

Uniform Civil Code and Gender Justice

The Telangana High Court has corrected gender-based inequality rooted in religious personal laws — an inequality that contradicts Article 15 of the Indian Constitution, which forbids discrimination on the basis of religion, sex or caste. In recent weeks, the Telangana High Court has significantly corrected a major inequality, which happens to be prohibited by the Constitution's Article 15, i.e., discrimination on the grounds of sex, religion, caste, etc. The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on the grounds only of religion, caste, sex, place of birth, so states our Constitution. For those who were born much later, it bears iteration that since 1950, when the national document was adopted, discrimination between every Muslim man and every Muslim woman, ironically sanctioned by the statute, has been in practice. This has continued for decades and is still in force. Defending the Hindu Code Bill during the parliamentary debate on the matter in 1955, when it was passed to become a law in the form of the Hindu Marriage Act — while completely ignoring a similar demand to reform the Muslim Personal Law and bring in a Uniform Civil Code — Jawaharlal Nehru, the country's first Prime Minister, had said: "Well, I should like a Civil Code which applies to everybody, but wisdom hinders. If the member or anybody else brings forward a Civil Code Bill, it will have my extreme sympathy. But I confess I do not think that at the present moment

time is ripe in India for me to try to push it through. I want to prepare the ground for it." (Uniform Civil Code and Gender Justice by Dinanath Raina, pp. 1–2) This statement of Nehru was the first blunder — of both omission and commission — which made the Uniform Civil Code the victim of perverse secularism and emboldened the perverted communalists to ensure that this constitutional commitment is not enforced. Surely, Nehru was aware that it was the strong political will of leaders like KM Munshi and Dr BR Ambedkar that ensured Article 44 was pushed through. As things stand today, a Muslim man can divorce or give talaq in a maximum course of three months. Whereas, his wife hitherto did not have a right to talaq. If a wife was harassed to the wall, she could move for what is called khula — first by returning the mehr she received, if she did receive any, to her husband, and then proceed with the long procedure required by the Sharia law of khula, wherein several members of the clergy usually have the final say. In the bargain, the husband would have ample opportunity to intervene officially or behind the scenes. So far, in my experience, I have come across nobody who has witnessed khula taking place successfully, amicably, and in favour of an unfortunate lady. Does this not mean that the procedure for khula must be so cumbersome that disgruntled women do not have the gumption to try to obtain liberty? Think

about it; the very existence of polygamy is ultra vires Article 15 of the Constitution. For the simple reason that the Sharia does not permit equal rights to women and allows a man to have four wives — but not vice versa. How is it that it did not occur to anyone to challenge polygamy in a court of law? How blasé is the fact that an obscurantist body like the All India Muslim Personal Law Board — or for that matter, medieval religious laws like Sharia — exists in modern, 21st-century India? How can polygamy, itself a blatant mockery of Article 15 of the Constitution, be plugged? I had, some years ago, written an article pleading that Articles 25 to 30 of the Constitution violate Article 15 in the matter of equality. As we have quoted above, Article 15 clearly says there shall be no discrimination on the grounds of religion — meaning that all religions will be equal before the State. How, then, were we tolerating the very existence of these six Articles? Article 30 also states that all minorities shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice, including the acquisition of property without any special permission. Whereas, the majority community cannot think of starting any school without obtaining the sanction of the State education department. One would like to know how many schools or colleges Muslims have founded in the last 75 years, and how many have

been opened by Hindus — from pri-



mary schools to universities? If this information is made available on an all-India basis, one would hear howls of sowing discord among communities — i.e., spreading communal disharmony. A number of the clauses of the Constitution were drafted during 1946–47 to persuade the Muslim politicians of the day not to insist on the Partition of the country. Thereafter, even though Partition did take place and became a reality, these very Articles were smuggled into the Constitution. We are encouraged to sing Vande Mataram, which is a song stirring enough to arouse in most young people an emotion of nationalism. However, this emotion will become a lasting sentiment provided, over time, only if all Indians are enabled in their souls to breathe together. Instead, as we have said above in this article, the current state of affairs only discourages us from doing so. It only drives Indians to act separately and randomly.

