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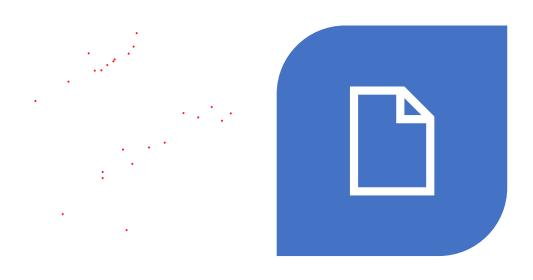








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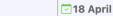












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asaChallenge.



CRI searches AAP leader's residence





India criticises trade actions of Bangladesh

'Trumponomics' deserves to be World should adjust to Trump's 'mission'



Jacks stars in MI's easy win over SRH

#### INSIDE



#### Vadra's statement recorded by ED in land deal case

(ED) recorded the statement of Robert Vadra, the businessman husband of Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, for the Thursday in a 2008 Harvana land deal-linked money laundering case. » PAGE 2

#### Karnataka lorry strike ends after govt. assurance

BENGALURU
The Federation of Karnataka
State Lorry Owners and Agents'
Association on Thursday called
off its indefinite strike after the
third round of talks with Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy. The decision came afte almost three days of disruption to goods transportation across the State. > PAGE 3

#### India dismisses Pak. Army chief's Kashmir remarks

India reterated its sovereignty over the territory of Jammu & Kashmir on Thursday, while dismissing Pakistan Army chief General Asim Munir's characterisation of Kashmir a the "jugular vein of Pakistan and references to the two-nation theory and Pakistan's independent movement. » PAGE 4

#### Tejashwi to lead INDIA bloc panel for Bihar polls

Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav was appointed on Thursday as head of Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA)'s upcoming Bihar Assembly handle all election-related matters, to PAGE 5



IMF urges nations to find settlement on trade issues

On the eve of its Spring Monetary Fund called on countries to find a settlement praised parts of U.S. Preident Donald Trump's agenda and outlined silver linings to the





#### No Waqf de-notification till next SC hearing: govt.

Appointments will not be made to Waqf bodies till the case comes up again, government assures the court; any appointments made counter to the assurance may be declared void by the court, says Solicitor-General; Centre gets 7 days to file response to challenges to the Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025; three-judge Bench fixes next hearing on May 5

he Supreme Court on Thursday re-corded a statement by the Union government that Waqfs, including Waqf-by-user, whether de-clared by way of notification or through registra-tion, will neither be de-notified nor suffer any change in character or sta-cus until the next date of

tus until the next date of court hearing. A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna furth-er recorded in its order an assurance given by the Centre, represented by Sol-ta, that until the next hear-ing. no. appointments ing no appointments would be made to the Cen-tral Waqf Council or the Waqf Boards of States or

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Questioning the judiciary for setting a timeline for the President to take deci-sions and accusing it of act-sions and accusing it of act-ing as a "super Parlia-ment", Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Thursday said the Su-preme Court cannot fire a

preme Court cannot fire a "nuclear missile" at demo-

Addressing Rajya Sabha nterns on Thursday, Mr.

ed critique of the judiciary, citing the manner of inqui-ry into the alleged recovery of semi-burnt currency notes at the official resi-dence of Justice Yashwant Verma and alleged incur-sions by the judiciary into the domains of the execu-tive and Parliament. ed critique of the judiciary

the National Capital Terri-tory of Delhi under the amended Sections 9 and 14 of the principal Waqf Act 1995. These two provisions were amended through the Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025 to allow the inclu-sion of non-Muslims in sion of non-Muslims in these administrative bo-

dies. The Centre said any ap-pointments, if made counter to the assurance, may be declared void by the court. The Bench fixed the next hearing on May 5 at 2





next hearing on May \$ a 1 2 p.m.

\*Certain positives\*

\*Mr. Mehta successfully urged the court to grant him seven days to file a resignation on the issue, and numerous representations received from across the less to the less that the less than the faming of the provisions assistance.\* Mr. Mehta the saistance of stay of the Act directly or large that the situation regarding Wagfis and infirmities and the infirmities and the measure but also a "serious and harsh step" ta- "But at the same time," "But at the same time, we do not want the situation to thange drastically into the hard the state of the less than the faming of the provisions assistance." Mr. Mehta assistance. The CJI green day the faming of the provisions assistance. The CJI green day the faming of the provisions assistance. The complete faming of the provisions assistance." Mr. Mehta assistance. The CJI green day the Act directly or stay to the Act directly

Supreme Court cannot fire a nuclear missile

at democratic forces, says Vice-President

His remarks come days tive functions, who will act

that a government elected by the people is accounta-ble to the people and to

Parliament.

"There is a principle of accountability in operation. In Parliament, you can ask questions... But if this executive governance is by the judiciary, how do you ask questions? Whom do you hold accountable in elections? Time has come when our three institutions.

when our three institution

- legislature, judiciary, and

Any incursion by one in the domain of the other

poses a challenge, which is not good..." Mr. Dhankhar added.

ceived lakins and takins of representations which re-sulted in the making of these provisions. For ex-ample, villages and villages are taken as Waqfs, private properties of individuals are taken as Waqfs. This is

are taken as Waqfs. This is a considered piece of legislation. This involves a large number of innocent people's right to land and property... We will have to take you through the history of the legislation through a 100 years, Mr. Mehta said, urging the court against passing an interim order.

appearing for the Union of India, I am saying that we,

as a government and as a Parliament, are answera-

Thumb rule

And you are right, we do
preliminary ratge. That is
the thumb rule. At the
same time, there is also a

when a matter is pending
when a matter is pending
to the result of th

The court had on Wed-nesday refused a request from the petitioners' side for a complete stay of the Act.

The top judge pointed out that the court, while mulling over an interim or-der on Wednesday, had not thought of intervening in a particular amendment requiring a person to have been a practising Muslim

Retain school staff

till new recruitment. +

"There is no question of plements, and the Judici-ary adjudicates. It is clear," Chief Justice corrected the

when a matter is pending before this court, the situa-tion as is prevailing today

Mr. Menta assured the court "nothing would hap-pen even if the govern-ment wants to" until the

#### Summer playtime



Dhankhar held an extend- the 6th Raiya Salbha Internship Programme in New Delhi, ANI

#### SC sets aside orders against Wikimedia

The SC on Thursday set aside the orders passed by the Delhi HC directing the takedown of a Wikipedia page on the basis of a defa-mation case led by the news agency, ANI, against U.S.-based non-prot Wiki-media Foundation. A Bench of Justices A.S. Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan ob-

Oka and Ujial Bhuyan ob-served that the HG orders of April 2 and April 8, passed by a Single-Judge Bench and Division Bench, respectively, were based on prayers that were too wide and incapable of be-ing enforced.

would have the occasion to

ble to the judiciary 24x7\*.

## SC tells West Bengal

for five years prior to dedi-cating his property as Waqf.

The Supreme Court on Thursday granted relief for the West Bengal govern-ment by allowing the ser-vices of "specifically un-tainted" candidates in the State's government and aided schools to be re-tained till fresh recruitment process is completed

by the end of 2025.

A Bench headed by
Chief Justice of India Saniiv

The top court, in a judg-ment on April 3, had confirmed the en bloc cancellation of the entire 2016 recruitment process "due to the egregious violations and illegalities, which vio-lated Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution". The judgment had affected nearly 24,000 teaching and non-teaching appoint-ments in government and aided schools across the

see it.
The Vice-President also The top court on Thurs-The top court on Thurs-day directed the West Ben-gal government to initiate a fresh recruitment process for assistant teachers to classes nine to 12 adding that the process should be completed by December 31, 2025. The Vice-President also described Article 142 of the Constitution, which gives the Supreme Court the power to issue orders that ensure "complete justice" in any matter before it, as a "nuclear missile against democratic forces available to the judiciary 243.7".

'Concern for children'
"There was vast bungling...

"There is a directive to the President by a recent judgment. Where are we heading? What is happening in the country? We have to be extremely sensihave to be extremely sensi-tive. It is not a question of someone filing a review or not. We never bargained for democracy for this day, President being called upon to decide in a time-bound manner, and if not, becomes law," Mr. Dhank-har sald.

