

# Prajya



**A National Monthly Magazine for Children**

**APRIL 2021  
EDITION**

## Editorial

*“Let positive news and thoughts flow from all directions.”*

The above is a slight rephrasing of the famous Rig Vedic statement

**आः नो भद्राः कर्तव्यो यन्तु विश्वतः (1.89.1)**

and has been the motto of Prajya. Apart from informing our young readers about current national and international events, highlighting services of selfless individuals, sharing tidbits about the flora & fauna of India, showcasing historical sites and monuments, Prajya updates you with the giant strides that the young but the largest democracy is making towards making itself self-reliant.

India has administered close to 10 crore vaccinations as of 10<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Indian women officers are on warships. Elections – a major democratic exercise- are being held across five states amidst another surge of the pandemic. Most major economic activities are back on track. All these are indications of a nation’s resolve to becoming better.

As you might have already observed, this issue has a new layout and more pages. We shall keep presenting you a slice of life in the current times covering topics in a variety of ways. However specific feedback would go a long way in enriching our contribution. We shall be sharing a form soon to elicit your views. Do help the Prajya team enhance its potential in your service.

We look forward to your support and suggestions.

**Editorial Team**

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**PM Modi's Visit to Bangladesh**



**Suez Canal Crisis**



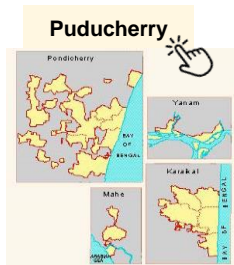
**India has the 4<sup>th</sup> Largest Armed Forces**



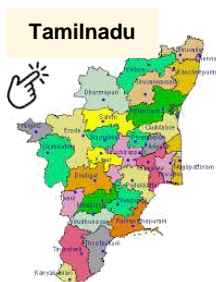
**Women Officers in Indian Warships**

## National Ringside

### ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS 2021



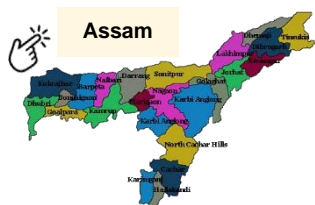
**Puducherry**



**Tamilnadu**



**Kerala**



**Assam**



**West Bengal**





### COVID Vaccine Updates



## क्या है SAAMAR CAMPAIGN?

## Incredible India & Incredible Indians

### Know Your Nation



### Flora & Fauna of India



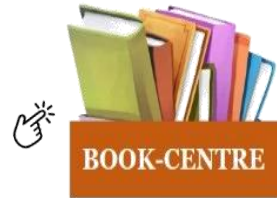
### Know Your Padma Awardees



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# PM Modi's visit to Bangladesh



When PM Narendra Modi took oath as the country's 14<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister in 2014, the list of guests included those from the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries. The import was clear that India in its foreign policy approach would prioritize 'neighbourhood first'.

Not surprisingly, PM's first visit to a foreign country after COVID-19 lockdown was to Bangladesh.

The visit in March had three important objectives:

- (i) celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the independence of Bangladesh,
- (ii) birth centenary of Bangladesh's Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and
- (iii) marking 50 years of diplomatic relations between India and Bangladesh.

It also saw India gifting 3.2 million doses of Oxford Astra Zeneca Covishield vaccine made in India. The Bangladesh Government, led by Sheikh Hasina, thanked India for delivering the first batch of 5 million doses.

A commemorative stamp was released marking 50 years of diplomatic ties between the two nations. It was jointly decided that 6<sup>th</sup> December will be commemorated as '**Maitri Diwas**' (Friendship Day). The occasion will jointly be celebrated in 19 select countries.

PM also visited the Jeshoreshwari Devi Temple and Orakandi Temple. He inaugurated the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Mahatma Gandhi digital exhibition, called '**Bangabandhu Babu Digital Exhibition**'.

This was virtually opened in India in December 2020. The exhibition, currently in Bangladesh, will be displayed in the United Nations and finally culminate in Kolkata in 2022.

The Gandhi Peace Prize for 2020 was posthumously conferred on Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. It was instituted by the Government of India in 1995.

Having tweeted 'Bangabandhu is a hero for all Indians', our PM also paid floral tributes at the Bangabandhu Mausoleum Complex. He was the first foreign head of state to pay homage at the Complex.

The joint statement from both countries reflected that PM Modi expressed appreciation at the generosity of Bangladesh in sheltering and providing humanitarian assistance to the 1.1 million forcibly displaced refugees from the Rakhine State of Myanmar.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Bangladesh attained independence from Pakistan on 26<sup>th</sup> March 1971 with Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (also known as Sheikh Mujib, Bangabandhu or just Mujib) being its first President.

Unfortunately, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and most of his family were killed during the early hours of 15<sup>th</sup> August 1975, when a group of young Bangladesh Army personnel went into his residence and assassinated Sheikh Mujib as part of a coup.

The officers planned to remove the secular government of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with an Islamic government led by Khandaker Mushtaque Ahmed

Sheikh Hasina and Sheikh Rehana, the two daughters of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, however survived the assassinations of their family as they were in Germany in August 1975.

Sheikh Hasina was elected the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, four times in 1996, 2009, 2014 and 2018.



# Crisis at the Suez

## SUEZ CANAL

- Suez Canal (193.3 km) was officially opened in 1869.
- Cuts North-South across Isthmus of Suez in Egypt.
- Connects the Mediterranean Sea to Red Sea; the shortest maritime route between Europe and Asia.
- The busiest shipping lane and the backbone of international trade.

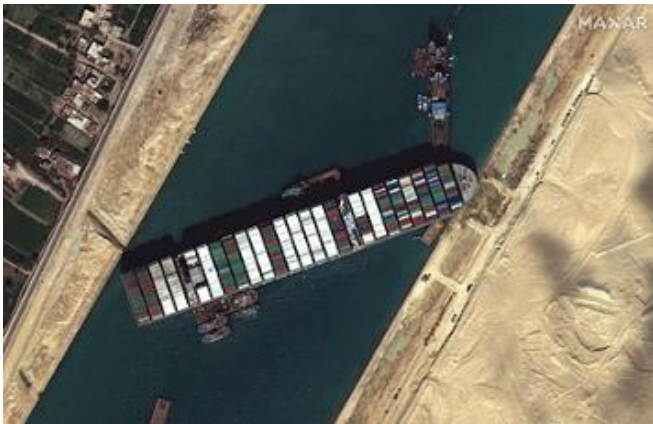
## HISTORY

- 1858 - Universal Company of Maritime Suez Canal (shareholders - France, Egypt and Britain) was formed.
- 1859 - Egypt was the first to dig the canal. Pasha Said of Egypt purchased 44% of the company's shares.
- 1875 - British government purchased the shares from Ismail Pasha, successor of Pasha Said. Egyptians forced Britain to evacuate the canal zone.
- 1956 - Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser nationalized the canal; invasion of Egypt by UK, France and Israel. UN intervened; canal was reopened for commercial shipping.
- Since then, operated by Suez Canal Authority.

