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Telangana News Summary

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Telangana News Summary

ICRISAT launches AI-powered climate advisory initiative to boost farming

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Aug/01/icrisat-launches-ai-powered-climate-advisory-initiative-to-boost-farming-3>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Science and Technology

Context: ICRISAT Launches AI-Powered Agromet Advisory

Why in News

ICRISAT, headquartered in Hyderabad, Telangana, launched an AI-based agromet advisory platform under Monsoon Mission III.

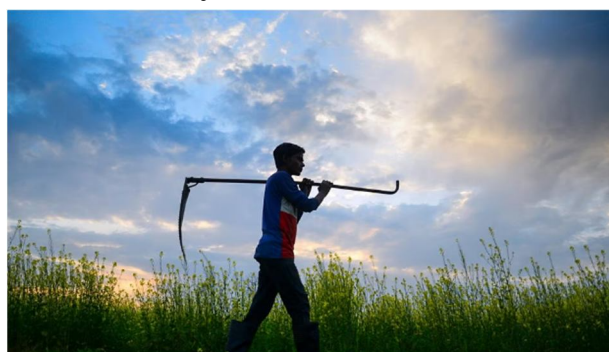
Introduction

- 40) To address the growing challenges of **climate variability** and transform Indian agriculture into a **climate-resilient system**, the **International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)** has launched an innovative AI-driven initiative.
- 41) Titled “**AI-powered Context-Specific Agromet Advisory Services for Climate-Resilient Agriculture at Scale**”, the project was unveiled during a two-day workshop held on **July 29–30, 2025** at ICRISAT, Hyderabad.
- 42) The initiative is supported under the **Union Government’s Monsoon Mission III** and builds on the success of earlier climate initiatives, including **Monsoon Mission II**.

Key Features of the Initiative

1. AI-Powered Platform: iSAT

- **Intelligent Systems Advisory Tool (iSAT)** lies at the heart of the project.
- Originally developed under **Monsoon Mission II**, iSAT is now being **upgraded with AI and machine learning (ML)** to deliver **hyper-local and personalised climate advisories**.
- It integrates:
 - **Real-time weather forecasts**
 - **Crop growth models**
 - **Pest/disease forecasts**
 - **Machine learning-based predictive analytics**



(Source:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Aug/01/icrisat-launches-ai-powered-climate-advisory-initiative-to-boost-farming-3>)

2. Real-Time & Personalised Recommendations

- The system will offer actionable advice on:
 - **Sowing dates**
 - **Irrigation scheduling**
 - **Pest and disease management**
- This will enable **climate-informed decision-making** at the **farm-level**,

especially for **smallholder farmers**.

3. Accessible Digital Channels

- To ensure outreach to even remote areas, advisories will be disseminated via:
 - AI-powered WhatsApp bots
 - Digital dashboards
 - Local language support systems

Implementation Strategy

Pilot Launch in Maharashtra

- The project will first be implemented through ICAR's **Agro-Meteorological Field Units (AMFUs)** in Maharashtra.
- Focus is on **small and marginal farmers**, who are most vulnerable to climate variability.
- Based on pilot results, the system is expected to **scale up nationally** and influence **climate-adaptive agriculture policies** across the Global South.

Support from Monsoon Mission III

- The initiative is part of the **Ministry of Earth Sciences' Monsoon Mission III**, which aims to:
 - Enhance India's climate forecasting capabilities.
 - Bridge the **last-mile gap** between weather data and farm-level actions.

Collaborations and Institutional Support

ICRISAT-Kaveri University MoU

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between ICRISAT and **Kaveri University**.
- The MoU focuses on:
 - **Joint research**
 - **Technology development**
 - **Student exchange**
 - **Capacity building in climate-resilient agriculture**

Role of IMD

- **Dr Shivananda Pai**, Head of the Agromet Division at the **India**

Meteorological Department (IMD), emphasized the initiative's role in **bridging the last-mile delivery gap** of weather services for farmers.

Integration with MausamGPT

- iSAT will feed **foundational data and insights** into **MausamGPT**, a next-generation AI model being developed to enhance India's climate communication tools.

Significance and Broader Implications

For Indian Agriculture

- Provides **evidence-based climate-smart farming** practices tailored to **micro-climatic zones**.
- Empowers farmers with **precise, timely, and actionable advice**.
- Reduces climate-related crop losses and enhances **resilience to erratic monsoons**.

For Policy and Research

- Sets a **replicable model** for other developing countries with similar agro-climatic conditions.
- Supports **Digital India** and **AI in Agriculture** missions.
- Builds convergence between research institutions, universities, and government agencies.

For Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Aligns with:
 - **SDG 2 - Zero Hunger**
 - **SDG 13 - Climate Action**
 - **SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals**

Conclusion

- The launch of the **AI-powered agromet advisory platform** marks a critical step toward transforming Indian agriculture into a **climate-resilient system**.
- By integrating real-time data, advanced AI tools, and grassroots accessibility, the initiative promises to empower millions

of farmers with knowledge that is **location-specific, timely, and scientifically validated.**

- If scaled effectively, it can revolutionize climate risk management not only in India but across the **Global South.**

Telangana government sends 42% BC quota ordinance to President

Source: Times of India

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/telangana-guv-sends-42-bc-quota-ordinance-to-president/articleshow/123028609.cms>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Polity and Governance

Context: Telangana's Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance

Why in News

The Telangana government's Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024, proposing 42% reservation for Backward Classes (BCs) in local bodies.

Introduction

- The Telangana government has proposed an increase in reservation for Backward Classes (BCs) to 42% in local bodies through the **Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024.**
- This move challenges the established **50% ceiling on reservations** laid down by the Supreme Court.
- The Governor of Telangana, Jishnu Dev Varma, has forwarded the ordinance to the **President of India** for final decision, making it a key constitutional issue at the intersection of federalism, social justice, and electoral governance.

Key Developments:

- The Congress-led Telangana government submitted the ordinance on **July 14, 2024**, to increase BC reservations

in local bodies to 42%, based on a recent caste census.

- The Governor sent the ordinance to the President of India, citing legal and constitutional concerns.
- The **High Court of Telangana** has mandated that **local body elections must be completed by September 30**, putting pressure on both the State and Centre for timely resolution.
- If approved, total reservation in Telangana would rise to 77%, including:
 - 15% for Scheduled Castes (SCs)
 - 10% for Scheduled Tribes (STs)
 - 42% for Backward Classes (BCs)
 - 10% for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)

(Source: [https://thecsrjournal.in/telangana-](https://thecsrjournal.in/telangana-cabinet-decides-implement-reservation-backward-classes/)



[cabinet-decides-implement-reservation-backward-classes/](https://thecsrjournal.in/telangana-cabinet-decides-implement-reservation-backward-classes/))

Legal and Constitutional Issues:

- **Indra Sawhney Case (1992):** The Supreme Court capped reservations at 50%, stating that any breach must be justified by extraordinary circumstances and backed by empirical data. Telangana claims extraordinary circumstances based on its statewide caste census.
- **Section 285A of the Telangana Panchayat Raj Act, 2018:** This section outlines reservation norms for village panchayats, mandal parishads, and zilla parishads. The amendment seeks to override the 50% reservation cap in these

bodies by changing the legal basis to population data.

Governor's Justification for Presidential Reference:

- Legal uncertainty over the state's power to amend reservation limits unilaterally.
- Conflict with the Supreme Court's 50% ceiling principle.
- The presence of two pending BC reservation bills (related to education and employment) awaiting Presidential assent.

Governance Implications:

Local body elections have not been held for over 18 months, resulting in:

- Absence of elected representatives such as sarpanches and zilla parishad members.
- Frozen development funds – over ₹1,600 crore in Finance Commission grants remain unutilized.
- Disruption of grassroots governance and stalled rural development works.

State Government's Political Stand:

- The Telangana government has declared that if no decision is received by August 15, it may proceed with 42% BC reservation in elections regardless.
- A political mobilisation campaign is planned in Delhi from August 5-7 to press for Central approval.
- The move aligns with the Congress party's broader political narrative of social justice and empowerment of Backward Classes, especially in the run-up to future elections.

Wider Ramifications:

- **Federalism:** Raises questions about the limits of state power in modifying reservation policy, especially in constitutionally sensitive areas.

- **Judicial Precedent vs. Social Justice:** Highlights the conflict between the judiciary's 50% ceiling and the states' attempts to reflect actual caste-based demographics through legislation.
- **Caste Census and Data-Driven Policy:** Telangana has used empirical caste census data to justify its push – marking a shift from normative reservation to data-backed affirmative action.
- **Precedents from Other States:** Tamil Nadu has 69% reservation under its Ninth Schedule protection, though that too has faced legal challenges. Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh have also attempted higher reservation quotas citing similar "extraordinary circumstances."

Conclusion:

The Telangana Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance is a test case for the future of reservation politics in India. It brings into sharp focus:

- The tension between constitutional caps and state-level aspirations.
- The role of empirical caste data in shaping affirmative action.
- The need for legal clarity on whether states can exceed reservation limits in local bodies.
- The importance of balancing social justice with constitutional integrity.

The President's decision on the ordinance will likely have nationwide implications, not only for local governance in Telangana but also for the future trajectory of reservation policy across India.

Telangana Sports Policy - 2025

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Aug/03/telangana-liberates->

[sports-from-political-interference-with-its-new-policy](#)

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Sports

Context: Telangana Sports Policy 2025

Why in News

The Telangana government launched the Telangana Sports Policy 2025 to promote sports through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.

Introduction

- In a significant move to revamp the sports ecosystem in Telangana, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy unveiled the **Telangana Sports Policy 2025** at the first edition of the Sports Conclave held in Hyderabad.
- The policy is aimed at reducing political interference in sports and promoting a professional, merit-based system for athlete development and infrastructure management.

Key Highlights of the Telangana Sports Policy 2025:

1. Adoption of PPP Model

- To ensure transparency and efficiency, the government plans to implement the policy through a **Public-Private Partnership (PPP)** model.
- A **Sports Board** comprising **former sportspersons and experts** will oversee the policy's execution, marking a departure from political control.

2. Revival of Neglected Sports Infrastructure

- CM Revanth Reddy criticised the previous BRS regime for allowing sports infrastructure to decay.
- Stadiums, he said, had been reduced to venues for **private functions and parties**. The new policy seeks to **restore and upgrade stadiums and training facilities** across the state.



(Source:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/te/langana/2025/Aug/03/telangana-liberates-sports-from-political-interference-with-its-new-policy>)

3. Hosting Major Sporting Events

- Highlighting India's aspirations to host the **2036 Olympics**, the CM emphasised the need for **world-class athletes** to match the ambition.
- Telangana has formally urged the Centre to allow Hyderabad to host the **Khelo India Games 2026** and two Olympic disciplines in the future.

4. Creation of Young India Sports University

- A dedicated **sports university** will be established to provide **certification courses, academic research, and training** in sports sciences.
- Telangana has also signed an **MoU with South Korean Sports University** for training sports coaches to international standards.

5. Support to Sportspersons and Incentives

- Revanth Reddy underlined the state's commitment to rewarding excellence in sports.
- Examples such as **Nikhath Zareen, Mohammed Siraj, and para-athlete Deepthi** were cited, who have received **cash rewards and government jobs**.
- The policy also ensures that education is not compromised for sportspersons.

6. Sports in Telangana Rising 2047 Vision

- A separate section dedicated to **sports development** will be included in the **Telangana Rising 2047** long-term vision document.
- This will help integrate sports as a key pillar of the state's growth agenda.

7. Social Reforms through Sports

- The CM highlighted the **social significance of sports** in shaping youth.
- He noted that **engaging students in sports** can divert them from harmful activities and instill discipline, especially among those from affluent backgrounds prone to vices due to lack of direction.

Telangana's Rich Sporting Legacy

- Revanth Reddy recalled Hyderabad's illustrious past, noting that it hosted the **National Games in 2002**, **Commonwealth Games in 2003**, and the **World Military Games in 2007**.
- He also reminded that **nine players from Hyderabad represented India in the 1956 Olympic football team**, and celebrated modern stars like **Md Azharuddin**, **VVS Laxman**, and boxer **Nikhat Zareen**.

Conclusion:

- The **Telangana Sports Policy 2025** marks a bold and reformist step in transforming the state into a **national sporting hub**.
- With emphasis on infrastructure, talent development, international collaboration, and holistic youth engagement, the policy reflects a visionary approach to sports as a driver of **social change, health, and international prestige**.

Hyderabad-Vijayawada greenfield highway

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/teelangana/2025/Aug/04/teelangana-to-build-hyderabad-vijayawada-greenfield-highway-will-cut-travel-time-to-two-hours>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Infrastructure

Context: Hyderabad-Vijayawada greenfield

Why in News

Telangana has announced major infrastructure and healthcare projects, including a Greenfield Highway between Hyderabad and Vijayawada.

Introduction

- The Telangana government has unveiled an ambitious infrastructure development agenda aimed at enhancing connectivity, decongesting urban transport, and improving public healthcare services.
- State Roads and Buildings Minister **Komatireddy Venkat Reddy** recently announced a series of key initiatives, including the construction of a **Greenfield Highway between Hyderabad and Vijayawada**, progress on **long-pending urban flyovers**, and the **expansion of the Metro Rail network**.

Greenfield Highway Project

- A major highlight is the proposed **Hyderabad-Vijayawada Greenfield Highway**, which aims to reduce travel time between the two major cities to just two hours.
- The project will be executed under the **Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM)**—a public-private partnership model being increasingly adopted for road development in the state.
- The **Rs 2,300 crore Gauravelli-**

Valigonda-Bhadrachalam Greenfield Highway is already under construction in its Valigonda-Thorrur segment, while tenders for the Thorrur-Bhadrachalam stretch are in process.

- A parallel **Rs 375 crore road project from Andole Maisamma to Vijayawada** is also progressing rapidly.



(Source:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/te/langana/2025/Aug/04/telangana-to-build-hyderabad-vijayawada-greenfield-highway-will-cut-travel-time-to-two-hours>)

Elevated Corridor and Urban Mobility

- To alleviate urban traffic congestion, especially in **Hyderabad's eastern corridor**, the state government has proposed a **six-kilometre elevated corridor** between **LB Nagar and Pedda Amberpet**, at an estimated cost of **Rs 650 crore**.
- This corridor will integrate with the **Outer Ring Road (ORR)** and facilitate faster movement between **LB Nagar, Hayathnagar, and Pedda Amberpet**.
- The minister also recalled securing **Rs 541 crore for the LB Nagar-Malkapur road** during his tenure as a Member of Parliament and assured completion of all pending infrastructure works.
- In addition, **four vehicle underpasses** have already been completed along this route, further enhancing last-mile connectivity.

Regional Transport: Metro Rail Phase-II and Regional Ring Railway

- Minister revealed that he has been assigned the responsibility of securing **Central government permissions for Metro Rail Phase-II**.
- He, along with **Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy**, plans to meet **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari** and **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, along with **Telangana MPs**, to push for:
 - Metro Phase-II approvals
 - Funding for the proposed **Regional Ring Railway**
 - Strengthening **Central-State coordination** for **infrastructure projects**

Road Safety Measures

- The state has identified **17 accident-prone black spots**, which will be addressed with priority interventions.
- This includes the installation of road safety mechanisms and better traffic engineering to prevent road fatalities.

Public Healthcare Infrastructure

- In a significant boost to healthcare, the minister announced that the **super-specialty TIMS Hospital at Sanathnagar** will be inaugurated in **September 2025**.
- Similar hospitals are under construction across Hyderabad to provide **corporate-level medical services** through the public sector, marking a shift towards **accessible and high-quality public healthcare**.

