



CURRENTLY - FROM NEWS TO NOTES

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

The Hindu & The Indian express

Headline	Source
Ladakh Protests: Demand for Statehood, Sixth Schedule Inclusion	The Indian Express, Page Number: 20
HC rejects appeal by X Corp. against takedown orders	The Hindu, Page Number: 1







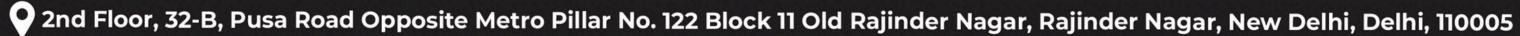






Headline	Source
K visa: Why this could be China's answer to Trump's war on H-1B	The Indian Express, Page Number: 19
Global South must work together, says Jaishankar	The Hindu, Page Number: 14
Centre clears scheme to add medical seats across country	The Hindu, Page Number: 16
When 4 Orphan Girls Needed A Helping Hand	The Better India















EXPLAINED POLITICS

LADAKH PROTESTS: DEMAND FOR STATEHOOD. SIXTH SCHEDULE INCLUSION



Centre vs Wangchuk

Sources said that no talks have been held between the Home Ministry and adakh groups since May, largely because angchuk's presence at the negotiating

theduled for October 6 only after the Leh Ladakh comprises two dis pex Body dropped Wangchuk from its ostan Chhewang as its chair.

hewang - who last won Lok Sabha olls on a BJP ticket in 2014, but left the arty in 2018 protesting against its "false ons set by the government for talks.

In July, around the time Wangchuk as included in the Leh Apex Body. newang had resigned from it, citing ests". He is associated with the pow-



A police vehicle is set on fire during a statehood in Leh, Ladakh, on Wednesday, AP

otment of 1.000 kanals of land to his recently cancelled by the Ladakh admin stration, citing alleged irregularities Wangchuk has called the move a retri oution for his opposition to allotment of

Wednesday's unrest marked a sharp urn from the largely peaceful campaign led by Wangchuk over several months ncluding five fasts and a long protest march to Delhi.

In a statement after the violence Wangchuk said: "On the 15th day of our fast, it is sad to note that there was arson and damage to property... For the past five not giving any protection. When you keep youth unemployed and take away their democratic rights, it is a recipe for unrest I still appeal for peace and ask youth to

Sajjad Kargili of the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) also sympathised with the protesters, saying the bandh reflected the failure" of the Union Territory model

Sources said the inclusion of fast, Kargili said, "This is a fight for Ladakh's existence, about restoration of iobs for the youth. The dialogue must be focused on our key agenda of grant of statehood and inclusion of Ladakh in the

> The KDA is set to hold a bandh in Kargil on Thursday in solidarity with Leh protests, "If anything untoward happen the government will be responsible

GS2: POLITY

Context

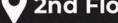
- Protests erupted in Leh, Ladakh, demanding statehood and inclusion of Ladakh under the Sixth Schedule for greater autonomy and protection of local interests.
- The central issue is the Centre's reluctance to extend the Sixth Schedule, which currently provides autonomy to certain Northeastern states, to Ladakh.
- Civil society groups in Ladakh insist that only Sixth Schedule status and statehood can address concerns over land, jobs, and cultural identity.
- The government has instead proposed other safeguards like domicile-based job reservations, which protesters see as inadequate.
- · Protests intensified after key leader Sonam Wangchuk was excluded from talks in Delhi, despite ongoing local agitation.
- Ladakh consists of two districts: Buddhist-majority Leh and Muslim-majority Kargil, both of which participate in the agitation.

Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution

1. Essence

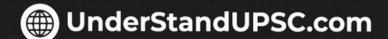
- Found in Articles 244(2) & 275(1).
- Applies to Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram.
- Creates Autonomous Districts governed by Autonomous District Councils (ADCs).
- Aim: Protect tribal identity, land, resources, and self-rule.





