Peaceful but low polling in two States

Turnout dips to 60% and 65% in Maharashtra and Haryana, compared to 63% and 76% in 2014

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI/CHANDIGARH/MUMBAI
The elections to the Assemblies of Maharashtra and Haryana on Monday saw the voter turnout dip in comparison to the 2014 polls, according to provisional numbers shared by the Election Commission of India.
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*C – Chennai; B – Bengaluru; D – Delhi; T – Thiruvananthapuram; H - Hyderabad
U.P. tops in crimes against women, says NCRB report

Incidents of atrocities against Scheduled Castes jump from 5,082 to 5,775

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

After a delay of two years, the annual Crime in India Report 2019 was published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on Monday.

As per the report, 3,123,043 cases of crime against women were reported in the country.

Uttar Pradesh topped the list with 56,201 cases followed by Maharashtra with 31,973 cases and West Bengal 28,022.

Majority of cases under crimes against women were registered under 'Forcibly Causing Unnatural Sexual Intercourse with Woman', 25.7%, 'Kidnapping & Abduction of Women' 25.2% and 'Rape' (9.0%) the report said.

As per the report, 33,890 incidents of killing were reported, of which the maximum incidents were reported from Bihar - 1,989, followed by Uttar Pradesh - 1,890 and Maharashtra - 1,747.

Of the total incidents reported, criminal and sectarian riots accounted for 72.4 and 185 incidents respectively.

There were 885 riots due to caste conflict and 959 riots occurred due to political reasons, the report said.

The incidents registered under the Scheduled Caste Prevention of Atrocities Act saw an increase from 1,082 in 2016 to 3,755 in 2017.

Incidents of crime related to Scheduled Tribes dipped from 841 in 2016 to 720 in 2017. A total of 95,690 cases of kidnapping and abduction were registered during 2017, showing an increase of 3.6% over 2016 (92,046 cases).

A total of 63,369 children (36,918 males, 26,451 females and 103 transgender) were reported missing in 2017. During the year 2017, a total of 74,140 children (23,914 males, 24,978 females and 78 transgenders) were rescued/ located, the report said.

The NCRB for the first time collected data on circumcisions of “Fibrolike issues and norms”.

Under the category, maximum incidents were reported from Madhya Pradesh (3234), Uttar Pradesh (323) and Kerala (6).

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.
- Indian Polity and Governance- Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights Issues, etc.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-II

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Role of women and women’s organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

PAPER-III

General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.

Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability
National Crime Records Bureau

- Ministry of Home Affairs
- Releases 3 publications
  - Prison Statistics India
  - Crime in India
  - Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India

Crime in India - Report

- Statistics for crimes and offences, under various categories
  - Example:
    - Crimes against women, children, senior citizens
    - Crimes against / committed by foreigners

Compiled and collated by NCRB

- Data obtained from
  - State/UT police
  - Central Law Enforcement Agencies
  - Central Armed Police Forces
  - Central Police Organisation

Report Findings

- Cognizable Crimes
  - ‘Arrest without Warrant’ offences / crimes
  - Crimes that are serious in nature
    - Murder
    - Dowry death
    - Rape
    - Kidnapping
*Crime Against Women*

- Uttar Pradesh
- Maharashtra
- West Bengal

States with highest crimes

*Crime incidents registered under The Scheduled Castes & The Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989*

- Increase in no. of cases of atrocities against the scheduled castes
- Decrease in no. of cases against STs.
*Crime Data on False/Fake news and rumours

- Madhya Pradesh
- Uttar Pradesh
- Kerala

States with highest crimes
DAC clears indigenous projects worth ₹3,300 cr.

Third generation ATGM and APUs included

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, which met on Monday, approved three projects worth ₹3,300 crore of “indigenously designed and developed equipment.” These include third generation Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) and Auxiliary Power Units (APUs) for the T-72 and T-90 Tanks to be executed by the Indian industry.

“The third indigenous project pertains to discrete electronic warfare systems for the mountain and high altitude terrain, which would be designed and developed by the DRDO and manufactured by design cum production partner from the Indian industry,” the ministry said.

Both these projects will be progressed under the ‘Make-II’ Category, the statement said and added: “With this, for the first time the Ministry of Defence has offered complex military equipment to be designed, developed and manufactured by the Indian private industry.”

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

PAPER-IV

General Studies-III: Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

- Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.
Defence Acquisition Council meeting → 3 projects worth Rs. 3,300 cr.

