



# DAILY PT POINTERS

14 November, 2024



## The Hindu-Governance(GSII)-Page 1

### SC puts brakes on 'bulldozer culture'

Bench says States indulging in naked display of 'might is right'; issues 'binding directives' that include 15 days' prior notice to occupants

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday said the States that metamorphose into judges to punish accused persons awaiting trial by driving bulldozers into their homes, indulge in a naked display of "might is right" without sparing a thought for families rendered shelterless overnight.

A Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and K.V. Viswanathan invoked extraordinary powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to issue a slew of "binding directives" to fasten accountability on public officials.

They include 15 days' prior notice of demolition to the occupants with details of the nature of the



**Wheels of injustice:** Workers razing the property of an accused in an RSS attack case in Jaipur in October, citing violations. PTI

and grounds warranting demolition; the owner or occupants who want to challenge the State action must be given a fair opportunity; the demolition must be videographed, etc.

**Officials will face action**  
Officials who violate these directives would face contempt action and would be

liable for the restitution of the demolished property, the court said. The judgment followed petitions representing citizens from States, including Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, who had sought redress against the States' "bulldozer culture".

**CONTINUED ON**

- The Supreme Court of India on November 13, 2024, condemned the practice of state governments demolishing the homes of accused individuals using bulldozers, particularly in states like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan. The Court described such actions as a display of "might is right" and a violation of the rule of law, highlighting the lack of due process and the destruction of families' homes without fair trial or legal recourse.
- In a 95-page judgment, the Court issued binding directives to ensure accountability for public officials involved in such demolitions. These directives include the requirement for a 15-day prior notice before demolition, detailing the reasons for the action and providing an opportunity for the property owner to contest it. The demolition must be videographed, and violations of these procedures would lead to contempt of court and potential prosecution of officials. The Court clarified that these guidelines do not apply to demolitions ordered by a court or those targeting public property.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu-Defense(GSIII)-Page 14

## Defence Space Agency conducts tabletop exercise



- The tri-service Defence Space Agency has conducted its maiden tabletop Exercise 'Antariksha Abhyas 2024' aimed at bolstering the strategic readiness of the Indian armed forces in the domain of space warfare. The three-day exercise concluded .
- “Key components of the exercise included focused discussions on emerging space technologies, space situational awareness and India’s space programmes. The discussions highlighted the importance of monitoring and protecting critical assets and maintaining situational awareness in the increasingly contested space environment,” a Defence Ministry statement said.

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## Inaugural Indian Ocean Dialogue between U.S., India to be held today

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

Deepening the ongoing cooperation over the Indian Ocean Region, India and the U.S. are set to hold the inaugural U.S.-India In-



tial elections in which former President Donald Trump secured a decisive victory, and the transition is now under way.

The India-U.S. cooperation over the Indo-Pacific goes back several years. In

- India and the U.S. will hold the inaugural U.S.-India Indian Ocean Dialogue on Thursday, with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell and Principal Deputy National Security Adviser Jon Finer participating virtually due to flight issues. The dialogue will focus on promoting security and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region. Additionally, the Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) Intersessional will expand cooperation on technological innovation and production.
- The dialogue follows the U.S. presidential elections, with former President Donald Trump securing a decisive victory. India-U.S. cooperation in the Indo-Pacific dates back to 2015, with the Joint Strategic Vision for the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean Region issued during President Barack Obama's visit to India. The Quad grouping, including India, Australia, Japan, and the U.S., also focuses on the Indian Ocean Region and has announced the Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness initiative.

## The Hindu-Miscellaneous

# British writer Harvey wins Booker Prize

**Reuters**

LONDON

Britain's Samantha Harvey won the 2024 Booker Prize for *Orbital*, a story about a single day aboard the International Space Station which she wrote during COVID-19 lockdowns.

The novel, Harvey's fifth, was the top selling book on the shortlist of six



Samantha Harvey

- Samantha Harvey won the 2024 Booker Prize for her novel "Orbital", which explores a single day aboard the International Space Station. Written during the COVID-19 lockdowns, the novel became the top-selling book among the six finalists, surpassing the combined sales of the last three Booker Prize winners.
- Booker Prize is a literary award conferred each year for the best novel written in the English language, which was published in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Founded in the UK in 1969, it initially awarded Commonwealth writers and now spans the globe and it is open to anyone regardless of origin.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu-Environment(GSIII)-Page 20



**Threatening species:** An African elephant with her calves in northern Kenya. FILE PHOTO.

## Alarming rate of decrease in African elephant count

By Reuters

African elephants, earth's largest land animals, are remarkable mammals that are very intelligent and highly social. They also are in peril. Fresh evidence of this comes in a study that documents alarming population declines at numerous sites across the African continent over about a half century.

