

## The Statehood Demands Complete Analysis

### Context:

- At least **four people were killed** and more than 70 others were injured on **September, 24** as **protests held by demonstrators** demanding statehood and the **inclusion of Ladakh under the Sixth Schedule turned violent**.
- India is witnessing **renewed and intensified demands** for statehood in several regions, **reflecting ongoing aspirations for greater autonomy, cultural preservation, and political representation**.



## 1. Mention about the evolution of states formed in India?



Chart 1

### The early years (1947-1956)

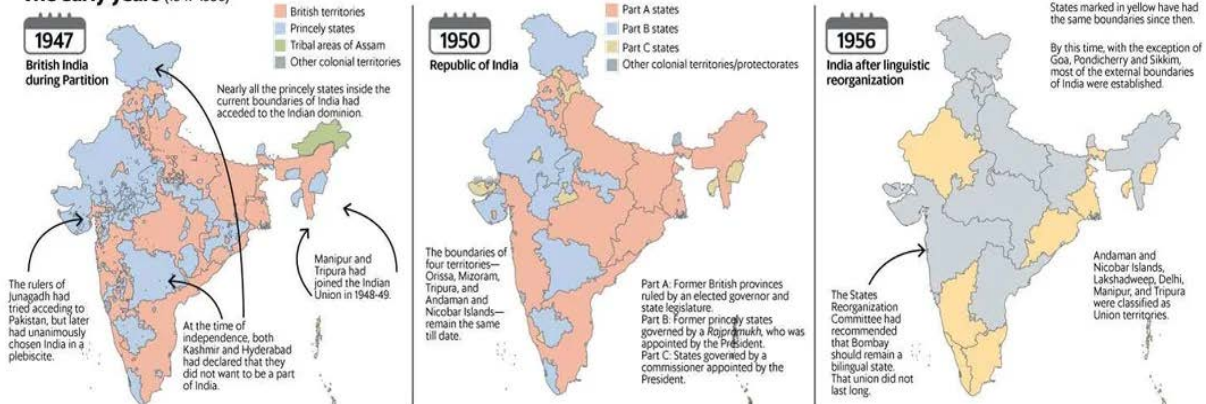


Chart 2

## Linguistic reorganization continues right after 1956 SRC (1956-1966)

**1957**

Naga Hill Tuensang Area was carved out of Assam as UT



**1960**

Gujarat and Maharashtra were carved out of Bombay



**1961**

Goa joined the Indian Union and with it, European colonialism came to an end on the subcontinent

**1962**

Pondicherry officially became a part of the Union

**1963**

Nagaland was granted statehood

**1966**

Punjab, Haryana, UTs Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh were created

Akali Dal's protests for linguistic reorganization led to the former states of East Punjab, Patiala and East Punjab States Union and Himachal Pradesh.



Chart 3

## Fixing the North-East jigsaw (1971-1991)

**1971**

UT Himachal Pradesh was granted statehood

**1972**

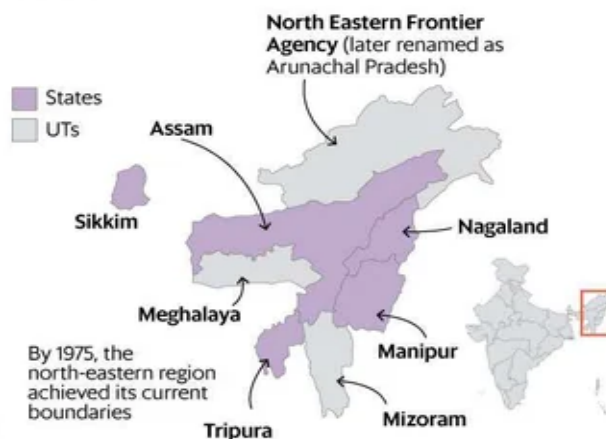
Manipur and Tripura were granted statehood. Mizoram, Meghalaya and North East Frontier Agency were carved out of Assam as UTs

**1975**

A protectorate of India until then, Sikkim joined the Indian Union after a referendum

**1987**

UTs Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh became states. The state of Goa, Daman and Diu was split into two: the state of Goa and UT of Daman and Diu



**1991**

Delhi was deemed National Capital Territory and given a legislative assembly, with power jointly shared with the central government

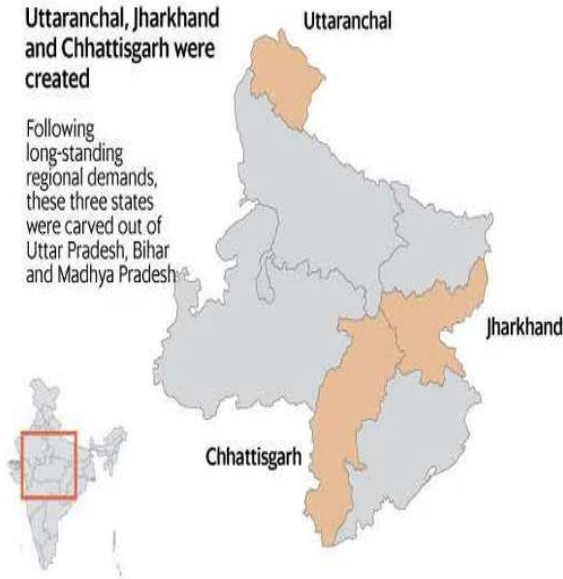
Chart 4

## Old faultlines make a return in new millennium (2000-Present)

**2000**

Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh were created

Following long-standing regional demands, these three states were carved out of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh



**2014**

Telangana attained statehood

Telangana

Andhra Pradesh

Despite being within Telangana entirely, Hyderabad was made de jure capital for both states for a period of ten years.

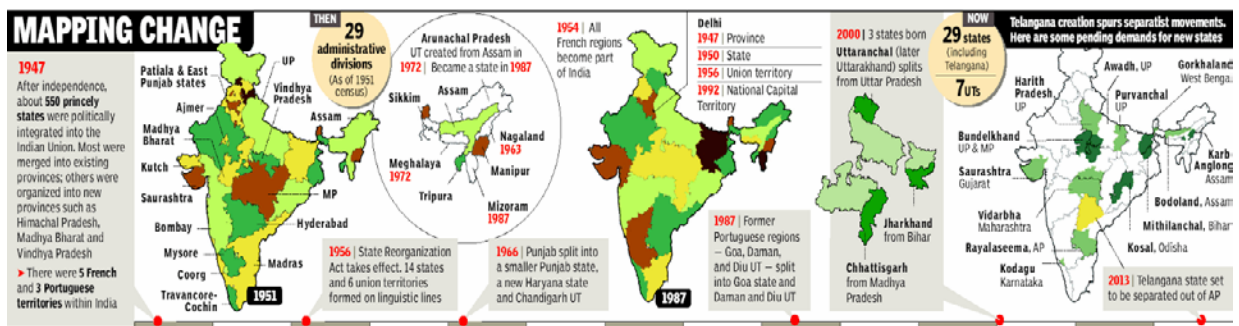
**2019**

The splitting of Jammu and Kashmir

Jammu and Kashmir

Ladakh

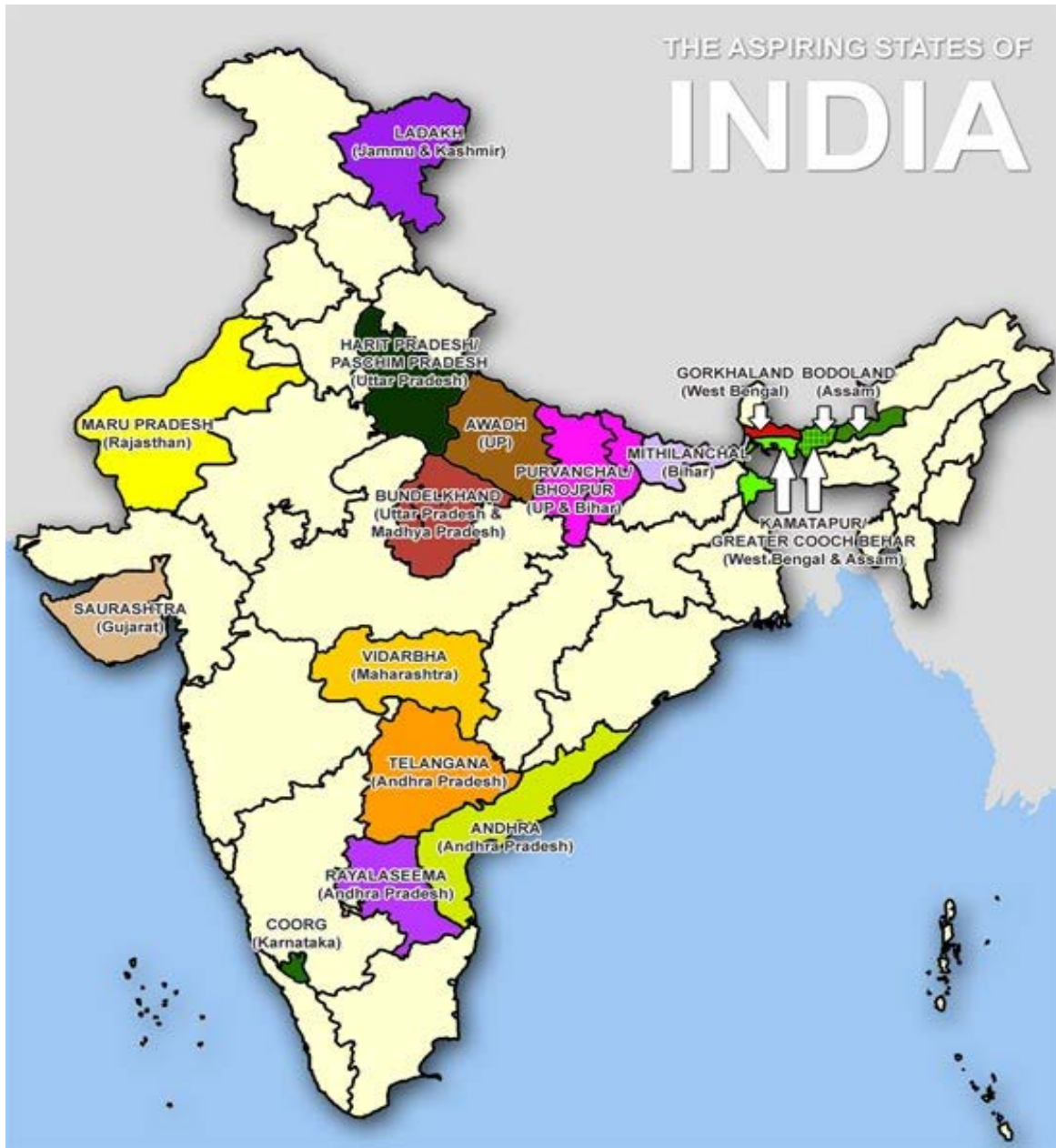
This is the first time a state is being split into two UTs.



## 2. Mention various statehood demands within country?

- The country could well have 50 states in place of the current 28, given the number of representations made to the home ministry for separate statehood.
- The ministry of home affairs (MHA) has received representations from different political groups across the country for creation of more than 20 states.





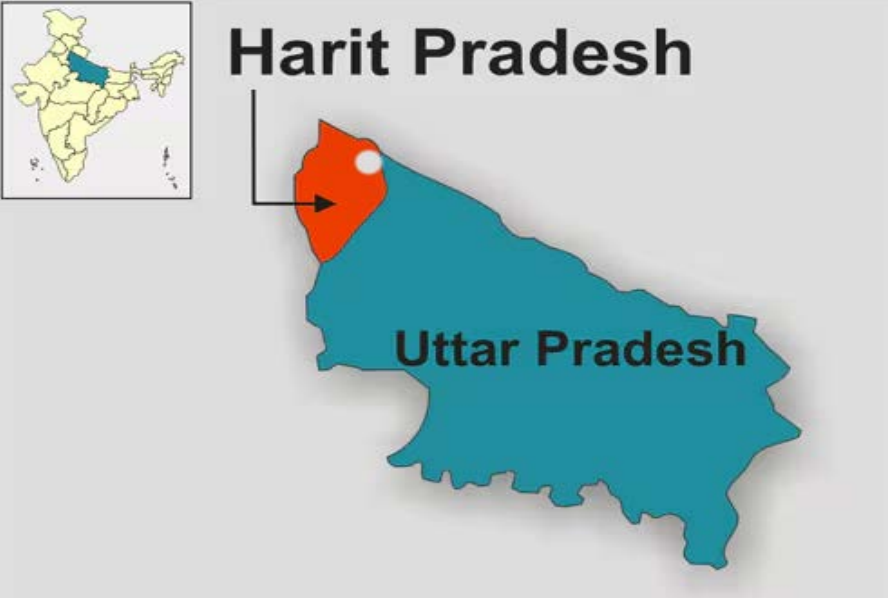
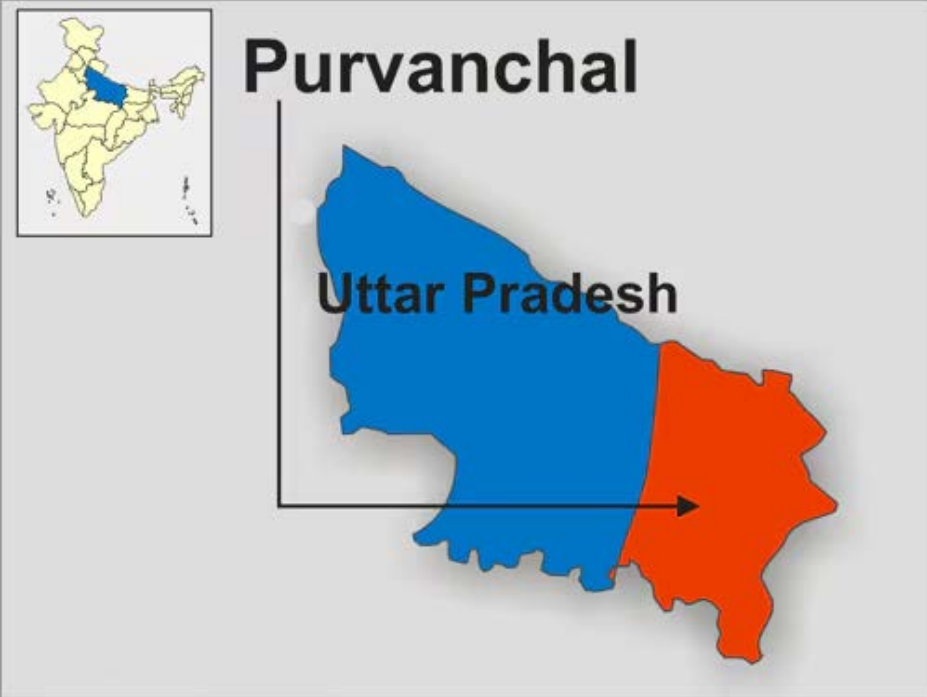


- **India may have at least 50 states in future** if demands for **new states** are to be **conceded** as the **Home Ministry** has received **representations** for creation of **more than 20 states**.




