovation hub to combat cybercrime and strengthen digital security.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Introduction

- The **Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB)** and the **International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Hyderabad** have jointly launched '**Vyuha Labs**', a cyber innovation hub to strengthen cybersecurity, foster innovation, and combat cybercrime.
- The initiative was announced on **2nd September 2025** and is expected to serve as a model for other states.

Key Features of Vyuha Labs

1. **Collaborative Platform**
 - Brings together **startups, researchers, academia, and industry stakeholders**.
 - Focus on **co-developing advanced solutions** for cybercrime prevention and cybersecurity enhancement.
2. **Scope of Collaboration**
 - **Incubation & Startups:** Promoting

innovation and entrepreneurship in cybersecurity.

- **Research & Innovation:** Developing indigenous solutions for India-specific cyber threats.
 - **Industry-Academia Partnerships:** Strengthening applied research and capacity building.
3. **Capacity Building**
 - Training programmes, workshops, and skilling initiatives in cyber defense.
 - Knowledge-sharing between law enforcement, researchers, and industry experts.
 4. **National Model**
 - Telangana DGP Dr. Jitender highlighted that Vyuha Labs will **strengthen Telangana's digital security ecosystem**.
 - Could serve as a **replicable model** for other states and institutions across India.

Significance for India

- **Rising Cybercrime:** India has witnessed an exponential rise in **financial frauds, phishing attacks, ransomware, and cyber espionage**.
- **Strategic Importance:** Protects critical infrastructure like banking, telecom, and government databases.
- **Indigenous Solutions:** Reduces reliance on imported cybersecurity technologies.
- **Startup Ecosystem Boost:** Encourages **domestic cybersecurity startups**, aligning with *Digital India* and *Atmanirbhar Bharat*.
- **Human Capital Development:** Bridges the gap between law enforcement needs and technical expertise.

University of Hyderabad joins groundbreaking international collaboration to tackle single-use plastics in healthcare

Source: Telangana Today

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Single-Use Plastics in Healthcare

Why in News

The University of Hyderabad has joined the £5.9m global project "After the Single Use" to study cultural, social, and environmental impacts of single-use medical plastics and promote circular healthcare solutions.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Introduction

- The University of Hyderabad's Department of Anthropology has become part of a **groundbreaking international project**, "After the Single Use", which seeks to address the rising environmental and health challenges posed by **single-use plastics in healthcare systems**.
- Funded by the **Wellcome Trust's £5.9 million Discovery Award**, this five-year initiative brings together researchers from **eight countries** to rethink medical plastics and develop **circular healthcare economies**.

Key Details of the Initiative

- Funding and Scope:**
 - Total Project Grant: **£5.9 million**.
 - University of Hyderabad's Share:

£422,608 (over 5 years).

- Supported by the **Wellcome Trust**, a global charitable foundation focusing on health and well-being.
- Indian Lead:**
 - Dr. **Nanda Kishore Kannuri**, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad.
- Focus Areas:**
 - Historical, local, and global factors** shaping the healthcare waste crisis.
 - Life cycle analysis** of disposable medical technologies.
 - Collaborations with **policymakers, activists, engineers, and designers** for sustainable solutions.
 - Promotion of **circular healthcare economies** (reduce, reuse, recycle in medical contexts).
- Global Hubs:**
 - Central hub at the **University of Edinburgh**, with partner institutions worldwide.
 - Establishment of a **new field of critical humanities, arts, and social science research** on medical plastics.

Significance of the Project

- Healthcare-Environment Linkages**
 - Healthcare relies heavily on **single-use plastics** (syringes, gloves, IV tubes, PPE, etc.).
 - During COVID-19, plastic medical waste surged dramatically, creating a **disposal crisis**.
 - Improper disposal leads to **toxic pollution, microplastics, and long-term ecological harm**.
- Sociocultural Dimensions**
 - Medical plastic use is not only a **technological** issue but also tied to **trust in sterilization, safety, and hygiene practices**.
 - Anthropological study helps to

understand **local perceptions of medical waste**, enabling better policy framing.

3. **Circular Healthcare Solutions**

- Moving from **linear economies (make-use-dispose)** to **circular models (reuse-recycle-sustain)**.
- Encourages innovation in **biodegradable alternatives, safe sterilization, and green hospital systems**.

4. **Global and National Relevance**

- India generates ~ **biomedical waste 800+ tonnes per day** (CPCB data, 2022).
- Effective management is essential for meeting **Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 3 - Good Health and Well-being; SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption; SDG 13 - Climate Action)**.

Conclusion

- The University of Hyderabad’s involvement in “*After the Single Use*” highlights India’s contribution to a **global knowledge movement** addressing the **plastic waste crisis in healthcare**.
- By combining **anthropology, engineering, policymaking, and environmental science**, the project not only seeks **practical solutions** but also pioneers a new academic field in the **critical humanities of healthcare waste**.

Only 21% govt schools have computers in Telangana

Source: New Indian Express

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Education

Context: Digital Gaps in Telangana Classrooms

Why in News

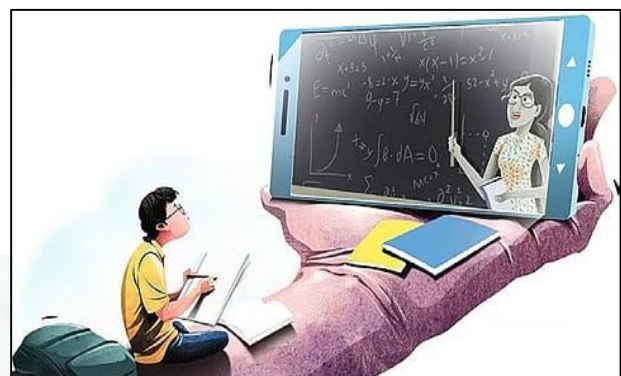
The UDISE 2024-25 report reveals that only 21% of government schools in Telangana have computer facilities, compared to the national average of 64.7%.

Introduction

- Digital learning has become a cornerstone of modern education policy, especially after the pandemic highlighted the need for technology-enabled classrooms.
- Despite policy claims and schemes, a recent **Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) 2024-25** report highlights glaring digital gaps in Telangana’s government schools, raising concerns about inclusivity and quality in education.

Key Findings of UDISE Report

- **Computer Facilities:** Only **21% of government schools in Telangana** have computer facilities, far below the **national average of 64.7%**.
- **School Coverage:** Out of **43,154 schools (government and private)** in the state, only **16,794** have functional desktops or PCs.
 - Government schools: **6,409 of 30,057** have working desktops or PCs.
 - Private schools: **10,163 of 12,474** have desktops or PCs.
- **ICT Infrastructure:**
 - Only **5,197 schools** have functional projectors.
 - Just **2,529 government schools** with middle and secondary sections have ICT labs.
 - Primary schools remain largely unequipped.
- **Connectivity Issues:** Many schools lack proper internet connections or separate computer labs.



(Image Source: New Indian Express)

Ground-Level Challenges

1. **Budgetary Constraints** – Insufficient funds for maintenance and expansion of ICT facilities.
2. **Non-Functional Equipment** – Large proportion of existing devices are defunct.
3. **Lack of Technical Expertise** – Absence of trained professionals to assist teachers.
4. **Inconsistent Digital Resource Distribution** – Uneven provision across schools, creating inequity.
5. **Infrastructure Gaps** – No separate labs; devices often crammed into classrooms.

Voices from the Ground

- **Headmaster (Nallakunta Govt. School):** Highlights non-functional projectors and PCs, citing lack of technical experts despite repeated appeals.
- **Teacher (Ahmed Khan):** Notes that computers exist but without separate labs, causing disruption and inefficiency.

Private Schools: A Better Picture

Private unaided schools perform relatively well:

- **10,163 schools** with desktops or PCs.
- **7,043 schools** equipped with projectors. This contrast widens the digital divide between government and private institutions.

Implications

- **Educational Inequality:** Digital gaps reinforce socio-economic disparities in learning outcomes.
- **Policy-Reality Mismatch:** While the state projects progress in digital education, implementation on the ground lags significantly.
- **Missed Opportunities:** ICT can improve pedagogy, enable e-learning, and prepare students for a digital economy, but gaps prevent realization.

Way Forward

1. **Dedicated Budget Allocation** for ICT maintenance and infrastructure expansion.
2. **Appointment of Technical Experts** at the school or cluster level.
3. **Strengthening Internet Connectivity** under BharatNet and similar initiatives.
4. **Focus on Primary Schools** to build digital literacy from early years.
5. **Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)** for resource sharing and skill development.
6. **Capacity Building for Teachers** through continuous ICT training modules.

Conclusion

- Telangana's case reflects a wider challenge in Indian education—the **gap between policy intent and field-level execution**.
- Bridging this digital divide is not only essential for achieving **NEP 2020 goals** but also for ensuring equity in education.
- Without urgent corrective steps, government school students risk being left behind in the digital age.

Telangana Goshalas to transform rural livelihood

Source: New Indian Express

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Goshala Ecosystem Development Policy 2025

Why in News

The Telangana government launched the Goshala Ecosystem Development Policy 2025 to transform goshalas into rural livelihood hubs, ensuring animal welfare, sustainability, and economic growth.

Introduction

- The Government of Telangana has introduced the **Goshala Ecosystem Development Policy 2025**, a pioneering framework aimed at transforming goshalas (cattle shelters) into **centres of rural livelihood, environmental sustainability,**

and animal welfare.

- This marks a shift from the traditional role of goshalas as mere shelters for unproductive cattle towards making them self-sustaining hubs with socio-economic and ecological benefits.

Background and Rationale

- **Current Challenges:**
 - Overcrowding and weak infrastructure.
 - Feed costs account for nearly **80% of operational expenses**, creating financial distress.
 - Most goshalas are concentrated in **urban areas**, often violating CPCB (Central Pollution Control Board) norms.
 - Limited capacity for productive activities such as organic input production or renewable energy generation.
- **Need for Reform:**
 - To reduce urban congestion and environmental hazards.
 - To integrate goshalas into **rural development, circular economy, and sustainable agriculture**.
 - To enhance **animal welfare** while generating livelihoods.



(Image Source: New Indian Express)

Key Features of the Policy

1. Hub-and-Spoke Model

- **Urban goshalas:** To act as **temporary collection centres**, holding cattle for only **48-72 hours**.
- **Satellite goshalas in rural areas:**

- Designed to house around **500 animals each**.
- Will become the main centres of cattle management, livelihood generation, and sustainable production.

2. Economic and Employment Impact

- Each satellite goshala is projected to:
 - Create **30-40 direct jobs** and **75-100 indirect jobs**.
 - Contribute around **₹2.5 crore annually** to the local economy.
- Statewide impact:
 - Creation of around **3,000 jobs**.
 - Benefit **15,000 farmer families** through affordable organic inputs.

3. Institutional Framework

- **Telangana State Goshala Welfare Board:**
 - To be set up as an **autonomous statutory body**.
 - Corporates contributing **₹1 crore annually** will be offered non-executive membership, ensuring **CSR participation with public oversight**.
- **Decentralised support structures:**
 - **District and Mandal-level committees**.
 - A **Federation of Goshalas** for coordination and knowledge-sharing.

4. Financial Sustainability

- **Blended financing approach:**
 - Government grants.
 - **CSR contributions** from private companies.
 - **Revenue generation** through value-added products.

5. Value-Added Products and Sustainability

- Goshalas will focus on generating eco-friendly products and renewable energy under the brand "**Telangana Gau Amrit**":
 - **Panchgavya products** - bio-fertilisers, bio-pesticides.
 - **Renewable energy** - biogas, solar power.

- **Value-added products** from cow by-products for agriculture and rural industries.

Expected Outcomes

1. **Animal Welfare:** Reduced overcrowding, better nutrition, and shelter conditions for cattle.
2. **Rural Livelihoods:** Employment opportunities and entrepreneurship in organic farming and allied activities.
3. **Agricultural Sustainability:** Affordable organic inputs for farmers, reducing dependence on chemical fertilisers.
4. **Circular Economy:** Productive utilisation of cattle resources for energy and bio-products.
5. **Corporate Participation:** Enhanced CSR engagement with transparent governance mechanisms.

Significance

- The policy aligns with **sustainable development goals (SDGs)**, especially those related to **poverty reduction, clean energy, sustainable agriculture, and environmental protection**.
- It reflects an **integrated approach to animal husbandry, rural development, and environmental sustainability**.
- Telangana’s initiative can serve as a **model policy** for other states grappling with similar challenges in cattle management and rural economic diversification.

Osmania improves, NIT-Warangal and UoH slip in NIRF rankings 2025

Source: Telangana Today

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Education

Context: NIRF rankings 2025 Telangana

Why in News

The NIRF Rankings 2025 show a mixed performance

of Telangana institutions, with Osmania University and PJTSAU improving, while NIT-Warangal and UoH slipped slightly; IIT-Hyderabad retained its top positions.

Introduction

- The **National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)** is released annually by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, to assess and rank higher education institutions across various categories like Overall, Universities, Engineering, Management, Law, Pharmacy, and Agriculture.
- The 2025 rankings reflect a mixed performance for Telangana institutions, with some improving their positions while others slipping down.

Key Highlights for Telangana Institutions

1. Osmania University (OU)

- **Improved in University Category:** Climbed from 70th (2024) to 53rd (2025).
- **Overall Rank:** Improved from 43rd (2024) to 30th (2025).
- **State Public Universities Rank:** Declined slightly, from 6th (2024) to 7th (2025).
- *Significance:* OU’s improvement in the national university ranking shows positive institutional reforms and research output, though competition among state universities is intense.