A comprehensive study of African elephant populations, conducted across 475 sites in 37 countries from 1964 to 2016, reveals alarming declines in both savannah and forest elephant populations.

Savannah elephants declined by about 70%, while forest elephants dropped by 90%, with poaching and habitat loss being the primary causes. Overall, there was a 77% population decrease on average at the surveyed sites, though some populations saw increases due to conservation efforts.

		
ANIMALIA - MAMMALIA GLOBAL <b>African Forest Elephant</b> <i>Loxodonta cyclotis</i> ↓ Decreasing <span>CR</span>	ANIMALIA - MAMMALIA GLOBAL <b>Asian Elephant</b> <i>Elephas maximus</i> ↓ Decreasing <span>EN</span>	ANIMALIA - MAMMALIA GLOBAL <b>African Savanna Elephant</b> <i>Loxodonta africana</i> ↓ Decreasing <span>EN</span>

### After Finance Commission nudge, all states but Arunachal form panels, Gujarat latest

HARIKISHAN SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 13

AFTER BEING nudged by the Fifteenth Finance Commission, all states, except Arunachal Pradesh, have State Finance Commissions (SFCs) in place, the latest being Gujarat, which formed its commission on November 4, according to a note prepared by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj ahead of the Finance Commission's Conclave on the "Devolution to Development 2024" scheduled to be held on November 14.

The 15th Finance Commission, formed in 2017, took serious note of the delay over constituting state finance commissions in its report in 2020, and recommended that those states which did not comply with the Constitutional provisions in respect of the SFCs – constitutional

bodies at the state-level – would not be released grants after March 2024.

Under Article 243 I of the Constitution, "the Governor shall, as soon as may be within one year from the commencement of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992, and thereafter at the expiration of every 5th year, constitute a Finance Commission to review the financial position of the panchayats, and to make recommendations to the Governor as to the principles which should govern the distribution between the State and the panchayats of the net proceeds of the taxes, duties, tolls and fees leviable by the State."

The note by the Union Panchayati Raj Ministry, which was seen by The Indian Express, said, "As per the Constitutional provisions, setting up the 6th SFC became due in 2019-20 for all states. Available information

shows that only nine states have constituted their 6th SFC."

The 15th Finance Commission noted in its main report for 2021-26 which was submitted on November 9, 2020 that "only 15 States have set up the 5th or the 6th SFCs. Several States have still not moved beyond the 2nd or 3rd SFC."

"We recommend that all States which have not done so, must constitute SFCs, act upon their recommendations and lay the explanatory memorandum as to the action taken thereon before the State legislature on or before March 2024. After March 2024, no grants should be released to a State that has not complied with the Constitutional provisions in respect of the SFC and these conditions," it noted in its report.

"Article 243-I of the Constitution requires SFCs to be appointed at the 'expiration of

every fifth year'. The intention of this clause appears to be that all State Government transfers to local governments should be governed by the mandate of a current SFC. The mandate given to an SFC should thus be applicable only for a period of 5 years and should not be extended. In practice, this has not happened. Finance Commissions have not got the benefit of recommendations of SFCs, as most State Governments did not constitute them in time and did not give due importance to strengthening this critical constitutional mechanism," it said.

The 15th Finance Commission tasked the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to certify the compliance of all constitutional provisions by a State in this respect before the release of their share of grants for 2024-25 and 2025-26.

FULL REPORT ON  
[www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

- All Indian states, except Arunachal Pradesh, now have State Finance Commissions (SFCs) in place, with Gujarat being the latest to form its commission on November 4. This follows the push from the 15th Finance Commission, which raised concerns about delays in establishing SFCs in its 2020 report and recommended that states failing to comply with constitutional provisions would not receive grants after March 2024.
- As per Article 243 I of the Constitution, states are required to set up an SFC every five years to review the financial position of panchayats and recommend how state revenue should be shared with local governments. The 6th SFC was due by 2019-2020 for all states, but only nine states have established their 6th SFCs so far.
- The Finance Commission's report highlighted that many states had not moved beyond the 2nd or 3rd SFCs. It recommended that all states must constitute their SFCs and implement their recommendations by March 2024. States failing to do so will not receive grants for the financial years 2024-25 and 2025-26.

### Domestic Systemically Important Banks: Why are these banks 'too big to fail'?

HITESH VYAS  
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 13

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday retained State Bank of India, HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs).