<b>Demand for Statehood</b>	<b>About</b>
<b>Gorkhaland</b>	

<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>On 11 December 2023, the <b>Supreme Court of India</b> unanimously <b>upheld</b> the <b>abrogation</b> of <b>Articles 370 and 35A</b>, while also <b>directing</b> the <b>union government</b> to restore the <b>statehood</b> of <b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>.</li></ul> 
<b>Coorg</b>	 <p><b>Coorg</b></p> <p><b>Karnataka</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The <b>Madikeri district</b> of <b>Karnataka</b> has the <b>highest concentration</b> of <b>Kodavas</b> and is also a <b>coffee growing region</b>.</li></ul>
<b>Harit Pradesh</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The <b>cultural divide</b> between the <b>eastern and western parts</b> of <b>Uttar Pradesh</b> is the reason for the demand for statehood for <b>western Uttar Pradesh</b>, first sought by <b>Rashtriya Lok Dal</b> chief <b>Ajit Singh</b>.</li></ul>

	 <p><b>Harit Pradesh</b></p> <p><b>Uttar Pradesh</b></p>
<p><b>Poorvanchal</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Poorvanchal</b> comprises three <b>divisions-Awadhi region in the west, Bhojpuri region in the east and the Baghelkhand region in the south.</b></li> <li>• Ex UP CM Mayawati has recently favoured the <b>division of the state into three parts, including Poorvanchal.</b></li> </ul>  <p><b>Purvanchal</b></p> <p><b>Uttar Pradesh</b></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Poorvanchal</b> includes the districts of Varanasi, Chandoli, Ghazipur, Jaunpur, Mirzapur, Sonbhadra, Sant Ravidas Nagar, Gorakhpur, Kushinagar, Deoria, Azamgarh, Mau, Maharajganj, Basti, Sant Kabir Nagar, Siddharth Nagar and Ballia.</li> </ul>
<b>Saurashtra</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Saurashtra</b> is a peninsula also called <b>Kathiawar</b> after the <b>Kathi Darbar</b> rulers who ruled part of the region once.</li> </ul> 

### 3. What is Bodoland and why do Bodo people demand a separate state?

<b>What is Bodoland?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bodoland</b> refers to the region in <b>north-western Assam</b>, mainly along the <b>northern banks of the Brahmaputra River</b>.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is <b>inhabited largely by the Bodo tribal community</b>, one of the largest indigenous groups in Assam.</li> <li>• Today, it is administered as the <b>Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR)</b> under Assam.</li> </ul>
<b>Map for Bodoland</b>	
<b>Who are Bodos?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Bodos</b>, an ethnolinguistic group believed to be the <b>earliest inhabitants of Assam</b>, are one of the <b>Indo-Mongoloid</b> communities belonging to the <b>Tibeto-Burman branch of the Sino-Tibetan</b> family.</li> <li>• At the zenith of their thriving civilisation, they ruled vast territories encompassing almost the entirety of northeast India, <b>parts of Nepal, Bhutan, North Bengal and Bangladesh</b>.</li> <li>• The Bodos are recognized as a plains tribe in the <b>Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution</b>.</li> </ul>

<p><b>What is Bodoland Accord?</b></p>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">'The Historic Bodoland Accord'</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of seats in Bodoland Territorial Area Districts (BTAD) will be increased from 40 to 60</li> <li>➤ Central university will be set up at Barama in the name of Upendra Nath Brahma</li> <li>➤ Special industrial policy for BTAD</li> <li>➤ Railway coach factory to be set up in BTAD area</li> <li>➤ Sports Authority of India (SAI) centre to be set up at Udalguri, Baksa and Chirang</li> <li>➤ DC, SP will be appointed in consultation with BTC authority</li> <li>➤ National Sports University will be set up</li> <li>➤ Autonomous Welfare Council for the Bodo people living outside BTAD areas</li> <li>➤ Cancer Hospital and Medical College will be set up in Tamulpur</li> <li>➤ GOI to expedite the process of granting Hills tribe status to Bodos living in Hills areas</li> <li>➤ Veterinary college will be set up at Kumarikata</li> <li>➤ Central University and RIIMS will be set up in Udalguri</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reasons for the demand of bodoland</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ethnic identity:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To protect their unique language, culture, and traditions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Political autonomy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ They feel underrepresented in Assam's state politics.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Development issues:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ They believe their region has been neglected in terms of education, jobs, and infrastructure.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Control over resources:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ They want greater control over local land, forests, and natural resources.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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#### 4. Why Delhi is demanding statehood?

- The **demand for full statehood for Delhi** has been **agreed** upon by both **Congress and the BJP**.



- While other states **enjoy full authority** in all matters of **government** and administration, the **Delhi government** has no **jurisdiction** on:
  - **Police**
  - **Public law and order**
  - **Land**





Once Delhi becomes a full state, the dreams and aspirations of the citizens of Delhi will be fulfilled. Women will be safe and secure as law and order will improve. Our youth will get jobs...

Arvind Kejriwal, in his letter to Delhi's people

Kejriwal is making empty talks about full statehood for Delhi and nothing will come out of his rhetoric. If he was serious about full statehood for Delhi, he should have taken up the issue four years ago.

Sheila Dikshit, while addressing a rally recently

AAP made many claims when they came to power but now people of Delhi and the entire country has seen the real face of Kejriwal he has been exposed, he has more hurt the hope of full statehood, if any ever existed

Vijender Gupta, BJP leader



## Who governs what

Here's a look at charge of various departments

**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (LG)**

## DELHI GOVERNMENT

The government of Delhi, currently led by CM Arvind Kejriwal has the power to formulate laws on all matters mentioned in the State and Concurrent Lists of Seventh Schedule – social welfare, education, health, transport

## OTHER BODIES

Three municipal corporations (East, North and South)

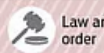
Delhi Cantt. Board

Delhi Development Authority (DDA) - Land management

New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) - Lutyen's Zone



Police



Law and order

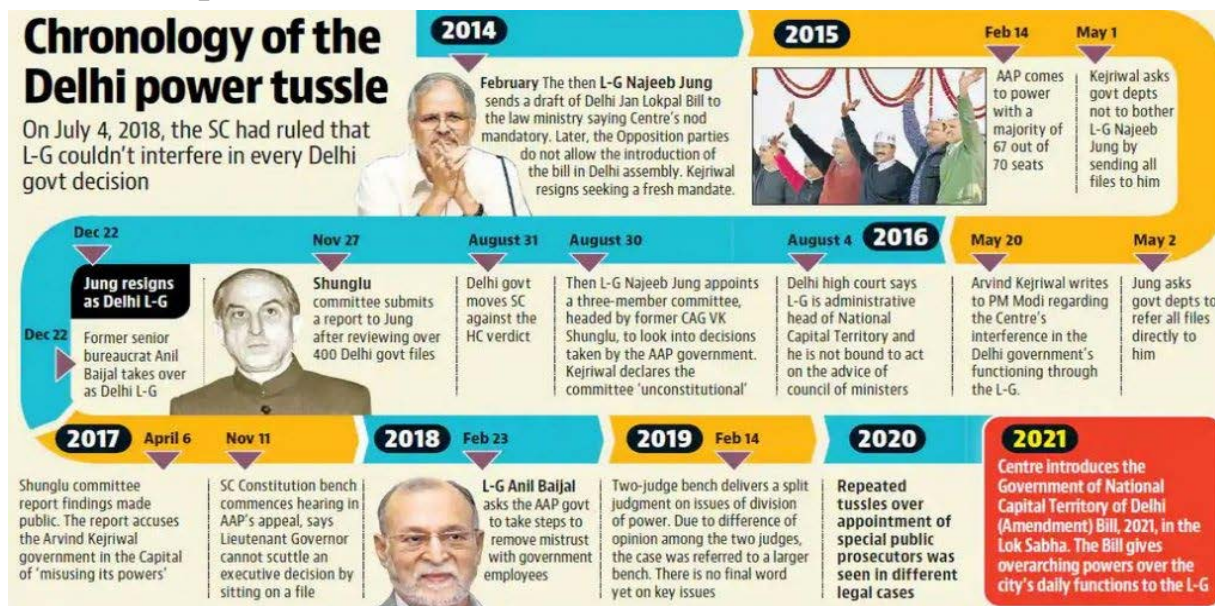


Land



Jurisdiction of courts

- In 2003, veteran Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader **LK Advani** had introduced a bill to grant statehood to Delhi in the Parliament in the run-up to the Assembly elections in Delhi.



## 5. If Delhi gets full statehood, what will change?

- At present, **Delhi is working as a dependent state.**
- Its elected **chief minister is not authorised to take decisions alone** or **CM has to seek the opinion of the LG.**
- Delhi government has to **depend on the money from the central government** to run the **administration of the state.**
- AAP government drafted '**The State of Delhi Bill 2016**', made it public and sought suggestions.

- Key changes proposed are:
  - The Bill does **not propose any change** in the **territorial or political jurisdiction of NCT**.
  - The **New Delhi Municipal Council Area (Lutyen's Delhi)** is supposed to remain under the **exclusive legislative control of the Parliament** and executive control of the President, acting through the governor, so the **current LG is to be replaced by a governor**.
  - Presently Delhi does not have its own "Public Service Commission", therefore the Delhi government want a cadre for Delhi's own use in the UPSC.
  - **Delhi government has to pay for the police** and other services which currently central government is paying for these services.
  - **Delhi will have to continue buying electricity and water from other states** because the government can not set up a power plant due to lack of place.
  - **The Delhi Police, the Delhi Development Authority, and the Municipal Corporations of Delhi** will become **fully accountable** to the people of Delhi.

## 6. What is the issue of Vidarbha demanding statehood?



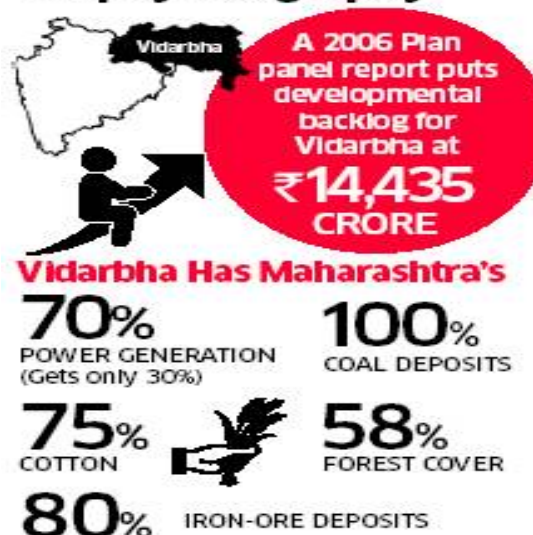


- The earliest demand for a **separate state of Vidarbha** was raised over 100 years ago, prior to the concept of "**Samyukta Maharashtra**".
- As a result of which, the **Central Provinces legislature** passed a unanimous resolution to **create a separate state of 'Mahavidarbha'** on **1 October 1938** at Nagpur.



- The demand for the creation of a separate state are based on **allegations of neglect** by the **Maharashtra state government**. **Jambhwantrao Dhote** led a popular struggle for **Vidarbha statehood** in the **1970s**.


### **Trophy Geography**



- Two politicians, **N. K. P. Salve** and **Vasant Sathe**, have led **21st century attempts** to bring about a state of **Vidarbha**.

## YEARS OF NEGLECT

- Over the past decade, ₹20,617 crore allocated to Vidarbha's irrigation needs but only ₹14,324 crore spent, Kale said
- Lower Painganga and Jigaon projects, approved over 7 years ago, have seen zero development
- ₹60,000 crore Wainganga-Nalganga river linking project, proposed in 2018, hasn't moved



**SHRINIVAS  
KHANDEWALE** |  
ECONOMIST

- According to govt figures, **out of 314 irrigation projects planned for Vidarbha, 182 remain incomplete**, with the current irrigation capacity covering **only three lakh hectares of farmland**.
- This means that **nearly 12 lakh hectares of irrigable land are left underutilized**.
- The “**cotton belt**” districts (**Wardha, Yavatmal, Buldhana, Akola, Washim, Amravati**) show consistently higher **farmers suicide**.
- From **2012 to April 2015**, a total of **3,145 farmers committed suicide** in the six districts in Vidarbha region of **Amravati, Yavatmal, Wardha, Washim, Akola and Buldhana**.



## STUDY ANALYSES 3,145 SUICIDES SINCE 2012

Kisan Mitra, an umbrella body of various farmer groups, has conducted a study that analyses the reasons why and the circumstances in which farmers kill themselves. It looked at the 3,145 farmer suicides in Vidarbha from 2012 to April 2015.

### SUICIDES BY AGE GROUP

While most farmers who killed themselves were between 31 and 45, one in four (776) was under 30

AGE GROUP	DEATHS
18-30	<b>776</b>
31-45	<b>1,122</b>
46-55	<b>688</b>
56-65	<b>351</b>
Over 65	<b>208</b>

### REASONS FOR SUICIDE

While most farmers have some debt, suicide is generally a cumulative result of many different factors, experts say. Nonetheless, the study tried to pin-point an overriding factor in each suicide.

Government apathy: **925**

Problems in the family: **390**

Illness: **296**

Excess rain and hailstorms: **293**

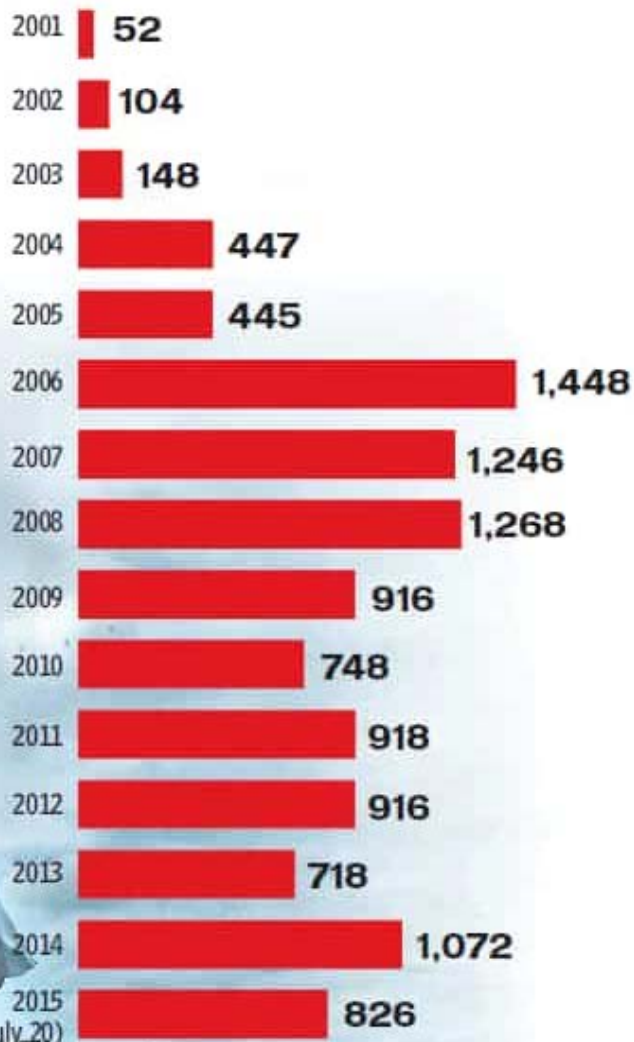
Addiction to substances: **231**

Concerns about daughter's wedding: **117**

Other reasons: **893**

### ACHHE DIN? NOT IF YOU'RE A FARMER IN VIDARBHA

Farmer suicides recorded by Vidarbha Janandolan Samiti, an NGO that has been documenting them since 2001




## 7. Where is Bundelkhand and why is it demanding statehood?



- **Bundelkhand is a historical, cultural, and geographical region in central and northern India, primarily located on the border of the states of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh**
- Since the early **1960s**, there has been a **movement for establishing a Bundelkhand state** to promote the **development of the region**.
- **Before 1956 Bhundelkhand was a state** but then it **merged with Madhya Bharat** to create **Madhya Pradesh** and the remaining was **given to Uttar Pradesh**.

