

CURRENT AFFAIRS

17 September 2022



TOPIC: UNION AND ITS TERRITORY

Integration Day rallies held across Telangana

Hyderabad state was merged with the Indian Union on September 17, 1948

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Celebrations of the 75th year of the merger of Hyderabad State with the Indian Union, being organised by the Telangana government, commenced with processions and motorbike rallies in all 119 Assembly Constituencies on Friday.

In Hyderabad, Ministers Mohammad Mahamood Ali and T. Srinivas Yadav, Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar, Mayor G. Vijayalaxmi, Khairatabad MLA D. Nagender, Collector Amoy Kumar and Municipal Commissioner D.S. Lokesh Kumar participated in a 'samaikyata' rally taken out from NTR Marg Imax to People's Plaza.

Corporators, officials, students and general public al-



Students and civic body workers participating in a rally on the eve of Telangana Integration Day. ■G. RAMAKRISHNA

so participated in the rally. Speaking at the culmination of the rally, Mr. Srinivas Yadav said the State became independent on September 17, 1948 and that was the reason

the day was being celebrated as national integration day. He cautioned people against forces trying to disturb communal harmony and peace even after peaceful conduct

of the cultural event of Ganesha idol installation and immersion.

Mr. Mahamood Ali said unlike the other areas of the country, the erstwhile Hyderabad State which also included the present parts of Karnataka and Maharashtra became independent with large number of people who fought for it laying down their lives. The last Nizam had merged the Hyderabad State with Indian Union in spite of a section led by Qasim Rizvi opposing it by sending Rizvi to jail.

The Chief Secretary said the national integration day celebrations were organised so that people including the new generations develop awareness on the importance of September 17.

HYDERABAD ANNEXATION

- ✓ Hyderabad was one of the largest natives/princely states in India. It was ruled by the Nizams who accepted the paramountcy of the British sovereign.
- ✓ He was encouraged by Pakistan and Muslim natives peoples, to stay as an independent power and improve his armed forces to resist the integration.
- ✓ During this military improvisation, internal chaos emerged in the state of Hyderabad because of which, on 13th September 1948, the Indian Army was sent into Hyderabad under Operation Polo (military operation to annex Hyderabad into the Union of India), on the grounds that the law-and-order situation in Hyderabad threatened the peace of South India.
- ✓ The troops met little resistance by the Razakars (the private militia who were resisting the integration), and between the 13th and 18th September, the military took complete control of the state.

TOPIC: INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

Chabagar port

At SCO meet, Modi and Sharif spar over transit trade access

PM flags energy, food crises due to COVID-19 and war

SUHASINI HAIDAR
SAMARKAND

Better regional connectivity is only possible if members grant each other "full transit rights", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday, referring to the refusal by Pakistan to give India transit trade access by land to Afghanistan and Central Asia.

Mr. Modi was speaking at the summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of State here.

In a speech that was otherwise free from references to India's regional issues on terrorism with Pakistan and on territorial sovereignty with China, Mr. Modi called for greater cooperation in the Eurasian region and pointed to the "unprecedented" energy and food crisis arising from the twin issues of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine conflict. He also focused on the initiatives on manufacturing that India is willing to pilot in the next year, when New Delhi assumes the chair of the SCO and hosts the summit in mid-2023.

"SCO has an important role in developing reliable, resilient and diversified supply chains. For this, better



Clear stance: Prime Minister Narendra Modi attending an SCO meeting at Samarkand in Uzbekistan on Friday. • REUTERS

connectivity is necessary, but along with that, it is also important that we give each other full transit rights," Mr. Modi said at the SCO plenary session that also marked the first time he shared a forum in person with Chinese President Xi Jinping since the 2020 LAC stand-off and Pakistan's new Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

While Mr. Modi did not exchange words with Mr. Sharif or Mr. Xi at the publicly broadcast sessions, he stood next to the Chinese President during one of the photo ops for the SCO and observer and dialogue partners.

Later, all the leaders attended a lunch together hosted by Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, which was closed to media.

Speaking at the SCO meet, Mr. Xi congratulated India

for taking over the chair of the grouping and promised "China's support" to India in hosting the event next year. Significantly, both Mr. Xi and Mr. Sharif referred to the issue of terrorism, and the need to collectively fight the "menace" and "monster".

In his speech, Mr. Sharif, who focused on Afghanistan and the flood situation in Pakistan for most part, responded to Mr. Modi's remarks, calling for a more "structured" SCO approach to connectivity in the region, adding that "if there is connectivity, transit rights will automatically come".

