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Institute Of Civil Services

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

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DELHI AIRPORT ROOF COLLAPSE,WATER SHORTAGE IN NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, WATER LOGGINGFAILURE OF URBAN PLANNING

Failure of Urban Planning



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Roof collapse at Delhi airport claims one life

Canopy over Terminal 1's forecourt falls on cars following heavy rain in Capital; six persons injured in incident; several flights cancelled; police file case of criminal negligence; deceased was cab driver

Jagriti Chandra
Samridhi Tewari
NEW DELHI

One person was killed and six were injured when the canopy over the forecourt at Terminal 1 of the Indira Gandhi International Airport collapsed on cars following heavy rain in New Delhi on Friday. At least four cars were damaged. Flights arriving and departing from the terminal were cancelled and the police registered a case of criminal negligence.

The deceased was a cab driver, the police said. The airport is operated by a GMR Group-led consortium.

As per the India Meteorological Department (IMD), parts of Delhi near the airport recorded a mas-



Crash impact: Vehicles crushed after a portion of the roof at the Delhi airport's Terminal 1 collapsed amid heavy rain on Friday. PTI

sive 228.1 mm of rainfall in the previous 24 hours, making it one of the wettest days in June for Delhi.

Team to examine cause
The Ministry of Civil Aviation has assigned a team from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi to examine the cause of the col-

lapse, and has also asked all airports to conduct a thorough inspection of the structural strength of their buildings within two to five days.

As a result of the incident, IndiGo cancelled 115 flights and SpiceJet cancelled eight flights. The airlines announced free re-

funds for affected passengers.

IndiGo will move its T1 flights to T2 and T3, while SpiceJet will move them to Terminal 2 until the team from IIT-Delhi examines the cause of the collapse and T1 is reopened.

"Since it was raining, it was difficult to understand what had happened. People, mostly cab drivers, started running around while the cabs were on the road. I too was running when a piece of the roof fell on my head. When I checked, I saw blood and panicked," said Santosh Kumar Yadav, a private cab driver, who sustained head injuries in the incident.

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OPPOSITION SLAMS GOVT.
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Four killed, several injured as monsoon brings record rainfall to national capital

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Four people died and several were injured as the southwest monsoon arrived in the national capital, bringing with it 228 mm of rainfall in a span of 24 hours, mostly concentrated between 3 a.m. and 8.30 a.m. on Friday. This is the highest rainfall recorded in a 24-hour period in Delhi in June since 1936.

The deluge left several arterial roads waterlogged, causing traffic jams and affecting several low-lying areas. It led to the closure of several underpasses, including the recently constructed Pragati Maidan tunnel, the road under Minto Bridge, the ITO railway crossing, and the Moolchand underpass.



Trudging through: Vehicles find it tough to navigate a waterlogged road after a heavy spell of rain in New Delhi on Friday. R.V. MOORTHY

Several colony roads were also left inundated, with water filling the basements and flowing into the ground floor.

Bereft of power
As a precautionary measure, large parts of the Capital were left without power to prevent incidents of

electrocution.

Two children – aged 8 and 10, both residents of New Usmanpur in north-east Delhi – drowned in a rainwater pool in the Khadar area, the police said. They went swimming, but they drowned as the water was deep, they added.

According to DCP

(Southwest) Rohit Meena, three labourers in Vasant Vihar were trapped in muddy waters and are yet to be rescued. "The men are feared dead but it cannot be confirmed," he said.

Another person in north-west Delhi died after being electrocuted.

Emergency meeting

"Water started draining immediately after the rain stopped. We held an emergency meeting to take stock of the situation. A 24x7 control room has been set up at the PWD headquarters to monitor the situation and deploy pumps wherever required," Delhi Water Minister Atishi said.

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Cane craft



Keen interest: Bamboo product processing, value addition, and n



Tirade at AAP flooded city

pushes for desilting of drains on emergency basis



traffic on Friday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

and deploy static pumps to address waterlogging reports. According to the L-G office, Mr. Saxena also took note of the lack of preparedness and an emergency response system in the national capital.

He asked officials to carry out desilting of drains on an emergency basis over the next week.

Continuing its tirade, the BJP said that the downpour has exposed the failures of the AAP-run government as well as the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).