All the three banks continue to be under the same bucketing structure as in the 2023 list of D-SIBs, the regulator said. Systemically Important Banks (SIBs) are perceived as banks that are 'Too Big To Fail (TBTF)' and their continued functioning is crucial for the uninterrupted availability of essential banking services to the real economy.

#### Banks classified as D-SIBs by the RBI

The RBI has continued to identify SBI, HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank as Domestic Systemically



However, the perceived expectation of government support amplifies risk-taking, reduces market discipline, creates competitive distortions, and increases the probability of distress in the future. These considerations require that SIBs should be subjected to additional policy measures to deal with the systemic risks and moral hazard issues posed by them, according to the RBI

Weighted Assets (RWAs) in India, i.e., additional CET1 buffer prescribed by the home regulator (amount) multiplied by India RWA as per consolidated global Group books divided by total consolidated global Group RWA.

#### How are D-SIBs selected?

The process of assessment of systemic importance of banks by

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday retained the State Bank of India, HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs). All three banks continue to be under the same bucketing structure as in the 2023 list of D-SIBs, the regulator said. Systemically Important Banks (SIBs) are perceived as banks that are 'Too Big To Fail (TBTF)' and their continued functioning is crucial for the uninterrupted availability of essential banking services to the real economy

#### Selection Process for D-SIBs:

- Banks with systemic importance are assessed based on size, complexity, and interconnectedness.
- Only banks exceeding **2% of GDP** in size are selected for assessment.
- Banks above a threshold of systemic importance are classified as D-SIBs and assigned to different buckets based on their scores.



# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



## PIB-Defense(GSIII)

Ministry of Defence



### INDIAN NAVY TO CONDUCT FOURTH EDITION OF COASTAL DEFENCE EXERCISE 'SEA VIGIL-24'

Posted On: 13 NOV 2024 3:40PM by PIB Delhi

The Indian Navy is set to conduct the fourth edition of the 'Pan-India' Coastal Defence Exercise 'Sea Vigil-24' on **20 & 21 Nov 24**.

Originally conceptualised in 2018, **Sea Vigil was designed to validate and enhance measures adopted to bolster Coastal Defence, post the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks.**

Encompassing the entire **11,098 km** coastline and vast Exclusive Economic Zone of **2.4 million** square kilometres, this comprehensive exercise will engage complete coastal security infrastructure and all maritime stakeholders, including the fishing community and coastal populace, simultaneously. **One of the aims of the exercise is to raise awareness amongst coastal communities about maritime security**, and thus, involvement of fishing communities, coastal populace, and students from NCC and Bharat Scouts and Guides will add to the fervour of the endeavour.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY



## PIB-History(GSI)

Prime Minister's Office



On the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas, PM to visit Bihar on 15th November

This marks the commencement of 150th Birth Anniversary Year celebration of Bhagwan Birsa Munda

PM to inaugurate and lay foundation stone of multiple development projects worth over Rs 6640 crore

PM to inaugurate two Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museums and two Tribal Research Institutes to preserve the rich history and heritage of tribal communities

Multiple projects with focus on enhancing ease of living of tribal communities to be launched

PM to participate in Grih Pravesh of 11,000 houses built under PM-JANMAN

Posted On: 13 NOV 2024 6:39PM by PIB Delhi

- The Union Cabinet, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, officially endorsed the designation of the 15th of November as "Janjatiya Gaurav Divas" - a day dedicated to honouring the memory of the courageous tribal freedom fighters. This initiative aimed to ensure that future generations are well-informed about the sacrifices made by these valiant individuals for the sake of their nation.
- The selected date coincides with the birth anniversary of Sri Birsa Munda, a revered figure known as "Bhagwan" by tribal communities nationwide. Birsa Munda fearlessly confronted the exploitative British colonial system, spearheading a movement against British oppression that called for a 'Ulgulan' or revolution. Janjatiya Gaurav Divas seeks to pay homage to the illustrious history and rich cultural heritage of tribal communities. This annual celebration will serve as a platform for acknowledging the tireless efforts of the tribal population in preserving their cultural heritage and promoting Indian values of bravery, hospitality, and national pride.

# HEADLINES OF THE DAY

## Air-Defense(GSIII)

### Indian Army Conducts High-Intensity Tri-Services Exercise 'Poorvi Prahar' In Arunachal Pradesh



The Indian Army is conducting a high-intensity tri-services exercise Poorvi Prahar from the 10th to the 18th of this month in the forward areas of Arunachal Pradesh. This joint exercise aims to hone the combat effectiveness of the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force in executing Integrated Joint Operations in the challenging mountainous terrain of the region.

Poorvi Prahar is the integration of innovative technologies that are reshaping the future of military operations.