

# DAILY PT POINTERS

25th June, 2024



## Kerala House passes resolution to rename the State ‘Keralam’

**The Hindu Bureau**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Assembly, in a unanimous decision on Monday, passed a resolution proposing a Constitutional amendment to change the name of the State to ‘Keralam’.

The resolution, moved by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, called for invoking Article 3 of the Constitution to effectuate this change in the First Schedule. This resolution mirrors an attempt from last year, which was sent back by the Centre due to procedural issues.

Originally, the State sought to amend the names across all languages listed in the Eighth Sche-

**Similar resolution passed in 2023 had been returned by the Centre citing procedural issues**

dule of the Constitution to ‘Keralam’. However, following an advice from the Union Home Ministry, the focus shifted to amending only the First Schedule, prompting the government to modify the resolution that was passed in 2023.

Mr. Vijayan said that despite ‘Keralam’ being the Malayalam name of the State, it continues to be officially recorded as Kerala. The move aims to align the official name with the Malayalam pronunciation.

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The Hindu :GS1-Art and Culture(Page 6)

## Srinagar's 'World Craft City' tag will promote global links

**Peerzada Ashiq**  
SRINAGAR

Srinagar has earned the World Craft City tag from the World Crafts Council, a non-government organisation working to empower artisans and safeguard craft heritage globally. Saleem Beg, head of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage-Kashmir, described the honour as the "latest recognition of the skill base of Kashmir". "This will provide a boost to Kashmir's traditional linkages with Central Asia and Iran. There are 14 Iranian cities

listed as craft cities by the Council and, the honour for Srinagar will lead to knowledge exchange," he said. This is likely to re-open Kashmir's centuries-old linkages with craft centres in Central Asia and Iran. "The Council is the modern-day means and medium to put the focus on places that have been engaged in creativity and aesthetics for centuries. The last century saw Kashmir's traditional routes slowly closing down, the WCC has provided a new highway for artisans to achieve a new trajectory," Mr. Beg told *The Hindu*.

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Indian Express- GS 3/Economy –Page -10

## The NITI Aayog's project in Great Nicobar

Why has the Congress party called for an immediate suspension of clearance granted to NITI Aayog's mega project on Great Nicobar Island? What are the ecological and social concerns? Is there a threat of an impact on tsunamis?

EXPLAINED

Hishir Bhatnagar

The story so far

In June 21, the Congress party announced an "immediate suspension" of all clearance granted to NITI Aayog's mega project on Great Nicobar Island in the light of "violation of due process, legal and constitutional provisions protecting tribal communities, and the project's disproportionate ecological and human cost." The party also demanded a "thorough impartial review of the proposed project, including by the parliamentary committee concerned." Other political parties have also voiced concerns about the project. In its 2018 election manifesto, the Congress party of India (INC) promised to "conduct an impartially discussion and give expression, Holistic Development Plan for Andaman and Nicobar". The tribal council of Great Nicobar and Little Nicobar and a host of environmental, wildlife conservation, and human rights groups have also opposed the project.

Where is Great Nicobar and which are the communities living there?

The island of Great Nicobar is the southernmost tip of India and a part of the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago that comprises 600-odd islands, mainly and covered with lush rainforests. The island is situated in the Bay of Bengal and is about 1,000 km from the mainland. The rainforests and beaches have been largely unexplored and are home to several species including the Great Nicobar bird, the Nicobar megapode, the Great Nicobar crane, the Nicobar stork, the Great Nicobar eagle, and the Nicobar tree shrew. It has an area of 540 sq km with mountains and the Andaman Sea along its coast.

The island is home to two tribal communities — the Shompen and the Nicobarese. The Shompen, around 250 in total, reside in the Great Nicobar.



THE GIST

In June 21, the Congress party demanded an "immediate suspension" of all clearance granted to NITI Aayog's mega project on Great Nicobar Island in the light of "violation of due process, legal and constitutional provisions, including that concerning tribal communities, and the project's disproportionate ecological and human cost."

In March 2021, NITI Aayog unveiled a ₹72,000 crore plan called 'Holistic Development of Great Nicobar Island at Andaman and Nicobar Islands'.

The project includes the construction of an international transshipment terminal, an international airport, a power plant, and a township. The project is to be implemented by a government undertaking called the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation (ANIIDCO).

