

P2. NATIONAL



Southern Inter-State Water Cooperation - Recent discussions among southern States focus on resolving long-pending water disputes through dialogue and cooperative federalism

Editor's Note

The world keeps changing, seldom through the routes we expect or predict. This edition of the Pala Civil Times brings out a slice of this dynamism as we explore the rise of socialism in the U.S. and the emerging cooperation among southern States to find sustainable solutions to inter-State water issues.

On the National Page, we focus on developments ranging from new approaches to long-pending inter-State water disputes in South India to the sudden withdrawal of the EoI for a proposed Green AI Data Centre in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The Ecology Page examines the implications of the Supreme Court's latest Vanashakti judgment on projects that commence without prior Environmental Clearance.

Our International Section explores the renewed momentum in India-Japan defence cooperation and examines what the Evergrande crisis reveals about the risks of excessive corporate debt and financial defaults. The Decoded Editorials remain the stars of this edition, with one examining the factors behind the growing appeal of democratic socialism in the U.S., while the other explores the drivers, implications and challenges of India's booming buffalo-meat industry.

We hope these discussions help students develop a clear, connected and thorough understanding of the issues that shape our changing world.

Happy Reading!

P3 NATIONAL



EoI to set up data centre project on Andaman and Nicobar Islands withdrawn - withdrawal of an EoI for a private-sector green AI data centre highlights the potential of the Islands for strategic digital infrastructure

P4. WORLD



India-Japan Defence Cooperation - India and Japan are expanding their strategic partnership through maritime-security cooperation, military interoperability, and industrial collaboration in support of a free and open Indo-Pacific.

P7. ECOLOGY



The Vanashakti verdict is balanced and pragmatic - The Supreme Court's Vanashakti v. Union of India judgment reaffirms prior Environmental Clearance as mandatory.

Editorials Decoded

THE HINDU

Socialist surge



The growing electoral influence of democratic socialism within the U.S. Democratic Party, driven by concerns over affordability, inequality, welfare and a challenge to the traditional foreign-policy establishment.

The Indian EXPRESS

Buffalo meat exports boom: Read the message



India's record growth in buffalo-meat exports highlights the growing link between the meat industry and dairy-sector herd management, while raising questions about productivity, regulation, culling and export competitiveness.

Southern India: Inter-State Water Cooperation

At the 31st Southern Zonal Council meeting held at Mamallapuram on August 20, 2026, the need for early resolution of pending inter-State water issues among southern States emerged as a major focus. The discussions highlighted dialogue, cooperative federalism and river interlinking as possible approaches to addressing regional water stress and prolonged disputes.

Approach to Resolving Inter-State Water Issues and Strengthening Water Security

Home Minister called for pending water-related issues among southern States to be resolved through joint consultations, mutual dialogue, constructive solutions and time-bound resolution of disputes. Alongside this institutional approach, river interlinking was proposed as a long-term water-security strategy, with the linking of major rivers from the Brahmaputra to the Cauvery and Godavari envisaged to facilitate the transfer of water from surplus to deficit regions, reduce regional water stress and create additional inland waterways, potentially saving fuel and lowering transportation costs while generating wider environmental and economic benefits.