2. National Institute of Technology, Warangal (NIT-Warangal)

- Ranking slipped from 53rd (2024) to 63rd (2025) in overall category.
- In engineering institutions, it is ranked 28th. *Significance:* NIT-Warangal, one of the oldest NITs, is facing stiff competition from newer IITs and well-performing private universities.

3. University of Hyderabad (UoH)

- Overall ranking fell slightly from 25th (2024) to 26th (2025).
- In engineering category, UoH is placed at

74th.

- *Significance:* UoH remains a strong research-oriented central university but shows marginal decline compared to peers.

4. Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad (IIT-Hyderabad)

- Retained **12th rank overall**.
- Ranked **7th among engineering institutions**.
- *Significance:* IIT-Hyderabad continues to be a premier institute, excelling in innovation and research.

5. International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad (IIIT-Hyderabad)

- Overall rank: **74th**.
- University category: **89th**.
- Engineering institutions: **38th**.
- *Significance:* IIIT-H remains among the top private tech institutes, though its overall position reflects limited diversification beyond engineering.



(Image Source; Telangana Today)

Other Telangana Institutions

- **SR University (Warangal):** Engineering rank **91st**.
- **JNTU-Hyderabad:** Engineering rank **94th**.
- **NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad:** Ranked **3rd in Law Category** (top tier nationally).
- **Pharmacy Institutions:**
 - NIPER Hyderabad: **5th rank**.
 - Anurag University: **72nd rank**.

- **Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU):** Improved from **37th (2024) to 24th (2025)** in Agriculture & Allied institutions.

National Context of NIRF 2025

- **Top Overall Institutions:**
 1. IIT Madras
 2. IISc Bengaluru
 3. IIT Bombay
- Telangana's IIT-Hyderabad, OU, UoH, and NALSAR stand out in specific categories but lag behind the traditional top performers from Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Maharashtra.

Analysis of Telangana's Performance

1. **Improvement Areas:**
 - OU's rise indicates better research publications, outreach, and teaching-learning outcomes.
 - PJTSAU's significant improvement highlights progress in agricultural research and extension.
 - NALSAR's continued top performance strengthens Telangana's reputation in legal education.
2. **Areas of Concern:**
 - Decline of NIT-Warangal shows challenges in maintaining competitiveness.
 - UoH slipping slightly indicates the need for renewed focus on global research collaborations and infrastructure.
 - IIIT-Hyderabad's strong engineering ranking contrasts with weaker overall/university category positions.
3. **Sectoral Strengths:**
 - Law (NALSAR), Pharmacy (NIPER), and Agriculture (PJTSAU) are emerging as strong pillars for Telangana.
 - Engineering and Technology remain mixed, with IIT-H excelling but NIT-W and JNTU-H needing revival.

Shankara Narayana, the “Brahma of Humour,” enters Wonder Book of Records

Source: Telangana Today

TGpsc Syllabus Relevance: Awards and honours

Context: Hasya Avadhani

Why in News

Renowned Hasya Avadhani Shankara Narayana, honoured as the “*Brahma of Humour*”, entered the Wonder Book of Records International for performing 550 Hasya Avadhanams over 27 years



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Introduction

- Humour has always been a vital part of India’s rich cultural tradition, from the witty subhashitas of classical Sanskrit literature to modern-day stand-up performances.
- In this tradition, **Hasya Avadhanam** (a humorous form of the classical Avadhanam art) has gained prominence for blending intellect, wit, memory, and entertainment.
- Recently, renowned Hasya Avadhani **Shankara Narayana** was honoured by the **Wonder Book of Records International** for his unique contributions in this field, solidifying his position as the “**Brahma of Humour**.”

About the Achievement

- **Record Recognition:** Shankara Narayana was felicitated at **Tyagaraya Gana Sabha, Hyderabad**, for securing a place in the

Wonder Book of Records International.

- **Performance Legacy:**
 - Conducted **550 Hasya Avadhanams** over **27 years**.
 - Notably, performed a **25-hour nonstop public Hasya Avadhanam** at the same venue.
- **Cultural Outreach:** He has conducted thousands of humour programmes across India and abroad, making humour an accessible cultural expression.

What is Hasya Avadhanam?

- **Origin:** Derived from the classical **Avadhanam**, a unique literary performance art from Telugu and Sanskrit traditions, which showcases memory power, wit, and spontaneous creativity.
- **Hasya Avadhanam:** Focuses on **humour (hasya rasa)**, engaging audiences with wit, satire, and improvisation while adhering to the structural discipline of Avadhanam.
- **Cultural Value:** It preserves traditional art forms while adapting them for modern sensibilities, thus keeping literary and performative traditions alive.

Significance of the Recognition

1. **Preservation of Tradition:** Encourages the continuation of **Avadhanam**, a unique Indian cultural heritage art.
2. **Promotion of Humour as a Social Tool:** Humour helps in reducing stress, spreading awareness, and building social harmony.
3. **Cultural Diplomacy:** Through performances abroad, Shankara Narayana has showcased Indian wit and creativity to international audiences.
4. **Role Model for Artists:** Recognition by the Wonder Book of Records inspires younger generations to pursue traditional yet innovative performance arts.

Broader Context – Humour and Society

- **Sociological Relevance:** Humour plays a

crucial role in questioning authority, highlighting social issues, and fostering group cohesion.

- **Literary Heritage:** Classical Sanskrit plays (like those of Kalidasa) and medieval Bhakti poetry often used humour to connect with people. Shankara Narayana's contribution continues this lineage in a contemporary setting.

Nellutla Ramadevi selected for Kaloji Literary Award

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and Honours

Context: Kaloji Literary Award

Why in News

Nellutla Ramadevi has been selected for the 2025 Kaloji Narayana Rao Literary Award in recognition of her contributions to Telugu literature and journalism.

Introduction

- Noted writer and columnist **Nellutla Ramadevi** has been selected for the **Kaloji Narayana Rao Literary Award for 2025**, one of the most prestigious recognitions for contributions to Telugu literature and journalism.
- The award, instituted by the **Department of Language and Culture, Telangana**, commemorates the legacy of **Kaloji Narayana Rao**, widely regarded as the *People's Poet* for his literary and social contributions.

About Kaloji Narayana Rao and the Award

- **Kaloji Narayana Rao** (1914–2002) was a prominent poet, freedom fighter, and social reformer from Telangana.
- His works reflect a deep commitment to **social justice, human values, and the promotion of Telugu language and culture.**
- In his memory, the Telangana government

instituted the **Kaloji Narayana Rao Literary Award**, which recognizes individuals who have made **outstanding contributions to literature, journalism, and promotion of Telugu culture.**

The award is presented annually, usually during **Kaloji Jayanthi celebrations and Telangana Language Day on September 9**, symbolizing the state's commitment to nurturing and honoring linguistic and cultural excellence.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Selection Process

- The awardee is chosen by an **expert committee constituted by the Telangana government.**
- For 2025, the committee was chaired by **Andesri**, and after careful deliberation, **Nellutla Ramadevi** was unanimously selected for her **significant contributions to Telugu literature and journalism.**
- The recommendation was formally approved by **Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.**

Significance of the Award

Receiving the Kaloji Narayana Rao Literary Award is considered one of the **highest recognitions in the field of Telugu literature and journalism.** It highlights:

1. **Promotion of Regional Literature:** The award emphasizes the importance of Telugu literature in preserving and promoting regional language and culture.
2. **Recognition of Journalistic Contributions:** By including journalism, it encourages ethical, insightful, and socially relevant

writing in regional media.

3. **Cultural Preservation:** It reflects the Telangana government's effort to celebrate literary icons and inspire new generations to engage with Telugu arts and culture.

Award Presentation

- The award will be formally presented during the **Kaloji Jayanthi and Telangana Language Day celebrations** on **September 9, 2025**. Ministers **Jupally Krishna Rao** and **Ponnam Prabhakar** are slated to confer the honor, underlining the state's official endorsement and support for literary excellence.

Conclusion

- The selection of **Nellutla Ramadevi** for the Kaloji Narayana Rao Literary Award 2025 not only acknowledges her remarkable contributions to Telugu literature and journalism but also reinforces the Telangana government's commitment to **celebrating linguistic heritage and cultural achievements**.
- Such recognitions inspire writers, journalists, and cultural enthusiasts to contribute meaningfully to regional literature and the preservation of language.

First petrol bunk run by SHG women clocks huge profits within six months

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Economy

Context: Narayanpet Women-Run Petrol Bunk

Why in News

The first petrol bunk in India entirely run by a women's federation in Narayanpet, Telangana, has become a model of financial independence and rural entrepreneurship.

Introduction

- In a significant stride towards **women**

empowerment and entrepreneurship, the **first petrol bunk in India managed entirely by a women's federation** has emerged as a model of efficiency and financial independence in **Narayanpet district, Telangana**.

- In just six months of operation, the petrol bunk has recorded a **profit of ₹13.82 lakh**, demonstrating the capability of women in managing large-scale enterprises successfully.

Background and Policy Support

- The petrol bunk, located at **Singaram X Roads, Narayanpet**, was inaugurated on **February 21, 2025**, by **Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy** under the **Indira Mahila Shakti Policy**.
- The policy aims to **empower one crore women across Telangana** by providing opportunities to become **entrepreneurs and financially independent**.



(Image Source: The Hindu)

Operational and Financial Performance

The Narayanpet District **Mahila Samakhya**, which manages the petrol bunk, has achieved remarkable operational efficiency:

- Daily sale of **4,000 litres of petrol** and **6,000 litres of diesel**
- Profit of **₹13.82 lakh** in the first six months
- Employment of six women as sales staff, earning **₹13,200 per month**
- Manager, also from the SHG network, earns **₹18,000 per month**

The salaries are **fully borne by the federation**,

highlighting its financial viability.

Federation and Infrastructure

- The project is managed by a federation consisting of **8,196 self-help groups (SHGs)** with **91,369 members**, illustrating the power of collective action.
 - **Investment:** ₹1.3 crore, including ₹15 lakh for infrastructure
 - **Lease agreement:** 20 years with BPCL, at **₹10,000 per month**
- To ensure professional standards, **seven senior women** were trained as managers and saleswomen at **Jadcherla and Shadnagar petrol bunk**s before taking charge of operations.

Monitoring and Governance

- In line with **Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's directions**, the **District Collector monitors performance every 15 days**, ensuring **accountability, transparency, and efficiency** in operations.

Significance and Impact

The success of the Narayanpet petrol bunk is notable for multiple reasons:

1. **Women Empowerment:** It demonstrates the **capacity of women to manage large-scale enterprises**, enhancing financial independence.
2. **Rural Entrepreneurship:** The project inspires **rural women to explore business opportunities** beyond traditional occupations.
3. **Economic Self-Reliance:** Profitable operations indicate that women-run ventures can be **economically sustainable and scalable**.
4. **Policy Model:** This venture serves as a **replicable model** under the **Indira Mahila Shakti Policy** for other districts across Telangana.

Crimes against wildlife declined since 2023 in Telangana

Source: The New Indian Express

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Wildlife in Telangana

Context: Decline in wildlife crime

Why in News

- Telangana has achieved a remarkable decline in wildlife crime, with zero reported cases of wildlife trafficking in 2023 and 2024.

Key Highlights

Wildlife Crime Decline:

- The state reported zero cases of wildlife trafficking during 2023-24, down sharply from 44 cases in 2020, signaling effective antitrafficking efforts.

Role of Tiger Reserves:

- Telangana is home to significant tiger habitats, notably the Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary and the Amrabad Tiger Reserve, which are part of the state's network of protected areas under Project Tiger. These reserves are critical in maintaining biodiversity and serve as strongholds against poaching and trafficking.

Enhanced Protection in Reserves:

- The state has stepped up patrolling and surveillance in and around tiger reserves. Use of camera traps, forest watchers, and intelligence networks in these areas has significantly reduced poaching threats.

Community Participation:

- Villages around tiger reserves have been engaged as frontline protectors, reporting suspicious activities early and helping prevent wildlife crimes.

Support from Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB):

- The WCCB has facilitated robust training, intelligence sharing, and cross-border coordination, benefiting frontline staff

managing tiger reserves and other vulnerable areas.



Source: Telangana Tourism

Policy and Conservation Implications

- The tiger reserves have provided a **model ecosystem demonstrating how focused conservation and strict monitoring can lead to tangible outcomes in crime reduction.**
- Success in tiger reserves complements Telangana's state-level policies emphasizing habitat protection, species conservation, and anti-poaching.
- Telangana's integrated approach of legal enforcement, community involvement, and niche expertise in tiger reserve management offers lessons for wider wildlife conservation efforts across India.

Challenges and Future Directions

- Continuous vigilance is essential to prevent vertebral crimes and ensure the safety of flagship species such as tigers.
- Expansion of buffer zones and eco-sensitive areas around tiger reserves is needed to create safer corridors and reduce human-wildlife conflicts.
- Leveraging technology (drones, AI-enabled patrols) in and around tiger reserves can further secure habitats from illicit activities.

Telangana tops PCI rankings: inclusive growth credited

Source: The Times of India

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Telangana Economy

Context: The state's per capita income (PCI)

Why in News

Telangana has emerged as the Indian state with the highest per capita income (PCI) for the financial year 2024-25, surpassing traditional leaders like Karnataka and Haryana.

