

DAILY PT POINTERS

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Disrobing of women is a blot on the Constitution: SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday in a judgment said the disrobing, grievous assault and public humiliation committed on two women accused of witchcraft in rural Bihar in 2020 amounted to a blot on the constitutional spirit of equality and dignity.

A Bench of Justices C.T. Ravikumar and Sanjay Karol castigated the Patna High Court for staying criminal proceedings against the accused persons and the Bihar government for not pursuing the case to bring justice to the women.

“Witchcraft is deeply in-

It also pulled up Patna High Court for staying the criminal proceedings against the accused

manner of surprise that such allegations were most often directed against women who were either widows or elderly. A variety of reasons are accepted to be the reasons for casting such aspersions – caste-based discrimination, retaliation for defying social norms, etc,” Justice Karol observed in a 19-page judgment.

The court held that each case of inhumane and degrading incidents against women accused of

“Dignity goes to the very core of the existence of an individual in society. Any action which undermines dignity either by an act of another person or that of the State is potentially going against the spirit of the Constitution of India,” the court highlighted, reviving the trial against the accused.

“Incidents such as the one before us, as also many others that come across our desks, keep us alive to the on-ground reality that however much has been done by way of legislative, executive and judicial action to protect vulnerable sections of the society, in this context women, from exploitation, its effect has

- The Supreme Court condemned the disrobing, grievous assault, and public humiliation of two women accused of witchcraft in rural Bihar in 2020. Criticized the Patna High Court for staying criminal proceedings and the Bihar government for not pursuing justice.
- **Observations:** Witchcraft accusations are often rooted in superstition, patriarchy, and social control, typically targeting widows or elderly women. Incidents of witchcraft accusations undermine the constitutional spirit of equality and dignity.
- **Court's Stance:** Emphasized that any action undermining an individual's dignity is against the spirit of the Constitution. Revived the trial against the accused to ensure justice for the victims.

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India and France sign MoU for new National Museum

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

India and France on Thursday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of the new National Museum, on the lines of the Louvre in Paris, at the historic North Block and South Block in the national capital. The museum, named Yuga Yugeen Bharat, when com-



The delegates from India and France sign the agreement for the

- India and France signed an MoU to develop the new National Museum, Yuga Yugeen Bharat, at North Block and South Block in New Delhi. When completed, Yuga Yugeen Bharat will be the largest museum in the world.
- Developed on the lines of the Louvre in Paris through adaptive reuse.
- The museum will be developed through adaptive reuse, with France's expertise in such projects, including the transformation of the Louvre, Grand Palais, and Hotel de la Marine.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB-Economy(GSIII)

Ministry of Finance



Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) sign \$42 million loan to strengthen coastal protection to help boost community resilience in Maharashtra

The project also encourages increased participation of women, youth, and vulnerable groups in coastal zone management to enhance their ability to prepare for and respond effectively to disasters

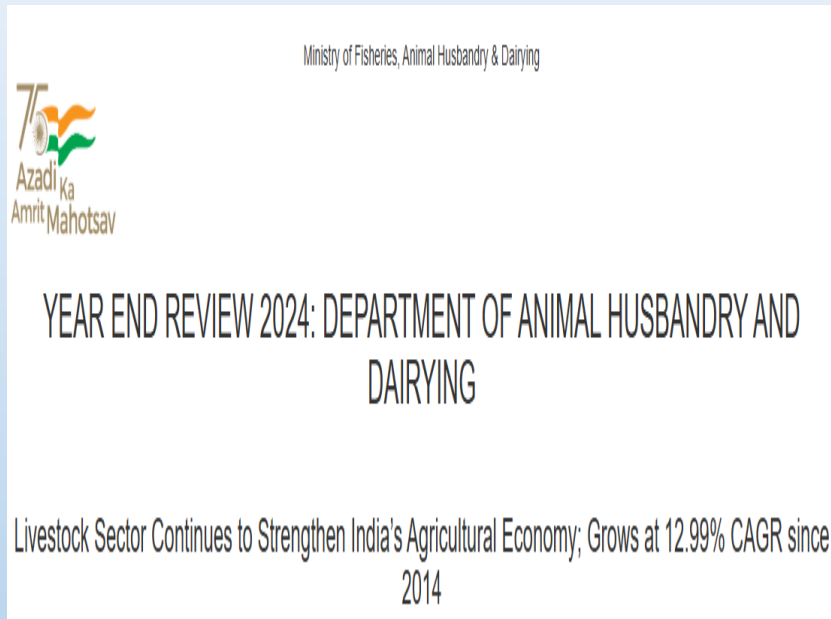
Posted On: 19 DEC 2024 7:24PM by PIB Delhi

India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$42 million loan for coastal and riverbank protection in Maharashtra.