'Wasn't prepared'

"The way Delhi got flooded today proves that just like the government did not make a summer action plan to provide drinking water, it also did not make any plans for cleaning of drains ahead of the monsoon season," Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said.

Delhi Congress chief Devender Yadav said, "From roads, underbridges, airport, railway station, posh localities to unauthorised colonies, nothing was spared as the AAP-led MCD failed to clean the drains. In summer, there is water shortage due to mismanagement, and now there is waterlogging as desilting of drains was not carried out in time," Mr. Yadav said.

Water supply hit: same story is repeated every year, say residents

Kshitij Roy
NEW DELHI

Water supply in certain parts of the Capital will be temporarily disrupted as the Chandrawal Water Treatment Plant has been damaged by heavy rainfall, Delhi Jal Board officials said on Friday.

"Due to the backflow of rainwater on Friday morning, the water pump house developed a major fault. As a result, water supply on Friday was affected, and will remain so on Saturday," the DJB said in a statement.

Several Residents' Welfare Associations (RWAs) told *The Hindu* that the heavy downpour leading to severe waterlogging and overflowing of drains caused major inconvenience to residents.

"The water supply disruption has hit the residents in my area severely," Nitin Goel, president of the Civil Lines RWA, said, adding that several streets in the area were submerged.



Water entered the Delhi Police's Narcotics office on Friday. ANI

Sharaf Sabri, president of the Jangpura Extension RWA, blamed the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) for the civic woes. "The MCD failed to desilt the drains on time. We also endured a 12-hour power outage. Sadly, this has become a recurring ordeal," he said.

"Despite being major taxpayers, we are left to deal with the consequences of the monsoon ourselves," added Ajit Swami, president of the All Dwarka Residents' Federation.

Delhi awaits new drainage master plan

Satvika Mahajan
NEW DELHI

Last year, when Delhi faced heavy waterlogging after receiving 153 mm of rainfall on July 8-9, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had said the city's drainage system was not designed to handle the "unprecedented level" of rain.

A year later, the government seems to have been caught off guard again when Delhi received 228 mm of rainfall – the most since 1936 – in a span of 24 hours over Thursday and Friday.

The city's drainage master plan was drawn up in 1976 when its population was around 60 lakh. Since then, the population has quadrupled, but the Delhi government has yet to finalise a new master plan.

In fact, a 'Drainage Master Plan for NCT of Delhi' was commissioned in 2012 and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi submitted a final report of the plan in July 2018. In August



In deep waters: A woman wades through a waterlogged road at Jangpura on Friday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

2021, a technical expert committee told the Delhi government not to accept the plan, citing various issues. Later in 2021, the Delhi government made the Public Works Department (PWD) the nodal agency to make the master plan by dividing the city into three different basins and using the IIT Delhi master plan as the base. But this also faced multiple delays.

A Delhi government offi-

cial told *The Hindu* on Friday that it had issued tenders for the three basins to private companies. The companies were given six months to submit the proposals, but haven't yet done so.

Updating the current system is difficult due to growing concretisation and the lack of green spaces, a former PWD Engineer-in-Chief said. "Also, the drainage system has

complex jurisdictions, with 11 different agencies, including the PWD, the Irrigation and Flood Control Department, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the New Delhi Municipal Council, etc., managing it," he said.

Another problem the city faces is that stormwater drains, which are meant to sustain the Capital in emergency situations like heavy rain, have been connected to the drainage system, Delhi government officials said. This allows everyday sewage to flow into the system and clog the drains.

Depinder Singh Kapur, Director of Water Programme at the Centre for Science and Environment, said the government must find stormwater hotspots, build infrastructure to conserve rainwater, and then divert the water to lakes, open forests and parks to recharge groundwater. The drainage system should then drain out excess water that cannot be conserved, he added.



Corruption and negligence behind collapse of shoddy infrastructure, says Kharge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The roof collapse at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport in Delhi on Friday prompted Opposition leaders to hit out at the government for the poor quality of infrastructure, for which they also blamed “corruption” as well as “ribbon-cutting ceremonies” before elections.

“Corruption and criminal negligence are responsible for the collapse of shoddy infrastructure falling like a deck of cards, in the past 10 years of Modi govt.,” Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge wrote on X.

