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TODAY'S ANALYSIS

(11 December 2024)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- GUJARAT'S GHARCHOLA GETS GITAG
- NO CONFIDENCE MOTION AGAINST RS CHAIRMAN
- HEALTHCARE IN INDIA
 - POSHAN ABHIYAN (NATIONAL NUTRITION MISSION)
- MCQs

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GUJARAT'S GHARCHOLA GETS GI TAG

Overview:

- The **Geographical Indication (GI)** tag has been granted to **Gharchola**, a **traditional sari worn during weddings, by the Government of India.**
- This recognition celebrates the cultural significance and **craftsmanship of Gharchola**, **an iconic textile from Gujarat.**



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WHAT IS GHARCHOLA?

- **Origin and Historical Significance:**

- **Gharchola** originates from the **Khambhat (Cambay) region** of Gujarat, which was a prominent **port city** and trade center in India until the **16th century**.
- The city was known for its **silk manufacturing**, which led to the development of this exquisite traditional saree.
- Historically, **Gharcholas** have been used as **wedding attire** in **Gujarati** weddings, symbolizing a newly wedded bride's transition to her new home.
- The term "**Gharchola**" literally means "**Outfit for Home**."
- The fabric was woven in **Khambhat** by artisans who were highly skilled in **silk weaving**.

- **Fabric and Weaving Technique:**

- **Gharcholas** are traditionally woven using **cotton or silk fabric**.
- They are characterized by their **large checks** created with **silk and zari threads**. These sarees are often embellished with **Bandhani work** or **block printing**, both of which add to the beauty and cultural richness of the garment.

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- The weaving process is **intricate and time-consuming**, requiring the weaver to prepare the looms for about a week.
- It takes approximately **three days** for a plain body weave, while creating a check pattern can take up to a **week**.
- **Designs and Motifs:**
 - Gharchola sarees are known for their **elegant designs** and motifs such as **elephants, parrots, flowers, dancing girls, peacocks, lotus flowers, and floral patterns**.
 - These designs are woven into **squares** or **compartments**.
 - Popular varieties of Gharchola sarees include those with **12 squares** known as '**Bar Bagh**' and **52 squares** known as '**Bavan Bagh**'.
 - The most popular **color combinations** for these sarees are **red and white** or **red and green**, symbolizing prosperity and auspiciousness in weddings.

ABOUT GI TAG

- **What is a GI Tag?**
 - A **Geographical Indication (GI)** tag is a **legal recognition** granted to a product originating from a specific geographical region, denoting its **distinctive qualities** or **reputation** that are directly tied to its place of origin.

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- A GI tag helps protect the **unique characteristics** of a product and serves as an **assurance of quality**.
- It ensures that only **producers from the designated region** can use the specific name to market their products.

ADVANTAGES FOR PRODUCERS

- **Premium Pricing:** Products with GI tags often command a **premium price** due to their association with quality and authenticity.
- No other producers can use the same name or market similar goods, ensuring the exclusivity of the product.
- **Legal Protection:** The GI tag provides **legal protection**, preventing unauthorized use of the name or replication of the product by others, ensuring **fair trade** and protecting the interests of genuine producers.
- **Global Recognition:** GI products often gain increased **visibility in international markets**, leading to higher demand and **export opportunities**.
- For example, products like **Darjeeling Tea, Kashmir Pashmina, and Tirupati Laddu** have successfully expanded their market reach globally due to their GI tags.

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PROCESS OF GI REGISTRATION

- The GI registration process includes:
 - **Filing of application**
 - **Preliminary scrutiny** and examination
 - **Show cause notices** if there are objections
 - **Publication** in the **Geographical Indications Journal**
 - **Opposition to registration** (if applicable)
 - **Official registration** once all requirements are met.
- The **Geographical Indications Registry**, established under the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999**, manages the registration process and protects GI-tagged products.

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

- **Geographical indications** are part of **Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)** and are protected under **Articles 1(2) and 10** of the **Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property** and **Articles 22–24** of the **TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) Agreement**.
- These agreements ensure that **GIs are recognized and protected internationally**.