"Indigenously designed and developed equipment”

Formed in 2001 ← recommendation of Group of Ministers on Reforming the National Security System

Under Ministry of Defence

Objectives → expedite procurement within timeframe → optimum utilization of resources

Functions

approval to Long Term Integrated Perspective Plan

Acceptance of necessity

Categorization of acquisition proposals

Offset provisions

Transfer of Technology

Field trial evaluation

3 projects

1. 3rd generation Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM)

2. Auxiliary power units for T72, T90 tanks

3. Electronic warfare system for mountain and high altitude terrains

Role of Indian Industry
Many hydropower projects could face closure

Minimum supply of water has been mandated

Government has decided to introduce a new Act, the Central Water (River Valley) Authority Act, which will empower the Central Water Commission (CWC) to regulate and manage the flow of water in river valleys. The new Act will also allow the CWC to issue guidelines for the development and operation of hydropower projects.

The Act provides for the establishment of a Central Water (River Valley) Authority, which will have the power to regulate the flow of water in river valleys and to ensure that the minimum flow of water is maintained. The Act also provides for the establishment of regional water authorities, which will be responsible for the development and operation of hydropower projects in their respective regions.

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The new Act will also allow the CWC to issue guidelines for the development and operation of hydropower projects. These guidelines will be based on the recommendations of the Central Water (River Valley) Authority and will be aimed at ensuring that the minimum flow of water is maintained.

The new Act is expected to be implemented in the coming months and will have a significant impact on the development of hydropower projects in the country. The Act is expected to ensure that the minimum flow of water is maintained in river valleys and that the development of hydropower projects is carried out in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Part B—Main Examination
PAPER-II

General Studies-I: Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society.

- Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc., geographical features and their location—changes in critical geographical features (including water-bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

PAPER-III

General Studies-II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
- Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

PAPER-IV


- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.
| ⇒ Ecological flow / Environmental flow / e-flow  
  Notification of Centre in 2018 |
| ⇒ Environmental flow  
  - Allocation of water among multiple, competing users.  
  - Helps in integrated management of river flow  
  - Sustains ecosystem and dependent species |
| ⇒ National Mission for Clean Ganga, under Environment Protection Act (EPA) - 1986  
  * Objective: Determine magnitude of ecological flow in Ganga and its tributaries |
| ⇒ EPA 1986 (Section 3 and Section 5)  
  * Central govt - power to issue direction to any person / officer / authority - shall comply  
  * Powers:  
    - Direct closure, prohibition of industries  
    - Stoppage / regulation - electricity, water etc. |
| ⇒ 2018 : e-flow notification  
  * Minimum environmental flow in Ganga  
  downstream diverting structures flow |
* Central Water Commission: authority to ascertain water flow → quarterly report

* Compliance period
  - Initially 3 years
  - New notification: December, 2019

⇒ Mandated flow
  1. Dry season - November to March - 20%
  2. Lean season - October, April & May - 25%
  3. Monsoon season - June to September - 30%

(% of monthly average flow of the preceding 10 days)

* Minimum flow at few barrages - Bhimgoda, Bijnor, Narora & Kanpur

⇒ Significance
  - Water hoarding by power producers → less flow
  - Non-complying hydropower projects could face closure
  - Good for ecosystem
‘Siachen now open for tourism’

The Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu is at an altitude of 14,650 feet.

**Keywords:** Siachen, Kumar Post, Shyok river, Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu.

**Union Territory of Ladakh → Kargil district, Leh district**

**Siachen:** World’s highest battle field

**Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu**

- India’s highest altitude all-weather permanent bridge
- On Shyok river (tributary of Indus river)
- UT of Ladakh

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**Part A—Preliminary Examination**

**Paper I - (200 marks)**

- **Current events of national and international importance.**
- **Indian and World Geography-Physical, Social, Economic Geography of India and the World.**

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy
China’s growing clout at the UN

Beijing is actively seeking to use the UN platform to legitimize and spread its ideology.

K. B. NATH

In June, the Indian government quietly withdrew the candidate it had nominated for the post of Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization. As MTTA’s member Ramakrishna Ramanath was facing certain defeat by China’s Qu Dongyu, New Delhi seemed keen on sending its humiliation at the multilateral forum. In the first weeks of October, when President Xi Jinping led China’s biggest-ever military parade to mark the 70th anniversary of Communist rule, for the first time a contingent from the country’s 3,000-strong UN peacekeeping mission form participated.

Filling the vacuum

Whether through specialist UN agencies or peacekeeping, China is racing to fill the vacuum in international leadership left by the withdrawal of the US from multilateral accords under President Donald Trump, and taking advantage of the lack of convergence among the permanent members of the Security Council on many global issues.

Unlike India whose UN outreach is largely limited to a customary rotation of its decades-old advocacy for the expansion of the Security Council, China is aggressively seeking more positions in the UN Secretariat, hierarchy. It also sees the bigger role in peacekeeping operations.