Specific Water-Management Proposals for Southern India

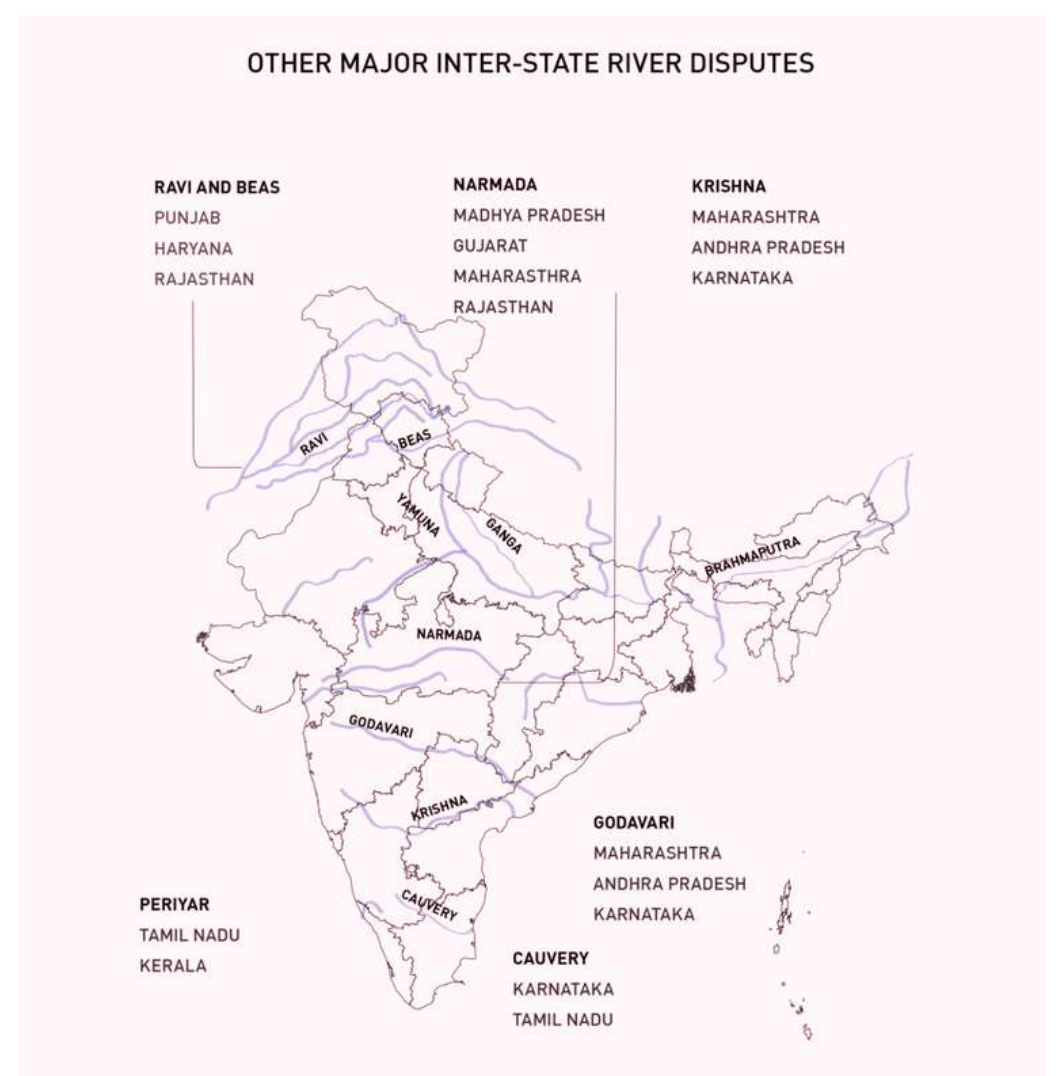
Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery and Ganga-Cauvery Links: Andhra Pradesh has proposed transferring more than 500 TMC of surplus floodwater through a Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery linkage, which could benefit Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu by connecting the river systems and transferring water towards regions with greater requirements. A.P government has also proposed taking up the Ganga-Cauvery link as a national project and establishing a dedicated coordination mechanism for southern river basins to expedite the work.

Mullaperiyar: Proposed Alternative Dam

On the Mullaperiyar issue, Keralam reiterated its willingness to supply water to Tamil Nadu from a proposed new dam in Idukki as an alternative to the existing century-old structure. Under the proposal, Kerala would bear the construction cost, while Tamil Nadu could undertake the design, construction and location.

From water disputes to cooperative federalism

The various proposals reflect a broader argument for cooperative federalism in water governance. Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala have overlapping interests in river waters, while individual States also have concerns regarding their own water security.



PYQ Compass



Q. India is well endowed with fresh water resources. Critically examine why it still suffers from water scarcity. (GS II - 2015)

Q. Consider the following rivers: (2015)

1. Vamsadhara
2. Indravati
3. Pranahita
4. Pennar

Which of the above are tributaries of Godavari?

