



Daily Current Affairs



To The Point by Dhananjay Gautam

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1 India-European Commission Partnership: A Strategic Alliance

Context: A high-level delegation led by **European Commission (EC) President Ursula von der Leyen** recently visited India to explore a **Security and Defence Partnership**. This visit marks a significant step in strengthening the India-EU relationship across multiple domains, including **trade, security, climate action, and digital transformation**.



The European Commission (EC):

Historical Evolution:

- **1958:** Established as the **European Economic Community (EEC)** following the **Treaty of Rome**.
- **1993:** Strengthened under the **Maastricht Treaty**.
- **2009:** Further consolidated through the **Lisbon Treaty**, making it a key pillar of EU governance.

Structure and Governance:

- **Executive Body of the European Union (EU)**, headquartered in **Brussels, Belgium**.
- **Independent from national governments** of EU member states.
- **27 Commissioners**, one from each member state, serving a **five-year term**.

Key Components:

1. **President of the Commission:**
 - Nominated by the **European Council** and approved by the **European Parliament**.
 - Defines the **political agenda** and appoints **Vice-Presidents**.
2. **Commissioners (College of Commissioners):**
 - Each EU member nominates **one Commissioner**.
 - Handles specific **policy areas** such as **trade, environment, and competition**.
3. **Directorates-General (DGs):**
 - Operate like **ministries**, responsible for **policy-making and implementation**.
4. **High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy:**
 - Oversees **EU's diplomatic and security strategies**.
 - Serves as **Vice-President** of the Commission.

Core Functions of the EC:

- **Legislative Initiative**
- **Enforcement of EU Laws**
- **Policy Implementation & Budget Management**
- **International Representation**

India-European Commission (EC) Partnership:

Historical Milestones:

- **1962:** Diplomatic ties established with the **European Economic Community (EEC)**.



- **1994:** India-EU Cooperation Agreement signed.
- **2004:** Upgraded to a **Strategic Partnership**, deepening collaboration in **trade, security, and global governance**.
- **2020:** Introduction of '**India-EU Strategic Partnership: A Roadmap to 2025**', expanding cooperation in **digital innovation, climate action, and multilateralism**.

Economic Cooperation:

Trade Relations:

- The EU is India's **second-largest trading partner**, accounting for **11% of India's total trade**, surpassing **China (10.5%)** and almost equal to the **USA (10.8%)**.
- **Bilateral trade (2023):** Approximately **€120 billion**.
- The EU is the **second-largest destination for Indian exports (17.5%)**, after the **USA (17.6%)**, while **China ranks fourth (3.7%)**.

Investment and Business Collaborations:

- The EU is **one of the largest foreign investors** in India, with cumulative **FDI inflows exceeding \$100 billion**.
- Investment sectors include **automobiles, renewable energy, and IT**.

Supply Chain Resilience:

- Both partners aim to **diversify supply chains**, focusing on **semiconductors, pharmaceuticals, and critical minerals**.

India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA):

- The **India-EU Broad-Based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA)** has been under negotiation since **2007**.
- Goals: **Enhancing market access, reducing tariffs, and streamlining trade regulations**.

Strategic and Security Cooperation:

- **Maritime Security:** Collaboration between EU's **Global Gateway Strategy** and India's **Indo-Pacific Strategy** to ensure **free and open sea lanes** in the **Indian Ocean and Indo-Pacific**.
- **Counter-Terrorism:** **India-EU Counter-Terrorism Dialogue** facilitates **intelligence sharing and counter-radicalization efforts**.
- **Defence Collaboration:** Joint initiatives include **military exercises, cybersecurity cooperation, and technology-sharing agreements**.

Climate Action & Sustainable Development:

- **India-EU Clean Energy and Climate Partnership:** Focuses on **renewable energy, energy efficiency, and green financing**.
- **International Solar Alliance (ISA):** The EU actively supports India's ISA to promote **global solar energy deployment**.
- **EU-India Green Hydrogen Partnership:** Aims to accelerate the **use of green hydrogen to reduce carbon emissions** in industrial sectors.

Technology & Digital Transformation:



- **India-EU Digital Partnership:** Strengthening collaboration in **5G, artificial intelligence (AI), and cybersecurity**.
- **Data Protection & Privacy:** Ongoing discussions to align **data protection laws** for a **secure digital ecosystem**.

Research & Innovation:

- India's participation in **Horizon Europe**, the EU's leading **research and innovation program**.
- Joint efforts in **space, biotechnology, and health sciences**.