Economic Growth Indicators

- **Balanced Sectoral Growth:** Telangana's rise in PCI is attributed to stable and steady growth across **agriculture, industry, and services** sectors.
- **Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP):** The state's GSDP reached an estimated **₹18 lakh crore** in 2024-25 (at current prices), with an annual growth rate of about **12%**, reflecting economic resilience even amid national slowdowns.
- **Per Capita Income Growth Rate:** Telangana's PCI has experienced consistent growth, with an approximate annual increase of **10-12%** over recent years, outpacing many other states.
- **Agricultural Backbone:** The agricultural sector, particularly **commercial crops like cotton and horticulture**, has been a key driver, fostering rural economic activity and income generation.

Financial Sector Performance

- **Credit Disbursement and Banking:** Bank lending remains robust, with credit-deposit ratios exceeding **125%**, indicating strong mobilization of financial resources for development.
- **Priority Lending:** Emphasis is on channels such as **housing**

schemes, self-employment programs, and agriculture-related loans, aimed at inclusive growth.

- **Government Financial Allocation:** The government has allocated substantial funds for **crop loan waivers and direct aid to farmers** (e.g., Rythu Bharosa), which support rural livelihoods.



Source: ETV Bharat

Policy Highlights for Economic Inclusiveness

- **Financial Inclusion Initiatives:** Telangana is actively expanding **Jan Dhan Yojana** accounts and promoting access to social security and insurance schemes to enhance financial security for all citizens.
- **Compassionate Credit Practices:** Guidelines encourage banks to adopt flexible and humane lending practices, minimizing undue pressures such as mandatory securities like fixed deposits or mortgages.

Significance

- Telangana’s top position in PCI demonstrates its trajectory towards becoming one of India’s leading economic hubs with a focus on sustainable and inclusive development.
- The state offers a model of balanced growth with equitable attention to agriculture and industry, backed by strong financial institutions and progressive policies.
- Rapid economic progress in Telangana contributes positively to the **overall economic landscape of southern India** and the nation at large.

Comparative Context

- Telangana’s PCI outstripped Karnataka’s ₹3.80 lakh and Haryana’s ₹3.50 lakh in 2024-25.
- The state’s performance aligns with global and national economic goals of boosting per capita income and reducing disparities.

TGSRTC launches Yatradanam initiative for less privileged

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: Telangana’s Yatradanam Initiative

Why in News?

Telangana launched the Yatradanam initiative to provide pilgrimage and tourist trips for orphans, destitute elderly persons, and differently abled students, funded by public and corporate donations.

Introduction

- The Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) has launched an innovative social welfare initiative named “Yatradanam”.
- It aimed at providing pilgrimage, tourist, and excursion trips for orphans, destitute elderly persons, and differently abled students, especially during special occasions such as birthdays.

Key Features of Yatradanam Initiative

- **Purpose:**
 - The primary objective is to enable marginalized sections of society – orphans, elderly persons without caregivers, and differently abled students – to experience religious pilgrimages and tourism, enhancing their social inclusion and well-being.
- **Organisational Support:**
 - The initiative is spearheaded by the **Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC)**.
 - Transport and BC Welfare Minister **Ponnam Prabhakar** officially launched

the Yatradanam poster.

- Top officials such as Vice-Chairman & Managing Director **V.C. Sajjanar** and executive directors were present during the launch.
- **Operational Model:**
 - Transport will be provided using **AC, super luxury, deluxe, and express buses** depending on donor contributions.
 - The **costs of the trips are fully covered by donations** made by individuals, corporates, NRIs, public representatives, associations, and NGOs.
 - Special tour packages have been designed covering **prominent pilgrimage shrines and tourist destinations within Telangana**.
 - Interested sponsors can **book trips at least one week in advance** to facilitate proper planning.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Significance of the Programme

- **Social Welfare Focus:** Many orphans, homeless elderly, and differently abled persons are deprived of opportunities to experience pilgrimages or tourism, which are often considered essential for emotional and spiritual well-being in Indian society. Yatradanam aims to bridge this gap by facilitating such experiences.
- **CSR Involvement:** The scheme appeals to **corporate entities to contribute under their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** activities, encouraging public-private partnership in welfare initiatives.
- **Inclusive Development:** This initiative reflects the broader goal of **inclusive growth**

by empowering marginalized groups and promoting their active participation in cultural and religious life.

Government's Role and Expectations

The Transport and BC Welfare Minister emphasized the need for active support from:

- **Corporates:** To contribute generously as part of CSR.
- **General Public:** To sponsor yatras and help celebrate special occasions for the underprivileged.
- **RTC Staff:** To ensure ground-level implementation and success of the programme.
- The initiative reflects the state's commitment to uplifting the most vulnerable groups through targeted welfare programs.

Implications for Governance and Society

- Promotes **social inclusion** and enhances the dignity of marginalized communities by enabling access to pilgrimage and tourism experiences, traditionally inaccessible due to economic and physical barriers.
- Acts as an innovative model for other states to adopt, blending **public welfare with CSR contributions**, promoting a sustainable and participatory approach to social development.
- The programme may contribute to a **better psychological and emotional state** of the beneficiaries by providing them with memorable experiences and a sense of belonging.

Telangana launches daycare cancer centres in 34 government Hospitals

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: Cancer Daycare Centres in TG

Why in News?

Telangana launched Cancer Daycare Centres in 34

government hospitals to decentralize cancer care and signed an MoU with EFLU to train nurses in foreign languages for global employment opportunities.

Introduction

- The Government Telangana Health Minister C. Damodar Raja Narasimha recently inaugurated **Cancer Daycare Centres in 34 government hospitals** across the State and signed a significant **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**.
- The MoU was signed with the **English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU), Hyderabad**, to train nurses in foreign languages and cultural orientation, enhancing employability overseas.



(Image Source: the Hindu)

Cancer Daycare Centres – Key Features and Objectives

Integrated Cancer Care Facilities

- The centres will offer:
 - **Cancer Screening and Diagnosis**
 - **Chemotherapy**
 - **Palliative Care**
 - Designed as **daycare facilities**, patients can:
 - Visit in the morning,
 - Receive chemotherapy treatment, and
 - Return home the same evening.

Alleviating the Burden on Major Institutions

- Previously, most cancer treatments were concentrated in Hyderabad at **MNJ Cancer Hospital** and **Nizam’s Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS)**.
- These institutions are now overburdened due to increasing cancer cases.

- **Specialist Support:** Senior specialists from MNJ and NIMS will visit these centres regularly, providing expertise without requiring patients to visit the city for every treatment.
- **Palliative Care:** Dedicated services will be provided for patients in the advanced stages of cancer to improve quality of life and ensure dignified care.

Urgency of the Initiative

- Telangana is witnessing a **rising cancer burden**:
 - Over **55,000 new cases are registered every year** in the state.
 - Projections indicate that the number could cross **65,000 cases within five years**.
 - The **distributed model of care** seeks to decentralize treatment, bringing services closer to patients in rural and semi-urban areas.

MoU with EFLU – Skill Development for Nurses

- **Objective:** To enable nursing graduates from Telangana to become employable in **foreign healthcare systems**, particularly in **Germany and Japan**.
- **Program Details:** Structured training in:
 - **German and Japanese languages**,
 - **Cultural orientation** relevant for professional environments abroad.
- **Benefits:** Nurses will receive **internationally recognized certification**.
- Training will improve:
 - Communication skills,
 - Confidence,
 - Adaptability to multicultural environments.
- **Alignment with State’s Vision:** The initiative supports Telangana’s policy to promote:
 - **Skill development**,
 - **Global placements** for youth,
 - Addressing **domestic unemployment**, especially in the healthcare sector.

Anticipated Impact

On Healthcare System

- Improved accessibility and availability of cancer treatment across Telangana.
- Reduced pressure on urban-based hospitals.
- Better care management for terminal patients.

On Employment and Economy

- Strengthening the global employability of nursing graduates.
- Enhancing the reputation of Telangana as a **skill development hub**.
- Promoting international remittances as nurses find employment abroad.

Challenges and Considerations

- **Infrastructure Readiness:** Ensuring the cancer daycare centres have adequate medical infrastructure and supplies.
- **Trained Workforce:** Continuous upskilling of nurses and availability of foreign language teachers.
- **Sustainability of the Program:** Long-term viability of language certification in line with international standards.
- **Equity in Access:** Ensuring marginalized communities can access the new centres without financial burden.

Telangana continues impressive growth with NSDP

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Relevance: Economy

Context: Net State Domestic Product (NSDP)

Why in News?

Telangana's Net State Domestic Product reached ₹14.56 lakh crore in 2024-25, driven by growth in agriculture, trade, manufacturing, and construction

Introduction

- The Telangana continued to demonstrate robust economic performance in the financial year **2024-25**, with its **Net State Domestic**

Product (NSDP) estimated at **₹14.56 lakh crore**.

- This remarkable achievement reflects strong policy implementation, strategic sectoral growth, and improved governance under the leadership of **Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy**.
- Despite global and domestic economic challenges, Telangana's economy exhibited healthy expansion, surpassing the previous fiscal's NSDP of **₹13.22 lakh crore** by **₹1.34 lakh crore**.

Key Contributors to Telangana's Economic Growth

1. Agriculture and Allied Sectors

- Contribution: ₹2.12 lakh crore
- Role: Remains a key pillar of Telangana's economy, supporting rural livelihoods, agri-business, and food security.
- Importance: Focus on technology-driven farming, allied activities such as dairy, horticulture, and fisheries strengthened the sector's output.

2. Trade, Repair, Hotels & Restaurants

- Contribution: ₹2.59 lakh crore
- Role: This sector reflects the expansion of commercial activities and services, boosted by consumer spending and urbanization.
- Importance: Revival of economic activities post-COVID, improved business confidence, and infrastructure support contributed to growth.

3. Manufacturing

- Contribution: ₹1.08 lakh crore
- Role: Indicates the growing industrial base, particularly in pharmaceuticals, electronics, and textiles.
- Importance: Telangana's industrial policy, ease of doing business reforms, and investment in industrial corridors played a key role.

4. Construction

- Contribution: ₹73,191 crore
- Role: Driven by public infrastructure projects and private real estate development.

- Importance: Large-scale projects like roads, urban infrastructure, and housing development accelerated economic activities.



(Image Source: The Hindu)

Per Capita State Domestic Product (PCSDP) Growth

- In 2024-25, Telangana's **per capita state domestic product (PCSDP)** reached **₹3.79 lakh**, reflecting significant improvement from ₹3.46 lakh in 2023-24.
- Telangana ranked **second nationally**, only after Karnataka (₹3.8 lakh), and was almost **double the national average of ₹2.05 lakh**.
- Historical Context:
 - Base Year (2004-05): ₹24,409
 - Year of Telangana's Formation (2014-15): ₹1.24 lakh
 - Significant Leap (2017-18 to 2018-19): From ₹1.79 lakh to ₹2.09 lakh
- This rapid growth underscores sustained policy focus, industrialization, urban development, and strategic governance.

Significance of the Growth Amid Global Challenges

- Despite a general global economic slowdown and geopolitical tensions, Telangana demonstrated resilience.
- Leadership under CM Revanth Reddy provided a policy-driven environment focusing on investment promotion, sectoral reforms, and digital governance.
- The growth trajectory stands out in contrast to other states where growth was slower, indicating effective state-level policy measures.

Policy Implications and Way Forward

- **Balanced Sectoral Development:** The balanced contribution from agriculture, industry, and services sectors reflects diversified economic development, reducing dependency on any one sector.
- **Investment in Infrastructure:** Projects in construction and industrial development not only created jobs but also laid the foundation for long-term growth.
- **Sustainable Growth Strategy:** To maintain and accelerate the growth momentum, Telangana needs to further focus on:
 - Innovation-driven agriculture and agro-processing units
 - Industrial policy to attract domestic and foreign investments
 - Urban infrastructure development
 - Skill development to match industry needs
- **Inclusive Growth:** While focusing on GDP growth, equal emphasis should be placed on reducing regional disparities, improving rural infrastructure, and ensuring sustainability.

Telangana's IMR plummets by 52 per cent

Source: Telangana Today

TGPSC Relevance: Public health

Context: Infant mortality in Telangana

Why in News?

Telangana achieved a remarkable 52% reduction in Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) over the last decade, reflecting significant improvements in maternal and child health infrastructure.

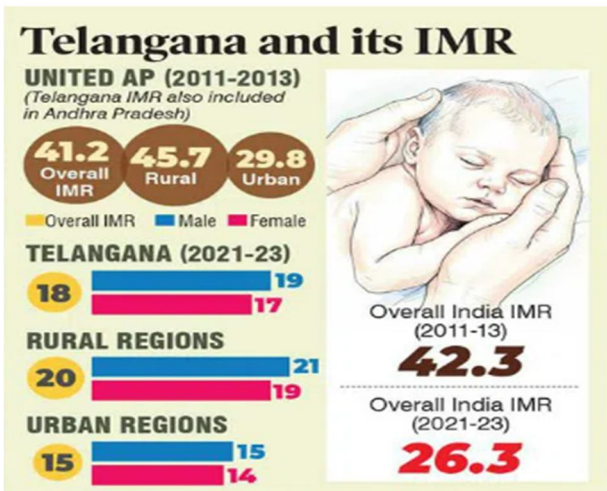
Introduction

- The According to the latest **SRS Statistical Report 2023** released by the **Census Commissioner of India**, **Telangana has achieved a remarkable 52% reduction in Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)** over the last

decade, from **41.2** (per 1,000 live births) in **2011-13** (when it was part of undivided Andhra Pradesh) to **18** (per 1,000 live births) in **2021-23**.