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 2, 3 and 4
- c) 1, 2 and 4
- d) 2 and 3 only

Eol seeking proposals to set up data centre project on Andaman and Nicobar Islands withdrawn

The Andaman & Nicobar Islands administration's proposal for a private-sector-led green AI data centre briefly brought together India's ambitions in digital infrastructure, renewable energy and strategic island development. However, the proposal was withdrawn within days of the issuance of its Expression of Interest (Eol), raising questions about development planning, ecological considerations and consultation with local communities.

The Proposed Green AI Data Centre

On August 10, 2026, the administration issued an Expression of Interest (Eol) seeking no-cost, non-binding feasibility proposals from private-sector entities. The proposed infrastructure could include hyperscale/AI-focused data centres, GPU and high-performance computing facilities, cloud and sovereign digital infrastructure, supported by renewable energy and freshwater-free cooling, including seawater-based systems. It also envisaged waste-heat recovery for low-temperature desalination or other productive uses, along with submarine and terrestrial digital connectivity.

Why Andaman & Nicobar?

The administration sought to leverage the Islands' access to seawater, potential for renewable-energy integration, submarine optical-fibre connectivity and proximity to important Indo-Pacific maritime routes to develop a future-ready and environmentally sustainable digital infrastructure ecosystem.

Proposed Locations and Their Overlap with Great Nicobar Development

Locations Identified: The Eol identified specific sea areas for feasibility exploration: Hutbay and Netaji Nagar on Little Andaman, and Campbell Bay, Anderson Bay, Vijay Nagar Bay and Gandhi Nagar Bay on Great Nicobar.

Overlap with Existing Development Plans:

The proposed data-centre initiative emerged alongside the ₹91,000-crore Great Nicobar infrastructure project, which envisages an airport, transshipment port and tourism-led township. The identified areas themselves have designated uses:

Gandhi Nagar Bay — wildlife corridor

Anderson Bay — agriculture, biodiversity tourism, fish and poultry

Vijay Nagar Bay — coastal and business tourism

Campbell Bay — residential, institutional and administrative purposes.



Conclusion

The proposed Green AI Data Centre in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands highlights both the strategic potential and planning challenges of developing advanced digital infrastructure in ecologically and socially sensitive island regions. While the Islands offer advantages such as renewable energy potential, seawater availability, submarine connectivity and strategic Indo-Pacific location, the proposal also raised concerns regarding coordination with the wider Great Nicobar development project and consultation with local tribal institutions. Its withdrawal within four days of the Eol meant that the initiative remained at the feasibility stage. It reflects the need to balance digital and strategic infrastructure ambitions with integrated planning, environmental safeguards, institutional coordination and meaningful community consultation.

PYQ Compass



Q. Recently, our scientists have discovered a new and distinct species of banana plant which attains a height of about 11 metres and has orange-coloured fruit pulp. In which part of India has it been discovered? (2016)

- a) Anadaman Islands
- b) Anamalai Forests
- c) Maikala Hills
- d) Tropical rain forest of northeast

WORLD

India, Japan sign maritime security pact to deepen defence cooperation

Defence Ministries of India and Japan signed a Memorandum of Arrangement (MoA) on Maritime Security Cooperation and agreed to deepen defence cooperation under their Special Strategic and Global Partnership. The arrangement will strengthen Maritime Domain Awareness, search and rescue, HADR, protection of Sea Lines of Communication, information sharing, reciprocal naval visits, logistics and ship-repair support. Cooperation will also expand to mine countermeasures, naval shipbuilding and design, and greater use of India's shipbuilding capabilities under Make in India, alongside Japan's technological expertise.

Military Exercises & Interoperability: Bilateral exercises such as Dharma Guardian, JAIMEX and Veer Guardian 26 will be expanded, with greater complexity, unmanned-system integration and short-notice exercises; Japanese fighters will participate in India for the first time under Veer Guardian 26. The partnership will further cover Special Forces exchanges and cooperation with India's integrated theatre commands after their establishment.