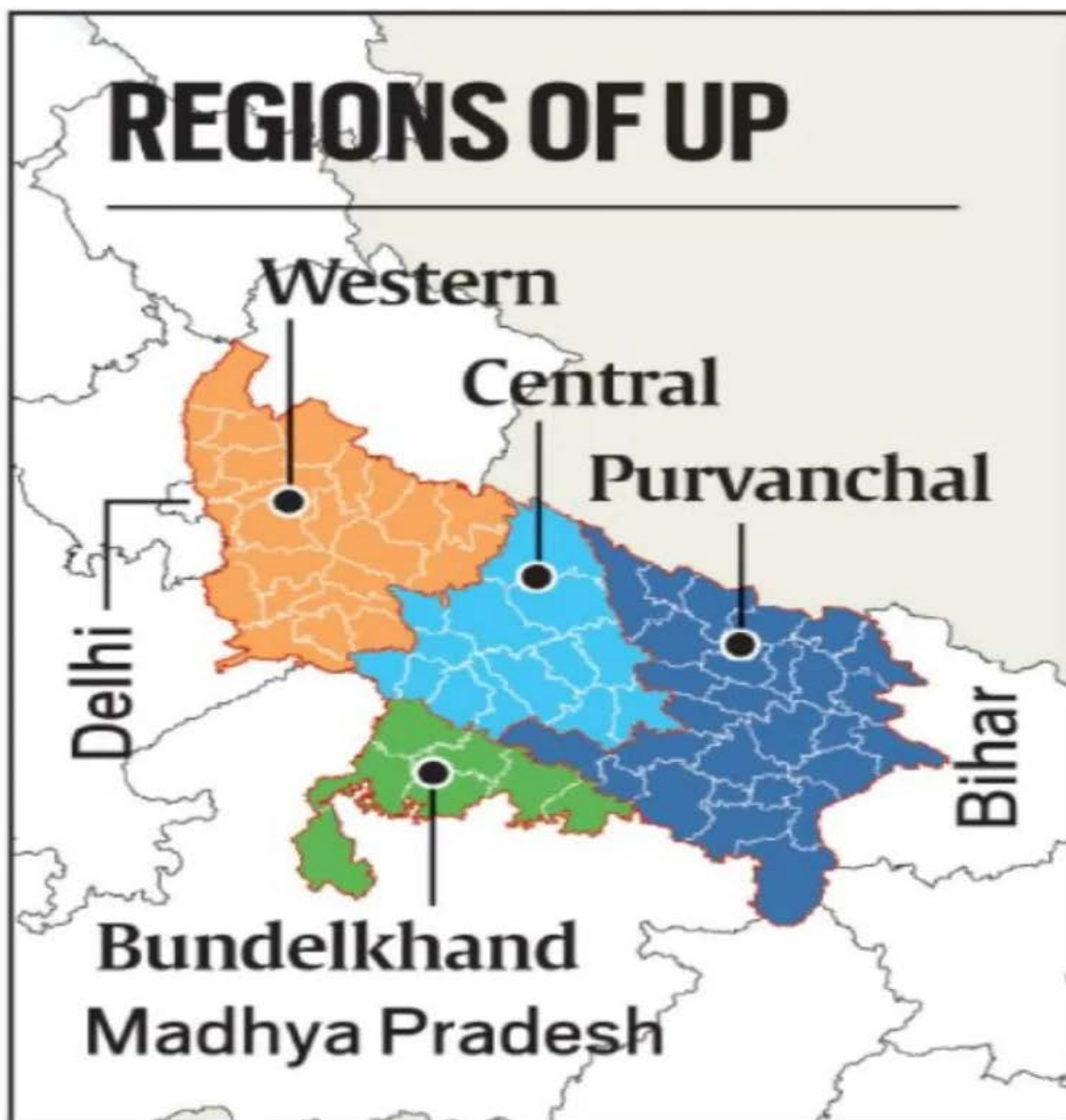
<p><b>What is Bundelkhand's state demand?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to <b>Bundelkhand Mukti Morcha</b>, <b>7 districts of U.P</b> and <b>6 districts of M.P</b> should be combined to make a <b>separate state</b>.</li> <li>• They also want <b>more political exposure to the Bundelkhand region</b></li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bundelkhand is enriched with <b>Natural minerals</b> Like <b>red sand and diamond</b> and still, it is <b>under-developed and economically backward</b>.</li> </ul> <div data-bbox="630 422 1414 808"> <p><b>WATER CRISIS A BIG ISSUE IN BUNDELKHAND</b></p>  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The majority of the population is <b>dependent on agriculture for their livelihood</b>, but the recurrent <b>droughts</b> and <b>lack of irrigation</b> facilities have led to <b>crop failure and unemployment</b>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Proposal for Bundelkhand state in 2010</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bahujan Samaj Party</b> government under Mayawati had proposed the <b>creation of Bundelkhand state from seven districts of Uttar Pradesh in 2011</b>.</li> <li>• There are independent social organizations are built to support the <b>creation of the Bundelkhand state</b>.</li> <li>• Organizations such as <b>Bundelkhand Akikrit Party (BAP)</b> and <b>Bundelkhand Mukti Morcha (BMM)</b> want it to include <b>six districts from Madhya Pradesh as well</b>.</li> </ul>



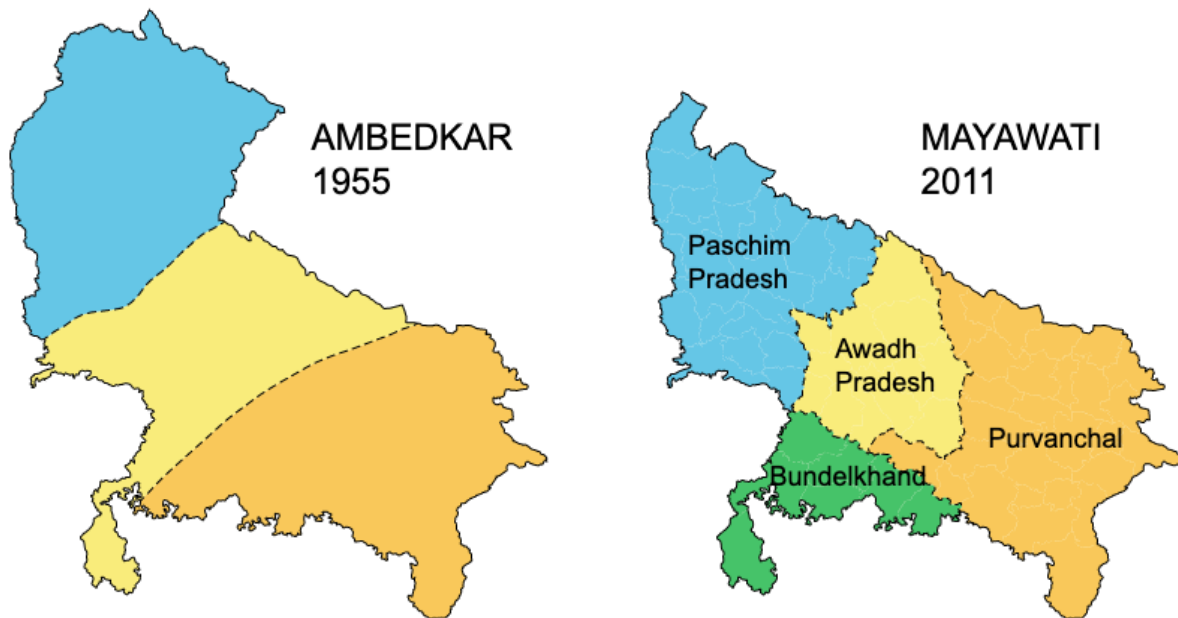


## 8. Highlight demand for division of UP in 4 states?



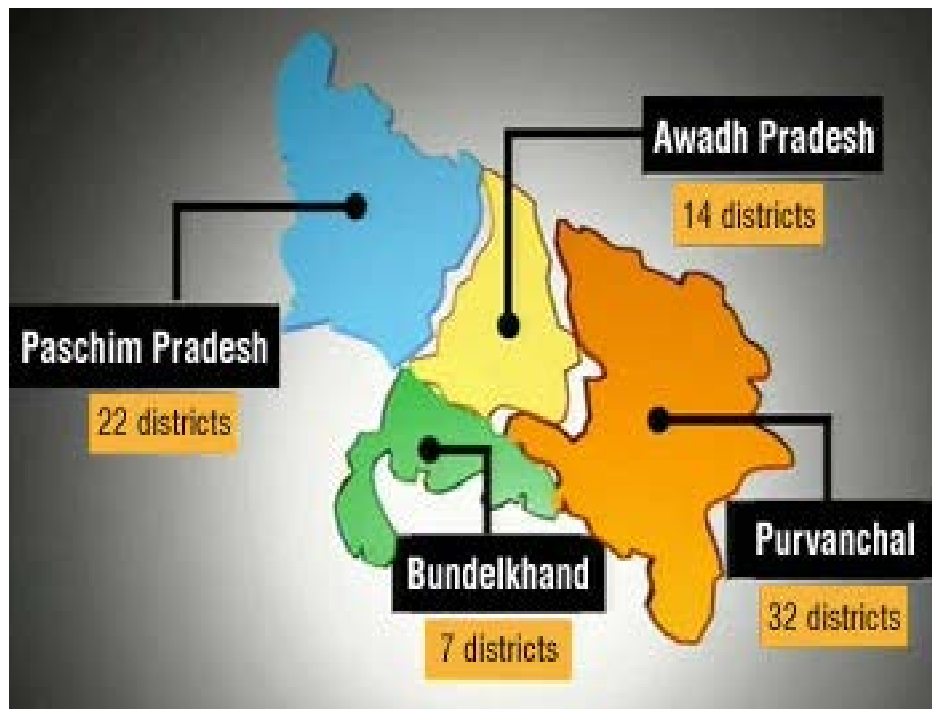


- Five-and-a-half decades after **Panikkar and Ambedkar** suggested that **Uttar Pradesh** be broken up, a new proposal to that effect was made by **Mayawati**.
- First made by **KM Panikkar in 1955**, the case for the break-up of **Uttar Pradesh** remains persuasive.



- Originally, the argument was principally political, to the effect that that **one excessively large unit exercised a hegemonic influence**, undermining the collaborative nature of the **Indian federation**.
- An early reader of the report of the **States Reorganisation Commission** was **BR Ambedkar**.
- **BR Ambedkar** summarised his response in an **insightful pamphlet**, which was published in the last week of **December 1955**.
- **BR Ambedkar** quoted approvingly from **Panikkar's note on Uttar Pradesh**, endorsing his view that **“this disparity in the population and power between the States is sure to plague the country.”**
- Ambedkar felt that **“to provide a remedy against the disparity is most essential”**.

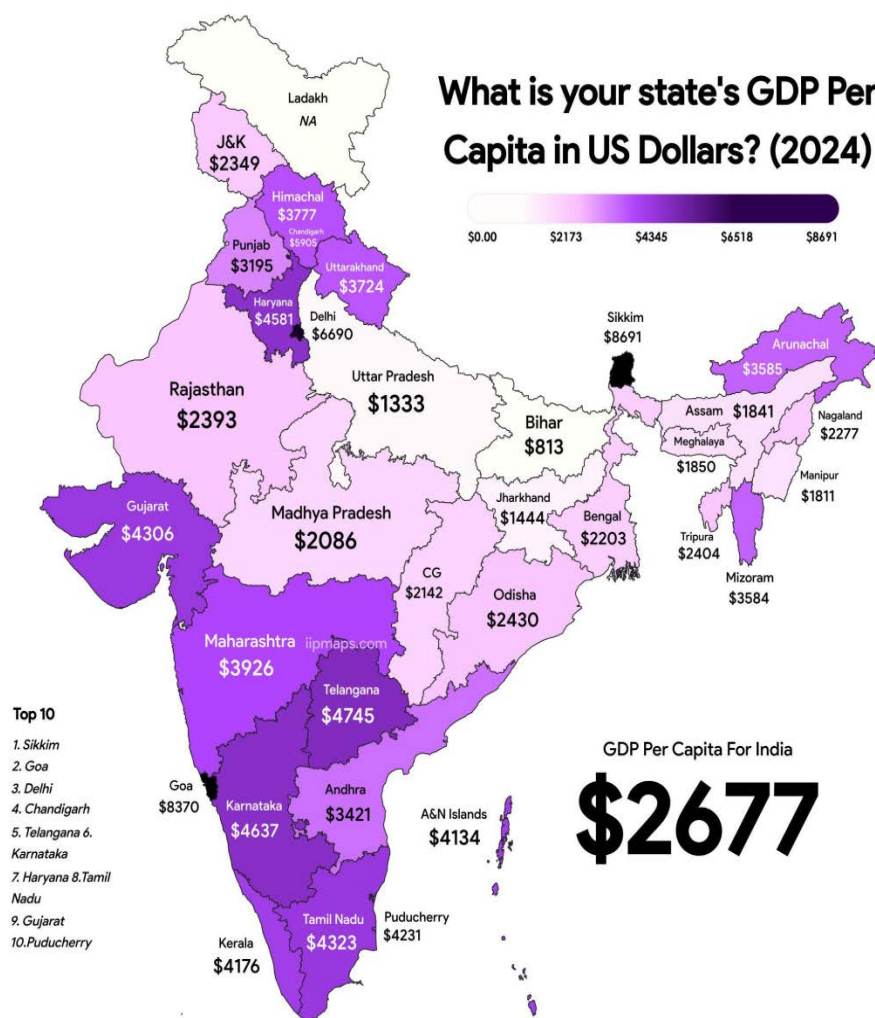
- He proposed that **Uttar Pradesh** become **three distinct states**, not merely two as suggested by Panikkar.
- These would have as their capitals **Meerut, Kanpur and Allahabad**, respectively.
- **Ambedkar's proposal** was also met by an **icy silence** from the **Union government**.
- **BSP chief Mayawati in 2011** stumped her opponents in trademark style, after the Assembly cleared the proposal for **division of Uttar Pradesh into Bundelkhand, Purvanchal, Awadh Pradesh and Paschim Pradesh** in a winter session which lasted merely 10 minutes.
- The proposal was bitterly opposed within **Uttar Pradesh** by the **Samajwadi Party**, while the **Congress**, then in power at the Centre, saw no merit in it either.



## 9. Mention reasons for the demand for statehood?

- The **Home Ministry**, Government of India, has got approximately 20 applications for the **creation of new states** out of the existing one.

Reasons	Description
Sense of economic and regional deprivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most of the people <b>demanding new states</b> reason that they are <b>being sidelined by their state</b>.</li> <li>The establishment of a <b>market economy</b>, too, has opened the <b>floodgates to private capital</b> that has led to <b>increasing regional inequalities</b> and, thus, contributed to the <b>rising demands for smaller states</b>.</li> </ul>



	<p><b>DEVELOPMENT DIFFERENCE</b> Per capita SDP of states and UTs</p>
<b>Ethnic and linguistic distinctiveness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communities with <b>unique languages, dialects, or cultures</b> seek <b>recognition and autonomy</b> (e.g., demand for <b>Gorkhaland in West Bengal, Bodoland in Assam</b>).</li> </ul>
<b>Preservation of tribal rights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Tribal-dominated regions</b> demand statehood to safeguard their <b>land, culture, and rights</b> from domination by larger communities (e.g., <b>Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh</b>).</li> </ul>
<b>Security and Strategic Reasons</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Border sensitivity:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In some cases, <b>statehood</b> is seen as <b>necessary for managing border regions</b> effectively (e.g., demands in North-East India).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ethnic conflicts:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Granting separate statehood</b> is sometimes viewed as a way to <b>reduce conflict</b> between <b>dominant and minority groups</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Political representation and governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>statehood movements</b> also reflected demands for <b>greater political representation</b>.</li> <li>• Regions that felt <b>marginalized within larger states</b> sought their <b>own administrative units</b> where <b>their concerns</b> would receive <b>focused attention</b>.</li> </ul>

## 10. What are the arguments in favor of granting statehood?

Arguments	Description
<b>Improved Governance and Responsiveness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Smaller</b> or newly <b>formed states</b> often have more responsive administration because the <b>government is closer to the people</b>.</li> <li>• Issues like <b>infrastructure, health, education</b> can be more <b>easily identified and addressed</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Reduction of Regional Disparities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating a new state may <b>reduce intra-state inequalities</b>.</li> <li>• Areas that <b>were neglected under the previous administrative setup</b> often get their due attention, <b>budget, infrastructure, schools, hospitals</b>.</li> <li>• According to the <i>“Economic Growth and Human Development in India – Are States Converging?”</i> show that <b>many states in the last few decades</b> have shown <b>both growth in per capita income</b> and human development indices.</li> </ul>

