

# VEDHIK

## DAILY NEWS ANALYSIS

10 - JAN - 2023

## FOREWORD

We, at Team Vedhik is happy to introduce a new initiative - "Vedhik - Daily News Analysis (DNA)\_The Hindu" compilations to help you with UPSC Civil Services Examination preparation. We believe this initiative - "Vedhik - Daily News Analysis (DNA)\_The Hindu " would help students, especially beginners save time and streamline their preparations with regard to Current Affairs. A content page and an Appendix has been added segregating and mapping the content to the syllabus. It is an appreciable efforts by Vedhik IAS Academy helping aspirants of UPSC Civil Services Examinations. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Babu Sebastian, former VC - MG University in extending all support to this endeavour. Finally I also extend my thanks to thank Ms. Shilpa Sasidharan and Mr. Shahul Hameed for their assistance in the preparing the compilations.

We welcome your valuable comments so that further improvement may be made in the forthcoming material. We look forward to feedback, comments and suggestions on how to improve and add value for students. Every care has been taken to avoid typing errors and if any reader comes across any such error, the authors shall feel obliged if they are informed at their Email ID.

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# Nation will protect its diaspora, Modi tells overseas Indians

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

India will nurture and protect its diaspora spread across the world, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday. Inaugurating the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention in Indore, Mr. Modi urged members of the diaspora to become representatives of “India’s heritage”. He termed every overseas Indian “Bharatvanshi”, and promised the government’s support for his or her well-being.

“In the last eight years, India has tried to strengthen its diaspora. It is India’s commitment today that wherever you are, the country is for your interests and expectations,” he said, adding that the “lives, the struggle and the contributions” of the “Pravasi Bharatiyas” in their respective countries should be chronicled through “universities and research institutions”.

Mr. Modi said the diaspora represented a “powerful and capable India” adding that the diaspora could help introduce India to the world.

“You are the *rashtradoots* [national ambassadors] of India’s heritage, of Make in India, of yoga and



Narendra Modi launches a commemorative stamp at the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas event in Indore on Monday. ANI

ayurveda, of India’s cottage industries and handicrafts. At the same time, you are also the brand ambassadors of India’s millets,” said Mr. Modi urging delegates at the convention to try and take some of the millet products back home.

He mentioned that 2023 had been declared the “International Year of Millets”.

Mr. Modi highlighted India’s strengths in space technology and counter-pandemic initiatives that included the “Make in India” vaccines. He added, “G-20 is not just a diplomatic event but it should be turned into a historic event of public participation where one can witness the sentiment of ‘Atithi Devo Bhava’.”

# Glimmer of hope

## SC must provide a definitive directive on the rights of same-sex couples

**I**n a welcome move, the Supreme Court has transferred to itself petitions pending in several High Courts seeking legal recognition of same-sex marriage. A Bench of Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud and Justices P.S. Narasimha and J.B. Pardiwala asked the Centre to file its reply to all the petitions on the issue by February 15 and has listed the case for directions on March 13. Petitioners are looking for an authoritative ruling legalising same-sex marriage, especially on the question of whether it will be brought within the ambit of the Special Marriage Act of 1954, which allows a civil marriage for couples who cannot marry under their personal law. After the transformational judgment in *K.S. Puttaswamy* (2017) upholding the right to privacy and *Navtej Johar* (2018) decriminalising homosexuality, the courts have shown the way to end uncertainty regarding the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community. Petitioners have argued that denying the community the same rights as heterosexual couples violates a clutch of fundamental rights on life and liberty including Articles 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution and Article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which India is a signatory. Article 16 says, “Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family”.