Defence Technology & Institutional Cooperation: The partnership will further cover advanced defence technologies, equipment and technology transfer, including the proposed UNICORN integrated communications antenna, through deeper DRDO-ATLA cooperation and a new Defence Industry Forum. A new Working Group will coordinate operational, intelligence, equipment, technology and industrial cooperation, while both sides will accelerate preparations for the fourth India-Japan 2+2 Foreign and Defence Ministerial Dialogue in Tokyo. Overall, the developments indicate a shift towards deeper operational interoperability, maritime security cooperation and defence-industrial integration, supporting a free and open Indo-Pacific.

China jails Evergrande founder for life, imposes fine of over \$2 billion on firm

Hui Ka Yan, founder of Chinese property giant Evergrande, was sentenced to life imprisonment on August 20, 2026, by the Shenzhen Intermediate People's Court for large-scale financial fraud. Evergrande was once the world's most heavily indebted property developer, whose failure became a symbol of China's prolonged real-estate crisis.

Financial Fraud and Punishment : The court found Hui and Evergrande guilty of inflating company assets and concealing liabilities, while Hui was also accused of abusing his position, misappropriating company assets and orchestrating fraud. Evergrande Group and Evergrande Real Estate Group were fined 8.82 billion yuan and 7 billion yuan, respectively.

Evergrande and China's Property Crisis : Founded in 1996, Evergrande expanded rapidly during China's property boom by relying heavily on borrowing. It defaulted on its debts in 2021 after authorities began tightening excessive borrowing in the real-estate sector in 2020. With liabilities exceeding \$300 billion, its collapse contributed to a broader property-sector downturn that has continued to weigh on China's economy. Investigations found that Evergrande had prematurely recognised property-sale revenues, overstating revenues by about \$80 billion during 2019-20. Chinese home prices have reportedly fallen by roughly 20% or more since 2021.

Significance : The conviction illustrates China's increasingly stringent response to corporate financial misconduct and excessive leverage in the property sector. It also demonstrates how the failure of a highly indebted developer can extend beyond corporate bankruptcy to affect financial credibility, household confidence, property prices and broader economic growth.



PYQ Compass

Q. Economic ties between India and Japan while growing in the recent years are still far below their potential. Elucidate the policy constraints which are inhibiting this growth. (GS II – 2013)

Socialist surge (The Hindu : 21-08-2026)

Democratic socialism, once politically marginal in the United States, is gaining electoral visibility within the Democratic Party. This is reflected in the rise of New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani and other progressive candidates. Its growing appeal centres on affordability, welfare provision, redistribution and opposition to aspects of the traditional U.S. foreign-policy consensus, signalling a possible shift in the political priorities of a section of the American electorate.

What is driving its rise?

Economic affordability: Rising costs of housing, childcare and healthcare have strengthened support for welfare-oriented policies.

Redistribution: Democratic socialists advocate higher taxation of the wealthy and greater public provision of essential services.

Decommodification: The emphasis is on treating basic needs such as housing, healthcare and childcare as social rights rather than commodities governed primarily by markets.

Foreign-policy shift: The newer socialist tendency challenges conventional U.S. policies, including military support for Israel and prolonged overseas wars, and favours diplomacy and multilateral engagement.

Political mobilisation: A younger generation of progressive politicians has demonstrated that socialist-oriented platforms can attract voters beyond traditional left-leaning constituencies.

Evolution of Democratic Socialism in the U.S.

The present movement builds on the political groundwork created by figures such as Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Contemporary democratic socialism in the U.S. does not advocate state ownership of all means of production. It is closer to European social democracy, combining a capitalist economy with stronger welfare provisions, redistribution and regulation.



Significance for the Global South

A stronger democratic-socialist current could potentially favour fair trade, multilateral engagement, welfare-oriented politics and reduced dependence on military intervention, making its emergence relevant beyond U.S. domestic politics.

Challenges and way ahead

Growing popularity of socialism does not necessarily translate into national electoral success. Democratic socialists still face opposition from the Republican political machinery, the Democratic establishment and powerful interest groups, while the term "socialism" continues to carry historical baggage in American political discourse. Its ability to convert grassroots popularity into broader electoral coalitions remains the key test.