<b>Political Representation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Statehood gives political recognition</b> and more representation in <b>both state and central institutions</b>. It helps placate demands based on <b>ethnic, linguistic or cultural identity</b>, which if ignored can lead to unrest or conflicts</li> </ul>										
<b>Growth of Regional Parties Post-Statehood</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM)</b>, rooted in tribal and regional identity politics.</li> <li>• <b>JMM continues</b> to be one of the <b>strongest regional parties in Jharkhand</b>, currently leading the <b>coalition government</b>.</li> </ul> <div data-bbox="548 800 1395 1444" data-label="Figure"> <p>ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS 2024</p> <p><b>JHARKHAND RESULTS</b></p> <p>TOTAL SEATS 81   TARGET 41</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Party</th> <th>Seats</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>JMM +</td> <td>56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BJP +</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>JKLM</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>OTH</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2024</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS)</b>, founded by <b>K. Chandrashekar Rao</b>.</li> <li>• <b>TRS became the ruling party</b> in the newly created state, <b>winning 63/119 seats in 2014</b> and later <b>88/119 seats in 2018</b>.</li> </ul>	Party	Seats	JMM +	56	BJP +	24	JKLM	1	OTH	0
Party	Seats										
JMM +	56										
BJP +	24										
JKLM	1										
OTH	0										

<p style="text-align: center;"> <small>TELANGANA</small>  <b>TRS LANDSLIDE IN 2018 DECEMBER</b> </p>		
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SEATS</b></p>	
	STATE ASSEMBLY	LOK SABHA EQUIVALENT
TRS	<b>88</b>	<b>15</b>
Congress+	<b>21</b>	<b>1</b>
Others	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>
BJP	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>17</b>

## 11. What are the challenges in granting statehood?

Challenges	Analysis
<b>Emergence of intra-regional rivalries among the sub-regions.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When a <b>new state is created</b>, it often brings hope for development, political power, and resource allocation.</li> <li>However, not all <b>sub-regions within the new state benefit equally</b>.</li> <li>This sometimes leads to <b>intra-regional rivalries</b> — <b>conflicts</b> between different areas within the same state.</li> </ul>
<b>Unequal Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New states often inherit <b>unevenly developed regions</b>.</li> <li>Example: After the creation of <b>Telangana (2014)</b>, some <b>districts in Telangana's north (Adilabad, Karimnagar)</b> claimed less development and government attention compared to <b>Hyderabad</b> and surrounding districts.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rivalries</b> arise because people <b>feel resources</b> and projects are concentrated in certain urban or <b>political strongholds</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Competition for Political Power</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Smaller regions</b> within a new state may compete for <b>key political offices, ministerial posts, and bureaucratic positions</b>.</li> <li>• Example: In <b>Jharkhand</b>, <b>tribal-dominated districts</b> often competed with industrially developed districts (<b>like Dhanbad, Ranchi</b>) over <b>political influence and state resources</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural or Linguistic Differences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sub-regions</b> may have <b>distinct identities</b> that were previously part of a larger state.</li> <li>• Example: <b>UP's</b> proposed division shows distinct identities in <b>Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Awadh, and Harit Pradesh</b>, each with separate cultural, linguistic, and historical backgrounds.</li> <li>• Even within a <b>new state</b>, <b>cultural differences</b> can lead to <b>regional assertiveness</b>, sometimes escalating into rivalry</li> </ul>
<b>Financial and Administrative Costs of State Division</b>	<p><b>Establishing New Capitals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When a <b>new state is created</b>, a <b>new capital city</b> often needs to be developed from scratch or significantly upgraded.</li> <li>• Example: <b>Andhra Pradesh and Telangana (2014)</b></li> <li>• <b>Telangana</b> inherited <b>Hyderabad</b>, the existing capital.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Andhra Pradesh</b> had to establish a new capital at <b>Amaravati</b>.</li> <li>• Costs included <b>land acquisition, construction of secretariat buildings, legislative assembly, public offices, and infrastructure like roads, water, and power</b>.</li> <li>• Initial estimates <b>ran into tens of thousands of crores of rupees</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Costs of Shared Assets and Debt Settlement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• States need to divide assets and liabilities (government buildings, debts, utilities).</li> <li>• <b>Andhra Pradesh–Telangana</b> saw complex negotiations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hyderabad as joint capital for 10 years.</li> <li>▪ <b>Water resources from rivers</b> (Krishna, Godavari).</li> <li>▪ <b>Sharing of state-owned companies, pensions, and liabilities</b>.</li> <li>▪ These negotiations <b>delayed administration and incurred additional costs</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Infrastructure and Public Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Roads, power supply, government housing, schools, hospitals, and transport systems</b> often need duplication or extension.</li> <li>• Amaravati's development alone required planning <b>urban infrastructure, secretariat complexes, residential zones, and transport hubs</b> — huge investment for a state already facing fiscal constraints.</li> </ul>
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## 12. What states have gained post gaining full statehood?

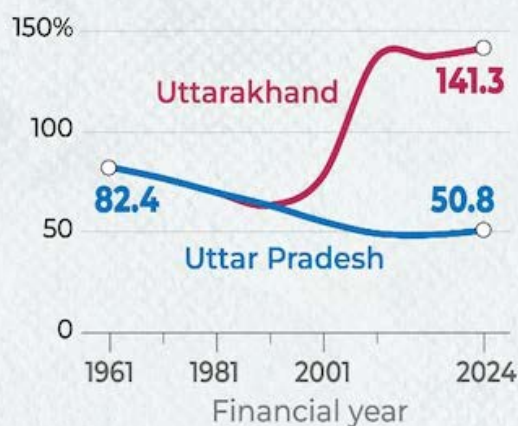
### Split States, Disparate Finances

Dramatic changes in per capita income in states after they were each divided into two



Relative Per Capita Income over national average

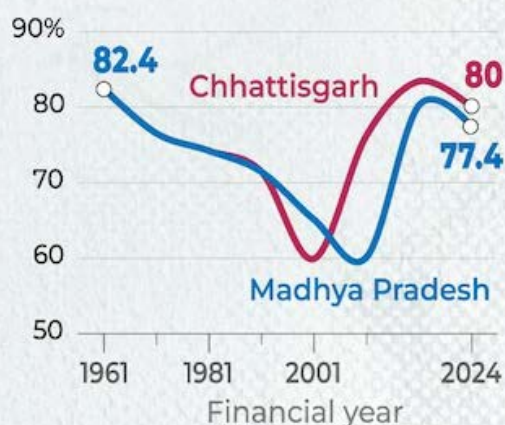
#### Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand



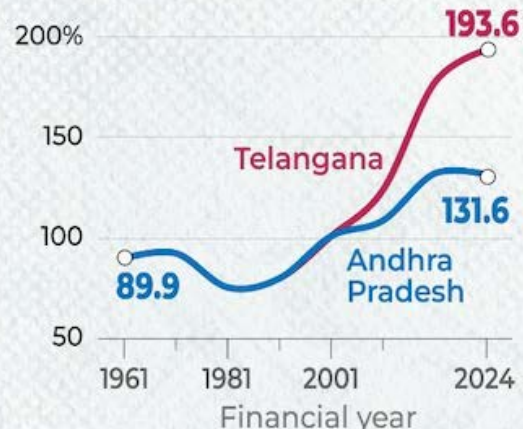
#### Bihar & Jharkhand



#### Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh



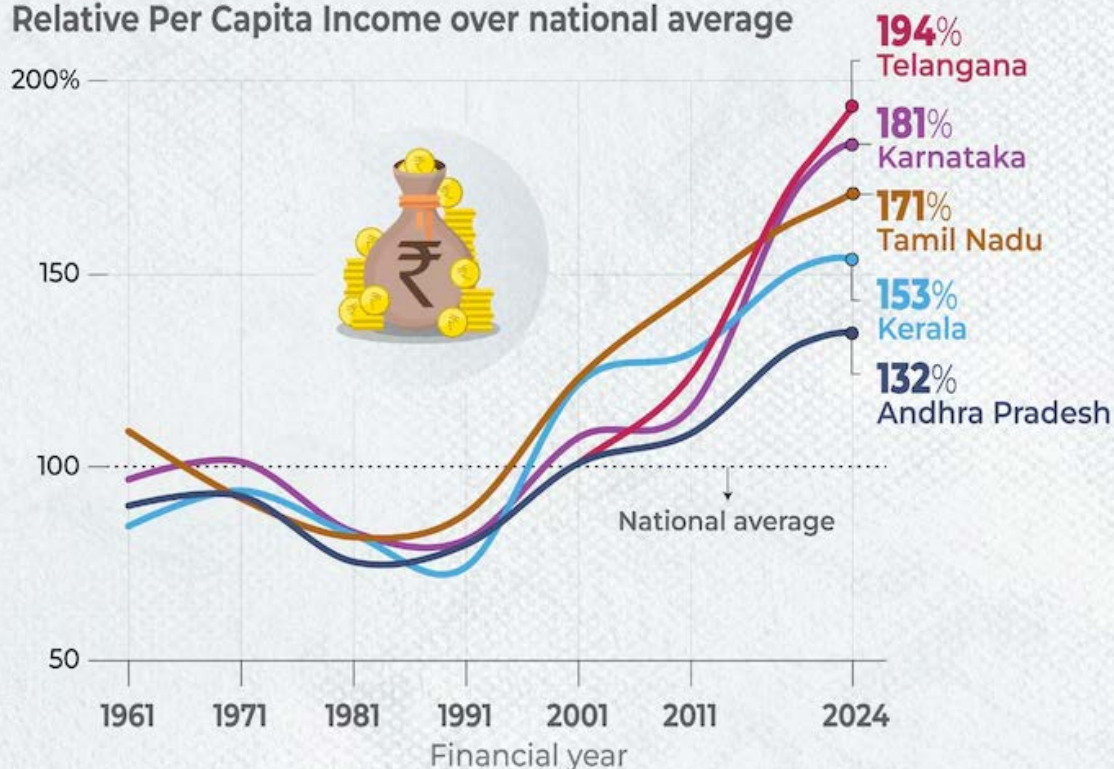
#### Andhra Pradesh & Telangana



# Rapid Income Growth in South India

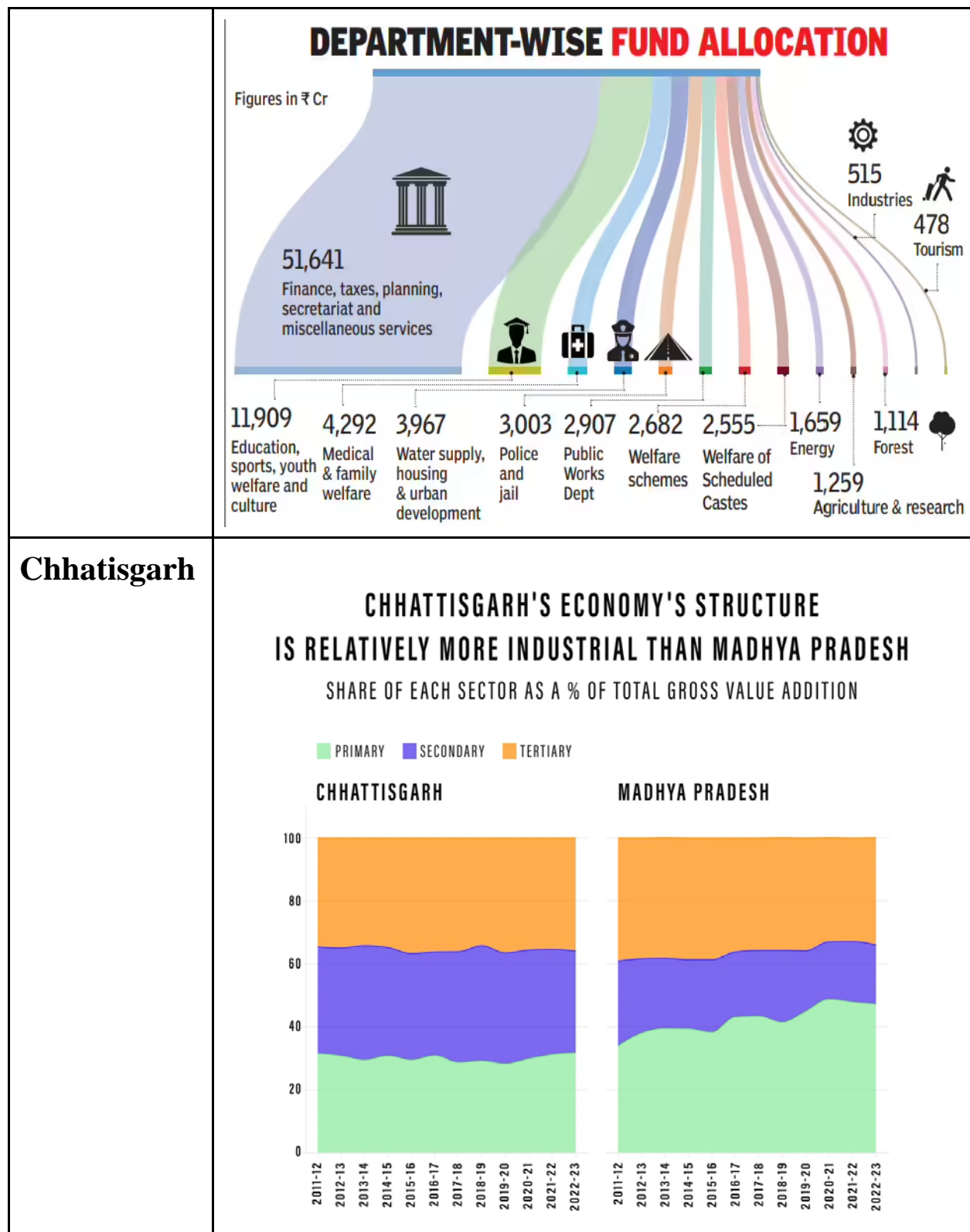
Per capita income in Telangana rose rapidly after split from Andhra

Relative Per Capita Income over national average



States	Analysis
Uttarakhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uttarakhand, formed in 2000, after separation from UP, also showed much <b>higher per capita income over time</b>: ~141.3% of national average in recent years.</li> <li>Uttarakhand's economy is <b>projected to grow at 6.6% in 2024-25</b>, lower than the <b>7.8% growth</b> estimated for 2023-24, according to the <b>Economic Survey report</b></li> </ul>