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2. Autonomous District Councils (ADC)

- 30 members (26 elected, 4 nominated by Governor).
- Can legislate on land, forests (except reserved), shifting cultivation, inheritance, marriage, divorce, social customs, village administration.
- Can set up courts for tribal disputes.
- Empowered to levy certain taxes (land, professions, markets, animals, vehicles, entry of goods)

3. Governor's Role

- Define/alter boundaries of districts.
- Decide whether Parliamentary/State laws apply (with modifications or exemptions).
- Can annul or suspend ADC laws if against public/national interest.
- Nominate members to ADCs.

The provisions in Fifth Schedule and Sixth Schedule in the Constitution of India are made in order to

- protect the interests of Scheduled Tribes
- determine the boundaries between States
- determine the powers, authority and responsibilities of Panchayats
- protect the interests of all the border States

2016





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2

Which of the following provisions of the Constitution of India have a bearing on Education?

- 1. Directive Principles of State Policy
- 2. Rural and Urban Local Bodies
- 3. Fifth Schedule
- 4. Sixth Schedule
- 5. Seventh Schedule

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3, 4 and 5 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

2012









The Karnataka High Court rejected X Corp.'s petition challenging

- main is neither novel nor unique. Ever reign nation regulates it. India wise cannot, by any stretch of stitutional imagination, be branded
- Content on social media must be ainst women, failing which the right to



HC rejects appeal by X Corp. against takedown orders

eatre of ideas, cannot be eft in a state of anarchic eedom", the Karnataka ligh Court on Wednesday ejected a petition filed by Corp. challenging orders sued by Central and State uthorities to take down ertain content on its minder Section 79 of the Inrmation Technology Act.

Justice M. Nagaprasana, while reading out the operative portions of the udgment, said: "Content gulated, particularly in ases of offences against omen, failing which the ight to dignity of citizens undermined," "Order is Act as it criminalises the the architecture of our democracy. Every platform that seeks to operate within the jurisdiction of our nation must accept that liberty is yoked with responsibility, and the privilege of access carries with it the olemn duty of accounta-

bility," the court said. Matter of regulation'

Pointing out that information and communication and its spread or its speed nave never been left unchecked or unregulated but have always been the subject matter of regulaand when technology developed, from messengers the postal age till the age of WhatsApp, Instagram

then and subsisting today both globally and locally: and regulation of information in this domain is neither novel nor unique.'

Referring to laws in the U.S. on social media, the court said, "The United States of America regulates it, every sovereign nation regulates it, and India's result likewise cannot, by any stretch of constitutional imagination, be branded as unlawful. Unregulated speech under the guise of liberty becomes a licence

Noting that X Corp. is subjected to a regulatory regime in the U.S., which is the platform's birthplace, the court said that "under the Take It Down Act of the United States, it [X Corp.] chooses to follow the said violation of orders of taketioner refuses to follow the same in the shores of this

Regulated speech pre serves both liberty and order, the twin pillars upon stand, the court said, while emphasising that "no social media platform in the modern day agora may even feign the semblance of exemption from rigour the land."

"None may presume to treat the Indian marketplace as a mere playground where information can be disseminated in defiance legality, and later adopting and Snapchat, all have a posture of detachment or been regulated by regula- a hands-off," Justice NagaHC rejects appeal by X Corp. against takedown orders

Source: The Hindu, Page 1

GS Paper: GS-2 (Polity - Regulation of social media, Government vs Fundamental Rights)

Context

- The Karnataka High Court dismissed a petition filed by X Corp. (formerly Twitter) challenging blocking orders issued by Central and State authorities under the Information Technology Act, 2000.
- The court observed that social media cannot be left as an unregulated "anarchic freedom" and must operate with responsibility and accountability.
- The judgment emphasized that regulation of social media is necessary, especially in cases of offences against women and content undermining the dignity of citizens.
- The court said every sovereign nation has the right to regulate information flow, and India is no exception.

