

# CURRENT AFFAIRS 11&12 APRIL 2023

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# T.N. House resolution asks Centre to set time limit for Governor for clearing Bills

#### B. Kolappan CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on Monday adopted a resolution moved by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin urging the Union government and the President to immediately issue appropriate instructions to Governor R.N. Ravi to give assent to Bills passed by the Assembly "within a specific period".

Mr. Stalin said he was under compulsion to move a resolution against the Governor for the second time. He reiterated that "unwarranted circumstances" were not created by the government.

Accusing the Governor of functioning with political motives and converting the "Raj Bhavan into a Political Bhavan", he recalled the observation of the Jus-

### Ravi clears online gambling Bill

Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi on Monday granted assent to the re-adopted Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Bill, 2022. CM M.K. Stalin said the assent granted was a "good consequence" of the resolution on the Governor adopted by the Assembly earlier in the day. » PAGE 4

tice Rajamannar Committee that "it is an appropriate time to abolish the post of Governor and the Governor should be a detached figure".

In January, the Assembly had moved a resolution disapproving of the Governor's selective deviation from the prepared text of his customary address to

### Tamilisai okays 3 pending Bills

Hours before the Supreme Court was scheduled to hear a petition by the Telangana government against Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan for creating a "constitutional impasse" by refusing to act on several Bills passed by the State Legislature, Ms. Soundararajan gave her assent for three Bills. » PAGE 5

the House.

On April 7, Mr. Ravi, at an interaction with civil services aspirants in the Raj Bhavan, had said, if a Governor withholds assent to a Bill passed by the Assembly, it means the "Bill is dead".

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In 1969, the Tamil Nadu Government (DMK) appointed a three-member committee, chaired by Dr. P.V. Rajamannar, to investigate the entire issue of Centre-state relations.

It wanted the committee to propose constitutional amendments to ensure the states' maximum autonomy.

In 1971, the committee delivered its report to the Tamil Nadu government.

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### Recommendations

- The committee's key recommendations are as follows:
- An Inter-State Council should be formed immediately.
- The Finance Commission should be made permanent.
- The Planning Commission should be disbanded and replaced by a statutory body.
- Articles 356, 357, and 365 (concerning President's Rule) should be deleted entirely.
- The provision stating that the state ministry holds office at the pleasure of the governor should be removed.
- Certain subjects from the Union List and the Concurrent List should be transferred to the State List.
- Residuary powers should be devolved to the states.
  - All-India services such as IAS, IPS, and IFS should be phased out.

# India's borders are safe, can't be violated: Shah

No one can take even an inch of Indian territory, Home Minister says in Arunachal, days after Beijing's renaming provocation; Chinese Foreign Ministry claims his visit violated its sovereignty

Rahul Karmakar Kallol Bhattacherjee GUWAHATI/NEW DELHI

o country can take even an inch of Indian territory, Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday during a visit to Arunachal Pradesh, as he launched a village development programme right at the country's easternmost border village.

Taking aim at China just days after Beijing attempted to rename a number of places in the State, Mr. Shah said India's borders were secure and could not be violated, even if the land measured only "the tip of a needle".

The Chinese Foreign Ministry responded sharply to the visit, claiming it violated Chinese territory.



Ground zero: Amit Shah inspecting a border outpost of the ITBP and taking stock of its preparedness on Monday. ANI

"Today, the entire country can sleep peacefully because of the bravery and sacrifices of our ITBP [Indo-Tibetan Border Police] and Army jawans. As ITBP and Army personnel are deployed, nobody can encroach upon our land covered even by the tip of a needle," Mr. Shah said, ad-

ding "there can be no compromise with the respect of our Army and borders."

Mr. Shah was addressing a public gathering after unveiling the ₹4,800-crore Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP) to be executed in 2,967 villages across 19 districts in four border States, including Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, and the union territory of Ladakh.

The project cost includes ₹2,500 crore for road connectivity from 2022-23 fiscal to 2025-26. The event was held at Kibithoo in Arunachal Pradesh's Anjaw district, which shares borders with China and Myanmar.

The Home Minister's visit came one week after Beijing said it would "rename" II places in the northeastern State, in an attempt to lay claim to the entire State. On Monday, a spokesperson of Beijing's Ministry of Foreign Affairs claimed that the visit "violated China's sovereignty".

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### **Vibrant Village Program:**

### **Background:**

It was announced in the Budget Speech 2022.

### Coverage:

The programme envisages coverage of border villages on the Northern border having sparse populations, limited connectivity and infrastructure, which often get left out from the development gains.

### Significance

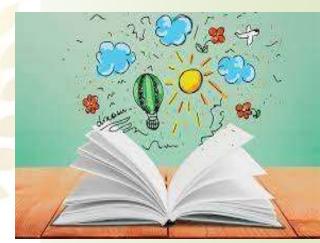
It should be used by all borderguarding forces to encourage tourism in border villages, to make them self-reliant and vibrant. Notice to Centre, ASI on plea to offer namaz at Mughal mosque

## Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

- ASI, under the Ministry of Culture, is the premier organization for the archaeological research and protection of the cultural heritage of the nation.
- It administers more than 3650 ancient monuments, archaeological sites and remains of national importance.
- It's activities include carrying out surveys of antiquarian remains, exploration and excavation of archaeological sites, conservation and maintenance of protected monuments etc.
  - It was founded in 1861 by **Alexander Cunningham** the first Director-General of ASI. Alexander Cunningham is also known as the "Father of Indian Archaeology".

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