## ACCIDENT & AFTERMATH

**Ever Given**, a Golden-class container ship and one of the world's largest, is owned by Shoeni Kisen Kaisha, a Japanese shipbuilding company.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021, while traveling from Tanjung Pelepas (Malaysia) to Rotterdam (Netherlands), the ship ran aground diagonally after losing control amid high winds and dust storm in the southern part of the canal.

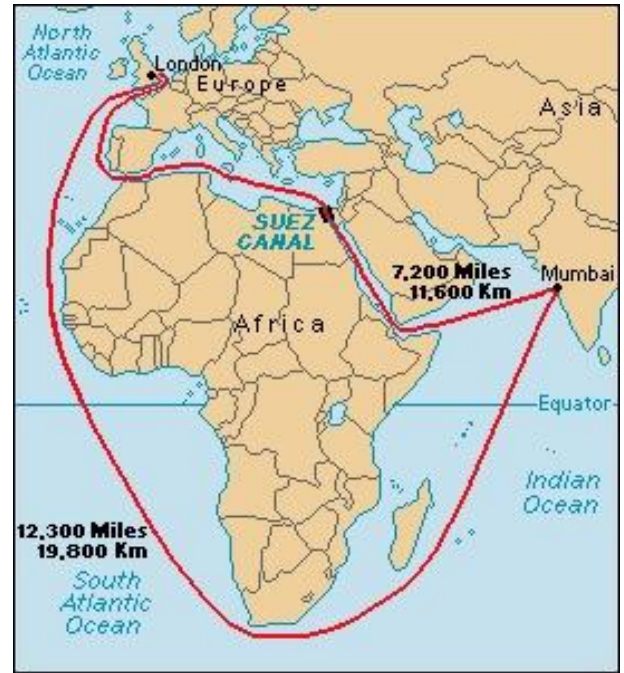


## RESCUE TIMELINE

On 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021, eight tugboats worked to re-float the vessel while an excavator removed sand from where the bow of the vessel was wedged.

- 3.42 UTC - Ship partially floated
  - 13.05 UTC - Ship moved under tow for technical inspection
  - 17.00 UTC - Shipping finally resumed
- (UTC: Universal Time Coordinated/ Coordinated Universal Time /Greenwich Mean Time)

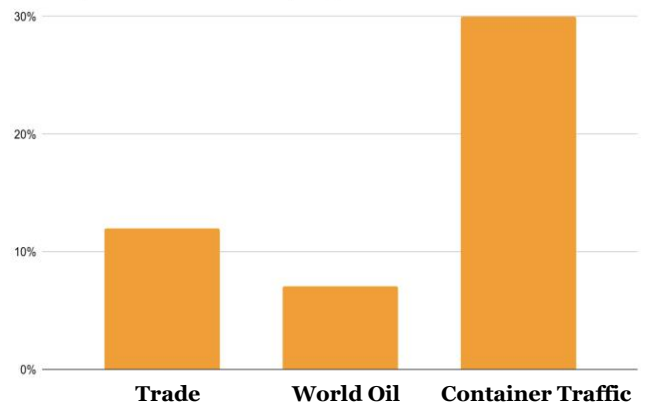
The route via Suez Canal is 40% shorter



## IMPACT ON GLOBAL ECONOMY

- Over 350 ships were forced to anchor.
- About \$9.6 billion (\$5.1 westbound; \$4.5 billion in eastbound) worth goods per day were held, stressing global supply chains.
- Ships rerouted around Cape of Good Hope (9000 km) spent 7-10 more days and enormous fuel.
- Prices of crude oil, coffee, toilet paper, laptops etc., may rise.

## What Suez Canal carries per day



## DID YOU KNOW?

In 1858, **Ferdinand de Lesseps** formed the Suez Canal Company for the express purpose of building the canal.

Construction began: 25<sup>th</sup> September 1859

Construction started: 25<sup>th</sup> April 1859

Date completed: 17<sup>th</sup> November 1869

**Nautical Mile** International unit of measurement for air and sea travel. A Nautical Mile is 1.852 km.



# World's 4<sup>th</sup> strongest Armed forces



India has the fourth strongest military strength in the world. The ranking is done by using “**the ultimate military strength index**” - the cumulative measurement of budgets, number of inactive and active military personnel, total air, sea, land and nuclear resources, average salaries, and weight of equipment.

Country	"Ultimate military strength index"	Rank
China	82	1
USA	74	2
Russia	69	3
India	61	4
France	58	5

Country	Military budget	Military Aircrafts	Naval Ships	Armoured vehicles
USA	\$ 732 billion	13,233	490	40,000
China	\$ 261 billion	3,260	777	35,000
India	\$ 71 billion	2,119	285	10,000
Russia	\$ 65 billion	4,144	603	27,100

# Women officers on warships again

Indian Navy paid a special tribute on International Women's Day -8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 by deploying four female officers onboard its war vessels after a gap of 23 long years.

While **Lieutenant Commander Priyanka Chaudhary** and **Lieutenant Sivi Bhardwaj** are carrying out duties aboard INS Vikramaditya, **Lieutenant Commander Tanisha Chakraborty** and **Surgeon Lieutenant Hannah Jane Thavapandian** are serving aboard INS Shakti.



The Indian Navy has the highest percentage of women in its workforce among the three services at 6.5%.

**Lt Commander Karabi Gogoi** is the first woman defence attaché posted abroad (Moscow).



### DID YOU KNOW?

A **defence attaché** (DA) is a member of the armed forces who serves in an embassy as a representative of his/her country's defence establishment abroad and in this capacity enjoys diplomatic status and immunity.

# SUGAMYA BHARAT APP

Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot launched “**Sugamya Bharat App**” to make life easier for the elderly and differently abled to register & track the accessibility related problems they face.

### Key Features

- ➔ Covers 3 main features of Accessible India Campaign (AIC):
  - Built environment - Hospitals, Universities etc.
  - Transport sector –Railways, Roadways etc.
  - ICT Ecosystem – Websites, Mobile Apps etc.
- ➔ Single Sign On, Screen Reader compatibility for the visually impaired, Text to speech, Voice over Navigation, Alerts, pop-ups etc.