Our concern is for the chil-dren," Chief Justice Khan-na remarked on Thursday. The top court directed that the advertisement for the recruitment process for assistant teachers to

vit before May 31, enclos-ing the advertisement and a schedule of the entire recruitment process till De

The court cautioned

sion (WBSSC), were linked process in 2016 for assis-tant teachers for classes nine to 12 and non-teach-

for assistant teachers to these four classes must be sublished on or before May 31, 2025. The entire re-cruitment process should be completed by Decem-ber 31, 2025.

The Bench ordered the finding.

that "appropriate" orders would be passed if the State failed to publish the the filing of the affidavit

ing staff.
On April 22 last year, the
High Court had ordered
the invalidation of all

## His remarks come days after the Supreme Court sought to fix a timeline for the President and Govern the President and Govern Court of the President and Govern Court of the President and Govern Court of the President Court of the Worries at high level The Vice-President said his worries were at a "very highest level" and he never thought in his life that he

## No Waqf de-notification till next SC hearing: govt.

Appointments will not be made to Waqf bodies till the case comes up again, government assures the court; any appointments made counter to the assurance may be declared void by the court, says Solicitor-General; Centre gets 7 days to file response to challenges to the Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025; three-judge Bench fixes next hearing on May 5

#### Krishnadas Rajagopal

**NEW DELHI** 

he Supreme Court on Thursday recorded a statement by the Union government that Waqfs, including Waqf-by-user, whether declared by way of notification or through registration, will neither be de-notified nor suffer any change in character or status until the next date of court hearing.

A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna further recorded in its order an assurance given by the Centre, represented by Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, that until the next hearing no appointments would be made to the Central Waqf Council or the Waqf Boards of States or

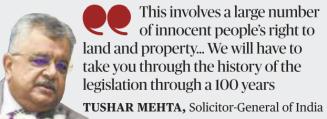
the National Capital Territory of Delhi under the amended Sections 9 and 14 of the principal Waqf Act 1995. These two provisions were amended through the Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025 to allow the inclusion of non-Muslims in these administrative bodies.

The Centre said any appointments, if made counter to the assurance, may be declared void by the court. The Bench fixed the next hearing on May 5 at 2 p.m.

#### 'Certain positives'

Mr. Mehta successfully urged the court to grant him seven days to file a response covering the entire gamut of 100 years of legislation on the issue, and numerous representations received from across the

The Act has certain positive things... At the same time we do not want the situation to change drastically that it affects a lot of people SANJIV KHANNA Chief Justice of India



country, which led to the framing of the provisions of the Act.

Any interim order of stay of the Act directly or indirectly or even partly, at this preliminary stage, would not only be a rare measure but also a "serious and harsh step" taken by the court without

availing of any "complete assistance", Mr. Mehta said.

The CJI agreed that the situation regarding Waqfs had infirmities and the 2025 Act did have "certain positive things".

"But at the same time, we do not want the situation to change drastically that it affects a lot of people," Chief Justice Khanna explained.

"As the Solicitor-General appearing for the Union of India, I am saying that we, as a government and as a Parliament, are answerable to the people. We received lakhs and lakhs of representations which resulted in the making of these provisions. For example, villages and villages are taken as Waqfs, private properties of individuals are taken as Waqfs. This is a considered piece of legislation. This involves a large number of innocent people's right to land and property... We will have to take you through the history of the legislation through a 100 years," Mr. Mehta said, urging the court against passing an interim order.

The court had on Wednesday refused a request from the petitioners' side for a complete stay of the Act.

The top judge pointed out that the court, while mulling over an interim order on Wednesday, had not thought of intervening in a particular amendment requiring a person to have been a practising Muslim for five years prior to dedicating his property as Waof.

#### Thumb rule

"And you are right, we do not stay legislation at the preliminary stage. That is the thumb rule. At the same time, there is also a thumb rule that normally when a matter is pending before this court, the situation as is prevailing today should continue so as not

to affect the rights of the parties... We do not want the position to be changed," Chief Justice Khanna pointed out.

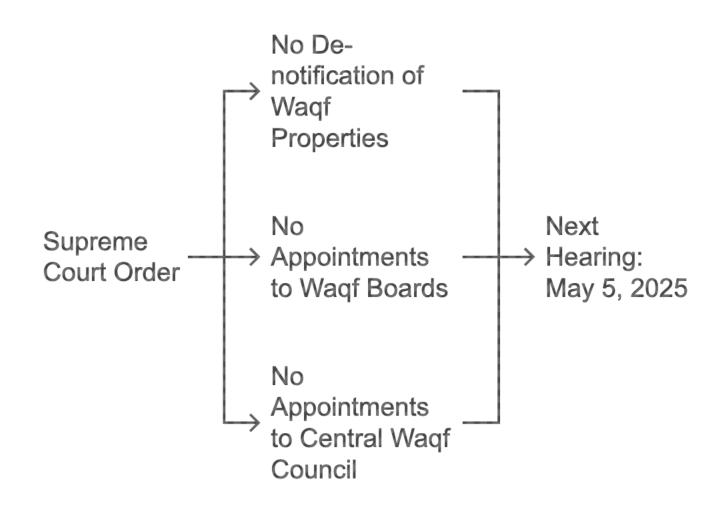
Mr. Mehta said the concern of the government was that the court should not be blamed for judicial overreach.

"There is no question of overreach. Parliament legislates, the Executive implements, and the Judiciary adjudicates. It is clear," Chief Justice corrected the notion.

Senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, for one of the respondents supporting the legislation, said Parliament did nothing but legislate the will of the people.

Mr. Mehta assured the court "nothing would happen even if the government wants to" until the next hearing.

## Waqf Properties and Appointments Freeze



## Q. With reference to the recent Supreme Court proceedings on the Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025, consider the following statements:

- 1. The Act permits appointment of non-Muslims to the Central Waqf Council and State Waqf Boards.
- 2. The Supreme Court has ordered a complete stay on the implementation of the Waqf Amendment Act 2025.
- 3. The court emphasized that no Waqf property shall be de-notified or altered until the next hearing.

## Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
  - B. 2 and 3 only
  - C. 1 and 2 only
  - D. 1, 2 and 3

#### INBRIDE



#### Karnataka HC adjourns Ranya's bail plea till April 21

Officials of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence had violated procedure under the Customs Act while searching actor Ranya Rao in a gold smuggling case, senior advocate Sandesh J Chouta, representing her, argued before the Karnataka High Court on Thursday during the hearing on her bail plea. Justice Vishwaiith S Shetty, who was hearing the plea, adjourned further hearing till April 21 to enable the DRI to file its objections and hear Ms. Rao's arguments

#### A.P. Police place former TTD chairman under house arrest

The Andhra Pradesh Police on Thursday placed former TTD chairman Bhumana Karunakar Reddy under house arrest. The move followed Mr. Reddy's acceptance of the challenge thrown by TDP State president Palla Srinivas to visit the TTD's dairy farm to prove his charges. Mr. Reddy had earlier made serious allegations on the reported death of over 100 cows in the dairy farm due to "negligence" of the staff, which caused a furore in the TTD circles.

#### Modi to inaugurate Vizhinjam international seaport on May 2

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to on May 2. Governor Rajendra Arlekar and Chief ster Pinaravi Vijavan will attend the function with other dignitaries. Official sources said the Prime Minister's Office had sent a letter to the taries. Official sources said the

#### A.P. promulgates Ordinance on sub-classification of SCs

Govt, seeks to provide a legal framework to classify the communities into three sub-groups based on their population, backwardness, and social cohesion to address disparities in representation

#### Sambasiva Rao M.

he Andhra Pradesh government has promulgated the Andhra Pradesh Sche-duled Castes (Sub-Classifi-cation) Ordinance, 2025, marking a decisive step to

marking a decisive step to-wards categorising the control of the control of the to sub-groups for targeted welfare delivery.