The apex court will first have to contend with the response from the Centre, which has said it is opposed to same-sex marriage, stating that judicial intervention will cause “complete havoc with the delicate balance of personal laws”. There are also other issues on which the LGBTQIA+ community, which already faces prejudice in society, will need clarity from the court. Under Sections 5, 6 and 7 of the Special Marriage Act, parties to the marriage have to give prior notice to the Marriage Officer of the district who has to publicise the notice and call for objections. In the past, many inter-caste and inter-faith marriages faced violent opposition from those acting in the name of honour or community. Though the Allahabad High Court ruled in 2021 that people marrying under the Special Marriage Act can choose not to publicise their union, saying that mandatorily publishing a notice of the intended marriage and calling for objections violates the right to privacy, the LGBTQIA+ community will look for a definitive directive on this from the Supreme Court. Awareness campaigns are also a must to sensitise society about the rights of all individuals. By legalising same-sex marriage, India can join the 30-odd countries which allow it, and lead from the front in Asia where only Taiwan has legalised it.

# State govt.'s power to form committee on UCC cannot *per se* be challenged: SC

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday held that a State government's authority under the Constitution to form a committee to examine the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) cannot *per se* be challenged.

A Bench found no merit in the argument by petitioner-in-person Anoop Baranwal that only the

Centre could set up a committee for the implementation of the UCC.

The petition had challenged the Uttarakhand government's move to set up a committee on the UCC. The Uttarakhand committee is headed by former SC Justice Ranjana P. Desai.

"Article 162 of the Constitution indicates that the executive power of a State extends to matters with respect to which the Legislature of the State has pow-

er to make laws. In view of the provisions of Entry 5 of the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule, the constitution of a Committee *per se* cannot be challenged as *ultra vires*," the Supreme Court said.

Entry 5 of the Concurrent List deals with "marriage and divorce; infants and minors; adoption; wills, intestacy and succession; joint family and partition; all matters in respect of which parties in judicial

proceedings were immediately before the commencement of this Constitution subject to their personal law".

The court's refusal to interfere in the case of Uttarakhand and its recorded observations in a judicial order that State government did indeed have the power to take steps towards implementing the UCC would prove decisive and encourage other States to take similar measures.

# Opposition parties flay EC's remote voting plan

It will discourage free and fair elections, parties say at parliamentary panel meeting; they question poll body's logic that the new system for migrant workers will increase voting percentage

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

**T**he Opposition parties on Monday grilled officials of the Election Commission on the proposal to introduce a remote voting facility for migrant workers, saying it will discourage free and fair elections.

At a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Law and Justice, headed by BJP MP Sushil Modi, the parties questioned the EC's logic that the new system would increase voting percentage.

The meeting was called to discuss the "status of common electoral roll" for conducting elections, false declarations during the filing of nominations and establishing parity between the minimum age of voting and contesting elections to Parliament, State legisla-



**Questions raised:** The Election Commission has called an all-party meeting on January 16 for consultations. FILE PHOTO

tures and local bodies.

However, according to sources, a significant part of the meeting was spent to discuss the move to introduce multi-constituency remote electronic machines for migrant workers. The EC has called an all-party meeting on January 16 for consultations.

Members of the Congress, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), the

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), the Trinamool Congress and the Shiv Sena expressed serious concerns about the system.

A DMK member said the proposed voting mechanism would go against the Basic Structure of the Constitution and discourage free and fair elections. "Nominees from political parties posted at every booth act as watchdogs

guarding against any violations. Allowing [remote] polls will deny opportunity to regional parties to send in their nominees to booths," a member said.

A Congress member said the new system would be detrimental, especially for the smaller parties who might not be able to muster personnel beyond their respective States.

"The EC's justification for bringing the system is flawed. They claim that it will increase voting percentage; now South Mumbai Lok Sabha seat traditionally reports lowest voting percentage, how many migrants really live there?" a member said.

The parties also expressed reservations about the EC's plan to bring in a common electoral roll for elections to the Lok Sabha, Assemblies and local bodies.

# The delay in the decennial Census

What are the reasons for the repeated postponement of the 2021 Census? What are its two phases? How will this delay impact administrative functions, welfare schemes and other datasets? Is Census data important to understand migration and migration patterns?