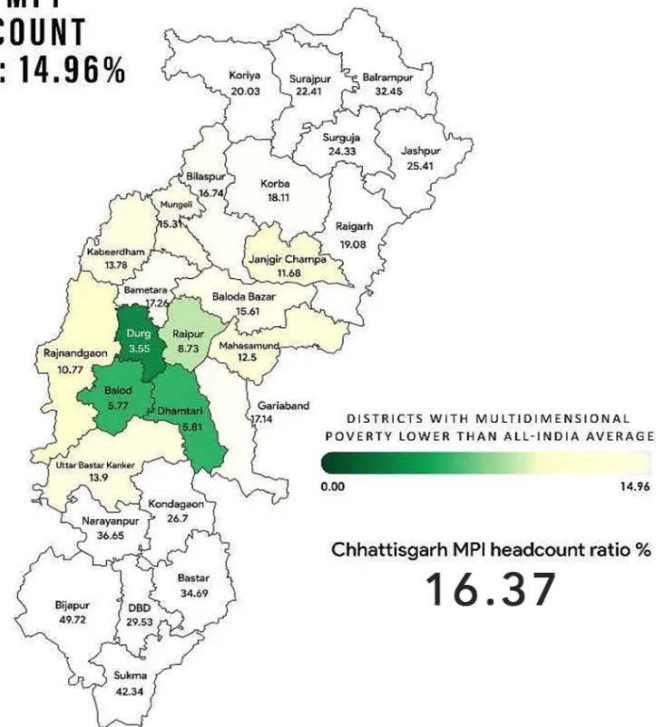




## MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY IN CHHATTISGARH IS RELATIVELY LOWER THAN MADHYA PRADESH

% OF PEOPLE LIVING UNDER MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY

**INDIA MPI  
HEADCOUNT  
RATIO: 14.96%**

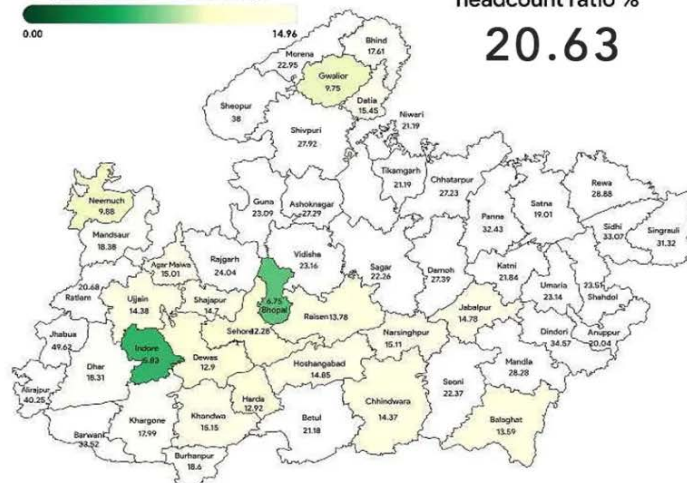


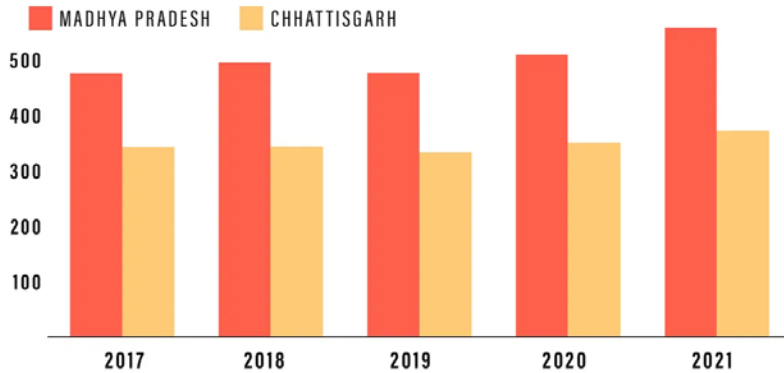
Districts in MP with Multidimensional poverty lower than all India average


0.00

**Madhya Pradesh MPI  
headcount ratio %**

**20.63**



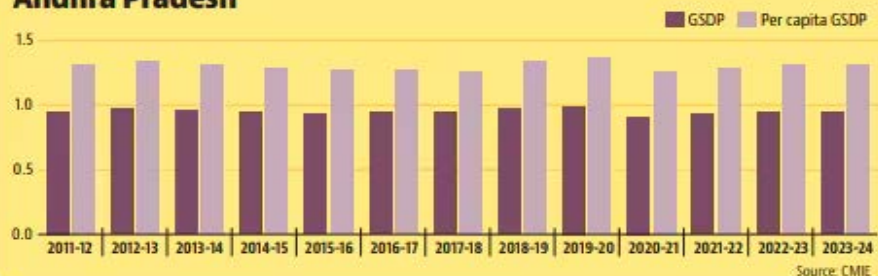
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMPARED TO MADHYA PRADESH, CHHATTISGARH REPORTS RELATIVELY FEWER CRIMES</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TOTAL CRIME RATE PER 1 LAKH POPULATION*</p>  <p>NOTE: THE CRIME RATE INCLUDES ALL COGNIZABLE CRIMES - BOTH INDIAN PENAL CODE AND SPECIAL LOCAL LAWS (IPC+SLL); PROJECTED POPULATION ASCRIBED IN</p>
<b>Telangana</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After its <b>creation in 2014</b>, <b>Telangana</b> has made significant gains in poverty alleviation.</li> <li>• According to the <b>NITI Aayog's SDG Index for 2023-24</b>, <b>Telangana ranks 2nd among Indian states</b> on the <b>"No Poverty"</b> goal, moving up from much lower ranks earlier.</li> <li>• Also, its per capita <b>Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) crossed ₹3.8 lakh in 2024-25</b>, showing strong income growth.</li> </ul>

 <b>RICHEST INDIAN STATES</b> BY RELATIVE PER CAPITA INCOME		
STATE	1960-61	2023-24
DELHI	218.30%	250.80%
TELANGANA	–	193.60%
KARNATAKA	96.70%	180.70%
HARYANA	106.90%	176.80%
TAMIL NADU	109.20%	171.10%

- The per capita GSDP of Telangana was 1.27 times higher than that of Andhra Pradesh in 2015-16.

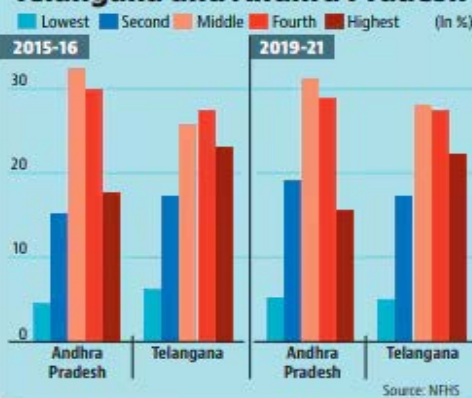
**CHART 1**

**Ratio of Real GSDP and per capita GSDP of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh**



**CHART 2**

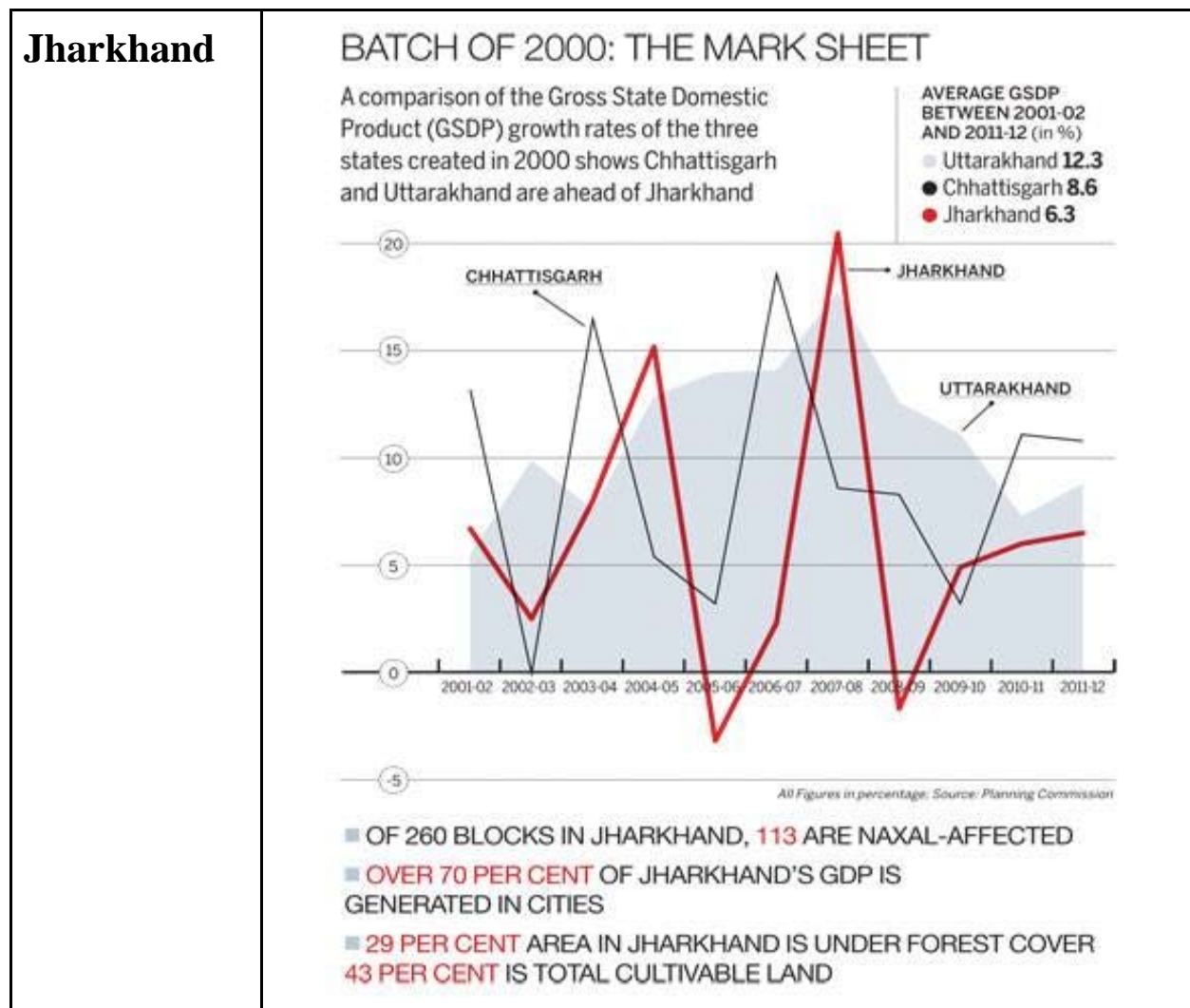
**Proportion of population in each wealth quintile in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh**



**CHART 3**

**Fiscal deficit of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**  
As % of GSDP






### 13. Mention views of scholars on granting statehood?

Scholar	Views
Gautam Desiraju	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Gautam Desiraju</b>, a structural chemist, educationist and professor at the Indian Institute of Science, and a grandson of C Rajagopalachari, in his book <b>Bharat: India 2.0</b> has proposed the <b>reorganisation of India into 75 states</b> that reflect the ‘civilisational core’ and the <b>rich diversity of Dharmic India</b>.</li> </ul>




	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He looks to the <b>kingdoms and Janapadas in the times of the Mahabharata for inspiration.</b></li> <li>• He postulates a <b>clean sweep from the extant organisation of states</b> for he feels that most of them are <b>basically ‘adjustments imposed upon the administrative provinces’</b> established by the <b>British, rather than ‘organic entities’</b> with their powerful tradition of language, <b>history, mythology and common memory.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Ashutosh Kumar</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Academic Ashutosh Kumar</b> has another suggestion of <b>creation of a permanent States Reorganisation Commission</b> to examine the <b>demands for new states emanating</b> not only from state legislatures and Parliamentarians but <b>also from the wider cross-section of society.</b></li> </ul>

## 14. What is the history of Ladakh?

- The **history of Ladakh** can be traced in a better way after the **9th Century**.
- The Kingdom of Ladakh was established around **950 CE** when the **early Tibetan Empire collapsed**.
- **Independent kingdoms** were formed under independent rulers that mostly were from **Tibetan royal family**.

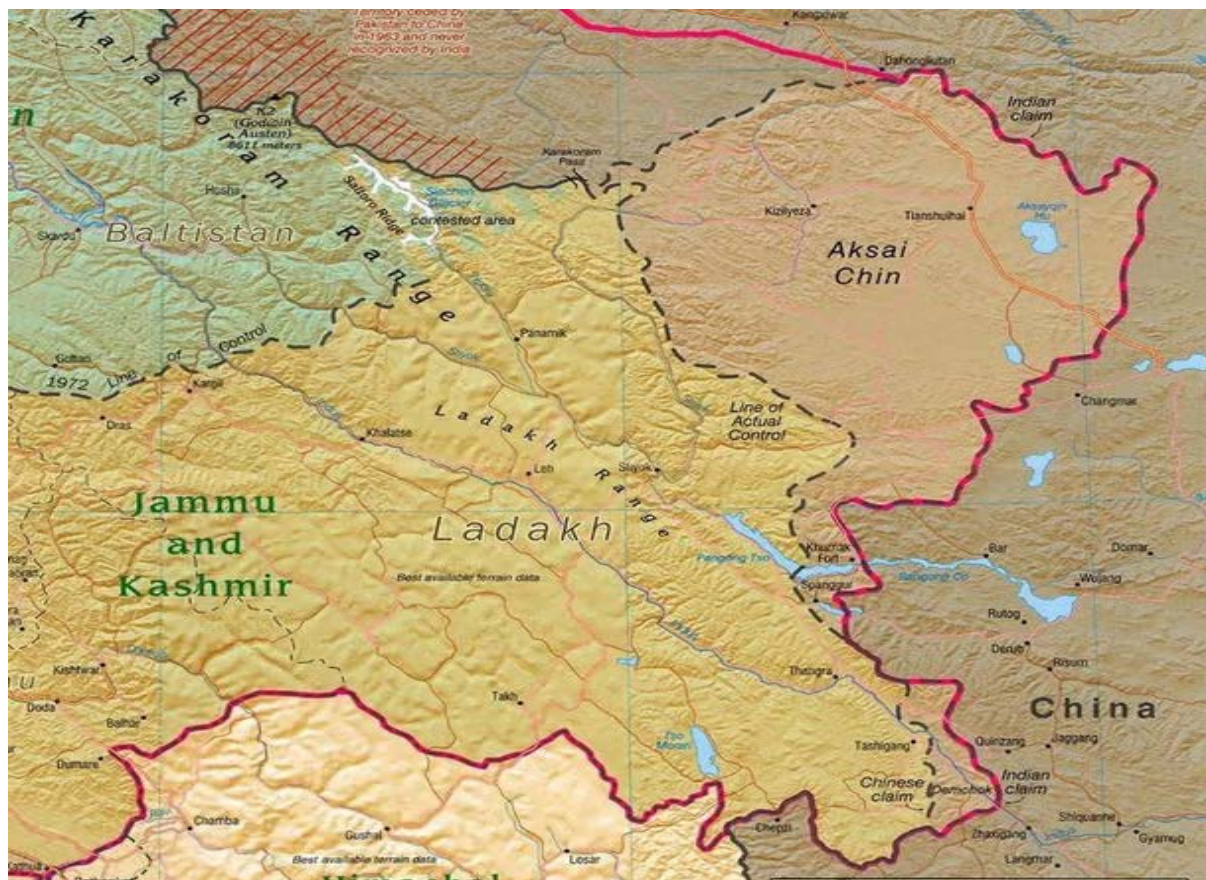
History	Description
<b>The History of Ladakh Before the 9th Century</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The earliest population of Ladakh has been asserted to be that of <b>Dards or Brokpas</b>.</li> <li>• Many ancient accounts by the <b>Greek historians, Herodotus and Megasthenes</b>, and the admiral of Alexander the Great, <b>Nearchus</b> have confirmed the existence of the <b>Brokpas (Dards)</b> in Ladakh.</li> <li>• The <b>Kharoshti</b> inscription discovered near <b>Khalatse Bridge</b> tells that <b>Ladakh in the 1st Century</b> was under the rule of the <b>Kushan Empire</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>The Formation of Ladakh Kingdom and the Inhabitation of Tibetans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nyima-Gon</b>, a representative of the ancient <b>Tibetan royal house</b> founded the <b>first Ladakh</b> dynasty after the breakup of the <b>Tibetan Empire in 842 CE</b>.</li> <li>• During this era, <b>Buddhism and Tibetan religion of Bon</b> were also spread across the region.</li> </ul>
<b>The Rise of Namgyal Dynasty</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ladakh was divided into two parts: <b>Upper Ladakh and Lower Ladakh</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Upper Ladakh</b> was ruled by King <b>Takbumde</b> from <b>Leh and Shey</b>, and <b>Lower Ladakh</b> was ruled by <b>King Takpabum</b> from <b>Basgo</b> and <b>Temisgam</b>.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Later, <b>Bhagan</b>, a king from <b>Lower Ladakh</b> of the <b>Basgo Dynasty</b>, defeated the king of <b>Leh</b> and took on the surname <b>Namgyal</b> (victorious), and founded a <b>new dynasty</b> which still survives today.</li> </ul> 
<b>Inclusion of Ladakh in the Princely State of Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After the <b>collapse of the Mughal Empire</b> by the beginning of the <b>19th Century</b>, <b>Raja Gulab Singh</b>, under the suzerainty of the <b>Sikh monarch Ranjit Singh</b>, sent <b>General Zorawar Singh</b> for invading <b>Ladakh in 1834</b>.</li> <li>• The then ruler of Ladakh, <b>Tshespal Namgyal</b> was <b>dethroned</b> and exiled to <b>Stok</b> by <b>General Zorawar Singh</b> and <b>Ladakh</b> came under the <b>Dogra Rule</b>.</li> <li>• Later, <b>Ladakh</b> was incorporated into the princely state of <b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b> under <b>British Rule</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Inclusion of Ladakh in the Indian State of</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After the <b>independence of India in 1947</b>, <b>Ladakh</b> was made a part of the <b>Indian state of Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>.</li> </ul>