Political Remarks and BC Reservation Issue

- Taking a political stance, Venkat Reddy criticized **BRS MLC K. Kavitha** for her alleged inaction on the issue of **Backward Class (BC) reservations** during the previous BRS government's

tenure.

- He emphasized that the current Congress government has passed a resolution supporting BC reservations and forwarded it to the Centre for consideration.

Telangana skaters win historic gold at Asian Roller-Skating Championship

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/telangana-skaters-win-historic-gold-at-asian-roller-skating-championship>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Sports

Context: Asian Roller-Skating Championship

Why in News

Telangana skaters created history by winning India's first-ever gold in the show group event at the 2025 Asian Roller-Skating Championship in South Korea.

Introduction

- India achieved a **historic milestone in roller skating** at the Asian Roller-Skating Championship held in Jecheon, South Korea, with Telangana skaters playing a pivotal role in securing the **nation's first-ever gold medal in the prestigious show group category**.

Key Highlights of the Achievement

Historic First Gold in Show Group Event

- India won its **first-ever gold medal in the 'show group' category** – a team performance event.
- **Nine of the team members hailed from Telangana**, marking a significant moment in the State's sports history.

Overall, Medal Tally

- India finished with a **total of 16 medals**:
 - 9 Gold

- 6 Silver
- 1 Bronze

- This result helped India **top the medals table** at the championship – a rare and commendable feat in international roller skating.



(Source:

<https://telanganatoday.com/telangana-skaters-win-historic-gold-at-asian-roller-skating-championship>)

Role of Telangana and Yama Skating Academy

- The **Telangana Roller Skating Association** expressed pride in the team's performance, calling it a **glorious moment for the State and the country**.
- Most of the medal winners, **except two skaters**, were trained at the **Yama Skating Academy** in Hyderabad.
- The team was coached by **Anup Kumar Yama**, India's only World Champion gold medalist in roller skating and recipient of the **Arjuna Award**.

Rigorous Training and Selection Path

- Skaters were selected after **multiple levels of competition** – district, state, national, and then Asian-level selection rounds.
- Over the past **two years**, they underwent **rigorous training camps across India**.
- According to coach Anup Kumar Yama, their success was driven by **grit, passion, and discipline**.

List of Telangana Medal Winners

Name	Category & Events
Shriya Murali	Show group (Gold), Quartet (Silver), Couple dance (Bronze)
Padiga Tejesh	Show group (Gold), Pair skating (Silver), Quartet (Silver)
Yenduru Akanksha	Show group (Gold)
Anupoze Kanthi Sree	Show group (Gold), Solo dancing (Silver)
Jia Jayesh Patel	Show group (Gold)
Chalam Charla Juhit	Show group (Gold)
Rakshith Murali	Show group (Gold)
Yenduru Sanchit	Show group (Gold)
P. Prateek	Show group (Gold)
Makhan Saurav Singh	Roller hoop (Silver)
Kavyasri Rathikrinda	Inline hockey (Silver, Junior category)

Significance

1. Boost to Roller Skating in India

- The win marks a turning point in India's visibility and dominance in **roller skating**, a relatively underrepresented sport on the global stage.

2. Telangana as a Sports Hub

- Reinforces Telangana's emerging reputation as a **nurturing ground for excellence in sports**.

3. Youth Inspiration and National Pride

- The achievement is likely to **inspire young athletes** and draw more interest in skating and similar non-mainstream sports.
- Highlights the **value of dedicated sports academies** like Yama Academy in grassroots development.

Conclusion

- The remarkable performance of Telangana skaters at the Asian Roller-Skating Championship 2025 underscores the **potential of Indian athletes in international arenas** when backed by **systematic training, institutional support, and visionary leadership**.

Telangana Water Board to scale up robotic inspection of pipelines

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Aug/05/telangana-water-board-to-scale-up-robotic-inspection-of-pipelines>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: HMWSSB's Tech-led Initiative

Why in News

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) has adopted robotic and AI-enabled pipeline inspection to improve leak detection, pollution control, and service delivery across its water distribution network.

Introduction

- To enhance service delivery and reduce response time in addressing urban water infrastructure issues, HMWSSB is scaling up robotic pipeline inspections supported by AI dashboards and GIS integration in Hyderabad.

Introduction

- Urban water infrastructure in Indian cities is under increasing strain due to population growth, ageing pipelines, and unplanned settlements.
- In Hyderabad, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) is addressing these challenges by adopting **robotic fault detection systems** and **AI-powered monitoring tools** to detect and

respond to **leakages, blockages, and contamination** in the water supply network.

Background: Problems in the Existing System

- **High Complaint Volume:** HMWSSB receives **450-500 water pollution complaints daily**, especially from **slum areas**, where narrow lanes and deteriorating pipelines pose operational challenges.
- **Annual Maintenance System (AMS):** Though implemented earlier to streamline repairs, it proved insufficient due to **technical limitations** and lack of real-time fault detection.
- **Need for Modernisation:** To ensure efficient asset management and timely resolution, a technology upgrade was necessary.



(Source: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/te/langana/2025/Aug/05/telangana-water-board-to-scale-up-robotic-inspection-of-pipelines>)

Key Features of the Robotic Inspection and AI Monitoring Project

Feature	Description
Robotic Inspection	Robots and non-motorised camera systems to inspect pipelines of 70 mm to 900

	mm diameter
AI Dashboard	Real-time dashboard enabled with Artificial Intelligence (AI) for asset mapping, fault detection, and decision support
External Operation	Robotic systems to be operated by external agency on a hire basis
End-to-End Management	HMWSSB will manage robotic inspection, data analysis, geo-tagging, and cloud upload
Specialised Teams	3 teams to cover 3-5 sites/day using robotic crawlers and camera systems
Inspection Scope	Leakages, blockages, sedimentation, illegal connections, and structural damage
GIS Integration	Findings will be synced with Geographic Information System (GIS) of HMWSSB for real-time spatial decision-making

Technological Infrastructure

- **Field Equipment:**
 - **3 non-motorised camera systems** for narrow pipelines
 - **3 small robotic crawlers** for flexible inspections
 - **1 large high-resolution robot** for wide-diameter pipelines
- **Cloud-Based System:**
 - Upload and storage of **videos, images, and sensor data**
 - Seamless **integration with AI and GIS platforms**

Benefits of the Initiative

Dimension	Impact
Operational Efficiency	Faster fault detection and resolution, reducing water loss and service downtime
Data-driven Governance	Real-time monitoring and planning using cloud dashboards and GIS maps
Cost-effectiveness	Preventive maintenance reduces future repair costs
Equity and Access	Improved service in vulnerable areas like slums where manual access is limited
Public Health	Early detection of contamination improves safety of drinking water supply

Challenges and Considerations

- **High Initial Investment:** Cost of robots, cloud infrastructure, and external agency services.
- **Capacity Building:** Need for training internal teams to work with AI-integrated dashboards and robotic systems.
- **Data Security and Maintenance:** Ensuring integrity, privacy, and long-term maintenance of sensor and inspection data.

Conclusion

- HMWSSB’s adoption of robotic and AI-enabled inspection marks a **transformative step** in urban infrastructure management.
- It reflects a **forward-looking governance model** that combines **technology, real-time data, and targeted service delivery** to address long-standing issues in public utilities.
- As Indian cities grapple with ageing

infrastructure and rising demand, such innovations can serve as **scalable models for smart urban water governance.**

Chikungunya cases surge in Telangana; Centre and State report contradictory figures

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/te-langana/chikungunya-cases-surge-in-telangana-centre-and-state-report-contradictory-figures/article69897342.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Diseases

Context: Chikungunya Spike in Telangana

Why in News

Telangana has disputed the Union Government’s report of a ninefold rise in chikungunya cases in early 2025, citing discrepancies in disease surveillance data shared in Parliament.

Introduction

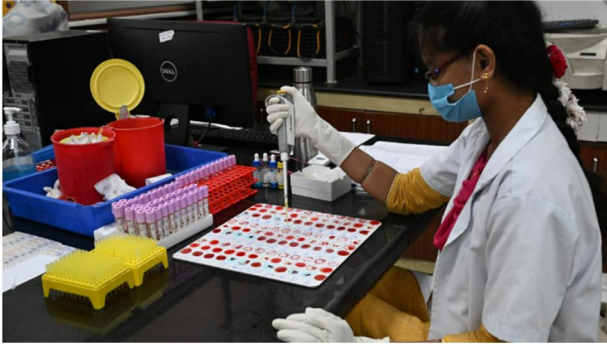
- In a recent development, a sharp rise in **chikungunya cases in Telangana** has triggered debate between the **Union Government and the State Health Department** over the accuracy of reported figures for the first half of 2025.
- The issue underscores the growing public health challenge posed by **vector-borne diseases** during the monsoon season and highlights discrepancies in disease surveillance data across administrative levels.

Key Issue: Rise in Chikungunya Cases

- According to information presented in the **Lok Sabha on July 25, 2025**, by **Anupriya Patel**, the **Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare**, Telangana recorded **1,588 chikungunya cases** between **January and June 2025** – a **ninefold increase** from 170 cases during

the same period in 2024.

- The data was part of the Centre's broader response to a parliamentary question on the status of **vector-borne diseases** across States and Union Territories.



(Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/chikungunya-cases-surge-in-telangana-centre-and-state-report-contradictory-figures/article69897342.ece>)

State Government's Rebuttal

- The **Telangana Directorate of Public Health (DPH)** has **contested** the figures released by the Centre:
- **Dr. Amar Singh Naik**, Additional Director, DPH, stated that only **240 cases** had been recorded by June 2025.
- The State maintains that these cases have been **effectively managed**, and that **active monitoring** and **prevention measures** have kept the situation under control.
- The DPH claimed the figures shared in the Parliament were **inaccurate and inconsistent** with the State's official surveillance records.

Reason for Data Discrepancy

The Centre attributed the rise in reported cases in 2025 to:

- **Enhanced surveillance mechanisms**
- **Improved reporting systems**, particularly through the **Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP)** –

a **paperless digital surveillance system** that allows real-time reporting from the ground level.

This suggests that better reporting may have led to the **detection of more cases**, rather than an actual surge in infections, although the State government disputes even this interpretation.

Centre's Preventive Measures and Support

To combat seasonal outbreaks of vector-borne diseases, the Union Health Ministry outlined several proactive measures taken under the **National Health Mission (NHM)**:

- **Intensified surveillance** for early detection
- **Anti-larval operations** in mosquito breeding hotspots
- **Community-level awareness campaigns**
- **Distribution of diagnostic kits and treatment materials**
- **Financial support** to States for disease control and management activities
- Telangana, like other States, has received assistance under this national framework.

Telangana's Kaleshwaram project and controversy around it

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/what-is-telanganas-kaleshwaram-project-what-is-the-controversy-around-it-explained/article69900726.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Infrastructure

Context: Kaleshwaram project

Why in News

Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project, once hailed as Telangana's lifeline, is under scrutiny for structural failures and alleged financial and administrative irregularities, now probed by a judicial commission.

Introduction

- The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP), once described as the *lifeline of Telangana*, has come under intense public and political scrutiny after structural failures in key components and the findings of a judicial inquiry commission.
- The issue has triggered a significant political debate on governance, public finance, environmental management, and accountability in large infrastructure projects.

What is the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP)?

- **Location:** On the Godavari River at Kaleshwaram in Bhupalpally district, Telangana.
- **Type:** Multi-purpose lift irrigation project.
- **Claim to Fame:** Marketed as the world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation project by the previous BRS government.
- **Irrigation Reach:** Aims to provide water to over 16 lakh acres in 13 districts.
- **Infrastructure:** More than 1,800 km canal network with barrages and pump houses.



(Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/what-is-telanganas-kaleshwaram-project-what-is-the-controversy-around-it-explained/article69900726.ece>)

Objectives of the Project

- **Irrigation:** Store and distribute 240 TMC ft of Godavari water.
 - 169 TMC ft – irrigation
 - 30 TMC ft – drinking water to Hyderabad
 - 16 TMC ft – industrial and miscellaneous uses
 - 10 TMC ft – rural drinking water
- **Other Benefits:**
 - Stabilisation of existing ayacut (irrigated area)
 - Ensure drought-proofing and water security

Components and Construction

- **Key Barrages:** Constructed at Medigadda, Annaram, Sundilla, and Ramadugu across the Godavari.
- **Pumping Infrastructure:** Massive lift mechanisms to move water to higher altitudes for distribution.
- **Original Cost Estimate:** ₹71,000 crore
- **Revised Estimate:** Over ₹1 lakh crore (and increasing)

Controversies and Allegations

1. Site Shifting Without Transparency

- The project site was shifted from Tummidihatti to Medigadda, allegedly ignoring hydrology approvals already given to the former.
- **Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose Commission** found that Tummidihatti had over 200 TMC ft of water availability, contrary to claims made to justify the shift.

2. Permeable Foundations of Barrages

- The **Sundilla barrage piers sank** within a few years of construction, revealing that barrages were built on **permeable soils**.
- Other barrages, like **Annaram** and

Medigadda, also developed cracks, raising questions about **technical design and safety**.

3. Financial Irregularities and Unilateral Decisions

- The decision to begin project execution allegedly **bypassed the Cabinet**, with then CM K. Chandrasekhar Rao accused of acting unilaterally.
- The **Pranahita Chevella Sujala Sravanti Project (PCSS)** initiated in 2008 at Tummidihatti was 30% complete and cost ₹11,000 crore before being abandoned.

4. Indifference in Financial Oversight

- Former Finance Minister Eatala Rajender was criticized for releasing funds with a "**negligent and indifferent attitude**".
- Inquiry points to lack of **institutional scrutiny** and haste in execution driven by political motivations.

Inquiry by Judicial Commission

- The **Congress Government** under CM A. Revanth Reddy formed a **one-man judicial commission** led by **Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose**, fulfilling an election promise.
- The Commission:
 - Examined over **110 witnesses**
 - Included statements from former CM KCR, former Irrigation Minister T. Harish Rao, and former Finance Minister Eatala Rajender
- Findings revealed:
 - **Technical flaws**
 - **Site selection errors**
 - **Failure to heed expert advice**

Government Response and Future Action

- The Telangana government received the commission's report on **July 31, 2025**.
- The report is scheduled for **discussion in**

the Monsoon Session of the state legislature.

- The government plans to **disclose the report publicly**, take political inputs, and chart a **future course of action**, which may include legal or corrective measures.

Response from the BRS

- The BRS has defended the project:
 - Claims **approval from statutory bodies** including the **Central Water Commission (CWC)**.
 - Former CM KCR made a **PowerPoint presentation** in the Assembly highlighting project benefits.
 - The BRS alleges the current government is **suppressing documents** proving the project had Cabinet and Assembly clearance.

Significance for Governance and Policy

- KLIP serves as a cautionary tale for **large-scale infrastructure governance**:
 - **Transparency** in project planning
 - **Hydrological and environmental due diligence**
 - **Financial accountability**
 - **Legal oversight and political checks**

Conclusion

- The KLIP saga underscores the need for **evidence-based policy decisions, institutional checks and balances, and public scrutiny** in executing mega infrastructure projects.
- It also illustrates how **political ambitions**, when not aligned with **technical expertise and public interest**, can lead to colossal waste of resources, long-term liabilities, and erosion of public trust.

Hyderabad swimmer Havya D shines in National Finswimming Championship 2025

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/hyderabad-swimmer-havya-d-shines-in-national-finswimming-championship-2025>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Sports

Context: National Finswimming Championship 2025

Why in News

Telangana has disputed the Union Government's report of a ninefold rise in chikungunya cases in early 2025, citing discrepancies in disease surveillance data shared in Parliament.

Introduction

- Eleven-year-old Havya, a swimmer from Hyderabad, has emerged as a rising star in national aquatic sports by winning six medals at the 8th National Fin Swimming Championship 2025.
- The event was held in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh, and witnessed participation from athletes representing 15 countries, making it a significant platform for young and emerging athletes in the sport of fin swimming.