India has developed Iran's Chabahar port as an alternative to Pakistan for the land route to Central Asia and Russia.

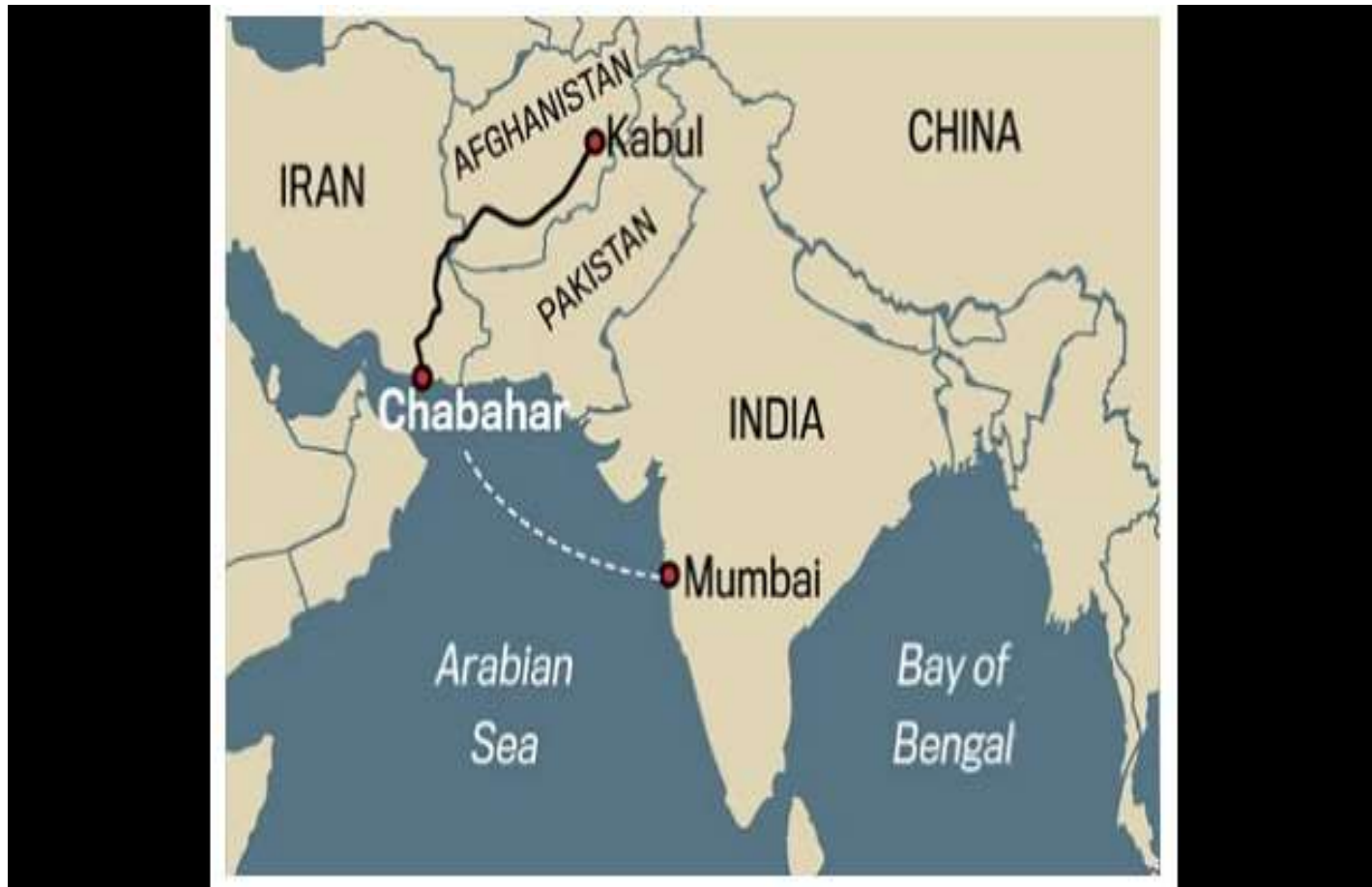
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✓ The port of Chabahar is located in southeastern Iran in the Gulf of Oman.

✓ It is the only Iranian port with direct access to the ocean.

✓ It's located in the Sistan-Balochistan province on the energy-rich Iran's southern coast.