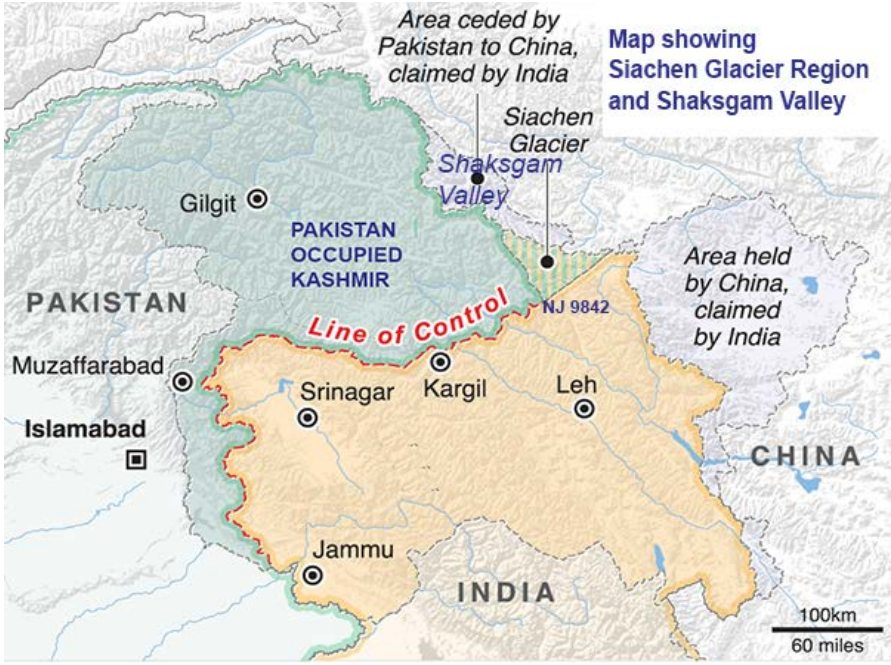


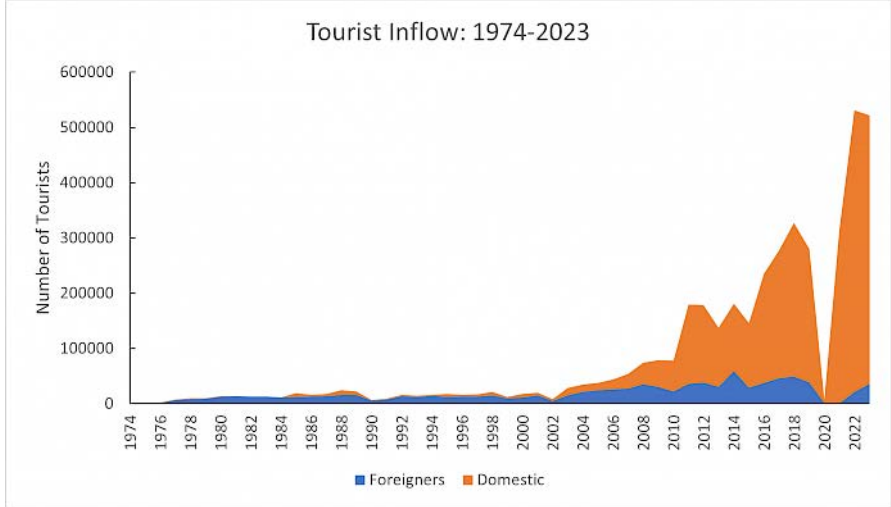
<p><b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leh</b>, which is currently the <b>capital of Ladakh</b>, was initially <b>chosen as the headquarters of Ladakh Division then.</b></li> <li>• However, after facing some protest, <b>Leh and Kargil</b> were announced to <b>jointly</b> serve as the <b>divisional headquarters.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Ladak as the Indian Union Territory</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In <b>August 2019</b>, a reorganisation act was passed by the Parliament of India which had a provision to <b>reconstitute Ladakh as a union territory, separate from Jammu &amp; Kashmir.</b></li> <li>• On <b>31 October 2019</b>, <b>Ladakh</b> was declared a <b>separate Union Territory</b> which is to be administered by a Lieutenant Governor.</li> </ul>

## 15. What is the significance of Ladakh to India?





Significance	Analysis
Strategic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ladakh</b> shares a long boundary with <b>China (Tibet)</b> along the <b>Line of Actual Control (LAC)</b> and with <b>Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK)</b> along the <b>Line of Control (LoC)</b>.</li> <li>• The region includes <b>Aksai Chin</b>, illegally occupied by <b>China</b>, and is close to <b>Pakistan's Gilgit-Baltistan</b>, making it highly sensitive.</li> </ul>
Military	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Siachen Glacier</b> (world's highest battlefield) lies in <b>Ladakh</b>, crucial to <b>monitoring Pakistan and China</b>.</li> </ul>  <p>Map showing Siachen Glacier Region and Shaksgam Valley</p>
Cultural & Civilizational Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ladakh</b> is often called “<b>Little Tibet</b>”, preserving ancient <b>Tibetan Buddhist</b> culture, monasteries (Hemis, Thiksey, Alchi) and traditions.</li> <li>• It showcases a <b>blend of Buddhist, Muslim</b>, and other cultures, symbolizing <b>India's pluralism</b>.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>men folk in Ladakh</b> wear long <b>woollen robes called Goucha</b> while women wear a similar robe but styled differently called <b>Kuntop and the Bok</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Women</b> also dress their <b>hair in a pigtail style</b> and some men follow this style too.</li> </ul>
<b>Tourism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Tourism Industry</b> accounts for <b>more than 60%</b> of the total revenue generated in Ladakh.</li> <li>• <b>More than half of the population of Ladakh is economically dependent</b>, directly or indirectly, on this industry.</li> <li>• There are about <b>317 Hotels, 691 Guest Houses, 1055 Homestays and 105 Camps</b> in Leh district.</li> </ul>  <p style="text-align: center;">Tourist Inflow: 1974-2023</p> <p>Number of Tourists</p> <p>Year</p> <p>■ Foreigners ■ Domestic</p>
<b>Energy significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A potential new <b>geothermal reservoir</b> has been uncovered in <b>eastern Ladakh</b> by scientists from the city-based <b>National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI)</b>.</li> </ul>

## WHAT NGRI SCIENTISTS FOUND

- Ladakh known for hot springs in Nubra Valley, Panamik, Wanla & Demchok

- A deep hot water aquifer linked to partially molten rock was identified

- Conductive zones are linked to hot springs in Puga, Chumathang & Demchok

- Layers believed to be source of geothermal energy at surface



- Research focused on geothermal potential & tectonic evolution of area

- Discovery could significantly impact sustainable energy development in Ladakh

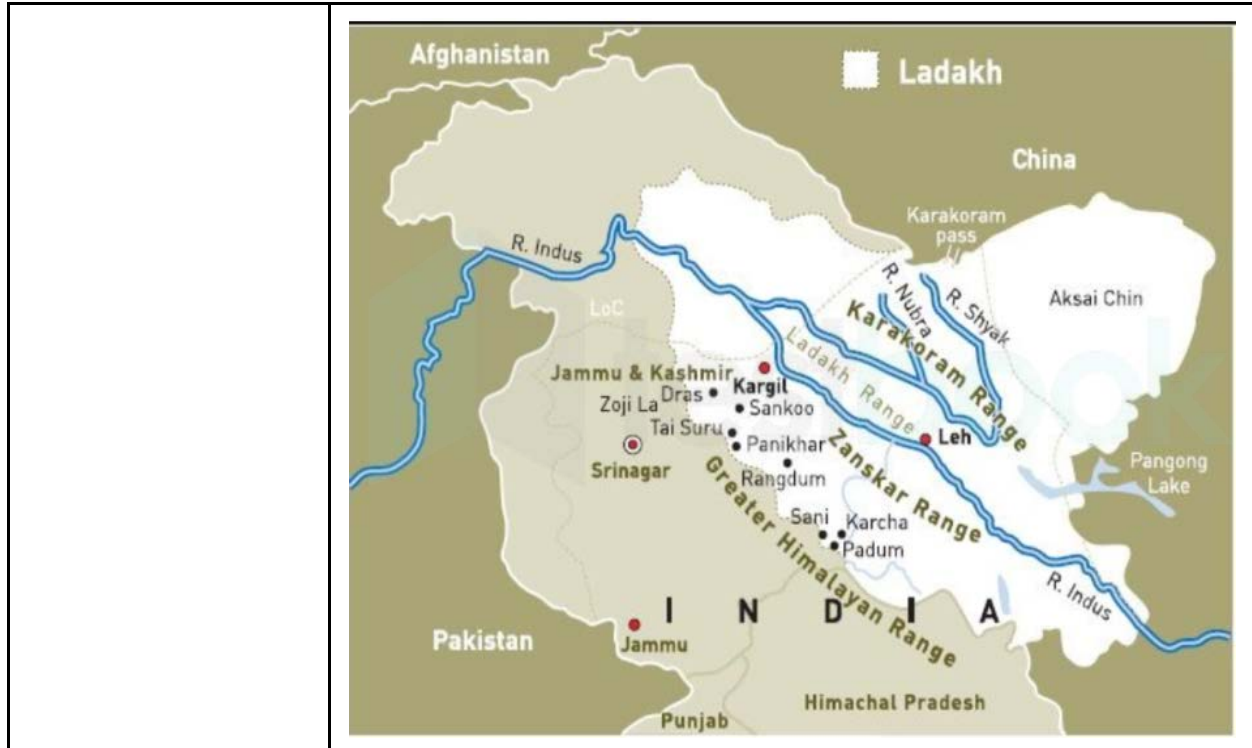
## Potential of solar, wind and small-hydro-power in Ladakh

Renewable energy source (MW)	Leh	Kargil	Total
Solar	35,000	25,000	60,000
Wind	100,000	NA	100,000
Small hydro	2,000	72	2,072

Source: Lok Sabha Questions

### River system

- The **Indus River** and its major tributaries, the **Shyok-Nubra**, **Chang Chenmo**, **Hanle**, **Zaskar**, and **Suru-dras** rivers, drain the region.
- **Glacio-fluvial** processes aided by **freeze- thaw weathering** have formed the high altitude landscape of Ladakh.



## 8 Surprising Facts about Ladakh

- 1 Twin Humped Camels**  
 Ladakh is the only place in India where you will find twin humped camels!
- 2 Mystical Magnetic Hills**  
 The alignment of the road with the slope of the background can give the illusion that cars are able to drift upwards.
- 3 Kung Fu Nuns of Ladakh**  
 A trained group of ladies under the age of 25, practices the art of Kung-Fu in the Drukpa nunnery in Ladakh. The place is home to self-empowered branch of feminist Buddhism that encourages nuns to train in
- 4 Highest Residential Point in Ladakh**  
 Ladakh is the highest residential point in India served by the River Indus.
- 5 Indian Astronomy Centre**  
 Due to its high altitude and clear skies, Ladakh is one of the places in India considered as an important Astronomy Centre
- 6 Great Diversity of Birds**  
 Ladakh has great diversity of birds, both resident and migratory birds. Some 225 different species of birds have been recorded till date in Ladakh.
- 7 Tso-Moriri**  
 Tso-moriri is not only a wetland conservative reserve but also one of the largest high-altitude lakes in India.
- 8 Highest Salt Lake in India**  
 Pangong Lake is the highest salt lake in India. It is situated at a height of about 14,270 feet from the sea level. It is 134 km long and extends from India to Tibet.



## 16. Why was Ladakh accorded with status of UT?

- **Ladakh** was accorded the status of a Union Territory (UT) on **5 August 2019**, when the **Government of India** abrogated **Article 370** and reorganized the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir.

Reasons	Description
<b>Cultural &amp; Demographic Identity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Buddhist-majority Leh</b> and <b>Shia-majority Kargil</b> are <b>culturally distinct</b> from the <b>Sunni-majority Kashmir Valley</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Ladakh has a unique Buddhist and tribal heritage</b>, very different from Kashmir or Jammu.</li> </ul>
<b>Security Considerations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bordering both Pakistan (PoK) and China (Aksai Chin)</b> requires <b>strategic sensitivity</b> and tighter central control.</li> <li>• Establishing it as a <b>union territory allowed for more direct and streamlined administration</b> from the central government in security matters.</li> </ul>
<b>Developmental Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UT status intended to <b>improve administrative efficiency, expedite infrastructure</b>, and ensure direct central funding.</li> <li>• <b>Ladakhis believed that direct funding and projects from the Centre would boost tourism, infrastructure, renewable energy, and education.</b></li> <li>• <b>UT status promised better access to resources and opportunities without having to depend on J&amp;K's state government.</b></li> </ul>

## 17. What are immediate demands behind Leh protest?

Demand	Description
What LAB sought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Leh Apex Body (LAB)</b>, whose youth wing had given a call for a <b>major protest on Wednesday September 24</b>, had demanded an <b>immediate next meeting with the central government</b> as its members' <b>hunger strike</b> was on since <b>September 10</b>.</li> </ul>
What MHA set?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)</b>, which oversees Ladakh since it's a UT, then announced that <b>talks would next be held on October 6</b>.</li> <li>The last meeting was held in May; the <b>most recent talks have been ongoing since 2024</b>.</li> </ul>
'Dictation' not accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>But <b>LAB members</b> saw the <b>October date-setting</b> without discussing with them as <b>"just dictation"</b> when <b>"people are on hunger strike"</b>.</li> <li>In an online press conference earlier, <b>LAB co-chairman Chering Dorje</b> had said they'd told the <b>government they could not end their hunger strike</b> until an <b>agreement was reached</b>.</li> </ul>

## 18. Who is behind the Ladakh protest?



- The protests in **Ladakh's Leh** over the demand for statehood and inclusion under the **Sixth Schedule**, were spearheaded by the **Leh Apex Body (LAB)**, which is an amalgamation of **various religious, social and political groups**.
- **Activist Sonam Wangchuk**, who has long advocated for the rights and development of Ladakh, is a member of the grouping, according to a September 10 report in The Hindu.
- **Wangchuk** had been at the **forefront of the protests** and was **leading a hunger strike** protest along with other members to press the Centre for "**result-oriented**" talks on **Ladakh's pending demands**.



- The movement also saw participation from the **Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA)**, which supported the **LAB's demands** and called for **solidarity actions across the Union Territory**, including a shutdown on September 25, reported The Hindu.
- The two organisations have been **jointly leading the agitation for the past four years**, conducting multiple rounds of talks with the government to push their demands, according to news agency PTI.

## 19. How protest in Ladakh turned violent?

- The **Ladakh Apex Body (LAB)** youth wing **called for the protest after two of the 15 people**, who were on a 35-day hunger strike since September 10, were **shifted to a hospital** after their condition deteriorated on Tuesday September 23, evening.
- On **Wednesday September 24**, large crowds had gathered at the **NDS Memorial Ground** and **marched through the town**, chanting slogans in **support of statehood and Sixth Schedule status**.
- **Hundreds of protesters took to the streets**, with flames and dark smoke visible from afar.
- The protests **turned violent as the youth clashed with police personnel and pelted stones at the policemen**, who were deployed in strength in the area.



- The **protesters also pelted stones at government offices and police vehicles**.
- **Police had to resort to firing** to bring the **situation under control** after the protesters.