What is Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)?

- IMR refers to the **number of deaths of infants (below 1 year of age) per 1,000 live births** in a specific time period.
- It is a key indicator of **maternal and child health infrastructure, healthcare accessibility, socio-economic development, and overall public health** of a region.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Key Findings from the SRS Statistical Report 2023:

- **Telangana’s IMR Achievements:**
- IMR dropped from **41.2** (2011-13) to **18** (2021-23) → a **52% decline**.
- This is a **faster pace of reduction** than the national average.
- Only **Jammu and Kashmir** registered a higher percentage decline (**63%**).
- **Urban and Rural Breakdown in Telangana (2021-23):**

Region	Total IMR	Male IMR	Female IMR
Rural	20	21	19
Urban	15	15	14
Overall	18	19	17

Comparison with National Average:

- **India’s IMR in 2011-13:** 42.3 per 1,000 live births.
- **India’s IMR in 2021-23:** 26.3 per 1,000 live births → **37.8% reduction**.
- **Rural IMR Reduction:** 36.3%.
- **Urban IMR Reduction:** 36.0%.
- Telangana’s IMR (18) is significantly **lower than the national average (26.3)**.
- **State-Wise Comparison:**
- Jammu & Kashmir achieved the **highest decline (63%)**.
- Chhattisgarh had the **lowest decline (19%)**.

Significance of Telangana’s IMR Decline:

- Reflects a **massive improvement in maternal and child healthcare infrastructure** since the formation of Telangana in 2014.
- Indicates the success of government health schemes such as:
- **Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)** – Focused on institutional deliveries.
- **Mission Indradhanush** – Immunisation coverage.
- State-level efforts towards improved health facilities, nutrition, sanitation, and health awareness.
- Demonstrates progress toward **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.2:**
- "End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age by 2030."
- Highlights **gender disparity reduction:** The female IMR (17) is comparable to male IMR (19), indicating progress toward gender equality in health outcomes.

Google for Startups Hub to be launched in Hyderabad

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Relevance: Economy

Context: T-Hub for AI Startups

Why in News?

Google for Startups Hub is set to be launched in Hyderabad within T-Hub to accelerate AI-first

startups, foster talent, and connect them to global markets as part of Telangana's economic growth vision.

Introduction

- In a significant development for India's digital economy and entrepreneurial ecosystem, the **Google for Startups (GfS) Hub** is set to be launched in **Hyderabad**, as part of a strategic partnership between **Google** and the **Government of Telangana**.
- The hub will be housed within **T-Hub**, India's premier innovation intermediary and startup incubator, and is expected to be inaugurated by **Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on December 9, 2025**.

Strategic Vision Behind the Hub

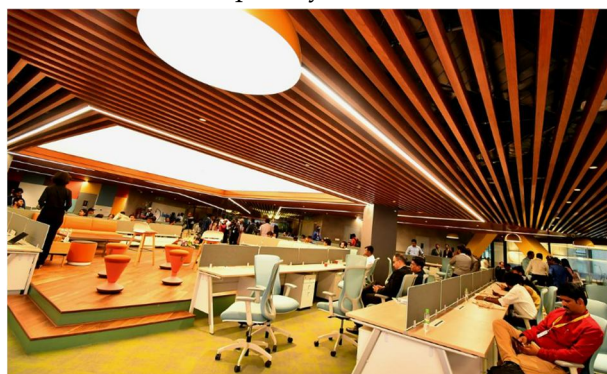
- This collaboration is a landmark initiative designed to accelerate the growth of **AI-first startups**, build entrepreneurial talent, and create direct bridges to international markets and capital.
- The partnership is part of Telangana's broader economic ambition to transform the state into a **\$1 trillion economy by 2034** and a **\$3 trillion economy by 2047**.

Key Features of the Google for Startups Hub

- **Focus on AI and Digital Innovation** The hub aims to foster startups that are solving real-world challenges in key sectors such as **climate, health, and education** using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML). Through curated programmes, **Google's senior experts** will conduct in-depth training sessions in areas such as AI/ML, product development, user experience (UX), and go-to-market (GTM) strategies.
- **Inclusive Development Approach** Special tracks will be designed to support **women entrepreneurs, innovators from Tier-2 cities, and university talent**, thereby promoting inclusive growth. The initiative aims to instill an early innovation mindset in over **10,000 students annually**, bridging the

gap between academia and industry.

- **Global Connectivity and Investment Facilitation** The hub will serve as a bridge to the global startup ecosystem by bringing top **Venture Capitalists (VCs)** from Silicon Valley, Japan, and Southeast Asia, along with corporate innovation leaders and founders of successful AI startups. This interaction is expected to provide local startups exposure to global best practices, market strategies, and investment opportunities.
- **Support Mechanisms for Startups** Startups will benefit from **Google's cloud credits, advanced AI/ML capabilities, tools, and platforms**, as well as curated innovation bootcamps and special innovation days. The government and Google project that by next year, over **200 startups will emerge**, with approximately **30% focusing on AI and deep-tech solutions**.
- **Investment Impact** It is projected that the combined investor network of Google and T-Hub will help attract investments exceeding **₹50 crore**, providing a significant boost to the local startup ecosystem.



(Image Source: The Hindu)

Implications for Telangana and the Nation

- **Economic Growth and Digital Leadership:** By fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, Telangana is aligning itself with India's national vision of becoming a digital economy powerhouse. The hub's focus on AI-first solutions will not only contribute to economic growth but also improve problem-solving in critical sectors.
- **Skill Development and Job Creation:** The

initiative is expected to generate employment, upskill thousands of students, and nurture a culture of innovation. It will act as a talent pipeline for future technological challenges.

- **Global Market Integration:** By connecting local startups to global investors and corporates, the hub will increase the international visibility of Indian entrepreneurs and reduce market access barriers, thereby promoting export of knowledge services.

Way Forward

The launch of the Google for Startups Hub represents a well-calculated step in Telangana’s economic strategy, positioning the state as a leader in AI-driven innovation. To ensure sustained success, the government must:

- Promote research collaborations between universities and industry.
- Ensure that intellectual property rights and data privacy frameworks are strengthened.

Support startups with regulatory ease and infrastructure.

Four sub-panels to finalise education policy in Telangana

Source: New Indian Express

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: Telangana Education Policy (TEP)

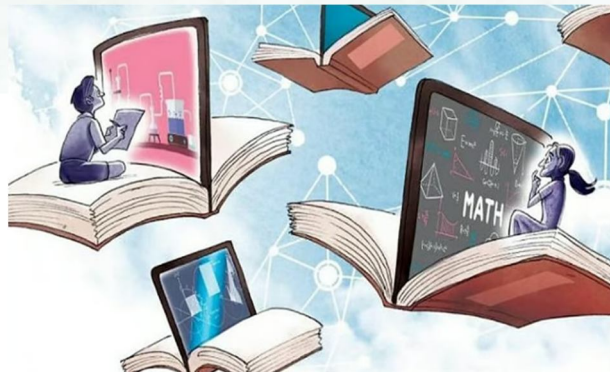
Why in News?

The Telangana government has formed a high-level committee with four sub-committees to draft the Telangana Education Policy (TEP).

Introduction

- The The Telangana government has initiated the process of formulating a **progressive and futuristic Telangana Education Policy (TEP)** aimed at aligning the state’s education system with the demands of the 21st-century global economy.
- A high-level seven-member committee,

headed by K. Keshava Rao (Advisor to the Telangana government), has been tasked with this responsibility.



(Image Source: New Indian Express)

Key Objectives of the Telangana Education Policy:

- **Align Education with Emerging Job Markets:** The policy seeks to address the rapidly changing job market by focusing on the development of skills relevant to the digital economy, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- **Global Opportunities & Digital Transformation:** By integrating digital technologies and global best practices into the education framework, the policy aims to prepare students for global competition.
- **Foster Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** The policy emphasizes creating an ecosystem where innovation is encouraged from school levels, aiming to nurture entrepreneurial mindsets among students.

Structure of the Committee and Sub-Committees:

To ensure a comprehensive and evidence-based policy formulation, the Telangana government has structured the process as follows:

- A **seven-member expert committee**, chaired by K. Keshava Rao, is leading the effort.
- Four specialized **sub-committees** have been constituted, each with a distinct focus area:
- **Best Practices Sub-Committee:** Tasked with studying and adopting national and international best practices in the education sector.

- **Research and Development Sub-Committee:** Responsible for exploring innovative approaches to pedagogy, curriculum design, and integrating research culture into education.
- **Curriculum Innovation Sub-Committee:** Will review existing curricula and suggest the incorporation of future-ready skills such as coding, data analytics, digital literacy, critical thinking, and problem-solving.
- **Legal Committee:** Will examine relevant judicial pronouncements and legal frameworks to suggest reforms necessary for aligning the education system with constitutional and legal mandates in India.

Process and Timeline:

- The sub-committees are expected to submit detailed reports by **October 2025**.
- Following the receipt of reports, the policy drafting process will involve extensive stakeholder consultations, including interactions with **educators, industrialists, policymakers, and students**.
- A **draft policy will be made public**, inviting feedback from citizens and stakeholders, ensuring transparency and inclusiveness.
- The final policy will be submitted after incorporating relevant suggestions, focusing on holistic education reform for Telangana.

Significance of Telangana Education Policy (TEP):

- **Bridging Skill Gaps:** TEP aims to bridge the growing skill gap between academia and industry demands by promoting vocational education, digital skills, and interdisciplinary learning.
- **Global Competitiveness:** Preparing students to compete globally through exposure to international standards and digital technologies.
- **Encouraging Innovation:** By integrating research and development into the education ecosystem, TEP seeks to encourage problem-solving, innovation, and entrepreneurial initiatives at early stages.

- **Legal Backing for Reforms:** Ensuring that reforms are constitutionally sound and compliant with judicial guidelines enhances the legitimacy and robustness of the policy.

Conclusion:

- The Telangana Education Policy (TEP) initiative reflects a forward-looking vision to transform the state's education landscape into a **global standard, industry-relevant, and innovation-driven ecosystem**.

Govt. names advisory and pastor welfare panels

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: Advisory Committee and Pastors Welfare Committee

Why in News?

Telangana government has constituted an Advisory Committee and Pastors Welfare Committee to guide policy and provide support for the Christian community.

Introduction

- The Telangana government announced the formation of two key committees—the **Advisory Committee** and the **Pastors Welfare Committee**—aimed at the welfare and development of the Christian community in the state.
- This move reflects the state's commitment to inclusive governance and targeted welfare for minority communities.

Key Details of the Committees

Advisory Committee

- **Objective:** To provide policy guidance and recommendations for the welfare and development of the Christian community.
- **Composition:**
 - **42 members** representing all major denominations, including **Catholic, Protestant, and independent churches**.

- Prominent religious leaders: **Cardinal Antony Poola** (Roman Catholic Church), **Rev Reuben Mark** (Moderator, Church of South India), and **Rev M. Purshotham**.
- Administrative and governance experience: Former **IAS and IPS officers** like Minnie Mathews, G. D. Aruna, K. Babu Rao, Aruna Bahuguna, Swaranjit Sen.
- Political experience: Former legislators **Christine Lazarus** and **Mary Ravindranath**.
- **Leadership:** Minister for Minorities Welfare **Adluri Laxman** as **Chairman** and **Md. Ali Shabbir** as **Vice-Chairman**.
- **Tenure:** 3 years.

Pastors Welfare Committee

- **Objective:** Focuses on the welfare of pastors and religious workers, addressing financial, professional, and social concerns.
- **Composition: 18 members** including:
 - **Deepak John Kokkadan**, Chairman of Telangana Christian Minorities Finance Corporation (TCMFC) as **Chairman**.
 - **B. Shafiullah**, Commissioner of Minorities Welfare Department, as **Co-Chairman**.
 - **P. Sabitha**, Managing Director of TCMFC, as **Member Convenor**.
 - Religious leaders including **Rev M. Rajeshwar Solomon (CSI)**.
- **Role:** The committee is expected to oversee welfare schemes, provide financial assistance, and ensure professional support for pastors across Telangana.



(Image Source: The Hindu)

Significance of the Initiative

- **Inclusive Governance:** Formation of these panels ensures representation from **all major Christian denominations** as well as **administrative and legislative expertise**, making policy recommendations more inclusive and effective.
- **Targeted Welfare:** The Pastors Welfare Committee specifically addresses the **unique needs of pastors**, who often serve in community welfare roles but lack structured support.
- **Community Development:** Through these committees, the government aims to **strengthen institutional support** for the Christian community, facilitating development programs, financial assistance, and social welfare measures.
- **Tenure and Accountability:** A **three-year tenure** provides stability and continuity in planning and implementing community welfare programs.

Conclusion:

- The constitution of the Advisory and Pastors Welfare Committees by Telangana is a significant step toward **structured, inclusive, and responsive governance** for minority communities.

Police reforms project launched in Telangana with Indian Police Foundation partnership

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: Police reforms project

Why in News?

Telangana Police has launched a year-long internal reforms project to modernise policing, improve grievance redressal, and make it more citizen-centric.