Chardham Yatra Temporarily Halted Due To Bad Weather: Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Dhami



Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Thursday announced that the Chardham Yatra has been temporarily suspended owing to persistent inclement weather conditions along the pilgrimage route. The decision, he said, was taken to ensure the safety and well-being of all pilgrims. Speaking to reporters in Haridwar, CM Dhami stated, "In view of the current weather, the Chardham Yatra has been put on hold for now. Going forward, we will resume the yatra only when weather conditions are favorable." He emphasized that pilgrim safety remains the top priority for the state government. "We will resume the yatra only when it is safe to do so. All district administrations, disaster response teams, the NDRF, and the SDRF are fully alert and prepared," he added. The Chief Minister assured that authorities are closely monitoring the situation and any decision to resume the pilgrimage will be made with full consideration of weather forecasts and safety protocols.

'Had 30-45 Seconds To React': Pakistan PM's Aide Recalls BrahMos Missile Scare

A senior Pakistani politician has revealed that during Operation Sindoor, Pakistan's military had a mere 30 to 45 seconds to assess if an incoming BrahMos missile from India carried a nuclear warhead. Rana Sanaullah, adviser to Prime Minister Shehzad Sharif, highlighted the nuclear threat that loomed over the India-Pakistan conflict following the attack by Pakistan-linked terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam. "When India fired BrahMos at Nur Khan airbase, Pakistan's military had only 30-45 seconds to analyse whether the incoming missile may have a nuclear warhead. To decide anything on this in just 30 seconds was a dangerous situation," Mr Sanaullah told a Pakistani news channel.

Operation Sindoor: A Strategic Strike
India executed strikes on several Pakistani air bases during 'Operation Sindoor', inflicting significant damage. The operation targeted runways, hangars, and buildings, dealing a substantial blow to



Pakistan. Satellite images confirmed extensive destruction at locations including Sargodha, Nur Khan (Chaklala), Bholari, Jacobabad, Sukkur, and Rahim Yar Khan. Nur Khan airbase in Rawalpindi's Chaklala is a key facility for the Pakistan Air Force (PAF). It wasn't the first time India targeted it; during the 1971 war, the Indian Air Force's 20 Squadron attacked it using Hawker Hunters. This historical context underscores its strategic importance. Sanaullah expressed concerns about potential misunderstandings leading to catastrophic consequences. "I am not saying that they did good by not

using a nuclear warhead, but at the same time the people on this side could have misunderstood it also, leading to the launch of the first nuclear weapon that could spark a global nuclear war," he added. The Indian military also dismantled numerous terror group camps such as Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), and Hizbul Mujahideen during

'Operation Sindoor'. Over 100 terrorists were reportedly killed in these operations. Following India's overnight operations, Pakistan retaliated with drones and missiles targeting western parts of India. However, these were successfully intercepted by Indian forces. In response, India struck selected military targets deep within Pakistani territory. After four days of intense cross-border drone and missile exchanges, both nations agreed to ceasefire terms to immediately halt military actions. This agreement marked an end to the hostilities that had escalated rapidly between the two countries.