- ➔ User-friendly interface in 10 different languages.
- ➔ Feature to upload grievances with Geotagged images of the infrastructure; Covid -19 issues, etc.
- ➔ Access to circulars, departmental updates etc.
- ➔ Robust MIS (Management Information System) to track State/UT/District/City wise reports for analysis.



# Assembly Election 2021 - Puducherry

The Union territory of Puducherry went to the polls on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 after the Congress Government led by Chief Minister Narayanasamy failed to prove majority in the house on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021. Puducherry is currently under President's rule.

The N. Rangasamy led All India NR Congress (16 seats) is leading a coalition with BJP (9) and AIADMK (5) under the umbrella of the **National Democratic Alliance**. Interestingly, BJP has no presence in Puducherry barring the 3 nominated MLAs in the erstwhile assembly. The **Secular Democratic Alliance** has the Congress (15 seats), DMK (13), the VCK (1) and the CPI (1). Curiously, V.Narayanasamy has not contested this time.

The nomination of 3 MLAs by the Union Government came into practice with the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963. This law specifies that the Puducherry legislature will have 30 elected MLAs and a maximum of 3 nominated MLAs. The law also states that the nominated MLAs must not be government employees.

## Fact Sheet – Puducherry

<b>Population</b>	<b>13 Lakhs</b>
<b>Electorate</b>	<b>10.3 Lakh</b>
<b>Number of Assembly seats</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Majority mark to form the government.</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Nominated Seats</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Number of districts</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total number of candidates in the fray</b>	<b>324</b>
<b>Average number of candidates per seat</b>	<b>10</b>

## History

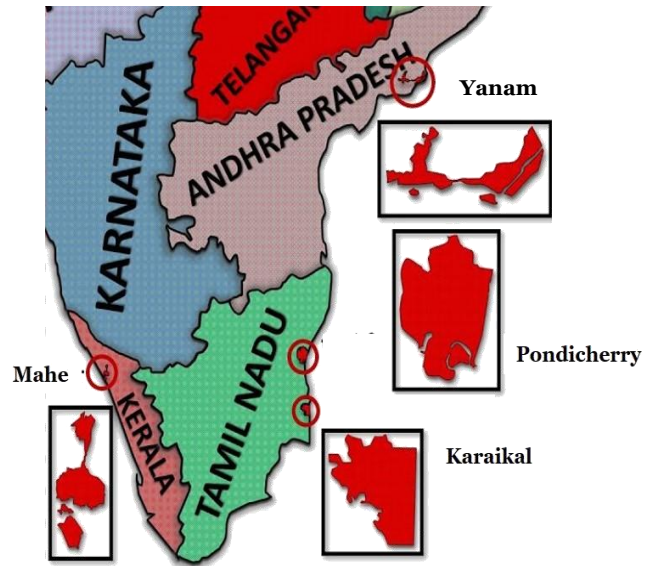
- 1763 - 1814** – Years of tumult; fights for possession between British and French
- 1814** – Treaty of Paris
- 1816** - Establishments handed back to the French.
- 1954 - De facto** transfer to the Union of India on 1st November
- 1956 - De jure** transfer completed on 28<sup>th</sup> May
- 1962** – Pondicherry with the four enclaves became a Union Territory on 16<sup>th</sup> August
- 2006** – Renamed Puducherry.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**De facto** means a state of affairs that is true in fact, but that is not officially sanctioned.

**De jure** means a state of affairs that is in accordance with law (i.e. that is officially sanctioned). Most commonly, these phrases are used to describe the source of a business or governmental leader's authority, but they also apply to a wide variety of situations.

E.g. "X has an elected prime minister, but he has no actual power. Instead, the general who sits at the head of the military is the de facto ruler of the nation."



## National Democratic Alliance

Party		Symbol
All India N.R. Congress	AINRC	
Bharatiya Janata Party	BJP	
All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	AIADMK	

## United Progressive Alliance

Party		Symbol
Indian National Congress	INC	
Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	DMK	
Communist Party of India	CPI	
Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi	VCK	

## Parties not in any coalition

Party		Symbol
Naam Tamilar Katchi	NTK	
Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam	DMDK	
Makkal Needhi Maiam	MNM	



# Assembly Election 2021 - Kerala

Kerala has given India several spiritual giants and social reformers in Adi Shankaracharya, Ayyankali and Sree Narayana Guru, to name a few.

The political scene in Kerala has been dominated by the **Left Democratic Front (LDF)** and the **United Democratic Front (UDF)** for almost four decades.

The current LDF government is seeking a second term led by **Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan**. LDF has traditionally been left wing parties led by the CPI (M).

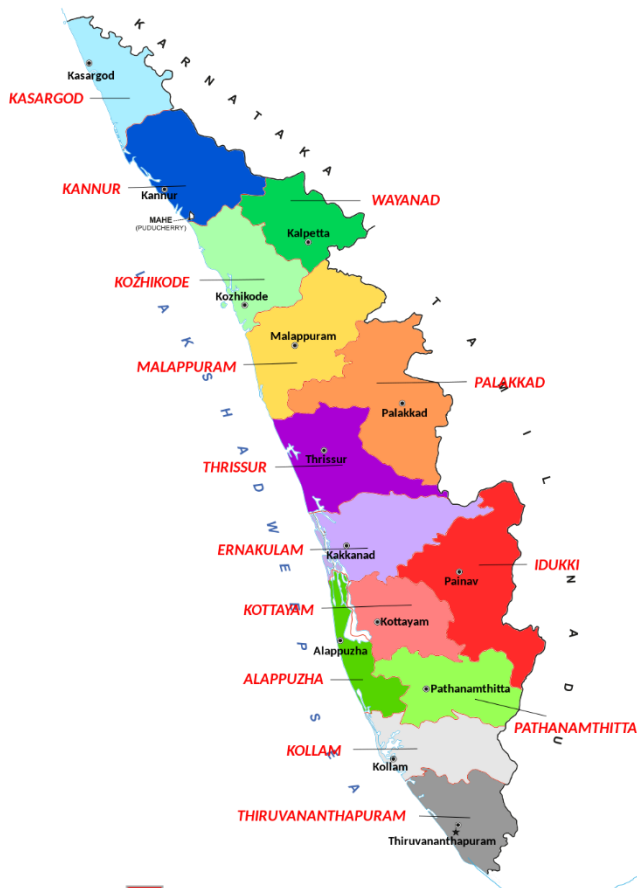
UDF is alliance of parties led by the Indian National Congress (INC). It has not declared a Chief Ministerial candidate.