Section 79 of the IT Act, 2000

Provision:

- Grants "safe harbour protection" to intermediaries (like social media platforms, search engines, ISPs, etc.).
- Meaning: They are not liable for third-party content hosted on their platforms, provided they:





- 1. Do not initiate or modify the transmission.
- 2. Observe due diligence as prescribed by the Government.
- 3. Take down unlawful content when ordered by competent authority or courts.

Exceptions (when protection is lost):

- If the intermediary conspires, abets, or induces unlawful acts.
- If it fails to remove/disable access to unlawful content despite receiving actual knowledge or official orders.

Significance:

- · Balances free speech and accountability.
- Ensures that platforms like X, Facebook, or WhatsApp are not misused for spreading hate speech, fake news, child pornography, or content affecting sovereignty and integrity of India.

Q3 With reference to Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000, consider the following statements:

- 1. It provides "safe harbour protection" to intermediaries for thirdparty content hosted on their platforms.
- 2. The protection is unconditional and applies even if the intermediary fails to remove unlawful content when ordered by a competent authority.
- 3. Intermediaries lose this protection if they abet, conspire, or induce unlawful activities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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





K visa: Why this could be China's answer to Trump's war on H-1B

1B visa curbs are largely aimed mollifying his MAGA support nterproductive in multiple avs, given that it could hurt the nerican tech sector, the visa apies such as India that use these tantly.



Associate Professor & Associate Dean, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua policy is reflective of

China's commitment to fore Trump's curbs on H- ticularly in fields critical to modern developments such as technology innovation and scientific research. "For universities like us. it will be much easier in the future to attract top-tier, international faculty researchers and post doctoral fellows, It may also accelerate innovation in critical fields like Al. biotechnology for the research insector. In the long term, it could enhance the research and develcreation of new high growth industries and improve the competitiveness of China's industries"

Impact of the move

According to analysts, a lot of what the US is doing currently, including its attack on the multilat inded scope of eral trading system, its universities, and the free movement of

nd while the timing of the K visa entional, the coincidence cannot itical importance of the tw

top leaders have repeated talents. Given the US imr tion policy twists and ing for science etc, this is bein

the Chinese economy, with i company to another and finding be a problem in China at this point

Chinese education system is on have edged closer to the global to tently holding the top positio sectors such as AL electric vehicle open to the academics slogging tions and credits to data scie working for entities such a world, a professor in a top India:

sure back on policymakers in the policies align the country to be po tion hub in at least the broade

K visa: Why this could be China's answer to Trump's war on H-1B

Source: The Indian Express Page Number: 19

Context (in simple words):

- The US, under Trump, restricted H-1B visas, which tech companies use to hire foreign talent.
- Also China is rolling out a new visa category K visa to attract global talent, especially in science and technology.
- This move positions China as a hub for innovation and education, at a time when the US is tightening its immigration rules.

About K visas:

- Announced by the State Council of China.
- Targets foreign youth and professionals in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics).
- Eligibility: Graduates from reputed domestic/international universities or research institutions.
- · Offers:
 - Greater flexibility in terms of stay and frequency of entry.
 - Expanded scope for research, education exchanges, and collaborations.
- · Aim: To attract the next generation of scientists, researchers, and innovators to strengthen China's science & tech ecosystem.





- 4 Which of the following statements about China's K visa is/are correct?
 - 1. K visa is issued to foreigners visiting China for studies.
 - 2.K visa is primarily for diplomats and government officials.
 - 3. It has implications for international travel and diplomatic relations.