Medal Tally and Events:

- Havya secured a total of six medals, including:
 - **Three gold medals** in:
 - 100-meter monofin
 - 50-meter monofin
 - 100-meter bi-fins
 - **Three silver medals** in:
 - 50-meter bi-fins
 - 200-meter bi-fins
 - 4x50-meter mixed relay

These achievements underline her versatility in both monofin and bi-fins events, which are core

categories in the discipline of fin swimming. Monofin events involve the use of a single large fin worn on both feet, while bi-fins events use individual fins on each foot, demanding different techniques and training regimens.



(Source:

<https://telanganatoday.com/hyderabad-swimmer-havya-d-shines-in-national-finswimming-championship-2025>)

Athlete Profile:

- **Name:** Havya
- **Age:** 11 years
- **Hometown:** Hyderabad, Telangana
- **Training Club:** Blue Dolphin Swimming Club
- **Coach:** Dinesh Rajoria
- **Performance History:** She has consistently performed well at state and national level competitions in recent years.
- Havya's early achievements are a reflection of disciplined training, access to quality coaching, and institutional support at the grassroots level.

About the Championship:

- **Name of the Event:** 8th National Fin Swimming Championship - 2025
- **Location:** Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh
- **Duration:** Three-day event
- **International Participation:** Athletes from 15 countries
- This event is part of India's broader efforts to promote aquatic sports beyond

traditional swimming, and to encourage participation in emerging competitive disciplines such as fin swimming.

Conclusion:

- Havya's achievement is not just a personal milestone but also a reflection of the growing capacity of India's sports training ecosystem to nurture young talent.
- Her success underscores the value of institutional support, grassroots-level engagement, and the potential for excellence in non-mainstream sports.
- With continued investment in training infrastructure, talent scouting, and mentorship, India can enhance its representation in global sporting platforms, and stories like Havya's serve as strong motivators for future athletes.

Uncovering ancient rock art and forgotten histories of Telangana villages

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/how-villages-in-telangana-are-uncovering-10000-year-old-rock-art-and-forgotten-histories/article69830881.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Ancient History

Context: Kotha Telangana Charithra Brundam (KTCB)

Why in News

Kotha Telangana Charithra Brundam (KTCB) is a grassroots volunteer collective in Telangana documenting and preserving archaeological and cultural heritage through community participation.

Introduction

- Telangana is witnessing a **quiet revolution in historical storytelling** through the grassroots initiative **Kotha Telangana Charithra Brundam (KTCB)**, meaning "New History Group of

Telangana".

- Comprising **125 volunteers** from diverse professions – farmers, teachers, students, professionals – the group is dedicated to **locating, documenting, and preserving archaeological and cultural heritage** across the state.

Origins and Evolution

- **Founder:** *Sriramoju Hargopal*, retired Telugu teacher, inspired by local folklore and history narrated by his grandfather.
- In **1999**, while teaching in a government school, Hargopal partnered with historian **Viruvanti Gopalakrishna** (now 90 years old) to document temples, inscriptions, and prehistoric sites.
- Over time, their passion evolved into **KTCB**, which expanded after Hargopal's retirement in **2013** into a state-wide volunteer network.
- The group is informal (not legally registered) but sustained by members' contributions.



(Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/society/history-and-culture/how-villages-in-telangana-are-uncovering-10000-year-old-rock-art-and-forgotten-histories/article69830881.ece>)

Operational Methodology

- **Discovery:** Villagers spotting unusual artefacts – **ancient sculptures, inscriptions, or structural remains** – share images/videos on the group's

WhatsApp channel.

- **Verification:** Hargopal and team assess the material, often consulting experts such as archaeologists **Emani Sivanagi Reddy** and **Damaraju Surya Kumar**.
- **Field Study:** Teams visit the site with **mapping paper, colour scales, and necessary permissions**. They connect with local guides for navigation and safety (especially in forested/wildlife areas).
- **Documentation:** Findings are **photographed, mapped, and studied** in collaboration with bodies like the **Rock Art Society of India (RASI)** or numismatists.
- **Preservation Ethics:** Strong adherence to the **"in situ" principle** – artefacts remain at their original location; only minimal rock tools are removed for study.

Major Discoveries

- **26-foot menhir** at Appaji Peta, Nalgonda.
- **Buddhist Stupa** from the **6th century BCE**.
- **Neolithic beads, Satavahana-era terracotta pots and statues** discovered in Nanganoor, Siddipet.
- **Rock engravings** estimated to be **10,000 years old**.
- **Ardhanareeshwara sculpture** at Devunigutta, Kothuru.
- Fossils in Kerameri.

Awareness and Outreach

- **Monthly virtual meetings** on YouTube with 30–90 participants.
- Short heritage videos and field stories on their YouTube channel.
- Papers presented at **national seminars** organised by RASI and publications in their journals.

- College students often involved in field visits to cultivate historical awareness.

Challenges Identified by KTCB

1. **Vandalism** – Ancient rock art defaced with graffiti.
2. **Urbanisation Pressure** – Destruction of historical buildings due to unregulated real estate growth.
3. **Community Disengagement** – Villagers often question the benefits of preservation, affecting local support.
4. **Documentation Gaps** – Many village histories risk being lost without systematic efforts.

Significance of the Initiative**Cultural Significance**

- Helps uncover **hidden local histories** from Telangana's 5,000 villages.
- Integrates **oral traditions** with archaeological evidence.

Academic Value

- Adds primary data for **archaeology, anthropology, and epigraphy**.
- Supports **localised historical narratives** in academic research.

Social Impact

- Fosters **community ownership** of heritage.
- Encourages **inter-generational knowledge transfer**.

Policy Relevance

- Complements state and national efforts in **heritage preservation** under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.
- Aligns with **UNESCO's emphasis on community-based cultural heritage management**.

Forward Linkages

- Potential collaboration with **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** and **State Archaeology Department** for

conservation projects.

- Can be integrated into **heritage tourism circuits** to generate local economic benefits.
- Supports **National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities** for systematic digitisation of heritage records.

Backward Linkages

- Builds upon Telangana's **local folklore traditions** and earlier regional archaeological surveys.
- Leverages **social media platforms** for grassroots mobilisation.

Conclusion

- The **Kotha Telangana Charithra Brundam** exemplifies **citizen-led heritage preservation**, blending **modern communication tools** with deep local engagement.
- While challenges like vandalism and urban encroachment persist, such initiatives can act as **first responders** in heritage conservation, especially in areas where formal archaeological presence is limited.
- If scaled and supported by policy frameworks, KTCB's model could be replicated across India, ensuring that **the nation's historical memory is preserved both in artefacts and in collective consciousness**.

eSanjeevani crosses 2 crore consultations in Telangana

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/teelangana/2025/Aug/07/esanjeevani-crosses-2-crore-consultations-in-telangana-boosts-rural-healthcare-access>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: eSanjeevani

Why in News

The government-run **eSanjeevani telemedicine programme** in Telangana has provided over **2 crore remote consultations** since inception.

Introduction

- The **eSanjeevani** programme, a flagship digital health initiative of the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)**, has emerged as a critical tool in bridging healthcare access gaps in Telangana.
- It delivers **free, government-run teleconsultations** to patients in both rural and urban areas, ensuring timely diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up care without the need for physical hospital visits.

Evolution of the Programme

Year	Milestone
2018	Launch of specialist consultations under eSanjeevani.
2022	Expansion to general consultations .
2022–2025	Rapid scale-up across Telangana, integrating multiple tiers of healthcare institutions.

Performance Statistics (April 2022 - June 2025)

- **Total patients served in Telangana since inception:** Over 2 crore (20 million).
- **General consultations:** 2,52,36,473 calls.
- **Specialist consultations:** 17,68,432 calls.
- This high uptake reflects strong acceptance by both patients and healthcare providers.



(Source:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/te/langana/2025/Aug/07/esanjeevani-crosses-2-crore-consultations-in-telangana-boosts-rural-healthcare-access>)

Technology & Accessibility

- **Platform:** Web-based and **Android application.**
- **Key Features:**
 - **E-prescriptions** downloadable by patients.
 - **Electronic Health Records (EHRs)** for continuity of care.
 - Remote consultations across specialties.
 - **Patient Convenience:** Reduces travel costs, waiting times, and enables follow-up from home.

Operational Model - Hub and Spokes

The programme operates through a **multi-tiered Hub & Spokes Model:**

- **Ayushman Arogya Mandir Sub-Centres (AAM-SCs)** - *Spokes* for general consultations.
- **Primary Health Centres (PHCs)** - *Hubs* for sub-centres and *spokes* for specialist consultations.
- **District/Area Hospitals** - Hubs at the district level.
- **Tertiary Hospitals** - **Specialty hubs** for advanced consultations.

This hierarchical model ensures:

- **Bottom-up connectivity** for rural outreach.
- Efficient referral mechanisms.
- Rational use of specialist resources.

Specialty Coverage in Telangana

- **Specialty hubs:** 77.
- **Specialist doctors:** 1,000 across **200 specialties.**
- **Key specializations:**
 - General Medicine
 - Obstetrics & Gynaecology
 - Paediatrics
 - Orthopaedics
 - ENT
 - Dermatology
 - Psychiatry
 - Cardiology
 - Oncology
- Others (nephrology, gastroenterology, endocrinology, etc.)

Significance for Telangana

- **Rural Healthcare Access** - Overcomes doctor shortages in remote areas.
- **Continuity of Care** - EHRs enable follow-ups and treatment tracking.
- **Reduced Burden on Tertiary Hospitals** - Primary and district hospitals handle non-critical cases locally.
- **Emergency Support** - Immediate virtual specialist advice during critical conditions.
- **Cost-Effective Public Health Delivery** - Reduces travel costs and out-of-pocket expenses.

National Context & Forward Linkages

- **Part of National Digital Health Mission (NDHM)** - Strengthens digital health ecosystem.
- **Alignment with Ayushman Bharat** - Complements physical infrastructure of Health and Wellness Centres.
- **Potential for AI Integration** - For

diagnostics, triaging, and preventive care alerts.

- **Scope for Expansion** – Integration with wearable health devices and mHealth applications.

Challenges

- **Digital Divide** – Limited internet access in some rural pockets.
- **Technological Literacy** – Elderly and non-tech-savvy populations need facilitation.
- **Doctor Availability** – Sustaining adequate numbers of specialists for teleconsultations.
- **Data Privacy & Security** – Ensuring compliance with health data protection norms.

Conclusion

- The eSanjeevani telemedicine programme in Telangana is a model for inclusive, technology-driven healthcare delivery in India.
- By effectively combining digital platforms, specialist networks, and hierarchical healthcare infrastructure, it demonstrates how telemedicine can make healthcare more accessible, affordable, and equitable, especially in underserved regions.

Nation's first animal stem cell biobank inaugurated at NIAB

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/te-langana/nations-first-animal-stem-cell-biobank-inaugurated-at-niab/article69913602.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Science and Technology

Context: National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB)

Why in News

India's first Animal Stem Cell Biobank was inaugurated at the National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB).



(Source:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/mos-unveils-new-biotech-innovations-opens-countrys-first-animal-stem-cell-biobank/articleshow/123209918.cms>)

Introduction

- **Union Minister of State for Science & Technology, Jitendra Singh** inaugurated India's first "Animal Stem Cell Biobank" at the **National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB)** in Hyderabad.
- NIAB is a premier institute under the **Department of Biotechnology's Biotechnology Research Innovation Council (BRIC)**.

About the Animal Stem Cell Biobank

- **Purpose:** To store and preserve **high-quality stem cells** from various animal species.
- **Partnership:** Developed in collaboration with **HiMedia Laboratories**.
- **Services Offered:**
 - Provide **quality-controlled animal stem cells**.
 - Supply **indigenous, cost-effective cell culture media**.
 - Beneficiaries include **veterinary clinics, research institutions,**

hospitals, and industry.

- **Significance:**
 - Supports **research** and **regenerative veterinary medicine**.
 - Enhances **disease modelling** and **drug testing** in animals.
 - Encourages **indigenous biotech solutions** in animal health.

Breakthrough Technologies Launched

Alongside the biobank, five field-ready, affordable diagnostic and health technologies were unveiled by NIAB:

- **BruDIVA** - Diagnostic test to distinguish between **brucellosis-infected** and **vaccinated** animals, aiding better disease tracking and control.
- **Udder Care** - Low-cost, field-friendly **early detection kit for mastitis**, a common udder infection in dairy cattle affecting milk yield and quality.
- **CureCheck** - Portable device for **rapid antibiotic sensitivity testing** in livestock infections like mastitis, giving results in **under two hours**.
- **Toxo Antibody Rapid Test** - On-the-spot test for **toxoplasmosis**, a parasitic disease-causing abortions and stillbirths in livestock, and also affecting humans.
- **RapiChex JE NS1 Test** - Rapid diagnostic kit for **Japanese Encephalitis**, a mosquito-borne viral disease impacting both humans and animals.

Importance for Farmers and Public Health

- **Boosts Livestock Productivity:** Early disease detection and treatment prevent productivity losses.
- **Supports Farmer Livelihoods:** Reduces veterinary costs and mortality in livestock.
- **Strengthens Zoonotic Disease Management:** Helps curb diseases

transmitted from animals to humans, which make up ~66% of **emerging infectious diseases globally**, including COVID-19.

Other Developments

- Foundation stone laid for a **new hostel and residential block** at NIAB to accommodate its growing scientific workforce.

Fluoride Contamination in 28 of 33 Telangana Districts: Report

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/28-out-of-33-districts-in-telangana-have-higher-concentration-of-fluoride-in-groundwater-report/article69914023.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Environment and Ecology

Context: National Ground Water Report 2024

Why in News

The National Ground Water Report 2024 shows that 263 of India's 722 districts have fluoride levels in groundwater above the permissible 1.5 mg/L, with overextraction being a major cause.

Introduction

- The Government of India's *National Ground Water Report 2024* has flagged a significant rise in **fluoride contamination** in Indian groundwater.
- Over **36% of districts** now have levels above the permissible limit of **1.5 mg/L**, posing serious public health and water management challenges.

Key Findings of the Report

Extent of Contamination

- **District-level spread:**
- **263 districts** out of **722** (36.4%) exceed 1.5 mg/L fluoride.
- **Increase since 2017:** From **207 districts** (2017) → **263 districts** (2023).

Most affected States by district count:

- Rajasthan – 31 districts.
- Telangana – 28 districts.

BIS Drinking Water Standards for Fluoride

- **Desirable limit:** 1.0 mg/L.
- **Permissible limit:** 1.5 mg/L (only when no alternative source exists).

Health Impacts

- **Mild excess (1.5–5 mg/L):** Dental fluorosis – staining/mottling of teeth.
- **Moderate excess (5–10 mg/L):** Skeletal fluorosis – stiffness of spine, restricted movement, joint pain.
- **Severe excess (>10 mg/L):** Pathological changes in bones, deformities, disability.
- **Note:** WHO also recommends a 1.5 mg/L safe limit, aligning with BIS permissible levels.

Severity by Sample Share (>1.5 mg/L)

State	% of Samples Exceeding Limit
Rajasthan	43.17%
Haryana	23.66%
Karnataka	17.68%
Telangana	14.87%
Gujarat	13.92%
Punjab	13.77%
Andhra Pradesh	11.31%

Seasonal Variation

- **All India:**
- Pre-monsoon 2023 – 9.14% samples >1.5 mg/L.
- Post-monsoon 2023 – 7.74% samples >1.5 mg/L.

Telangana:

- Pre-monsoon – 20% exceeded limit.
- Post-monsoon – 15.49% exceeded limit.
- **Observation:** Monsoon recharge dilutes fluoride concentration, temporarily improving water quality.