- **Hundreds of protesting youth brought Ladakh's Leh to a standstill as they clashed with police and torched the BJP office and several vehicles including a police van, prompting security forces to fire teargas shells and resort to baton charge.**
- **The administration imposed prohibitory orders under Section 163 of the BNSS to ban the assembly of five or more people, officials said.**



THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH  
लद्दाख संघ शासित प्रदेश का प्रशासन  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, LEH  
जिला मजिस्ट्रेट का कार्यालय, लेह

Tel No: 01982-252010

Email Id: dcleh-jk@nic.in

**ORDER UNDER SECTION 163 OF BHARATIYA NAGARIK SURAKSHA SANHITA, 2023**

**Whereas,** it has been brought to my notice that there is apprehension of disturbances to public peace and tranquillity, danger to human life and a possibility of law and order problem in the jurisdiction of District Leh;

**And whereas,** I am satisfied that immediate prevention and remedial measures are necessary to maintain public order and tranquillity;

**Now, therefore,** in exercise of powers conferred under **Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, I, Romil Singh Donk, IAS, District Magistrate, Leh, do hereby issue the following directions:**

- No procession, rally or march etc shall be carried out without the prior written approval of the competent authority.
- No one shall use the vehicles mounted or other loudspeaker without prior approval from competent authority.
- No one shall make any statements, which has potential to disturb the public tranquillity and which may lead to law and order problem in the district.
- Assembly of five or more persons shall remain prohibited within the jurisdiction of District Leh.

As notice cannot be served individually, this order is being passed ex-parte.

Any violation of this order shall invite punitive action under 223 of BNS 2023

**Issued under my seal and signature this day on 24/09/2025**



No. JC-69(I)2025(903)

**(Romil Singh Donk) IAS**  
**District Magistrate, Leh**

District Magistrate  
Leh  
Dated 24/09/2025

**Copy to the:**

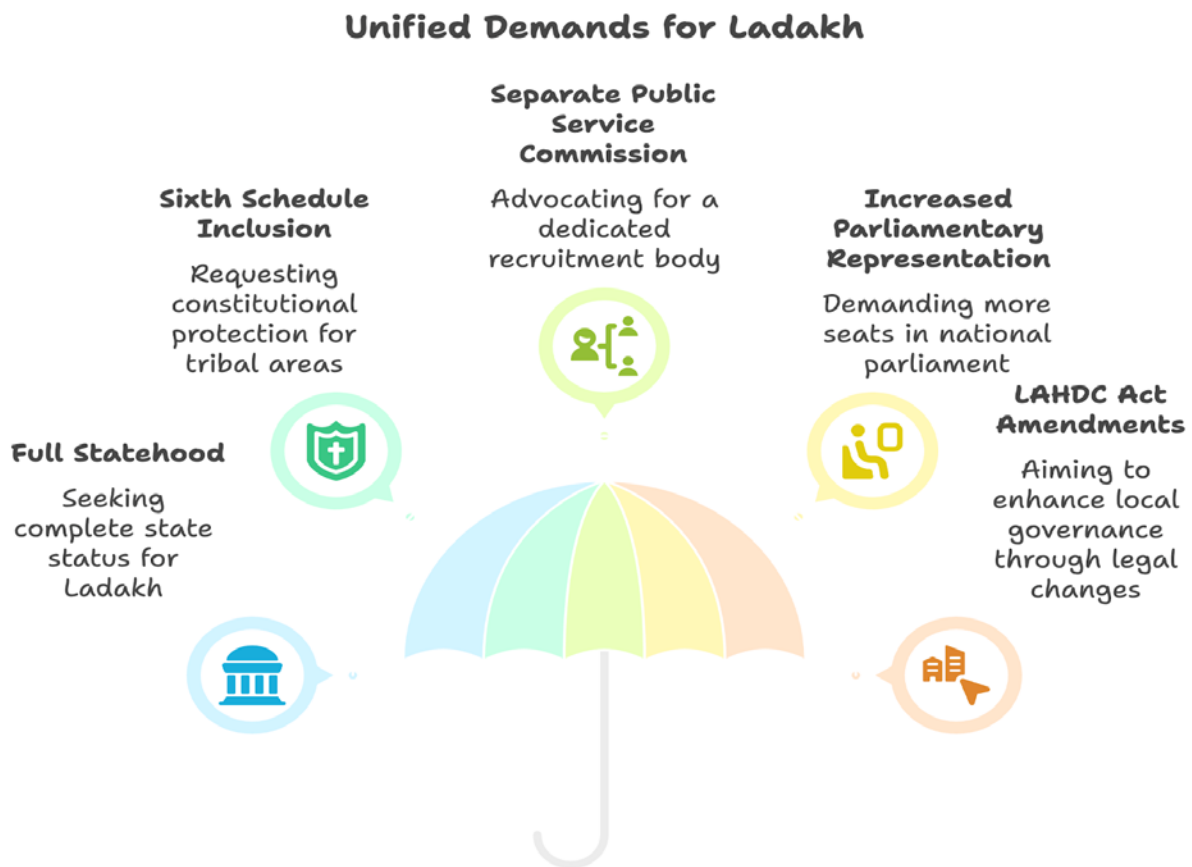
1. Administrative Secretary, Home Department, UT Ladakh
2. Senior Superintendent of Police, Leh for information and necessary action
3. All Sub Divisional Magistrates, District Leh for info. and n.a.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (All concerned) for compliance

## 20. How MHA reacted to Ladakh violent protest?

- The **ministry of home affairs (MHA)** on September, 24 said the mob violence in Ladakh was allegedly incited by **activist Sonam Wangchuk**, further accusing him of misleading the people through **provocative mention of Arab Spring-style protests** and references to the **recent Gen Z protests in Nepal**.
- The ministry said the next meeting of the **high-powered committee has been scheduled on October 6** while **meetings are also planned on September 25 and 26 with leaders from Ladakh**.
- The ministry said that the process of dialogue through this mechanism has yielded phenomenal results by **increasing reservations for Ladakh scheduled tribe from 45% to 84%**, providing **1/3 women reservations in the councils** and **declaring Bhoti and Purgi as official languages**. **Recruitment of 1,800 posts** was also commenced, it added.
- Sharing the sequence of events of Wednesday, **MHA said at around 11.30 am, a mob allegedly instigated by Wangchuk's provocative speeches** left the venue of the hunger strike and **attacked a political party office** as well as **government office of the Leh chief**.
- Barring unfortunate incidents that happened early in the day, the **situation was brought under control by 4pm, the home ministry noted**.
- The government further said it stands committed to the aspiration of people of **Ladakh by providing adequate constitutional safeguards**.
- **Ladakh Lieutenant Governor Kavinder Gupta** blamed **“vested interests”** for the **violence in Ladakh** and **vowed action against the guilty**.
- In the aftermath of the violence that claimed the lives of four people and injured 45, **Lt Guv Gupta announced a curfew as “precautionary measure”**.



## 21. What are major demands behind Leh-Ladakh protest?



- Though the demands have been there **ever since Ladakh was made a UT**, one of **two UTs upon Jammu and Kashmir state's division in 2019** but the **year 2024** saw it transform it into a **significant agitation**.
- **Ladakh also lost some of its protections when rules governing land ownership by non-locals went away**, along with **abrogation of Article 370** and the **related special status of the undivided J&K state**.
- The primary demands include:

<b>Demand</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Statehood for Ladakh</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Statehood for Ladakh</b>, as UT status has <b>not fulfilled</b> their demands of <b>self-governance and protections</b>.</li><li>• Statehood will provide <b>greater political autonomy and decision-making powers</b>.</li></ul>
<b>Safeguards under the 6th Schedule</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Inclusion of Ladakh</b> under the <b>Sixth Schedule</b> of the <b>Indian Constitution</b>, to safeguard its <b>tribal status</b>.</li><li>• <b>Demand for 6th Schedule</b> aims to protect the <b>cultural, linguistic, and land rights</b> of the indigenous population.</li></ul>
<b>Separate public service commission</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Setting up a <b>separate public service commission for Ladakh</b>, to address joblessness.</li></ul>
<b>Demand for reservation in jobs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Calling for reservations in employment opportunities</b> for the youth of Ladakh, ensuring <b>equitable access to economic resources and opportunities</b>.</li></ul>



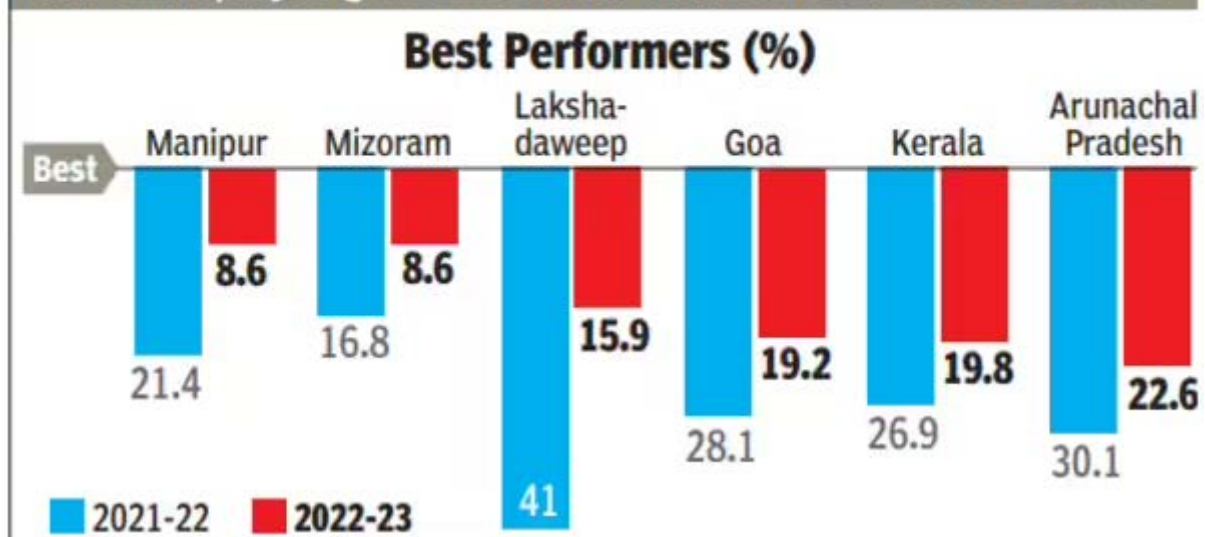
<b>Creation of Separate Parliamentary Constituencies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Two parliamentary seats for Ladakh</b>, as against the one it has for now, for more say at the Centre.</li> <li>• Demand for Parliamentary constituencies for <b>Leh and Kargil</b>, reflecting the <b>unique demographic and geographical</b> characteristics of each region.</li> </ul>
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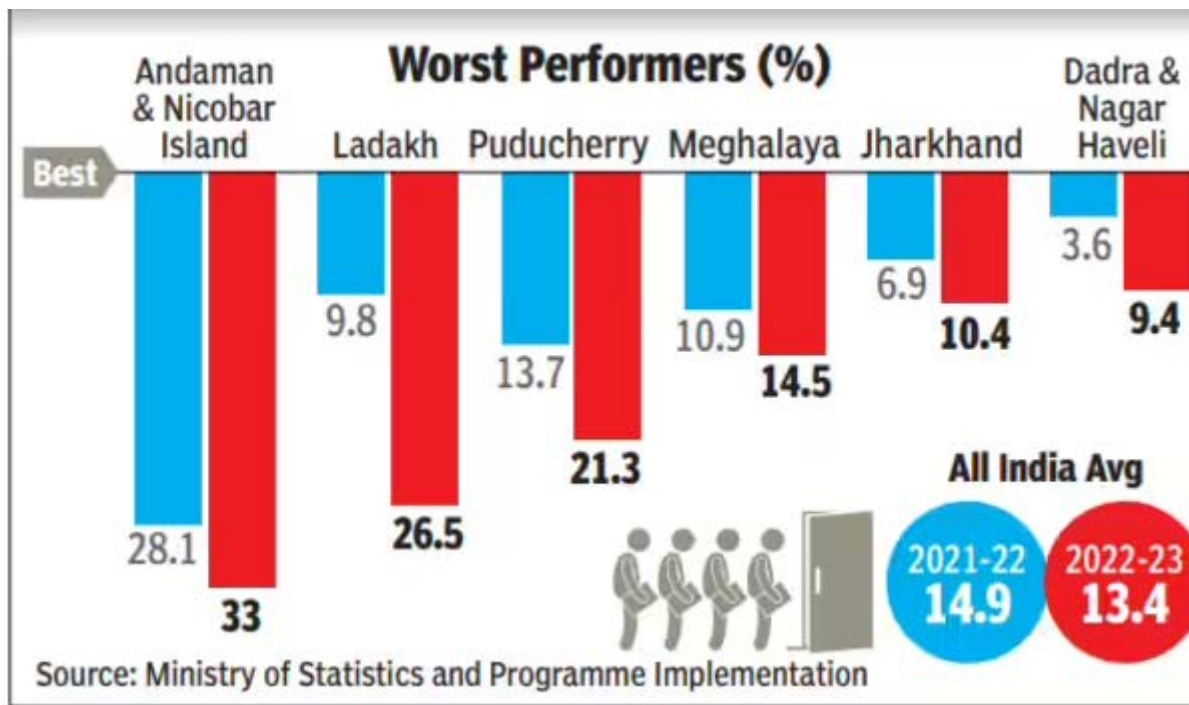
## 22. Why is unemployment a major issue in Ladakh?

- **Unemployment**, and the **slow pace of government recruitment**, has angered the youth too.
- That's where the **demand for a separate service commission** comes from.
  - A recent government survey said **26.5% of graduates in Ladakh are unemployed**.
  - The same rate for the whole country stood at **13.4%**.
  - Data showed the **highest unemployment in Andaman & Nicobar at 33%**, with **Ladakh the second worst at 26.5%**, among all states and UTs.

### REPORT CARD

How unemployed graduates fared between 2021-22 and 2022-23





## 23. What is the Constitutional basis for State formation?

- **Constitutional Provisions:**

Constitutional Provisions	Description
Article 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Parliament</b> may by <b>law admit into the Union, or establish, new States</b> on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.</li> </ul>
Article 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Under Article 3</b> of the Indian Constitution <b>Parliament</b> may: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Form a <b>new state by separating territory</b> from any state or UT.</li> <li>▪ <b>Unite two or more states</b> or parts of states or UTs.</li> <li>▪ <b>Alter the boundaries</b> or names of existing states.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key Requirements:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>A Bill for reorganization</b> needs to be introduced in <b>Parliament only with the President's recommendation.</b></li> <li>▪ If the proposal <b>affects the area or boundaries of an existing state</b>, the <b>President</b> needs to <b>refer it to that state's legislature</b> for its views.</li> <li>▪ The <b>views of the legislature are not binding</b> i.e. <b>Parliament can proceed regardless.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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## 24. What is the Sixth Schedule?

- The **Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution**, under **Article 244(2) and Article 275(1)**, provides for the administration of tribal areas in **Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.**
- It allows local communities to have a significant say in **how these regions are administered.**
- The protesting youth in Ladakh demand that it fall under the **protections of the Sixth Schedule.**
- **According to the Sixth Schedule**, the tribal areas, which have been deemed an **autonomous district**, **could be divided into areas by the governor** if there are **different Scheduled Tribes** in the region.
- For each autonomous district, there shall be a **District Council consisting of not more than 30 members.**
- The **governor shall not nominate** more than **four members**, while the rest shall be elected on the basis of adult suffrage.
- Additionally, a **separate Regional Council** shall be established for each autonomous region.

## 25. What are the powers of Regional Councils under sixth schedule?

<p><b>MEGHALAYA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council</li> <li>● Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council</li> <li>● Garo Hills Autonomous District Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mara Autonomous District Council</li> </ul>
<p><b>MIZORAM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chakma Autonomous District Council</li> <li>● Lai Autonomous District Council</li> </ul>	<p><b>TRIPURA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council</li> </ul>
	<p><b>ASSAM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dima Hasao Autonomous Council</li> <li>● Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council</li> <li>● Bodoland Territorial Council</li> </ul>

- As per the **Sixth Schedule**, in an **autonomous district with Regional Councils**, the **District Council** shall **only have such powers with respect to the areas** under the authority of the **Regional Council** as may be **delegated to it by the Regional Council**, in addition to the powers conferred on it by this Schedule with respect to such areas.
- The schedule also defines the **powers of the District Councils and Regional Councils to make laws**, and the **administration of justice in autonomous districts and regions**.
- **Autonomous District Councils (ADCs)** manage **land use, inheritance laws, and social customs**.
- ADCs hold **legislative, executive, and financial powers**, with the **ability to collect taxes and manage local resources**.
- ADCs can make laws that **supersede those of the state**, albeit with approval by the governor.
- At present, the **Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (LAHDCs)** have **executive powers for district-level planning and development**.