Options:

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





Global South must work together, says Jaishankar

India hosts meet of 20 'like-minded' countries on sidelines of UNGA: External Affairs Minister says multilateralism under attack and international organisations are being rendered ineffective

Suhasini Haidar NEW DELHI

tilateralism is "under attack", even as South are seeking more solutions from international organisations such as the United Nations, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishan-

Speaking at a specially convened "high-level meeting of like-minded Global South countries" in New York on Tuesday, Mr. Jaishankar pitched for more consultations between developing countries and a joint push for UN re-

He said the state of the world was a cause for concern for all countries, listing a number of "shocks", including the pandemic, conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza, climate change, and trade uncertainties. He also called for an "urgent resolution of conflicts that are impacting food, fertilizer and energy security". Twenty countries took part in the meeting hosted India, including 10 at

"In face of such proliferation of concerns and multiplicity of risks, it is natural that the Global South would turn to multilateral-



On one platform: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar speaks at a high-level meeting of like-minded Global South countries in New York on Wednesday, ANI

planned to hold such meet-

Jaishankar said. "Unfortunately, there too we are presented with a very disappointing prospect. The very concept of multilateralism is under attack. International organisations are being rendered ineffective or starved of resources," he added.

Nine countries from Asia, five from the Americas (South and North, including the Caribbean), and six from Africa took part in the meeting held on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. Only Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and Mauritius were present hood among the group. The meeting was the first of its kind, although officials did not confirm ings regularly. India has hosted the "Voice of Global

South Summit" in which about 125 countries have been invited for the past three years. It is unclear why the 20 countries present at the UN meeting had been chosen as "like-minded" rather than others, and whether more others had also been invited but declined due to scheduling issues.

sented at the meeting included Bahrain, Indonesia, Qatar, Singapore, and Vietnam from Asia; St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Cu ba, and Jamaica from North America; Suriname from South America: and Chad, Ghana, Lesotho, Mo-

Mr. Jaishankar did not name any country for the "attacks on multilateralism", but his comments came a day after U.S. President Donald Trump's UN-GA address. In his address, Mr. Trump criticised the UN system for not delivering peace in various conflicts, claiming he had resolved seven conflicts in the past few months, including the India-Pakistan conflict, without any help from the UN.

The U.S. has drastically cut its funding for the UN this year and withdrawn from several UN organisations, including the UN Human Rights Council and UNESCO. It has called for a review of other memberships in the UN system.

GS2

Context

1. India and 20 Nations at UNGA:

- India hosted a high-level meeting of like-minded Global South countries during the 80th UNGA.
- Key points:
 - Reduce dependence on any single supplier/market (indirect reference to China & USA).
 - Promote resilient supply chains and South-South trade.
 - Push for reforms in multilateral institutions, especially UN, for better representation of developing nations.

2. India's Global South Summit (Voice of the Global South Summit, VOGSS):

- 3rd edition held virtually on 17 Aug 2024.
- Theme: "An Empowered Global South for a Sustainable Future."
- Purpose:
 - Provide platform for emerging economies to share challenges & solutions.
 - Strengthen cooperation among developing nations.
 - Promote equitable global governance.





Centre clears scheme to add medical seats across country

5,000 postgraduate and 5,023 undergraduate medical seats to be added; existing medical colleges, standalone postgraduate institutes, and hospitals run by the governments will be upgraded

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

he Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Wednesday approved Phase 3 of a Centrally sponsored scheme that will add 5,000 postgraduate and 5,023 undergraduate medical seats in the country by 2028-29.

Under the scheme, existing medical colleges, standalone postgraduate institutes, and hospitals run by the Union and the State governments will be strengthened and upgraded at an enhanced cost ceiling of ₹1.5 crore a seat.

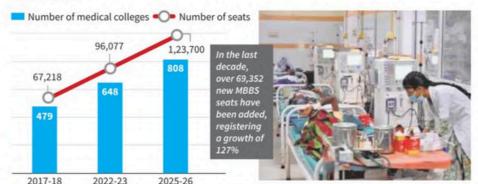
The Union government said the initiative would significantly augment the number of MBBS seats and availability of specialist doctors by creating additional postgraduate seats, and enable introduction of new specialties across government medical institutions.

"This will strengthen the overall availability of doctors in the country," the Health Ministry said in a press release.

