

Black Coat Syndrome

14-09-2024

- 1. Definition:** "Black Coat Syndrome" refers to the fear and anxiety felt by ordinary citizens when interacting with the judicial system, particularly in courtrooms.
- 2. Symbolism:** The term derives from the traditional black coats worn by lawyers, which symbolize the formal and often intimidating nature of legal proceedings.
- 3. Emotional Burden:** The syndrome highlights the psychological stress individuals experience when facing the complexities of the legal system.
- 4. Financial Impact:** Legal proceedings often impose significant financial burdens, especially on marginalized communities, making access to justice a challenge.
- 5. Judicial Delays:** Prolonged case delays and adjournments contribute to the frustrations and fears associated with the "Black Coat Syndrome."
- 6. Intimidation by Procedure:** The complex and formal nature of court processes can discourage individuals from pursuing legal action or defending their rights.
- 7. Access to Justice:** Marginalized and vulnerable groups are disproportionately affected by the costs and complications of the judicial process.
- 8. Systemic Barriers:** The syndrome reflects the systemic barriers within the legal system that hinder fair and timely access to justice.
- 9. Role of Judiciary:** The judiciary has a moral responsibility, as emphasized by President Droupadi Murmu, to uphold justice impartially and address these challenges.
- 10. Efforts for Reform:** Addressing "Black Coat Syndrome" requires reform in reducing case delays, making legal processes more accessible, and ensuring that justice is not financially burdensome for citizenship.





Quad and its challenges

Quadrilateral Security Dialogue between US, Australia, Japan and India.

Challenges

- a. Sharpening differences between West and Russian China.
- b. Uncertainties in European and US Politics.
- c. Increasingly hard diplomatic role

Indo-Pacific Strategy

1. Quad's Vision for the Region

- a. "Free and open Indo-Pacific"
- b. No country dominating others
- c. Freedom from coercion

2. China's Aggression

- a. Increasing assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific
- b. Tensions along the Line of Actual Control with Indian

3. India's Stand: Advocating for a free and open Indo-Pacific, free from coercion and domination.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOGRAPHY



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES:

1. The government will provide Rs 5,000 per month to one crore graduates for interning with 500 top companies in India.

2. Training expenses will be covered by the companies' Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds.

3. This initiative aims to enhance employability and make vocational training more socially acceptable.

Current Employment Statistics:

1. Only 51% of Indian graduates are currently employable, an improvement from 34% in 2017-18 due to skill development initiatives.
2. Vocational training still faces societal stigma and is often viewed as a last resort.

Industry Initiatives: Employee Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) Schemes:

1. Introduction of employment-linked incentives to encourage hiring and productivity.
2. Reimbursement of employer EPFO contributions up to Rs 3,000 per month for new hires.

AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVES:

1. Development of climate-resistant varieties for 32 crops.
2. Support for Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs).
3. National Policy for Co-operation for FPOs.
4. Promoting self-sufficiency in oilseeds and vegetables.
5. Natural farming promotion & target of 1 crore farmers.

Affordable Housing Initiatives:

Significant allocations for constructing 3 crore houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural) and 1 crore houses in urban areas.

Healthcare and Social Welfare Initiatives



HEALTHCARE IMPROVEMENTS:

1. Custom duty:-Exemption of three essential cancer medicines from customs duty to make them more affordable.
2. Women's Empowerment: A 218.8% increase in funding for women's empowerment compared to a decade ago, establishment of women's hostels to boost female workforce participation.
- 3 Middle-Class Benefits: The Income Tax Act of 1961 will be comprehensively reviewed, with the standard deduction increasing from Rs 50,000 to Rs 75,000.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Purvodaya Scheme:

1. Focus on developing eastern states, particularly Odisha, as a tourist destination.
2. Efforts to attract tourists to cultural and historical sites like Nalanda, Rajgir, Bodh Gaya, and Vishnupad temple complexes.

SIDDHA DRUGS

1. Reduce anemia:-A study in the *Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge* found that Siddha drugs (ABMN) effectively reduce anemia in adolescent girls.

2. Treatment:- Conducted by the National Institute of Siddha, it involved 2,648 girls, with 2,300 completing the 45-day treatment.

3. Key indicator:- The treatment improved hemoglobin levels, PCV, MCV, and MCH, key indicators of anemia.

4. Symptoms:- Symptoms like fatigue, headaches, and dizziness were also alleviated.

5. Cost effective:- Siddha medicine proved to be a cost-effective, accessible solution for anemia.

6. Public health:- The study highlights Siddha's role in public health, particularly for adolescent girls.

7. Region:- Siddha medicine, originating in Tamil Nadu, balances elements in the body for healing.

8. Treatment approach:- It uses herbs, minerals, and metals in a holistic treatment approach.

9. Traditional to modern:- The study emphasizes integrating traditional medicine into modern healthcare.

10. Potential:- This research supports Siddha's potential in addressing anemia at a public health level.

Making Lakhpati Didis

The Lakhpati Initiative creates a holistic society which stresses on the creation of different livelihood models across the farm and non-farm sectors for enhancing the household income in a manner that each household earns at least one lakh rupees in a year.