Geopolitical & Multilateral Engagement:

- **G20:** India hosted the **G20 Summit in 2023**, with strong **EU participation**.
- **United Nations:** India supports the **EU's role in global governance**.
- **World Trade Organization (WTO):** Both advocate for **fair trade practices**.

Challenges in the India-EU Partnership:

- **Trade Barriers:** **Tariff and non-tariff barriers**, especially in **agriculture, automotive, and pharmaceuticals**, hinder **FTA progress**.
- **Human Rights & Labor Standards:** The **EU has raised concerns** regarding **labor rights, environmental standards, and digital governance** in India.
- **Geopolitical Divergences:** India's **neutral stance on the Russia-Ukraine war** has led to **diplomatic tensions** with some EU nations.
- **Regulatory Hurdles:** Differences in **data privacy laws, intellectual property rights (IPR), and digital taxation** need further alignment.

Future Prospects:

1. **Greater Indian involvement** in EU-led **global initiatives**, such as the **Global Gateway** and **climate financing projects**.
2. **Potential conclusion** of the long-pending **India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA)**.
3. **Expanded defence cooperation**, including **joint defence production and technology sharing**.
4. **Strengthened collaboration** in **space technology and AI-driven innovation**.

Conclusion:

The **India-European Commission partnership** is evolving into a **strong, multifaceted alliance** with **economic, strategic, and technological collaborations** at its core. With **both sides committed** to deepening their relationship, this partnership is set to play a **transformative role** in shaping the **global economic and security landscape** in the coming decades.

2 Strengthening India's Maritime Sector: Key Initiatives and Future Prospects

Context: India's Ministry of Shipping, Ports, and Waterways has launched several major initiatives to **modernize maritime infrastructure, enhance global trade connectivity, and promote sustainability**. These efforts aim to position India as a **leading maritime power**, leveraging its **strategic location and growing trade potential**.



Major Initiatives to Boost the Maritime Sector:

1. **One Nation-One Port Process (ONOP):** Aiming to **standardize and streamline port operations** across India's major ports, ONOP focuses on **reducing inefficiencies, minimizing operational delays, and cutting costs** to enhance overall productivity.
2. **Sagar Ankalan – Logistics Port Performance Index (LPPI):** A performance assessment tool designed to **boost efficiency and global competitiveness** of Indian ports by evaluating **key metrics such as cargo handling, turnaround time, and logistics efficiency**.
3. **Bharat Global Ports Consortium:** This initiative aims to **expand India's maritime presence globally, strengthening trade resilience and fostering international partnerships**.
4. **MAITRI (Master Application for International Trade and Regulatory Interface) App:** A digital trade facilitation tool that simplifies **customs clearances, reduces bureaucratic delays, and enhances ease of doing business** for global traders.
5. **India Maritime Week (October 27-31, 2025):** A bi-annual **global maritime summit** that will bring together **100 countries and over 100,000 delegates** to showcase India's maritime heritage and advancements.

India's Maritime Sector: A Global Trading Powerhouse:

Strategic Importance:

India is positioned along some of the **world's busiest shipping routes**, making it a **crucial global trade hub**. With **95% of trade by volume and 70% by value** moving through its ports, India's maritime sector plays a **vital role in the national economy**.

Rapid Growth and Expansion:

- **Cargo Handling Capacity:** Between 2014-15 and 2023-24, major ports increased their **cargo-handling capacity by 87.01%**.
- **Rising Exports:** India's **merchandise exports surged to USD 451 billion in FY23**, up from **USD 417 billion in FY22**.
- **Global Maritime Ranking:** India ranks as the **16th-largest maritime nation**, with **key international trade routes passing through its waters**.

Future Expansion Plans:

- **Investment of USD 82 billion in port infrastructure by 2035** to modernize and expand facilities.
- **Establishment of a new national shipping company**, aiming to **expand India's merchant fleet by at least 1,000 ships within a decade**.

Challenges Facing the Maritime Industry:

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1. **Infrastructure Limitations:** Many ports still **lack modern infrastructure**, limiting efficiency and capacity.
2. **Port Congestion:** **High traffic volumes** at major ports lead to **delays and reduced operational productivity**.
3. **Environmental Concerns:** **Pollution, emissions from ships, and unsustainable port operations** pose significant challenges to maritime sustainability.
4. **Logistics and Connectivity Issues:** **Poor integration between ports, railways, and roadways** leads to inefficiencies in cargo transportation.
5. **Global Competition:** India faces **rising competition from global maritime hubs** and must continuously invest in **modernization and technological advancements**.

