



Sivarajavel IAS Academy 's

THE SOCIAL FACT

is a monthly bulletin for sociology current affairs which tries to give aspirants a new dimensions in their sociology preparations. The Magazine has been designed in such away that the reading experience is enriching and insightful for the readers.

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THE SOCIAL FACT

INSIDE THIS SOCIOLOGICAL BULLETIN

Connecting the dots :

Sociology is a process in making. Everyday newspapers and weekly have many important news, which have sociological angle in subtle form. This chapter helps you to connect those dots and give a clear picture of the reality.

Dear Readers,

As UPSC CSE Mains 2022 is round the corner, we from "The Social Fact team", like to send good wishes for all the aspirants.

To make your preparation simpler, in this special edition we compiled all previous editions of the 'Connecting the dots'. We hope, this will save your precious time and bring much needed dynamic for the sociology mains paper.

All The Best!!!

CONNECTING THE DOTS

SOCIOLOGICAL CONCEPTS

- *CBSE asked a question about 2002 Gujarat Riots and later apologized it but some justified that the question was in sociology paper and students should know what happened in the society --- **Weber advocated value neutrality in education arena but Gunnar Myrdal says value neutrality is a myth.***
- *Non-availability of requisite infrastructure glaring in city', The Delhi High Court has called for a social disability audit of the existing public transport infrastructure, including the Delhi Metro, with regards to facilities for persons with disability within six weeks --- **Social inclusion theory (the process of improving the terms on which vulnerable individuals and groups take part in society)***
- *In a press release issued on Wednesday (April 6), the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) said that all shops and establishments in Mumbai, irrespective of size, should use signboards in Marathi, written in the Devanagari script, prominently. The order stated that if the signboard displays the name of any shop or business in more than one script, the one in Devanagari should be in the bigger type --- **According to symbolic interactionism thinkers like GH Mead, Herbert Blumer, Symbols and signs plays an important role in constructing meanings while interacting and sociologists can study the society or a particular action based on the aforementioned meanings and motives behind it.***

- *The Commonwealth Games Federation has given athletes the freedom to take a stand on issues close to their heart, including displaying an aboriginal flag, podium protest in favour of empowering athletes to take a stand against racial and social injustices. --- **The understanding of multicultural and polyethnic is in rising and seeing society's through Malinowski's cultural relativism.***
- *If there is a conflict between interest of the nation and interest of an individual, the former always takes precedence says chairman of Parliamentary panel for data protection bill. --- **Durkheim's concept of "the whole is greater than the sum of the parts (Social fact)". Society or nation is not the sum of individuals rather larger than life entity of its own.***
- *New variants of corona virus are named after Greek alphabets but skipped the letter "Xi" as it symbolizes common surname and it want to avoid causing any offense to cultural, social, national or ethnic groups, similarly Delhi government have stopped registration on this series "DL SEX" for two wheelers because of the sensitivity ---**Examples of significant symbols in symbolic interactionism. Freud said that there is no reality beyond the subjectivity of the people through symbols.***
- *Liquor prohibition is the most welcomed law in Bihar but now attracted criticisms because of multiple hooch deaths in Bihar --- **Latent dysfunction of a law (Merton), a small deviation (consuming alcohol) is necessary evil to maintain order in the society so outright ban is wrong. (Kingsley Davis's safety wall theory)***
- *After shooting incident due to stress, CRPF plans "Chaupals" once in a week in outdoor setting, will be attended by officers of all ranks in civilian clothes. ---**Restitute action instead of repressive action (Durkheim's organic society)***
- *In Ayodhya case since both sides accepted it so it became right judgment and not the other way round, claims Ex-Finance minister ---**Value consensus among the people in the society (Parson's Functionalist view)***

- *NCRB reports that there are more suicides among businessmen than farmers in 2020 --- **Relative aspirations and failure to be meet the expectations of Reference group as a cause of suicides***
- *The code name “GAY” for the airport at Gaya is “offensive, embarrassing and inappropriate” and the government must make all efforts to get it changed, a parliamentary panel has said in its report. --- **Nicholas Onuf’s Social constructivism wherein institutions and identities are made by the process of signaling interpreting analyzing and responding ultimately giving a meaning of its own.***
- *The district administrator of Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh is riding on a bank of sports equipment, sports stadium to fight against drugs in the small town and successfully rehabilitated youth adult from intoxication --- **RK Merton’s retreatism to conformity. Correcting the faulty socialization through secondary sensitization.***
- *All Delhi government offices will only have portraits of B.R.Ambedkar and Bhagat Singh and no longer have photos of politicians. --- **Routinization of charismatic leader(Weber) and making a case for reference group behavior in the bureaucratic structure.***
- *Despite regulations, Elon musk’s tweets were the reason for the sudden rise and fall of the prices of bitcoin, dogecoin etc and reason for his own company’s stock market price. --- **Charles Derber’s socio psychology concept of “The pursuit of attention”.***
- *FIFA and UEFA barred Russia from its international competition and the International Olympic Committee recommends ban on Russian athletes following the Russian invasion of Ukraine. --- **Unanticipated consequences and acts as latent dysfunction of an invasion for the state and people at large (Robert K Merton)***