Lakhpati Didi Initiative

- **Lakhpati Didi:** A member of a Self-Help Group (SHG) who earns an annual household income of ₹1,00,000 or more, calculated over at least four agricultural seasons or business cycles.
- The average monthly income should exceed ₹10,000 for sustainability.

Strategy for Lakhpati Didi Initiative:

1. Deepening, Strengthening, and Expansion of Livelihood Options:

- **Diversification:** Facilitate households in adopting varied income-generating activities.
- **Livelihood Planning:** Use trained Community Resource Persons to support livelihood planning, leveraging digital tools for consolidation and resource linkages.

2. Implementation Support:

Assets:

Provide necessary inputs, equipment, and infrastructure.

- **Skills:** Enhance knowledge and practical skills.
- **Access to Finance:** Ensure linkage with banks, utilize departmental schemes, and leverage Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds.
- **Marketing Support:** Aid in branding, packaging, and e-commerce.

3. Convergence and Partnerships:

Inter-departmental Convergence: Collaborate with schemes from various departments such as:

- Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD)
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW)
- Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD)
- Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) o Resource Mobilization:
- Integrate technical and financial resources, and build the capacity of SHG federations.

4. Training and Capacity Building:

Structured Training: Regular training and capacity building for Mission staff, line department officials, community institutions, and resource persons.

Exposure: Provide exposure to best practices and innovations to enhance the effectiveness of the initiative.

Significance of Lakhpati Didi Initiative

1. Financial Empowerment of Women:

Goal: To create 3 crore Lakhpati Didis by 2025.

Impact: Empowers women with a sustainable income of at least ₹1 lakh per annum, enhancing financial independence and improving living standards.

2. Promotion of Entrepreneurship and Employment:

Encouragement: Motivates women to start micro-enterprises and become self-reliant.

Example: Women starting tailoring businesses after acquiring necessary skills, thus generating additional employment.

3. Role Models of Women Empowerment:

Inspiration: Lakhpati Didi's serve as role models for other women, showcasing sustainable livelihood practices and a decent standard of living.

Contribution: Promote financial literacy, skill development, and livelihood assistance within their communities.

4. Rural Economic Development:

Development of Kondagaon block in Chhattisgarh, demonstrating the positive impact of Lakhpati Didi interventions on rural economies.

Digital Technologies in Rural India

Rural Technology Action Group (RuTAG)

Establishment: Founded under the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India.

Notable Innovations: Portable Oil Extractor: Facilitates efficient oil extraction for farmers.

Evaporative Cooling Unit:

Provides affordable and sustainable cooling solutions.

Digital Technologies for Rural Development

1. Agriculture:

ICAR Initiatives:

- **RicreXpert App:** Offers customized recommendations for crop management.
- **AI-DISC:** Uses artificial intelligence for disease identification in crops.

2. Education:

Educational Apps and Online Platforms: Expands access to quality education.

Key Initiatives:

- **PM e-Vidya:** It provides online learning resources.
- **PMGDISHA:** Focuses on enhancing digital literacy in rural areas.

3. Healthcare:

Healthcare Apps: Offer health information and facilitate remote consultations.

4. Energy:

Solar-Powered Solutions: Promotes renewable energy sources in rural areas.

Biogas Plants: Address waste management and provide renewable energy for cooking and lighting.

Impact of technological innovations

Agriculture: Innovations have led to increased productivity and more sustainable farming practices.

Education: Digital technologies bridge the educational gap and offer interactive and remote learning opportunities.

Healthcare: Enhanced access to medical services and health information improves health outcomes.

Energy: Renewable energy solutions address energy access issues and support environmental sustainability.

17-09-2024

Education and state list



BACKGROUNDS

- The Government of India Act, 1935 created a civil structure for the first time in our polity
- The legislative subjects were distributed between the civil council and businesses.
- After independence, this continued and education was part of the 'State list' under the distribution of powers.
- Still, during the exigency, the Congress party constituted the Swaran Singh Committee to give recommendations for amendments to the Constitution.
- One of the recommendations of this commission was to place 'education' in the concurrent list in order to evolve each- India programs on the subject.
- This was enforced through the 42nd indigenous correction(1976) by shifting 'education' from the State list to the concurrent list.
- The correction was ratified by colorful countries without acceptable debate.
- The Janata Party government led by Morarji Desai that came to power after exigency, passed the 44th indigenous correction(1978) to reverse numerous of the controversial changes made through the 42nd correction.