Introduction

- The Telangana has taken a significant step

toward **modernising its policing system** by signing a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Police Foundation (IPF)** to implement a year-long internal reforms project.

- The initiative aims to make policing **more people-centric, transparent, and efficient**, reflecting a broader trend of police modernisation in India.

Objectives of the Reform Project

- The Telangana Police-IPF collaboration focuses on:
 - **People-Centric Policing:** Engaging citizens, complainants, victims, accused, NGOs, and judiciary representatives to assess policing effectiveness. Enhancing **grievance redressal mechanisms** and building public trust.
 - **Training and Capacity Building:** Structured training sessions for police personnel to strengthen **responsiveness, professionalism, and empathy**. Focus on **women's safety, cybercrime management, and community engagement**.
 - **Evaluation and Scaling Up:** An **independent third-party evaluation** of the pilot implementation will determine best practices for replication across Telangana.

Pilot Implementation

The project will initially cover **30 police stations**:

- **15 in Cyberabad Commissionerate** – urban policing challenges, cybercrime, and technology integration.
- **15 in Sangareddy district** – rural and semi-urban policing concerns.
- Public consultations will form the **foundation of reforms**, ensuring citizen feedback shapes policing practices.



(Image Source: The Hindu)

Integration with Existing Initiatives

- The project complements Telangana's ongoing modernisation efforts:
 - **Mee Seva** – citizen service platform for online access to police services.
 - **QR codes in police stations** – increasing transparency and easy access to information.
 - **Centre of Excellence** – capacity-building hub for best practices.
 - **T-Safe app** – enhancing women's safety in public transport.

Role of the Indian Police Foundation (IPF)

- **Founded in 2014** by former Meghalaya DGP N. Ramachandran, IPF is a **New Delhi-based think tank** of serving and retired officers, academics, researchers, and civil servants.
- The IPF works in **research, capacity building, and policy advocacy**, with active State chapters in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.
- The organisation provides **expertise, structured methodology, and third-party evaluation** to ensure effective reform implementation.

Expected Outcomes

- **Improved Citizen-Police Relations:** Strengthened dialogue and trust-building mechanisms.
- **Enhanced Operational Efficiency:** Better grievance redressal, responsiveness, and accountability.
- **Women's Safety and Community Policing:** More robust safety measures and community

involvement.

- **Supportive Work Environment for Police Personnel:** Increased professionalism and morale through structured training.

Significance for Governance and Public Policy

- This initiative aligns with India's broader vision of **modern, accountable, and citizen-centric policing**.
- The **evidence-based, pilot-to-scale approach** ensures that reforms are sustainable and context-specific.
- Telangana becomes a **model for other States** seeking to integrate technology, public feedback, and structured reforms into policing.

Conclusion

- The Telangana Police-IPF reforms project represents a **transformative step in Indian policing**, emphasizing **transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement**.

Telangana Private Hospitals Halt Aarogyasri Services

Source: LiveMint

TGPSA Relevance: Governance

Context: Telangana Aarogyasri Scheme

Why in News?

Due to pending arrears of ₹1,400 crore and policy issues, the Telangana Aarogyasri Network Hospitals Association (TANHA) announced an indefinite suspension of services under the Aarogyasri health scheme.

Introduction

- In a major development, the Telangana Aarogyasri Network Hospitals Association (TANHA) announced an indefinite suspension of services under the **Aarogyasri Health Care Scheme** from midnight of **September 16, 2025**, due to pending arrears of nearly **₹1,400 crore** and repeated delays in

payment disbursement.

- This decision poses a severe threat to the healthcare access of over **3.2 crore beneficiaries**, primarily from economically weaker sections of society.

About the Aarogyasri Scheme

- The Aarogyasri scheme is a flagship health insurance programme in Telangana, designed to provide **cashless medical treatment** to families living below the poverty line.
- Implemented through a public-private partnership model, the scheme enables beneficiaries to access high-quality healthcare services across both government and private empanelled hospitals.
- Coverage: Up to **₹10 lakh per family** for medical treatment.
- Target Beneficiaries: Over **3.2 crore cardholders**.
- Network: Around **471 private hospitals** are part of the Aarogyasri Network, providing critical treatments and surgeries.

Key Reasons Behind Service Suspension

- **Mounting Payment Arrears** TANHA highlighted that the Aarogyasri Health Care Trust (AHCT) and Telangana Health Department owe private hospitals approximately **₹1,400 crore** in pending dues. Repeated assurances by the authorities have not translated into timely payment, causing severe financial stress to hospitals.
- **Repeated Delays in Payment Release** Despite multiple rounds of discussions over the past 20 days between TANHA, Health Minister C. Damodar Raja Narasimha, and officials of the AHCT, there has been no resolution of the longstanding payment delays.
- **One-sided MoU & Arbitrary Policy Implementation** TANHA demanded a revision of the **one-sided Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between hospitals and the Trust, citing that package cancellations and reductions were often

arbitrary, sometimes slashed by up to 30%, harming hospital operations.

- **Unscientific Expansion of Health Cover** The recent decision to increase the health coverage from ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh per family further intensified tensions. TANHA argued that the expansion was implemented without proper financial planning, making the scheme unsustainable.
- **Lack of a Grievance Redressal Mechanism** Hospitals complained about the absence of an effective grievance redressal system, leaving them without any institutional support to resolve disputes.



(Image Source: Livemint)

Wider Impact of the Suspension

- **Beneficiaries Affected:** Millions of poor families relying on free medical care face uncertainty and are at risk of untreated illnesses.
- **Rural Healthcare Impact:** The suspension is expected to severely affect rural and remote areas, where public hospitals are inadequate, and private hospitals play a crucial role.
- **Strain on Public Health System:** With private hospitals suspending services, the burden on government hospitals will increase, potentially leading to systemic collapse.

Previous Protests and Strikes

- Earlier this year, TANHA staged a **10-day strike** demanding similar reforms and the release of pending payments.
- The strike was withdrawn after discussions with the Health Minister, but no substantive solution was offered, and tensions continued

to rise.

Way Forward

The indefinite suspension underscores deeper systemic issues in public-private partnerships in social welfare schemes. For long-term sustainability, the government must:

- Ensure **transparent, timely, and scientific budgeting and disbursement** of funds.
- Restructure the Aarogyasri programme to balance beneficiary welfare with the financial sustainability of private healthcare providers.
- Build a **robust grievance redressal mechanism** to address disputes effectively.
- Promote digital payments and efficient monitoring to prevent bureaucratic delays.

Kasturba Gandhi Degree College wins Osmania Yoga Championship

Source: Telangana Today

TGPSC Relevance: Sports

Context: Osmania University Inter-College Yoga Championship for Women

Why in News?

Kasturba Gandhi Degree College won the Team Championship in the Osmania University Inter-College Yoga Championship for Women, promoting yoga, wellness, and women’s participation in holistic education.

Introduction

- The Kasturba Gandhi Degree College emerged as the **Team Champion** at the **Osmania University Inter-College Yoga Championship for Women**, held at **Badruka College, Hyderabad**.
- The competition highlighted the growing focus on yoga as an essential component of physical fitness and mental well-being among students.

Significance of the Championship

- **Promotion of Yoga among Youth**
 - The event emphasizes the importance of integrating **yoga practices into student life** for holistic development – improving physical health, mental concentration, and emotional balance.
 - It aligns with the national agenda of promoting **Yoga in Education**, as encouraged by the **Ministry of Education** and **Ministry of AYUSH**, following the global promotion of **International Yoga Day** by India at the UN.
- **Women Empowerment through Sports**
 - An exclusive women’s championship fosters a spirit of **self-discipline, health awareness, and competitive excellence** in young women.
 - It provides a platform for students to exhibit leadership, physical fitness, and mental resilience.
- **Institutional Recognition**
 - Winning such championships enhances the college’s reputation in promoting extracurricular and wellness activities along with academic achievements.
 - Colleges like Kasturba Gandhi Degree College set an example in combining academics and physical well-being practices.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Broader Linkages

- This event is part of a larger national focus to encourage **holistic education** and promote traditional practices like yoga in academic institutions.

- The championship reflects the Government of India’s efforts through the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, which encourages integrating **physical education, sports, and wellness practices into the curriculum**.
- Yoga is also seen as an important element of achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3: **Good Health and Well-being**.

Way Forward

- Expand inter-college and inter-university yoga competitions to cover more students and institutions.
- Institutionalize yoga practice sessions as part of the academic timetable to ensure regular practice and awareness.
- Support students with infrastructure, expert instructors, and organized platforms for competitions at state and national levels.

Conclusion

- The Osmania University Inter-College Yoga Championship is a positive step toward encouraging physical and mental fitness, especially among young women in educational institutions. Kasturba Gandhi Degree College’s victory stands as a testament to the growing awareness and participation in holistic wellness practices in academic environments.

CM announces plans to train film workers in Skill varsity

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: Telangana’s Initiative for Film Industry Workers

Why in News?

Telangana CM A. Revanth Reddy announced training for film industry workers at the upcoming Skills University, along with health insurance and recognition through Gaddar Awards.

Introduction

- Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has announced plans to **train film industry workers through the upcoming Skills University**, positioning Hyderabad as a hub of advanced film technologies and production.
- Speaking to representatives of film workers' unions, he emphasized the need to enhance skills, ensure worker welfare, and balance the interests of both producers and workers.

Key Features of the Announcement

1. Skill Development for Film Workers

- Workers in the film industry will be trained at the proposed **Skills University**.
- Aim: Equip them with modern competencies to meet **emerging challenges in global cinema production**.
- Vision: Enable Hyderabad to **compete with Hollywood** in film technologies and become a **multilingual film production hub**.

2. Government-Industry-Worker Dialogue

- CM urged **producers and workers to maintain cooperation** to avoid disruptions like strikes.
- Called on workers' unions to communicate their demands transparently to the government.
- Government willing to mediate between workers and producers to resolve disputes.

3. Worker Welfare Measures

- **Health insurance** for film workers to be introduced.
- CM reiterated his **commitment to stand by workers** while also prioritizing state interests.
- Emphasis on **peaceful resolution** of disputes rather than resorting to strikes, which affect both producers and workers.

4. Recognition & Awards

- Criticism of the previous government for not granting film awards for a decade.
- Institution of **Gaddar Awards** by the current Congress government to recognize contributions in the film industry.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Significance

- **Skill Enhancement:** Upgradation of film workers' skills ensures they remain **relevant in an era of digital technologies, VFX, and global competition**.
- **Industrial Growth:** Positioning Hyderabad as a **global film hub** strengthens its identity alongside IT and pharma industries.
- **Worker Welfare:** Health insurance and mediation mechanisms safeguard workers' livelihoods and prevent exploitation.
- **Labour Relations:** Dialogue-oriented approach reduces the likelihood of strikes, ensuring **industrial peace and productivity**.
- **Cultural Promotion:** Introduction of **Gaddar Awards** provides institutional recognition and strengthens Telangana's **cultural identity**.

Mahabubabad teacher Dr Gurunadha Rao appointed as NGC Brand Ambassador

Source: Telangana Today

TGPSC Relevance: NGC Brand Ambassador

Context: Osmania University Inter-College Yoga Championship for Women

Why in News?

Dr. V. Gurunadha Rao, a teacher from Mahabubabad, has been appointed as the Environmental Education Brand Ambassador of the National Green Corps (NGC), Telangana.

Introduction

- Dr. V. Gurunadha Rao, a physics and chemistry teacher from Mahabubabad district, has been appointed as the **Environmental Education Brand Ambassador of the National Green Corps (NGC), Telangana.**
- With over **20 years of service in environmental awareness and conservation programmes**, his appointment underscores the role of teachers and grassroots leaders in strengthening India's environmental education initiatives.

National Green Corps (NGC): An Overview

- **Launched by:** Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).
- **Objective:** To promote **environmental awareness, conservation practices, and eco-friendly lifestyles** among school students.
- **Implementation:** Monitored by the Department of Environment, Forest, Science and Technology at the state level.
- **Mechanism:**
 - Eco-Clubs are established in schools across India.
 - Activities include plantation drives, water conservation, waste management, biodiversity documentation, and awareness campaigns.
- **Tagline:** "Learn to Live in Harmony with Nature."



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Contributions of Dr. V. Gurunadha Rao

Long-standing Environmental Leadership:

- Served as **NGC coordinator and master trainer** in Mahabubabad district.
- Organised **school-level environmental programmes** to cultivate awareness among students and teachers.

International Recognition:

- Under his guidance, Mahabubabad district schools received recognition at the **COP Biodiversity International UNO Conference (Hyderabad).**

Student Participation:

- Facilitated participation of students in **Students' Environmental Congress and National-level Environmental Competitions**, where their initiatives were appreciated by authorities.

Grassroots Impact:

- Promoted **eco-consciousness** among rural youth.
- Integrated **scientific knowledge with environmental ethics** in the classroom.

Significance of the Appointment

For Telangana:

- Strengthens NGC activities by motivating schools, teachers, and students to take active roles in conservation.
- Provides a **role model for environmental educators** across the state.

For India's Environmental Education Goals:

- Aligns with **National Education Policy (NEP 2020)**, which emphasises sustainability and environmental awareness.
- Contributes to India's commitments under **SDG 4 (Quality Education)** and **SDG 13 (Climate Action).**

Broader Context: Role of NGC in Environmental Conservation

- **Awareness to Action:** NGC transforms classroom learning into **practical environmental action.**
- **Youth Involvement:** With millions of students involved nationwide, NGC is one of the **largest environmental education programmes** in the world.