Is sessed under G.O. MS. Meent, the Ordinance had been signed by Governor S. Abdul Nazeer on Wed-equently published in the State Gazette on Thursday. The Ordinance, design Ordinance, design.



parities in representation and access to welfare schemes. In order to en-sure integrated and equita-ble progress among the va-rious sub-castes within the Scheduled Castes in And-hra Pradesh, the State go-vernment promulgated the Ordinance proposed by the Social Welfare Depart

As part of the initiative, the 59 Scheduled Castes in the State had been classi-fied into three categories based on their population, backwardness, and social cohesion.

Roster system The percentage of reserva-tion for each of these three categories had also been

determined. A 200-point roster system would be fol-lowed for the sub-categorisation. It would function in two cycles (each from points I to 100). There will be 12 sub-castes in Group-I with 1% reservation. with 1% reservation. Group-II will have 18 subcastes with 6.5% reservation and Group-III will have 29 sub-castes with

7.5% reservation.
The government believes that the Ordinance
will ensure fair and equal
access to educational and
employment opportunities
for all groups within the
constitutional objectives
and ensuring collective development.

velopment.
Earlier, the government
had constituted a one-man
commission headed by retired IAS officer Rajlv Ranjan Mishra, which suggested sub-classification.

T.N. govt. clears space industrial policy

#### Karnataka lorry strike called off after govt. promises action

After almost three days of disruption to goods tran-sportation across Karnata-ka, the Federation of Karnataka State Lorry Owners and Agents' Association (FKSLOA) called off its in-

(FKSLOA) called off its in-definite strike on Thursday following a third round of talks with Transport Minis-ter Ramalinga Reddy. Seen nearly six lakh lorries parked across the State, se-verely affecting the move-ment of essential and non-essential commodities. essential commodities. Truckers had been de-

Truckers had been demanding a rollback of the diesel price hike and a reduction in toll charges, among other issues. Speaking to reporters afSpeaking to reporter and the speaking to reporter and the s

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy held a third round of talks with owners

duct an on-ground inspec-tion and submit a report," Mr. Reddy said. Another demand raised by the association was related to the restriction or lorry entry into city limits during peak hours. "We will review this issue to find a balanced solution, Mr. Reddy added.

Following the govern-ment's assurances, FKSLOA president G.R.

"Most of our demands have been positively consi-dered by the government. Mr. Reddy has promised to take our concerns to the Centre. Hence, we are call-ing off the strike," Mr. Shanmugappa said.

#### 'Actor misbehaved. used drug on film set'

#### The Hindu Bureau THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Two days after a Malaya-lam film actor levelled alle-gations of drug use and misbehaviour by a male co-star on a film set, she has filed formal complaints with the Internal Com-plaints Committee of the

film and the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists. naming actor Shine Tom Chacko.

Chacko.

Mr. Shine will be summoned by police after he allegedly fled a hotel in the city during a raid by the plattict Anti Narcotic Special Action Force late on Wednesday night.

Tamili Nadu Space Industrial Policy 2025 on Thursday.

A special package and payroll subsidy are among the key features of the policy.

Addressing the media

## tries Minister T.R.B. Rajaa said the Cabinet had ap-proved an important poli-cy on space sector for the State, which had listed steps to attract invest-ments to the tune of tio,000 crore into the sec-

A meeting of the Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, approved the Tamil Nadu Space Indus-

tio,000 crore into the sec-tor in the next five years. The aim was also to gen-erate employment oppor-tunities for about 10,000 people by creating a pool

of talented youth for com-panies. Though the focus was usually on the manu-facturing sector, the go-vernment was focusing on new sectors, including space and related service industries, the Minister said.

Incentives for start-ups Pointing to the talent avail-able in the State, especially in the space sector, Mr. Ra-

pany that is printing rock-ets here." A special package will be provided for companies in the space

sector.
The policy features in centives for start-ups and companies contributing to the sector in the State. It al-

#### Wife murdered for interfaith marriage, alleges man from A.P.

#### The Hindu Bureau

The Chittoor Police are on the hunt to arrest the fami ly members of a woman who was allegedly killed for marrying a person from another faith.

another faith.

Though the family members claimed that their daughter ended her life, her husband alleged that she was killed for marrying from another faith.

Shaik Yasmin Bhanu, 26, was in love with Sai Te-ja since college days. They got married on February 9.

of the marriage, the couple had sought police protec-tion four days after they tied the knot. tied the knot.
On April 12, the family members of Bhanu called her, saying that her father was seriously ill. Mr. Teja then sent Bhanu to her paternal home.

of Bhanu did not approve

## Mother detained The next day, Mr. Teja received a cail that Bhanu was not well and was hospitalised. When Mr. Teja reached the hospital, his in-laws told him that Bha-

#### Taste of the season



#### ED cracks down on two real estate firms in Telangana

#### The Hindu Bureau

The Directorate of Enforcesearches at four locations in Hyderabad and Secunderabad on Wed

derabad on Wednesday in connection with an ongoing money laundering probe against Sal Surya DeThe action was taken under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMA), 2002.

During the searches the EP's Hyderabad Zonal Office, they seized documents detailing the smouth collected through well as records of unacwell as records of unacwell as records of unac-

counted cash transactions amounting to approxi-mately ₹100 crore.

Additionally, unac ounted cash totalling ₹74.50 lakh was recovered from the premises of the director of Bhagyanagar Properties Ltd., Narendra

Properties Ltd., Narendra Surana, and companies Surana, and companies The investigation stems from multiple FIRs filed by the Telangana Police against Mr. Surana, K. Sath-ish Chandra Gupta, pro-prietor of Sai Surya Deve-topers, and others. They have been booked for cheating investors by

for cheating investors by collecting advance pay-ments for plot sales and failing to honour agree

#### Solar fence found damaged weeks after installation at Aralam farm in Kerala

#### The Hindu Bureau

fence, installed barely a month ago by the Forest department at Aralam farm in Kerala's Kannur farm in Kerala's Kannur, was found to be extensive-ly damaged, making it non-functional along a stretch of nearly two-and-a-half

of nearly two-and-a-half kilometres. Set up at a cost of around 84 lakh, was cost of around 84 lakh, was ling human-widdlife con-licts in the area. The de-partment had deployed 35 personnel to install the ov-er 5-km-long barrier from Kottappara to Block 13 in Aralam farm within 12

CM COM



the Forest department at Aralam farm, was found damaged.

ersonnel to install the ov-r5-km-long barrier from of tappara to Block I3 in ratalam farm within 12 ays.

However, within weeks However, within weeks

the area, putting local Forest officials said the

It is one of the relics of an dismantling took place around the same time a new ₹36-lakh contract was over 200-year-old love sto ry, as well as a 168-year-old war, and now it has been awarded to build a double-line solar fence along the same stretch. According to the same stretch according to fence was supposed to re-main intact until the new installation was complete. It for the supposed to re-trost officer Vysak Sast has instructed the Kotti-ysak Sast Sast Sast Sast Sast to the incident and submit a reput. Official to a submit a reput. Official to ask of assessing the extent of the damage and identifying those responsible. awarded to build a double restored after decades of restored after decades of neglect. A resurrection that adds to the aura of the storied love of Khair-un-Nissa and James Kirkpa-

Nissa and James Kirkpa-trick's at the turn of 19th century in princely Hyderabd in princely Hyderabd helind the Cha-kall Hamma University or what used to be the Resi-dency building, is the small gateway that led to the palace of Khair-un-Nis-swa Called Rang Mahld.

Khair-un-Nissa's Rang Mahal gateway gets

a new lease of life after decades of neglect

The Deccan Heritage Foundation has a plan for adaptive reuse of the restored gateway of the Rang Mahal complex. SERISH NANISETTI

paired columns, incised stucco work, flaring over-hangs and fharokas of the pales where pol (gateway) hark back to a gateway that opens to-wards the River Musi and a different era where it was there is the garden known

Mahal.