## EXPLAINER

Diksha Munjal

### The story so far:

The decennial Census of 2021 has been pushed forward yet again and is unlikely to start till September 2023, at least. The Additional Registrar General of India communicated to States on January 2, without specifying a reason, that the date of freezing of administrative boundaries has been extended till June 30. The Census can only begin three months after the boundaries have been frozen, and the completion of the Census in its two phases takes at least 11 months. Thus, even if started in an urgent fashion from October this year, the possibility of its fruition in 2023 or early 2024 is ruled out, as general elections are due in March-April 2024.

### How is the Census conducted?

India's first proper or synchronous Census, one which begins on the same day or year across regions of the country, was carried out in 1881 by the colonial administration and has since happened every 10 years, except the one that was supposed to be carried out in 2021.

The decennial census is carried out by lakhs of enumerators empanelled and trained by the government in two phases. The first phase is the housing Census, where data on housing conditions, household amenities and assets possessed by households are collected and the second phase is where data on population, education, religion, economic activity, Scheduled Castes and Tribes etc are collected.

### How many times has the 2021 Census been delayed?

The Census is still conducted under the Census Act of 1948, which predates the Constitution. Notably, the Act does not bind the government to conduct the Census on a particular date or to release its data in a notified period. The Centre's intent to conduct the 2021 Census was notified in



Valuable data: A Census official collects details of a family during the first phase of the 2011 Census at a village near Siliguri. PTI

the Gazette of India on March 28, 2019. The freeze on administrative boundaries was to be effective from January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021, before the COVID-19 pandemic. On December 14, 2022, Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai informed the Rajya Sabha, "due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Census 2021 and the related field activities have been postponed until further orders." According to UN statistics, multiple countries had delayed their census exercises due to the pandemic, but many of them, like the U.S., U.K., China, and Bangladesh, have completed the count by now.

### What are implications of the delay?

The Census data is crucial for various administrative functions, welfare schemes, and other surveys. Former Union Home Secretary G.K. Pillai said that "the government should take a quick call and the delay is not good and has ramifications,". Explaining one of the implications, Mr. Pillai said that the Finance Commission allo-

cates funds to States on the basis of Census figures and any delay could put them at a disadvantage.

Besides, outdated Census information (available from the last Census in 2011) often becomes unreliable and affects those who do and do not receive the benefits of welfare schemes. As per the National Food Security Act, 2013, 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population – totalling 67% of the country's population – are entitled to receive subsidised food grains from the government under the targeted public distribution system (PDS). According to the 2011 Census, India's population was about 121 crore, and PDS beneficiaries were approximately 80 crore. However, economists Jean Dreze and Reetika Khera have pointed out that population growth over the last decade means that if the 67% ratio is applied to 2020's projected population of 137 crore, PDS coverage should have increased to around 92 crore people.

Former chairperson of the National Sta-

tistical Commission, Pronab Sen, told data journalism portal *IndiaSpend.com*, that Census data are critical for other sample surveys conducted in the country as they use the Census data as a 'frame' or list from which a representative sample of the population is selected for surveys. For the latest edition of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) released last year, it was the 2011 data that served as the sampling frame. Besides, the Census is crucial to determine the population of migrants and migration patterns. The start of the pandemic saw a sea of migrants on the country's roads, and the only data available with the government was from 2011, which could not answer queries on the numbers, causes and patterns of migration.

Former bureaucrats also advise, that the exercise of collecting data for the National Population Register (NPR), which was to happen with the first phase of the Census, should now be delinked, owing to its politically sensitive nature and the urgency of the Census.

## THE GIST

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▼ According to UN statistics, multiple countries had delayed their census exercises due to the pandemic, but many of them, like the U.S., U.K., China, and Bangladesh, have completed the count by now.