He cited various incidents, including the roof collapse at the Jabalpur airport this week, water leakage at the Ram Mandir and potholes on the roads leading up to it following rains, cracks on the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link road, collapse of 13 new bridges



Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu at the IGI airport in Delhi on Friday.

in Bihar in 2023 and 2024, submergence of the newly built tunnel near Pragati Maidan in the national capital, and the Morbi bridge collapse in Gujarat in 2022.

‘Corrupt and inept’

The canopy of the forecourt that collapsed is outside the Terminal 1 building at the IGI. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Terminal 1 in March after it underwent renovation work from 2019 to bring both arrivals and departures under one roof.

Referring to this inauguration, Mr. Kharge said the government was indulging in “ribbon-cutting ceremonies before elections” and called it “corrupt and inept”.

Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu as well as the GMR-owned airport explained that the canopy itself was constructed in 2008-2009.

Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi said “the common man is helpless because the government is working for big industrialists and contractors”, resulting in flaws across road, rail and airport infrastructure.

Communist Party of India leader D. Raja said on X, “Infrastructure development has to be people-centric and sustainable but Modi made it photo-centric. BJP and PM Modi’s obsession with inauguration and claiming credit is creating hardships for the people. Poor quality infrastructure has also exposed rampant corruption.”

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE OF SOMANATHAPUR

Somanathapur to be the focus of Mysuru tourism circuit



Smart move: The Tourism Department in Karnataka is planning to promote the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Somanathapur as part of Mysuru tourism circuit before Dasara this year. M.A. SRIRAM

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The Tourism Department in Karnataka has plans to promote the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Somanathapur as part of Mysuru tourism circuit in a big way before Dasara this year.

This will be through cross-promotion of the 13th-century heritage site at popular places of tourist interest like the Mysuru Palace, zoo or the Chamundi Hills so that visitors can get an idea of the temple and plan a visit to Keshava temple at Somanathapur.

This was stated by M.K. Savitha, Joint Director, Department of Tourism, here on Friday.

Speaking to mediapersons after inaugurating a domestic travel mart organised by India Travel Market Exhibition, Ms. Sa-

vitha said though Mysuru is popular among tourists, a majority visit only the palace and the zoo and a few other places before heading towards Bandipur. Not many are even aware of the beautiful sculptures of the Keshava temple at Somanathapur, she said.

The Tourism Department will also discuss the feasibility of operating buses to ferry tourists to Somanathapur.

A discussion will be held with the stakeholders and the district administration while at the government level, the imperatives of providing bus facilities will be brought to the attention of the Tourism Ministry and the District in charge Minister, Ms. Savitha added.

Ms. Savitha said the Tourism Department will also explore the possibility of conducting cultural programmes at Somanathapur during Dasara.

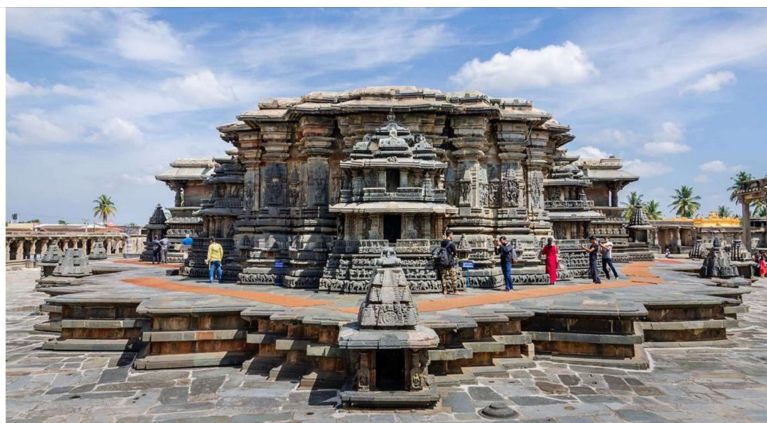
2023:

- ❖ The Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysala, the famed Hoysala temples of Belur, Halebid and Somanathapur in Karnataka have been added to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage list. This inclusion marks the 42nd UNESCO World Heritage Site in India

What are the Key Facts About the Hoysala Temples?

❖ **Chennakeshava Temple in Belur:**

- ☛ It was built by Hoysala King Vishnuvardhana to commemorate his victory over the Cholas in 1116 AD.
- ☛ Beluru (also known earlier as Velapuri, Velur and Belapur in olden times) is situated on the banks of the Yagachi River and was one of the capitals of the Hoysala Empire.
- ☛ It is a star-shaped temple, dedicated to Lord Vishnu, and is the main temple in the temple complex at Belur.