Reasons for Rising Fluoride Levels

Anthropogenic (Human-induced)

- **Overextraction of Groundwater:**
 - Excessive pumping for irrigation and domestic needs lowers the water table, increasing dissolved salt concentration.
 - Deeper borewells tap fluoride-rich rock layers.
- **Water Stress:** In arid and semi-arid regions, scarcity drives high dependence on groundwater.
- **Natural (Geogenic):** Fluoride-bearing minerals (fluorite, apatite, mica) naturally dissolve into groundwater, especially in granitic and volcanic rock formations.

Seasonal

- **Dry season:** Less recharge → higher concentration.
- **Monsoon season:** Rainwater recharge dilutes fluoride content.

Policy and Management Measures

Short-term

- **Source Substitution:** Use treated surface water or blend high-fluoride water with low-fluoride sources.
- **Household/Community Treatment Units:**
- **Nalgonda technique** – alum + lime + bleaching powder for defluoridation.
- Reverse osmosis (RO) systems where feasible.
- **Public Health Interventions:** Nutrition programs to mitigate fluorosis effects.

Medium- to Long-term

- **Groundwater Regulation:** Limit extraction in overexploited blocks under CGWA guidelines.
- **Artificial Recharge & Rainwater Harvesting:** Recharge wells, check dams, percolation tanks to dilute contaminants.

- **Community Awareness:** Health risks, safe water practices, periodic water testing.
- **Monitoring & Mapping:** Continuous surveillance of fluoride levels through CGWB & State Groundwater Departments

Telangana Deputy CM lays foundation stone for Jawahar Lift

Irrigation Scheme

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/te-langana/telangana-deputy-cm-lays-foundation-stone-for-600-crore-jawahar-lift-irrigation-scheme-in-khammam-district/article69916629.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Jawahar Lift Irrigation Scheme

Why in News

Telangana has opposed Andhra Pradesh's diversion of 11 tmc ft of water daily from the Srisaillam reservoir through the Pothireddypadu lift system.

Introduction

- The ongoing water-sharing disputes between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh highlight the complexities of inter-state river management in India's federal structure.
- A recent flashpoint is the diversion of **11 tmc ft of water per day** from the upper part of the Srisaillam reservoir by Andhra Pradesh through the **Pothireddypadu lift system**.
- Telangana argues that such diversions will severely impact irrigation in its Nalgonda and Khammam districts and could empty the reservoir within 25 days.

- This development is set against the backdrop of broader disagreements over projects such as the Banakacherla scheme and the Polavaram dam, as well as Telangana's own efforts to expand irrigation infrastructure through schemes like the Jawahar Lift Irrigation Scheme and the J. Chokka Rao Devadula Lift Irrigation Scheme (JCRDLIS).



(Source:

<https://krmb.gov.in/html/project2.html>)

Background of the Srisaillam Dispute

- **Srisaillam Reservoir:** Built on the Krishna River, it serves both irrigation and power generation purposes for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
- **Pothireddypadu Lift System:** Located in Andhra Pradesh's Rayalaseema region, it diverts water from Srisaillam to meet irrigation needs. Telangana claims that excessive diversion upstream disrupts its share under the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal allocation.
- **Banakacherla Project:** Proposed by Andhra Pradesh, opposed by Telangana as another mechanism for diversion of Krishna waters.

Polavaram Project and Tribal Land Issue

- **2014 Ordinance Controversy:** Allegations that the then BJP-led Union Government, in consultation with the TRS-led Telangana Government, transferred **two lakh acres of tribal land** in the Bhadrachalam division to Andhra

Pradesh to facilitate Polavaram dam construction.

- **Telangana's Demand:** Reduce the Polavaram dam height to prevent submergence of tribal lands.
- **Significance:** Highlights the intersection of large dam projects with tribal displacement and land rights.

Local Irrigation Challenges in Madhira Constituency

- **Problem:** Farmers at the tail end of the Nagarjunasagar Project's third zone receive water only after it travels into Andhra Pradesh and returns, a practically unworkable arrangement.
- **Solution under Current Government:**
 - Shift of affected villages from third zone to **second zone** to improve irrigation access.
 - Sanction of the **₹600 crore Jawahar Lift Irrigation Scheme** to irrigate 30,000 acres.

Major Irrigation Projects in Focus

1. Jawahar Lift Irrigation Scheme

- **Cost:** ₹600 crore
- **Location:** Madhira mandal, Khammam district, Telangana
- **Benefits:**
 - Irrigates 30,000 acres.
 - Addresses tail-end water supply issues neglected in the previous decade.

2. J. Chokka Rao Devadula Lift Irrigation Scheme (JCRDLIS)

- **Objective:**
 - Stabilise existing ayacut.
 - Provide drinking water to rural habitations.
 - Improve crop yields and reduce rural-urban migration.
- **Revised Project Cost:** ₹18,500 crore

- **Spent so far:** ₹14,168 crore
- **Additional requirement:** ₹4,331 crore (contractor dues, encasement works, pending land acquisition).

• Pending Issues:

- ₹100 crore in land acquisition and outstanding bills to be released in phases.

Political and Administrative Stances

• Telangana Government:

- Opposes AP's diversion of Krishna waters via Pothireddypadu and Banakacherla.
- Calls for reduction in Polavaram dam height.
- Prioritises completion of irrigation schemes for tail-end farmers.

• Andhra Pradesh Government:

- Justifies diversions as necessary for drought-prone Rayalaseema and other regions.
- Continues with proposed lift and storage projects to secure water for its needs.

Wider Significance

- **Inter-State Water Disputes:** Reflects challenges in implementing tribunal awards and agreements in shared river basins.
- **Agrarian Impact:** Water scarcity directly influences crop productivity, farmer incomes, and rural migration.
- **Tribal Rights vs Development:** Polavaram submergence raises concerns over displacement and livelihood loss for indigenous communities.
- **Project Execution Delays:** Funding gaps and land acquisition hurdles delay benefits from irrigation infrastructure.

Way Forward

- **Strengthen River Boards:** Equip the

Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) with binding authority to enforce allocations.

- **Legal and Technical Mediation:** Independent evaluation of proposed projects to balance both states' needs.
- **Tribal Land Safeguards:** Implement protective measures in dam design to avoid large-scale displacement.
- **Timely Project Completion:** Ensure full funding and expedited land acquisition to operationalise irrigation schemes.
- **Real-Time Monitoring:** Deploy telemetry and reservoir monitoring for transparent water use tracking.

Conclusion

- The Srisailem water diversion dispute underscores the urgent need for cooperative federalism in managing India's river basins.
- While Telangana is expanding irrigation access through schemes like the Jawahar Lift and JCRDLIS, unresolved disputes with Andhra Pradesh over Krishna water sharing and the Polavaram project threaten to undermine these gains.
- Long-term resolution will require legal clarity, infrastructural efficiency, and sensitivity to both agrarian and tribal rights.

Hyderabad's Unistring Tech secures first prize for R&D excellence in defence

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Aug/09/hyderabad-unistring-tech-secures-first-prize-for-rd-excellence-in-defence>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and Honours

Context: ELCINA Defennovation Award

2025

Why in News

Unistring Tech Solutions Pvt Ltd won the **first prize in the SME category** at the **ELCINA Defennovation Awards 2025** for its indigenous **Counter-Unmanned Aerial System (CUAS) jammer**.



(Source:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Aug/09/hyderabad-unistring-tech-secures-first-prize-for-rd-excellence-in-defence>)

Introduction

- Unistring Tech Solutions Pvt Ltd, a Hyderabad-based defense technology company, has secured the **first prize in the SME category for excellence in R&D** at the **ELCINA Defennovation Awards 2025**.
- The recognition is for its **indigenous development** of a **high-performance Counter-Unmanned Aerial System (CUAS) jammer**, marking a strategic boost to India's self-reliance in advanced defense technology.

About the ELCINA Defennovation Awards

- **Organiser:** *Electronic Industries Association of India (ELCINA)*, in collaboration with industry and defense stakeholders.
- **Objective:** Recognise innovations and R&D excellence in the Indian defense manufacturing sector.

- **Categories:** Large enterprises, SMEs, and startups in areas such as R&D, manufacturing, and indigenisation.
- **Relevance to UPSC:** Encourages domestic defense technology development in line with **Atmanirbhar Bharat**.

The CUAS Jammer - Key Features & Capabilities

1. Purpose:

- Designed to detect, track, and neutralise hostile drones.
 - Counters threats from **asymmetric aerial warfare**, including surveillance, payload delivery, and swarm drone attacks.
- ### 2. Technology:
- Uses **non-kinetic electronic countermeasures** (no physical projectile damage).
 - Advanced **Radio Frequency (RF) signal processing techniques** to disrupt drone communication and navigation.

3. Advantages:

- Protects **armed forces, critical infrastructure**, and **high-value assets**.
- Enhances **situational awareness** and **operational protection**.
- Mission adaptability – suitable for varied terrains and operational requirements.

Strategic Significance for India

1. Strengthening Electronic Warfare (EW) Capabilities:

- Drone-based threats are rising in modern conflicts (e.g., Ukraine war, Middle East conflicts).
- CUAS technology gives India a tactical edge in **low-intensity conflicts** and **border security**.

2. Self-Reliance & Atmanirbhar Bharat:

- Fully developed indigenously, reducing dependence on foreign suppliers.
- Supports the **Make in India** initiative in

the defense sector.

3. Export Potential:

- Can position India as a **credible exporter** of EW systems to friendly nations.
- Helps in defense diplomacy and global competitiveness.

Relevance to National Security

- **Why CUAS is critical:**
- **Emerging Drone Threats:** Low-cost drones can be used for surveillance, smuggling, or armed attacks.
- **Border Areas:** Helps counter infiltration attempts using aerial drones along LoC and international borders.
- **Critical Infrastructure Protection:** Airports, nuclear plants, military bases, and government buildings.

Government Policy Linkages

- **Defence Production & Export Promotion Policy (DPEPP) 2020** – Encourages domestic defense manufacturing and R&D.
- **Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX)** – Supports startups and SMEs developing defense technologies.
- **Make in India - Defence Sector** – Focus on reducing imports and creating a robust domestic defense ecosystem.

Conclusion

- The recognition of Unistring Tech Solutions at the ELCINA Defennovation Awards 2025 underscores the importance of **indigenous R&D** in strengthening India's defense architecture.
- The CUAS jammer fills a critical capability gap, supports **Atmanirbhar Bharat**, and equips the nation to tackle evolving aerial threats effectively – making it not just a defense milestone but also a step toward technological sovereignty.

Telangana to place special focus on ecotourism development

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Aug/13/telangana-to-place-special-focus-on-ecotourism-development>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Ecotourism development in Telangana

Why in News

Telangana officials have directed to prepare a comprehensive eco-tourism strategy, improve facilities in Amrabad and Kawal tiger reserves, resolve forest land disputes, and develop key temples in Kodangal constituency.

Introduction

- Telangana Chief Minister **A. Revanth Reddy** chaired a review meeting at the Integrated Command Control Centre, emphasising the need to prepare comprehensive strategies to utilise the state's vast natural resources for tourism, particularly eco-tourism.
- The meeting addressed forest conservation, wildlife tourism, departmental coordination, and temple development in Kodangal constituency.

Background

- **Telangana's Tourism Potential:**
 - The state has rich biodiversity with two major tiger reserves: **Amrabad** and **Kawal**.
 - Several rivers, waterfalls, and forest landscapes present untapped eco-tourism opportunities.
- **Current Challenges:**
 - Low tourist footfall in local reserves compared to out-of-state destinations like Bandipur (Karnataka) and Tadoba (Maharashtra).

- Land disputes between the Forest and Revenue departments.
- Shortage of Indian Forest Service (IFS) officers.
- Inadequate infrastructure and visitor facilities in forest areas.



(Source:

<https://www.earthreminder.com/ecotourism-and-sustainable-development/>)

Key Directives from the CM

1. Eco-Tourism Development

- Draw inspiration from Singapore's **Night Safari**, developed on just 30 acres, for creating innovative tourism models.
- Integrate **Warangal Kakatiya Zoo** development under the **Public-Private Partnership (PPP)** model.
- Develop plans to fully utilise natural resources like rivers, waterfalls, and forest areas for sustainable tourism.

2. Tiger Reserves and Wildlife Tourism

- Improve facilities and tourist experiences in **Amrabad** and **Kawal** tiger reserves to retain local visitors who currently prefer other states.
- Link all forest surveillance cameras monitoring wildlife movement to the Integrated Command Control Centre.

3. Forest Governance and Coordination

- Conduct **joint surveys** between Forest and Revenue departments to resolve land disputes.
- Enhance coordination between the

Forest department and other departments for road construction and infrastructure projects in forest areas.

- Ensure necessary clearances are obtained from the **Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**.

4. Human-Wildlife Conflict Management

- Provide **immediate compensation** to the families of those killed, injured, or losing livestock due to wild animal attacks.
- Use **Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF)** if necessary for quick disbursal.

5. Human Resources in Forest Department

- Address shortage of IFS officers by coordinating with the Union government.
- Prepare proposals for **promotions and new recruitments** in the Forest department.
- Reinstatement of the system of awarding officers for **outstanding performance**.

6. Temple Development in Kodangal

- Develop:
 - **Sri Lakshmi Venkateswara Swamy temple** in Kodangal.
 - **Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple** in Daulatabad.
 - **Shiva and Venugopala Swamy temples** in Kosgi.
- Integrate these with broader tourism promotion plans.

Significance

1. **Tourism Revenue & Employment** - Boosting eco-tourism can generate jobs for local communities and increase state revenue.
2. **Wildlife Conservation** - Improved facilities and surveillance enhance both visitor safety and biodiversity protection.
3. **Inter-Departmental Efficiency** - Joint

surveys and coordination can resolve long-standing governance bottlenecks.

4. **Cultural Promotion** - Temple development strengthens cultural tourism alongside eco-tourism.

Linkages with National & Global Goals

- **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** guidelines for reserve development.
- **Swadesh Darshan Scheme** for theme-based tourism development.
- **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**:
 - **SDG 8**: Promote sustained, inclusive economic growth (tourism jobs).
 - **SDG 15**: Life on land (biodiversity conservation).

Minister stresses need for strengthening CDO of Irrigation department

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telegana/minister-stresses-need-for-strengthening-cdo-of-irrigation-department/article69924201.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Telangana's Central Design Organisation (CDO)

Why in News

The Telangana government has announced comprehensive reforms to modernise and restore the credibility of its Central Design Organisation (CDO) in the Irrigation Department.

Background

- The Central Design Organisation (CDO) of Telangana's Irrigation Department has historically played a crucial role in planning and designing irrigation infrastructure in the region.
- Established during the Nizam era, it

earned recognition for designing major projects such as the Nizam Sagar project (over a century ago) and providing technical expertise for several other landmark schemes.

- Over the decades, however, the CDO's institutional capacity and reputation have faced challenges, prompting the need for reform.

Recent Developments

- Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy recently emphasised the **urgent need to modernise and strengthen the CDO** by equipping it with advanced facilities, software, and human resources.
- The statement gains significance in light of recent **adverse observations by the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) and the Judicial Commission headed by Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose**, which indirectly pointed to gaps in institutional performance.



(Source: <https://agri-route.com/blogs/news/micro-irrigation-vs-drip-irrigation-understanding-the-differences>)

Key Areas of Reform

The minister highlighted a multi-pronged approach:

1. Human Resource Strengthening

- **Immediate Recruitment Drive** - All vacancies in the CDO will be filled without delay.
- **Focus on Top Engineering Talent** -

Priority to candidates from premier institutes such as IITs and NITs.