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# Time to count

The Census is too vital for the government to delay it any further

**T**he importance of the decennially conducted Census cannot be overstated. As it tallies data on several features of the Indian population, such as basic demography, literacy levels, caste status, educational levels, spoken languages, religion, marital status, occupation, and migration status among others, the Census is vital to administrative functions and planning of welfare schemes. Census data are also critical as they are used as a frame to underpin other sample surveys that are representative of the whole population. The national Census is utilised by international agencies to project the world's population as well. India has conducted the Census every 10 years since 1881; only 2021, a pandemic-affected year, was an exception as the exercise was postponed. With the deadline for freezing of boundaries further extended to June 30, 2023, the Census can effectively be conducted only some months after this event. Census enumeration is preceded by activities such as house-listing. Most States were in line to begin this in early 2020, before the COVID-19 pandemic hit. But the repeated postponement and, consequently, the undue delay in the Census's commencement will severely affect the availability of vital information on population numbers at district and other lower levels.

The pandemic has been cited as a reason for the delay. The fact that lockdowns and physical distancing norms are now a thing of the past and infection levels in the country have remained relatively low ever since the last Omicron variant wave happened in early 2022 suggests that this is no longer a valid excuse. In fact, Census data should validate the various estimates on mortality based on 'excess deaths' analyses during the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, it is imperative that decadal changes in India's demography related to urbanisation and migration of people across States are captured adequately. Welfare schemes such as the targeted Public Distribution System under the National Food Security Act depend on population estimates, and the government continues to rely on Census 2011, which is now clearly outdated. Inter-State disparities in population growth rates could also impinge upon debates on the prospective delimitation of electoral boundaries and apportioning of seats across States. Considering these and other imperatives for the smooth planning and implementation of administrative, welfare and statistical management for governance, the Union government must show alacrity in commencing the Census.

# 'Declare land subsidence a national calamity'

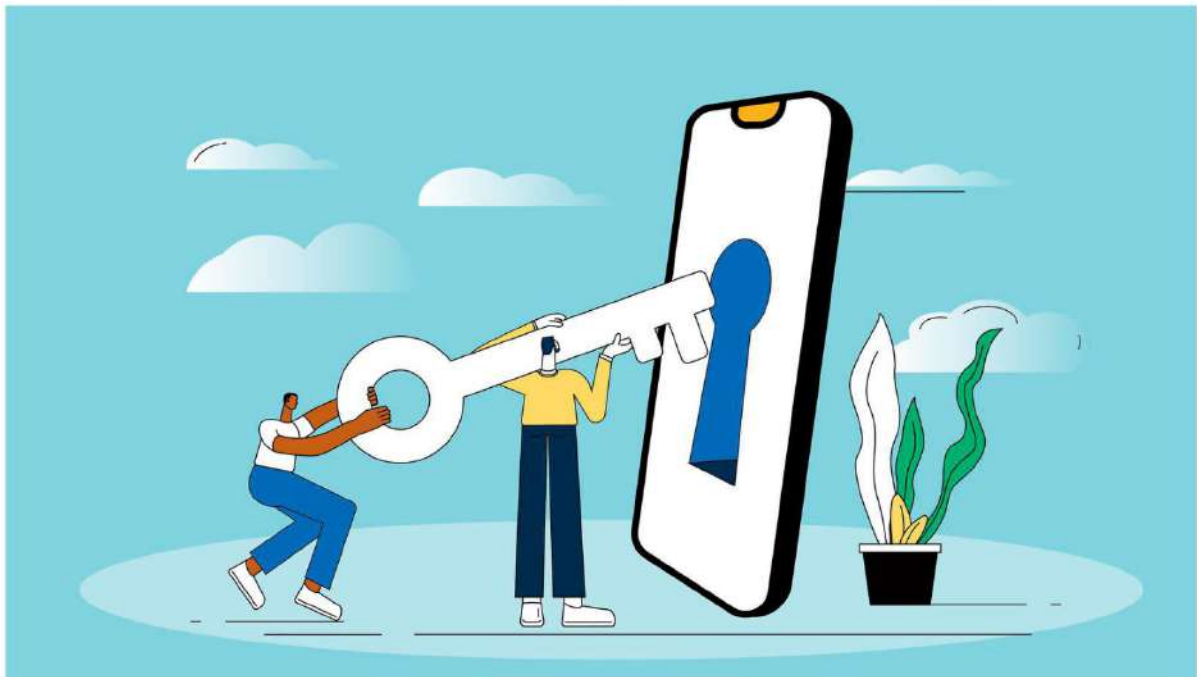
**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday urged the Narendra Modi government to announce the land subsidence in Joshimath of Uttarakhand as a national calamity, declare the entire zone as a natural disaster zone and immediately stop all developmental projects.