One of these amendments was to bring education back into the state list. But it was n't passed in the Rajya Sabha.

International Practices

- In the U.S., State and original governments set the overall educational norms, accreditation standardized tests and supervise sodalities and universities. In Canada, education is fully managed by the businesses.
- In Germany, the constitution vests legislative powers for education with landers(fellow of States).
- In South Africa, education is governed by two public departments for academy and advanced education.

Arguments & Way Forward

- The arguments in favor of ' education' in the concurrent list include an invarian education policy, enhancement in norms and community between Centre and States.
- But the major issue is that, considering the vast diversity of the country, a ' one size fits each' approach is neither doable nor desirable.



Loss and damage fund

1. Climate finance supports actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change from public, private, and alternative sources.
2. Mitigation addresses causes, while adaptation focuses on managing climate impacts.
3. Adaptation finance lags behind mitigation, with 98% from public sources.
4. The Loss and Damage (L&D) fund addresses irreversible climate impacts.
5. Despite COP27's approval, L&D fund operationalization faces challenges.
6. Public sector reliance slows adaptation progress.
7. Private sector involvement is limited, but crucial for scaling finance.
8. The 2023 Adaptation Gap Report highlights growing finance shortages
9. More funding is urgently needed to close the adaptation gap.
10. Effective L&D fund implementation is essential for protecting vulnerable communities.



National Education Policy (NEP 2020) and NIPUN Bharat Mission

Mission goals:

- Develop a framework for the foundational stage of education.
- Implement teacher training aligned with new educational goals.
- Specially designed teaching-learning materials for early grade classrooms
- Focus on the role of mothers in supporting children's learning journey.

Demographic Trends

1. School Enrolment Levels

- Significant increase in school enrollment levels (ages 6-14) since Sarva **Shiksha Abhiyan (2001)**.
- Over 90% enrolled in rural India by the early 2000s.

3. Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

- Low female LFPR in India (37% overall, 24.5% for ages 15-29).
- Economic implications and scope for improvement in LFPR.

Leveraging Educated Mothers

- Unique resource for supporting children's learning
- More available than fathers (65.5% of young rural men in workforce)
- Pandemic increased parental involvement in education.

2. Educational Attainment of Mothers

- Substantial rise in education levels of mothers with children ages 4-8.
- ASER surveys show an increase from 35% (2010) to nearly 60% (2022) of mothers studied beyond Grade 5.
- Notable increases in high school education levels of mothers in various states (e.g., Kerala at 72%).

4. Female Labor Force Participation

- Overall female LFPR: 37% (41.5% rural, 25.4% urban)
- LFPR for women aged 15-29: 24.5% (25.8% rural, 20.8% urban)

Recommendations

- Encourage active participation of families, especially mothers
- Foster collaboration between teachers and mothers



Kerala jewish coexistence

- 1. Historical Presence:** Kerala was home to two main Jewish communities: Malabar Jews, who trace their origins to the time of King Solomon, and Paradesi Jews, who arrived.
- 2. Population Decline:** Once thriving, Kerala's Jewish community has nearly disappeared, with only a handful of Jews remaining today.
- 3. Population Peak:** India's Jewish population peaked at 20,000-50,000 in the 1940s. Currently, it is estimated to be around 4,000-5,000, mainly consisting of Marathi-speaking Bene Israel on the Konkan coast.
- 4. Cultural Adaptation:** The Paradesi Jews, distinct from the Malabar Jews, adopted many local customs but eventually separated themselves from the older Malabar Jewish community.
- 5. Economic Contributions:** Paradesi Jews were notably active in Kerala's spice trade, contributing significantly to the region's economy.
- 6. Coexistence and Prosperity:** Unlike many Jewish communities elsewhere, Kerala's Jews rarely faced persecution and often thrived under Dutch, Hindu, and later British rule.
- 7. Migration to Israel:** Since the 1950s, the majority of Kerala's Jewish population has migrated to Israel, leading to a sharp decline in their numbers in India.
- 8. Cultural Legacy:** Despite their small numbers, the Jewish communities of Kerala left a lasting cultural and architectural legacy, including synagogues and unique traditions.
- 9. Significant Event:** The recent death of the last Paradesi Jewish woman in Kerala marks the end of an era for this community.
- 10. Current Status:** Today, only a few Malabar and Paradesi Jews remain in Kerala, symbolizing the near extinction of this once vibrant community.

Current Scenario

India's Aging Population



1. **Status:** World's most populous country and among fastest aging.
2. **Life expectancy:** 70 years, but Healthy life years: 63.5 years.