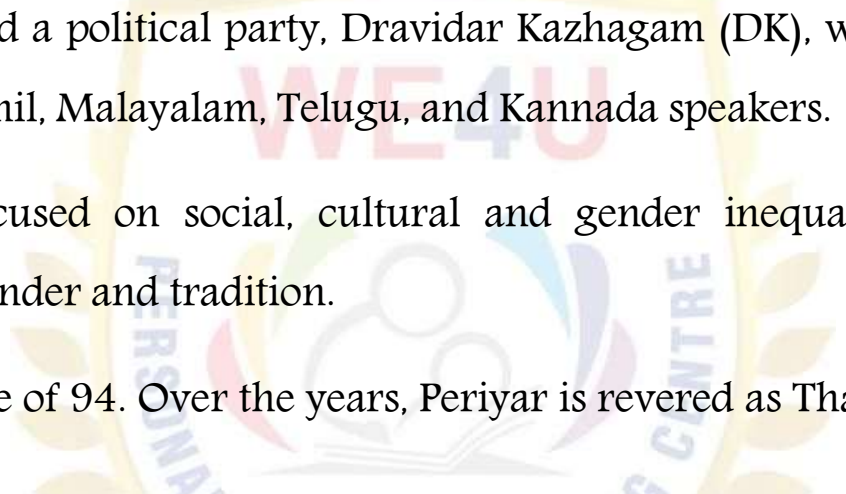
✓ The Chabahar port is considered a gateway to golden opportunities for trade by India, Iran and Afghanistan with central Asian countries.

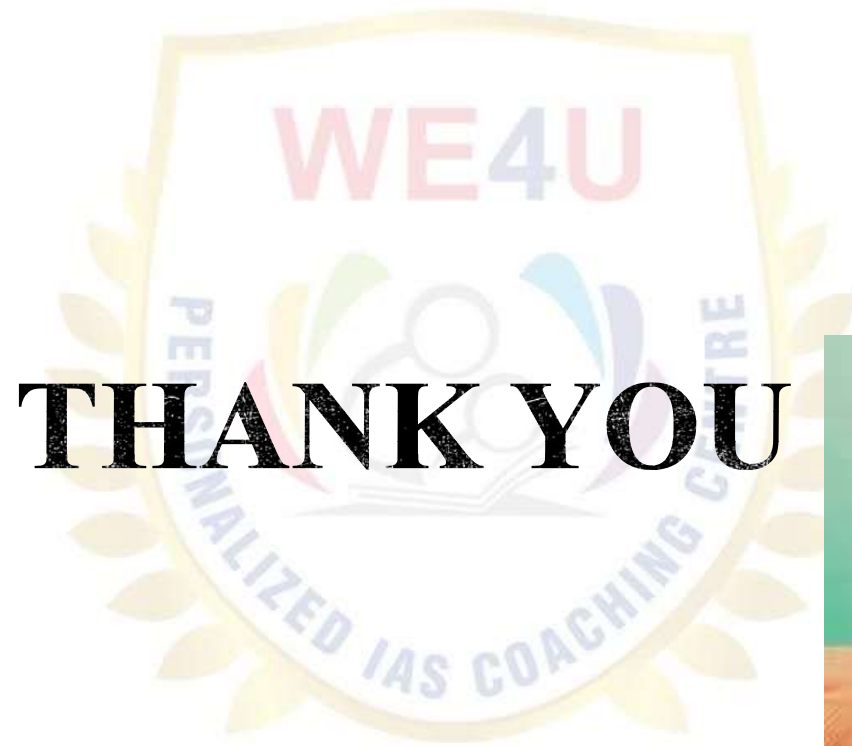


TOPIC: SOCIAL REFORM MOVEMENT

Remember Periyar with a pledge to embrace dissent

- ✓ Born in 1879, E V Ramasamy 'Periyar' is remembered for the Self Respect Movement to redeem the identity and self-respect of Tamils.
- ✓ Periyar started his political career as a Congress worker.
- ✓ He resigned from the party in 1925, and associated himself with the Justice Party and the Self Respect Movement, which opposed the dominance of Brahmins in social life, especially the bureaucracy.
- ✓ Periyar's fame spread beyond the Tamil region during the Vaikom Satyagraha of 1924, a mass movement to demand that lower caste persons be given the right to use a public path in front of the famous Vaikom temple. He would later be referred to as Vaikom Veerar (Hero of Vaikom).

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- ✓ In the 1940s, Periyar launched a political party, Dravidar Kazhagam (DK), which espoused an independent Dravida Nadu comprising Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, and Kannada speakers.
 - ✓ As a social reformer, he focused on social, cultural and gender inequalities, and his reform agenda questioned matters of faith, gender and tradition.
 - ✓ Periyar died in 1973 at the age of 94. Over the years, Periyar is revered as Thanthai Periyar, the father figure of modern Tamil Nadu.



THANK YOU