- Due to covid pandemic, In the recent National achievement survey, the mean score of Class X rural students in the Science exam declined by 47marks in 2021 compared to 2018, whereas for urban students, there was a smaller decline of 38 marks. Similarly, the impact was greater on Schedule Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) and Other Backward Classes (OBC)students compared to the general category. --- **Social and cultural capitalist strongly co related with educational development of the child (Pierre Bourdieu)**

GENDER - STRATIFICATION

- Toilets in public places such as restaurants and bus stands should be de-gendered like the toilets in planes and trains which had always been gender neutral, says Panel discussion against Gender violence: **Gender sensitization through Parson's "secondary socialization" in Public space.**
- Anupama case (forceful adoption of her child by their parents because of interfaith marriage) in Kerala – **Patriarchal society and denial of agency of woman (Leela Dubey)**
- Meta, formerly Facebook, on Thursday announced initiatives in India to ensure women's safety on the platform, including measures to combat the spread of non-consensual intimate images and the introduction of a 'Women's Safety Hub' in Indian regional languages --- Sylvia Walby cites sexual violence as the main tool for patriarchal dominance and role of tech in making people aware of this fact.
- Co ed schools are having better pass percentage than single gender schools as per Delhi government report ---Role of Gender sensitization in the cognitive development of child.
- Nayika and its successful IPO and became India's first Self-made women billionaire ---**Modern woman breaking the stereotype and glass ceiling of the patriarchal society.**

- *Putting equality rhetoric into practice, New German Chancellor “Olaf Scholz” unveiled the country’s first gender-balanced Cabinet with women in key security portfolios. : **A move towards eradicating public patriarchy and glass ceiling.***
- *Public have expressed outrage over the “regressive” content of a comprehension passage in the CBSE examination which reads “Infringing the man down from his pedestal, the wife and mother deprived herself, in fact, of the means of discipline” ---**Social construction of gender roles are repressive against women.**(Ann Oakley)*
- *Over half of all news shows have aggressive content. Male anchors showed far higher (54.55%) aggressive behavior on several metrics than those moderated by women (12.07%) says a study by Network of Women in Media --- **Feminists like Firestone argues that New media is predominantly masculine and it reinforces aggressive behavior of the patriarchy.***
- *An MLA in Karnataka assembly commented “Enjoy rape if it is inevitable” in the floor and it is condemned by none at the house and laughed by the speaker during the remark. Only 8 out of 224 MLA in the house were women. --- **Objectification of women and insensitive social attitude by alpha males and it is fueled by the lack of equal representation of women in the legislature.***
- *The Parliamentary panel assigned to examine the landmark bill which seeks to raise the legal age of marriage for women to 21 has only one-woman MP out of 31 members. --- **Systemic deprivation of the women got institutionalized in the public spheres which has an impact on their private spheres.***
- *Despite the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, which was brought to end discrimination against transgender persons in accessing education, employment and healthcare, and recognise the right to self-perceived gender identity, their harassment continues endlessly, she was denied a job in the Maharashtra State --- **gender construction and modern rational laws vs norms and values, cultural. Sensitization of laws Vulnerability** (Ann Oakley)*

- Congress released “Pink manifesto” for the upcoming Uttar Pradesh Assembly election aimed to mobilize women voters --- **Stereotyping the women through the Social construction of gender. Associating soft cue like care, pink with the women. (Ann Oakley).**
- A team of policewomen will be inducted into a special unit that provides security to the Tamil Nādu Chief minister for the first time. --- **An example that biological division of labour is just a cultural one and not a natural phenomenon. (Margaret Mead) As this understanding matures women break the glass ceiling and come out of Pink collar jobs.**
- Both women’s groups and people from the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and asexual (LGBTQIA) community have raised serious objections at how they have been clubbed together in the draft Maharashtra policy and action plan for gender equality and women’s empowerment 2022. --- **Ignorance of state to the changing nature of society from binary gender values to all-inclusive gender types. Problems faced by LGBTQIA in getting social recognition even after legal recognition.**
- Records from TMH Mumbai cancer hospital shows that among cancer patients 65% were boys, the remaining 6,432 were girls, making up for just 35% of the total children. Village girls are much lesser and the reason cited among was “girl’s life holds lesser value”. --- **Right to life is both right and entitlement of a human. Misogynistic society’s apathy towards the girl child and manifestation of patriarchy (Ann Oakley)**
- Pandemic seems to have exacerbated the already substantial gender imbalances in employment. ILO reports for every 100 women and men at work prior to the pandemic, 12.3 women and 7.5 men would have lost their job as an average through the entire period considered by the report --- **Women were the ones who are first to be fired and last to hired. This is because of reserve army of labour in the capitalist economy. This exacerbate the gender in quality in the society as economy forms the base for all other institutions. (Marxism)**