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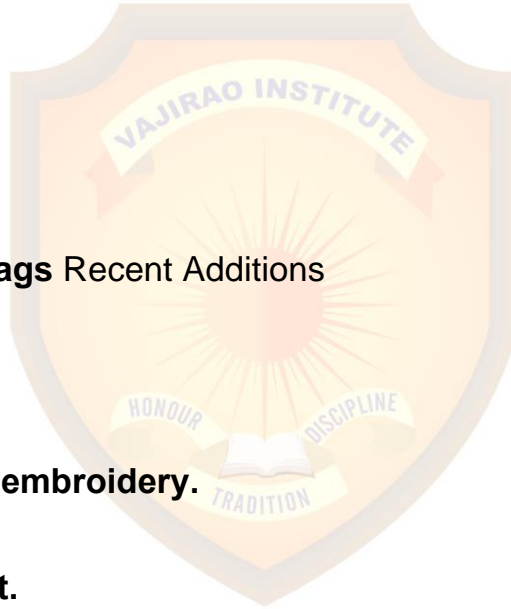
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EXAMPLES OF GI TAG PRODUCTS

- Darjeeling Tea
- Tirupati Laddu
- Kangra Paintings
- Nagpur Orange
- Kashmir Pashmina

Other Handicrafts with GI Tags Recent Additions

- Surat's 'Saadeli' art.
- Banaskantha's 'Soof' embroidery.
- Bharuch's 'Sujni' craft.
- Ahmedabad's 'Saudagiri Print.'
- 'Mata Ni Pacchedi' handicrafts.



These examples highlight the diversity of **Indian handicrafts, agricultural products, and handmade goods** that benefit from GI recognition.

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NO CONFIDENCE MOTION AGAINST RS CHAIRMAN

- On **December 10, 2024**, the **Opposition parties** in India moved a **no-confidence motion** against **Jagdeep Dhankhar**, the **Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha** (Council of States) and the **Vice President of India**.
- This is the **first time in India's parliamentary history** that such a motion has been introduced against the chairperson of the Rajya Sabha.
- Earlier, a similar motion had been considered by the Opposition during the **Budget Session of August 2024**, but it was **not pursued** at that time.



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WHY IS THE OPPOSITION AGAINST MR. DHANKAR?

- The opposition parties have accused Dhankhar of being **partial**, saying that he does **not allow them to speak or raise important issues.**
- They believe that Dhankhar is **allowing the BJP to dominate the Rajya Sabha** debates and suppress opposition voices.
- **Opposition Support: Trinamool Congress (TMC) and Samajwadi Party (SP), who have not participated in Congress-led protests on the Adani issue, have also signed the notice to move the impeachment.**
- This is the **2nd attempt** by the opposition to remove Dhankhar this year.

ABOUT RAJYA SABHA CHAIRPERSON

Role of the Vice President and Rajya Sabha Chairperson

- Under **Article 64** of the **Constitution of India**, the **Vice President** of India is also the **ex officio Chairman** of the **Rajya Sabha** (Council of States).
- The **Vice President** holds office for a **term of 5 years**, unless they **resign** or are **removed** before that time.

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- Since the **Vice President and Rajya Sabha chairperson** are the same person, the **process for removing the Vice President** is the same as the process for removing the Rajya Sabha Chairperson.

REMOVAL PROCEDURE FOR VICE PRESIDENT

The process for **removing the Vice President** (and Rajya Sabha Chairperson) is explained under **Article 67** of the Constitution.

- **Article 67(a)**: The Vice President holds office for **five years**, unless they **resign** or are **removed**.
- **Article 67(b)**: A motion to remove the **Vice President** can be introduced by any **Member of Parliament**, but it must be passed by a **majority of all the members of the Rajya Sabha**. The motion must also be **agreed to** by the **Lok Sabha**.

Key Requirements for Removal

- A motion to remove the Vice President can only be moved **after a 14-day notice** has been given.
- After the **14-day period**, Rajya Sabha will discuss the motion.
- If it passes, it must then be approved by **Lok Sabha** for it to take effect.

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POSSIBLE SCENARIOS

- If the **notice is given on December 10**, the **14-day period** will end on **December 24**.
- However, the **Winter Session of Parliament ends on December 20**.
- Therefore, there is **no clear rule** about whether the motion can be considered after the session ends.
- Even if the motion is considered, the **numbers in Parliament** suggest that the motion is **very unlikely to pass** because the **BJP-led NDA** has a **strong majority** in both **Rajya Sabha** and **Lok Sabha**.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF ARTICLE 67 & REMOVAL PROCESS

During the **Constituent Assembly debates**, the procedure for removing the Vice President was discussed:

- **H V Kamath**, a member of the Assembly, pointed out that the phrase "**agreed to by the House of the People**" (Lok Sabha) in **Article 67** was unclear.
- He suggested that **Lok Sabha must also pass the resolution by a majority**.
- **Dr. B. R. Ambedkar**, the main architect of the Indian Constitution, clarified that the **resolution in Rajya Sabha** would need a **majority of all members**, while in **Lok Sabha**, it only needed a **simple majority** of members present and voting.

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REMOVAL OF PRESIDENT V/S REMOVAL OF VICE PRESIDENT

Kamath also pointed out a difference in the Constitution's rules for removing the **President**

versus the **Vice President**:

- **Article 61** (Impeachment of the President) is much stricter, requiring a **two-thirds majority** of all members of **both Houses** of Parliament.
- It also involves an **investigation** into the charges.
- In contrast, the **process for removing the Vice President** is simpler, more like the process for removing the **Speaker of the Lok Sabha**, with no investigation or two-thirds majority needed.