While the palace is gone, the graceful tapering lumn of the palace. The lumn of the palace. The some the graceful tapering lumn of the palace. The some table ta

damage in the meantime," says Ms. Kabra, who has helped restore the Rang

Mahal gateway.
The Deccan Heritage
Foundation, which has col-Foundation, which has col-laborated with the Chakali Ilamma University offi-cials, has a plan for adap-tive reuse of the restored building and garden. "We want to restore the Rang Mihal gate and its sur-face of the restored of the brant symbol of indige-nous architectural nous architectura heritage, fostering heritage

## A.P. promulgates Ordinance on sub-classification of SCs

Govt. seeks to provide a legal framework to classify the communities into three sub-groups based on their population, backwardness, and social cohesion to address disparities in representation

Sambasiva Rao M. AMARAVATI

he Andhra Pradesh government has promulgated the Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes (Sub-Classification) Ordinance, 2025, marking a decisive step towards categorising the Scheduled Castes (SCs) into sub-groups for targeted welfare delivery.

Issued under G.O. MS No. 19 by the Law Department, the Ordinance had been signed by Governor S. Abdul Nazeer on Wednesday and was subsequently published in the State Gazette on Thursday.

The Ordinance, designated as Andhra Pradesh Ordinance No. 2 of 2025, seeks to provide a legal framework to classify the SC communities into three sub-groups to address dis-



Rajiv Ranjan Mishra submitting a report recommending the sub-classification to K. Vijayanand, A.P. Chief Secretary, in March.

parities in representation and access to welfare schemes. In order to ensure integrated and equitable progress among the various sub-castes within the Scheduled Castes in Andhra Pradesh, the State government promulgated the Ordinance proposed by the Social Welfare Department.

As part of the initiative, the 59 Scheduled Castes in the State had been classified into three categories based on their population, backwardness, and social cohesion.

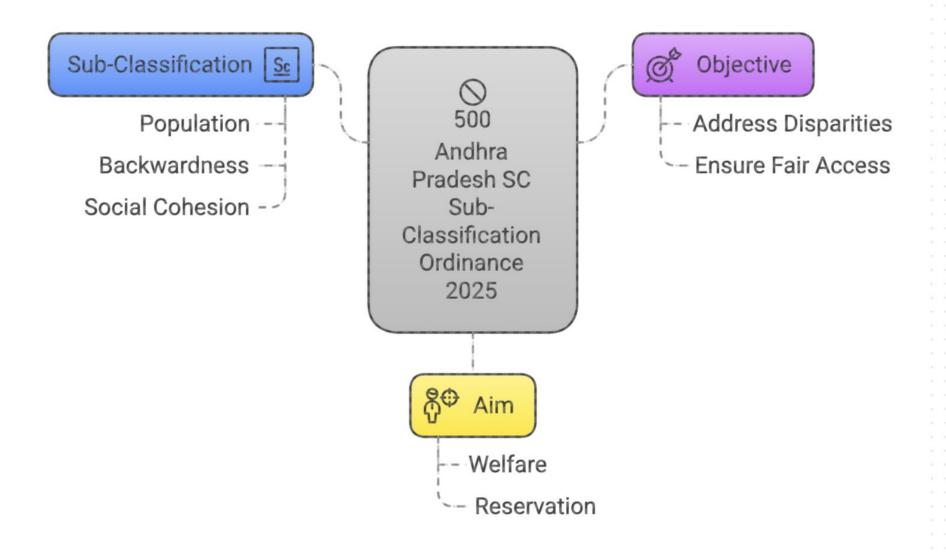
#### Roster system

The percentage of reservation for each of these three categories had also been determined. A 200-point roster system would be followed for the sub-categorisation. It would function in two cycles (each from points 1 to 100). There will be 12 sub-castes in Group-I with 1% reservation. Group-II will have 18 subcastes with 6.5% reservation and Group-III will have 29 sub-castes with 7.5% reservation.

The government believes that the Ordinance will ensure fair and equal access to educational and employment opportunities for all groups within the SCs, thereby fulfilling the constitutional objectives and ensuring collective development.

Earlier, the government had constituted a one-man commission headed by retired IAS officer Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, which suggested sub-classification.

## Andhra Pradesh SC Sub-Classification Ordinance 2025



## **■ Sub-classification Details:**

Group	No. of Sub-castes	Reservation %
Group I	12	1%
Group II	18	6.5%
Group III	29	7.5%

- Total SCs in Andhra Pradesh: 59 sub-castes
- 200-point roster system to be followed, divided in 2 cycles (each of 100 points).

## Q. With reference to the Andhra Pradesh SC Sub-Classification Ordinance, 2025, consider the following statements:

- 1. The ordinance divides the SC communities into four categories based on population and social backwardness.
- 2. The sub-categorization will follow a 200-point roster system functioning in two cycles.
- 3. Group I sub-castes will receive the highest reservation quota among the three groups.
- 4. The ordinance aims to address disparities in representation and access to welfare.

## Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 2 and 4 only
  - B. 1 and 3 only
  - C. 2, 3 and 4 only
  - D. 1, 2 and 4 only

# Scientists find strongest 'hints' yet of life brimming on a distant planet

Thursday that they had detected the most promising "hints" of potential life on a planet beyond our solar system, though other scientists expressed scepticism.

There has been vigorous debate about whether the planet K2-18b, which is 124 light years away in the Leo constellation, could be an ocean world capable of hosting microbial life, at the least.

Using James Webb Space Telescope, a British-US team detected signs of two chemicals in the planet's atmosphere long considered "biosignatures" indicating extraterrestrial life. The researchers emphasised caution, saying more observations were nee-

## WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT K2-18B?

- ➤ Repeated analysis of K2-18b's atmosphere by a **Cambridge team** suggests it has an abundance of 2 molecules one being dimethyl sulphide (DMS) that on Earth are **only produced by living organisms**
- This suggests the exoplanet's ocean could be teeming with life
- Findings are far from conclusive, but are the best pointer yet to possibility of life outside Earth



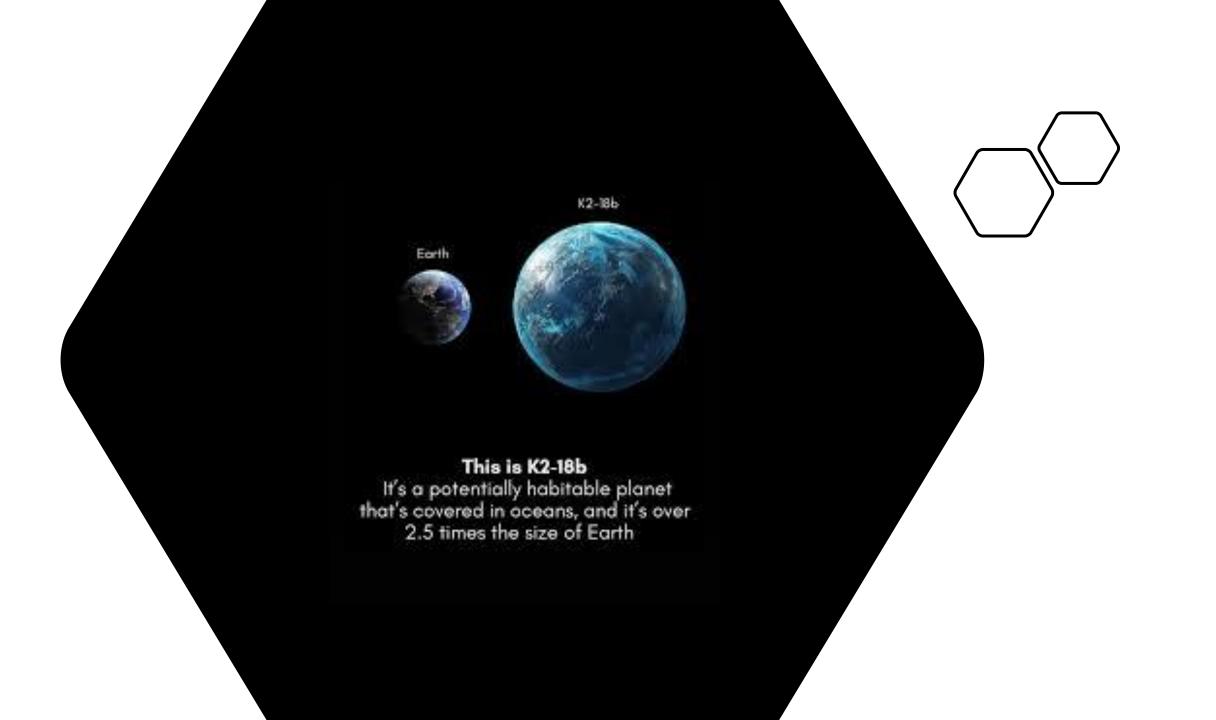
This is a revolutionary moment. It's the first time humanity has seen potential biosignatures on a habitable planet

-Prof NIKKU MADHUSUDHAN, lead researcher, who did BTech from IIT Varanasi before going on to do a PhD from MIT

ded to confirm these findings. But the implications could be huge, according to Nikku Madhusudhan, a Cambridge University astrophysicist and lead author of the study, published in The Astrophysical Journal Letters. AFP

▶Related report, P 8





#### K2-18b

First known "super-Earth" exoplanet to combine a rocky surface and an atmosphere with water

K2-18b

110 light years\*

- Orbits in the "habitable zone" around its star
- Has rocky surface, an atmosphere with water (0.1 to 50 %), hydrogen and helium
- Eight times the mass of Earth and twice as big, classed as one the so-called "super-Earths"
- Likely to be exposed to more radiation than Earth
- In the Leo constellation of the Milky Way

How long would it take to reach?