- **Project Goals:** Restore and stabilize Maharashtra's coastline.
 - Protect the livelihoods of coastal communities. Address issues in the tourism and fishery sectors affected by coastal erosion, flooding, and poor management.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB-Economy(GSIII)



Livestock Sector in India

- **Growth and Contribution:** Livestock sector grew at a CAGR of 12.99% from 2014-15 to 2022-23.
- Contribution to total agriculture and allied sector GVA increased from 24.38% in 2014-15 to 30.23% in 2022-23.
- **Milk Production:** India ranks first in global milk production, contributing 24.76% of total production. Milk production grew at a CAGR of 5.62% from 146.31 million tonnes in 2014-15 to 239.30 million tonnes in 2023-24.
- **Egg Production:** India ranks second in global egg production.
- Egg production increased from 78.48 billion in 2014-15 to 142.77 billion in 2023-24, growing at a CAGR of 6.87%.
- **Meat Production:** India ranks fifth in global meat production

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Air-Economy(GSIII)

NITI Aayog Releases Report On 'SAFE' For Affordable Worker Housing To Boost Manufacturing Growth



- NITI Aayog released a report on the Site Adjacent Factory Employee (S.A.F.E.) Accommodation—Worker Housing for Manufacturing Growth in New Delhi. The report explores the crucial role of secure, affordable, flexible, and efficient accommodations for industrial workers in boosting India’s manufacturing sector. It identifies key challenges, offers actionable solutions, and highlights the pivotal interventions required to scale up such housing facilities across the country.
- In the Union Budget 2024-25, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman emphasised the importance of rental housing with dormitory-style accommodations for industrial workers. This initiative, to be executed under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support and commitments from anchor industries, underscores the government’s commitment to addressing a critical component of India’s manufacturing ecosystem.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Air-Miscellaneous

Easterine Kire Wins Sahitya Akademi Award 2024 For 'Spirit Nights' In English Category



- **Easterine Kire Wins Sahitya Akademi Award 2024 for 'Spirit Nights' in English Category**
- Every year since its inception in 1954, the Sahitya Akademi Award prizes to the most outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the major Indian languages recognised by the Akademi. The award amount, which was Rs.5,000 since inception, had been enhanced to Rs.10,000 from 1983, Rs.25,000 from 1988, Rs.40,000 from 2001, Rs.50,000 from 2003 and is now Rs.1,00,000 from 2009. The first Awards were given in 1955.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Air-Miscellaneous

Renowned Tabla Maestro Pt. Swapan Choudhary Awarded 2023 National Tansen Samman



- The National Tansen Award and Raja Mansingh Tomar Award were given yesterday in the world famous Tansen Festival organized in Gwalior, the music capital of Madhya Pradesh.
- Renowned tabla player of Indian classical music Pt. Swapan Choudhary of Kolkata was honoured with the “National Tansen Samman” for the year 2023. At the National Tansen Award, an honorarium of five lakh rupees, citation plaque and shawl-shriphal was presented. This award, established by the Madhya Pradesh government in the name of Music Emperor Tansen, is the highest national music award in the field of Indian classical music.
- Sanand Nyas, an institution of Indore, was honoured with the “Raja Mansingh Tomar Samman” for the year 2023. This institution has been working in the field of classical music, drama and cultural festivals in Indore for the last 35 years.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Air-Environment(GSIII)

Masali Village In Gujarat Becomes India's First Solar Border Village



- In Gujarat, Masali village in Banaskantha district has become country's first solar border village. Masali village, with a total population of 800, is located 40 kilometers from the Pakistan border. Following the efforts of district administration, Masali has emerged as 100 percent solar powered village in country.
- Under PM Suryaghar Yojana, solar rooftops have been installed on a total of 119 houses in Masali village having population of 800 people. All these houses are generating more than 225 kilowatts of electricity. Talking to Akashvani, Banaskantha collector Mihir Patel said, Under the Border Development Project, the administration has also taken the initiative to make 11 border villages in Vav taluka and six in Suigam taluka, as entirely solar powered villages.