



DAILY PT POINTERS

19th January, 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu: Page 1_Places in news (GSI)

Navy helps drone-hit cargo vessel in the Gulf of Aden

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The Navy's destroyer *INS Visakhapatnam* responded to a distress call by Marshall Islands-flagged merchant vessel *MV Genco Picardy*, following a drone attack in the Gulf of Aden on Wednesday night.

This comes even as the US-led coalition conti



The Indian Navy has deployed around 10 warships in the Arabian

The Navy's destroyer *INS Visakhapatnam* responded to a distress call by Marshall Islands-flagged merchant vessel *MV Genco Picardy*, following a drone attack in the Gulf of Aden

- **Gulf of Aden**, deepwater basin that forms a natural sea link between the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea.
- It is located between the Arabian Peninsula (north) and the Horn of Africa (south).
- It is bounded to the south by Somalia, north by Yemen, east by the Arabian Sea, and west by **Djibouti**.



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: Page 1_Places in news (GSI)

12 school students, 2 teachers killed in Gujarat boat capsizes



A school picnic turned into a tragedy as 14 people — 12 children and two teachers — died after a boat carrying over 20 children and many adults capsized in the Harni lake in Vadodara.



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ISRO upgrades its distress alert transmitter for fishermen

THE HINDU BUREAU
BENGALURU

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed an improvised distress alert transmitter (DAT) with advanced capabilities for fishermen at sea to send emergency messages from boats.

The first version of DAT is operational since 2010, using which messages were sent through a communication satellite and received at a central control station (Indian Mission Control Centre), where the alert signals are decoded for the identity and location of the fishing boat.

The information is then forwarded to maritime rescue coordination centres (MRCCs) under the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). Using this information, the MRCC coordinates to undertake search and rescue operations to save the fishermen in distress.

More than 20,000 DATs are presently being used.

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The Hindu: Governance (GSII)-Page 6

Karnataka to ask Centre to allow reservation within SCs

The decision to amend Constitution is seen as a significant political move ahead of Lok Sabha polls; Social Welfare Minister Mahadevappa says States cannot tinker with reservation matrix



- The Karnataka Cabinet decided to recommend to the Centre to insert Article 341 (3) to the Constitution, which will enable States to provide internal reservation among the Scheduled Castes.
 - Article 341 (1) and (2) pertain to inclusion or exclusion of any caste to the SC list. The government is seeking inclusion of another clause to allow internal reservation among SCs.

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The Hindu—Polity and Governance (GS II)-Page 14

Gujarat 'encounters' | Supreme Court to hear on the fate of Justice Bedi report

Bench ordered the petition filed by lyricist Javed Akhtar and late journalist B.G. Varghese to be listed for hearing after two weeks; the petition has been pending in the apex court since 2007

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THE HINDU BUREAU

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The Supreme Court agreed to hear arguments on the road ahead for a report submitted confidentially by a committee chaired by former apex court judge, Justice H.S. Bedi, on several police “encounters” in Gujarat, which happened to coincide with the chief ministerial tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Justice Bedi report, submitted to the apex court in 2018, had investigated 17 police encounters which occurred between 2002 and 2007 in Gujarat. The committee was constituted by the court in 2012.

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Indian Express : Art and Culture (GSI)-Page 18

Somnath: A brief history of the temple, and why Nehru opposed the President inaugurating it

It is well known that Nehru was against a secular government associating closely with a temple function. However, often missed out are the reasons Nehru gave for this. Also ignored is the role the British played in painting Somnath as a symbol of Hindus' victimisation by Muslims.



- The **Somnath temple** located in Prabhas Patan near Veraval in Saurashtra on the western coast of Gujarat, is believed to be the first among the twelve *jyotirlinga* shrines of Shiva.
- Somnath is also mentioned in Rigveda.
- It is an important pilgrimage and tourist spot of Gujarat.
- Reconstructed several times in the past after repeated destruction by several Muslim invaders and Portuguese the present temple was reconstructed in Chaulukya style of Hindu temple architecture and completed in May 1951.
- The reconstruction was completed by Vallabhbhai Patel.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Polity and Governance (GS II)



- The Union Cabinet has approved the creation of three posts at the level of Joint Secretary i.e. two posts of Joint Secretary and one post of Economic Adviser for the 16th Finance Commission, which was constituted in pursuance of Article 280 of the Constitution vide Notification dated 31st December, 2023.

About Finance Commission

It is a **Constitutionally mandated body** that is at the centre of **fiscal federalism**.

It is constituted by the President under article **280 of the Constitution**, mainly to give its recommendations on **distribution of tax revenues** between the **Union and the States** and amongst the States themselves.

Its working is characterised by extensive and intensive consultations with all levels of governments, thus strengthening the principle of cooperative federalism.