CASTE - STRATIFICATION

- *Marginalization not only occurs to members from the lower castes but to those who belong to a particular gender or identify with a specific sexual orientation or are in other ways different from what is considered to be the “norm” said Justice D Y Chandrachud. --- Laurie Taylor says those who wield the power will decide who is the deviance. It is not consensus rather view of the powerful.*
- *Castelessness is a privilege that only the upper caste can afford because their caste privilege has already translated into social, political and economic capital – SC Judge :Pierre Bourdieu’s forms of capital and privilege group’s access to it.*
- *The factor of caste, considered seriously by political parties while choosing their ticket for the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, does not seem to count for much in the selection of candidates for the heads of urban local bodies, according to a survey. --- The general conception that Indians won’t cast their vote rather vote their caste is being questioned. Self-centric interest gratification may override identities like religion, caste, ethnicities.*
- *In Uttarakhand, Dalit cook sacked from her job at a government after students refused to eat mid-day meals cooked by her. Later Dalit students boycotted to eat the meals and finally the Dalit cook was appointed again. --- New Dalit uprisings and movements based on their right consciousness.*
- *All ministers in Andhra Pradesh submitted their resignation to the Chief minister based on the CM’s promise of CM that he would revamp the cabinet ministers with new faces after two and a half years in order to give chances to new faces but is expected that the Fresh inductions, retentions solely based on caste criteria. --- This is a vote bank politics in the upper level of government which has its own functions and dysfunctions for a democracy. The term vote bank politics was first coined by M.N.Srinivas in a paper titled ‘The Social System of a Mysore Village’,*

- *In Bundi (Rajasthan), the new social trend of Dalits riding a horse at their wedding, seen by the higher castes as an act of defiance, has instilled confidence among the underprivileged living on the margins. Local police too are supporting and escorting the horse procession --- **Dalit consciousness and asserting their right to break the barriers through new forms of Dalit movements and state through its organ acts proactively to ensure substantive equality.***
- *Students in Private medical college in Maharashtra complained to the state SC-ST commission against casteist slur in campus and also accused the hospital of trying to protect the students by providing them clearance in their in-house investigation: --- **Walter Fernandes says casteist slurs in the urban secular institutions are a common phenomenon and it shows the apathy of the secular institutions to the downtrodden people.***
- *In Rajasthan, it has been a week since a 35-year-old Dalit laborer was allegedly abducted, held captive in a cattle shed and tortured over a monetary dispute in Rajasthan's Bundi district, and the accused are yet to be arrested. --- **This issue shows the nexus between dominant caste and State machinery which is an Indian example for CW Mills' Power elite concept and MN Srinivas concept of dominant caste and their misuse of state apparatus. (Non percolation of rule of law , CW mills nexus , MN. Srinivas dominant caste)***
- *There was strong resistance from the 'upper' caste community in Amalihal to Dalits' entry into the temple, so with police security, eight members of a Dalit family in Karnataka entered the Anjaneya temple performed the tonsuring ceremony for their child. --- **One important agent for social change in the modern society is the rational law and proactive action of state in maintaining the rule of law. This is an example where sociopolitical institutions like police helps to break the caste barriers and maintains just society.***

- *Violence erupted in Amalapuram(AP) and civic amenities were burned as hundreds of members of organisations dominated by the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and the upper castes took to the streets opposing the State government's order of changing district name from Konaseema to Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Konaseema as demanded by local Dalits. ---This is extreme effect of caste patriotism (GS Ghurye) coupled with dysfunctional aspect of identity politics like minority appeasement and majoritarianism. (Paul Brass)*
- *In an open letter, more than 80 professors at California State University demanded that the addition of caste as a protected category in university policy be removed --- Caste patriotism's is real and caste will take various forms and structure in order to sustain itself (GS Ghurye)*

OTHER STRATIFICATIONS

- *The Bulli Bai case is related to an online mock auction of Muslim women in India. Photos of prominent Muslim journalists and activists were uploaded on the Bulli Bai app without their permission where they were auctioned virtually --- Extreme form of ethnicization and those actions which are not driven by individuals interests but search and fight for ethnic identity. (Zoya Hasan)*
- *Chakma Development Foundation of India alleged racial profiling of Chakmas and Hajongs in Arunachal Pradesh through an exclusive census of both the communities. --- Despite the efforts of global community, racial theory is still grounded in the biological differences (pseudoscientific racism)*
- *An independent review in UK finds that skin color bias in pulse oximeter reading -Systemic racism in the medical devices and prejudiced research process even in "science" field.*

- *Nallamala Tiger tourism and Chenchu tribe as Guides for tourists –An example against Museumization of Tribes (Isolation of tribes by Verrier Elvin)*
- *Odisha will impart primary education in tribal language as a part of National education Policy 2020 --- Reduce the sense of cultural shock in the road of tribal development.*
- *A poll survey quotes the increasing involvement of tribals in the democratic politics and cites a high 78% voter turnout in Manipur in the recent legislative assembly which is higher than its previous elections --- Assimilation and integration of tribal people into larger national identity and which goes against the museumization of tribe concept. (Verrier Elwin)*
- *Princess Mako of Japan was stripped of her royal status after marrying commoner ---Status group isolate themselves from others. (Weber) and Louis Dumont's Pure and pollution concept.*
- *President Joe Biden picked Ketanji Brown Jackson on Friday to be the first Black woman in U.S. history to serve on the nation's highest court. --- While it shows the equality of opportunities in terms of gender and race but the fact that it took more than 2 centuries for the USA to accept it shows the institutionalized racism (Stokely Carmichael)*
- *New Caledonia votes to remain part of France, where indigenous people(Natives) voted for independence but European migrants (Non-Natives) voted against it : Faulty assimilation of Natives and immigrants said by Robert E Park.*
- *Landless , small and marginal farmers make up big chunk of the dead at protest against farm laws –Class divide in the Rural society and their vulnerabilities in proportion to it.*