Also in the fray is **BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA)** - a coalition of likeminded parties like the Bharath Dharma Jana Sena and others. BJP is looking to better its 2016 tally where Rajagopal was the sole MLA in the Assembly. Famous technocrat **E. Sreedharan (88)**, known as the metro man is its Chief Ministerial candidate. A highly acclaimed individual like him joining the political fray at his age is being viewed with great interest.

Infrastructure development, populism, title deed distribution to the landless, the state's response to COVID-19, corruption allegations against the ruling LDF are some of the issues that may determine the outcome of the elections.

The row over women's entry into the Sabarimala temple has been a thorny issue for the LDF following the Supreme Court order in 2018 granting permission to women of all ages to enter the hill shrine. LDF lost 19 Lok Sabha seats in Kerala.

With a history of thin margin victories and a three-way fight, the Kerala elections are poised for an interesting finish.



## Left Democratic Front

No.	Party	Flag	Symbol
1.	Communist Party of India (Marxist)		
2.	Communist Party of India		
3.	Kerala Congress (M)		
4.	Janata Dal (Secular)		

## United Democratic Front

No.	Party	Flag	Symbol
1.	Indian National Congress		
2.	Indian Union Muslim League		
3.	Kerala Congress		
4.	Revolutionary Socialist Party		

## National Democratic Alliance

No.	Party	Flag	Symbol
1.	Bharatiya Janata Party		
2.	Bharath Dharma Jana Sena		
3.	All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam		

## Fact Sheet - Kerala

Population	3.5 crores
Electorate	2.7 crores
Number of Assembly seats	140
Majority mark to form the government.	71
Number of booths	40,771
Number of districts	14
Total number of candidates in the fray	1061
Average number of candidates per seat	7-8





# Assembly Election 2021 – West Bengal

Post partition in 1947, Bengal got partitioned into two, East Bengal and West Bengal. East Bengal became part of Pakistan which later became Bangladesh in 1971.

In the ongoing and keenly watched assembly elections, West Bengal Chief Minister for 10 years **Mamata Banerjee** of the **All-India Trinamool Congress (AITC)** is facing one of her toughest elections.

The principal opponent for the AITC is **BJP** which is setting itself up strongly to bag West Bengal after an impressive performance in 2019 Lok Sabha Elections, wherein it secured 18 out of 42 seats.

The Left which has ruled West Bengal for over 3 decades has found itself completely marginalized; it is in alliance with the Congress.

West Bengal has a unicameral legislature with only the legislative assembly. Currently AITC has 200, BJP - 35, INC - 23 and the CPI (M) -19 seats.

The elections which are conducted across 8 phases in 23 districts is witnessing a direct battle between the BJP's prime campaigner PM Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

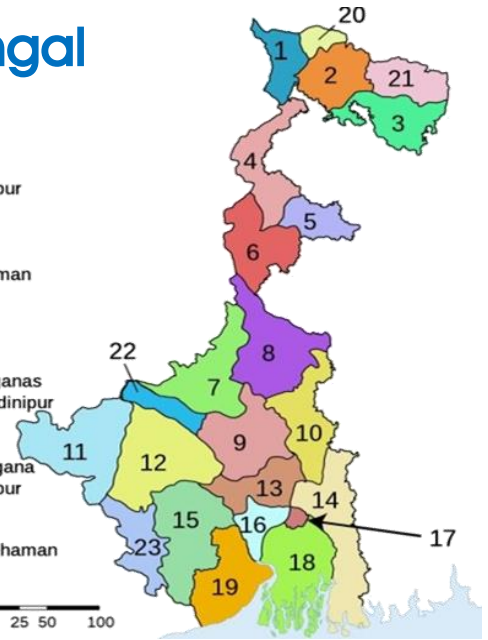
BJP has not named a Chief Ministerial candidate so far. AITC's election campaign has largely hinged on women. Slogans like **"Bangla nijer meyekei chaye"** ('Bengal wants her own daughter') have been keen to bolster the 'daughter' aspect.

Media has also claimed that the biggest gain for the BJP has been former Cabinet Minister Suwendu Adhikari switching over to the BJP from AITC, whose family controls the politics of both Purba and Paschim Medinipur.

Suwendu is contesting from Nandigram where he is locked in battle with Mamata Banerjee.

In addition to defections from the AITC, the BJP has been capitalizing on the anti-incumbency sentiment because of Bengal's refusal to implement most of the Union Government's schemes such as Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojna, and Nal Se Jal.

1. Uarjeeing
2. Jalpaiguri
3. Cooch Behar
4. Uttar Dinajpur
5. Dakshin Dinajpur
6. Malda
7. Birbhum
8. Murshidabad
9. Purba Bardhaman
10. Nadia
11. Purulia
12. Bankura
13. Hooghly
14. North 24 Parganas
15. Pashchim Medinipur
16. Howrah
17. Kolkata
18. South 24 Pargana
19. Purbo Medinipur
20. Kalimpong
21. Alipurduar
22. Paschim Bardhaman
23. Jhargram



Party	Symbol
All India Trinamool Congress	AITC
Gorkha Janmukti Morcha	GJM <i>Unrecognised</i>

## Sanyukta Morcha

Party	Symbol
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	CPI(M)
All India Forward Bloc	AIFB
Revolutionary Socialist Party	RSP
Communist Party of India	CPI
Marxist Forward Bloc	MFB
Indian National Congress	INC
Indian Secular Front <sup>[b]</sup>	RSMP <sup>[b]</sup>

## Why Eight Phase election?

It must be noted that the number of phases is disproportionately large in this state owing to law-and-order issues.

Around 80 thousand jawans from CRPF, BSF, CISF, SSB, ITBP and RPF have been deployed to facilitate smooth and fair polling.

## DID YOU KNOW?

- CRPF – Central Reserve Police Force
- BSF – Border Security Force
- CISF - Central Industrial Security Force
- SSB – Sashastra Seema Bal
- ITBP – Indo Tibetan Border Police
- RPF – Railway Protection Force



## Fact Sheet – West Bengal

Population	10 Crores
Electorate	8 Crores
Number of Assembly seats	294
Majority mark to form the government.	71
Number of booths	1,01,790
Number of districts	23

Party	Symbol
Bharatiya Janata Party	BJP

# Assembly Election 2021 – Assam

Assam derives its name from the word “Asama”, meaning “peerless” in Ahom, a language which was prominent when the Ahom dynasty ruled the region during the 600-year long period (1228 – 1826).