- **Strategic Deployment** - Engineers to be placed in positions where their expertise can have maximum impact, especially on complex, precision-dependent irrigation projects.
- **Expert Consultancy** -
 - Engagement of domain experts on a **merit basis**.
 - Selective appointment of **retired officers** with proven expertise.
 - Inclusion of **specialised electromechanical engineering consultants** with deep domain knowledge to foresee operational challenges in project design.

2. Technological Upgradation

- **Procurement of Advanced Design Software** - Acquisition on a war footing to improve accuracy, efficiency, and innovation in designs.
- **Modern Equipment & Facilities** - Installation of state-of-the-art design and testing infrastructure.

3. Institutional Credibility Restoration

- The government aims to **identify and address functional gaps** in the CDO.
- The objective is to **restore the historical reputation** of the organisation as a centre of engineering excellence.
- Strict adherence to **timelines for project designs** will be enforced to prevent delays in irrigation works.

Significance of Reforms

- **Technical Quality Assurance** - Upgradation of design capability will help produce robust, safe, and sustainable irrigation structures.
- **Operational Risk Mitigation** - Early identification of engineering challenges will reduce scope for structural failures

and operational inefficiencies.

- **Alignment with Dam Safety Norms** – Strengthened capacity will aid compliance with national and international safety standards.
- **Long-Term Water Security** – Accurate and efficient designs will ensure optimal utilisation of water resources for agriculture, drinking, and industrial use.

SC halts felling of trees in Kancha Gachibowli, seeks restoration plan from Telangana govt

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/te-langana/replant-trees-at-kancha-gachibowli-first-for-us-to-pay-you-real-compliments-supreme-court-to-telangana-govt/article69927515.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Ecology

Context: Kancha Gachibowli Forest Case

Why in News

Supreme Court stayed the appointments of Kodandaram and Amer Ali Khan as Telangana MLAs under the Governor's quota, citing non-compliance with constitutional norms.

Introduction

- The **Supreme Court of India**, headed by CJI **B.R. Gavai**, pulled up the **Telangana Government** over the large-scale destruction of the **Kancha Gachibowli forest** to make way for an IT infrastructure project.
- The CJI demanded a **restoration plan** before the court considered removing earlier adverse remarks against the state.

Background Timeline

- **March 4, 2025** – SC barred *any* activity that depletes forest cover across the country.

- **April 2025** – SC observed that destruction of **100 acres** of Kancha Gachibowli forest was an *“alarming picture”* and questioned the *“urgency”* behind tree-felling.
- **May 2025** – SC gave Telangana a choice:
 1. **Restore the forest**, or
 2. Face **jail time** for the Chief Secretary and six other officials (*“temporary prison”* near the site).
- **August 13, 2025** – CJI reiterated that:
 - All trees must be **replanted**.
 - Development must be balanced with sustainability.
 - Only after restoration will the court *“replace sarcasm with real compliments.”*



(Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/te-langana/replant-trees-at-kancha-gachibowli-first-for-us-to-pay-you-real-compliments-supreme-court-to-telangana-govt/article69927515.ece>)

Key Supreme Court Concerns

1. **Environmental Protection** – Preventing precedent of sacrificing forest land for short-term infrastructure projects.
2. **Rule of Law** – Enforcing compliance with its own orders from March 2025.
3. **Balance between Development & Sustainability** – Suggesting that IT Parks and other projects can be located in non-forest areas.

Legal Provisions & Constitutional Angle

- **Article 48A** – State shall protect and improve the environment and safeguard forests and wildlife.
- **Article 51A(g)** – Duty of every citizen to protect and improve the natural environment.
- **Forest Conservation Act, 1980** – Restricts the use of forest land for non-forest purposes without prior Central Government approval.
- **Environment (Protection) Act, 1986** – Empowers the central government to take measures for protecting and improving the environment.

SC halts felling of trees in Kancha Gachibowli, seeks restoration plan from Telangana govt

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/replant-trees-at-kancha-gachibowli-first-for-us-to-pay-you-real-compliments-supreme-court-to-telangana-govt/article69927515.ece>

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SC stays appointment of 2 Telangana MLCs under Governor's quota

Source: Siasat

<https://www.siasat.com/sc-quashes-appointment-of-2-telangana-mlcs-under-governors-quota-3258403/>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Appointments to Telangana Legislative Council

Why in News

Supreme Court stayed the appointments of Kodandaram and Amer Ali Khan as Telangana MLCs under the Governor's quota, citing non-compliance with constitutional norms.

Introduction

- On August 13, 2025, the Supreme Court of India stayed the appointments of **Professor M. Kodandaram** and **Amer Ali Khan** as Members of the Telangana

Legislative Council (MLC) under the Governor's quota.

- The decision came in response to petitions filed by **BRS leaders Dasoju Sravan Kumar** and **Kurra Satyanarayana**, who questioned the legality of the nominations made by the Telangana Government in **January 2024**.



(Source: <https://www.siasat.com/sc-quashes-appointment-of-2-telangana-mlcs-under-governors-quota-3258403/>)

Background

Governor's Quota in Legislative Council

- Under Article 171(5) of the Constitution, the Governor can nominate members to the State Legislative Council from among persons who have rendered outstanding service in literature, science, art, cooperative movement, or social service.
- This provision is intended to bring domain experts and eminent citizens into legislative deliberations, not to accommodate political appointments.

Nominees

- **M. Kodandaram** – Political analyst and President of Telangana Jana Samithi (TJS).
- **Amer Ali Khan** – News Editor of the Urdu newspaper The Siasat Daily.

Controversy

- Petitioners argued that neither nominee's primary qualifications aligned with the fields specified in Article 171(5).

- They alleged that the nominations were political in nature and violated the “well-settled norms” for Governor’s quota appointments.

Supreme Court’s Observations

- The appointments did not satisfy the constitutional criteria laid down in Article 171(5).
- The Governor’s quota cannot be used for political rehabilitation or to reward political allies.
- Appointments must be strictly merit-based and domain-specific, ensuring representation from the constitutionally specified fields.

Significance of the Judgment

- Upholds Constitutional Norms – Reinforces that the Governor’s quota is for professionals and experts, not political appointees.
- Judicial Scrutiny of Executive Actions – Shows the court’s role in ensuring that discretionary powers are exercised within constitutional boundaries.
- Precedent for Future Nominations – Could influence similar disputes in other states regarding misuse of the Governor’s quota.

Related Constitutional Provisions

- Article 171 – Composition of State Legislative Councils, including Governor’s power to nominate members.
- Article 163 – Role of the Governor in state matters, acting on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers, except in discretionary matters.

‘Gift of Vikramaditya’: Eighth copper plates set deciphered

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/teelangana/2025/Aug/16/gift-of-vikramaditya-eighth-copper-plates-set-deciphered>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Art and Culture

Context: Copper plates of Chalukya king Vikramaditya

Why in News

A 10th-century copper plate inscription of Vengi Chalukya king Vikramaditya II (927 CE) was recently discovered in Kodad village, Suryapet district, Telangana.

Introduction

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has recently examined the eighth set in a series of nine copper plate inscriptions discovered in Kodad village, Suryapet district, Telangana.
- This inscription, dated to Saka 848 (24 February 927 CE, Saturday), was issued by Vengi Chalukya king Vikramaditya II, son of Chalukya Bhima I and Vijayamahadevi.
- The discovery adds significant insight into the political, cultural, and religious history of the Vengi Chalukyas, who ruled parts of present-day Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Key Features of the Inscription

- Date & Script
- Dated to 927 CE (Saka 848).
- Written in Sanskrit language using the Telugu script.

Issuing Authority

- Issued by King Vikramaditya II of the Vengi Chalukya dynasty.
- Seal carries the Varaha (boar) emblem with the legend Sri Tribhuvanamkusa.

Genealogy

- Outlines the Chalukya lineage from Kubja Vishnuvardhana (founder of the Eastern Chalukyas of Vengi) to Vikramaditya II.

**Religious and Social Grants**

- Mentions the grant of the village Annasiri in Kondapalli-vishaya as devabhoga (endowment for religious purposes).
- Grant was dedicated to the temple of Bijjeshvara, specifically for worship, food offerings, and upkeep of a choultry (rest house).

Patrons & Builders

- Credits Lokamavva, wife of Gundayya and daughter of Bekana (administrator of Pennatavadi), with constructing the Bijjeshvara temple.
- Image in the temple was installed by Gunabhushana.

Engraver's Details

- Inscription was engraved by Vinayaditya, son of Birogajjala.
- Concludes with the line "Vikramaditya dattah" – Gift of Vikramaditya.

Historical Significance**1. Political Insight**

- Establishes continuity of the Vengi Chalukya dynasty, an important branch of the Eastern Chalukyas, who ruled the Krishna-Godavari region.
- Shows the use of copper plate charters to document royal decrees and land grants,

a common practice in medieval India.

2. Religious and Social Aspects

- Reflects the king's role in patronising temple worship and maintaining public utilities like choultries for travellers.
- Indicates the active role of women (Lokamavva) in temple construction and patronage.

3. Cultural Aspects

- Written in Sanskrit but in Telugu script, highlighting the regional evolution of Telugu epigraphy by the 10th century.
- Presence of the Varaha emblem signifies both religious symbolism (incarnation of Vishnu) and political authority.

Broader Linkages

- Epigraphy and History Writing: Copper plate inscriptions remain a primary source for reconstructing India's ancient and medieval political history.
- Vengi Chalukyas' Role: They acted as a bridge between Northern and Southern polities, maintaining ties with the Rashtrakutas, Pallavas, and later the Cholas.
- Temple Economy: Endowments of villages for temples show the deep integration of religion, economy, and politics.
- Women in History: References to Lokamavva show the contribution of women elites in patronage of religious institutions.

Challenges in Preservation

- Conservation – Protecting copper plates from corrosion.
- Documentation – Need for digitisation of epigraphic records for research.
- Public Awareness – Inscriptions often remain unnoticed in villages due to lack of awareness.

Way Forward

- Epigraphical Surveys: Expansion of ASI's work to systematically document and publish copper plates across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
- Integration with Education: Linking such discoveries with local history in school curricula.
- Digital Archives: Creating open-access digital databases of inscriptions.
- **Community Engagement:** Training locals in heritage preservation to avoid loss of artifacts.

Telangana sees record goods exports worth \$19.1billion

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Aug/18/telangana-sees-record-goods-exports-worth-191billion>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Economy

Context: Telangana's Export Growth in 2024-25

Why in News

Telangana recorded 36% growth in exports in 2024-25, reaching \$19.1 billion, with engineering goods and pharmaceuticals as the key drivers.

Introduction

- Telangana has recorded one of the highest export growth rates in India during 2024-25. Merchandise exports from the state rose to \$19.1 billion, compared to \$14.01 billion in 2023-24, marking a growth of ~36%.
- This is the highest annual growth since 2020-21, and places Telangana 7th among all Indian states in terms of exports, behind Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh.

Key Data Highlights

Total Exports (2024-25): \$19.1 billion

Exports (2023-24): \$14.01 billion

Growth: ~36%

Ranking among states: 7th

Major Export Commodities:

- Engineering Goods - \$7.54 billion (39.41% share)
- Grew 117.9% compared to last year (\$3.46 billion in 2023-24).
- Drugs and Pharmaceuticals - \$5.89 billion (30.79% share).
- Organic & Inorganic Chemicals - \$2.43 billion.
- Electronic Goods - significant contributor, exact share not mentioned.



(Source:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Aug/18/telangana-sees-record-goods-exports-worth-191billion>)

Trends & Shifts

- The most remarkable shift is the rise of engineering goods, which overtook pharmaceuticals as the leading export sector.
- Telangana, earlier known as a pharmaceutical hub (Hyderabad pharma cluster), is now diversifying into **engineering and electronic manufacturing**.
- The **36% growth rate** outpaces the national average and reflects the impact of industrial policy and infrastructure in

Telangana.

Factors Behind Growth

- **Industrial Policy Support** - The Telangana government's TS-iPASS (Telangana State Industrial Project Approval and Self-Certification System) facilitated faster clearances for industries.
- **Infrastructure Development** - Investments in industrial parks, logistics hubs, and electronics manufacturing clusters boosted competitiveness.
- **Pharma and Biotech Ecosystem** - Hyderabad continues to be India's "Pharma City", driving global exports of bulk drugs and formulations.
- **Engineering & Electronics Push** - Incentives for automobile components, precision engineering, and electronics assembly led to a sharp rise.
- **Global Demand Recovery** - Post-pandemic demand recovery in engineering, pharma, and chemicals contributed to higher exports.

Significance

- **Economic Diversification:** Telangana is moving from a **pharma-centric** export base to a more diversified **engineering + pharma + chemicals + electronics** mix.
- **Job Creation:** Engineering and electronics exports create **higher skilled employment** compared to traditional pharma.
- **Boost to Make in India:** Telangana's growth aligns with the **national goal of raising exports** and reducing dependency on imports.
- **Regional Balance:** Strengthens South India's role as a **manufacturing and export hub**.

Policy Implications

- Telangana can leverage its growth to attract FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) in engineering and electronics.
- Government may further expand industrial corridors, skill development programs, and trade promotion policies.
- This success strengthens India's target of \$1 trillion exports by 2030.

Conclusion

- Telangana's export growth in 2024-25 is a landmark achievement, with a 36% rise in merchandise exports and a shift towards engineering goods.
- This reflects the state's successful industrial strategies, diversification of economic activities, and strengthening role in India's export economy.
- If sustained, this momentum could position Telangana among the top 5 exporting states in the coming years.

ISRO's mega space projects at Osmania University convocation

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/v-narayanan-outlines-isros-mega-space-projects-at-osmania-university-convocation>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Science and Technology

Context: ISRO's Upcoming Space Missions

Why in News

ISRO is developing a next-generation launcher capable of carrying 75,000 kg payloads to Low Earth Orbit, alongside missions like NavIC satellite.

Introduction

- At the **84th convocation of Osmania University**, ISRO Chairman **V. Narayanan** unveiled ambitious plans for India's space programme, highlighting the development of a **next-generation**

heavy-lift rocket and a series of upcoming national and international missions.



(Source: <https://telanganatoday.com/v-narayanan-outlines-isros-mega-space-projects-at-osmania-university-convocation>)

84th Convocation of Osmania University

- The 84th Convocation of Osmania University was held in Hyderabad.
- Chief Guest: Dr. V. Narayanan, Chairman of ISRO.
- A total of 1,265 PhDs were awarded.
- 121 Gold Medals were presented to meritorious students.
- The event was attended by OU Chancellor and Governor Jishnu Dev Varma, Vice-Chancellor Prof. M. Kumar, deans, principals, and faculty members.

Next-Generation Launcher

- ISRO is designing a towering rocket as tall as a 40-storey building.
- It will have the capacity to launch a 75,000 kg payload into Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
- This marks a significant leap from India's first launcher, developed under Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, which had a lift-off mass of 17 tonnes and could carry only 35 kg to LEO.
- The project will enable India to compete with the world's largest launchers, boosting commercial and strategic space capabilities.

Upcoming Missions and Projects

- **NavIC System Satellite:** Strengthening India's indigenous navigation system.
- **N1 Rocket:** A key addition to India's launch vehicle arsenal.
- **US Communication Satellite:** ISRO will launch a **6,500 kg communication satellite of the USA**, showcasing India's competitiveness in the global space market.
- **Technology Demonstration Satellite (TDS):** To test advanced technologies for future missions.
- **GSAT-7R:** An Indian Navy military communication satellite to replace GSAT-7 (Rukmini), enhancing maritime security.
- **Venus Orbiter Mission:** A planned interplanetary mission to study Venus.

Space Station Plan

- By 2035, India aims to establish a 52-tonne space station, a landmark step in long-duration human spaceflight capability.