- *Vaccine coverage of people with disabilities is abysmally low and none of the official Government circulars mentioned disabled people as vulnerable communities --- **Apathy towards marginalised communities were exposed in the time of crisis.***
- *Ministry of External affairs reported that 6 lakh Indian renounced their citizenship in last 5 years, most of them got citizenship in western countries --- **Ambedkar's social endosmosis from relatively closed society to open society for economic prosperity.***

WORK AND ECONOMICS

- *UAE has shortened the work week to 4 and a half days while making Sunday as a full holiday and holy Friday as half working day in order to align with international financial markets. --- **Influence of economic infrastructure in societal superstructure (Marx). Religious nationalism giving way for Civic nationalism.***
- *Unexpectedly large numbers of people are embracing the credo of “antiwork”, and walking out of their jobs. A record 4.3 million people resigned in August 2021 in USA alone. --- **Anthony Klotz's concept of “Great Resignation” a call to remap priorities in the work-life equation.***
- *Netflix slashed its subscription price to a record low to create “brand of its own” among the growing middle class of India --- **Veblen's theory of conspicuous consumption and its relation with great aspiring middleclass of India***
- *The first and second wave of pandemics, apart from causing deaths, leads to economic distress and hunger among the poor, according to a survey of 6,500 respondents in 14 States. This holds across countries where economic activities took a hit. --- **A critique to Marx's economic determinism concept where superstructure like health too influences the economic infrastructure and causes severe damage and not always economic***

dictates others.

- *Men in India capture 82% of labour income, while women earn just 18% this is mainly because of their informal work nature, according to the first-ever estimates of the gender inequality in global earnings --- **Invisible work of the women and dual burden concept (Hochschild)***
- *World Inequality reports finds that while top 10% rich persons' wealth increases slowly, the top 1% wealth increased in multi fold --- **Marxian's economic polarization of the societal structure is happening but not as expected by the Marx. There is an elite within the elitist group.***
- *The share of global wealth of the world's richest people soared at a record pace during the Covid pandemic, a report on inequality showed, While the wealth of billionaires rose by more than \$4 trillion, 100 million more people joined the ranks of extreme poverty," :Kincaid captured this in his lines "**It is wrong to say there are rich and poor" instead some are rich because some are poor"***
- *A company in Surat gifted E-scooter as Diwali bonus to its employees--**-welfare Compassionate capitalism and Responsible entrepreneurship model.***
- *Biden administration providing universal pre-kindergarten, Obama-era - Affordable Care Act, building a million units of low-income housing but China going for open marked based capitalist economy --- **Blurring of capitalist communist economic model.***
- *UAE issued orders like decriminalizing premarital sexual relations and alcohol consumption, allowing divorce for non-Muslims to make itself more attractive for foreign investment, tourism and long-term residency---**Economic infrastructure gives foundation and direction to superstructure (Laws and religious norms)***
- *4 CRPF jawans shot dead by colleague due to some emotional stress leading to sudden psychological disbalance ---**Alienation from the Work among workers even in the non-industrial jobs (Neo Marxists)***

- *China's 6th plenary meeting sets "new goals" for a "new era" under Xi Jinping --- Under AGIL concept of Parson, Political system known for setting up goal in the social system. (Goal attainment)*
- *In Portugal, new Labour law penalizes companies for contacting employees outside office hours --- A move away from Exploitation of capitalist economy and laws for the new normal of "work from Home" model.*
- *Amazon workers in Staten Island, New York, voted to unionize, marking the first successful U.S. organising effort in the retail giant's history and handing an unexpected win to a nascent group that fueled the union drive. --- Dahrendorf's disintegration of labour is questioned by this move as differentiated workers coming together to bargain as a single entity. The institutionalization of conflict resolution*
- *Poverty has forced a few women in Andhra Pradesh to sell their babies. In two cases reported in Eluru and Mangalagiri in the past three or four days, the women gave statements that their family members sold the babies, unable to care for them. --- This is due to the inability of securing social capital (Pierre Bourdieu) and Burchardt explains poverty is not a simple economic phenomenon rather results of lack family's responsibility too.*
- *Food delivery platform Zomato's recent announcement of carrying out food deliveries in 10 minutes is facing a backlash, with delivery worker unions, lawmakers, restaurants, and the police raising red flags that Zomato should look at its delivery workers "as human beings", and not as "data points" for an algorithm to manage. The company claims that it will not put any pressure on delivery workers to deliver faster. --- Alienation of workers from the product they produced and in turn will lead to the alienation from process, co-workers and ultimately from oneself (Karl Marx). Workers are becoming part of the value chain just like any other product*