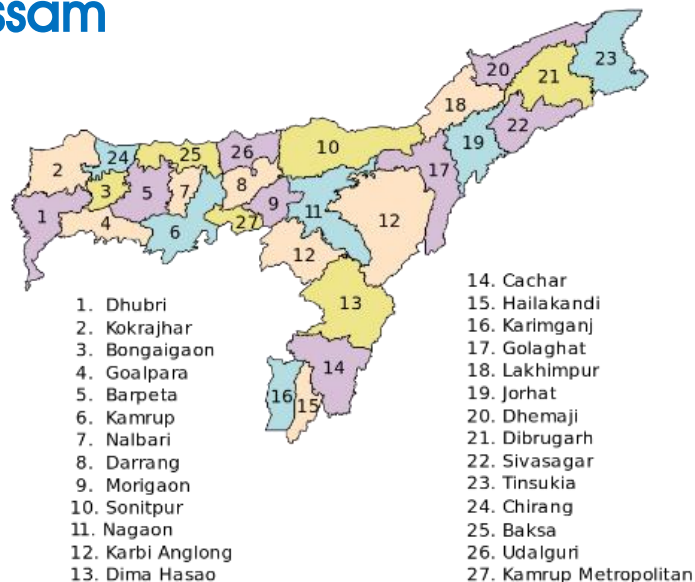
In the just concluded assembly elections in 3-phase polling, the incumbent BJP government led by **Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal** is seeking a second consecutive term after putting up a strong performance in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. BJP’s two key allies include, the AGP and the United People’s Party Liberal (UPPL).

The Congress was in power for 15 years until 2016. Until then the contest always revolved around the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and the Congress.

The Congress led Grand Alliance usually constitutes All-India United Democratic Front (AIUDF), CPI, CPI(M), Communist Party of India Marxist Leninist (CPI-ML) and Anchalik Gana Morcha (AGM). For this election, it has included Bodoland’s People’s Front (BPF) and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD).

The enactment of the Citizen Amendment Act by the Union Government in Parliament and the Supreme Court mandated National Register of Citizens (NRC), are the issues raised by Congress led alliance against the Assam government. Economic and infrastructural development have been the poll pitch for BJP.

In Assam, recurring floods, illegal migration and enabling better wages for tea plantation workers are major issues for any elected government to tackle. Who emerges victorious in the two cornered fight between the BJP led alliance, ‘Mitrajot’ and the Congress led alliance, ‘Mahajot’ will be known on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021.



## NDA

Party	Symbol
Bharatiya Janata Party	BJP
Asom Gana Parishad	AGP
United People's Party Liberal	UPPL

## UPA

Party	Symbol
Indian National Congress	INC
All India United Democratic Front	AIUDF
Bodoland People's Front	BPF
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	CPI(M)
Communist Party of India	CPI

## United Regional Front

No.	
Assam Jatiya Parishad	AJP
Rajior Dal	RD

## Fact Sheet – Assam

Population	3.6 Crores
Electorate	2.3 Crores
Number of Assembly seats	126
Polling Booths	33,000 +
Number of districts	33
Total number of candidates in the fray	946
Average number of candidates per seat	7-8

## DID YOU KNOW?

### 12 Awesome Facts About Assam

- India’s largest shaktipeeth “Maa Kamakhya Temple”
- World’s Largest River Island “Majuli”
- India’s Widest River “Brahmaputra”
- World’s biggest weaving village “Sualkuchi”
- Asia’s oldest amphitheatre “Rang Ghar, Sibsagar”
- World’s highest one horned rhino population “Kaziranga”
- World’s largest tea growing region.
- India’s largest natural zoo “Assam State Zoo”
- India’s Tea Capital “Jorhat”
- Asia’s oldest refinery and birthplace of crude oil “Digboi”
- India’s first 5 star river cruise “M.V. Mahabaahu” on Brahmaputra
- India’s longest bridge “Bhupen Hazarika Bridge”

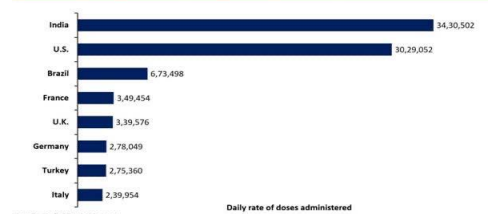


# COVID Vaccination Drive

60% of 9cr cumulative doses given so far, are in 8 States



Global Comparison: Daily rate of doses administered



India is one of the fastest vaccinating nations in the world. As per the Union Health Ministry, over 10 Crore vaccinations have been done until 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2021.

Over 8.5 Crore Indians have been given a single dose of Covid-19 vaccines, while 1.5 Crore stand fully vaccinated with both the prescribed doses.

To date, India has dispatched over 64 million 'Made in India' vaccines to countries worldwide. Additionally, over 18.1 million doses of India-made vaccines have reached vaccine-deprived nations through COVAX – a global initiative aimed at equitable access to Covid-19 vaccines, led by UNICEF, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the WHO and others.

As per the Union Health ministry, Covishield vaccine's two doses are to be given at an interval of 6 -8 weeks and for Covaxin, it is 4 weeks.

Today, India manufactures Oxford-Astra Zeneca Covishield, Bharat Biotech's Covaxin and the Sputnik vaccines, and Biological E (A Hyderabad based company) has the license to produce the Johnson & Johnson vaccine as well.

Of the above Covaxin of Bharath Biotech is indigenously developed by Indian scientists.

To increase access of vaccines to people above 45 years, vaccination sessions will be organized at workplaces (both government and private) that have 100 or more eligible and willing beneficiaries.

These workplaces should tag with an existing vaccination centre.

This drive starts from **11<sup>th</sup> April 2021**.

All vaccine centres across the country shall remain open on all days of the week.



## Strategic Action for Alleviation of Malnutrition and Anemia Reduction CAMPAIGN

It has a 1000 days target. Annual surveys will track the progress.

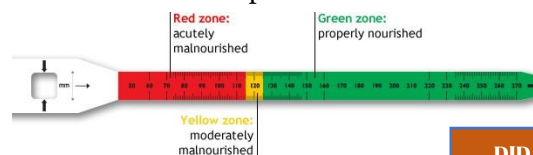
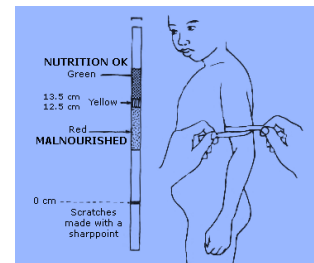
### Why?