Indian Community's Journey In Trinidad And Tobago One Of Courage: PM Modi



The journey of the Indian community in Trinidad and Tobago is one of courage, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, emphasising that the hardships their ancestors endured could have "broken even the strongest spirits". Modi made the comments at a community event at the National Cycling Velodrome, Couva, on Thursday. He arrived in Trinidad and Tobago earlier in the day for a two-day visit. The prime minister, whose first engagement in the Caribbean nation was with the Indian community, said that it felt completely natural, as "we are part of one family". Trinidad and Tobago has a population of approximately 13 lakh, 45 per cent of whom are of Indian origin. The journey of the Indian community in Trinidad and Tobago is about courage. The circumstances your ancestors faced could have broken even the strongest of spirits. But they faced hardships with hope. They met problems with persistence," he said. "They left the Ganga and Yamuna behind but carried the Ramayana in their hearts," he said, calling them messengers of a "timeless civilisation". "The community programme in Port of Spain was spectacular. The energy and warmth of the people made it truly unforgettable. Evidently, our cultural bonds shine brightly!" he said in an X post. In his address, the prime minister stressed that the Indian community members' contribution has benefited Trinidad and Tobago "culturally, economically and spiritually". Citing eminent Indian-origin figures in the country including Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar and President Christine Carla Kangaloo, he said the descendants of Girmitiyas are no longer defined by struggle, but by their "success, service, and values". Girmitiyas were indentured labourers from British India transported to work on plantations in Fiji, South Africa, Eastern Africa (namely Mauritius, Seychelles, Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda), Malaysia, Singapore, and the Caribbean as part of the Indian indenture system. He added that work is ongoing to create a comprehensive database of the Girmitiya community across the world. Modi said that between the past and the present, the friendship between the two nations has "grown even stronger". "Our bonds go well beyond geography and generations," Prime Minister Modi said. "The Indian diaspora is our pride. As I have often said, each one of you is a Rashtrodot -- an Ambassador of India's values, culture and heritage," he said. Modi said that India is the fastest-growing major economy in the world. "Soon we will be among the top three economies of the world." "As we grow, we are ensuring that it is of mutual benefit to the world. Today's India is a land of opportunities," he said, adding that "India has a lot to offer". Prime Minister Persad-Bissessar, who addressed the community before Modi, said that the Indian leader will be conferred on Friday with 'The Order of Trinidad and Tobago', the Caribbean nation's highest honour. Modi, who is here as part of his five-nation tour, will hold talks with the top leadership of Trinidad and Tobago to further strengthen bilateral relations. Earlier, he was received by his counterpart Persad-Bissessar at Piarco International Airport, where he was accorded a ceremonial welcome and a guard of honour. This is his first visit to the country as prime minister and the first Indian bilateral visit at the prime ministerial level to Trinidad and Tobago since 1999. Prime Minister Modi is also expected to address a Joint Session of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago. His visit will impart fresh impetus to the deep-rooted and historical ties between the two countries.

IMD Forecast: Mumbai To Receive 106% Above-Normal Rainfall In July 2025

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has projected that Mumbai will receive 106% above the Long Period Average (LPA) rainfall for July 2025, indicating a significantly wetter month than usual for the city. Yellow Alert has been issued for Mumbai, Thane, and Palghar districts, warning of heavy rainfall at isolated locations through Thursday. Additional yellow alerts are in effect for the upcoming weekend (July 6-7). Orange Alert has been declared for Raigad and Ratnagiri, forecasting heavy to very heavy rainfall between Thursday and Sunday. Mumbai witnessed intermittent moderate showers on Wednesday,

with IMD issuing nowcast warnings for intense rain spells during the day. Heavy rainfall is expected in isolated pockets on Thursday, followed by a brief reduction in intensity on Friday. July is Mumbai's wettest month, and IMD predicts this year's totals will exceed the seasonal average, with Santacruz and Colaba observatories already reporting substantial rainfall since May. The surge in rainfall is linked to a low-pressure system over Jharkhand and eastern Madhya Pradesh, which, along with a monsoon surge, is drawing moisture into the Konkan region. Additionally, another low-pressure area is expected to form

and track westward, likely enhancing rainfall in Mumbai and surrounding districts over the weekend. According to IMD's extended forecast, above-normal rainfall is expected across several parts of India through the month of July. The early arrival of the monsoon, which covered the entire country nine days ahead of schedule, has played a role in the robust rainfall activity seen in western India, particularly Mumbai. Residents are urged to monitor IMD updates regularly and to exercise caution during heavy rainfall, especially in regions currently under yellow and orange alerts.