On the fastest spacecraft in the world, the Parker Solar Probe, it would take nearly 170,000 years to reach the planet (at 700,000kph) A star's "habitable zone" is where water can exist in liquid form

There are more than 4,000 exoplanets detected to date

Super-Earths like K2-18b are the most common planets in our galaxy

Trappist-1 system 40 light years

> Diagram not to scale

Alpha Centauri (nearest star system) 4.35 light years

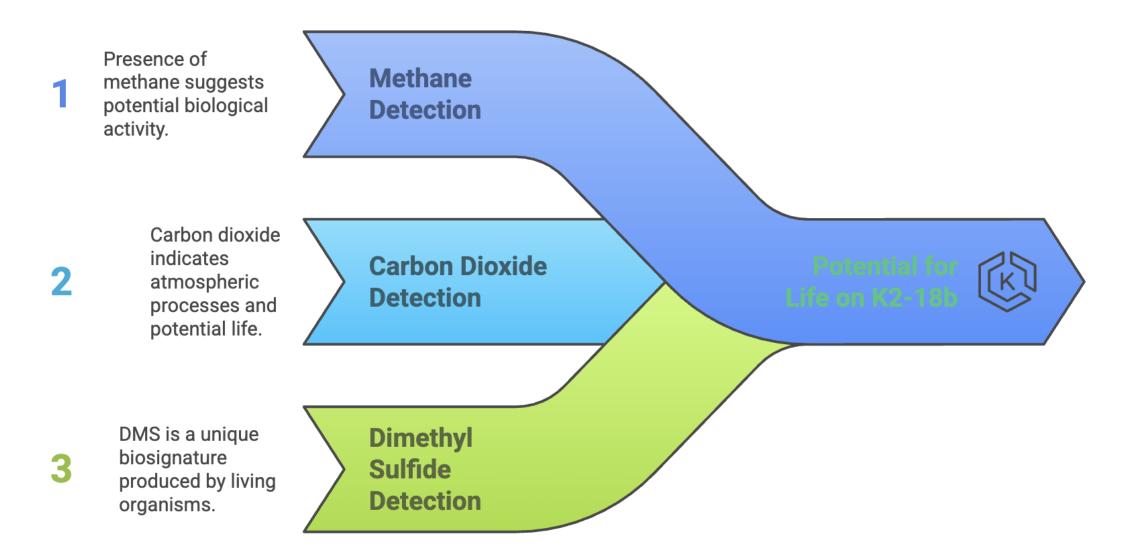
Edge of Solar system 14.5 billion km

\*1 light year = ~9.46 trillion km

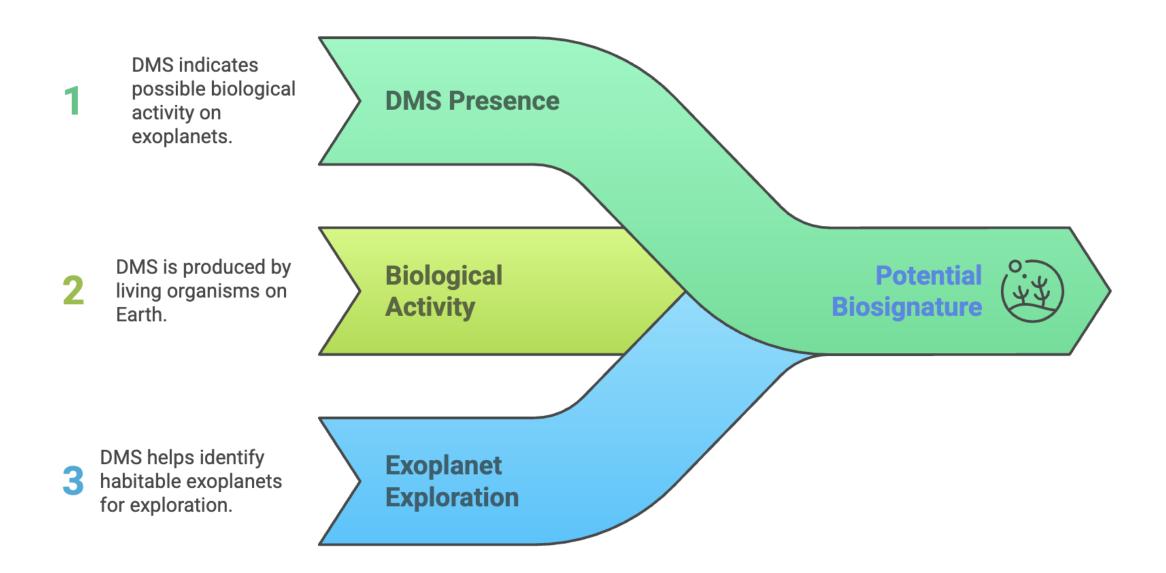
## Characteristics of Planet K2-18b

## Mass 8 times heavier than Earth **Orbit Size** 2.5 times larger than Orbits a red dwarf Earth star every 33 days **Habitable Zone** Location Region where liquid 124 light years away water can exist in Leo constellation

## Chemical Clues to Life



## DMS as a Sign of Life



## Pathways to Extraterrestrial Life

## Hycean Planet



Planet classified as a Hycean planet candidate.

## Biosignatures



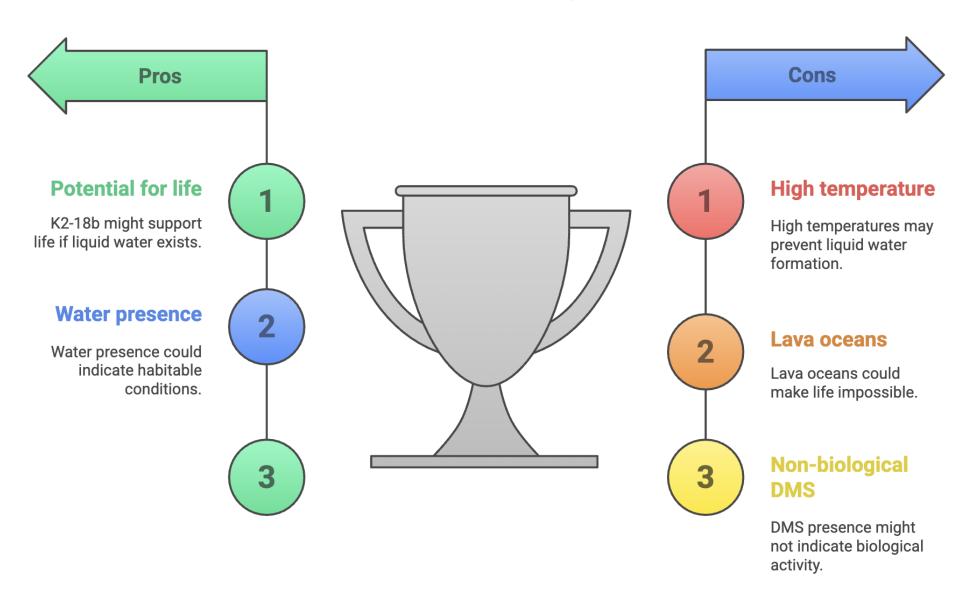
First detection of potential biosignatures on a planet.