Current Status of Satellites

- India currently operates 55 satellites in orbit.
- ISRO plans to triple this number in the next 3-4 years, expanding applications in communication, navigation, surveillance, and scientific research.

Human Spaceflight Safety Case Study

- ISRO's recent experience with astronaut Subhashnu Shukla's mission to the International Space Station (ISS) underlined the importance of meticulous safety checks.
- A last-minute leak detection on June 10 prevented a catastrophic failure, and after corrections, the launch on June 25 was successful.

- This not only ensured Shukla's safe journey and return but also safeguarded three international astronauts.

Conclusion

- ISRO's roadmap – ranging from a 75,000 kg heavy-lift launcher to a future space station – signals India's entry into the league of advanced spacefaring nations.
- By combining scientific innovation, commercial opportunities, and strategic security imperatives, ISRO continues to strengthen India's position in the global space arena.

Ghose Commission report challenged

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/kcr-harish-rao-move-hc-to-quash-ghose-commission-report/article69952846.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Justice P.C. Ghose Commission Report

Why in News

Former Telangana CM K. Chandrashekar Rao and ex-Minister T. Harish Rao moved the High Court challenging the Justice P.C. Ghose Commission of Inquiry Report.

Introduction

- The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP), one of the largest multi-stage lift irrigation projects in the world, has come under scrutiny following allegations of irregularities in its execution.
- A Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice (Retd.) P.C. Ghose submitted its report on July 31, 2025, highlighting alleged lapses in the planning, design, and construction of key barrages under the project.
- In response, former Chief Minister K.

Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and former Minister T. Harish Rao have approached the Telangana High Court challenging the constitution of the Commission and seeking to quash its report.

Background of the Case

- The Government of Telangana, through GO MS No. 6 (Irrigation and Command Area Development Department), appointed Justice P.C. Ghose to head the Commission of Inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952.
- The terms of reference directed the Commission to examine alleged negligence, irregularities, and deficiencies in the planning, design, and construction of the Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages of the Kaleshwaram project.
- The Commission submitted its report on July 31, 2025, indicting KCR and Harish Rao for alleged irregularities.



(Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/kcr-harish-rao-move-hc-to-quash-ghose-commission-report/article69952846.ece>)

Grounds of the Petitions

Both KCR and Harish Rao filed separate writ petitions in the **Telangana High Court**, raising the following arguments:

Ultra Vires Appointment

- The appointment of Justice Ghose under the Commissions of Inquiry Act was argued to be ultra vires the Act and in

conflict with earlier Supreme Court judgments.

Violation of Natural Justice

- They alleged that the Commission submitted the report without issuing notices under Sections 8-B and 8-C of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, which mandate prior notice to individuals likely to be affected by adverse findings.
- Repeated publication of the report without providing copies to them was described as illegal and biased.

Defamatory and Prejudicial Observations

- The report was alleged to contain scurrilous, defamatory, and prejudicial remarks, improperly fixing responsibility on the petitioners.
- They argued that the Commission relied on the narrative of the present government rather than conducting an independent assessment.

Defence of the Project

- KCR contended that the Kaleshwaram Project was conceived and executed with due diligence, based on recommendations of WAPCOS (Water and Power Consultancy Services Ltd.), and had secured all **statutory clearances** from the Central Government.

Legal Provisions Involved

Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952

- **Section 3:** Empowers governments to appoint Commissions for public inquiries.
- **Section 8-B:** Requires notice to be given to a person against whom the Commission proposes to make an adverse finding.
- **Section 8-C:** Grants such persons the right to cross-examine witnesses and present their case.

Principles of Natural Justice

- **Audi alteram partem** (“hear the other side”) allegedly violated by not furnishing the report or notice before publication.

Broader Significance

- **Governance and Accountability:** The case highlights issues of **transparency, accountability, and checks on large infrastructure projects**, particularly in irrigation, which involve massive public expenditure.
- **Judicial Oversight:** Reflects the judiciary’s role in reviewing actions of inquiry commissions and upholding natural justice.
- **Centre-State Coordination:** With KLIP having received **statutory clearances from the Centre**, the issue also touches upon intergovernmental dynamics in large-scale projects.
- **Political Implications:** The petitions underscore the **intersection of law, governance, and politics**, as inquiry commissions often become flashpoints in transitions of power.

A urea crisis in Telangana

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/a-urea-crisis-in-telangana/article69952261.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Agriculture

Context: Urea Shortage in Telangana

Why in News

Telangana is facing an acute urea shortage during the Kharif season due to reduced central supply, import disruptions, and production glitches.

Introduction

- Fertilizers, especially urea, form the backbone of Indian agriculture. As the most widely used nitrogenous fertilizer,

urea plays a crucial role in ensuring food security.

- Recently, Telangana has witnessed acute scarcity of urea, with farmers queuing outside shops for hours, leading to political confrontations between the Centre, the State government, and opposition parties.
- The issue highlights India's larger challenges in ensuring fertilizer security, dependence on imports, and constraints in scaling up domestic production.

Fertilizer Allotment and Supply Gap

- In February 2025, the Union Ministry of Agriculture allotted 9.8 lakh tonnes of urea for Telangana's Kharif season.
- Official communication assured 8.3 lakh tonnes between April–August, but the State received only 5.32 lakh tonnes till August 17.

While supply-demand gaps in other fertilizers (DAP, MOP, complexes, SSP) remain manageable, the shortage of urea has triggered the crisis.



(Source: DownToEarth)

Broader Context: National Fertilizer Challenges

1. Domestic Production Issues

- India has been striving for self-sufficiency in urea by 2025, but the target is unlikely to be achieved.
- Estimated consumption in 2025–26: 410 lakh tonnes.

- Technical glitches at Ramagundam Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. (Telangana's main supplier, capacity 12.7 lakh tonnes/year) caused 78 days of shutdown, further compounding local shortages.

2. Import Dependence

- Urea imports constitute 15–30% of India's annual requirement, depending on domestic output.
- Major sources: China, Oman, Russia, UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria.
- Short supply in 2025 was aggravated by **China's export restrictions** due to global price volatility.

3. Structural Constraints

- Nano urea (liquid) production is still limited and adoption among farmers is low due to additional costs.
- Consumption patterns are rising with expanded Kharif cultivation.

Implications

For Telangana

- Disruption in Kharif sowing cycle due to input shortages.
- Farmer unrest and erosion of trust in governance.
- Regional production risks, given heavy reliance on Ramagundam plant.

For India

- Fertilizer security remains a strategic vulnerability, influenced by both domestic production bottlenecks and global supply chains.
- Highlights the need for balanced fertilizer use and promotion of alternatives like nano urea and organic manure.
- Raises questions on federal cooperation in agriculture supply chains.

Way Forward

- **Enhancing Domestic Production:** Expedite new urea plants under revival projects and ensure smooth functioning of existing ones like Ramagundam.
- **Diversification of Imports:** Reduce over-reliance on China by strengthening ties with Gulf and African suppliers.
- **Scaling up Nano Urea:** Improve cost efficiency and farmer awareness.
- **Efficient Distribution:** Strengthen monitoring to prevent diversion and black marketing at the state level.
- **Centre-State Coordination:** Build mechanisms to avoid political blame games and ensure timely delivery to farmers.

Conclusion

- The urea shortage in Telangana is not merely a state-level supply crisis, but a symptom of India's broader fertilizer challenge.
- As fertilizer demand continues to rise with population and agricultural needs, ensuring domestic production capacity, balanced nutrient use, and resilient supply chains becomes crucial for food security.

Govt. sanctions ₹150 crore for Sammakka-Sarakka Jatara 2026

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/govt-sanctions-150-crore-for-sammakka-sarakka-jatara-2026/article69955041.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Sammakka-Sarakka Jatara

Why in News

The Sammakka-Sarakka (Medaram) Jatara, known as the 'Kumbh Mela of the South,' is a biennial tribal festival held in Telangana to

honor tribal women warriors Sammakka and Sarakka.

Background of Sammakka-Sarakka Jatara

- The Sammakka-Sarakka Jatara is one of the largest tribal religious festivals in Asia, often called the "Kumbh Mela of the South."
- It is held once every two years (biennial) at Medaram village, located in Mulugu district, Telangana, inside the Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary along the banks of the Godavari tributary.
- The festival is organized in memory of two tribal women warriors, Sammakka and her daughter Sarakka (also known as Saralamma), who fought against the Kakatiya rulers in the 12th-13th century for the rights of the tribal people.
- Both mother and daughter became symbols of resistance, self-respect, and sacrifice for tribal communities.

Significance**Tribal Heritage & Identity**

- The Jatara is deeply rooted in Adivasi customs, beliefs, and folklore.
- It honors Sammakka and Sarakka as deified heroines who defended tribal autonomy and dignity.



(Source: The Hindu)

Community Participation

- Unlike temple-based rituals, the festival is conducted in a forest setting without permanent idol worship.

- Devotees offer jaggery (equal to their body weight), turmeric, vermilion, and traditional animal sacrifices (in some cases) as part of their vows.

Scale of the Festival

- Attracts around 1 to 2 crore devotees (10–20 million) during the 4-day event, making it one of the largest tribal gatherings in the world.
- The state government declares it a state festival, and arranges elaborate infrastructure, health, sanitation, drinking water, and transport facilities.

Cultural Integration

- The Jatara is not confined to tribals; it brings together people from **all castes and communities**, reinforcing **social harmony and inclusiveness**.

States Involved

While the core of the Jatara is in **Telangana**, devotees come in large numbers from multiple states:

- **Telangana** → Local tribal groups like Koya, Gond, Naikpod, Kolam, Lambada are the primary participants.
- **Andhra Pradesh** → Devotees from tribal belts of Andhra, particularly north coastal districts.
- **Chhattisgarh** → Tribal communities with shared cultural ties with Telangana tribals.
- **Maharashtra** → Gond and other Adivasi groups.
- **Odisha** → Particularly from southern Odisha's tribal districts.
- Thus, the Jatara acts as a cultural bridge across central and southern India.

Conclusion

- The Sammakka-Sarakka Jatara is not just a religious gathering but a mass tribal movement celebrating resistance,

sacrifice, and cultural identity.

- Its recognition as the “Kumbh Mela of the South” reflects both its massive scale and its significance in upholding tribal pride while also drawing lakhs of non-tribal devotees, making it a festival of unity, faith, and heritage.

Telangana HC upholds 100 per cent quota for STs in sarpanch posts of Scheduled Areas

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/telangana/2025/Aug/21/telangana-hc-upholds-100-per-cent-quota-for-sts-in-sarpanch-posts-of-scheduled-areas>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Reservation for STs in Sarpanch Posts

Why in News

The Telangana High Court upheld the state government's policy of providing 100% reservation for Scheduled Tribes (STs) in sarpanch posts of panchayats in Scheduled Areas.

Introduction

- The **Telangana High Court** dismissed a petition challenging the state government's policy of providing **100% reservation for Scheduled Tribes (STs)** in sarpanch posts of panchayats located in **Scheduled Areas**.
- The court upheld the state's stand that the policy is consistent with the constitutional framework and the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996.
- This judgment highlights the interplay between tribal self-governance, constitutional safeguards, and the principle of equality, raising important questions on affirmative action in local

governance.

Case Background

- **Petitioner:** Non-Tribal Welfare Society, represented by its secretary K. Madhu (Kothagudem district).
- **Claim:** The policy violates constitutional provisions, particularly **Article 14 (equality before law)**, by excluding non-tribals from contesting.
- **Respondent (State of Telangana):** Defended the policy citing PESA Act, 1996 and **Article 243D(4)** of the Constitution.
- **Court's Verdict:** A Division Bench of **Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh** and **Justice GM Mohiuddin** dismissed the petition and refused to stall upcoming local body elections.



(Image Source: New Indian Express)

Constitutional & Legal Basis

1. Fifth Schedule of the Constitution

- Governs the administration of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes.
- Empowers the Governor and State to make special provisions for tribal welfare.

2. Article 243D(4) - Reservation in Panchayats

- Provides for reservation of chairperson posts in Panchayats.
- Under PESA, 1996, Article 243D(4) is extended to Scheduled Areas.

Mandate: Chairperson (sarpanch) posts in Scheduled Areas must be **exclusively**

reserved for Scheduled Tribes.

3. Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996

- Enacted to extend Part IX of the Constitution (Panchayats) to Scheduled Areas.
- **Section 4 of PESA:** Empowers Gram Sabhas and reserves leadership roles for STs to ensure self-rule and protection from exploitation.

Significance of the Judgment

Affirmation of Tribal Self-Governance:

- Ensures STs hold leadership positions in their traditional areas.
- Empowers communities historically marginalized in political processes.

Protection Against Exploitation:

- Prevents non-tribals from dominating local bodies in Scheduled Areas.
- Preserves tribal identity, culture, and resource control.

Strengthening Decentralization:

- Aligns with 73rd Constitutional Amendment (1992) objectives of empowering local governance.
- Ensures local institutions are truly representative of tribal interests.

Criticism and Concerns

Exclusivity vs. Equality:

- Critics argue that 100% reservation excludes non-tribal residents, raising constitutional concerns under Article 14 and basic structure principles.

Practical Challenges:

- In some Scheduled Areas, demographic shifts mean non-tribals form significant populations; complete exclusion may cause governance gaps or resentment.

Implementation Issues:

- Ensuring that elected ST sarpanches are not reduced to figureheads controlled by

local elites or external forces remains a challenge.

Policy Linkages

- **PESA Act, 1996:** Seeks to protect tribal self-rule and resources.
- **Forest Rights Act, 2006:** Strengthens community rights over forest land.
- **Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP):** Ensures financial allocation for tribal development.
- **National Tribal Policy (Draft):** Recognizes the role of political empowerment in holistic tribal development.

Way Forward

- **Balancing Representation and Inclusivity:** While protecting ST rights, mechanisms can be evolved for consultative roles for non-tribal residents in local governance.
- **Capacity Building:** Training programs for ST sarpanches in administration, finance, and law to strengthen governance.
- **Monitoring Mechanisms:** Independent oversight to ensure elected sarpanches genuinely exercise decision-making power.
- **Periodic Review:** Evaluating the long-term impact of 100% reservation on governance, inclusivity, and tribal welfare.

Conclusion

- The Telangana High Court's ruling upholding 100% reservation for STs in sarpanch posts in Scheduled Areas underscores India's constitutional commitment to tribal self-rule and protection of marginalized communities.
- While it strengthens affirmative action under PESA, 1996, the policy also raises debates on balancing tribal autonomy

with constitutional equality.

- Going forward, ensuring effective implementation and inclusive participation will be critical for the success of such measures.

Peddapalli photographer bags two State awards on World Photography Day

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/peddapalli-photographer-bags-two-state-awards-on-world-photography-day>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and Honours

Context: Sammakka-Sarakka Jatara

Why in News

On World Photography Day 2025, rural photographer Erukulla Veeresham from Peddapalli, Telangana, won two State-level awards for capturing government welfare schemes—Rajiv Yuva Vikasam and Rythu Bharosa.

Background

- On the occasion of World Photography Day (19th August 2025), rural photographer Erukulla Veeresham from Peddapalli district, Telangana, was conferred with two State-level awards for his photographic works that highlighted the government's flagship welfare schemes.
- The awards were presented by I&PR Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy at a programme held in Hyderabad.

Details of the Awards

- **Organiser:** Information and Public Relations (I&PR) Department, Government of Telangana.
- **Theme:** Photographic representation of State welfare schemes.

- **Achievements:**
- **Third Prize** - *Rajiv Yuva Vikasam* category.
- **Consolation Prize** - *Rythu Bharosa* category.

These recognitions underscore the importance of **visual storytelling** in promoting **social development programmes**.

Significance of the Achievement

1. Recognition of Grassroots Talent

- Erukulla Veeresham, a rural photographer, represents how talent from non-urban areas can gain recognition at the State level.
- Highlights the democratization of media and arts, where rural voices and perspectives are celebrated.

