



## C.A Dated On 10-05-2019

### **Delhi HC on Divorce:**

#### **Context:**

The Delhi High Court has waived the cooling-off period for [divorce](#) by mutual consent of a woman, from her estranged husband, after she expressed her intention to enter into another marriage with a non-resident Indian who was in India for limited number of days.

#### **Decision details:**

- Section 13B of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 mandates that in case of divorce by mutual consent, there has to be a composite period of 18 months of separation — one year provided in Section 13B (1) and six months in Section 13B (2).
- Justice Prateek Jalan noted that the safeguards contained in the statute, including the period of one year between the separation of the parties and the first motion and the period of six months between the first motion and the second motion, are intended to explore every avenue of reconciliation and avoid an impulsive decision to break a marriage.

#### **Background:**

- The woman had approached the High Court after a family court here rejected her application for waiving the statutory period of six months under Section 13B(2) of the Hindu Marriage Act.
- The judge said that in the present case, however, there does not appear to be any likelihood of such reconciliation as the parties have lived separately since October 2017 and the composite period of 18 months expired on April 25, 2019.
- The family court had relied on a 2017 Supreme Court judgment to hold that the filed after the expiry of 18 months from the date when the parties had started living separately.
- However, the High Court rejected the family court's reasoning saying, "A holistic reading of the [Supreme] Court's judgment leads instead to the conclusion that purposeless marriage which has no chance of reunion ought not to be prolonged."



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### **Iran Nuclear Deal:**

#### **Why in News?**

- European powers denounced Iran's threat to resume nuclear work on Thursday but vowed to save a landmark deal with Tehran despite U.S. pressure.
- [Iran](#) said it would defy some limits it accepted under the 2015 agreement, and threatened to go further if Europe, China and Russia fail to deliver sanctions relief within 60 days.
- Tehran says it is responding to unilateral U.S. sanctions imposed after President Donald Trump ripped up what he called a "horrible" deal, dealing a severe blow to the Iranian economy.

#### **Europe's Stance:**

- Europe has stressed the importance of the deal — in which Iran agreed to curb its nuclear ambitions in return for sanctions relief — for its own security.
- French President Emmanuel Macron appealed for calm, saying Europe must work to convince Iran to stick with the deal.
- EU diplomatic chief Federica Mogherini and France, Germany and Britain — the three European signatories to the deal — voiced "great concern" at President Hassan Rouhani's dramatic intervention.
- The EU statement stressed the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) role in monitoring Iran's compliance with the deal — suggesting that no concrete action is likely until the inspectors' next report at the end of May.
- Since the US pullout, Europe has sought to keep Iran in the deal by trying to maintain trade via a special mechanism called INSTEX to clear payments without falling foul of American sanctions.
- The European statement reiterated its commitment to helping the Iranian people enjoy the benefit of sanctions relief, condemning the US reimposition.



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Europe is “determined to continue pursuing efforts to enable the continuation of legitimate trade with Iran” including through INSTEX.

#### **About JCPOA:**

- The **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)** known commonly as the **Iran nuclear deal** or **Iran deal**, is an agreement on the [Iranian nuclear program](#) reached in [Vienna](#) on July 14, 2015 between Iran, the [P5+1](#) (the five [permanent members of the United Nations Security Council](#)—China, France, Russia, United Kingdom, United States—plus Germany),[\[a\]](#) and the [European Union](#).
- Under JCPOA, Iran agreed to eliminate its stockpile of medium-[enriched uranium](#), cut its stockpile of low-enriched uranium by 98%, and reduce by about two-thirds the number of its [gas centrifuges](#) for 13 years.
- For the next 15 years, Iran will only enrich uranium up to 3.67%. Iran also agreed not to build any new [heavy-water facilities](#) for the same period of time.
- Uranium-enrichment activities will be limited to a single facility using first-generation centrifuges for 10 years.
- Other facilities will be converted to avoid [proliferation](#) risks.
- To monitor and verify Iran's compliance with the agreement, the [International Atomic Energy Agency](#) (IAEA) will have regular access to all Iranian nuclear facilities.
- The agreement provides that in return for verifiably abiding by its commitments, Iran will receive relief from U.S., European Union, and [United Nations Security Council nuclear-related sanctions](#).