## Habitable Planet

Planet identified as potentially habitable for life.

## K2-18b's habitability



## Q. Consider the following statements regarding the exoplanet K2-18b and the recent scientific findings:

- 1.K2-18b is located outside our galaxy and orbits a sun-like star.
- 2.Dimethyl sulfide (DMS) detected in K2-18b's atmosphere is on Earth produced only by living organisms.
- 3.K2-18b is considered a strong candidate for being a "Hycean planet".
- 4. The detection of DMS conclusively proves that life exists on K2-18b.

## Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
  - B. 2 and 3 only
  - C. 2, 3 and 4 only
  - D. 1, 3 and 4 only

## Dwarka & Beyt Dwarka



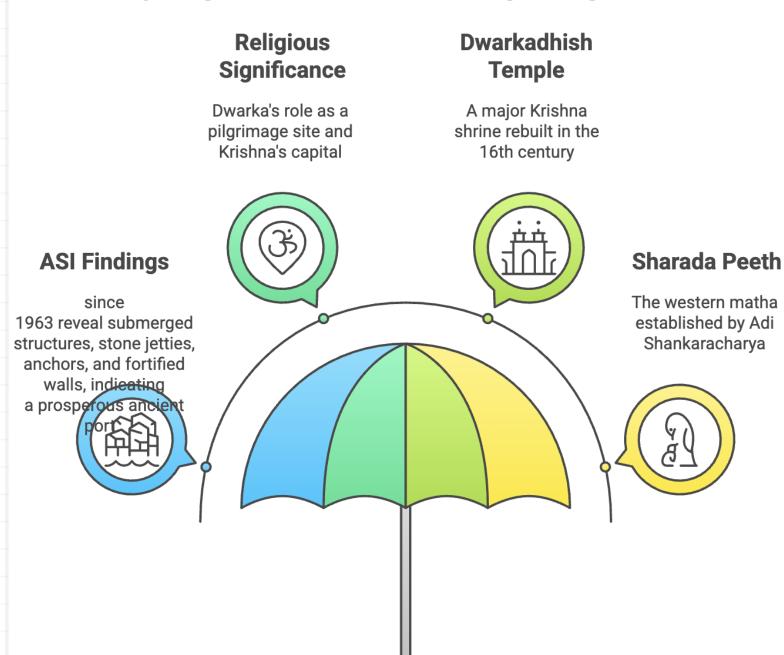
## Archaeological Study of Submerged Remains

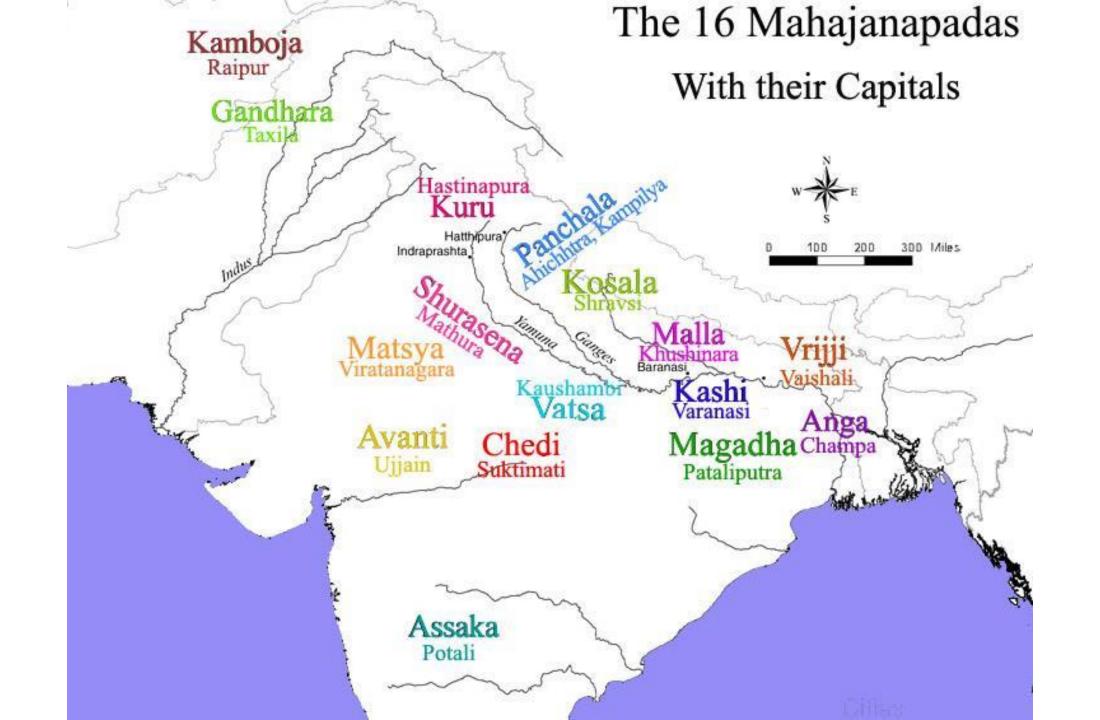
ASI Explore Dwarka

Launches Submerged Remains Dwarka

Beyt Dwarka

## **Exploring Dwarka's Historical and Religious Significance**





New species of frog Named after Assam College



## Discovery of Leptobrachium aryatium





Location of the frog's discovery in Assam.

## Leptobrachium 55 aryatium



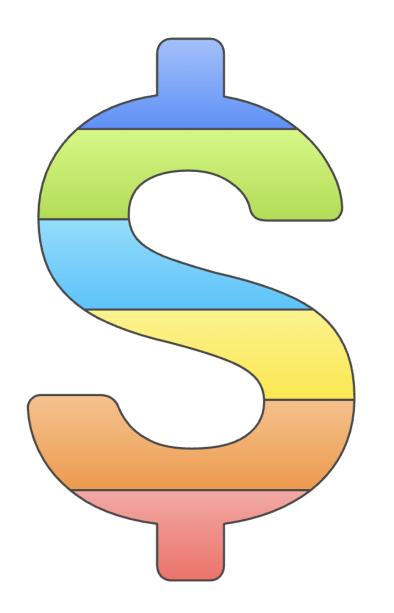
Newly identified frog species in Assam.



## Garbhanga **Reserve Forest**

Habitat where the new frog species was found.