- *PVR and Inox Leisure have announced the merger to create the largest multiplex chain in the country. The merger between these top two brands is a win-win situation for both companies as optimization of process increases the profits. However, this merger need not to get the final approval from Competition commission of India because their share price has fallen due to covid crisis. --- **Robert Kiyoski in his book “Why rich are getting richer?” says that the rich are getting richer because they are better educated about money and explained how rich use debt, market crises and taxes to get richer. In fact, Engels feared the same in the capitalist economy.***
- *From Lamborghini to Mercedes Benz and BMW, luxury automakers are seeing strong demand for their models at the premium end, despite COVID-related disruptions, largely due to a shift in the customer profile to younger, first-generation entrepreneurs, who believe in the ‘you only live once’ philosophy. --- **Karl Marx talks about the commodity fetishism wherein individuals believe commodities are worth something on their own terms outside of their direct utility and having life of their own. This is also an example of conspicuous consumption led economic growth.***

STATE - NATION

- *This year in the beating retreat ceremony, only Indian origin/indigenous tunes are on the list,” a government source said on Sunday. ‘Abide with me’ will not be played this year so as to include the maximum number of Indian tunes --- **Reinforcing the cultural nationalism by the modern state. Culmination of nation state concept.***
- *No U.S. troops or officials would face disciplinary action for a drone strike in Kabul in August that killed 10 civilians, including seven children, similarly in India, many civilian killings by the Army went unnoticed in the name of AFSPA --- **Louis Althusser’s repressive state apparatus concept explains how state’s hard power is used to control the power without any accountability.***

- *Killing against Sacrilege incident in Pakistan was condemned by many in India but when the ditto happened in Punjab, political parties and civil societies said none. ---**Hegemonistic nationalism is created by parties for consolidation of votes and civil societies are inculcating it.***
- *Tennessee removed Maus (a non-fiction book about the holocaust) from its schools' curriculum, citing the "rough language" and "unnecessary profanity, a small drawing of a nude cat representing a woman, mentions of murder, violence, and suicide and it was not aged appropriate ones. ---**State playing the role of the family in 'personality stabilization' and influencing the formation of 'Me' in-game stage. (GH mead's 4 stages of development)***
- *Mastercard, Visa has decided to abandon its Russian customers in the wake of the Russian Ukraine crisis and it makes a strong case for India to promote the own Rupay considering the future geopolitics equation. --- **In the 21st century, many socio-political thinkers opinion that states are losing power and for countering the state legitimate power, transnational powers are being used. (Raymond Vernon)***
- *A controversial education bill in Florida, which seeks to outlaw all discussions surrounding sexual orientation and gender identity in schools, citing it is inappropriate for teachers to talk about the sexual orientation of the students. While others fear that it would further marginalize the LGBTQ community. --- **The continuum between the laws and personal choices. State dictating the individual gender discussion via ideological state apparatus(Althusser)***
- *The Swadeshi Jagaran Manch (SJM), has expressed reservations and asked for a rethink on the part of the company, Tata Sons, on the appointment of Turkish national Ilker Ayci as the new chief executive officer (CEO) of Air India and subsequently he was not appointed. --- **In Indian democracy, pressure groups exert muscle power and achieves their own interest rather fighting for the broader general will of the people. This case is also another example of deepening ethnocentrism (Randhir Singh)***

- *Many criticised ART law is Victorian as it does not include lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender people (LGBTQ) or single men for exercising the right --- **cultural reinforcement by the state institutions rather than acting as a change catalyst.***
- *Facebook and Google make profit more than top 10 media firms put together and they are alleged in misusing their dominance influencing the verdicts of courts and laws of legislature. --- **Marxists believes that state institutions are just an organ of Bourgeoisie class and CW Mills cited this as a “Power elite” between politics and economical strata.***
- *Judiciary’s “inaction” always favors those in power and it fails to stem the tide of majoritarianism and its impact on the people, says an MP : **As against weber’s ideal type modern organisation is not purely based on ration legal laws but also influenced by values and biasedness.***
- *Postponement of marriages in Kashmir valley as Marriage halls are taken over by CRPF for security issues in Kashmir ---**Infiltration of state in the social life of the citizen without their consent (A critique to social contract theory and Parson’s variable sum theory)***
- *In MGNREGA, those from SC/ST [Scheduled Castes and Tribes] got paid within 15-20 days and those from other communities had to wait two months --- **Positive discrimination of the state and social frictions associated with it.***
- *The ‘Specialized Counselling and Support Centre for Women’, launched by the Chennai City Police has many success stories. One victim of domestic violence reported that she was hesitant initially but she got happiness and clarity in life and have a rejuvenating life after counselling. --- **An example for Welfare state model.***
- *US backed government removed Taliban in 2001 and gave away the power to the same elite group in a matter of 2 decade – **Circulation of Elites by Pareto.***