#### **Climate change:Solutions**

#### **Context:**



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Solutions to the biggest threats facing our planet lie underground, according to experts who insist [climate change](#), overpopulation and food shortages can all be tackled by going subterranean.

Efforts to meet seven of the United Nations' 17 sustainable development goals — from cleaning up pollution-clogged metropolises to ending world hunger — could be given a big boost by re-purposing spaces below street level.

#### **What needed to be done?**

- Underground spaces could easily be used for growing crops.
- Scientific developments in areas like aquaponics — where vegetables and fish are farmed together — could help relieve the pressure on the food supply chain, and dramatically cut transport costs if such new farms were situated under cities.
- Micro greens — tiny seedlings of plants such as fennel, radish or coriander usually harvested when they are full size — are already being grown underground, as is lettuce.
- We could look at adding products like soy or lupin, which can be used as the basis for creating more protein-rich products that can be used as a substitute for meat," reducing our reliance on one of the biggest climate destroyers: the meat industry.

#### **Successful Examples:**

- From Boston to Oslo, Rio de Janeiro, Seattle and Sydney, structures such as multi-lane highways are being moved underground, with the disused spaces converted into parks.
- Cities, where the population growth is very strong, and which are struggling with resources, are looking at innovative ways to expand.
- "They're looking at floating cities but are realising that's not the solution, because it affects marine life and is difficult to build, so why not go downwards.
- Metropolises like Singapore and Hong Kong have already begun changing legislation to allow for everything from universities to libraries, shopping centres, cinemas and sports facilities to move underground.

#### **Advantages:**



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- Trees planted in new green areas will do their bit to help rein in climate change, as well as help prevent soil degradation.
- Going underground can also help protect populations from the severe weather events climate change is expected to spark.
- “For flooding, and also for other natural disasters, it can really help make the city more resilient to exploit the underground for shelter.
- “Fibre optics can bring sunlight below the surface, and also you can simulate daylight nowadays.

### **Monkeypox:**

#### **Why in News?**

[Singapore](#) has reported its first case of the rare monkeypox virus brought in by a Nigerian man who authorities said may have been infected by bushmeat he ate at a wedding.

#### **What is it?**

- Monkeypox, a virus similar to the human smallpox which was eradicated in 1980, does not spread easily from person to person, but can in rare cases be fatal.
- Singapore's Ministry of Health (MOH) said in a statement late on Thursday that the infected patient was a 38-year-old Nigerian who arrived in Singapore in late April.
- “While risk of spread is low, MOH is taking precautions,” the ministry said in a statement, adding that ongoing investigations suggest 23 persons had been identified as being in close contact with the patient while he was in Singapore.
- Monkeypox typically lasts for two to four weeks, starting as a fever and headache and progressing through to small bumps called pustules that spread over the body.



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### **Earlier Cases:**

- Sporadic human cases of monkeypox have been reported in west and central Africa since the 1970s, and in 2003, the first cases outside of Africa were reported in the United States.
- Human monkeypox infections have only been documented three times outside of Africa, in the United States, the United Kingdom and Israel, according to the U.S.-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Last September, Britain reported its first cases all linked to travel in Nigeria.

### **Growth in Bank Credit:**

#### **Context:**

Bank credit grew by 13.2% in financial year 2018-19 as compared to 10.3% in the previous financial year, mainly aided by loans to services and retail sector.

Deposit growth also gained momentum, growing by 10% as compared to 6.7% a year ago.