### Unveiling the Arya Vidyapeeth Frog





## **Naming Origin**

Named after Arya Vidyapeeth College



### **Initial Misidentification**

Initially mistaken for Leptobrachium smithi



## **Leptobrachium Genus**

Belongs to a genus with 38 species



## **Physical Characteristics**

Features fiery eyes and reticulated throat

### Habitat

Found across Southern China and Southeast Asia

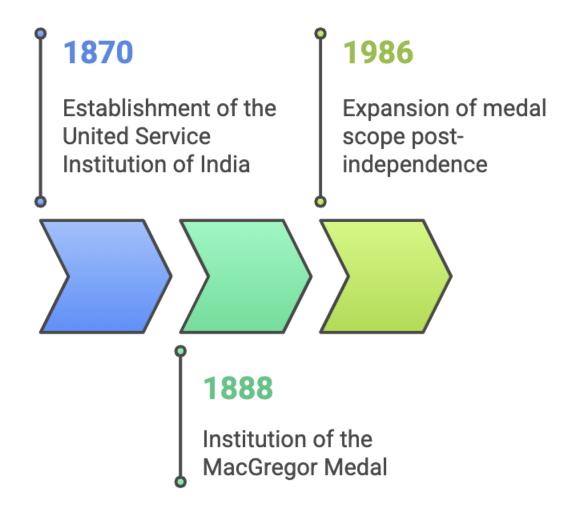


### **Unique Call**

Emits a smooth, rhythmic call at dusk

# MacGregor Memorial Medal Award

## The Evolution of the MacGregor Medal

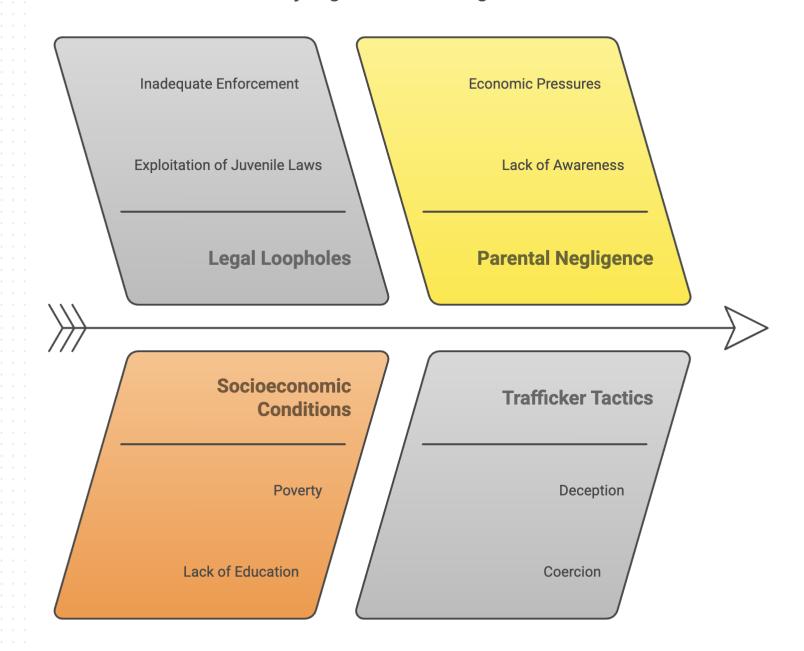


## **Evolution of the MacGregor Medal**



# Supreme Court on Child Trafficking

#### **Analyzing Child Trafficking in India**



## Understanding the Devastating Forms of Child Trafficking



#### **Forced Labor**

Children are exploited in industries like agriculture and domestic work.

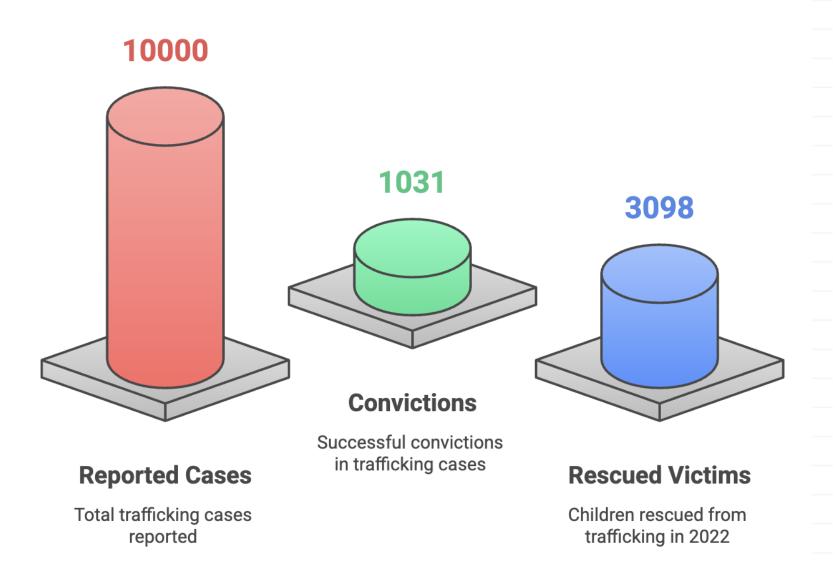
#### **Sexual Exploitation**

Victims are coerced into prostitution and online exploitation.

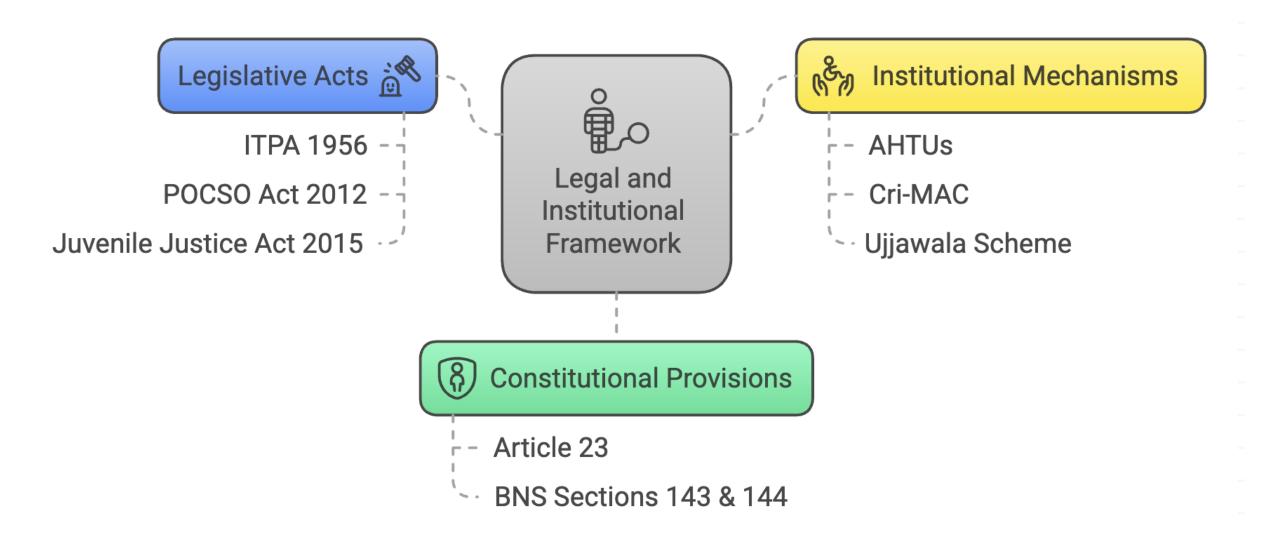
#### **Illegal Adoption**

Children are abducted and sold through criminal networks.

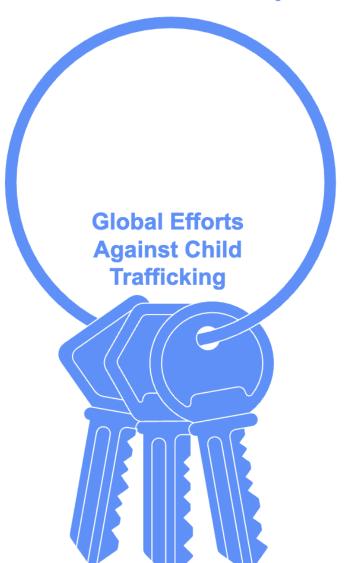
#### Child Trafficking Cases and Convictions (2018-2022)



#### Legal and Institutional Framework Against Child Trafficking in India



### Combating Child Trafficking Through Global Cooperation and Action



#### Palermo Protocol

Provides a framework for countries to combat trafficking through prevention, protection, and prosecution.

#### **UNODC Report**

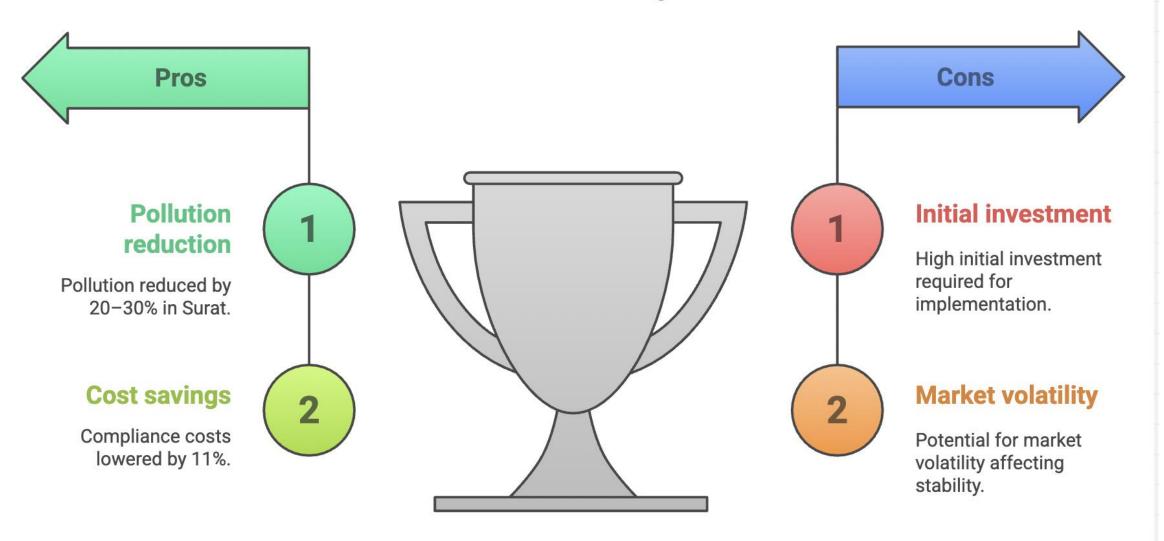
Highlights trends, patterns, and regional analyses of trafficking, revealing a 25% increase in victims.