HP Battles Devastating Rains: Over 37 Lives Lost, Widespread Destruction Reported As IMD Issues Orange

Himachal Pradesh is grappling with relentless rainfall that has already claimed more than 37 lives and caused extensive damage across the hill state. Rs 400 Crore Loss The state has already suffered an estimated loss of Rs 400 due to widespread destruction, according to the Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority, Hindustan Times reported. Himachal Pradesh Battles Devastating Rains Over 37 Lives Lost Widespread Destruction Reported As IMD Issues Orange Alert The hill state has also witnessed 37 deaths due to rain-related incidents, while an additional 26 deaths have been reported due to road accidents during this period. Mandi district has emerged as the worst-affected region, especially the Thunag subdivision, where roads have been rendered impassable and essential services, including electricity and water supply have been severely hit. Speaking to media, DC Rana, Special Secretary of the State Disaster Management Authority and Revenue Department, stated, "We have recorded over 2400 crore in losses so far, as entered in our system. But the actual damage is likely to be much higher. Our primary focus at the moment is on search,

rescue, and restoration. Notably, 40 people are reported missing in Mandi as relief efforts are underway with the Indian Air Force air-dropping food packets in inaccessible areas. A village in Mandi has been devastated," Rana stated, adding that "Senior officials are stationed in the area, with engineers from the PWD, Electricity Board, and Jal Shakti Department overseeing restoration efforts." DC Rana added, "These events are a consequence of global warming and climate change. Himachal is not untouched by these impacts." The Meteorological Department has issued a heavy rain warning for several districts including Una, Hamirpur, Bilaspur, Chamba, Kangra, and Mandi on July 6 and 7. Since the arrival of the monsoon, rainfall has been significantly above normal levels - 55% higher than average, with cloudbursts and heavy downpours reported across the region. Mandi district has witnessed an unprecedented 456% excess rain-



fall. Normally, Mandi records 58.3 mm of rain between June 26 and July 3, but this year the area received 324.4 mm during this period, with nearly 75% of the rain falling between midnight Monday and Tuesday morning. Shimla has similarly seen 399% more rainfall than usual. The district, which typically receives 34.6 mm of rain during this period, has recorded 172.8 mm this time. Solan district has also been hit hard, receiving 280% more rainfall than the average. With the weather showing no signs of immediate improvement, the focus remains on relief, restoration, and safeguarding lives as Himachal Pradesh battles one of its worst monsoon disasters in recent years.

What Is The Big Beautiful Bill In USA?

One of the most ambitious attempts from the President of United States, Donald Trump is coming in the form of the Big Beautiful Bill. While this bill is preparing for implementation, very soon, here is a look into the kind of prospect that are associated with the same. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBA) is a sweeping legislative package with major changes in tax policy, government spending, and social programs. The bill permanently extends many provisions of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. It increases the standard deduction by \$750, raising it to \$15,750 for single filers. The child tax credit is bumped up to \$2,200. It also raises the state and local tax (SALT) deduction cap to \$40,000 through 2029. Individuals earning



under \$100,000 annually (or couples under \$200,000) can now deduct up to \$10,000 in car loan interest when purchasing U.S.-made vehicles. New caps are placed on deductions for tip wages (\$25,000) and overtime pay (\$12,500) for three years. On the spending side, OBBA allocates over

\$150 billion for border security, including \$46.5 billion for a U.S.-Mexico border wall and \$30 billion for ICE. Defense spending sees a \$153 billion boost, with \$25 billion set aside for a space-based "Golden Dome" missile defense system and \$29 billion for shipbuilding. The bill also provides \$50 billion to support rural hospitals via Medicaid. It raises the debt ceiling by \$5 trillion and imposes a lifetime federal student loan borrowing limit of \$257,500, with stricter caps for graduate and professional degrees. Other provisions include restrictions on Planned Parenthood funding, a work requirement for welfare recipients, and the launch of "Trump" savings accounts for children born between 2024 and 2028.