The party said work should be halted until experts and environmentalists did an on-ground assessment and submitted their report. Describing the land subsidence as a man-made disaster, the Congress sought enhanced compensation for those whose homes had been damaged, preservation of the old Joshimath town and development of a new town to rehabilitate the affected residents.

"The whole country is worried and is with the people of Joshimath, where unbridled development has created cracks in Uttarakhand's 'Devsthal'... the Joshimath tragedy should be declared a national calamity," party president Mallikarjun Kharge said.



GETTY IMAGES

# The open access movement, to make academic papers accessible for all

The OA movement is prominent today because of the high cost of accessing scientific papers. There are multiple OA initiatives which make scholarly work free and attainable. India recently took the first steps toward the same with its 'One Nation, One Subscription' (ONOS) scheme

**Yasudevan Mukunth**

**O**pen access (OA) is a term associated with certain practices in academic publishing which improve access to scholarly work. An OA scientific paper will be free and fully accessible. The OA movement is prominent today because of the high cost of accessing scientific papers. It's common for a paper published by many journals to cost \$15+ to read once and \$30+ for permanent access. Subscriptions to these journals have also become more expensive, costing universities several crores a year. There are many OA initiatives that offer better alternatives. India recently took the first steps of its 'One Nation, One Subscription' (ONOS) scheme: the government, instead of universities, will negotiate with publishers for a capped and fixed fee to access their papers (of studies funded by the state) and pay the fees, so that everyone in the country can read the papers at no additional cost. The Education Ministry has so far shortlisted 70 publishers and set an implementation deadline of April 1, 2023.

## How papers are published

Scientists write up a paper and submit it to a journal. Editors at the journal share the manuscript with peer-reviewers – experts on the same topic who scrutinise the authors' claims, and also provide feedback on structuring the manuscript, including references to previous results, reaching certain conclusions, etc. After the review is complete, the draft is finalised and the journal publishes the paper – in print, online or both.

In the 'subscription model', papers published online are behind a paywall. Paywall fees have increased in leaps over time. In a 2018 analysis, Duke University found that 59 of the 100 "most highly cited articles ever published are behind a paywall" and that the "average cost of one of these articles for an unaffiliated researcher is \$33.41" – or ₹2,285 (2018). A 2020 report prepared by fellows of India's science academies wrote, "During 2018, India spent an estimated ₹1,500 crore for subscriptions to [e-journals] and/or print journals." Higher access costs put papers out of reach of other researchers as well as journalists, policymakers, students, etc.

## The different types of OA

OA gained momentum with the advent of the internet in the early 1990s, followed by researchers', librarians', and other stakeholders' interest in reducing publishing costs and improving access. In 1991, physicist Paul Ginsparg created arXiv.org, a preprint repository. A preprint is the manuscript before it has been submitted to a journal. Preprint papers aren't peer-reviewed in the conventional sense, but some workarounds exist, like post-publication peer-review.

The availability of preprints prompted many journals to switch to OA as well, but with a twist. Some of them began to charge the authors of a paper before publishing instead of the paper's readers after publishing – a fee that journals called an article processing charge (APC). The APC model is called Gold OA. There are two other types that are popular, and several others overall. In Green OA, an

institute-level repository archives copies of papers by its researchers and makes them public after an embargo period, often specified by the journals that publish the papers. In Diamond OA, a journal publishes papers at no cost. Additionally, while hybrid journals follow the subscription model, once a paper is published and paywalled, its authors can pay extra to 'make' it OA.