HOW THE PROCEDURE WORKS?

- **Introduction of the Motion:** The Opposition gave notice on **December 10**, starting the **14-day notice period**.
- **Debate and Vote in Rajya Sabha:** After the **14-day notice**, Rajya Sabha will **discuss the motion**. To succeed, it needs approval from a **majority of all Rajya Sabha members**.

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- **Lok Sabha Approval:** After passing in Rajya Sabha, the motion must also be agreed to by **Lok Sabha**.
- **Possible Challenges:** Because the **BJP's majority** is very strong in both **Rajya Sabha** and **Lok Sabha**, the motion is almost certain to be **defeated**.

CHALLENGES TO THE MOTION

- **Timing of the Motion:** Since the **Winter Session of Parliament ends on December 20**, and the **14-day notice period** will end on December 24, it is unclear if the motion will be considered before the session ends.
- If not, it might be carried over to the next session.
- **Parliamentary Arithmetic:** The **BJP-led NDA's strong majority** in both **Rajya Sabha** and **Lok Sabha** makes it almost certain that the motion will be **defeated**.
- The Opposition is likely using this motion as a **symbolic protest** against what it believes is **partisan behavior** by the Vice President.

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HEALTHCARE IN INDIA

POSHAN ABHIYAN (NATIONAL NUTRITION MISSION)

Launched on **8th March 2018**, POSHAN Abhiyaan, earlier known as the **National Nutrition Mission**, is an initiative aimed at improving the nutritional status of **adolescent girls, pregnant women, and lactating mothers** in a time-bound, result-oriented manner.

The program has been implemented across **all States and Union Territories (UTs)** of India.

**POSHAN
Abhiyaan**
PM's Overarching
Scheme for Holistic
Nourishment



सही पोषण - देश रोशन

KEY OBJECTIVES

- **Synergized Approach:** To improve nutritional outcomes through a **comprehensive approach**.

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- **Target Groups:** Adolescent girls, pregnant women, lactating mothers.
- **Time-Bound Results:** Aimed at achieving **quick, measurable improvements** in the nutritional status of these groups.

PM POSHAN SCHEME

- The **National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE)**, also known as the **Mid-Day Meal Scheme**, was launched by the Government of India on **August 15, 1995**, as a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme**.
- Its primary goal was to improve **enrolment, attendance, and retention rates** in schools, while also enhancing the **nutrition levels** of children.
- Initially, the scheme provided a free supply of **food grains (100 grams per child per school day)**.

REVISIONS IN THIS SCHEME

- **2001 Revision:** The scheme was revamped in line with the **Supreme Court's direction** to provide **cooked meals** instead of just food grains, offering **300 calories** and **8-12 grams of protein** per child for those in **classes I to V**.

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- **2008-09 Revision:** The scheme was expanded to cover children from **classes I to VIII**, and the name was changed to the **National Programme of Mid-Day Meal**, or more commonly known as the **Mid-Day Meal Scheme**.
- **2021 Revisions:** In **September 2021**, the **Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)** Scheme was introduced, previously known as the **Mid-Day Meal Scheme**.
- **Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN)** is the revised **Mid-Day Meal Scheme** (earlier known as the Mid-Day Meal Scheme), implemented by the **Ministry of Education** under the **National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013**.
- This new scheme was approved for the period **2021-22 to 2025-26** and aimed at providing **hot cooked meals** to children in **government** and **government-aided schools**, as well as children in **Special Training Centres (STC), Madrasas**, and **Maqtabs** supported under **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)**.

Currently, the scheme serves about **11.80 crore children** across **11.20 lakh schools** in India, with a significant budget allocation of **Rs. 12,467.39 crore (~\$1.5 billion)** for **FY 2024-25**.

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OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHEME

The **PM POSHAN Scheme** is designed with the dual objectives of improving **education** and **nutrition**. The scheme's primary goals are to:

- **Enhance Nutritional Status:**
 - Ensure **nutritious meals** are provided to all eligible children in **government** and **government-aided schools** to address hunger and malnutrition.
- **Encourage Regular School Attendance:**
 - By offering **nutritious meals**, the scheme aims to encourage children from disadvantaged backgrounds to attend school regularly and focus better on classroom activities.
- **Support Vulnerable Areas:**
 - The scheme extends its support to children in **drought-affected** and **disaster-affected areas**, ensuring that they receive adequate nutritional support during difficult times.
- **Achieve Universalization of Elementary Education:**
 - The scheme ensures no child is excluded based on **gender** or **social class**, working toward the goal of universal elementary education.