Government-Led Maritime Initiatives:

1. Sagarmala Programme:

- Focuses on **leveraging India's coastline and navigable waterways** to improve logistics and trade.
- Supports **port modernization, coastal infrastructure, and better connectivity**.
- Provides **financial aid for key projects**, including coastal berths, fish harbors, and cruise terminals.

2. Maritime India Vision 2030 (MIV 2030):

- Aims to make India **one of the top 10 shipbuilding nations by 2030**.
- Encompasses **150+ strategic initiatives** across ten key maritime sectors.

3. Inland Waterways Development:

- **26 new national waterways** have been identified to provide an **alternative, eco-friendly transport system**, easing road and rail congestion.

4. Green Tug Transition Program (GTTP):

- Aims to replace **fuel-based harbor tugs** with **eco-friendly, sustainable fuel-powered alternatives**.
- Full transition to **green tugs expected by 2040** across all major ports.

5. Sagarmathan Dialogue:

- A **global maritime strategic dialogue** aimed at positioning **India as a center for international maritime discussions**.

6. Maritime Development Fund:

- **25,000 crore fund** to support **long-term financing for modernizing ports and shipping infrastructure**.
- Encourages **private sector investment** in the maritime sector.

7. Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Policy (SBFAP 2.0):

- **Modernized financial support program** to help **Indian shipyards compete globally**.

Conclusion: India's maritime sector is on a **transformative journey**, driven by **strategic initiatives, strong policy frameworks, and global collaborations**. The **first edition of the Sagarmathan Dialogue** has reinforced India's commitment to becoming a **maritime superpower**, focusing on **sustainability, connectivity, and innovation**.

3

Amir Khusrau: The Melodic Guardian of Sufi Harmony and Ganga-Jamuni Heritage

Context: At the **25th Jahan-e-Khusrau festival**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** described the event as a reflection of the **“fragrance of Hindustan’s soil.”**

This **three-day global festival** unites artists from around the world to **celebrate the life and works** of Amir Khusrau, fondly known as **Tuti-yi-Hind (Parrot of India)**.



A defining figure in **North India’s Ganga-Jamuni culture**, Khusrau revolutionized **Indian classical music and qawwali**, while also shaping **Hindavi**, a forerunner of **modern Hindi and Urdu**.

Khusrau: The ‘Indian Turk’:

- **Early Life and Family Background:** Amir Khusrau’s father was a **Turkic noble** who fled **Genghis Khan’s Mongol invasions** and settled in India during the **reign of Sultan Iltutmish (1211–36)**. He married an **Indian Muslim woman**, and in **1253**, their son **Abu'l Hasan Yamin ud-Din Khusrau** was born.
- **A Fusion of Cultures:** Khusrau embraced his **Turkic roots** while wholeheartedly adopting **Indian traditions**, embodying a **perfect cultural synthesis**. He often referred to himself as an **“Indian Turk,”** showcasing his dual heritage in his poetry.

Where Was He Born?

Although **Patiyali (Etah, Uttar Pradesh)** is widely considered his birthplace, **Khusrau never directly mentioned it** in his writings.

The Poet of the Delhi Sultans:

- **A Life Devoted to Poetry:** At just **20 years old**, Amir Khusrau became a **professional court poet**, a position he held until his death. Initially serving **nobles and princes**, he soon earned a **permanent place in the Delhi Sultanate’s royal court**.
- **The Power of Praise Poetry:** In medieval Islamic courts, poetry was more than just art—it was a tool for **establishing royal prestige and legitimacy**. Poets, reliant on **royal patronage**, often competed fiercely for favor.

Serving Five Delhi Sultans: Over five decades, Khusrau gained recognition under **five Delhi Sultans:**

- **Muizuddin Qaiqabad**
- **Jalaluddin Khalji**
- **Alauddin Khalji**
- **Qutbuddin Mubarak Shah**
- **Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq**

His command over **Persian (the court language)** and **Hindavi** made him an irreplaceable literary figure.

Honors and Recognition:

Sultan Jalaluddin Khalji honored him with the prestigious title of **‘Amir’**, a mark of immense respect.

The historian **Ziauddin Barani** documented in **Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi** that Khusrau held a **key position in Jalaluddin Khalji’s court**, even serving as the **keeper of the Qur’an**.