❖ **Hoysaleswara Temple in Halebid:**

- This twin-shrined temple is perhaps the largest Shiva temple built by the Hoysalas.
- The sculptures depict various aspects of Shiva, as well as scenes from the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, and the Bhagavata Purana.
- Halebid has a walled complex containing three Jaina basadi (temples) of the Hoysala period as well as a stepped well.



❖ **Keshava Temple of Somanathapur:**

- It is a beautiful Trikota Temple dedicated to Lord Krishna in three forms Janardhana, Keshava and Venugopala.
- The main Keshava idol is missing, and the Janardhana and Venugopala idols are damaged.



Question:

Q.1 With reference to Hoysala Temples architecture, consider the following statements:

1. Hoysala architecture combines Dravidian, Vesara, and Nagara styles of temple architecture.
2. A distinctive feature of Hoysala temples is that sculptors and masons left their names and sometimes additional details on the temple structures, providing historical insights into the craftsmen behind these remarkable creations.
3. Hoysala temples are typically made of brick, while other South Indian temples are typically made of stone.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

INDIA ACHIEVES 'OUTSTANDING OUTCOME' IN FATF EVALUATION

India achieves 'outstanding outcome' in FATF evaluation

Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

India has achieved an outstanding outcome in the mutual evaluation conducted during 2023-24 by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the government said on Friday.

The Mutual Evaluation Report of India, which was adopted at the FATF plenary held in Singapore from June 26 to 28, places India in the "regular follow-up" category, a distinction shared by only four other G-20 countries.

"This marks a significant milestone in the nation's efforts to combat money laundering (ML) and terrorist financing (TF)," read a Press Information Bureau release.

In a statement, the FATF said the plenary concluded that India had reached a high level of technical compliance with its requirements. The country's anti-money laundering (AML),



The report was adopted at the FATF plenary held in Singapore.

countering the financing of terrorism (CFT), and counter-proliferation financing (CPF) regime was achieving good results, including international cooperation, access to basic and beneficial ownership information, use of financial intelligence, and depriving criminals of their assets.

However, the FATF observed that improvements were needed to strengthen the supervision and implementation of preventive measures in some non-financial sectors. "India also

needs to address delays relating to concluding ML and TF prosecutions, and to ensure that CFT measures aimed at preventing the non-profit sector from being abused for TF are implemented in line with the risk-based approach, including by conducting outreach to NPOs [Non-Profit Organisations] on their TF risks," it said.

Among other things, the FATF has recognised the efforts made by India on the issue of mitigating the risks arising from ML/TF, including the laundering of proceeds from corruption, fraud, and organised crime, and the effective measures implemented by India to transition from a cash-based to a digital economy to reduce ML/TF risks. "This recognition is a testament to the rigorous measures implemented over the last 10 years to safeguard the financial system from ML/TF threats," the government said.

What is the FATF?

❖ About:

- FATF is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog set up in 1989 out of a G-7 meeting of developed nations in Paris.

❖ Objective:

- Initially, its objective was to examine and develop measures to combat money laundering.
- After the 9/11 attacks on the US, the FATF in 2001 expanded its mandate to incorporate efforts to combat terrorist financing.
- In April 2012, it added efforts to counter the financing of proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

- ❖ The FATF Secretariat is located at the OECD headquarters in Paris

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Who are the Members and Observers of FATF?

❖ **Members:**

- ☛ As of today, it is a 39-member body representing most major financial centres in all parts of the globe.
- ☛ Out of 39 members, there are two regional organisations: the European Commission, and the Gulf Cooperation Council,

❖ **Countries that are the members of FATF Include:**

- ☛ Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong (China), Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, the UK and the US.

❖ **India and FATF:** India joined with 'observer' status in 2006 and became a full member of FATF in 2010.

- ☛ India is also a member of its regional partners, the Asia Pacific Group (APG) and the Eurasian Group (EAG).

❖ **Observers:**

- ☛ Indonesia is the only observer country of FATF.
- ☛ Some important organisations that have observer status with the FATF include:
 - Asian Development Bank (ADB)
 - International Monetary Fund (IMF)
 - International Organisation of Securities Commissions (IOSCO)
 - Interpol
 - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
 - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
 - United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (UNCTED)
 - World Bank
 - World Customs Organisation (WCO)

What are the Grey and Black Lists of the FATF?