For much of the Cold War era and beyond, China’s role at the UN was largely that of a disruptor or even at times a spoiler in US-led and UN-led peacekeeping operations. For much of the Cold War era and beyond, China’s role at the UN was largely that of a disruptor or even at times a spoiler in US-led and UN-led peacekeeping operations.

With the US-China trade war in full swing, and the US seeking to weaken China’s influence at the UN, Beijing is actively promoting its foreign policy initiatives, especially the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) through which the body and the global economy. BRI serves as the framework and principles of the ‘United Nations’ Charter through which the body and the global economy. BRI serves as the framework and principles of the ‘United Nations’ Charter.

With the US-China trade war in full swing, and the US seeking to weaken China’s influence at the UN, Beijing is actively promoting its foreign policy initiatives, especially the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) through which the body and the global economy. BRI serves as the framework and principles of the ‘United Nations’ Charter.

Part A—Preliminary Examination

Paper I - (200 marks)

- Current events of national and international importance.

Part B—Main Examination

PAPER-III

General Studies- II: Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations.

- Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India’s interests.
- Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India’s interests, Indian diaspora.
- Important International institutions, agencies and fora-their structure, mandate.

Civilspedia Team - Powered by Shankar IAS Academy
China’s growing influence at United Nations

⇒ China making use of US’s absence in several multilateral forums, peacekeeping and is also influencing UNSC

⇒ China’s influence in UNSC

UNSC:

⇒ One of the main organs of UN
⇒ 5 permanent + 10 non-permanent members
⇒ Permanent members – China, France, U.K., USA and Russia

Author:

⇒ China is aggressively seeking more positions in UN Secretariat as a permanent member of UNSC

⇒ China is trying to reverse the role of disruptor; and seeking to use the UN platform to legitimise and spread its own ideology

Ways and Means:

* Increased monetary contributions
* Projecting China as a “Champion of multilateralism”
* Filling Chinese in various UN positions
  * UN Specialised Agencies
**UN Specialized Agencies**

* Legally independent international organizations
* Own rules, membership, organs and financial resources
* Brought into relationship with UN through negotiated agreements

**Examples**

- Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO)
- UN Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO)
- International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- Increased participation in UN Peacekeeping forces by China

**China’s view on Human Rights**

* Each country may choose its own human rights protection in the context of “national circumstances”

* UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC)
  - Inter-governmental body within UN system
  - Responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights
  - Responsible for addressing the situations of human rights violations and making recommendations
  - Replaced former United Nations Commission on Human Rights
What are the main functions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)? Explain different functional commissions attached to it.

- 197 United Nations member states members of UNHRC
- India - Member since Jan 1 2019
- USA left UNHRC as a member in 2018

* USA’s absence in UNHRC has given a chance for China to dominate
* Dilutes the concept of universal values
* Promoting the views of Human Rights
* Promotion of Belt and Road Initiative by China

Previous Year Question – Mains 2017 (Reference only)
Peaceful but low polling in two States

Turnout dips to 60% and 65% in Maharastra and Haryana, compared to 62% and 73% in 2014

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Making it count

The state elections in both Maharashtra and Haryana on Monday saw relatively lower turnout in the urban areas compared to their rural counterparts. Mumbai and adjoining districts recorded the lowest turnout in Maharashtra, while Gurgaon and Ghaziabad registered the highest vote percentages in Haryana.

Maharashtra: 60.46 percent, Haryana: 65.11 percent

\[ \text{Maharashtra\'s voter turnout was 60.46 percent.} \]

\[ \text{Haryana\'s voter turnout was 65.11 percent.} \]

\[ \text{As many as 67 candidates, including 15 women, are contesting for elections to the 83 Assembly constituencies in the state.} \]

\[ \text{Polling in these states was by and large peaceful, apart from minor incidents in both Maharashtra and Haryana districts.} \]

\[ \text{Reports of minor clashes and other incidents were reported from few} \]

\[ \text{locations, which were attended} \]

\[ \text{by the District Election Officers.} \]

\[ \text{There were no deaths reported.} \]

\[ \text{Five Kerala constituencies see low turnout due to heavy rain} \]

Special correspondent

The rain-soaked by-elections to five Assembly constituencies in the State on Monday was marked by a relatively lower voter turnout.

Among the five segments, Thrissur registered the highest voting percentage of 80.47. The by-poll will be counted on Tuesday.

Incessant downpour in the morning severely affected voting in Ernakulam constituency with streets and thoroughfares getting waterlogged.

The State Election Commission did not give in to demands that the voting hours be extended or that the by-poll itself be postponed. Extending the voting hours is a long process and you require the Election Commission’s approval for it,” Chief Electoral Officer T. Raja Ram Meena said.

The provisional figures issued by the Election Commission pegged the voting percentage in Ernakulam at 57.3. The poll percentage in Manjeswaram, which was less affected by the rain, stood at 75.82. Kommi recorded a turnout of 70.07%, while Vattiyurakkavu recorded 62.66%.