- *Civil society is new frontier of war, says NSA Ajit Doval and at the same time in Ghana, Active civil society prevents the militia attacks that the neighboring countries are faced with -- **Increasing role of civil society in 21st Century.***
- *About two dozen Afghan women chanting “bread, work, freedom” protested in the capital on Sunday against the Taliban’s harsh restrictions on their rights. After seizing power, the Taliban had promised a softer version of the harsh Islamist rule that characterized their first stint in power from 1996 to 2001. But many restrictions have already been imposed. --- **Spill over effect of Global feminist movement and second wave of feminist movement against Taliban rulers. (1st wave led by individual personalities like Malala. 2nd wave is by organised women organization.)***
- *Rani Kamalapati railway station in MP, Birsa Munda celebration --- **A rise in tribal people’s influence in Politics***
- *Bengaluru police cancelled a comedy show citing the law and order after received a case against the show because of his alleged track record cracking jokes against Hindu gods and goddesses : **Growing cultural nationalism fueled by Majority appeasement vs Seeking Liberationism.***
- *Flipkart signed MOU with Rural development ministry to improve the livelihood of the rural poor with the help of SHGs. With this, Flipkart became the latest entrant among the tech giants (Google, Amazon) to work with the Indian government and civil societies for the welfare of the people. --- **Tripartite model of governance (Government – private players – Civil societies) with citizens/customers at its centre is gaining momentum.***
- *Police personnel have no right whatsoever to unilaterally dictate the time when roadside eateries, hotels and restaurants should be open-door closed. says High court. --- **Reinstating the importance of legal-rational authority in the modern democracy (Weber’s Bureaucratization of society). Going beyond laws to avoid Bureaumania may lead to arbitrariness.***

- *Minister of women and child development says Children-centric scheme of the government had seen a “390%” increase in budgetary allocations since 2014 which involves early childhood care to education to the health of all children who are below 18 years of age --- **Parents-patriae doctrine (Parents of the nation) where the state is to act as a substitute parent to a child whose parents, for one reason or another, cannot properly raise the child.***
- *Out of the ₹1.25 lakh crore which companies have spent as part of their mandatory corporate social responsibility (CSR) over the last seven years, only ₹8 crore — about 0.006% — has been spent in Nagaland, according to government data presented in the Rajya Sabha. --- **R.K.Merton’s relative deprivation and its consequence on sustaining ethnicity movement. It might have an impact on nationalism (Paul Brass)***
- *The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has decided to ban the private practice by government doctors in the State. The State government got feedback from the public that the services in government hospitals could be improved further if the private practice by the doctors was curtailed. --- **Amartya Sen’s welfare state concept and Durkheim’s collective representative. The collective goods of society take precedence over individual goals.***
- *Delhi court asked the CBI to tender a written apology to Chair of Amnesty International India Board Aakar Patel after he was stopped from boarding US flight citing a Look-Out Circular (LOC) issued against him on the ground of it being devoid of merits. This is similar to the Rana Ayyub case. Both of them are strong government critics. --- **Althusser says, the state uses its repressive state apparatus to control the people when an ideological domain fails to do so.***
- *The Tamil Nadu government was prepared to supply essential commodities such as rice, cereals and life-saving drugs by ship to benefit Tamils in eastern and northern provinces of Sri Lanka, and in Colombo and Jaffna and hill-country Tamils, an official release said. --- **T.K.Oommen explains the relation between the nation on the one hand and ethnicity and citizenship on the other and cites how new boundaries do not replace the old ones but rather they tend to co-exist.***



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286/500 | 2014-15



Mr. R Baskaran, IPS
197/500 | 2012-13



Mr. Selvanagarathinam S, IPS
303/500 | 2013-14



Mr. T. Ramkumar, IFS
198/500 | 2011-12

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RELIGION

- As two Kerala temples bar artists from performing because of their religion, the debate about art and religion emerges again. One woman was denied entry citing she is a born Muslim whereas another man was denied because his daughter in law is non-Hindu --- **Debbler considers that de-sacralization modern society is responsible for revival of religion. Man by nature loves diversity and exclusivity that he gets from his culture and religion. Modernity threatens this exclusivity. Therefore people recall their religion, speak about threats to their religion, and glorify their past customs.**
- Vaccination campaign started on “Hanuman Jayanti” in a tribal village in Aurangabad to clear the fears of local people and got success – **Religion and Science are not antithetical, former can support latter.**
- Devasahayam Pillai, who embraced Christianity in the 18th century, on Sunday became the first Indian layman to be declared a saint by Pope Francis during an impressive canonization ceremony here at the Vatican. --- **Stark and Bainbridge says Religion can be seen in similar terms to a market in which individual consumer choices are important in determining whether religion is successful or not.**
- Across the divide in Gurgaon, A Hindu man offers shop and Gurudwaras offers prayer halls for Namaz but later refused due to pressure from conservatives – **Religious harmony among communities amid communalization.**
- During Farmer’s protest, In western UP, a few wedding cards carried no images of god or goddess. Instead, it carried slogans such as “No Farmer No Food”, “Kisan Ekta Zindabad” --- **moving away from ‘false consciousness’ of trusting god to ‘true consciousness’ of believing themselves.**