The total financial implications of these two schemes is ₹15,034.5 crore from 2025-26 to 2028-29. The Central share is

Improving conditions

The chart shows the number of medical colleges in India over the years and the number of MBBS seats they offer



Source: PIE

A more inclusive and competency-based Qualifications of Faculty Regulation issued, says Ministry

₹10,303.20 crore and the States' ₹4,731.30 crore.

"The target of these schemes is to increase 5,000 PG seats and 5,023 UG seats in government institutions by 2028-2029," the Ministry added.

Detailed guidelines will be issued by the Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry for implementation of the schemes. Currently, India has 808 medical colleges with 1,23,700 MBBS seats.

Over the past decade, 69,352 MBBS seats have been added, a growth of 127%. Similarly, a total of 43,041 postgraduate seats have been added, a 143% rise.

"Despite the addition, certain regions in India still need to enhance capacities to match the demand, access and affordability of healthcare," the Ministry said. Further, there are 22 All India Institutes of Medical Sciences approved under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana.

"Apart from providing tertiary healthcare services, they also play an important role in building a pool of health professionals with highest standards of medical competence with their latest teaching learning facilities," the Ministry said.

Faculty eligibility

The New Medical Institution (Qualifications of Faculty) Regulations 2025
have been issued by adopting a more inclusive and
competency-based approach to faculty eligibility
and recruitment. These
changes aim to address the
growing requirement of
teaching personnel and
meeting the academic and
professional standards, it
added.

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved Phase 3 of a centrally sponsored scheme to add 5,000 postgraduate and 5,023 undergraduate medical seats by 2028-29.
- The scheme aims to upgrade existing medical colleges, standalone postgraduate institutes, and hospitals run by the Union and State governments.
- An enhanced cost ceiling of ₹1.5 crore per seat is set for the upgrades.
- The initiative will increase MBBS seats and improve the availability of specialist doctors by creating additional postgraduate seats and introducing new specialties.
- The total financial outlay is ₹15,034.5 crore for 2025-26 to 2028-29, of which the central share is ₹10,303.2 crore and the states' share is ₹4,731.3 crore.
- As of now, there are 808 medical colleges in India with 1,23,700 MBBS seats.
- In the last decade, 69,352 new MBBS seats have been added (127% growth), and 43,041 postgraduate seats (143% growth).
- The new scheme will address gaps in teaching capacity, accessibility, and affordability in healthcare education.
- Updated faculty regulations (2025) introduce inclusive and competency-based qualifications for eligibility and recruitment.

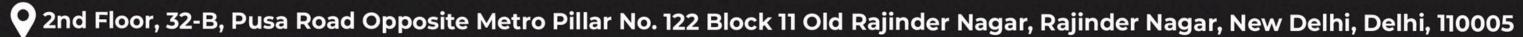


Mains Enrichment

Context: IAS Officer Swapnil Wankhede Assists Orphaned Sisters
In September 2025, during an official event in Datia, Madhya Pradesh,
IAS officer Swapnil Wankhede engaged with a young orphan girl
who mentioned she was the eldest among her three younger sisters.
Moved by their situation, Wankhede immediately directed that each
sister receive ₹4,000 under state welfare schemes and inquired
about Red Cross assistance for their school admissions.

- Empathy in Governance: Wankhede's prompt and compassionate response exemplifies how empathetic leadership can address immediate social issues, aligning with the principles of social justice and responsive governance.
 - Implementation of Welfare Schemes: His actions demonstrate
 effective utilization of existing state welfare mechanisms to
 provide immediate relief to vulnerable populations,
 highlighting the importance of efficient policy
 implementation.

















- Role of Civil Services in Social Welfare: This incident underscores the critical role of civil servants in bridging the gap between government policies and the needs of marginalized communities, ensuring that welfare schemes reach those in need.
- Public Trust and Accountability: Wankhede's transparent and accountable approach fosters public trust in governmental institutions, reinforcing the significance of integrity and accountability in public administration.

This example can be cited in answers discussing the role of civil services in promoting social justice, the importance of empathy in governance, and the effective implementation of welfare schemes.