There are also gratis and libre OA. According to one definition, "gratis OA alone allows no uses beyond fair use, and libre OA allows one or more uses beyond fair use". Sci-Hub, a web platform that provides open-access to lakhs of illegally obtained research papers, and whose legality is currently being considered in the Delhi High Court, is said to be Black OA.

However, many journals charge exorbitant APCs. *Nature Communications* publishes papers that are openly available but its APC per accepted paper is ₹5.2 lakh. (There are waivers for low-income and lower-middle-income countries but India isn't eligible.) In 2016-2019, the 2020 report stated, Indian researchers spent ₹38 crore to publish papers in "just two OA journals: *PLOS One* and *Scientific Reports*".

The government conceived of ONOS in 2020 to lower this bill, but experts remain sceptical. There are three main concerns – first, while the government will pay a fixed sum to journals, this sum could still be large; secondly which journals will be included in the negotiations and why? (a 'recommended list' faced some resistance in 2020); and finally as India has a large population of researchers with diverse interests, journals may not agree on a

common price.

## The future of OA

UNESCO's 2021 'Recommendation on Open Science' asked that "no one [is left] behind with regard to access to science and benefits from scientific progress" as countries confront epochal problems like global-warming and zoonoses.

The contemporary focus is on the means to secure OA's adoption. In 2018, an international consortium created an initiative called Plan S. The member-organisations under Plan S work to ensure that from 2021, "scientific publications that result from research funded by public grants" are "published in compliant OA journals or platforms". In January 2021, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation deployed a policy to enable "the unrestricted access and reuse of all peer-reviewed published research funded, in whole or in part, by the foundation". Other research-funding organisations have published similar policies.

However, researchers required to meet such targets often pay large sums to Gold OA or hybrid journals.

Michael Donaldson, a member of the scholarly publishing industry, has written that across the industry, the OA transition "has been slowed by the challenge of identifying sustainable ways to cover the costs of OA publishing."

In the words of librarian Melissa Cantrell, "If we imagine scholarly communications as a city, OA strategies may dwell in the tall, reflective high rises, but we should pay more attention to the OA practices ... in the huddled masses on the street".

# Has human-animal conflict increased in Wayanad?

What has been the latest incident in a series of wild elephant attacks in Kerala? Why have such conflicts increased? What can be done to prevent them?

**E. M. Manoj**

## The story so far:

In the latest in a series of wild elephant attacks in Kerala, Subair Kutty, a daily worker, was attacked by a rogue elephant at Sulthan Batherly town adjacent to the Wayanad wildlife Sanctuary in the early hours of January 6. Subair, who was taken to a hospital with injuries, had a miraculous escape. The same elephant further charged at a bus and destroyed crops grown by three farmers on the same day. Meanwhile, a herd of elephants raided a field of 500 plantains belonging to two farmers at Kallur, some 10 kms away from Sulthan Batherly. After a three-day search, the elephant, codenamed Pandalur Makhna-2 or PM2, was caught and has since been relocated to the elephant kraal at Muthanga in Wayanad.

## How was the elephant captured?

Initially, the plan was to chase the animal back into the wild. But on January 7, the chief wildlife warden issued an order to capture PM2 and to convert the elephant into a trained one, at the elephant kraal at Muthanga. Officials say two rogue elephants were captured and tamed in the kraal in the last decade.

## How rampant is human-animal conflict in Batherly and Wayanad?

A few weeks ago, sightings of a five-year-old tigress at Vakery, some eight kms from Batherly, in the south Wayanad forest division, had caused panic among the residents in the area. Forest officials tried to locate the beast, which was found dead in a plantation three days later.