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Nutrition Norms per Child per Day:

Item	Primary (Classes I-V)	Upper Primary (Classes VI-VIII)
Calories	450	700
Protein	12 grams	20 grams

Food Norms per Child per Day:

Item	Primary (Classes I-V)	Upper Primary (Classes VI-VIII)
Food Grains	100 grams	150 grams
Pulses	20 grams	30 grams
Vegetables	50 grams	75 grams
Oil & Fat	5 grams	7.5 grams
Salt & Condiments	As per need	As per need

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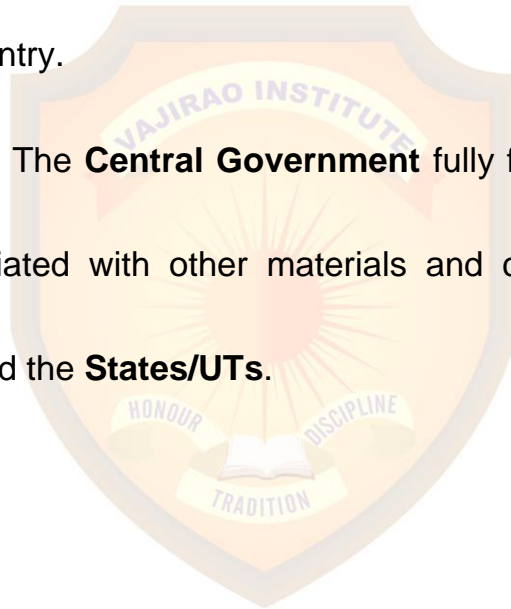
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BUDGET ALLOCATION

- **Annual Budget:** For the **2024-25** fiscal year, a total of **Rs. 12,467.39 crore (~US\$ 1.5 billion)** has been allocated for the PM POSHAN Scheme. This includes provisions for food grains, material costs, and infrastructure to ensure the smooth operation of the scheme across the country.
- **Government Support:** The **Central Government** fully funds the cost of **food grains**, while the costs associated with other materials and cooking expenses are shared between the **Centre** and the **States/UTs**.



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MCQs

1. Which region is the origin of Gharchola attire?

- (A) Kutch region
- (B) Saurashtra region
- (C) Khambhat region
- (D) Daman & Diu region

Ans. (C)

2. Consider the following statement about GI Tag & mark the correct one:

1. A Geographical Indication (GI) tag is a legal recognition granted to a product originating from a specific geographical region.
2. It ensures that only producers from the designated region can use the specific name to market their products.

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Both 1 & 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans. (C)

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3. Consider the following statements and mark **how many** of them are correct?
1. The resolution for removal of the Vice President is initiated in the Rajya Sabha only.
 2. The resolution for removal of the vice president has to be passed by a special majority in Rajya Sabha and has to be agreed to by Lok Sabha.
 3. The removal procedure for Vice President requires a mandatory investigation as part of the procedure.
- (A) Only 1 statement is correct
- (B) Only 2 statements are correct
- (C) All the statements are correct
- (D) None of the statements are correct.

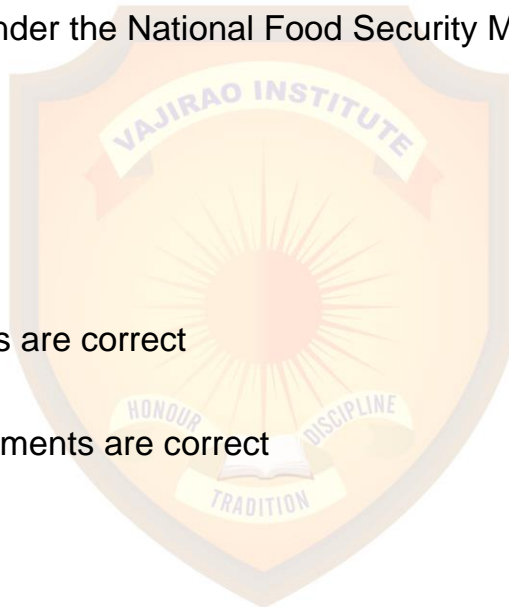
Ans. (A)

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4. Consider the following statements wrt PM POSHAN Scheme and mark the correct one:
1. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
 2. It aims to provide hot cooked meals to all the students studying in govt. & govt. Aided schools.
 3. The scheme is under the National Food Security Mission.
- (A) Only 1 & 3
(B) Only 2 & 3
(C) All the statements are correct
(D) None of the statements are correct



Ans. (D)

5. Which of the following are the objectives of PM POSHAN Scheme?
- (A) Enhance Nutritional Status
 - (B) Encourage Regular School Attendance
 - (C) Achieve Universalization of Elementary Education
 - (D) All of the above

Ans. (D)

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