- **His Deep Bond with Nizamuddin Auliya:** Amir Khusrau was more than just a court poet—he was also the **dearest disciple** of Sufi saint **Nizamuddin Auliya**.



- **A Saint's Unwavering Affection:** Nizamuddin Auliya cherished Khusrau so deeply that he once declared:
"He is the keeper of my secrets, and I shall not enter Paradise without him."

A Life Balanced Between the Court and the Khanqah:

Despite being deeply engaged in **both royal courts and Sufi traditions**, Khusrau's loyalty was **never questioned**. As poet Saifullah Saifi described: "Neither the king nor the saint doubted him, as he honored both with equal devotion."

A Shared Departure in 1325:

When **Nizamuddin Auliya passed away in 1325**, Khusrau was devastated. His grief was immortalized in a haunting verse: "Beauty sleeps on the bed, her hair across her face. Come Khusrau, let's go home, night has set over this place."

Within months, Khusrau **followed his master in death**, choosing eternal rest beside his beloved mentor.

Enduring Legacy of Amir Khusrau:

A Poet for the Ages:

Even after **seven centuries**, Khusrau's words continue to enchant readers. He explored **royal eulogies, folk songs, riddles, and playful verses**, bridging **literary sophistication with everyday life**.

Champion of Cultural Harmony:

Khusrau was instrumental in **blending Persian, Turkic, and Indian influences**, shaping the unique **Ganga-Jamuni tehzeeb**—a harmonious fusion of **Hindu and Muslim traditions**.

His appreciation for Indian thought is evident in his words: "The Brahmans of India have a greater wealth of philosophical thought than what Rumi revealed."

Musical Contributions:

A true pioneer in **Indian classical music**, Khusrau's legacy continues through his famous compositions:

- **Chhaap Tilak**
- **Zehal-e-Maskeen**
- **Sakal Ban Phool Rahi Sarson**

His innovations also influenced:

- The creation of **new ragas**
- The evolution of **Khayal music**
- The invention of **sitar and tabla** (though historical evidence remains debated)

Conclusion: Amir Khusrau was not just a poet, musician, or courtier—he was a **cultural visionary** who helped shape the **soul of Indian heritage**. His works continue to resonate in **Sufi dargahs, Indian classical concerts, and even Bollywood**, proving that his **art and philosophy remain timeless**.

His life's journey—from the **opulence of royal courts** to the **spiritual depths of Sufi mysticism**—cements his status as an **eternal symbol of unity, devotion, and artistic brilliance**.

4

Colonial-Era Dramatic Performances Act: Its Legacy, Legal Scrutiny, and Repeal in India

Context: Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently raised concerns over the continued existence of **colonial-era laws**, citing one that permitted the **arrest of individuals for dancing in public places**.

He was referring to the **Dramatic Performances Act, 1876**, which empowered the **British government** to ban public performances they deemed **scandalous, defamatory, seditious, or obscene**.



Origins and Purpose of the Dramatic Performances Act, 1876:

The **British government** introduced this Act to **curb nationalist movements** in India, particularly in response to the **visit of the Prince of Wales (1875–76)**.

It was part of a broader crackdown, which also included:

- **The Vernacular Press Act (1878)** – To suppress **Indian-language newspapers** critical of British rule.
- **The Sedition Law (1870)** – To criminalize any form of **anti-government speech**.

Key Provisions of the Act:

- **Authority to Ban Performances:** The government had the power to **prohibit any play, drama, or pantomime** in public if deemed **seditious, scandalous, or obscene**.
- **Unrestricted Government Discretion:** The ban was based solely on the **government's opinion**, without the need for any **concrete evidence**.
- **Power of Search and Seizure:** Magistrates could **raid venues** suspected of hosting **prohibited performances**.
- **Punishment for Violators:** Those who defied the ban faced **up to three months in jail**, a **fine**, or both.

Status of the Act After Independence:

The **Dramatic Performances Act, 1876**, although no longer in use, remained on the books for decades.

Formal Repeal in 2018:

- The **Modi government** led an initiative to **remove outdated laws**, improving **ease of doing business**.
- Since **2014**, over **2,000 obsolete laws** have been repealed.
- The **Dramatic Performances Act, 1876**, was formally repealed through the **Repealing and Amending (Second) Act, 2017**.

Why It Was Already Invalid:

- The law had effectively **ceased to exist** after **1956**, as it **contradicted the Indian Constitution**.
- Despite this, a **formal repeal** was necessary to remove it from legal records.

