

November - 11

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ Tamilnadu Deputy Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam, who is on an official visit to the United States, received an award in Chicago.
  - The American Multi Ethnic Coalition has awarded him “Rising Star of the Year – Asia”.
- ❖ Justice AP Sahi was sworn-in as the new Chief Justice of Madras high court. The Governor of Tamilnadu Banwarilal Purohit administered the oath of office to the chief justice at Raj Bhavan.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Ayodhya Ram Janmabhoomi - Babri Masjid land dispute case**

- ❖ The final judgement in the Ayodhya dispute was declared by the Supreme Court of India on 9 November 2019.
- ❖ The verdict was given by the Supreme Court Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi.
- ❖ It includes SA Bobde, Ashok Bhushan, DY Chandrachud and S Abdul Nazeer.
- ❖ It was a unanimous judgement.
- ❖ The Supreme Court was hearing the fourteen appeals challenging the 2010 Allahabad High Court verdict.
- ❖ The Allahabad High Court had ordered equal division of the 2.77-acre disputed land in Ayodhya among the Sunni Waqf Board, the Nirmohi Akhara and the Ram Lalla.
- ❖ The Supreme court had on March 8 constituted a three-member committee headed by retired apex court judge FMI Kalifulla and also comprising Art of Living founder Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and senior Madras High Court advocate Sriram Panchu to mediate a settlement to the Ayodhya land dispute.

### **Verdict**

- ❖ SC gave the disputed land to Ram Lalla for Ram Janmbhoomi Nyas.
- ❖ The SC had recognized Lord Ram -- the deity Ram Lalla as a legitimate legal personality.
- ❖ However, the ‘janmabhoomi’ cannot be a juristic entity.
- ❖ The Court ordered the Government of India to create a trust to build a temple and a Board of Trustees within three months.

- ❖ The disputed land will be owned by the Government of India and subsequently transferred to the Trust after its formation.
- ❖ It also ordered to the government to give alternate 5-acre land to Sunni Waqf Board to build the mosque.
- ❖ The Court ruled that the 2010 Allahabad High Court's division of the disputed land was incorrect.
- ❖ The Court ruled that the Demolition of the Babri Masjid in 1992 and the 1949 desecration of the Babri Masjid was in violation of law.
- ❖ The Court observed that archaeological evidence from the Archaeological Survey of India shows that the Babri Masjid was constructed on a non-Islamic structure.
- ❖ The Court said that Muslims parties, including the UP Sunni Waqf Board, failed to establish exclusive possession of disputed land.
- ❖ It said that the Hindu parties furnished better evidence to prove that Hindus had worshipped continuously inside the mosque believing it to be the birthplace of the Hindu deity Ram.
- ❖ The Court cited that iron railings setup in 1856-57 separated the inner courtyard of the mosque from the outer courtyard, and that Hindus were in exclusive possession of the outer courtyard.
- ❖ It said that even before this, Hindus had access to the inner courtyard of the mosque.
- ❖ The court ruled that Nirmohi Akhara should be given appropriate representation in the Board of Trustees that will be created by the Government of India.
- ❖ The Court rejected the claim made by Shia Waqf Board against the Sunni Waqf Board for the ownership of the Babri Masjid.
- ❖ K. Parasaran was instrumental in getting the judgement in favour of Ram Lalla Virajman.
- ❖ He was Advocate-General of Tamil Nadu during President's rule in 1976 and then, Attorney General of India under Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi between 1983 and 1989.

# AYODHYA CASE

## A TIMELINE

# 1528-2019

**1528**

Babri Masjid built by Mir Baqi, commander of Mughal emperor Babur.

**1885**

Mahant Raghbir Das seeks nod to build canopy outside Babri Masjid. Faizabad court junks plea.

**1949**

Ram Lalla idols put under central dome outside disputed structure.

**1950**

Gopal Simla Visharad moves Faizabad district court for rights to worship Ram Lalla idols.

**1959**

Nirmohi Akhara files suit for possession of site.

**1961**

UP Sunni Central Waqf Board files suit for possession of the site.

**Feb 1, 1986**

Local court orders govt to open site for Hindu worshippers.

**1989**

Bhagwan Sri Ramlalla Virjman at Sri Ram Janam Boomi Ayodhya, files a title suit represented by "next friend" Deoki Nandan Agarwala, a former judge of Allahabad HC.

**Sept 25, 1990**

LK Advani starts nationwide Rath Yatra from Somnath in Gujarat.

**Dec 6, 1992**

Babri Masjid demolished by karsevaks.

**Oct 24, 1994**

SC says in historic Ismail Faruqui case that mosque not integral to Islam.

**April, 2002**

Allahabad HC begins hearing on ownership of disputed site.

**Sep 30, 2010**

HC, in a 2:1 majority, rule three-way division of disputed area between Sunni Waqf Board, Nirmohi Akhara and Ram Lalla.

**May 9, 2011**

SC stays HC verdict on Ayodhya land dispute.

**March 21, 2017**

CJI JS Khehar suggests out-of-court settlement among rival parties.

**Dec 1, 2017**

Thirty-two civil rights activists file plea challenging 2010 verdict of Allahabad HC.

**Jan 8, 2019**

SC sets up five-judge Constitution Bench to hear case headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and comprising Justices S A Bobde, N V Ramana, U U Lalit and D Y Chandrachud.

**Jan 25, 2019**

SC reconstitutes 5-member Constitution Bench to hear the case as Justice U U Lalit recuses. The new bench has CJI Gogoi, Justices Bobde, Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S A Nazeer.

**Feb 26, 2019**

SC favours mediation.

**May 9**

The three-member mediation committee submits interim report to SC.