#### **ILO Initiatives**

Works to eliminate child labor through programs like IPEC, addressing a form of trafficking.

# Cap-and-Trade India

#### Surat's Emissions Trading Scheme



# Company A

Illustration of Cap and Trade

**Company B** 

Under the emission cap

Trading allowance

Exceeded emission cap

Transferring money



Company A is selling surplus allowance to company B for

the market price



## Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)



#### Celebrating Financial Heritage





Mumbai hosts the historic anniversary celebration.

#### **BSE** History



Asia's oldest stock exchange, celebrating 150 years.



#### Finance Minister's Attendance

Finance Minister to grace the anniversary event.

#### BSE's Diverse Trading Platforms



#### **Equities Trading**

Facilitates trading of equities in the Indian market.



#### Mutual Funds

Provides a platform for mutual fund transactions.



#### Commodities Trading

Offers trading opportunities in various commodities.



#### **Debt Trading**

Enables trading of debt instruments in India.



#### **Derivatives Trading**

Supports trading of derivatives in the Indian market.

#### Founding of BSE Ltd.



The exchange was established in 1875.

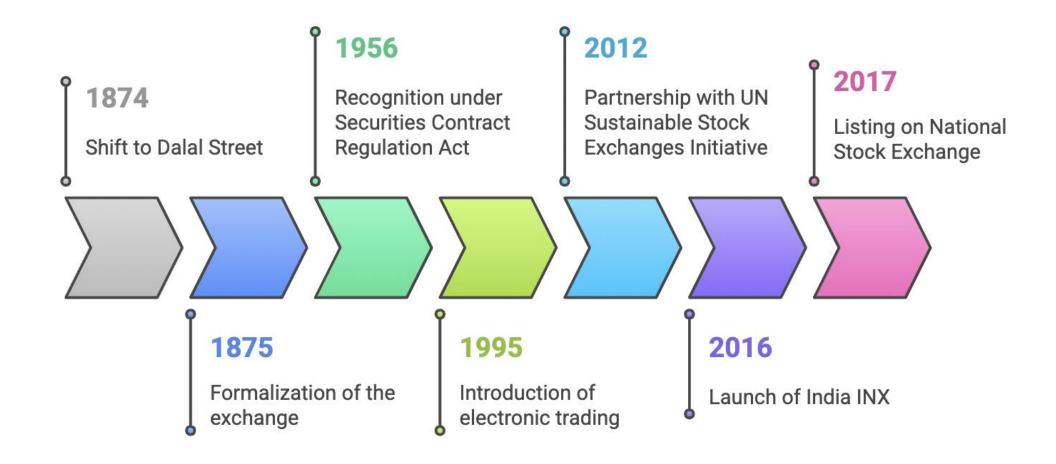
It was initially known as "The Native Share & Stock Brokers' Association.

Original Name

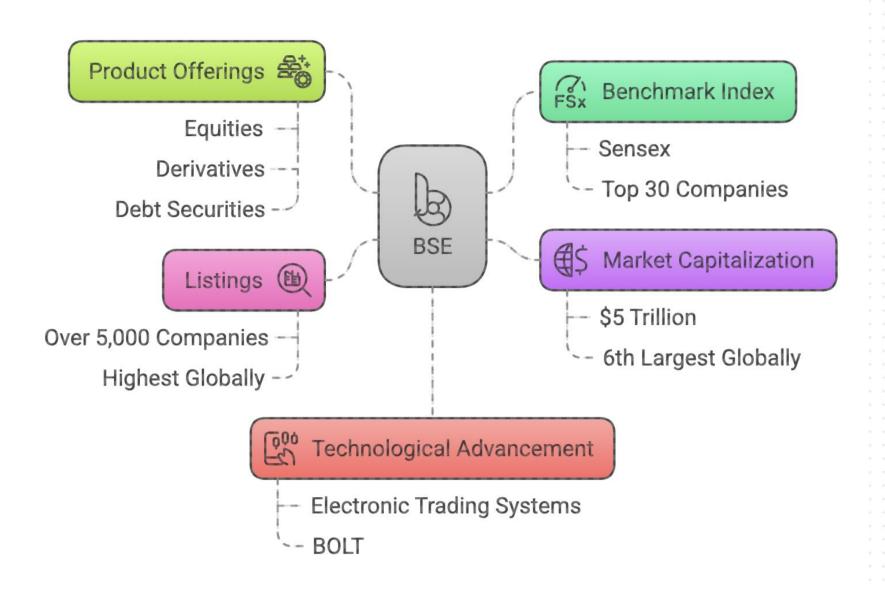


Premchand Roychand, a cotton merchant, founded the exchange.

#### **Evolution of the Bombay Stock Exchange**



#### BSE: Key Features and Global Impact



#### THE WORLD'S **Top 25 Stock Exchanges** Here are the largest stock exchanges in the world, spanning \$106T in total market capitalization in 2023. (\$1T) Nasdaq Nordic & Baltics Deutsche Market Capitalization Boerse AG Shanghai Stock Exchange Korea Exchange TMX Group LSE Group Tehran Stock Exchange Japan Exchange 2 NASDAQ Group BME Spanish Exchanges SIX Swiss Taiwan Stock Exchange Exchange Shenzhen Stock Bolsa Mexicana Exchange National Stock de Valores Saudi Exchange Hong Kong Exchange of India Exchanges Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange The Stock Exchange Singapore of Thailand Exchange B3 - Brazil Stock The five biggest Exchange & OTC Market Johannesburg ASX Australian The Asia-Pacific region exchanges make up Stock Exchange Securities Exchange 60% of global market is home to 10 of the top capitalization. 25 exchanges worldwide. Total Market Value All Major Stock Exchanges Market Share All Major Stock Exchanges \$69T 2016 24% 29% \$110T 2023 Europe, Middle East, and Africa **Americas** Asia-Pacific Data as of August 2023. Source: World Federation of Exchanges









#### Top 10 Stock Exchanges by Market Capitalization (2025)

Rank	Stock Exchange	Country/Region	Market Capitalization (USD)
1	New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)	USA	\$31.65 trillion
2	NASDAQ	USA	\$30.13 trillion
3	Shanghai Stock Exchange (SSE)	China	\$7.17 trillion
4	Japan Exchange Group (Tokyo Stock Exchange)	Japan	\$6.40 trillion
5	Euronext	Pan-Europe	\$5.69 trillion
6	Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)	India	\$5.34 trillion
7	National Stock Exchange of India (NSE)	India	\$5.25 trillion
8	Shenzhen Stock Exchange (SZSE)	China	\$4.67 trillion
9	Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing (HKEX)	Hong Kong	\$4.37 trillion
10	TMX Group (Toronto Stock Exchange)	Canada	\$3.57 trillion

# Exercise DUSTLIK-6:

#### **Strengthening Military Ties**



India hosts and facilitates joint military exercises.



#### **Objective 1**

Tactical coordination enhancement in military operations.



### Participating Nations

India and Uzbekistan collaborate in military training.



#### **Objective 2**

Exchange of best practices in military procedures.

## Word of the day

#### **Sporadic:**

recurring in scattered and irregular or unpredictable instances

**Synonyms:** intermittent, periodic

**Usage:** There have been sporadic outbreaks of violence in the village.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/sporadicpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /spəˈɹæd.ɪk/