State-Level Adaptations:

Even after independence, some **Indian states** enacted **similar laws**, such as:

- **Tamil Nadu Dramatic Performances Act, 1954**
- **Laws in Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, and Delhi**

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Many of these state-level acts were eventually **struck down** by courts or repealed by the respective governments.

Judicial Review and Court Rulings:

A Case That Challenged the Act (1953):

- The **Lucknow branch** of the **Indian People's Theatre Association (IPTA)** planned to stage a play based on **Munshi Premchand's short story *Idgah* (1938)**.
- Initially, they **secured permission**, but the **Lucknow magistrate later revoked it without explanation**.
- A **prohibitory order** was served **mid-performance**, but the **artists continued**, leading to legal action.

Allahabad High Court's Verdict (1956):

- Instead of focusing solely on the case, the court **examined the constitutionality** of the **Dramatic Performances Act, 1876**.
- The court ruled the **Act unconstitutional**, stating it **violated Article 19(1)(a)** of the **Indian Constitution**, which guarantees **freedom of speech and expression**.
- It **failed to meet the "reasonable restrictions"** test under **Article 19(2)**.
- The court also suggested that the **case may have been politically motivated**, reinforcing concerns over its **misuse**.

Other Key Judicial Rulings:

- **Madras High Court (2013)**: Struck down the **Tamil Nadu Dramatic Performances Act, 1954**.

Why Colonial-Era Laws Persist in India:

Continuity Under Article 372:

- According to **Article 372** of the **Indian Constitution**, laws from the **colonial era** would continue unless **specifically repealed or amended**.

No Presumption of Constitutionality:

- Colonial laws are **not automatically assumed to be constitutional**.
- When challenged in court, the **government must justify their validity**.
- In contrast, laws passed by **independent India's Parliament** are **presumed constitutional**, shifting the burden of proof to the **petitioner**.

Government Defenses of Colonial Laws:

Successive **Indian governments** have retained certain **colonial-era laws**, arguing that they serve **modern legal purposes**.

Conclusion:

The **Dramatic Performances Act, 1876**, was one of many **colonial laws designed to suppress dissent**. While the **Allahabad High Court struck it down in 1956**, it took until **2018** for a **formal repeal**.

This case highlights how **colonial-era laws persisted for decades**, often due to **constitutional continuity and government inaction**. However, recent efforts to **repeal outdated laws** mark a significant step toward a **modernized legal framework** that aligns with **democratic values**.

5 Vice President Dhankhar Criticizes Overuse of Special Leave Petitions Under Article 136

Context Vice President **Jagdeep Dhankhar** has raised concerns over the **extensive use of Article 136** of the **Indian Constitution**, emphasizing its impact on the **arbitration process**.

Speaking at a colloquium on "**International Arbitration: Indian Perspective**", organized by the **India International Arbitration Centre** in **New Delhi**, he pointed out how the original intent of Article 136 has **drastically expanded** beyond its intended scope.



Understanding Article 136 of the Constitution:

Discretionary Power of the Supreme Court:

- **Article 136** grants the **Supreme Court the discretionary authority** to allow appeals against rulings from **any court or tribunal in India**, except those related to the **Armed Forces**.
- This power is not a **litigant's right** but a **privilege granted by the Supreme Court**.

Plenary Jurisdiction:

- The Supreme Court, under Article 136, holds **plenary jurisdiction**, allowing it to hear **appeals against any judgment, decree, determination, sentence, or order** from **any court or tribunal**.
- This power exists **irrespective of other appeal provisions** in the **Constitution or statutory laws**.

Scope of Application:

- Article 136 is meant to be a **residual power**—only to be invoked in cases where there are **substantial legal questions** or **gross miscarriages of justice**.
- It serves as a **critical safeguard** to ensure justice but was originally intended to be **used sparingly**.

Concerns Raised by Vice President Dhankhar:

Article 136 Was Meant to Be a "Narrow-Slit" Provision:

- Dhankhar highlighted that Article 136 was **not intended for frequent use** but has **now become a widely-used legal tool**.
- The **original intention** was to keep it a "**narrow-slit**" intervention—only for **exceptional cases**.

Excessive Use of Special Leave Petitions (SLPs):

- **Special Leave Petitions (SLPs)** are now being used to **challenge decisions at every level**, including:
 - **Magistrate courts**
 - **Sessions courts**
 - **District courts**
 - **High courts**
- This **overuse burdens** the Supreme Court and **prolongs legal proceedings**.

