

## Ordinance

- The Ordinance promulgated by the President on May 19, 2023, amending the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act 1991(GNCTD Act) took away the services from the jurisdiction of the Delhi government.
- The services had been earlier restored to the Delhi government by the Supreme Court in a landmark judgment delivered on May 11, 2023.
- The Ordinance nullifies that judgment of the Supreme Court.
- The Court had found that if a government does not have control over its officers it would paralyze governance which cannot be the intention of the Constitution makers while incorporating Article 239AA, which gives a special constitutional status to Delhi.
- So the Court held that “legislative and executive power over services such as the Indian Administrative Services or Joint Cadre Services which are relevant for the implementation of policies and vision of NCTD [National Capital Territory of Delhi] in terms of the day to day administration of the region shall lie with the NCTD.”
- The validity of the Ordinance
- The first question which arises is whether an Ordinance promulgated by the President or a Bill passed by Parliament can nullify the Court’s decision.
- The Supreme Court has held in a large number of cases that since Parliament does not possess judicial powers, it cannot negate the decision of the Court without changing the basis of that decision.
- The Ordinance confers the powers of posting, transfer, and disciplinary matters on an authority named the National Capital Civil Services Authority consisting of a chairman and two members.
- The Chief Minister is made the chairman and the Chief Secretary and the Home Secretary are the other members.
- With two members constituting the quorum and the fact that the two members can take all decisions makes the purpose of constituting this authority all too obvious.

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### THE HINDU

## Greedflation

- G reflation refers to price inflation caused by corporate greed for high profits.
- Progressives in the United States have accused corporate greed as a major reason for the historically high

price inflation in the U.S. since the pandemic.

- The proponents of the idea of greedy action argue that corporate profit margins have risen significantly since the pandemic even though the larger economy has struggled and that this has contributed to high inflation.
- They contend that the U.S. corporations have allegedly increased the prices of their goods by more than what was necessary to compensate for higher input costs caused by supply-chain bottlenecks

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#### **New normal of climate change**

- The concept of the 'new normal vis-à-vis climate change refers to long-term changes in weather patterns and climatic conditions that are expected to or have, become more frequent because of climate change
- Some weather events have also become drier and others wetter thanks to the effects of climate change on the water cycle, which leads to more evaporation and eventually causes more precipitation.
- Some areas also experience heavier than normal precipitation while others are becoming prone to unexpected droughts.

- The U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Sixth Assessment Report warned of prolonged rain-free periods along with excessive rainfall in many parts of the world.
- In recent decades, India has recorded several such extreme events
- There is also a strong connection between land and ocean heatwaves, driven by atmospheric circulation, increase in sea surface temperature, and feedback mechanisms that exacerbate the intensity and duration of extreme temperatures.
- For example, when a land-based heatwave occurs, it can enhance evaporation rates and reduce soil moisture, leading to drier conditions. This drier surface, in turn, absorbs more solar radiation, amplifying the heatwave.
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### **Do marine heatwaves have a role?**

- The oceans play a key role in the formation of monsoon winds and in keeping the monsoon alive.
- When extreme heat warms their waters, the change in temperature can lead to cascading effects, such as marine heatwaves, ocean acidification, sea-level rise, and ice melting faster at the poles.
- Marine heatwaves are periods of temperature much higher than the average seasonal temperature in that region.
- A low pressure develops over the Indian subcontinent when the land heats up during the summer.
- The moisture for monsoon rains is thus carried by the winds as they blow in from the Indian Ocean.
- However, rainfall over the land decreases when ocean heatwaves occur, as the winds are drawn to areas over the ocean instead of land.
- Climate risk amplification
- Amplification is what happens when certain climate -related factors and/or events interact with each other or happen at the same time, intensifying or exacerbating the overall risks and consequences associated with climate change.
- A good example is the warm and dry conditions that have put Canada on course for its worst-ever wildfire destruction this year.
- Such amplification happens in the form of various feedback loops and interconnected processes in the Earth's climate system.
- It has greater consequences than 'just' individual extremes and is also more complex and challenging to deal with
- The interaction of multiple climatic and no climatic risks can also increase overall risk.
- According to a January 2023 study by the School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford, the combined consequences of excessive heat and drought are expected to put more than 90% of the world's population at higher risk, potentially deepening socioeconomic disparities.
- Such amplification can occur as a result of an El Niño, prolonged hot days, dry monsoons, and/or ocean heatwaves occurring together, compounding risks across sectors.
- Such a combination will also affect water availability, soil moisture, and crop output while increasing food prices and lowering incomes.

- The co-occurrence of heatwaves and droughts can also lead to wildfires, tree mortality, and a higher risk of thermal power plant failures
- Amplified climate risks underscore the urgency of taking proactive measures to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to changing conditions, and enhance resilience in both natural and human systems

## THE HINDU

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### Global Stocktake

#### What is the Global Stocktake?

- The global stocktake of the Paris Agreement (GST) is a process for taking stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement with the aim to assess the world's collective progress toward achieving the purpose of the agreement and its long-term goals (Article 14).
- The Global Stocktake is mandated under Article 14 (1) of the Paris Agreement to assess collective progress toward long-term global goals.
- This includes progress on greenhouse gas reduction, building resilience to climate impacts, and securing finance to address the climate crisis
- In 2015, under the Paris Agreement, countries had agreed to “pursue

efforts” to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C.

- That the Bonn Conference was held in the context of overweening emphasis on restricting global average temperature below 1.5°C as compared to pre-industrial levels was reflected in the negotiations.
- The two agenda items mitigation pathways compatible with the temperature goal, and climate finance flows from developed countries to developing countries to enable them to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions (in line with Article 4.5 of the Paris Agreement) remained points of contention between the developing countries and the Environmental Integrity Group represented by the European Union and others.
- The signal from the Bonn Conference was that developing countries too need to be more ambitious in their emission reduction if the world is to limit rising global average temperatures in the context of adequate finance being provided by the developed north
- The Parties to the Paris Agreement had introduced ‘just transition pathways’ at COP27. India’s climate policy is derived from the principle of common but differentiated

responsibilities and respective capabilities.

- In its long- term low emission development strategy at COP27, India underlined the need for “financing” a ‘just transition’ in sectors such as energy and transport in order to reach net zero emissions by 2070.
- Thus, ‘just transition’ means that the transformational pathways need to be carried out in a way that is as fair and inclusive as possible to everyone concerned.
- India is concerned about the difficulties it is going to face in decoupling its economic development from greenhouse gas emissions. India also stated that the route to ‘just transition’ needs to be clubbed with the means of implementation
- In the Bonn negotiations, developing countries were able to strengthen the ‘just transition pathways’ as opposed to the developed countries which laid more emphasis on mitigation.
- ‘Just transition’ also helps the parties in respecting other soft obligations emanating from the UN Sustainable Development Goals of 2015 and the ILO’s guidelines on just transition
- The objective of the Mitigation Work Programme, as per the COP26

mandate, is to urgently scale up mitigation ambitions and implementation in this decade in a manner that complements the Global Stocktake

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