PYQ COMPASS



- Q. One common agreement between Gandhism and Marxism is (2020)
- (a) the final goal of a stateless society
 - (b) class struggle
 - (c) abolition of private property
 - (d) economic determinism

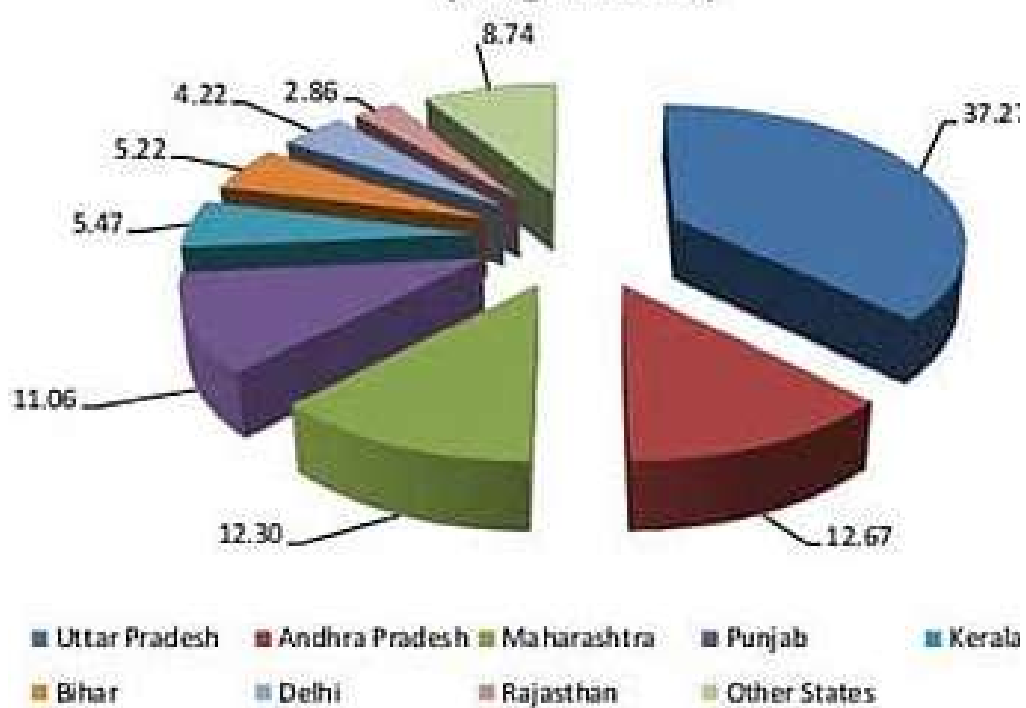
Buffalo meat exports boom: Read the message (I.E 21-08-2026)

India's buffalo-meat exports reached a record \$5.1 billion in 2025–26 and are projected to cross \$6 billion in the current fiscal year. The expansion reflects successful diversification of markets across Southeast and West Asia, Africa, Uzbekistan, Russia and Georgia. At the same time, export realisations have risen from below \$3,000 to above \$4,000 per tonne, indicating a shift from competing primarily on low price towards quality, hygiene and product differentiation.

Close link to the dairy economy

The most important feature of India's model is its dual-purpose livestock system. Buffaloes entering the meat chain are predominantly animals that are male, ageing or no longer sufficiently productive as milkers. Their removal creates an economic incentive for farmers to replace low-yielding animals with younger, higher-yielding stock. Thus, the meat industry can support dairy productivity through regular herd replacement, while reducing the opportunity cost of spending scarce fodder, water and labour on unproductive animals.

Major Buffalo Meat Producing States in India (%age share)



Tapping the dairy sector's potential

India's growing demand for milk, particularly high-fat milk, gives buffaloes continued importance because of their contribution to milk production. At the same time, improvements in slaughtering, processing, hygiene and international quality standards can raise the value obtained from animals leaving the dairy system.

However, buffaloes have lower milk yields than crossbred cows, alongside longer periods before first lactation and longer inter-calving intervals. Therefore, buffaloes alone cannot meet India's long-term growth in milk demand.