While the capture of PM2 provided a huge relief to the people of the area, they were nonetheless disgruntled over the

perceived lack of apathy on the part of the government in effectively implementing plans to mitigate human-animal conflict. "Human-animal conflict has become a serious wildlife management problem in Kerala in the last few years," says wildlife expert P.S. Easa. People living on the fringes of reserve forests and sanctuaries have a heightened sense of insecurity now. But the causes of this are many. He attributed many reasons to it including an increase in human population in such areas, habitat loss and fragmentation suffered by wild animals and change in cropping patterns adopted by farmers.

## Is it a new problem?

Wild elephants turning restive has been reported from several areas recently, most pertinently from Munnar in Idukki, Vazhachal in Thrissur and in Wayanad itself. Crop raid by elephants, cattle-lifting

by leopards and tigers, and attacks on humans have also been widely reported. "An analysis of the threats to biodiversity conservation and management of natural resources in various forest divisions of Kerala shows that human-wildlife conflict is a threat existing almost everywhere, but more frequently in the northern region and particularly in Wayanad," Dr. Easa adds. The issue has always been there, but its frequency has gone up lately.

## What has led to the spike?

An increase in the intrusion of people into wildlife habitats and the change in land use patterns by cultivators have exacerbated the trouble. Furthermore, these cultivators, who are often development-oriented and believe that the prime job of the forest department is to protect their interests, are less tolerant of crop raids by wild animals, Dr. Easa points out.

## What is the way out?

The only solution is mitigation of conflict. For this, both government and society should work together as a single entity and alter perspectives towards wildlife and human existence in the forest and on its fringes. Parallely, forest conservation must be made more effective, through participatory programmes involving the people, Dr. Easa says.

## THE GIST

In the latest in a series of wild elephant attacks in Kerala, a daily worker was attacked by a rogue elephant at Sulthan Batherly town adjacent to the Wayanad wildlife Sanctuary in the early hours of January 6.

An increase in the intrusion of people into wildlife habitats and the change in land use patterns by cultivators have exacerbated these incidents.

The only solution for this is mitigation of conflict. For this, both government and society should work together as a single entity and alter perspectives towards wildlife.

# Ozone layer healing, hole will mend by 2066, says UN

**Associated Press**

DENVER

Earth's protective ozone layer is slowly but noticeably healing at a pace that would fully mend the hole over Antarctica in about 43 years, a new UN report says. "In the upper stratosphere and in the ozone hole we see things getting better," said Paul Newman, co-chair of the scientific assessment that is held once-every-four-years.

# A.P. moves SC seeking 'fair' division of assets, liabilities with Telangana

The Supreme Court seeks response from Telangana and Union governments; Andhra Pradesh government says despite the bifurcation on June 2, 2014, the actual division of assets and liabilities with Telangana has not commenced till date

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

**T**he Supreme Court on Monday sought a response from the Centre on a petition filed by the Andhra Pradesh government seeking a "fair, equitable and expeditious division of assets and liabilities" with Telangana. A Bench led by Sanjiv Khanna also issued notice to Telangana.

The Andhra Pradesh government has argued in its petition that the assets include 245 institutions and corporations specified un-



The total value of the fixed assets of the 245 institutions to be divided is about ₹1,42,601 crores. Non-division of the assets is clearly to the benefit of Telangana since about 91% of these assets are situated in Hyderabad

**K.V. VISHWANATHAN AND MAHFOOZ A. NAZKI**  
Advocates representing A.P.



der the Ninth and Tenth Schedules of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

"The total value of the fixed assets of the 245 insti-

tutions to be divided is about ₹1,42,601 crores. Non-division of the assets is clearly to the benefit of Telangana since about 91% of these assets are situated

in Hyderabad [the capital of the erstwhile combined State] which is now in Telangana," the Andhra Pradesh government, represented by senior advocate K.V. Vishwanathan and Mahfooz A. Nazki, has submitted.

The State said despite the bifurcation on June 2, 2014, the actual division of assets and liabilities had not commenced till date.