- **Community Participation:** Strengthens linkages between schools, local communities, and government agencies for environmental stewardship.

Conclusion

- Dr. Gurunadha Rao's appointment as NGC Brand Ambassador highlights the **critical role of educators as change agents** in promoting sustainable development.
- By combining scientific teaching with environmental activism, his leadership ensures that **future generations are better equipped to address ecological challenges.**

N. Balram of SCCL awarded 'Best CMD' in South India

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Relevance: Award and Honors

Context: 'Best CMD' Award

Why in News?

Chief Minister N. Balram, Chairman and Managing Director of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL), was awarded the 'Best CMD in South India' by the Asia Pacific HRM Congress at a national-level conference in Bengaluru.

About SCCL (Singareni Collieries Company Ltd)

- Public sector coal mining company jointly owned by the **Government of Telangana (51%)** and the **Government of India (49%)**.
- Headquartered in Kothagudem, Telangana.
- Plays a major role in meeting the **energy needs of South India.**

Reasons for Recognition of N. Balram

- **Leadership & Performance**
 - Guided SCCL towards record growth and strengthened financial foundations.
 - Expanded operations strategically in coal and diversified sectors.
- **Expansion in Mining & Energy**
 - **Coal Mining:** Commenced mining at the

Naini coal block in Odisha.

- **Critical Minerals:** Secured licenses for gold and copper exploration in Karnataka.
- **Energy Projects:** Initiated agreements for solar and thermal power projects in Rajasthan.
- **Financial & Strategic Initiatives**
 - Focused on **financial engineering** for long-term stability.
 - Business diversification into **critical minerals and renewable energy.**
- **Worker Welfare**
 - Introduced a **₹1 crore accident insurance cover** for every worker.
 - Emphasis on welfare programmes for workers and their families.
- **CSR & Environmental Efforts**
 - Extensive **CSR initiatives** in nearby villages.
 - Environmental conservation: personal initiative of planting **20,000 saplings.**



Image Source: The Hindu

Significance of the Award

- Highlights SCCL's transformation from a coal-dominated company to a diversified energy and mining enterprise.
- Recognition of **leadership in balancing growth, worker welfare, and sustainability.**
- Encourages other PSUs and corporate leaders to align expansion with **social responsibility and environmental goals.**

Broader Implications

- **Energy Security:** Expansion into coal and critical minerals reduces dependence on imports.
- **Climate Goals:** Entry into renewable energy

projects (solar, thermal) supports India's transition pathway.

- **Social Impact:** Welfare and CSR measures improve trust between industry and communities.
- **Corporate Governance:** Reflects how leadership awards encourage professional management in PSUs.

Conclusion

- The award to N. Balram underlines how **visionary leadership in public enterprises** can align financial growth, social responsibility, and environmental stewardship.
- SCCL's initiatives under his tenure demonstrate how state-run enterprises can diversify into **critical minerals and renewable energy** while maintaining **worker welfare and sustainability goals**.

Women-centric 'Vaddi Leni Runalu' initiative in Telangana

Source: Telangana Today

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: Vaddi Leni Runalu Scheme for Women Empowerment

Why in News?

Telangana revived the Vaddi Leni Runalu scheme in 2025 to provide interest-free loans to Self-Help Group (SHG) women, empowering over 63 lakh members.

Introduction

- Deputy Chief Minister of Telangana, **Bhatti Vikramarka**, announced that the state government has revived the '**Vaddi Leni Runalu**' (Interest-Free Loans) scheme to provide relief and financial empowerment to women from poor and middle-class backgrounds engaged in small businesses.
- The announcement was made during a programme in **Yousufguda, Jubilee Hills constituency**, where loans were distributed to Self-Help Group (SHG) members.

Key Highlights of the Scheme

- **Name of the Scheme:** *Vaddi Leni Runalu* (Interest-Free Loans).
- **Beneficiaries:** Women members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs).
- **Scale of Implementation (First Year):**
 - ₹21,632 crore loans extended.
 - Benefiting over **63 lakh women members** of SHGs.
- **Target:**
 - Distribute **over ₹20,000 crore interest-free loans every year**.
 - Expand SHG membership from **63 lakh to 1 crore**.
- Enable women to become financially self-reliant ("crorepatis" in five years, as per government vision).

Recent Loan Distribution Event

- At Yousufguda (Jubilee Hills bypoll constituency), loans worth **₹41.15 crore** were distributed to **8,130 women members of SHGs**.
- Ministers **Ponnam Prabhakar, G. Vivek, and D. Seethakka** participated.

Government's Broader Women-Centric Welfare Measures

- **Financial Empowerment**
 - 100 shops at Shilparamam allocated for women entrepreneurs.
 - RTC buses leased through women's societies (150 already, 450 more planned).
 - Promotion of women-led canteens and micro-businesses.
- **Free Bus Travel**
 - Women availed **223 crore free trips** in RTC buses.
 - Government reimbursed **₹7,400 crore** to TSRTC for lost revenue.
 - Women saved equivalent amount on ticket fares.
- **Social Security & Welfare**
 - **Free electricity** up to 200 units.
 - **6 kg of free rice per person** for 96 lakh families.

- **Rajiv Arogyasri health coverage** up to ₹10 lakh in corporate hospitals.
- **Women’s Representation in GHMC Limits**
- **5.09 lakh SHG women members** across 50,764 SHGs in Hyderabad (GHMC limits).
- Number expected to rise further with targeted support.

Significance of the Revival

1. Economic Empowerment of Women

- Reduces dependence on private moneylenders charging high interest.
- Enhances access to institutional finance for small businesses.
- Encourages entrepreneurship and local economic activity.

2. Social Impact

- Promotes **collective bargaining power** of women through SHGs.
- Improves **financial inclusion**, particularly for poor and middle-class families.
- Contributes to **gender equality** in economic participation.

3. Political & Developmental Messaging

- The scheme signals the **government’s commitment to treating women as “Mahalakshmi”**, ensuring financial stability, food security, health coverage, and social dignity.
- It aligns with broader **Indiramma Government’s vision** of welfare and inclusive growth.

Musi project: Centre nod for Rs 4,100 crore ADB loan

Source: New Indian Express

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: Musi project

Why in News?

The Musi Riverfront Development Project, backed by an ADB loan of ₹4,100 crore, aims to rejuvenate a 55-km stretch of the Musi river in Telangana.



(Image Source: New Indian Express)

Introduction

- Public The **Union government** has approved a loan from the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** to support the **Musi Riverfront Development Project**, marking a major step towards rejuvenating and redeveloping the Musi River in Telangana.
- The project aims to transform a **55-km stretch** of the river within **HMDA limits** into a **cultural, recreational, and economic hub**, integrating water management with urban development.

Financial and Institutional Support

- **ADB Loan:** ₹4,100 crore in the first phase has been sanctioned.
- **Implementation Agencies:** A consortium comprising **Meinhardt, Cushman & Wakefield, RIOS, ZHA, and SOM** will submit **Detailed Project Reports (DPRs)** and comprehensive plans within two weeks.
- **Government Coordination:** Discussions involved **Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy**, ADB representatives, and the Union Finance Ministry to finalise project details.

Key Components of the Project

Cultural and Heritage Development

- **Gateway of Hyderabad** at Kothwalguda.
- **Gandhi Sarovar** at Bapu Ghat: will host the **world’s tallest Mahatma Gandhi statue** and a museum promoting **Gandhian philosophy**.
- Restoration and development of heritage sites along the river, including:
 - **Lord Shiva Temple** at Manchirevula

- **Mosque** at Charminar
- **Gurudwara** at Sikhchowani
- **Church** at Uppal, inspired by **Medak Cathedral**

Urban and Recreational Infrastructure

- Development of **walking tracks, amphitheatres, entertainment parks, shopping malls**, and other public utilities.
- Promotion of a **night-time economy** along the riverfront.
- Installation of **statues of prominent Telangana and national personalities** in the catchment area.

Road and Connectivity Improvements

- Proposed **Gateway of Hyderabad** will act as a **connectivity hub**.
- New roads connecting:
- **Chandanvelly and Seetharampur SEZs** via Lagacherla in Kodangal
- **Outer Ring Road (ORR)** to **Chincholi Highway**, improving access to **industrial parks**
- **Gandipet to Ramoji Film City**, reducing the travel distance from **85 km to 55 km**

Water Management and Rejuvenation

- Freshwater inflow to Musi will be ensured up to **Nalgonda district**.
- Drainage water will be strictly prohibited from entering the river.
- **20 TMCFT of water** to be lifted from **Mallannasagar Dam** to fill **Osmansagar and Himayatsagar**, ensuring continuous freshwater availability.
- Focus on treating the river as both a **water grid and cultural grid**.
- **Land Acquisition and Heritage Projects**
- For **Gandhi Sarovar** and related developments, **250 acres of land** requested from the **Ministry of Defence**.
- Centre has agreed to transfer **100 acres**, with discussions ongoing for the remaining land.

Significance of the Project

- **Urban Renewal:** The project will **clean and rejuvenate the Musi riverbed**, turning the riverfront into a **livable, green, and vibrant**

space.

- **Economic Development:** Development of commercial spaces, connectivity hubs, and improved road networks will **boost tourism and local economy**.
- **Cultural Preservation:** Integration of **historical, religious, and heritage sites** preserves Telangana’s rich cultural identity.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Ensures **freshwater flow**, reduces pollution, and prevents untreated drainage from entering the river.
- **Strategic Urban Planning:** Connects industrial parks, SEZs, and major city hubs, optimizing **traffic management and urban mobility**.

Conclusion

- The **Musi Riverfront Development Project** represents a **comprehensive model of urban rejuvenation**, combining **heritage preservation, cultural tourism, economic growth, and sustainable water management**.

Telangana Pushes for 70% Krishna Water Allocation

Source: New Indian Express

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: Krishna Water Allocation

Why in News?

In 2025, Telangana sought 70% of Krishna River waters (763 TMC ft) allocated earlier to united Andhra Pradesh before the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-II (KWDT-II)

Introduction

- The Government of Telangana has pressed its claim before the **Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-II (KWDT-II)**, demanding around **70% (763 TMC ft)** of the **811 TMC ft assured water allocation** made earlier to the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh.
- Telangana argues this claim is based on

principles of equity, basin parameters, and internationally accepted norms of river water sharing.

Background of the Dispute

- **Krishna River & Allocation**
 - The Krishna River, a major east-flowing river, passes through Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh.
 - Water sharing has been historically contentious due to competing agricultural, drinking water, and industrial needs.
- **KWDT-I (Bachawat Tribunal, 1969-1973)**
 - Awarded **2060 TMC ft** among Maharashtra, Karnataka, and undivided Andhra Pradesh.
 - Andhra Pradesh received **811 TMC ft at 75% dependability**, **49 TMC ft at 65% dependability**, and **145 TMC ft from average flows**.
- **KWDT-II (2004-present)**
 - Constituted under the **Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956**, Section 3, to reassess allocations.
 - After bifurcation in 2014, disputes arose between Telangana and residuary Andhra Pradesh over re-apportionment of the **811 TMC ft share**.



(Image Source: The Hindu)

Telangana’s Current Demand (2025)

- Telangana has sought a **fresh allocation** based on basin parameters and equitable principles:

Category	Rationale
75% dependable waters	Larger basin area, cultivable land, and drought-prone regions within Telangana
65% dependable waters	Population-based & drought vulnerability
Average flows	Command area lies above Nagarjunsagar within Telangana
Godavari diversions	Krishna Delta lies within Telangana basin
Total	Scientific, equitable sharing principles

- Additionally, Telangana seeks **liberty to use all surplus flows** over average dependability.

Arguments by Telangana

- **Historical Injustice (since 1956)**
 - Major share of Krishna waters diverted to Andhra regions, leaving Telangana drought-prone.
 - Outside-basin diversions by Andhra Pradesh (e.g., to Rayalaseema and coastal areas) reduced Telangana’s irrigation prospects.
- **Equity Principles Applied**
 - **Catchment area** within Telangana is substantial.
 - **Population** within the Krishna basin is higher in Telangana.
 - **Drought-prone regions** and **cultivable command area** justify higher share.
- **International Norms:** Principles of **equitable apportionment** (as followed in Indus, Nile, Mekong river disputes) support basin-state priority.

Andhra Pradesh’s Position

- A.P. seeks to retain a larger part of the **811 TMC ft allocation**, defending its existing irrigation projects and diversions.
- Criticised Telangana’s claim as excessive and argued that en bloc allocation should remain unchanged.

Legal & Institutional Framework

- **Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956:** Empowers Centre to constitute tribunals for adjudication.
- **KWDT-II:** Functioning under this Act, hearing arguments since 2004; now at final stages.
- **Constitutional Backing:** Article 262 allows Parliament to provide for adjudication of inter-state river disputes, excluding jurisdiction of Supreme Court in such matters.

Significance of the Dispute

- **For Telangana:**
 - Access to more water for irrigation, drinking water, and industrial needs.
 - Correction of historical neglect and underdevelopment of its drought-prone regions.
- **For Andhra Pradesh:**
 - Retention of water critical for Krishna delta and Rayalaseema projects.
 - Dependence on outside-basin diversions for agriculture.
- **For Federalism:**
 - Reflects challenges in **inter-state resource sharing** post-reorganisation of states.
 - Tests efficiency of dispute resolution mechanisms like KWDT.
- **For Policy:**
 - Highlights importance of **basin-based planning** rather than state-centric allocations.
 - Reinforces need for a **permanent inter-state river management authority** (as recommended by committees).