#### **RBI data**

- The Reserve Bank of India's data on deployment of gross credit across different sectors shows healthy credit growth in the services sector followed by retail sector. Credit growth in services sector till the middle of February was 23.7% and in retail sector it was 16.7%.
- Credit growth in the industry sector was 5.6%.
- Banks have also benefited from the liquidity crunch that non-[banking](#) financial companies are facing following the IL&FS crisis.
- NBFCs have slowed down their loan growth since their cost of funds increased substantially after September-October.
- This is particularly true for retail loans, where NBFCs are a major player.



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- Banks have been pushing loans to the corporate sector at a slower pace after sharp rise in bad loans, mostly in sectors like infrastructure, power, and iron and steel.

### **New Job Prospects:**

#### **Why in News?**

The Indian tech industry will add another three million new jobs in the next five years, said Indian Staffing Federation (ISF), the apex body for the 'flexi' working industry.

With the additions, the size of the country's tech army will be 7 million by 2023.

#### **Details:**

- These new jobs would come up in digital technology areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, Internet of things (IOT), data science, analytics, big data, blockchain and augmented reality.
- Jobs would also be created in newer technology areas that are presently unknown but are expected to emerge and evolve in the next few years.
- The ISF's tech [employment](#) projection comes as a big relief to millions of young techies and software engineering students amid talks of the move towards jobless growth with automation that replaces humans with robots.

#### **Changing technology**

- The industry had been witnessing winds of change in technology.
- Today, a robot, with infinite memory analytical capacity, is connected to the cloud.
- It's impact on productivity of businesses would be 'huge'.
- Some 63% of CEOs think that AI would have a larger impact than the Internet and some 39% of them had already started AI-related initiatives in their organisations.
- When we think about addressing this problem, the only sustainable way to achieve this is through formalisation, industrialisation, urbanisation and financialisation of the human capital."



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### **WHO and Trans Fat:**

#### **Context:**

Trans fat, also called the worst form of fat in food, responsible for over 5,00,000 deaths globally from coronary heart disease each year, could be eliminated from the industrially produced global food supply by 2023 if the World Health Organization (WHO) has its way.

#### **Steps Taken:**

The WHO has welcomed its partnership with the International Food and Beverage Alliance (IFBA) to achieve this target.

It said: "Eliminating industrially produced trans fat is one of the simplest and most effective ways to save lives and create a healthier food supply."

#### **Regulatory action:**

- The meeting also stressed the value of regulatory action on labelling, marketing and urged industry for full adherence to the WHO code of marketing of breast milk substitutes.
- The commitment made by the IFBA is in line with the WHO's target to eliminate industrial trans fat from the global food supply by 2023.
- Of particular note was the decision by IFBA members to ensure that the amount of industrial trans fat in their products does not exceed 2 gram per 100 g fat/oil globally by 2023."

India has among the highest number of coronary heart disease cases in the world and we must try to beat this deadline.

#### **What are Trans fats?:**



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- **Trans fat**, also called **trans-unsaturated fatty acids** or **trans fatty acids**, is a type of [unsaturated fat](#) that occurs in small amounts in nature, but became widely produced industrially from vegetable fats starting in the 1950s for use in [margarine](#), snack food, packaged baked goods, and for frying fast food.
- Fats contain long [hydrocarbon](#) chains, which can be either unsaturated, i.e., have [double bonds](#), or saturated, i.e., have no double bonds.
- In food production, liquid cis-unsaturated fats such as vegetable oils are [hydrogenated](#) to produce saturated fats, which have more desirable physical properties: e.g., they melt at a desirable temperature (30–40 °C); and extend the shelf-life of food .
- Partial hydrogenation of the unsaturated fat converts some of the cis double bonds into trans double bonds by an [isomerization reaction](#) with the [catalyst](#) used for the hydrogenation, which yields a trans fat.

#### **Risks Involved:**

- Although trans fats are edible, consuming trans fats has been shown to increase the risk of [coronary artery disease](#) in part by raising levels of [low-density lipoprotein](#) (LDL, often termed "bad cholesterol"), lowering levels of [high-density lipoprotein](#) (HDL, often termed "good cholesterol"), increasing triglycerides in the bloodstream and promoting systemic inflammation.