- ➔ Various schemes under Child Development, National Nutrition Mission are still inadequate.
- ➔ 70% children are anaemic as per National Family Health Survey-4 data.

### AIMS

- ➔ Identify anaemic women, malnourished children and primarily vulnerable tribal groups.
- ➔ Encourage research on nutritional behaviour of the tribal groups.
- ➔ Enable Rural Development, Food and Civil Supplies departments to engage with school management committees, gram sabhas etc. to solve the problem.
- ➔ Strengthen Tejaswini Project.

Every Angawadi's Sahayika and Sevika will identify these children and women using MUAC (Mid-Upper Arm Circumference) tape. Serious cases will be referred to health centres and registered on State Nutrition Mission's portal.



### DID YOU KNOW?

#### MUAC indicators

- ➔ <11cm, RED - Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM).
- ➔ 11 - 12.5cm, RED (3-colour Tape) or ORANGE (4-colour Tape) – Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM).
- ➔ 12.5 -13.5cm, YELLOW - at risk for acute malnutrition.
- ➔ >13.5cm, GREEN - good nourishment.

For more information, log on to

[https://motherchildnutrition.org/early-malnutrition-detection/detection-referral-children-with-acute-malnutrition/screening-for-acute-malnutrition.html#Mid-upper%20Arm%20Circumference%20\(MUAC\)](https://motherchildnutrition.org/early-malnutrition-detection/detection-referral-children-with-acute-malnutrition/screening-for-acute-malnutrition.html#Mid-upper%20Arm%20Circumference%20(MUAC))



# New rules for social media

The Government of India issued a notification on Information Technology (Guidelines for Intermediaries and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021 in March, specifying new rules in the ever expanding 'Over the Top' (OTT) space.

An OTT platform offers media service to any viewer directly via the internet. While all films screened in cinema halls need to get a censor certificate from Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), OTT productions need not. The new rules come in the backdrop of increasing number of complaints from viewers on various grounds.

An example is the recently released 'Tandav' web series on Amazon Prime, which saw widespread social media protests and at least three FIRs being filed in over six cities for hurting Hindu sentiments in the first episode. Subsequently, both Amazon Prime and the makers issued a public apology.

The new rules require the OTT platforms to set up a three-tier grievance redressal mechanism.

- In the **first tier**, the platform must enable regulation through its self-appointed grievance officer.
- The **second tier** will include a self-regulatory body comprising of industry experts and headed by a retired Supreme Court judge / High Court judge or an eminent personality from the relevant field.
- The **third tier** comprises of an inter-department committee constituted by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting which will provide oversight and hear appeals to aid tier 2; this is done only if a complaint is referred to the committee.

A key component is the **code of ethics** which provides guidelines on classification of content based on viewers' age, themes, content, tone, impact and target audience.

Under this, the news and current affairs shall, among others, adhere to the Norms of Journalistic Conduct of the Press Council of India under the Press Council Act, 1978.

The content rating is as follows:

Content rating categories	Suitable age group
'U'	all ages
U/A 7+	7 years and above
U/A 13+	13 and above
U/A 16+	16 and above
A	restricted to adults

OTT Platforms must deploy access control mechanisms for content classified as 'U/A 13+' or higher.

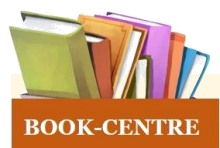
2011 saw the digitization of broadcasting services in India. An estimate accounts that there would be 900+ million internet users by 2023 and 800 million+ mobile users by 2027. The OTT platforms are here to stay and spread their influence. As the digital space evolves, so will the creators on these OTT platforms. The platforms and content creators will have to adhere to these guidelines and strike a balance between freedom of expression and responsibility to the society to thrive and grow.

## DID YOU KNOW?

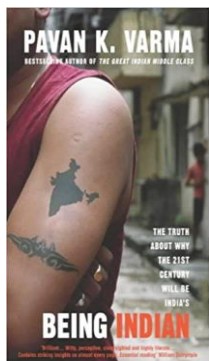
### More about OTT

OTT bypasses cable, broadcast and satellite television platforms, the types of companies which traditionally act as controllers or distributors of such content. OTT services are typically accessed via websites on personal computers, as well as via apps on mobile devices (such as smartphones and tablets), digital media players (including video game consoles), or televisions with integrated Smart TV platforms

The term is most synonymous with subscription-based video-on-demand (SVoD) services that offer access to film and television content. OTT also encompasses television services that offer access to live streams of linear specialty channels, similar to a traditional satellite or cable TV provider.



## BOOK-CENTRE



### What makes one an Indian?

There is no conclusive answer, yet. How was the Indian elite - a product of 5000 years of civilizational continuity- colonized so easily only to become the model children of Macaulay? Why has a nation with Mahatma Gandhi as its towering role model of rectitude, become so unbelievably corrupt so quickly?

Through such thought-provoking questions, **Pavan K Verma**, analyses the basic features of the Indian social fabric in his book **Being Indian**. He feels understanding a nation's traits is essential to formulate policies in congruence with the Indian psyche. False assumptions would only lead to unfulfilled goals, he avers. He brings a whole new perspective to understanding "Indian" corruption through the lens of how Indians respond to power.

Indians attach importance to hierarchy and this is as evident among bureaucrats and ministers as in the caste system.

He argues that concepts like democracy and equality acquire an Indian colouring with the acceptance of hierarchy.

The constant pursuit of position in the hierarchy has made Indians exceptionally focused and hardworking, he observes. He attempts to understand how Indian traits have played a role in the tremendous growth of IT industry.

He illustrates how Indians respond to monetary incentives with alacrity and adapt themselves to survive in the most difficult of times by drawing strength from their faith; and convert opportunities to commercial advantage in the most creative ways.

He asserts that a critical equilibrium combining several factors has to be in place for big and complex nations like India to approach the take-off stage while remaining stable.

He offers solutions to issues like corruption. India is a potential global power but it must understand what makes its people tick, and the book investigates the same.

Through an unbiased and hard-hitting assessment, the book reveals that despite all internal problems and divisions, there is an evolution of a Pan- Indian identity.





### DAMAN & DIU

**Balu:** Wow! I have received a parcel from my best friend. [Elated], he went to Gujarat to visit his grandmother during this vacation.

**Dadu:** Oh great! What's inside?

**Balu:** [Excited] A beautiful handcrafted mat and a tortoise shell craft from Daman and Diu, it says. [confused] Dadu, where is it!?!?