- The island of Great Nicobar is the southernmost tip of India and a part of the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago that comprises 600-odd islands. It is hilly and covered with lush rainforests that are sustained by around 3,500 mm of annual rainfall.
- The island is home to two tribal communities — the Shompen and the Nicobarese.
- They are predominantly hunter-gatherers and are classified as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group within the list of Scheduled Tribes.
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## The Hindu-Governance (GSII) –Page 11

### How the PESA has boosted forest conservation in India

The Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas Act empowered the Scheduled Tribes as political actors and as they needed to protect trees for their livelihoods it made them hostile to commercial timber and mining

**S. Sankar**

Chief Justice, Supreme Court, and Professor of Law, Government Law College, University of Madras, Chennai. Former Director, Centre for Policy Studies, Government of Karnataka. Former Director, National Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Calicut, Kerala. Former Director, National Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Calicut, Kerala.

The policy approach to conservation in India has long been dominated by the state. The state has been the primary actor in forest conservation, and conservation remains a state responsibility. The state has been the primary actor in forest conservation, and conservation remains a state responsibility. The state has been the primary actor in forest conservation, and conservation remains a state responsibility.



**Equitable representation**

There is a difference in the way the forest is managed in different parts of India. In some parts, the forest is managed as a public good, while in other parts, it is managed as a private good. The state has been the primary actor in forest conservation, and conservation remains a state responsibility. The state has been the primary actor in forest conservation, and conservation remains a state responsibility.

- PESA Act, 1996 stands for the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.
- It is a law enacted by the Parliament to extend the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution relating to the Panchayats to the 5th Scheduled Areas in a slightly modified form.
- The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA Act) is applicable to the Fifth Schedule (5th Schedule) Areas.
- Every Gram Sabha shall be competent to safeguard and preserve the traditions and customs of the people, their cultural identity, community resources, and the customary mode of dispute resolution.
- As of now, the following 10 states have designated Fifth Schedule Areas: Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan.

## The Hindu –IR(GSII)-Page 12

### India, Pak. delegations reach J&K to inspect power projects under Indus Water Treaty

Press Trust of India  
JAMMU

Delegations from India and Pakistan on Monday flew to Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir with neutral experts and began inspection of two power projects under the Indus Water Treaty (IWT), officials said.

Nearly 40 people reached Jammu on Sunday evening and flew to Kishtwar this morning for inspection of various under-construction power projects in the Chenab valley region, the officials said.

This is the first visit by a Pakistani delegation to Jammu and Kashmir in more than five years under the dispute settlement mechanism of the 1960 treaty.

India and Pakistan signed the IWT after nine years of negotiations, with the World Bank being a signatory of the pact which



The delegations of India, Pakistan arrive to inspect hydroelectric power projects under the Indus Water Treaty (IWT). PTI

sets out a mechanism for cooperation and information exchange between the two sides on the use of waters of a number of cross-border rivers.

A three-member Pakistani delegation inspected the Pakal Dul and Lower Kalnai hydroelectric power projects under the provisions of the IWT for the last time in January 2019.

Immediately after landing at an Army camp, the

delegation visited the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) headquarters, the officials said adding that they left for the 85-MW Ratle hydroelectric power project site at Drabshalla for dam inspection.

They will also visit the 1,000-MW Pakal Dul hydroelectric project on the Marusudar, a tributary of the Chenab, and other power projects in Kishtwar, the officials said.

- India and Pakistan signed the IWT after nine years of negotiations, with the World Bank being a signatory of the pact which sets out a mechanism for cooperation and information exchange between the two sides on the use of waters of a number of cross-border rivers.
- Under the Indus Water Treaty of 1960, India has full rights over three eastern rivers of Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej and Pakistan was granted rights over three western rivers of Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab. However, India is allowed a limited use of the western rivers for domestic, non-consumptive and agricultural purposes.



## The Hindu –Governance(GSII)-Page 14

### Maternity leave for parents of child born through surrogacy

Press Trust of India  
NEW DELHI

The Centre has notified amended rules to allow women government employees to take 180 days of maternity leave in case they have children through surrogacy.

The government has also allowed the “commissioning mother” (the intending mother of the child born through surrogacy) childcare leave and the “commissioning father” paternity leave of 15 days, read the changes made in the Central Civil Services (Leave) Rules, 1972.

“In case of surrogacy, the surrogate, as well as the commissioning mother with less than two surviving children, may be granted maternity leave of 180 days, in case either or both of them are government servants,” read the amended rules notified by the Union Personnel Ministry.

Till now, there were no rules to grant maternity leaves to women govern-

**The surrogate mother, if she is a government employee, will also get maternity leave for 180 days**

ment with less than two surviving children may be granted paternity leave of 15 days within the period of 6 months from the date of delivery of the child,” the new rules say.