- *The district officials in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh have issued an order to shut meat shops during the upcoming Navratri festival as according to them “the religious beliefs and sentiments of devotees are affected when they come across such shops” --- Gramsci subtly and deftly problematized the relationship between religion, economy, power, and politics in society. It is not always the economy influencing religion, it can be the other way around.*
- *The high court has registered a Suo Motu case based on a report that devotees at a temple in Kochi were made to wash the feet of brahmins as atonement for sins but later Devasthanam board clarified that It was not the devotees but the chief priest who washed the feet of priests in connection with the Panthrandu Namaskaram. --- Subaltern school says Religion is reinforcing the social rituals and norms. While Parson says Religion is essential as it acts as a latency component in the AGIL model and makes sense of all experiences, no matter how meaningless they are.*
- *The father of Karnataka Muslim student BV Muskan Khan, who was praised by Al-Qaeda chief Ayman al-Zawahiri for her “Allahu Akbar” slogans while confronting a mob chanting “Jai Shri Ram” in connection with the hijab row, has asked the terror outfit chief to spare his family and leave them alone and said that they are happy here and living together with everyone like brothers and sisters in the Mandya district of Karnataka. --- Rajiv Bhargava in the backdrop of widespread use of religiously inspired political appeals around the world says, Political developments in India are likely to have broader repercussions throughout South Asia and across the world.*
- *Anticipating a ‘Hinduisation’ of Tamil Nadu politics, the CPI(M) is seeking to enter the temple arena. CPI members assured that they don’t intend to participate in temple festivals and propagate the ideas of God and religion rather use it as a place to bring the social movement. --- “Religion is not necessarily a functional, reproductive or conservative factor in society; it often is one of the main (and sometimes the only) available channel to bring about a social revolution” (Otto Maduro)*

- *Pope Francis on Friday made a historic apology to Indigenous Peoples for the “deplorable” abuses they suffered in Canada’s Catholic-run residential schools and said he hoped to visit Canada in late July to deliver the apology in person to survivors of the abuses. --- **Philip Hefner states that institutional religion sustains over the period of time due to its ability to conduct trans-kin altruism, emotionally connecting millions of people without expecting anything in return.***
- *A man in Punjab has been arrested for allegedly vandalizing a temple in order to ‘settle the score’ with God, the police said that he is a vagabond and had a grudge against God for giving him a life of a vagabond --- **Stark and Bainbridge recognize that religion might not actually provide people with eternal life, but what it does offer is a ‘compensator’. A compensator is the belief that a reward will be obtained in the distant future or in some other context which cannot be verified.***
- *A host of writers have resigned from Karnataka government committees and bodies citing oppression in education, cultural, and political spheres in and government’s silence and lack of action on those who have been openly inciting communal hatred undermining the State structure has left us anxious and scared ---**criticism to Durkheim’s religion theory as religion has dysfunctional aspect too in complex society. This is also example of Bryon wilson’s desacrilsation.***

FAMILY

- *Assam government decided to grant 4 days special leave to meet their parents or in laws in new year – **Familial bonds are still prevalent in Indicanuria’s unlike the West.**(GS Ghurye)*
- *No moral policing can be allowed in an issue involving the decisions by two adult individuals taken willingly even it is a live in, says MP High court. --- **GP Murdock’s conventional definition of marriage (ritual which makes a social group of adults of both sexes, at least two of whom maintain a socially approved) is fast changing.***

- *Total fertility rate falls below replacing rate says 5thNFHS with increase in female sterilization –Onus of family planning is still remains with the women.*
- *Government had rejected the concept of marital rape, saying it “cannot be applied to the Indian context due to various factors like level of education/ illiteracy, poverty, myriad social customs and values, religious beliefs and the mindset of the society to treat marriage as a sacrament”. --- **The common dilemma which occurs in a transitional society of either giving importance to Institutional structure over individuals freedom or not(Emile Durkheim)***
- *Children in the country received the lowest share of allocation in the Budget in 11 years, according to an analysis by the NGO, HAQ-Centre for Child Rights --- **Amartya Sen’s capability approach(a process of development by enhancing people’s capabilities thereby expanding their real freedoms) and welfare economics is in free fall.***
- *Fertility rates decline across religions in India, sharpest drop recorded among Muslims, the fertility rates of religious groups have, in fact, converged overtime. Another recent Pew study suggests that religious conversion had little bearing on the composition of the population. ---**Sustaining the society through child bearing is one function of the family but this function is decreasing (GP Murdock). / Modernity and state’s positive involvement can have effect on personal choice of people even against religious orthodoxy.***
- *Millions of women across the US could soon lose their legal right to abortion, according to a leaked Supreme Court documented document, published by Politico, suggests the country’s top court is poised to overturn the 1973decision that legalized abortion nationwide. If the court strikes down the Roe v Wade ruling, individual states would be allowed to ban abortion if they wish. It is expected abortion could then be banned in almost half of US state --- **Firestone says Compulsory child bearing is a patriarchal manifestation of state policy in the agency of women. Some radical feminists like Laura M. Purdy bats for ‘baby strike’.***

