



17 April 2025

Telangana State Regional News

<p><b>Kancha Gachibowli issue</b></p>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The BJP has welcomed the Supreme Court order on Kancha Gachibowli land directing the government to restore the forest in the area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kancha Gachibowli, a biodiverse urban forest area near the University of Hyderabad, is home to more than 730 plant species and 220 bird species.</li> <li>The Telangana government plans to auction 400 acres of this land for IT infrastructure, sparking protests from students, environmentalists, and civil society.</li> </ul> <p><b>Issue of controversy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 400 acres are part of the 2,300 acres allocated to the University of Hyderabad (UoH) in 1974, although legal ownership rests with the state government.</li> <li>Previous allotments from this land were made for public infrastructure projects such as IIIT, a stadium, and a depot. In 2003, the land was handed over to a private firm but was reclaimed in 2006.</li> <li>While the land is not officially demarcated or notified as a forest, it forms an integral part of the larger forest ecosystem.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Importance of Urban Forests in Indian Cities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ecological Buffers:</b> Regulate temperature, air quality, and prevent habitat fragmentation.</li> <li><b>Carbon Sequestration:</b> Absorb CO<sub>2</sub> and reduce heat island effects.</li> <li><b>Public Health:</b> Improve respiratory health, reduce stress, and enhance mental well-being.</li> <li><b>Livelihood &amp; Culture:</b> Provide grazing land, herbs, and sacred spaces.</li> <li><b>Climate Resilience:</b> Vital for adapting to heatwaves, pollution, and water crises.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Vardhaman Mahavira</b></p> 	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Telangana's tallest stone sculpture of Vardhaman Mahavira, a Jain Tirthankar, located in Nangunuru village and mandal of Siddipet district, is at risk due to ongoing quarrying activity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mahavira was born in 540 B.C. in Kundagram, near Vaishali (modern day Bihar).</li> <li>• Mahavira belonged to the Ikshvaku dynasty.</li> <li>• Mahavir spent twelve and a half years in deep silence and meditation, striving to conquer desires, emotions, and attachments. Embracing extreme austerity, he renounced clothing and endured great hardships.</li> <li>• Ultimately, after fasting for two-and-a-half days without water under the blazing sun, he attained enlightenment—kevala gyana in Jainism—earning the title Jina or "the conqueror."</li> </ul>
<b>National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA)</b>	<p><b>Why in news?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairman of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA), Anil Jain, will inspect the Srisailem dam.</li> <li>• The visit follows a recent letter from Telangana Engineer-in-Chief G Anil Kumar (Irrigation) raising concerns about the dam's safety.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Water is under the state list</b>, but the <b>Union government has made Dam safety law under Article 246 of the Constitution.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>Article 246 empowers Parliament to legislate on matters listed in the state list under certain conditions.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• The <b>Dam Safety Act</b>, passed by Parliament, provides an <b>institutional mechanism for ensuring dam safety in India.</b></li> <li>• The Act established a <b>National Dam Safety Authority to maintain standards related to dam safety, prevent dam-related disasters and address inter-State concerns related to dams.</b></li> <li>• The act also has <b>penal provisions, list of offenses and penalties</b>, for ensuring compliance of the Act.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Srisailem Dam:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Srisailem dam is constructed across the Krishna River in Andhra Pradesh.</li> <li>• It is located in the Nallamala hills.</li> </ul> <p><b>About Krishna River:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In terms of water inflows and river basins, Krishna is the fourth largest river after Ganga, Godavari, and Brahmaputra.</li> <li>• Total Length: 1300 km</li> <li>• Its principal tributaries joining from the right are the Ghatprabha, the Malprabha, and the Tungabhadra, whereas those joining from the left are the Bhima, the Musi, and the Munneru.</li> </ul>

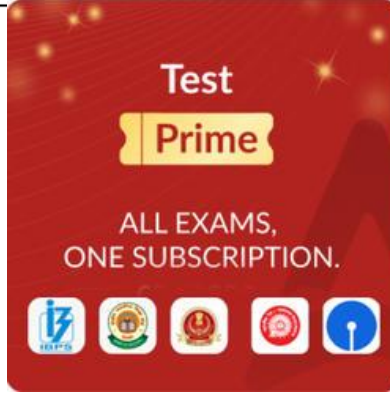


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