The commissioning mother with less than two surviving children may be granted child care leave, reads the Central Civil Services (Leave) (Amendment) Rules, 2024, notified on June 18.

Existing rules allow “a female government servant and single male government servant” child care leave for a maximum period of 730 days during entire service.

The “surrogate mother” shall mean the woman who bears the child on behalf of the commissioning mother.

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#### **Do you know ?**

The “surrogate mother” shall mean the woman who bears the child on behalf of the commissioning mother.

And “commissioning father” would mean the intending father of the child born through surrogacy, the Personnel Ministry clarified in the amended rules.

## Indian Express – Polity and Governance (GSII)

### Law against cheating

Rules under The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act have been notified. As Govt struggles to contain the fallout of exam cancellations, how can the law help in the future?

HARIKISHAN SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

THE CENTRE on Monday notified the Rules required to operationalise The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024, the anti-cheating law passed by Parliament in February. The law itself came into force on June 21, after it was notified in the official gazette.

The Rules notified by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, provide a framework of actions to prevent the use of unfair means in public examinations, including appointing Centre Coordinators, venue in-charges, and Regional Officers.

The government is under great pressure from the opposition and protesting students across the country after being forced to postpone the UGC-NET, CSIR UGC NET, and NEET PG competitive exams. The CBI is investigating NEET UG after investigators in Bihar found evidence of a paper leak.

#### What the Rules say

**COMPUTER-BASED TEST:** The Rules lay down full parameters of Computer Based Tests (CBT) – from the registration of candidates, allocation of centres, and issue of ad-



Media persons outside the Economic Offences Unit (EOU) office in Patna as a CBI team arrives to probe the alleged irregularities in NEET UG exam on Monday. PPT

detailed framework and format for reporting incidents of use of unfair means.

"If any incident of unfair means or offence...occurs, the venue in-charge shall prepare a report along with his findings in Form 1. The report...shall be sent to the Regional Officer through Centre Coordinator. If a prima facie case is made out for filing of First Information Report, the venue in-charge shall take necessary action," the Rules say.

"In case persons below the level of Management or Board of Directors of the service provider resort to unfair means...or fail to report the incident...the Centre Coordinator shall report the matter to the Regional Officer in Form 2. The Regional Officer shall enquire and if satisfied that representative of any service provider at examination center level is involved, he shall direct the Centre Coordinator to file the First Information Report."

The Rules define venue in-charge as a "person nominated by the examination conducting service provider to supervise, coordinate and manage the activities of different service providers and to ensure that the norms or standards and the guidelines notified for conduct of public examination are complied with".

According to the Rules, the Centre Coordinator shall be the representative of the public examination authority for coordination of activities of the various service

their attached and subordinate offices for recruitment of staff" also come under the purview of the new law.

The central government can add new au-

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- : The Rules lay down full parameters of Computer Based Tests (CBT)
- : The Rules provide for the appointment of a Centre Coordinator for Public Examinations, who may be "serving or retired employees of the Central Government, State Government, Public Sector Undertakings, Public Sector Banks, Government Universities, autonomous bodies and other Government Organisations".



## Indian Express –Governance (GSII)

### What is Enemy Agents Ordinance, tough law applicable in J&K?

**APURVA VISHWANATH**  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 24

JAMMU AND Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) R S Swain on Sunday said those found assisting militants in J&K should be tried by investigating agencies under the Enemy Agents Ordinance, 2005. The law is more stringent than the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and has the punishment of either a life term or a death sentence.

"The fighters can't be brought under the realm of investigation, they should be shot

enemy agents," DGP Swain said.

**What is the Enemy Agents Ordinance?**

The J&K Enemy Agents Ordinance was first issued in 1917 by the then Dogra Maharaja of J&K. It is referred to as an 'ordinance' since laws made during the Dogra rule were called ordinances.

According to the ordinance, "whosoever is an enemy agent or, with an intent to aid the enemy, conspires with any other person to any act which is designed or likely to give assistance to the enemy or to impede the military or air operations of Indian forces or to endanger a term which may extend to 10 years and shall also be liable to fine".

After Partition in 1947, the ordinance was incorporated as a law in the erstwhile state and was also amended.

In 2019, when Article 370 of the Constitution was repealed, J&K's legal framework also underwent several changes. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act was passed, which listed out state laws that were to continue while several others were repealed and replaced with Indian laws.

with the Indian Penal Code. Other laws including The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 or Forest Act, and The Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 were extended to J&K as well.

**EXPLAINED LAW**

**How are trials conducted under the ordinance?**

The trial under the Enemy Agents Ordinance is conducted by a special judge who is appointed by the "government in

person who, without the previous authorisation of the Government, discloses or publishes any information with respect to any proceedings or with respects to any person proceeded against under this Ordinance, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both," according to the ordinance.