SOCIAL CHANGE

- *Plagueamma' the goddess in Bangalore which believed to "helped "the city people during 1898 plague is getting currency during Covid pandemic. --- **Despite being the IT capital of India, ancient tradition, culture, beliefs still linger in the minds of the people. The blend of traditional believes and modernity***
- *Queen Elizabeth II on January 2022 became the first British monarch foreign for seven decades, Britain's longest-serving monarch. Despite many modern ideas ,UK stick to their monarchy polity --- **An international analogy of Yogendra Singh's "selective modernisation"**.*
- *Due to Omicron fear, many countries including India going for Booster doses but still many people not yet get their first dose in third world countries. --- **Pandemic adds momentum to deglobalization trend in the name of vaccine nationalism.(Walden Bello)***
- *The Kerala Government has decided to give an incentive of ₹2,500to those providing information about child labour: **Child labour eradication through rewards rather than punishment shows we are moving from Mechanical solidarity (repressive laws) to Organic solidarity(restitute laws)***
- *Only vaccinated can pull the ropes of chariot and unvaccinated cannot touch it ---**A new form of Untouchability.***
- *Investors looking for companies' Environmental and social governance(ESG) while investing in post pandemic times --- **Development along with social and environmental consciousness in postmodern society.***
- *Gender neutral watches are in rise --- **Blurring of sex and gender in post-modern society.***

- *A teacher was being harassed by the school management for refusing to pay ₹70,000 as donation towards the Ram Mandir construction in Ayodhya---
Dichotomy of science and religion in today's world*
- *Khasi inheritance of property bill which departs from the customs of the matrilineal Khasi society that the youngest daughter of the family is bequeathed the full share of the ancestral (or the clan's) property ---**A move from gender equality to gender neutral (Law as a social change agent)***
- *USA allows new H1B visas to allow knowledge migrants from developing countries and Poland raises fences to stop ethnic migrants from developing countries –Post Modern society values Knowledge capital over financial capital.*
- *A businessman from Jammu and Kashmir had booked a room at the hotel in Delhi through Oyo mobile application but was not allowed to check-in, the receptionist denied him a room because his identification documents were from J&K. --- **Growing instances of xenophobia and ethnic discrimination in India. Similar kind of examples can be seen in Kosacks and Castles in their work on Migrant communities and ethnic discrimination.***
- *Siliguri's all-girl group fights child marriages. The members have stopped several under age weddings in the past two years. This movement is carried out by 25 member "Girl power group". This is a community-led initiative supported by World Vision India, a non-governmental organisation. More than 1,500 girls are part of the group across 65 villages in three blocks of Darjeeling. --- **A type of New social movement(NSM) where social issues are taken and addressed collectively by group of members rather than a particular leader. NSM are characterized by its decentralizing tendency.***
- *Protest in USA , Europe, New Zealand against Lockdowns , compulsory vaccination , Quarantine and bats for more individual freedoms ---**New social movements are centered around individual freedoms (Michel Foucault)***

- *Texas in USA enacted anti-Abortion law amidst huge protest –An example of “Westernization is not equal to modernization.”*
- *Eric Zemmour, a far right candidate in upcoming President election(France) subscribes to “Great replacement theory” and asked all immigrants should assimilate into dominant French culture. --- Cultural pluralism is going through the wanning period across nations (Rajiv Bhargava)*
- *Since the rehabilitation tripartite agreement among states and Centre, Only 43% of 6,950 Bru tribe families living in six relief camps rehabilitated while 3959 families are still in the camps --- Walter Fernandes through his various studies explained the problems of ethnicity based migration.*
- *The Government spent 80% of the funds under the ‘Beti Bachao, BetiPadhao’ (BBBP) scheme on media campaigns says government report. Recent surveys also point out that significance amount of media spending is important for a scheme’s success --- Postmodernists like Foucault argue that the media is an integral part of postmodern society. Individuals actively use the media to construct their identities.*
- *Malayalam Movies in OTT are increasingly plotting their storyline based on “homes” is getting more appreciation. Incidents of domestic violence, marital rape, poverty and mental issues might be choking the inhabitants inside a home. --- Ogburn says technology acts as a tool for social change through four mediums- Diffusion, adjustment, accumulation, invention. Here, the media plays the diffusionist role.*
- *CODA (Child of deaf adults) won an Oscar award for best picture. Many in Hollywood believe that as Black and queer representation increased in the last decade, CODA and similar projects that come in its wake will do the same for disability. --- In sociology too, a new field is emerging called the sociology of disability which questions the social construct of ‘disability as deviance’ and explores the various social causes behind disability like war, crime, social exclusion etc.*

- *The film - “Jai Bhim” effect : Getting community certificate made easy, Welfare schemes for Irular community were announced. --- **Influence of Marxian ideologies in superstructure like art and film which in turn influence the society’s action or course correction***
- *Colombian voters opted for a dramatic change in presidential politics, choosing a leftist former rebel and populist businessman to advance to a run-off election in June amid hopes a new face can pull them out of the economic damage from the pandemic. Most importantly both of them are outsiders. --- **This is an example of Crook’s New politics where people are fed up with existing politics based on ethnic and identity lines rather interested in talking about basic need and electing people who are new to new to political spectrum. (New politics in post modernizing society***



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