**Dadu:** My dear, it's time you know more about India!

**Balu:** [Excited] Oh yes! Go on Dadu! It's been a very long time!



**Dadu:** Balu! Look at this. Can you tell me where it is?

**Balu:** [curiously looking for an answer] Hmm .... Dadu, I think it is somewhere near Gujarat.

**Dadu:** Yes! You are almost there! Daman and Diu are the coastal districts of Gujarat. Diu is an island connected by two bridges whereas Daman is about 193 km away from Mumbai. Daman is near Valsad and Diu, close to Junagadh.



**Balu:** Sounds interesting. Dadu, are there any interesting stories about Daman and Diu?

**Dadu:** Yes!! Daman, Diu and Goa were Portuguese colonies even after Independence. Then became a part of India in 1961.

Goa became a state on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1987; Daman and Diu were a separate Union Territory until 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020; then merged with Dadra and Nagar Haveli to form a single UT.

**Balu:** Dadu, what do they do for a living?

**Dadu:** Agriculture, fishing and salt farming. Now, tourism is also catching up. Daman grows rice, millet, and pulses, while in the drier Diu, it's wheat. Cows, buffaloes and goats in Daman produce more than 300 tonnes of milk.

**Balu:** Interesting, Dadu. What about their culture?

**Dadu:** Well, you can see a mixture of Gujarati and Maharashtrian culture, along with some Portuguese customs.

**Dadu:** There are also great places to visit.

**Balu:** Lovely!! Daman & Diu is our next vacation spot, Dadu!



## DADU & BALU



### DID YOU KNOW?

**Capital:** Daman

**Principal Language:** Gujarati, Marathi

**Area:** 112 sq. km

**Population:** 2,42,911

**No of Districts:** 02

**Lok Sabha Seats:** 01

**Literacy Rate:** 87.07%

**Rajya Sabha Seats:** nil

**Created on:** 30<sup>th</sup> May 1987

### Festivals

Nariyal Poornima marks the Fishing season.

Garba, Gangaji Fair, Christmas, and Dandiya Ras - most popular

### Dance Forms

Popular dance forms - **Mando, Verdugo** and **Vira**. People of all ages participate in the folk-dance festivals.



### Interesting places to visit



Cannons at the Diu Port



Devka Beach in Daman



St Paul's Church of Diu



Jetty Garden, Moti Daman



# Flora & Fauna of India

Anil was at his grandparent's place in Puducherry for a couple of weeks when the lockdown happened. Life changed drastically for him - star studded skies, daily sightings of plants, birds and animals replaced the dusty and noisy city life.

One day on a stroll with his grandma, Anil witnessed something strange.

Hey look granny! What is that? Through the binoculars, he saw a brown furry figure with **huge eyes** encircled by dark patches. A longer look helped him identify **short index fingers** and a **short tail** which curled around the tree branch. His granny confirmed it was the **Nocturnal Slender Loris**, an endangered species.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Prosimian:** a primitive primate of a group that includes the lemurs, lorises, bushbabies and tarsiers.

The **World Wild Life Fund (WWF)** is an international non-governmental organization that works in the field of wildlife preservation.

## Nocturnal Slender Loris



**Types:** Grey & Red Slender Loris

**Nativity:** India and Sri Lanka.

**About:** Small, nocturnal prosimian primate; slow movers and rest near large insect colonies for prey.

**Habitat:** Tropical rain forests, scrub forests, semi deciduous forests and swamps.

**Food:** Insects, reptiles, shoots of plants and fruits.

**Threats:** They are at risk from severe habitat loss, dangers of road kills, uninsulated powerlines, capture for pet trade, killing due to superstitious beliefs.



**Conservation Status:** Near Threatened

**Life Span:** 15 years



## CURIOSITY corner

### Figures of speech

**Figures of speech bring variety and richness to our language**

**Hyperbole (H):** an exaggerated statement added for emphasis. It is not literally true.

**Simile (S):** comparison between two things using the words "like" or "as."

**Personification (P):** an idea or thing is given human feelings, characteristics etc.

**Metaphor (M):** a comparison where we say that one thing is the other.

In an **Idiom(I)** the words in a particular order have a special meaning different from the literal meaning of the individual words.

**Find the figures of speech in the following:**

1. \_\_\_\_ My hand hurts so much it's going to drop off.
2. \_\_\_\_ That guy is as nutty as a fruitcake.
3. \_\_\_\_ Rita heard the last piece of pie calling her name.
4. \_\_\_\_ The clouds are balls of cotton.
5. \_\_\_\_ Why are you so bent out of shape?
6. \_\_\_\_ Our vacuum hums a happy tune while it cleans.
7. \_\_\_\_ Books are the keys to your imagination.
8. \_\_\_\_ The leaves are dancing in the breeze.
9. \_\_\_\_ I'm going to call it a night.
10. \_\_\_\_ The moon played hide and seek with the clouds.
11. \_\_\_\_ Last night, I slept like a log.
12. \_\_\_\_ She's as skinny as a toothpick.
13. \_\_\_\_ The stairs groaned as we walked on them.
14. \_\_\_\_ He is a walking dictionary.
15. \_\_\_\_ She let things get out of hand.

**ANSWERS**

# Know your Padma Awardees

## Smt Padmavathy

### First Woman Air Marshal

Since independence, scores of men and women have given their blood and life to make this country a better place. One such woman is Padmavathy Bandopadhyay.

Air Marshal Padmavathy Bandopadhyay, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd.) is the **first woman Air Marshal** of the Indian Air Force and the **second woman in the Indian Armed Forces** to be promoted to a three-star rank (Air Marshal).

She became the Director General Medical Services (Air) at the Air Headquarters.

#### Early Life

Padma was born on 4<sup>th</sup> November 1944 to Shri V. Swaminathan and Smt. Alamelu at Tirupati. Nursing her bedridden mother at the age of 4-5 years and having a namesake neighbour Dr S.I. Padmavati were early motivations to become a doctor.

As an undergraduate at the prestigious Kirori Mal College, Delhi, she stood first throughout.

When the Armed Forces Medical College opened in Pune in 1962, she applied and got selected in the first batch.

However, her parents were reluctant to send her to a hostel. Later she convinced her parents and joined the 'B' Batch in 1963.

Though commissioned in the IAF in 1968, an eyesight problem made her ineligible to be a pilot.

She was the first woman to specialise in aviation medicine, a new field then.



She completed 23 research projects and has 27 publications to her credit.

A towering professional with exemplary organizational and administrative skills in a career of 39 years, she has contributed greatly to the Medical Services of IAF.

In her book *“The Lady in Blue: The memoirs of the First Lady Air Marshal”* she has shared her experiences as a girl who dreams to excel against all odds in the prevailing social environment.