Broader challenges

Fragmented regulation : Cattle slaughter, movement and trade are regulated differently across States/UTs, with varying definitions and eligibility criteria, creating regulatory uncertainty and supply-chain difficulties.

Managing productive and unproductive livestock : India's buffalo-meat exports are distinct from cattle-beef exports. A scientific livestock policy must therefore enable rational replacement of unproductive animals while protecting productive stock.

Low livestock productivity : Buffaloes have lower milk yields, later first lactation and longer inter-calving intervals than crossbred cows, necessitating improvements in breeding, nutrition, reproductive efficiency and animal health.

Socio-political sensitivities : Cattle-related policies involve religious and cultural sensitivities, complicating decisions on slaughter, animal movement and culling. Policy must balance farmer livelihoods, animal welfare, cultural concerns and productivity.

Sustaining export competitiveness : Rising export realisations need to be supported through continued quality and hygiene compliance, modern processing, traceability and value addition, rather than relying solely on volume growth.

PYQ Compass



Q. Consider the following statements (2024)
 Statement-I: The Indian Flying Fox is placed under the "vermin" category in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

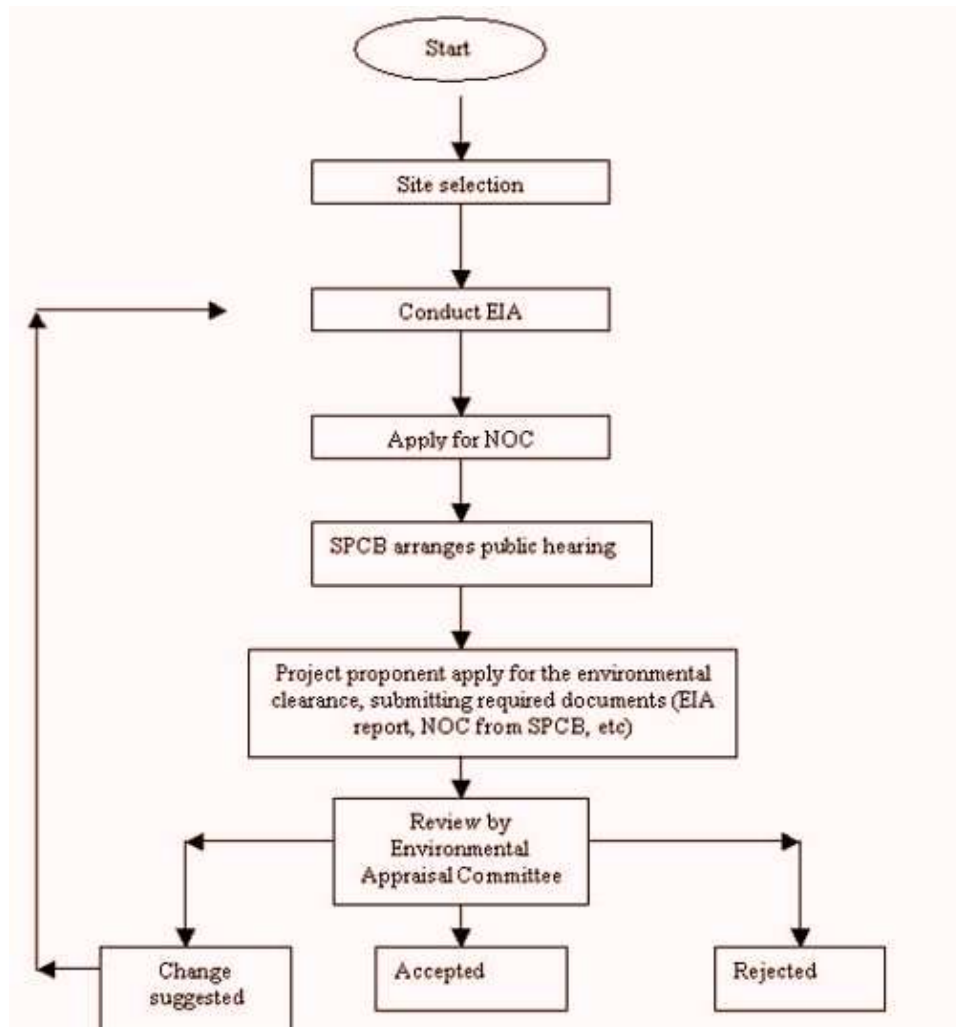
Statement-II: The Indian Flying Fox feeds on the blood of other animals. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?

- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement II explains Statement-I
- Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I.
- Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

ECOLOGY

The Vanashakti verdict is balanced and pragmatic

Under the EIA Notification, 2006, projects requiring Environmental Clearance (EC) must obtain it before commencing construction or operations. In *Vanashakti v. Union of India* (July 29, 2026), the Supreme Court reaffirmed that post-facto EC cannot substitute for prior EC.



What has the Court Rejected?

The Court held that projects which commenced without prior EC and did not utilise the earlier violation mechanisms cannot now seek regularisation under the 2017 Notification or the 2021 Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). Thus, the earlier administrative route for regularising fresh cases of violation is no longer available.

What Remains Possible?

The Court recognised that the **Central Government retains statutory powers under Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to frame a fresh statutory mechanism**, if considered necessary in the larger public interest. However, an Office Memorandum or SOP cannot override the statutory requirement of prior EC, whereas a notification issued under the statutory powers of the Environment (Protection) Act may provide a lawful framework, subject to appropriate safeguards.

What Could a Future Mechanism Look Like?

Any future mechanism, if introduced, would have to be exceptional, one-time and environmentally stringent, rather than a routine route for regularisation. It could require assessment of environmental damage, remediation or restoration, environmental compensation and strict compliance with prescribed conditions.

A balancing act

The judgment seeks to balance environmental rule of law with practical and public-interest considerations. Routine post-facto clearance could encourage a “violate first, regularise later” approach and undermine the prior-EC regime. At the same time, automatic closure or demolition of every existing violation project may not always be the most environmentally or economically rational response, particularly where substantial investments have already been made and environmental compliance remains possible.

PYQ Compass



Q. With reference to 'Eco-Sensitive Zones', which of the following statements is/are correct? (2014)

1. Eco-Sensitive Zones are the areas that are declared under the (Wildlife Protection) Act, of 1972.
2. The purpose of the declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones is to prohibit all kinds of human activities in those zones except agriculture.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q. Consider the following statements: (2019) The Environment Protection Act, 1986 empowers the Government of India to:

1. State the requirement of public participation in the process of environmental protection, and the Procedure and manner in which it sought
2. Lay down the standards for emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from various sources

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

PYQ Compass



Q. Consider the following rivers: (2015)

1. Vamsadhara
2. Indravati
3. Pranahita
4. Pennar

Which of the above are tributaries of Godavari?

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 2, 3 and 4
- c) 1, 2 and 4
- d) 2 and 3 only

Ans : d

The Vamsadhara River originates in the Kalahandi district of Odisha and runs for a distance of about 254 kilometers, where it joins the Bay of Bengal at Kalingapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. It is not a tributary of Godavari. Indravati River is a tributary of the Godavari River, in central India. It originates from the Eastern Ghats of Dandakaranya range in Kalahandi district and flows in westerly direction; enters Jagdalpur in Chhattisgarh state. It further traverses in the westerly direction and thereafter in southern direction before finally meeting Godavari River at the border of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Telangana. Pranhita River flows on the edge of Gadchiroli district in Maharashtra and Adilabad district in Andhra Pradesh. The name Pranhita is derived from the nature of combined flow of the rivers Painganga and Wainganga. The Painganga River joins Vainganga near Aheri. The river then flows up to Sironcha. The river finally empties into the Godavari River, near Sironcha in Maharashtra. The Pennar rises in the Chenna Kasava hill of the Nandidurg range, in Chikkaballapura district of Karnataka and flows towards east eventually draining into the Bay of Bengal. It is not a tributary of Godavari.

Q. Recently, our scientists have discovered a new and distinct species of banana plant which attains a height of about 11 metres and has orange-coloured fruit pulp. In which part of India has it been discovered? (2016)

- a) Anadaman Islands
- b) Anamalai Forests
- c) Maikala Hills
- d) Tropical rain forest of northeast

Ans : a

The species have been found in Andaman and nicobar. The new species is about 11 metres high, whereas as the usual banana species is about three to four metres high. The fruit lux of the new species is about one metres, which is thrice the size of regular species.