Challenges Ahead

- Tribunal's final award may face **political resistance** from losing side.
- **Implementation hurdles** due to lack of permanent monitoring authority.
- **Climate change impacts** (changing flow patterns, variability of dependable flows).
- Possible demand for **national-level reallocation** in the future.

Telangana to Issue GO for 42% BC Reservations in Local Bodies

Source: Telangana Today

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: BC Reservations in Local Bodies

Why in News?

The Telangana government is set to issue a GO reserving 42% seats for Backward Classes (BCs) in upcoming local body elections, alongside SC/ST and women's quotas.

Introduction

- The Telangana government is preparing to release a **Government Order (GO)** to finalise **42% reservations for Backward Classes (BCs)** in local body elections.
- This decision marks a significant move in the state's approach to social justice, grassroots democracy, and representation.

Key Features of the Decision

Extent of Reservations

- **42% seats** in local body elections will be reserved for BCs.
- Distribution includes posts such as **Zilla Parishad chairpersons, ZPTCs (Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituencies), MPTCs (Mandal Parishad Territorial Constituencies), MPPs (Mandal Parishad Presidents), Sarpanchs, and ward members.**

Seat Allocation

- Of the **31 Zilla Parishad chairperson posts**:
- 13 to BCs
- 5 to SCs
- 3 to STs
- 10 to General category
- **50% of these seats** will be reserved for **women.**

Basis of Reservation

- **SC and ST quotas:** As per 2011 Census data.
- **BC quota:** Based on a **recent survey** conducted by the State government (not Census).

- **Implementation Mechanism**
- **BC Welfare Department** to release the preliminary GO.
- **Panchayat Raj Department** to follow with execution orders.
- Women's reservations will be allotted through **draw of lots**.

Election Timeline

- Local body polls are expected to be completed **before Diwali 2025**.
- The government plans to notify reservations formally and publish a **gazette** soon after.
- A petition will be filed in the Telangana High Court to extend the **September 30 deadline**.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Significance of the Move

Empowerment of BCs

- Ensures **greater political participation** for historically marginalised BC communities.
- Strengthens their role in **grassroots governance**.

Women's Representation

- With **50% reservation for women**, the move enhances **gender inclusivity** in rural and local politics.

Decentralisation and Grassroots Democracy

- Local body elections are the foundation of **Panchayati Raj institutions**.
- Inclusive reservations foster **participatory democracy** and **equitable representation**.

State-Specific Approach

- Unlike SC/ST quotas tied to the **Census**, BC reservations rely on a **state-conducted survey**, showing Telangana's effort to reflect its **current demographic realities**.

Challenges and Criticisms

- **Constitutional Limits on Reservations**
 - The Supreme Court in *Indra Sawhney (1992)* capped reservations at **50%**.
 - Telangana's **42% BC quota + existing SC/ST quotas** could potentially **breach this ceiling**, inviting legal scrutiny.
- **Lack of Census-Based Data**
 - Using a **state survey** instead of Census data may face **judicial challenges** on grounds of reliability and transparency.
- **Implementation Hurdles**
 - District officials warned against **political pressure and leaks** before official notification.
 - Litigation risks could **delay elections**.
- **Political Contestation**
 - Opposition parties may allege **vote-bank politics**.
 - Debate over whether **reservations are being expanded for genuine empowerment or electoral gain**.

Broader Constitutional and Political Context

- **73rd and 74th Amendments (1992-93)**: Mandated reservation for SCs, STs, and women in Panchayati Raj and urban local bodies.
- **Article 243D**: Provides for such reservations but does not explicitly guarantee BC quotas—states decide through their legislation.
- **Judicial Precedents**: Courts have repeatedly stressed **empirical data** as the basis for OBC/BC reservations.
- **Telangana's Case**: By going beyond Census data and setting **42% quota for BCs**, Telangana is testing the **legal boundaries of affirmative action** in local governance.

Way Forward

- **Judicial Clarity**: The Telangana High Court's decision on the **petition for deadline extension and legality of quota levels** will shape the final outcome.
- **Balancing Equity and Limits**: The state must

balance **social justice goals** with the **constitutional ceiling** on reservations.

- **Strengthening Data Systems:** A transparent, statistically robust BC enumeration system is essential to withstand legal tests.

Telangana HC Rejects Plea Against 42% BC Quota in Local Body Polls

Source: New Indian Express

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: 42% BC Quota in Local Body Elections

Why in News?

The Telangana High Court dismissed as “premature” a petition challenging the state’s reported move to raise BC reservation in local body elections to 42%, since no official order had been issued.

Introduction

- The he **Telangana High Court** dismissed a writ petition challenging the state government’s reported move to increase reservations for **Backward Classes (BCs) to 42%** in the upcoming **local body (panchayat) elections**.
- The court termed the petition “absolutely premature” as it was based only on **newspaper reports**, without any official government order (GO) to substantiate the claim.

Background

- **Reservation in Telangana Panchayat Raj System (as per law):**
 - Backward Classes (BCs): 26%
 - Scheduled Castes (SCs): 15%
 - Scheduled Tribes (STs): 9%
- **Total = 50%** (as mandated under **Section 285A of the Telangana Panchayat Raj Act, 2018**).
- **Petitioner’s Argument:**
 - Increasing BC quota to **42%** would push the total reservations **beyond the 50% ceiling** set by Supreme Court in *Indra*

Sawhney vs. Union of India (1992).

- Such a move would therefore be **unconstitutional**.
- **Court’s Observation:**
 - No official GO, notification, or proceedings were placed before the court.
 - The petition was based solely on **apprehensions and media reports**.
- The Supreme Court in *George Fernandez vs. Union of India (1971)* had held that **courts cannot take cognizance of newspaper articles as evidence**.



(Image Source: New Indian Express)

Telangana High Court’s Verdict

- The writ petition was dismissed as “**premature and not maintainable**”.
- Key reasons:
 - Reliance on **media reports** instead of official documents.
 - Absence of any government order to challenge.
 - Court cannot intervene in hypothetical or speculative matters.
- However, the court clarified that the **petitioner has the liberty to challenge any official order or GO** if the government formally issues it in the future.

Legal and Constitutional Context

- **50% Ceiling Rule**
- *Indra Sawhney vs. Union of India (1992)*: Supreme Court capped reservations at **50%** to uphold the principle of equality (Article 14).
- Exception: Special circumstances (e.g., Tamil Nadu’s 69% quota placed in the Ninth

Schedule).

- **Panchayat Reservations**
- Articles 243D and 243T mandate reservation for SCs, STs, and women in local bodies.
- States have flexibility for BC reservations, but they must **stay within the constitutional framework**.
- **Judicial Precedent**
- *George Fernandez vs. Union of India (1971)*: Courts cannot rely solely on **newspaper reports** for judicial decisions.

Significance of the Case

- **For Governance**
- Reinforces judicial principle that **policy challenges must be based on official documents**, not speculative reports.
- Prevents misuse of judicial process for **political or apprehensive petitions**.
- **For Reservation Policy**
- Highlights the **tension between state policies and constitutional limits** (50% ceiling).
- Telangana's attempt, if formally issued, may trigger a **larger debate on extending reservation limits** in local governance.
- **For Democracy and Federalism**
- Strengthens the need for **transparent state actions** and proper government notifications before policy decisions are enforceable.

Challenges Ahead

- **Legal challenge** if Telangana formally issues a GO for 42% BC quota, as it could breach the 50% ceiling.
- Balancing **political promises to BC communities** with **constitutional constraints**.
- Potential for wider **national debates** on whether the 50% cap should be revisited, given evolving social realities.

Telangana exhausts 85 per cent of annual loan limit in six months as revenues lag

Source: Telangana Today

TGPSC Relevance: Economy

Context: 85% of Annual Loan Limit

Why in News?

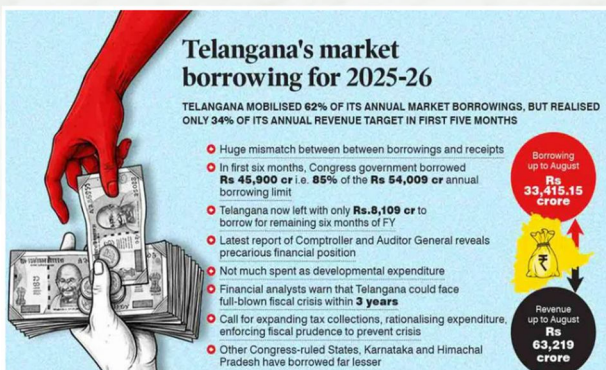
Telangana exhausted 85% of its annual borrowing limit in just six months of FY 2025-26, raising concerns of a looming fiscal crisis.

Introduction

- The **Telangana government** has borrowed **₹45,900 crore** in the first six months of FY 2025-26, which is **85% of its annual borrowing limit** (₹54,009 crore) set by the Centre. Revenue mobilisation has lagged, raising concerns of a looming fiscal crisis.
- Experts, including the CAG, warn that unless corrective measures are taken, Telangana may face a **full-blown debt crisis within three years**.

Background: Fiscal Position of Telangana

- **Market Borrowings (April–August 2025)**: ₹33,415 crore (62% of annual borrowing limit).
- **Borrowings in September 2025**: ₹12,000 crore, taking total borrowings to **₹45,900 crore**.
- **Revenue Realisation**: Only ₹63,219 crore collected by August, which is **34% of the annual target** of ₹2,29,720 crore.
- **Fiscal Deficit**: By August 2025, it reached **₹33,415 crore (62% of annual estimate)**.
- **Revenue Deficit**: ₹11,052 crore (against a budgeted revenue surplus of ₹2,738 crore).
- **Expenditure Pattern**:
- **Capital Expenditure**: ₹13,921 crore (only 39% of target).
- Majority of spending on **salaries, pensions, subsidies**, leaving little for developmental projects.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Causes of the Fiscal Stress

- **Front-loaded Borrowings**
 - State borrowed heavily in the first six months, leaving only ₹8,109 crore for the rest of FY 2025-26.
- **Lagging Tax Revenues**
 - Poor performance in GST, excise, stamps & registration, sales tax.
 - Only **share in Union taxes** improved: 40.32% of annual target (vs. 33.83% last year).
- **Expenditure Priorities**
 - Focus on **non-productive heads** like salaries, pensions, subsidies.
 - Limited push for **capital investments and infrastructure**.
- **Political Cycle**
 - With **local body elections** nearing, government appears to prioritise short-term populist measures.

Comparative Perspective

- **Karnataka** (Congress-ruled): Borrowed **₹19,113 crore** till August (21.14% of annual borrowing limit).
- **Himachal Pradesh** (Congress-ruled): Borrowed **₹4,351 crore** till August (41.91% of annual borrowing limit).
- **Telangana**: Far higher borrowing (85% limit used in six months) → signals **relative fiscal indiscipline**.

Concerns Raised

- **Debt Trap Risk**: Unsustainable borrowing may lead to debt servicing crowding out welfare and development.

- **Revenue-Expenditure Mismatch**: Borrowings not matched by rising revenues.
- **Reduced Fiscal Space**: With most of the borrowing limit exhausted, State will struggle to fund programmes in the remaining months.
- **Potential Fiscal Crisis**: Experts warn that without reforms, Telangana may face a **serious financial crisis within 3 years**.

Corrective Measures Suggested

- **Expand Tax Base**
- Improve GST compliance, strengthen excise and property tax administration.
- **Rationalise Expenditure**
- Contain subsidies, streamline salary and pension expenditure.
- Focus more on **productive capital investments**.
- **Fiscal Prudence**
- Adhere to the **FRBM Act targets**.
- Avoid populist spending ahead of elections.
- **Structural Reforms**
- Encourage private sector investment in infrastructure.
- Enhance non-tax revenues (fees, user charges, PSU reforms).

Constitutional & Governance Context

- **Article 293**: States can borrow but subject to limits set by the Union government.
- **FRBM Act (2003)**: Mandates fiscal discipline and sets deficit reduction targets.
- **CAG Reports**: Act as a constitutional check on state finances.

Golden Care initiative launched for senior citizens in Rachakonda

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: Golden Care initiative

Why in News?

The Telangana High Court dismissed as “premature” a petition challenging the state’s reported move to

raise BC reservation in local body elections to 42%, since no official order had been issued.

Introduction

- The the **Rachakonda Police Commissionerate** in collaboration with the **Rachakonda Security Council (RKSC)** launched the **Golden Care programme**, a comprehensive initiative aimed at ensuring **security, dignity, and well-being** for senior citizens in the jurisdiction. This initiative highlights the growing recognition of the **needs and rights of the elderly** in urban India.

Key Features of the Golden Care Programme

- **Assistance in Legal and Safety Issues:**
 - Senior citizens can report **financial scams, neglect, abandonment, physical or emotional abuse**, and request help in tracing **lost items or missing individuals**.
 - Legal provisions such as **Section 144 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)** enforce accountability for neglecting dependents.
 - The **Maintenance Act** allows senior citizens to claim support from their children, ensuring financial security.
- **Holistic Care and Well-being:**
 - The initiative focuses not only on **safety**, but also on **compassion, dignity, and respect** for senior citizens.
 - Outreach activities include **emotional support, cyber safety awareness, medical assistance**, and guidance on accessing government welfare schemes such as **pensions, health insurance, and medical aid**.