Her Women’s Day message: *“Dream big. Do not sit idle; work hard to achieve it. Always try to do good for others during your ups and downs in life.”*

#### Achievements

Padma and her husband, S.N. Bandhopadhyay received the **Vishisht Seva Medal** (1971) for exceptional devotion during the war.

**First Indian woman** to conduct **Scientific Research at the North Pole** (1989 – 90) to determine whether people from tropical climates could adapt to extreme cold conditions.

Won the **Indira Priyadarshini Award** for being an Outstanding Lady with many achievements.

Became the **First Lady Air Commodore of Indian Air Force** (2000) commanding over the most prestigious Air Force Central Medical Establishment.

Won the **Ati Vishisth Seva Medal** (2002) for her service of meritorious order.

Received the **Param Vishisth Seva Medal** (2006).

Was given the **Padma Shri** (2020).

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Distinguished Service and Gallantry Awards  
for Peace time operations**

**PVSM** - Param Vishisht Seva Medal  
**AVSM** - Ati Vishisht Seva Medal  
**VSM**- Vishisht Seva Medal



# Architectural Wonders of India

## KONARK SUN TEMPLE - ODISHA

Konark is a historic town in east-central Odisha, famous for its enormous 13th-century Surya Deula (or Surya Deul), popularly called the Sun Temple, dedicated to the Hindu sun god.

The town's name comes from the Sanskrit words kona ("corner") and arka ("sun") referring to the Sun Temple.

The Sun Temple, built by Narasimha I, (Eastern Ganga dynasty) around 1250 CE, represents the culmination of the Kalinga/Orissa style of north Indian temple architecture developed in Odisha.

The temple was designed to represent the sun god's chariot, with 12 huge carved stone wheels and 7 stone horses around its base. The exterior of the temple is covered with sculptured decorations.

The Sun Temple has been badly damaged over time. The tower over the sanctuary has entirely collapsed. The ruins of the sanctuary, an enclosed hall, and a separate dancing hall alone remain. The enclosed hall features a gigantic tower rising in three stages and adorned with colossal figures of musicians and dancers.

The Sun Temple was used as a navigation landmark by European mariners.

15th - 17th Century

- Ransacked various times by Muslim armies.

19th Century

- Much of the temple weathered and ruined.

British colonial rule

- Sections of the complex restored, but much of it remained in ruins.

1984

- Designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Three kinds of stone were used in the temple's construction:

**Khondalite** (metamorphic rock) – Used throughout the monument.

**Chlorite** (silicate minerals)- Doorframes and a few sculptures.

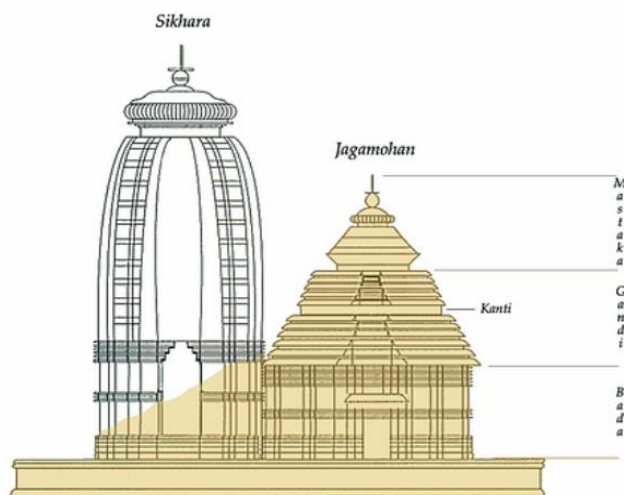
**Laterite** (rich in iron and aluminium) - The foundation, the (invisible) core of the platform and the staircases.



Entrance of the Sun temple at Konark, Orissa.



The entire temple was designed to represent a chariot on wheels in which the sun god rides across the heavens, pulled by prancing horses



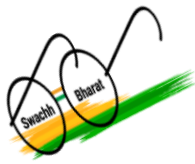
Sketch depicting the existing temple and the actual design.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Konark town and temple are associated with the legend of Samba, the son of Lord Krishna, who was cured of leprosy by the sun god's blessings.
- The fitting and finishing were done so smoothly that the joints are invisible.







# Swachh Bharat Success Stories



**POOJA** : Hi! Sid, how was your day?

**SID**: Good Pooja. My teacher told us a great story.

**POOJA** : Can't wait to hear that.

**SID**: It's about two Kanpur friends who are recycling flower waste from temples.

**POOJA**: Recycling flowers???

**SID**: Yes, **Ankit Agarwal and Karan Rastogi** started an eco-friendly initiative called '**Help Us Green**'.

**POOJA**: What made them think of that idea?

**SID**: Seeing tons of flowers from temples being dumped in River Ganga in Bithoor, Kanpur. As Agarwal says, pollution caused by flowers is often overlooked when they clean the river; and it's not just the flowers rotting but also the pesticides on them which go on to affect the marine life.

**POOJA**: Interesting! How do they go about it?

**SID**: They gather the leftover flowers from temples and recycle them.

**POOJA**: How?

**SID**: They make **organic incense**, vermicompost and most importantly the world's first non-toxic thermocol called Flora foam.

**POOJA**: Organic incense?

What's that?

**SID**: They make incense sticks from paper infused with tulsi seeds. After using, they sow the seeds.

**POOJA**: Wow!!!

**SID**: Wait. I am not done yet. 'Help Us Green' has helped more than 200 poor women earn at least Rs 200 per day now. Earlier they were just making Rs 10!!

**POOJA**: Amazing!

**SID**: The two entrepreneurs have been nominated for a UNICEF award this month by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; and they will present their idea at the UN General Assembly soon. If you want to know more, use this link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9zyGaAqaNjo>

**POOJA**: Sure.



## CURIOSITY corner ANSWERS

Sno	Figure of Speech	Example
1	Hyperbole	My hand hurts so much it's going to drop off.
2	Simile	That guy is as nutty as a fruitcake.
3	Personification	Rita heard the last piece of pie calling her name.
4	Metaphor	The clouds are balls of cotton.
5	Idiom	Why are you so bent out of shape?
6	Personification	Our vacuum hums a happy tune while it cleans.
7	Metaphor	Books are the keys to your imagination.
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12	Hyperbole	She's as skinny as a toothpick.
13	Personification	The stairs groaned as we walked on them.
14	Metaphor	He is a walking dictionary.
15	Idiom	She let things get out of hand.

Comments?  
Suggestions?

We want to hear from you!



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