OVERALL INDIA'S HEALTH CHALLENGES

1. **Limited health insurance coverage:** Only 1 in 5 persons over 60 has health insurance.
2. **High Premiums:** wrt Private insurance premiums, specially for elderly.
3. **92% workforce** employed in informal sectors, leading to lack of usage healthcare benefits.
4. **NCDS:** Increasing burden of non-communicable diseases.

Facts:

- a. Nearly 50% of households face catastrophic healthcare expenditures (CHE).
- b. 15% of households impoverished due to healthcare costs.

AB-PMJDY EXTENSION ANALYSIS

1. **Budget allocation:** Additional Rs 3,437 crore allocated.
2. **Estimated requirements:**
 - a. **Eligible households:** 5.6 crore.
 - b. **Expected annual users:** 43.5 lakh families.
 - c. **Estimated annual cost:** Rs 14,282 crore.
 - d. **Gap:** More than 4 times the allocated amount.

4. Suggestions:

- a. Increase the public healthcare spending and bridging the gap.
- b. Focus on continuous care for the aging population. More investment on preventive care, continuous outpatient care, and palliative care to ensure the wellbeing of the elderly.
- c. Focus on infrastructural needs:
 - d. Future Implications More hospitals and health centers.
 - e. Increased healthcare workforce.

Better availability of medicines.

1. Changes in age structure and disease pro fold
2. Disruptions in labor market Structure
3. Altered migration patterns
4. Impact on social security policies in faster-aging States.

Chemical Fertilizer Production and Resource Competition

1. **Fossil fuels** and minerals used in fertilizer production have alternative industrial uses
2. **Ammonia**, a key ingredient in nitrogenous fertilizers (e.g., urea), is derived from natural gas, which is also used as a transportation fuel and for power generation.
3. **Rock phosphate ore**: Used as a raw material for manufacturing di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) .

4. Issues:

1. **"Food versus Cars" Dilemma**: Similar to the "food versus fuel" debate (use of crops for biofuels) Current Fertilizer Usage Trends and P policies.

2. **Subsidies Leading** to Overuse of Urea and di-ammonium phosphate. India's Vulnerability in Fertilizer Production

1. Import Dependence:

- a. Imports nearly half of its natural gas consume time.
 - b. Lacks domestic reserves of key mineable minerals like phosphate, potash, and elemental sulfur reserves
2. Leading to Vulnerability to global price spikes and Susceptible to supply disruptions.

Suggestion

1. **Capping Consumption of Bulk Fertilizers**: Target fertilizers like urea (46% nitrogen), DAP (46% phosphorus), and muriate of potash (60% potassium).
2. **Promoting Alternative Fertilizers**: Shift to complexes and water-soluble fertilizers; Lower nutrient content.



One nation, one election



Recommendations of the High-Level Committee (HLC)

1. Chaired by former President Ramnath Kovind
2. Two-phased strategy for simultaneous elections across Union, State, and local governments starting in 2029.
 - a. **First step:** Synchronizing elections for the Lok Sabha and state Assemblies.
 - b. **Second step:** Aligning elections for local bodies (municipalities and panchayats) within 100 days of the national and state polls.
3. Proposes amending Articles 83 (related to Parliament's tenure) and 172 (related to state assemblies' tenure), so as to allow simultaneous elections without requiring state-level ratification.
4. For cases of hung assemblies or early dissolution, fresh elections would be held for the remainder of the term.

Constitutional Concerns

1. **Article 83 and 172:** provides for a fixed five-year tenure for both Parliament and state assemblies.
2. Amendments may undermine the constitutional & democratic rights of voters and elected candidates.
3. Dissolution of some state Assemblies before full term.
4. Also, altering election terms could face legal scrutiny
5. Unconstitutional & impacts India's democratic fabric.

Federalism Concerns

1. **"One Nation- One Election" (ONOE)** goes against principles of federalism.
 2. The Indian Constitution establishes a three-tier government system- Union, state, and local bodies.
 3. Distinct voter demands at different levels (National and Local level) will be compromised.
 4. Stiff resistance expected from Opposition parties a.
- Roadmap for Implementation Ex: Tamil Nadu state opposed it by passing a resolution, calling it a "dangerous and autocratic" policy.

The ECI's independence is questioned.

2. Logistical challenges of conducting simultaneous elections nationwide.
3. Risk of national issues overshadowing local concerns.
4. Potential dilution of lower-tier democratic representation.

Implications

1. Balancing Efficiency and Democratic Principles.
2. Possible dis-incentivization of no-confidence motions.
3. Tension between efficiency, constitutional supremacy, and federalism.
4. Calibration between democratic and federal principles.

Judicial Reviewed

1. Doctrine of Basic Structure will be compromised as established by Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala (1973).
2. Indira Gandhi vs Raj Narain (1975) reinforces that free and fair elections as a fundamental feature of democracy.
3. Case Study: Chandigarh Mayoral election case (2024)