PYQ Compass



Q. One common agreement between Gandhism and Marxism is (2020)

- (a) the final goal of a stateless society
- (b) class struggle
- (c) abolition of private property
- (d) economic determinism

Ans : a

One common agreement between Gandhism and Marxism is the final goal of a stateless society. While Marxism envisions a stateless society through class struggle and the overthrow of capitalism, Gandhism aims to achieve it through non-violence, decentralization, and self-reliant communities. Both ideologies aspire to a society free from oppression and exploitation, although their approaches differ significantly.

Q. Consider the following statements (2024)

Statement-I: The Indian Flying Fox is placed under the "vermin" category in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Statement-II: The Indian Flying Fox feeds on the blood of other animals.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement II explains Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I.
- c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

Ans : C

Statement-I: The Indian Flying Fox is placed under the "vermin" category in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. This statement is correct. The Indian Flying Fox (*Pteropus giganteus*) is indeed listed under the "vermin" category in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which allows for its control or killing in certain circumstances, especially when they pose a threat to agriculture or public health.

Statement-II: The Indian Flying Fox feeds on the blood of other animals. This statement is incorrect. The Indian Flying Fox is a frugivore and primarily feeds on fruits, nectar, and flowers. It does not feed on the blood of other animals. There is a misconception about some species of bats being "vampires" that drink blood, but the Indian Flying Fox is not one of them. Hence, Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.

PYQ Compass



Q. With reference to 'Eco-Sensitive Zones', which of the following statements is/are correct? (2014)

1. Eco-Sensitive Zones are the areas that are declared under the (Wildlife Protection) Act, of 1972.
2. The purpose of the declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones is to prohibit all kinds of human activities in those zones except agriculture.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans : d

Statement 1: Incorrect. Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs) are notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, not the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Statement 2: Incorrect. The purpose of ESZs is to regulate and manage activities to minimize the adverse impact on wildlife and ecosystems. Activities are not completely prohibited; instead, they are restricted based on the sensitivity of the area.

Q. Consider the following statements: (2019) The Environment Protection Act, 1986 empowers the Government of India to:

1. State the requirement of public participation in the process of environmental protection, and the Procedure and manner in which it sought
2. Lay down the standards for emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from various sources

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans : b

Statement 1 is Incorrect. The Environment Protection Act, 1986 does not specifically mention the requirement of public participation. While public participation is encouraged in various environmental processes (like Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) under the Environment Protection Act), the Act itself does not directly empower the government to state the requirement or procedure for public participation.

Statement 2 is Correct. The Environment Protection Act, 1986 provides the government with the authority to lay down standards for the emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from various sources. This is a core function of the Act, which grants power to the government to set norms and standards to control environmental pollution.

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

With reference to Environmental Clearance in India, consider the following statements:

Under the EIA Notification, 2006, projects requiring Environmental Clearance are generally required to obtain it before commencing construction or operations.

An Office Memorandum can override the statutory requirement of prior Environmental Clearance.

The Supreme Court has left open the possibility of a fresh statutory mechanism for specified legacy violations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a)

The Supreme Court's *Vanashakti v. Union of India* judgment reaffirmed prior Environmental Clearance as mandatory. An administrative Office Memorandum cannot override this statutory requirement. However, the Court recognised that the Central Government could potentially create a fresh statutory mechanism under Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, subject to appropriate safeguards.

Q. The proposed Godavari–Krishna–Pennar–Cauvery linkage is primarily associated with which of the following objectives?

- a) Inter–State transfer of surplus water towards regions with greater requirements
- b) Creation of a single river basin authority for all southern States
- c) Replacement of the Mullaperiyar Dam
- d) Establishment of a national inland fisheries authority

Answer: a)

The proposal envisages transferring more than 500 TMC of surplus floodwater through interconnected river systems to benefit Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. It is therefore principally associated with inter–basin water transfer and regional water security