Emergency and Medical Support:

- The programme ensures **emergency medical assistance** through tie-ups with hospitals.
- A dedicated **helpline (14567)** and **WhatsApp contact (8712662111)** provide immediate support to senior citizens in need.
- **Administrative Oversight and Expansion:**

- Regular **review meetings** will be conducted to evaluate and expand the reach of the programme.
- The launch was attended by key officials including **Deputy Commissioners of Police, RKSC Joint Secretary, Chief Coordinator, and Traffic Marshals**, ensuring a multi-level governance approach.



(Image Source: The Hindu)

Significance of the Golden Care Programme

- **Protection of Elderly Rights:**
- Ensures enforcement of legal rights under **BNSS and the Maintenance Act**, addressing neglect and abuse.
- **Empowerment and Awareness:**
- Promotes **cyber safety, legal literacy, and awareness of government schemes**, enabling senior citizens to safeguard themselves in a modern, technology-driven environment.
- **Integrated Security Framework:**
- Combines **police support, social care, and health assistance**, reflecting a **comprehensive model of senior citizen welfare**.
- **Social Recognition:**
- Reinforces the societal role of **senior citizens as pillars of wisdom and strength**, recognizing their contributions to families and communities.

Broader Implications

- The initiative serves as a **model for urban elder care programmes** across India, integrating **security, legal support, health,**

and emotional well-being.

- Encourages **proactive governance** to address the challenges of an **ageing population**, particularly in metropolitan areas.
- Strengthens **community policing and social responsibility**, enhancing trust between law enforcement and senior citizens.

First record of semi-aquatic beetle *Scoliopsis spinosa* in India reported in Eastern Ghats

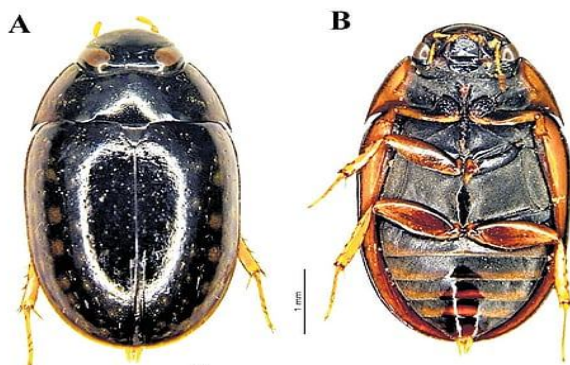
Source: Indian Express

TGPSC Relevance: Environment and Ecology

Context: beetle *Scoliopsis spinosa*

Why in News?

First confirmed record of the semi-aquatic beetle *Scoliopsis spinosa* in India reported from the Eastern Ghats (Kalyani Dam, Andhra Pradesh), highlighting its restricted habitat and conservation importance.



(Image Source: Indian Express)

Introduction

- Researchers have reported the first confirmed occurrence of the semi-aquatic beetle *Scoliopsis spinosa* d'Orchymont, 1919, in India.
- The species, originally described from Madulsima, Sri Lanka, was discovered near **Kalyani Dam** in the **Eastern Ghats**, within the **Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve**, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.

Significance of the Discovery:

- **Extension of Geographic Range:**

- This discovery extends the known distribution of the genus *Scoliopsis* **northwards**, marking a significant addition to India's faunal diversity.
- **Biodiversity Contribution:**
- Adds to the understanding of **semi-aquatic beetle diversity** in India.
- Highlights the ecological richness of the **Eastern Ghats**, a relatively underexplored biodiversity hotspot.
- **Conservation Implications:**
- Due to its **restricted microhabitat specificity** and narrow distribution, the species may require **conservation prioritisation**.
- Researchers recommend considering it for **IUCN Red List assessment**.

Habitat and Ecology:

- *Scoliopsis spinosa* was found in **hygropetric habitats** – slow seepages on rocky surfaces.
- Co-occurring species included:
- *Coelostoma* sp.
- *Laccobius* sp.
- *Helochares* sp.
- Its **specialised microhabitat** underscores the sensitivity of its survival to ecological changes.

Methodology of Identification:

- **Morphological Analysis:**
- Morphological traits matched the original description by d'Orchymont (1919), including:
- Acute posterior pronotal angles
- Strong and uniform elytral punctation
- Characteristic male genitalia
- **Molecular Analysis:**
- DNA barcoding using **COI gene**
- Phylogenetic analysis through **Maximum Likelihood** method using **K2P model**
- Showed **13-15% genetic divergence** from related genera (*Oocyclus*, *Ephydrolithus*, *Anacaena*), confirming species identity.

Importance of the Discovery in Scientific Context:

- Demonstrates the value of combining

morphological taxonomy and molecular tools for accurate species identification.

- Highlights the **Eastern Ghats' ecological significance** as a habitat for narrowly distributed species.
- Strengthens the argument for **targeted conservation efforts** in microhabitats with unique faunal assemblages.

Revanth's native Kondareddyally is south India's first fully solar-powered village

Source: New Indian Express

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: India's first 100% solar-powered village

Why in News?

Kondareddyally in Telangana's Nagarkurnool district has become South India's first 100% solar-powered village, generating surplus energy and earning ₹5 lakh in September 2025.

Introduction

- Kondareddyally, a small village in **Vangoor mandal of Nagarkurnool district, Telangana**, has made history by becoming **South India's first 100% solar-powered village** under the **Green Energy Mission** of the Telangana government.
- The achievement underscores India's transition towards **renewable energy** at the grassroots level and reflects progress toward **SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)** and **India's Net Zero 2070 commitment**.

Key Highlights

1. Village Profile

- **Location:** Vangoor mandal, Nagarkurnool district, Telangana.
- **Population Infrastructure:**
- **514 houses**
- **11 government buildings** (schools, offices, health centres, etc.)

2. Solar Power Deployment

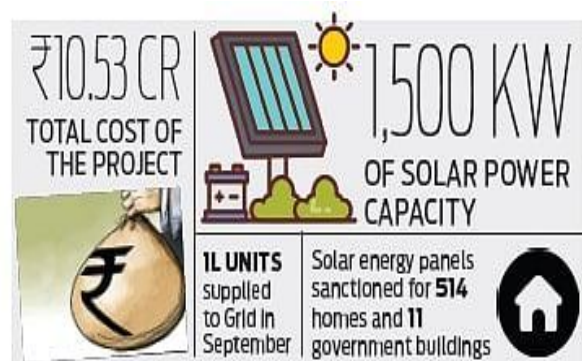
- **Rooftop Solar:**
- **480 houses** equipped with **3 KW rooftop solar panels**.
- **Government Buildings:**
- **11 buildings** powered by **60 KW solar units**.
- Remaining **34 mud-walled homes** will be covered once **Indiramma housing** is completed.

3. Energy Output and Benefits

- Each house generates **~360 units/month** → eliminates electricity bills and ensures **uninterrupted power supply**.
- The **village feeds surplus energy** to the state grid at **₹5.25/unit**.
- In **September 2025**, Kondareddyally sold **1,00,000 units** → **earned nearly ₹5 lakh**.
- A pioneering example of **"green entrepreneurship"** at the rural community level.

Socio-Economic Significance

- **Financial Empowerment:** Reduces monthly energy expenditure and provides an additional income stream.
- **Employment & Skills:** Local youth gain opportunities in installation, maintenance, and energy management.
- **Women's Empowerment:** Lower household expenses translate into savings for family welfare.



(Image Source: New Indian Express)

Environmental Impact

- Reduces dependence on fossil fuels → **lowers greenhouse gas emissions**.
- Supports **climate-resilient rural development**.

- Contributes to **decentralised energy generation** and **grid stability**.

Policy Context

- **Green Energy Mission (Telangana):** Aims to increase renewable energy penetration in rural areas.
- Aligned with **National Solar Mission (Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission)** under **National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)**.
- Supports **India's commitment to install 500 GW of non-fossil fuel energy capacity by 2030**.

Challenges Ahead

- **Inclusion of remaining households** (mud-walled homes).
- **Maintenance and technical support** for solar infrastructure.
- **Storage solutions** for better energy reliability during low-sunlight periods.
- **Replication and scaling** in other villages with varied geographic and socio-economic conditions.

Way Forward

- **Strengthen Decentralised Renewable Energy Policies:** Promote rooftop solar for rural and semi-urban areas.
- **Community Participation:** Involve local self-help groups for maintenance and training.
- **Financial Incentives:** Provide subsidies, low-interest loans, and feed-in tariffs to encourage households.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Educate communities about the long-term economic and environmental benefits of solar power.

Conclusion

- Kondareddypally sets a **benchmark for sustainable rural electrification** by proving that even small villages can become **energy self-reliant and economically empowered through green energy**.

Pride of Telangana Awards celebrates achievers across fields

Source: Telangana Today

TGPSC Relevance: Awards and Honours

Context: Pride of Telangana Awards'

Why in News?

The sixth edition of the 'Pride of Telangana Awards' honoured eminent personalities and emerging talents from Telangana for achievements across diverse fields.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Introduction

- The **Pride of Telangana Awards**, organized by **Round Table India**, is an annual event that honours individuals for outstanding contributions in various domains, including arts, culture, social service, education, and entrepreneurship.
- The 2025 edition was held at **Novotel HICC, Madhapur, Hyderabad**, highlighting the state's top achievers and reinforcing the importance of recognizing excellence.

Objectives of the Awards:

- **Celebration of Excellence:** To acknowledge and honour **eminent personalities** and emerging talents contributing significantly to Telangana's development and cultural heritage.
- **Promotion of Culture and Arts:** The event included diverse **cultural performances**, showcasing Telangana's traditional and contemporary art forms.

- **Commitment to Education and Social Upliftment:** By recognizing achievers, Round Table India emphasizes **education, social service, and empowerment**, encouraging societal contributions.

Significance:

1. **Recognition of Talent:** Awards serve as a platform to **acknowledge both established and emerging talents**, motivating individuals to pursue excellence in their respective fields.
2. **Cultural Promotion:** By showcasing **traditional and contemporary art forms**, the event strengthens Telangana’s cultural identity.
3. **Community Engagement:** The awards reflect a **partnership between civil society and organisations** to foster social upliftment, education, and youth development.
4. **State Pride:** Celebrating local achievers enhances **regional identity and inspires future generations** to contribute to Telangana’s growth.

Conclusion:

- The **Pride of Telangana Awards 2025** successfully combined recognition of excellence with cultural celebration, demonstrating the **importance of civil society initiatives in promoting education, social service, and artistic talent.**

Governor launches HYSEA’s CSR exchange portal

Source: The Hindu

TGPSC Relevance: Governance

Context: HYSEA’s CSR exchange portal

Why in News?

Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Varma launched the HYSEA Impact Hub, a portal connecting corporates with NGO projects to strengthen CSR and promote sustainable, inclusive development.

Introduction

- Telangana’s Telangana Governor **Jishnu Dev Varma** launched the **HYSEA Impact Hub**, a portal developed by the **Hyderabad Software Enterprises Association (HYSEA)** to facilitate corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives.
- The launch took place at the **Sustainable Development Summit and Awards 2025**, where the Governor also presented the **HYSEA Sustainable Development Awards 2025.**
- This initiative aims to align business growth with social responsibility and position Hyderabad as a global hub for sustainable development.



(Image Source: The Hindu)

Key Features of HYSEA Impact Hub:

- **First-of-its-kind portal:**
 - Connects **corporate members with vetted NGO projects**, enabling targeted and effective CSR interventions.
 - Promotes **transparency, accountability, and efficiency** in CSR activities.
- **Focus areas:**
 - The portal facilitates projects in **education and skilling, environment and sustainability, and community health and well-being.**
 - Encourages corporates to contribute beyond mandatory CSR spending, fostering a **culture of responsibility and empathy.**
- **Integration of CSR and business strategy:**
 - The portal promotes the idea that CSR is **not just a percentage of profits, but a**

culture embedded in corporate strategy.

- Encourages innovation and inclusive growth by aligning business objectives with **social and environmental impact.**

Significance of the Launch:

- **Promoting Sustainable Development:**
- Supports Telangana's goal of **sustainable and inclusive growth**, aligning with **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.
- Strengthens collaboration among **corporates, government, and civil society** to address local and regional development challenges.
- **Recognition of Excellence:**
 - The **HYSEA Sustainable Development Awards 2025** recognized IT/ITES companies excelling in **education, skill development, environmental sustainability, and community well-being.**
 - Encourages companies to adopt **innovative CSR initiatives** that create measurable social impact.
- **Positioning Hyderabad Globally:**
 - HYSEA aims to **position Hyderabad as a technology hub** that is also a leader in

sustainability and inclusive growth.

- The initiative serves as a **model for other cities and states** to leverage technology in strengthening CSR impact.

Implications for Policy and Governance:

- **Enhanced CSR Governance:**
 - The portal can **monitor and evaluate CSR projects**, improving accountability.
 - Encourages **data-driven CSR strategies**, allowing better targeting of social and environmental interventions.
- **Public-Private Collaboration:**
 - Provides a platform for **corporates, NGOs, and government agencies** to work collaboratively toward common development goals.
- **Model for Replication:**
 - The HYSEA Impact Hub can serve as a **replicable model for other states** seeking to strengthen CSR implementation and measurable social impact.