**Has anyone been tried under this ordinance?**

There are scores of Kashmiris who are or have been tried and sentenced under the Enemy Agents Ordinance. Jammu Kashmir

by the court.

"In any proceedings before the Special Judge and in proceedings before a Judge reviewing under section 9 the proceedings of a Special Judge when the Special Judge or the reviewing judge grants permission in this behalf, a person accused of an offence triable under this Ordinance may be defended by a pleader," according to the ordinance.

There is no provision for appeal against the verdict, and the decision of the special judge can only be reviewed "by a person chosen by the Government from the judges of the High Court and the decision of that person



The Enemy Agents Ordinance, 2005 (1948) was promulgated under Section 5 of the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution Act, 1996. It describes "enemy" as "any person, directly or indirectly, participating or assisting in the campaign undertaken by raiders from outside in subverting the Government established by law in the [Union territory of J&K]".

"Enemy agent", according to it, means a person not operating as a member of enemy armed force, who is employed by or works for or acts on instructions received from the enemy.

Crimes under the Ordinance are punishable with death or rigorous imprisonment for life or with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to 10 years and shall also be liable to fine.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



## PIB –Economy(GSIII)

Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution

India is hosting 64th ISO Council Meeting from 25th-27th June 2024

Delegates from more than 30 countries participating in ISO Conference

Posted On: 24 JUN 2024 2:34PM by PIB Delhi

India is hosting a global event in sugar sector '**ISO Council Meeting**' in New Delhi from 25<sup>th</sup> till 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2024.

Delegates from more than 30 countries and representatives of many international organisations are joining to deliberate on critical issues of sugar and biofuel sector

As India is the world's largest consumer and second largest producer of sugar, ISO Council nominated India as the Chair of the organisation for 2024

International Sugar Organisation (ISO) is a UN affiliated body having HQ at London. ISO has about 85 countries as members covering almost 90% of sugar production in the World. It is mandated to bring major sugar producing, consuming and trading nations together to bring mutual understanding and progressive approach in dealing with issues pertaining to the sugar sector. ISO has also been working on biofuels, especially, ethanol as sugarcane is the second major feedstock for ethanol production in the world.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



## PIB –Economy(GSIII)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Union Health Minister, Shri JP Nadda launches National STOP Diarrhoea Campaign 2024 in the presence of Union Ministers of State, Smt. Anupriya Patel and Shri Jadhav Patraprao Ganpatrao

STOP Diarrhoea Campaign aims to attain zero child deaths due to childhood diarrhoea; involves a 2-month long drive with pre-positioning of 2 ORS packets and zinc as a co-packaging to under-5 children

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda launched the National STOP Diarrhoea Campaign 2024,

The goal behind the STOP Diarrhoea Campaign 2024 is to attain zero child deaths due to childhood diarrhoea. While the existing diarrhoea strategy entailed a 2-week campaign with pre-positioning of ORS to under-5 children and limited IEC, the new strategy involves a 2-month long campaign with pre-positioning of 2 ORS packets and zinc as a co-packaging to under-5 children. It will also involve extensive IEC through different platforms and collaboration across multiple sectors, including health, water and sanitation, education, and rural development..

### Focus Areas of the STOP Diarrhoea Campaign:

- **Strengthening Health Infrastructure:** Ensuring the proper maintenance and use of health facilities and the availability of essential medical supplies (ORS, Zinc), particularly in rural areas.
- **Improving Access to Clean Water and Sanitation:** Implementing rigorous quality control measures and sustainable practices to provide safe drinking water and better sanitation.
- **Enhancing Nutritional Programs:** Addressing malnutrition, a major contributor to diarrhoeal diseases, through improved nutritional initiatives.
- **Promoting Hygiene Education:** Equipping schools with necessary facilities and fostering healthy habits among children through comprehensive hygiene education programs.



# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## News on air –Women Related Issues (GSI)/IR(GSII)

113 Countries Have Never Had Female Heads Of State Or Govt: UN Women Global Data



A staggering 113 countries worldwide have never had a woman serve as head of state or government, and only 26 countries are led by women. According to UN Women's Global Data on Women Political Leaders 2024, women are still largely excluded from positions of power and diplomacy. The UN said, globally, women's underrepresentation in decision-making remains a stark reality. It said, only 23 per cent of ministerial positions are held by women and in 141 countries women make up less than a third of cabinet ministers as of January 1, 2024. Seven countries have no women represented in their cabinets at all.