2. Role of Photography in Governance

- Photography serves as a powerful medium for awareness of welfare schemes, bridging the gap between policy and people.
- Visual documentation makes welfare initiatives relatable and emotionally engaging for the public.

3. Linking Culture with Development

- Celebrating World Photography Day through a welfare-centric contest reflects the synergy of cultural expression and developmental communication.
- Encourages youth and creative professionals to engage in nation-building narratives.

About the Schemes Highlighted

- **Rajiv Yuva Vikasam:** Focuses on youth empowerment through **skill development, employment opportunities, and leadership training.**
- **Rythu Bharosa:** A flagship farmer-support scheme providing **direct income support, input subsidies, and**

agricultural assistance to improve rural livelihoods.

By choosing these themes, Veeresham's works highlighted the **State's socio-economic priorities**—youth empowerment and farmers' welfare.

Analytical Takeaway

The recognition of Erukulla Veeresham illustrates how **grassroots artists** can play a transformative role in governance by:

- **Amplifying welfare initiatives through creative mediums.**
- Bringing **authentic rural perspectives** into mainstream discourse.
- Demonstrating that **cultural expression** can directly contribute to **awareness and effectiveness of public policy.**

Conclusion

- The dual recognition of rural photographer **Erukulla Veeresham** on **World Photography Day 2025** exemplifies the intersection of **art, governance, and social development.**
- His work not only brings visibility to Telangana's welfare schemes but also highlights the **role of rural talent in nation-building.**

Peddapalli's Taniparthi Chikitha wins gold at World Archery Youth Championship

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/peddapallis-taniparthi-chikitha-wins-gold-at-world-archery-youth-championship>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: World Archery Youth Championship

Why in News

Taniparthi Chikitha from Peddapalli, Telangana, became the first Indian female

compound archer to win the junior world title by clinching gold at the Winnipeg 2025 World Archery Youth Championship.

Introduction

- Taniparthi Chikitha, a young archer from Peddapalli district, Telangana, has etched her name in history by becoming the first Indian female compound archer to win the Junior World Title.
- She secured the gold medal in the compound individual category at the Winnipeg 2025 World Archery Youth Championship, held in Canada from August 19-26, 2025.
- This milestone marks a defining moment for Indian archery on the global stage.

Key Highlights of the Achievement

- Event: World Archery Youth Championship 2025, Winnipeg, Canada.
- Category: Compound Individual (Junior).
- Final Match: Defeated South Korea's Park Yerin with a score of 142-136.
- Historical First: Became the first Indian female compound archer to claim the junior world title.
- Background: Resident of Sultanpur, Eligedu mandal, Peddapalli district (Telangana).
- Past Record: Already a national and international medal winner, showcasing consistent talent before this historic victory.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

About the World Archery Youth Championship

- Organized by World Archery Federation, the global governing body for the sport.
- Features competitions in Recurve and Compound categories, across cadet and junior divisions.
- Provides a platform for young archers to showcase skills at the international level.

Broader Significance

1. Women Empowerment and Representation in Sports

- Chikitha's win reflects the breaking of barriers for women in a sport traditionally dominated by men.
- Inspires young women from rural areas, especially in Telangana, to pursue sports professionally.

2. India's Growing Global Sporting Presence

- Adds to India's recent success stories in archery and strengthens India's reputation as a rising archery powerhouse.
- Complements India's performance in recurve events (Olympic category), showing potential in compound archery, which is gaining international recognition.

3. Role of Telangana in Sports Development

Telangana has been actively promoting **sports academies and training facilities**, producing champions in badminton (P. V. Sindhu), boxing (Nikhat Zareen), and now archery.

Chikitha's success highlights the **grassroots sports culture** in districts like Peddapalli.

4. Youth and National Pride

- Victory by a young sportsperson embodies the demographic dividend of

India, where youth are increasingly excelling on global platforms.

- Symbolizes the potential of rural India in contributing to national pride.

Compound Archery

- Unlike recurve bows (Olympic category), compound bows use a levering system of cables and pulleys.
- Provides greater accuracy and stability, making it highly competitive at international levels.
- Though not yet an Olympic event, it features in World Archery Championships, Asian Games, and World Cups.

Nehru Zoological Park achieves first successful breeding of Indian Wolves

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/hyderabad-nehru-zoological-park-achieves-first-successful-breeding-of-indian-wolves>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Ecology

Context: Breeding of Indian Wolves

Why in News

For the first time, Nehru Zoological Park (Hyderabad) has successfully bred Indian Wolves, marking a milestone in ex-situ wildlife conservation and genetic diversity efforts.

Introduction

- In a historic first, the Nehru Zoological Park (NZN), Hyderabad, has successfully bred Indian Wolves (*Canis lupus pallipes*), marking a major breakthrough in India's efforts at wildlife breeding and conservation.
- The birth of five wolf pups reflects the zoo's sustained scientific breeding programme aimed not only at population enhancement of endangered

species but also at ensuring genetic diversity to prevent inbreeding.

Key Highlights

First-time Breeding of Indian Wolves:

- Five wolf pups born in captivity at NZP, kept off-display until they grow and bond with parents.
- Marks the first successful breeding of this species since the zoo's inception.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

Overall Zoo Progress:

- Between April 2024–March 2025, nearly **80 new births** recorded, including White Tigers, Black Bucks, Sambar Deer, Nilgai, and Four-Horned Antelope.
- Since April 2025, about **40 births** including White Tigers, Bengal Tigers, Indian Wolves, Hog Deer, Golden Jackals, and Asian Palm Civets.

Conservation Measures:

- Zoo's breeding programme focuses on **enhancing endangered populations**.
- Efforts made to **introduce new bloodlines** through animal exchange with other zoos to avoid genetic disorders from inbreeding.
- Example: The Asiatic Lion at NZP suffers from hind leg paralysis due to inbreeding – highlighting the need for genetic diversification.

Ecological and Conservation Significance

For Indian Wolves

- The Indian Wolf is a subspecies of the

Grey Wolf, found across peninsular India.

- Classified as Endangered in many states due to habitat loss, human-wildlife conflict, and decline in prey base.
- Successful captive breeding provides a safety net population for conservation and potential reintroduction programmes.

For Genetic Diversity

- Inbreeding in captive populations leads to reduced fitness, genetic disorders, and diseases.
- Introducing new bloodlines ensures stronger, healthier populations, better suited for long-term survival.

For Indian Zoos and Conservation Policy

- Zoos are moving beyond being mere display centres towards ex-situ conservation hubs.
- NZP's achievement aligns with National Zoo Policy (1998), which emphasizes breeding of endangered species for scientific conservation.

Broader Implications

- **Wildlife Protection:** Supports India's commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and national goals of conserving biodiversity.
- **Educational and Awareness Value:** Successful breeding enhances public awareness about lesser-known species like the Indian Wolf, often overshadowed by tigers and lions.
- **Conservation Synergy:** Complements in-situ conservation efforts (like sanctuaries and protected areas) with ex-situ strategies (zoos and breeding centres).

NFHS Data Raises Red Flag over Anaemia Crisis in Telangana

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/over-half-of-telanganas-women-and-children-found-anemic-nfhs-data-rings-alarm-bells>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Public Health

Context: Anaemia Crisis in Telangana

Why in News

NFHS-5 data shows 70% of children (6-59 months) and 57.6% of women (15-49 years) in Telangana are anaemic.

Introduction

- Anaemia is a serious public health problem in India, particularly among women and children. It is primarily caused by iron deficiency but may also result from deficiencies of folate, Vitamin B12, or chronic infections.
- The National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5, 2019-21) has revealed a disturbing trend: despite multiple government interventions, the prevalence of anemia has **worsened** in Telangana, posing a major challenge to the state's health system.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

NFHS Data on Anaemia in Telangana

- **Children (6 months - 5 years):**
NFHS-4 (2015-16): 60.7%
NFHS-5 (2019-21): 70%
→ Over two-thirds of young children are anaemic, higher than the national average (67.1%).
- **Women (15-49 years):**

NFHS-4: 56.6%

NFHS-5: 57.6%

→ More than half of women in reproductive age are affected, close to the national average (57%).

- **Adolescent Girls (15-19 years):**

NFHS-4: 55.4%

NFHS-5: 59.1%

→ Significant rise among teenage girls, impacting future maternal health.

- **Adolescent Boys:**

NFHS-4: 29.2%

NFHS-5: 31.1%

→ Often neglected in policy focus but showing an upward trend.

- **Pregnant Women (15-49 years):**

NFHS-4: 52.2%

NFHS-5: 53.9%

→ Pregnancy increases nutritional demand, making this a serious maternal health concern.

Causes of Rising Anaemia Levels

- **Nutritional Deficiencies**
- Low intake of iron-rich foods like green leafy vegetables, pulses, and animal proteins.
- Diets dominated by cereals with poor micronutrient density.
- **Iron Deficiency Anemia**
- Inadequate iron absorption due to low dietary diversity.
- Cultural food practices limiting consumption of non-vegetarian sources of iron.
- **Lack of Fortified Foods**
- Limited access to fortified rice, wheat flour, and double-fortified salt.
- Fortification initiatives not reaching rural and vulnerable groups adequately.
- **Poor Maternal and Child Health**

Practices

- Low adherence to Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) supplementation during pregnancy.
- Poor compliance in school-based supplementation programmes.
- **Infections and Disease Burden**
- Worm infestations, malaria, and chronic illnesses aggravate anemia.
- **Socio-economic Factors**
- Poverty, food insecurity, and gender discrimination in intra-household food distribution.

Public Health Implications

Impact on Women

- Increased maternal mortality due to complications in pregnancy and childbirth.
- Higher risk of premature births and low birth weight infants.

Impact on Children

- Impaired cognitive development, poor academic performance, and stunted growth.
- Increased susceptibility to infections due to weakened immunity.

Economic and Social Consequences

- Reduced productivity in the working-age population.
- Long-term impact on human capital development, hindering Telangana's growth.

Government Programmes Addressing Anemia

- **Anaemia Mukta Bharat (AMB) Strategy (2018):** Targets reducing anaemia among children, adolescents, and women through iron supplementation and deworming.
- **Poshan Abhiyaan (2018):** Focus on nutrition awareness, dietary

diversification, and strengthening Anganwadi centres.

- **Food Fortification Initiatives:** Distribution of fortified rice under PDS, ICDS, and Mid-Day Meal schemes.
- **Weekly Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation (WIFS):** Targeting adolescents in schools and Anganwadi centres.

National Teachers' Awards 2025

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/suryapet-teacher-selected-for-national-teachers-awards-2025/article69976002.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and honours

Context: National Teachers' Awards

Why in News

Maram Pavithra has been selected for the National Teachers' Awards 2025 and will be felicitated by President Droupadi Murmu on Teachers' Day.

Introduction

- Maram Pavithra, a teacher at the Zilla Parishad High School, Penpahad mandal, Suryapet district (Telangana), has been selected for the prestigious National Teachers' Awards 2025.
- She is the only teacher from Telangana among the 45 selected nationwide, which also includes five teachers from PM SHRI schools.
- The award will be presented on Teachers' Day (September 5, 2025) by the **President of India, Droupadi Murmu**, in New Delhi.

About Maram Pavithra's Selection

Unique Recognition: Out of six final nominations from Telangana, Ms. Pavithra's name was chosen.

Award Components:

- Certificate of merit
- ₹50,000 cash prize
- Silver medal
- **Institution:** She serves in a **government-run Zilla Parishad High School**, reflecting the role of teachers in strengthening public education.



(Image Source: Ministry of Education)

About the National Teachers' Awards

- **Established:** 1958 (Ministry of Education, GoI).
- **Objective:** To celebrate and honour meritorious teachers for their contribution to **improving the quality of school education** and inspiring students.

Selection Process:

- Online nominations invited from across states/UTs, CBSE, KVS, NVS, CISCE, PM SHRI schools, and other institutions.
- Multi-stage scrutiny including district, state, and national-level committees.
- Transparent, merit-based selection emphasizing innovation, student engagement, and community impact.
- **Number of Awards:** Traditionally **50 awards** every year; for 2025, **45 teachers** were selected.

Significance of the Award

- **Recognition of Excellence:** Motivates teachers to adopt **innovative pedagogical practices**.
- **Encouragement to Public School**

Teachers: Highlights contributions from Zilla Parishad schools, where teachers often work with limited resources.

- National Integration: Honours teachers across India, showcasing diverse educational contexts and success stories.
- Policy Linkages: Aligns with NEP 2020 goals of teacher development, innovation, and digital learning.

Teachers' Day - Background

- Celebrated annually on September 5, the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (India's second President, eminent philosopher, and teacher).
- Aimed at highlighting the role of teachers in nation-building.

Broader Implications

- Telangana's representation through Ms. Pavithra demonstrates the State's focus on education reforms and recognition of grassroots teachers.
- Awards like these complement capacity-building initiatives such as NISHTHA training, DIKSHA digital platform, and PM SHRI schools.
- Encourages more teachers to participate in innovative education, community outreach, and student-centric learning.

Conclusion

- The recognition of Maram Pavithra at the National Teachers' Awards 2025 underscores the vital role of teachers in shaping India's educational landscape.
- By honouring dedicated educators, the Government reinforces the vision of empowering teachers as key agents of change, in line with the NEP 2020 and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 - Quality Education.

Rare Chaturmukha Nandeeshwara Lingam Found at 1,600-Year-Old Buddhist Site in Hyderabad

Source: New Indian Express



<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/teelangana/2025/Aug/26/rare-chaturmukha-nandeeshwara-lingam-found-at-1600-year-old-buddhist-site-in-hyderabad>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Art and Culture

Context: Buddhist Site in Hyderabad

Why in News

A rare Chaturmukha Nandeeshwara Lingam was discovered at Phanigiri Kosagundla Narasimha Swamy temple, Hyderabad

Introduction

A rare **Chaturmukha Nandeeshwara Lingam** was discovered at Phanigiri Kosagundla Narasimha Swamy temple, Hyderabad

Discovery and Historical Background

- A rare Chaturmukha Nandeeshwara Lingam was discovered at Phanigiri Kosagundla Narasimha Swamy temple, Hyderabad, a site originally part of the Govindaraja Vihara, a Hinayana Buddhist monastery over 1,600 years old.
- The site was constructed during the rule of early Vishnukundin kings around 400 CE, reflecting the region's historical significance as a cradle of religious and cultural transition.

Telangana's Unique Art and Cultural Aspects

- Geographical Significance in Telangana's Heritage:
- The find is from Hyderabad's Chaitanyapuri, while related examples exist in Telangana's Jogulamba Gadwal district (Rangapuram and Ghumakonda). These sites collectively mark Telangana as a center of early Shaivite religious art.

Evolution of Shaiva Iconography in Telangana:

- The Chaturmukha (four-faced) Nandeeshwara Lingam represents an artistic evolution unique to the region, with four Nandi bulls carved in the cardinal directions guarding the central Shivalinga, symbolizing Shaiva protective traditions developing in Telangana.
- This style was later embraced and elaborated upon in prominent Telangana temples such as the Alampur Jogulamba temple and the Srisailam temple, which are among South India's important Shaiva pilgrimage centers.

Cultural Transition in Telangana:

- The discovery reflects Telangana's historical religious shift from Buddhism to Shaivism during the medieval period.
- The patronage transition from Vishnukundin Buddhist rulers to Shaivite dynasties like the Kakatiyas, who made significant contributions to temple architecture and Shaiva culture in Telangana, is symbolized in such sculptural relics.

Telangana's Contribution to Temple Architecture:

- The cultural importance of the four

Nandi motif is reinforced through its continuation in Telangana's artistic legacy, inspiring the Chaturmukha Basaveshwara Lingas seen in Nagarkurnool district and influencing temple complexes with elaborate Nandi mandapas in Telangana.