"Despite a lapse of more than eight years, Andhra Bhavan in Delhi has not been formally bifurcated," the petition has said.

It had said Hyderabad,

now a part of Telangana, was the capital of the combined State of Andhra Pradesh.

The non-apportionment of the assets had led to a multitude of issues adversely affecting and violating the fundamental and other constitutional rights of the people of the State of Andhra Pradesh, including over 1.59 lakh government employees.

Without adequate funding and actual division of assets, the functioning of institutions in Andhra Pradesh was "severely stunted", the petition has said.

## Record high debt capital raised by banks in FY23: ICRA Limited

**91,500** In ₹ crore, the debt

capital raised by banks in FY23, according to ICRA Limited. Banks recorded a quantum of bonds, with gross issuances hitting an all-time high of ₹0.915 lakh crore, surpassing the previous high of ₹0.8 lakh crore in FY17. It is also likely to close FY23 with ₹1.4 lakh crore. PTI

## Loans disbursed to street vendors, small scale entrepreneurs

**1,550** In ₹ crore, the worth of loans disbursed to

street vendors, small-scale entrepreneurs and cattle rearers at a credit outreach program in a single day by the government, officials from the Finance Ministry informed. More than 33,000 loan sanction letters were handed over under various central government schemes. PTI

## Government creating ecosystem and policies that will benefit many

**140** In crore, the number of Indians who will benefit from government

policies, as the Union government is creating such an ecosystem, the chief of National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) Bharat claimed. He said public policy in the absence of good governance could not achieve its objective. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

## Many dams in India to lose 26% of storage capacity by 2050: UN

**3,700** The number of dams in India that will lose

26% of their total storage by 2050 due to accumulation of sediments which can undermine water security and power generation, according to the UN. The Central Water Commission said that among 141 dams, one quarter had lost at least 30% of their storage capacity. PTI

## The pay gap between men and women in the real estate sector

**40** The percentage by which informal women workers earn lower than their male

counterparts in the Indian construction and real estate sector, according to 'Pink Collar Skilling: Unleashing the Women's Power in the Real Estate Sector' report which highlights gender inequality in this sector. The report was released by Primus Partners and World Trade Center. PTI

J	Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions;
K	Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional bodies;
L	Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies;
M	Mechanisms, laws, institutions and bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections;
N	Salient features of the Representation of People's Act;
O	Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential;
P	Citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures;
Q	Issues relating to poverty and hunger,
R	Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States, Performance of these schemes;
S	Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to education and human resources;
T	Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to health
General Studies Paper III	
A	Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment;
B	Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth;
C	Inclusive growth and issues arising from it;
D	Infrastructure Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. Government budgeting;
E	Land reforms in India
F	Major crops, cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems;
G	Storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints;
H	e-technology in the aid of farmers; Technology Missions; Economics of Animal-Rearing.
I	Issues of buffer stocks and food security, Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping;
J	Food processing and related industries in India – scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management;
K	Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices
L	Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology;
M	Indigenization of technology and developing new technology;
N	Developments and their applications and effects in everyday life;
O	Issues relating to intellectual property rights
P	Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment
Q	Disaster and disaster management
R	Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security;
S	Money-laundering and its prevention;



T	Various forces and their mandate;
U	Security challenges and their management in border areas;
V	Linkages of organized crime with terrorism;
W	Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security;
X	Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
<b>General Studies Paper IV</b>	
A	Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions;
B	Dimensions of ethics;
C	Ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators;
D	Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.
E	Attitude: Content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour;
F	Moral and political attitudes;
G	Social influence and persuasion.
H	Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service , integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections.
I	Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.
J	Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.
K	Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems;
L	Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions;
M	Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as
N	sources of ethical guidance;
O	Accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding;
P	Corporate governance.
Q	Probity in Governance: Concept of public service;
R	Philosophical basis of governance and probity;
S	Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.
T	Case Studies on above issues.