## 26. Why Ladakh is demanding sixth schedule status?

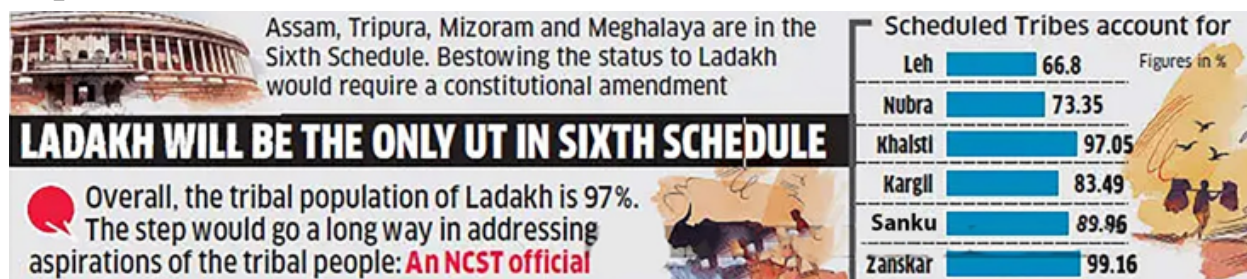
- Before 2019, as part of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh enjoyed constitutional safeguards under Article 370 and 35A.
- However, their revocation left the Ladakh people without legislation to protect their land, culture, and jobs, and their statehood was reduced to a Union Territory without a legislature.

Reasons	Description
Protection to indigenous population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ladakh's demand for inclusion in the <b>Sixth Schedule</b> is for <b>autonomy</b> to make and have say in the laws of the union territory, with the <b>intention of sustainable development and protecting its unique environment</b> and the culture of the tribal people.</li> <li>• About <b>97% of Ladakh's population is estimated to be tribal</b>.</li> </ul>
Safeguards for Land Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After <b>Article 370</b> was revoked (2019), <b>Ladakh lost special protections over land ownership</b> and jobs.</li> <li>• <b>Locals fear outsiders may buy land, settle permanently</b>, and change the region's demographic balance.</li> <li>• <b>Sixth Schedule would legally protect tribal land and culture</b>, ensuring decisions remain in local hands.</li> </ul>
Ecosystem conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sonam Wangchuk</b> highlights the <b>Himalayan region's vulnerability to climate change</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Melting glaciers lead to water scarcity and frequent floods</b>, exacerbating environmental challenges.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Without sufficient precautions</b>, life in these mountains will become increasingly difficult.</li> <li>• <b>Provisions</b> under the <b>Sixth Schedule</b>, will empower <b>indigenous communities to manage their mountains sustainably and ensuring democratic decision-making</b> and progress,</li> </ul>
<b>Legislative Autonomy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sixth Schedule</b> status provides for <b>Autonomous District Councils (ADCs)</b> that can <b>legislate on land, forests, water resources, customary laws, and education.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Employment concern</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rising unemployment</b> among <b>Ladakhi youth</b> has fueled resentment.</li> <li>• <b>Sixth Schedule</b> guarantees <b>job reservations for tribals and locals</b>, protecting <b>opportunities for Ladakhis.</b></li> </ul>

## 27. What are the recommendation of NCST on granting sixth schedule status to Ladakh?

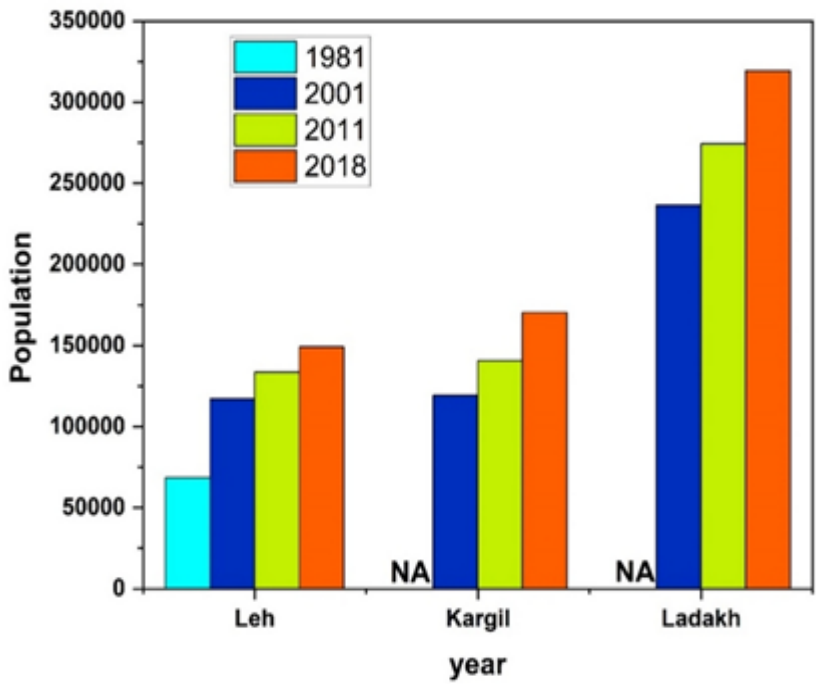
- The **National Commission for Scheduled Tribes** has recommended that the **Union Territory of Ladakh** be included in the **Sixth Schedule** of the Constitution.
- If the recommendation made to the home and tribal affairs ministries is accepted, **tribes in the UTs will secure the right to constitute autonomous district councils and regional councils** that have powers to **legislate on issues of local importance.**



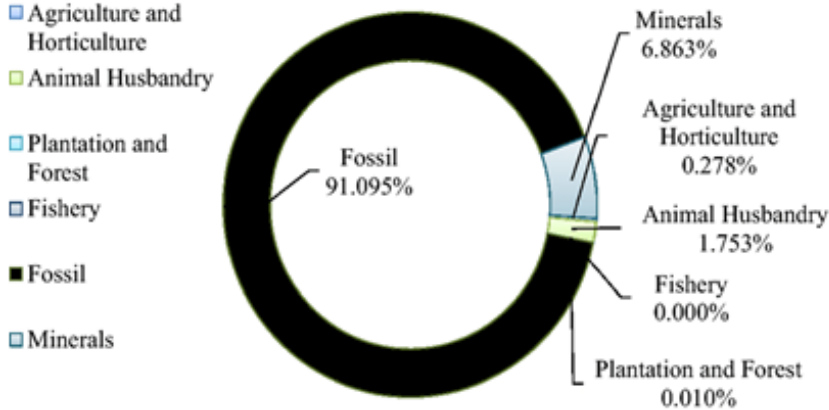
- Such laws will, however, require the lieutenant governor's assent.
- The NCST held detailed deliberations on the percentage of tribal population in Ladakh before making the recommendation.
- **Scheduled Tribes account for 66.8% in Leh, 73.35% in Nubra, 97.05% in Khalsti, 83.49% in Kargil, 89.96% in Sanku and 99.16% in Zaskar.**
- *“Overall, the tribal population of Ladakh is 97%. The step would go a long way in addressing aspirations of the tribal people,”* an NCST official said.
- The NCST said the **autonomous district councils of Mizoram**, when it was a **UT, had helped in mitigating** the genuine aspirations of people.
- **Inclusion of Ladakh in Schedule VI** would help in **democratic devolution** of powers, **promotion of distinct culture** of the region, **protection of agrarian rights**, including **rights on land** and enhancement of transfer of funds for speedy development of the UT.

## 28. What are the challenges in accepting statehood and sixth schedule status for Ladakh?

Challenges	Description
<b>Very Small Population</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ladakh</b> has barely <b>3 lakh people</b> (2021 estimates), spread over a huge area.</li> </ul>

	 <p>Population</p> <p>year</p> <p>Leh Kargil Ladakh</p> <p>1981 2001 2011 2018</p> <p>NA NA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A <b>full-fledged state</b> with such a small population may <b>not be administratively or financially viable</b>, as it would <b>require a legislature, assembly, bureaucracy</b>, and other state institutions.</li> </ul>
<b>Security &amp; Geopolitical Concerns</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ladakh is India's most strategic border region</b>, sharing boundaries with <b>China (Aksai Chin, LAC)</b> and <b>Pakistan (PoK, Gilgit-Baltistan, Siachen)</b>.</li> <li>• The central government may <b>prefer direct control through UT administration</b> to ensure quick decision-making on <b>defence, border roads, and infrastructure</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Statehood could limit this central oversight</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Resource Constraints</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ladakh's economy depends heavily on central grants, defence presence, tourism, and small-scale agriculture</b>.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It lacks <b>independent revenue sources</b> (like industries, large tax base) needed to <b>sustain a state government</b>.</li> </ul>  <p>Legend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agriculture and Horticulture</li> <li>Animal Husbandry</li> <li>Plantation and Forest</li> <li>Fishery</li> <li>Fossil</li> <li>Minerals</li> </ul> <p>Revenue Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fossil: 91.095%</li> <li>Minerals: 6.863%</li> <li>Agriculture and Horticulture: 0.278%</li> <li>Animal Husbandry: 1.753%</li> <li>Fishery: 0.000%</li> <li>Plantation and Forest: 0.010%</li> </ul>
<b>Constitutional amendment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Ministry of Home Affairs</b> has <b>highlighted potential challenges</b> in amending the Constitution to include <b>Ladakh in the Sixth Schedule</b>, stating that such a move would <b>require a constitutional amendment</b>.</li> <li>According to the Ministry, the <b>Article 244 of the Indian Constitution</b> explicitly reserves the <b>Sixth Schedule</b> for the <b>Northeast region</b>, while tribal areas in other parts of the country are covered under the Fifth Schedule.</li> </ul>
<b>Precedent for Other Regions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Granting statehood to Ladakh</b> could encourage similar demands in other small UTs (e.g., <b>Andaman &amp; Nicobar, Lakshadweep, or even Gorkhaland and Bodoland</b> in the Northeast).</li> <li>The <b>Centre</b> may <b>hesitate to set such a precedent</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Administrative Complexity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ladakh already has <b>two LAHDCs in Leh and Kargil</b>.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrating these with <b>Sixth Schedule provisions</b> would require <b>careful restructuring</b> to avoid <b>jurisdictional conflicts</b>.</li> </ul>
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## 29. Enlist key measures notified by Union Government for Ladakh?

- Amid demands by **Ladakhi civil society** groups seeking “constitutional safeguards” for the region, the **Union Government on June 3, 2025** notified new policies on **reservation, languages, domiciles, and the composition of hill councils** for Ladakh, which became a Union Territory in 2019.
- President Droupadi Murmu** notified the **Union Territory of Ladakh Reservation (Amendment) Regulation, 2025**, which amends the **Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Act, 2004** in **Ladakh’s** context.
- These provisions **mirror similar protections** in **northeastern states like Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh**, where **tribal populations enjoy over 80% reservation** in public employment.

### Policy progress

Key events in the ongoing negotiations regarding Ladakh from 2023 to 2025

■ **Jan. 3, 2023:**  
Committee forms to address Ladakh concerns

■ **Nov. 30:** Committee is reconstituted with new members

■ **March 4, 2024:** Talks between govt. and Ladakh leaders collapse

■ **Oct. 6:** Activist Sonam Wangchuk begins fast

■ **Oct. 21:** Govt. agrees to resume talks, fast ends

■ **Dec. 3:** Committee meets with Leh and Kargil leaders

■ **Jan. 15, 2025:**  
Follow-up meeting takes place in Delhi

■ **May 27:** Domicile and reservation policy is hammered out



**Major demand:** Protests demanding Statehood for Ladakh have been continuing for the past few years. ANI

Provisions	Description
<b>Reservation in Government Jobs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new rules under the <b>Ladakh Reservation (Amendment) Rules</b> (which flow from this Regulation) specify how the <b>85% (plus separate EWS) reservation is divided</b>.</li> <li>Key percentages are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>80% reservation for Scheduled Tribes (STs)</b></li> <li><b>4% reservation for residents of areas adjoining the Line of Control (ALC).</b></li> <li><b>1% reservation for Scheduled Castes (SCs).</b></li> <li><b>10% for EWS (this is outside the 85% cap).</b></li> <li>The <b>remainder (5%) is unreserved</b> (i.e. for general merit candidates) in direct recruitment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Domicile Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals need to <b>prove 15 years of continuous residence in Ladakh from October 31, 2019</b> (the day Ladakh became a UT), to qualify as a domicile.</li> <li><b>Children of Central government employees, All India Services officers, and PSU staff posted in Ladakh are eligible under specific conditions.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Women's Political Representation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>One-third of seats in Ladakh's Autonomous Hill Development Councils (LAHDCs) reserved for women on a rotational basis.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Official Languages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ladakh now officially recognizes English, Hindi, Urdu, Bhoti, and Purgi.</b></li> <li>It affirms <b>linguistic diversity and cultural preservation.</b></li> </ul>

	
<b>Regulatory Amendments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ladakh Reservation (Amendment) Regulation, 2025.</b></li> <li>• <b>Ladakh Civil Services Decentralisation and Recruitment (Amendment) Regulation, 2025.</b></li> <li>• <b>Ladakh Official Languages Regulation, 2025.</b></li> <li>• <b>Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils (Amendment) Regulation, 2025.</b></li> </ul>

### 30. What is the relevance of the topic for UPSC CSE?

- **For Prelims:** Union Territory of Ladakh, Sixth Schedule, Article 370, Article 3, Conditions under Article 3, Article 244(2), Autonomous Districts.
- **For Mains:** Primary Demands Related to Ladakh, Imperatives Behind Ladakh's Current Union Territory Status, Objectives of Sixth Schedule.

### Some previous years prelims questions.

- Q1. If a Particular area is brought under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India, which one of the following statement best reflects the consequence of it? (2022)



- (a) This would prevent the transfer of land of tribal people to non-tribal people.
- (b) This would create a local self- governing body in that area.
- (c) This would convert that area into a Union Territory.
- (d) The State having such areas would be declare a Special Category State.

**Ans: (a)**

**Q2.** Under which Schedule of the Constitution of India can the transfer of tribal land to private parties for mining be declared null and void? **(2019)**

- (a) Third Schedule
- (b) Fifth Schedule
- (c) Ninth Schedule
- (d) Twelfth Schedule

**Ans: (b)**

### **Some previous years mains questions.**

- Q1.** Discuss the nature of Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly after the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019. Briefly describe the powers and functions of the Assembly of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. **(2025-10 Marks)**
- Q2.** Discuss the significance of the Governor's powers in managing Fifth Scheduled Areas. How has this impacted tribal welfare? **(2020-10Marks)**
- Q3.** Why are the tribals in India referred to as 'the Scheduled Tribes? Indicate the major provisions enshrined in the Constitution of India for their upliftment. **(2016-12.5 Marks)**

## Some questions from this year and previous years interview transcripts.

### **Board Suman Sharma mam:**

- Why Ladakh is protesting?
- Who is its leader?

### **Board Suman Sharma mam:**

- What is the ongoing issue in Ladakh?
- What is 6th schedule?

### **Board Suman Sharma mam:**

- Should Ladakh be added to 6th schedule?
- Why is govt reluctant to give 6th schedule status?

### **Board BB Swain sir:**

- Should Ladakh be given 6th schedule status?

## Some questions for QUIZ.

Q1. Consider the following states:

1. Assam
2. Mizoram
3. Nagaland
4. Manipur
5. Tripura

How many of the above states are covered under sixth schedule status?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) Only four
- (d) All five

**Ans: (b)**

## Some questions for POLL.

Q1. Should Ladakh be granted separate statehood status?

- (a) YES
- (b) NO
- (c) Can't say.

Q2. Should Ladakh be granted sixth schedule status?

- (a) YES
- (b) NO
- (c) Can't say.