- The Telangana region's tradition of integrative temple designs combining functionality, religious symbolism, and protective motifs is demonstrated in this sculptural form.

Historical Literature and Telangana Artistic Patronage:



- The 13th-century Telugu poet Palkuriki Somana's work Panditaradhya Charitra, which elaborates on the Chaturmukha Basaveshwara Lingas,** highlights the longstanding cultural importance of these motifs in Telangana's regional literature and religious history.

Significance for Telangana

- Showcases Telangana's rich, layered cultural history blending Buddhist and Shaiva traditions.
- Highlights Telangana as a key site in the transition and sustenance of Shaivism, influencing temple art, religious architecture, and devotional culture.
- Emphasizes how Telangana's ancient sites continue to provide archaeological and artistic evidence of India's spiritual evolution, vital for UPSC Culture and

History portions.

UoH's Prof M Ghanashyam Krishna elected Academician of Asia Pacific Academy of Materials

Source: The Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/uohs-prof-m-ghanashyam-krishna-elected-academician-of-asia-pacific-academy-of-materials>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Awards and honours

Context: Academic Research in Telangana

Why in News

Prof M Ghanashyam Krishna of the University of Hyderabad (UoH) has been elected as an Academician of the prestigious Asia Pacific Academy of Materials (APAM) for his distinguished work on thin films, nanostructured materials, and sensors.

Key Highlights

- The APAM is a scientific body promoting collaborative advanced materials research across the Asia-Pacific region.
- Prof Krishna is only the second faculty from UoH to receive this honour, after Prof T P Radhakrishnan.
- His research focuses on processing, characterisation, and fabrication of thin-film-based devices important for electronics, optics, and sensors.
- Prof Krishna is also a Fellow of the Telangana Academy of Sciences and Andhra Pradesh Academy of Sciences, reflecting his regional and national recognition.

About University of Hyderabad and Telangana Research Institutions

- University of Hyderabad is a premier Central University known for its strong

emphasis on multidisciplinary advanced research, especially in areas like materials science, nanotechnology, life sciences, and engineering.

- The university actively engages with national (DST, DBT, etc.) and international grants and awards many faculty and students for innovation, publication, and patents.

Telangana High Court lifts stay on Sada Bainamas registrations

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/telangana-high-court-lifts-stay-on-sada-bainamas-registrations>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Bhū Bharati Act, 2025

Why in News

The Telangana High Court has lifted the 2020 stay on Sada Bainama registrations, allowing the state to proceed under the Telangana Bhū Bharati (Record of Rights in Land) Act, 2025.

Introduction

- The Telangana High Court has lifted the interim stay imposed in 2020 on the registration of Sada Bainamas, paving the way for the state government to implement provisions under the newly enacted Telangana Bhū Bharati (Record of Rights in Land) Act, 2025.
- The order came in response to a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) challenging the 2020 Government Order (GO 112), which had been stayed earlier.

Background

- Sada Bainama: It refers to a type of land record pertaining to ownership and regularisation of agricultural land.
- In 2020, the Telangana government issued GO 112 (October 12, 2020) to

regularize Sada Bainamas, which was challenged in court, leading to a stay on **registrations** by a Division Bench of the High Court.

- The PIL was filed by **Shinde Devidas of Nirmal district**, raising concerns about **irregularities and ineligible applicants** benefiting from the process.

Telangana Bhu Bharati Act, 2025

- The **Bhu Bharati Act, 2025** aims to consolidate and update land records, providing a **legal framework for regularization and registration of Sada Bainamas**.
- **Section 6 of the Act** empowers the government to regularize Sada Bainamas, subject to eligibility criteria, including:
 - Proof of possession for at least 12 years prior to June 2, 2014
 - Verification to prevent registration by ineligible applicants.



(Image Source: Telangana Today)

High Court's Observations and Orders

- **Bench Composition:** Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin.
- The Court observed that the challenge to GO 112 had become infructuous, as the time limits under the old law had expired.
- Any future challenges must now be directed to the provisions of the new Bhu Bharati Act, 2025 rather than the 2020

GO.

- Applications filed between October 12, 2020, and November 11, 2020 can now be processed if applicants meet the eligibility criteria.

Significance of the Decision

- **Legal Certainty:** Provides clarity on the legal framework for Sada Bainama registration under the updated Bhu Bharati Act.
- **Protection for Genuine Farmers:** Ensures that small and marginal farmers can benefit from regularization while minimizing misuse by ineligible persons.
- **Streamlining Land Records:** Supports Telangana's efforts to maintain accurate, updated, and legally recognized land ownership records, crucial for agricultural planning, credit access, and governance.
- **Judicial Efficiency:** Avoids duplication of litigation by directing that future challenges must address the new Act.

Conclusion

- The lifting of the stay on Sada Bainama registrations marks a significant step in land reforms and record modernization in Telangana.
- The Bhu Bharati Act, 2025, provides a transparent mechanism for regularization, balancing the interests of genuine farmers with safeguards against fraudulent claims.
- The decision also highlights the judicial role in aligning older regulations with new legislative frameworks for effective governance.

₹1,000 crore released to beneficiaries of Indiramma Houses so far

Source: The Hindu

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/te-langana/1000-crore-released-to-beneficiaries-of-c-so-far/article69980385.ece>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Governance

Context: Indiramma Housing Scheme in Telangana

Why in News

The Telangana government has disbursed around ₹1,000 crore under the Indiramma Housing Scheme, with construction underway for 2.04 lakh houses and staged payments linked to verified construction progress.

Introduction

- The Telangana government continues its focus on providing affordable housing to economically weaker sections through the Indiramma Housing Scheme.
- As of August 2025, around ₹1,000 crore has been released to beneficiaries, and construction of 2.04 lakh houses is underway.
- The scheme emphasizes financial assistance, transparency, and timely fund disbursement for eligible beneficiaries.

Financial Assistance and Disbursement

Each beneficiary receives **₹5 lakh** for house construction under the scheme.

The amount is **disbursed in four instalments** tied to the progress of construction:

- ₹1 lakh upon completion of the basement
- ₹1.25 lakh after completion of walls
- ₹1.75 lakh after laying the slab
- ₹1 lakh upon completion of the house
- Beneficiaries or **panchayat secretaries**

must upload **photos of the construction stage** on the Indiramma Houses App to facilitate fund release.



(Image Source: Raj mudra news)

Current Progress

- Construction has started for 2.04 lakh houses.
- Basements of 1 lakh houses have been completed.
- Fund release is scheduled to occur every Monday, within 15 days of verification for each stage.

Transparency and Anti-Corruption Measures

Officials have been instructed to **spread awareness** regarding fund release procedures and timelines.

Complaints regarding **demanding bribes for bill release** are taken seriously.

The managing director, **VP Gautham**, stated that such complaints will result in **departmental action** and may be forwarded to the **Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB)** for investigation.

Significance of the Scheme

- **Socio-Economic Impact:** Provides secure housing to economically weaker sections, enhancing their living standards and social security.
- **Digital Transparency:** Use of the Indiramma Houses App ensures monitoring and accountability at every stage of construction.

- **Efficient Governance:** The staged fund release tied to construction progress minimizes misuse of funds.
- **Community Engagement:** Involvement of beneficiaries and local panchayats empowers local communities and ensures timely verification.

Conclusion

- The Indiramma Housing Scheme demonstrates Telangana's commitment to affordable housing and transparent governance.

Niti Aayog highlights Moringa cultivation success in Telangana

Source: New Indian Express

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/te/2025/Aug/27/niti-aayog-highlights-moringa-cultivation-success-in-telangana>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Agriculture

Context: Moringa cultivation

Why in News

Moringa cultivation in Bhadradi Kothagudem, Telangana, has enhanced farmer incomes and addressed nutritional deficiencies.



(Image Source: The Hindu)

Introduction

- Niti Aayog, in its report "*Stories of Change – Aspirational Districts and Blocks*", highlighted the success of **Moringa cultivation in Bhadradi Kothagudem district, Telangana**, where farmers have

recorded higher earnings compared to traditional crops, while simultaneously addressing nutritional deficiencies in the tribal-dominated region.

Key Highlights

Area under Cultivation:

- 415 acres brought under Moringa cultivation within one year.
- 100 acres under dedicated plantations, ~300 acres intercropped with oil palm and **other crops**.

Income Potential:

- Farmers informed that 1,000 Moringa trees per acre can generate around Rs 2 lakh in 7-8 months.
- Additional Rs 20,000 per acre from leaf sales.
- The cultivation offers higher returns compared to **traditional crops**.

Integrated Farming Approach:

- Moringa cultivation promoted as part of integrated farming, combining:
 - Vegetable intercropping
 - Poultry and goat rearing
 - Aquaculture through small farm ponds
- Example: A farmer, Jameel from Mylaram village, used Moringa leaves to feed poultry and now plans to expand into quail farming.

Nutritional and Health Benefits:

- Moringa leaves are rich in vitamins and minerals, helping address anaemia and sickle cell anaemia prevalent in the tribal population.
- Leaves encouraged for household consumption **and animal feed**, improving both human and livestock nutrition.
- Considered integral to Anaemia Mukta Bharat, a central government initiative to reduce anaemia in India.

Government Promotion and Adoption:

- District administration actively promoted Moringa cultivation to tackle both income and nutrition challenges.
- Officials expect more farmers to adopt the crop in coming seasons, given its profitability and health benefits.

Implications**Economic Empowerment:**

- Tribal farmers can achieve higher incomes in a short period compared to traditional crops.
- Diversification into poultry, goat rearing, and aquaculture strengthens rural livelihoods.

Nutritional Security:

- Regular consumption of Moringa leaves can combat micronutrient deficiencies.
- Integration into household diets and animal feed ensures sustainable nutrition improvements.

Model for Other Regions:

- The success in Bhadradi Kothagudem can serve as a replicable model for other tribal and aspirational districts in India.

Contribution to National Schemes:

- Aligns with the objectives of Anaemia Mukh Bharat, supporting national efforts to reduce anaemia prevalence among vulnerable populations.

Conclusion

- Moringa cultivation in Bhadradi Kothagudem exemplifies how innovative agricultural practices can simultaneously improve income, nutrition, and health in tribal regions.
- By promoting integrated farming, the initiative not only enhances livelihoods but also addresses critical public health challenges, positioning Moringa as a **key crop in the state's sustainable development strategy**.

Godavari-Cauvery River link: NWDA rejects Telangana, Karnataka water demands

Source: Telangana Today

<https://telanganatoday.com/godavari-cauvery-river-link-nwda-rejects-telangana-karnataka-water-demands>

TGPSC Syllabus Relevance: Rivers

Context: Godavari-Cauvery River link

Why in News

The Godavari-Cauvery River Linking Project, part of India's National Perspective Plan, faces inter-state disputes, funding issues, and MoU delays.

Introduction

- The Godavari-Cauvery River Linking Project is a critical component of India's National Perspective Plan (NPP) for interlinking rivers.
- The project aims to divert surplus water from the Godavari River to water-deficit regions in southern India, enhancing irrigation, drinking water supply, and industrial needs.

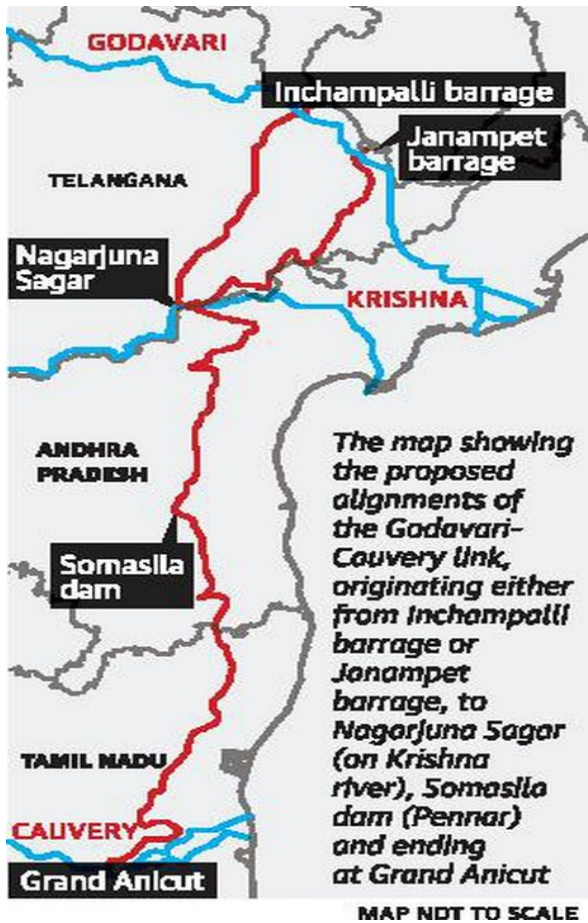
Current Developments:

- The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) is in the process of finalising the Detailed Project Report (DPR) by December 2025.
- Recent consultations highlighted fresh hurdles, particularly regarding additional water share demands from Telangana and Karnataka, which NWDA rejected to protect the Godavari's core allocations.
- NWDA has emphasised that diverting 148 tmcft from the Indravati sub-basin via Inchampalli barrage imposes limitations, and meeting all state

demands would compromise the project's viability.

Proposed Water Allocation (tmcft):

State	Allocation
Telangana	44
Andhra Pradesh	44
Karnataka	16
Tamil Nadu	41



(Image Source: the Hindu)

Key Issues and Inter-State Disputes:

Telangana:

- Seeks 74 tmcft, higher than the proposed 44 tmcft.
- Advocates using the Sammakka barrage at 83–87 metres to minimise land acquisition and protect existing projects (Sitamma, Sammakka, Devadula).

Karnataka:

- Pushing for more than 16 tmcft, citing

increased water needs.

Andhra Pradesh:

- Focused on the Polavaram project, which may affect regional allocations.

Chhattisgarh:

- Opposes diversion of water from the Indravati sub-basin, arguing that planned projects like Bodhghat mean its water is not surplus.

Odisha:

- Raises concerns linked to the Mahanadi water dispute and potential downstream impacts.

Tamil Nadu and Puducherry:

- Strongly support the project, seeking 41 tmcft for irrigation, drinking, and industrial purposes.

Administrative and Policy Challenges:

- Absence of a signed MoU between states delays project approvals.
- Funding issues pose a challenge for infrastructure development.
- Need for inter-state cooperation as emphasised by the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- Failure to resolve disputes may delay irrigation of 5.74 lakh hectares in drought-prone areas of southern India.

Significance of the Project:

- Irrigation: Targets 5.74 lakh hectares in water-deficit regions.
- Drinking Water Supply: Provides a reliable source to urban and rural areas in southern India.
- Industrial Development: Ensures water availability for industrial activities, promoting economic growth.
- Drought Mitigation: Critical for southern India, which faces seasonal water shortages.
- National Water Security: Strengthens the integrated management of water

resources in line with India's interlinking of rivers initiative.

Way Forward:

- Swift resolution of inter-state water disputes through dialogue, arbitration, or a central mediation mechanism.
- Finalisation of a signed MoU detailing allocations and project design.
- Alignment with state-specific projects like Polavaram and Bodhghat to prevent conflicts.
- Prioritisation of funding and project execution to avoid further delays in irrigation and water supply benefits.
- Stakeholder engagement to ensure social and environmental safeguards, particularly in areas of land acquisition and ecological impact.

Conclusion:

- The Godavari-Cauvery River Linking Project holds strategic importance for southern India's water security, yet inter-state disputes, funding challenges, and infrastructure bottlenecks threaten timely implementation.
- Resolving these issues will be critical to achieving the project's objectives of irrigation expansion, drought mitigation, and equitable water distribution across the southern state.