❖ **About:** The FATF Plenary meets tri-annually - in February, June and October, to take stock of "Mutual Evaluation Reports" (MERs) of the countries it reviews.

- ☛ If a country appears to have major deficiencies in its AML/CFT regime, it is put on a list of "jurisdictions under increased monitoring" - "grey list" and if it fails to address FATF concerns, it is put on a "high-risk jurisdictions" list - "black list".

❖ AML/CFT refers to "Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism".

- ☛ To be pulled out of the grey list, a country has to fulfill the tasks recommended by the FATF, for instance, confiscating properties of individuals associated with terrorist groups.

❖ If the FATF is satisfied with the progress, it removes the country from the list.

❖ **Grey List:** The Grey List includes countries that are considered safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering.

- ☛ It serves as a warning that the country may enter the blacklist.

❖ **Black List:** The Black List includes Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs) that support terror funding and money laundering activities.



- ☛ As of now, Iran, North Korea and Myanmar are the three black listed countries.
- ☛ Myanmar has been recently added to the list due to actions by the military leadership after the 2021 coup.

Question:

Q.2 Consider the statements about Financial Action Task Force:

1. The FATF Secretariat is housed at the headquarters of the OECD in Paris.
2. India is a member of this task force.
3. The mandate of the organisation includes stopping terrorist financing and money laundering.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) All of the above



Fiscal deficit at 3% of target by May end

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In the first two months of FY25, the Centre's fiscal deficit was ₹50,000 crore, or just 3% of the full-year figure penned into the Interim Budget, with receipts at 18.6% of the target aided by the ₹2.1 lakh crore dividend transfer from the central bank in May.

In contrast, expenditure was just 13.1% of the projection, as capital expenditure slowed to 12.9% of the annual target compared with 16.8% by end May 2023. Of the ₹6.23 lakh crore expenditure by May 2024, ₹1.43 lakh crore was on the capital account, Fi-

Expenditure was just 13.1% of projection, as capital expenditure, slowed to 12.9% of the annual target

nance Ministry said.

Economists reckoned these numbers create space for the Centre to pursue greater fiscal consolidation this year than the 5.1% of GDP target set in the Interim Budget. "The revenue upside seen from non-tax revenue... suggests headroom to boost expenditure and target a faster fiscal consolidation," ICRA chief economist Aditi Nayar said.

What is Fiscal Deficit?

❖ About:

- Fiscal deficit refers to the shortfall in a government's revenue when compared to its expenditure.
 - When a government's expenditure exceeds its revenues, the government will have to borrow money or sell assets to fund the deficit.
 - Taxes are the most important source of revenue for any government. In 2024-25, the government's tax receipts are expected to be Rs 26.02 lakh crore while its total revenue is estimated to be Rs 30.8 lakh crore.
 - When a government runs a fiscal surplus, on the other hand, its revenues exceed expenditure.
- ❖ It is, however, quite rare for governments to run a surplus. Most governments today focus on keeping the fiscal deficit under control rather than on generating a fiscal surplus or on balancing the budget.

Key Formulas:

- ❖ $\text{Fiscal Deficit} = \text{Total Expenditure} - \text{Total Receipts (excluding borrowings)}$.
- ❖ **Revenue Deficit:** This deficit of a government or business can be determined by subtracting the total revenue receipts from the total income expenditure.
 - $\text{Revenue deficit} = \text{Total revenue receipts} - \text{Total revenue expenditure}$.



Question:

Q.3 Consider the following statements:

1. When balance of the government's total receipts and total expenditures turns out to be negative is called as primary deficit.
2. The deficit excluding the interest liabilities for a year is called as fiscal deficit.

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

Answer: D

Notes:

Explanation:

- ❖ When balance of the government's total receipts (i.e., revenue + capital receipts) and total expenditures (i.e., revenue + capital expenditures) turns out to be negative, it shows the situation of fiscal deficit, a concept being used since the fiscal 1997–98 in India.
- The fiscal deficit excluding the interest liabilities for a year is the primary deficit, a term India started using since the fiscal 1997–98.
- It shows the fiscal deficit for the year in which the economy had not to fulfill any interest payments on the different loans and liabilities which it is obliged to—shown both in quantitative and percentage of GDP forms.