**Adverse Impact on Arbitration:**

- The excessive reliance on **SLPs in arbitration cases** has made the arbitration process **more complex and time-consuming**.
- Instead of providing **efficient dispute resolution**, arbitration is now **bogged down by excessive litigation**.

The Need for Domain Experts in Arbitration:

Vice President Dhankhar also underscored the importance of **domain experts** in arbitration, rather than relying solely on **retired judges**.

Dominance of Retired Judges in Arbitration:

- Former Chief Justice of India **D.Y. Chandrachud** had previously pointed out that arbitration has become an “**old boys’ club**”, dominated by **retired judges**.
- Dhankhar clarified that while retired judges play a **valuable role**, certain **technical fields** require **subject-matter specialists**.

Inclusion of Experts in Specialized Fields:

- He stressed the need for **specialists from diverse sectors** to supplement arbitration panels, such as:
 - **Oceanography**
 - **Aviation**
 - **Infrastructure**
- Having **technical experts** alongside legal experts would ensure **better, faster, and more effective arbitration outcomes**.

Conclusion:

Vice President Dhankhar’s remarks highlight the **urgent need for legal reform** in the use of **Article 136**. Originally designed as a **rare judicial intervention**, it has now become a **common litigation tool**, impacting **judicial efficiency and arbitration processes**.

To ensure arbitration remains **swift and effective**, reforms must **curtail unnecessary appeals** while incorporating **domain experts** to enhance decision-making in **technical disputes**.



6

CBSE Restores 14 Regional Languages in Draft Policy After Public Outcry

Context: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has decided to **reinstate 14 regional languages**, including **Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, Punjabi, Odia, and Assamese**, after widespread protests against their exclusion from the **Class 10 board examination policy**.



The controversy erupted after CBSE's draft policy, released on **February 25**, included **only English and Hindi** as mandatory languages, omitting several **prominent regional languages**, particularly from **southern states**.

NEP 2020 and the Two-Exam System:

The uproar over the language exclusion is tied to the **National Education Policy (NEP 2020)**, which recommended a **revised examination structure** for **Class 10**.

Key Features of the Draft Policy:

- **Two board exams** for Class 10
- **English as Language-1**
- **Hindi as Language-2**
- A list of regional and foreign languages for students to choose from
- **Exclusion of 14 major regional languages**, including **Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, Odia, Assamese, and Punjabi**

The omission of these languages sparked **widespread opposition**, particularly in **southern states**, where it was viewed as an **attempt to impose Hindi** at the cost of regional languages.

Language Controversy: A Larger Debate:

The **exclusion of regional languages** is part of a **broader national debate** over language policies in education.

Key Concerns:

- The move was seen as an effort to **promote Hindi and Sanskrit** over **regional languages**, raising fears about **linguistic marginalization**.
- Many states, especially **Tamil Nadu**, have **strongly opposed the three-language formula**, viewing it as a form of **Hindi imposition**.
- Critics argue that such policies **undermine India's linguistic diversity**, making education **less inclusive**.

NEP 2020 and the Three-Language Formula:

The **Three-Language Formula** is designed to **promote multilingualism** and **national integration** by ensuring students learn at least **three languages** during their schooling years.

Key Aspects of NEP 2020's Language Policy:

- Encourages students to **learn three languages**, with at least **two being Indian languages**.
- The choice of languages is **left to states, regions, and students**, ensuring that **no language is imposed**.
- Offers **greater flexibility**, allowing different regions to **prioritize their linguistic needs**.

**Tamil Nadu's Strong Opposition:**

Tamil Nadu has a **long history of opposing Hindi imposition**, dating back to the **Anti-Hindi Agitations** of the **1930s and 1960s**.

Why Tamil Nadu Rejects the Three-Language Formula?

- The state follows a **two-language formula—Tamil and English**—and has resisted including **Hindi** in its curriculum.
- There are concerns that **forcing Hindi** into the system **threatens regional languages and cultures**.
- The controversy over the **CBSE draft policy** further fueled opposition, with political leaders and activists calling it **linguistic discrimination**.

Conclusion:

The **CBSE's decision to restore 14 regional languages** after **nationwide protests** highlights the **sensitivity of language policies in India**.

While the **NEP 2020 aims for linguistic flexibility**, concerns remain over **equitable representation of all Indian languages**. The issue underscores the **need for a balanced approach** that **respects regional identities** while **promoting multilingual education**.

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