**Aug 1**

Report of mediation submitted in sealed cover to SC.

**Aug 6**

SC commences day-to-day hearing on the land dispute.

**Oct 16**

SC concludes hearing; reserves order

**Nov 9, 2019**

In a unanimous judgment, the Supreme Court allots the disputed Ayodhya land to a new temple trust. The court said an alternate piece of land should be given to Muslims to 'make good their loss of a mosque'.



## Government e-marketplace open to Private

- ❖ The Union government plans to open up the national online procurement portal Government e-Marketplace (GeM) to government contractors and private entities but only for bulk buying.
- ❖ Currently, GeM allows only government departments and public sector units to buy from the portal.

### About

- ❖ GeM, the National Public Procurement Portal is a Section 8 Company registered under the Companies Act, 2013.
- ❖ The Commerce and Industry Ministry launched the GeM on August 9, 2016.
- ❖ It aims for providing and streamlining procurement of goods & services required by Central & State Government organizations.

## GeM: THE STORY SO FAR

**₹36,952 crore**

Total procurement through GeM

**2,636,046**

Total orders  
made on GeM

**58,101**

Including MSME  
sellers

**39,968**

Total number of  
registered buyers

**3,413**

Start-up  
sellers

**295,046**

Total number of  
registered sellers

**1,434,155**

Products and  
services on offer

Source: Government e-Marketplace

## INTERNATIONAL

### New Iranian Oil Field

- ❖ Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has announced that a vast oil field in the Khuzestan province, containing an estimated 53 billion barrels of crude oil has been newly discovered by them.

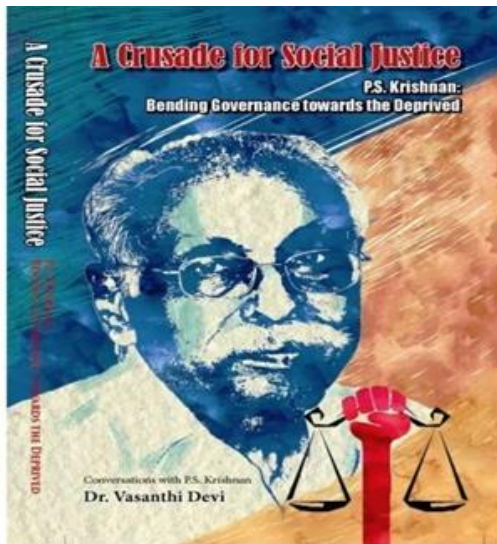


- ❖ It would be Iran's second largest oil field, behind the one in Ahvaz containing an estimated 65 billion barrels.
- ❖ Upon exploration, Iran may become third oil rich country.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **PS Krishnan IAS Passes Away**

- ❖ Former Secretary to Government of India P.S. Krishnan known for his work in empowering Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Socially and Educationally Backward Classes has passed away.
- ❖ A 1956 batch Andhra Pradesh cadre IAS Officer, he was the architect of the SC and ST Atrocities (Prevention) Act, 1989.
- ❖ In 1979, he was associated with the appointment of the B P Mandal Commission that recommended 27 percent job reservation for OBCs in government sector.
- ❖ He was the Secretary of the Ministry of Welfare in 1990 when the VP Singh-government implemented the Mandal Commission Report.
- ❖ He was also the first member - Secretary of National Commission for Backward Classes.
- ❖ Krishnan's report on Backward Class status for Muslims formed the basis for allowing the 4% reservation to them in jobs and education in Andhra Pradesh.



### **TN Seshan Passed Away**

- ❖ 1955 Tamilnadu cadre IAS Officer and Former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Tirunellai Narayanaiyer Seshan has passed away.

- ❖ He earlier served as the 18th Cabinet Secretary of India in 1989.
- ❖ He was made CEC in 1990 during the Prime Ministership of Chandrasekhar.
- ❖ It was during Mr. Seshan's period that the Election Commission was made a multi-member body in October 1993.
- ❖ He was known as a no-nonsense CEC and one who had enforced discipline on political parties and contestants, especially during the Model code of conduct.
- ❖ Some of reforms he implemented include enforcement of election code of conduct, Voter IDs for all eligible voters, limit on election candidates' expenditure, appointing election officials from states other than the one facing polls.
- ❖ He curbed several malpractices like bribing or intimidating voters, distribution of liquor during elections, use of government funds and machinery for campaigning, appealing to voters' caste or communal feelings, use of places of worship for campaigns, use of loudspeakers and high-volume music without prior written permission.
- ❖ He was awarded the Ramon Magsaysay award in 1996.
- ❖ Mr. Seshan was the only one to hold the post of CEC for six years from 1990 to 1996 in the last 50 years.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **National Legal Services Day – November 9**

- ❖ It commemorates the enactment of the Indian Legal Services Authorities Act 1987.
- ❖ The act was taken into effect on 9 November 1995.
- ❖ India's National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) was constituted under its provisions on 5 December 1995.
- ❖ It is celebrated to make people aware of the various provisions under the Legal Services Authorities Act and the right of the litigants.
- ❖ NALSA undertook activities including free legal aid and advice to the needy, disposal of cases through mediation and amicable settlement.



### **International Week of Science and Peace - November 9 to 14**

- ❖ The observance of 'International week of peace and development' was declared by UN in 1988.
- ❖ The first such week was observed during 1986 as a part of the observance of the International Year of Peace.
- ❖ The week is observed to strengthen public awareness on the role of science for peaceful and sustainable societies.
- ❖ The theme of observance for 2019 is "Open science, leaving no one behind".
- ❖ Also, the World Science Day for Peace and Development is observed every year on November 10 in sync with the week.