In the 2016 Assembly elections, Manjeswaram had seen a turnout of 76.19%, Ernakulam 71.8, Aror 85.43%, Kommi 73.19% and Vattiyurakkavu 69.83%.
‘Total wealth in India touches $12.6 trillion’

Country now fifth globally in terms of number of ultra-high net-worth individuals

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Total wealth in India increased fourfold between 2000 and 2019, reaching $12.6 trillion in 2019, making India the fifth globally in terms of the number of ultra-high net-worth individuals, as per a Credit Suisse study.

According to the study, the wealth per adult in India grew by an average of 11% annually over the period 2000-2019 and the wealth per adult is estimated at $4,569 in mid-2019 after a year of moderate growth.

“Prior to 2008, wealth rose strongly, from $2,127 in 2000 to $6,378 in 2007. After falling 29% in 2008, it rebounded and grew at an average rate of 12% up to 2019,” said the report while adding that personal wealth in India is dominated by property and other real assets, which make up the bulk of household assets.

Incidentally, while India has 82.7 lakh adults in the top 1% of global wealth holders – 1.6% share of the global pool – it is estimated that India has 4,460 adults with wealth of over $50 million and 1,790 that have more than $100 million.

However, the study also found that while the number of wealthy people in India has been on the rise, a larger section of the population has still not been part of the growth in overall wealth.

“While wealth has been rising in India, not everyone has shared in this growth. There is still considerable wealth poverty, reflected in the fact that 78% of the adult population has wealth below $10,000,” stated the report, while highlighting the fact that a small fraction of the population – 1.8% of adults – has a net worth of more than $100,000. Meanwhile, as per the financial major, India is expected to grow its wealth very rapidly and add $4.4 trillion in just five years, reflecting an increase of 43%.
Kartarpur MoU to be signed tomorrow

New Delhi asks Islamabad to reconsider its demand for a $20 service fee from each pilgrim

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India and Pakistan are all set to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on October 23 for the opening of the Kartarpur corridor that will link two important Sikh shrines on either side.

New Delhi has asked Islamabad to reconsider its demand of charging a $20 service fee from each pilgrim.

The corridor is being built by both nations to connect Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur and Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur, Pakistan, the final resting place of Guru Nanak, to commemorate the 550th birth anniversary of the founder of Sikhism on November 12.

PM to flag off first ‘jatha’

Union Minister Harimrat Kaur Badal tweeted on Monday that on November 9, Prime Minister Narendra Modi would flag off the first jatha (group) of 550 pilgrims to Kartarpur Sahib and address a public meeting. She said she had met Union Home Minister Amit Shah and discussed the November 9 programme that would be organised by the Centre. The Prime Minister would also inaugurate the Integrated Check Post (ICP), she added.

Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh will be one of the first visitors to the Kartarpur shrine. There is still no clarity on the visit of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

In a statement, the External Affairs Ministry said, “It is a matter of disappointment that while an understanding has been reached on most of the elements for facilitating the visit of pilgrims from India, Pakistan continues to insist on levying a service fee of $20 per pilgrim per visit.”

India had consistently urged Pakistan that in deference to the wishes of pilgrims, it should not levy such a fee. “In view of the long-pending demand of the pilgrims to have visa-free access to Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib and in the interest of operationalisation of the corridor in time before the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak falling on November 12, the government on Monday conveyed that India would be ready to sign the agreement on the corridor on October 23,” the statement said. While agreeing to sign the agreement, the Pakistani government had once again been urged to reconsider its insistence on levying service fee on pilgrims. India would be ready to amend the agreement accordingly at any time, it said.

“The government has taken the initiative to put in place state-of-the-art infrastructure and open the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor on the auspicious occasion of the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev so that pilgrims from India and those holding Overseas Citizen of India card can undertake a visit to the holy Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan,” the statement added.
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements.

1. National Crime Records Bureau functions as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators.


Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

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

Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC).

1. One of its objectives is give accord of Acceptance of Necessity to defence acquisition proposals.

2. It is headed by the Chief of Defence Staff.

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
Q. Consider the following statements regarding the e-flow notification, 2018.

1. Ecological or Environmental flow is the minimum flow of water required for the efficient functioning of hydro-power projects.
2. The e-flow notification is applicable to all major rivers in India.
3. Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 enables the central government to prohibit or regulate any industry or stop any services for non-compliance to e-flow notification.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) 1 and 2
b) 3 only
c) 2 and 3
d) 1 and 3
Practice Question – Prelims

Q. Which of the following are specialized agencies of United Nations?

1. Food and Agricultural Organization
4. International Civil Aviation Organization

Choose the correct answer from the options given below.

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