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Human-wildlife conflict



- Recently, the Minister of State for Forest, Environment and Climate Change informed in the Lok Sabha that the incidents of human-wildlife conflicts have increased.

Human-wildlife conflict

- Human-wildlife conflict (HWC) refers to conflicts when the presence or behavior of wildlife causes actual or direct threats to human interests or needs, resulting in negative effects on people, animals, resources and habitat.

Cause:

- Habitat loss.
- Increase in the population of wild animals.
- Changing cropping patterns that attract wild animals to the field.

- Movement of wild animals from forest area to human-dominated areas for food and fodder.
- Movement of humans towards forests for illegal collection of forest produce.
- Habitat degradation due to growth of invasive alien species etc.

Influence:

- Losing life.
- Injuries to both animals and humans.
- Damage to crops and agricultural land.
- Increase in violence against animals.

Related data:

- Between 2018-19 and 2020-21, 222 elephants died of electrocution across the country.
- Apart from this, 29 tigers were killed due to poaching between the year 2019 and 2021, while the deaths of 197 tigers are being investigated.
- Elephants killed 1,579 humans in three years during human-to-animal conflicts – 585 in 2019-20, 461 in 2020-21 and 533 in 2021-22.
- Odisha tops with 332 deaths, followed by Jharkhand with 291 and West Bengal with 240.
- Whereas between 2019 and 2021, tigers killed 125 humans in the reserve.
- Nearly half of these deaths have occurred in Maharashtra.

Initiatives taken to deal with the conflict:

Advice for managing human-wildlife conflict (HWC):

- It is issued by the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL).

Empowering Gram Panchayats:

- The advisory envisages empowering village panchayats to deal with problematic wild animals as per the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Providing Insurance:

- Using add-on coverage under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana for compensation for crop damage due to HWC.

Growing Fodder:

- It is envisaged to increase the fodder and water sources within the forest areas.

Taking proactive measures:

- Prescribing inter-departmental committees at local/state level, adoption of early warning system, creation of barriers, dedicated circle-wise control room with toll-free hotline numbers, identification of hotspots etc.

Providing immediate relief:

- Payment of a part of the ex-gratia amount as interim relief to the victim/family within 24 hours of the incident.

Swadeep Kumar



- Recently the Supreme Court asked the central government whether it is economically viable to distribute irrational freebies (free gifts) during election campaigns.
- It also referred to the use of the Finance Commission's expertise in curbing irrational election freebies.
- According to the Election Commission of India, whether such policies are economically viable or have an adverse effect on the economic health of the state is a question for the voters of the state to consider and decide.

Freebies:

- Political parties promise to offer free electricity/water supply, allowance to the unemployed, daily wage workers and women, as well as gadgets like laptops, smartphones etc. to secure the vote of the people.

- States have become in the habit of giving loan waivers or free gifts in the form of free electricity, cycles, laptops, TV sets etc.
- Populist promises or some of these expenditures, certainly in keeping with the elections, can certainly be questioned.
- But given that inequality has been increasing in the country for the last 30 years, providing any kind of relief to the general population in the form of subsidy cannot be considered unreasonable, but in fact it is necessary for the economy to stay on the growth trajectory.

Freebies needed:

Facilitate Development:

- There are some examples which show that some expenditure is in the form of overall benefit of the outlay such as the public distribution system, employment guarantee schemes, and support for education and health facilities especially during the pandemic.

Help to underdeveloped states:

- States having comparatively low level of development with a large section of the poverty-stricken population have such free facilities based on need/demand and in order to uplift them, it becomes inevitable to provide them with subsidies.

Fulfilment of Expectations:

- In a country like India where states have (or do not have) a certain level of development, the expectations of the people are met by populist promises made on the occasion of elections.

Drawbacks of Freebies:

Unstable for the macro economy:

- Freebies undermine the macroeconomy's sustainability infrastructure, the politics of freebies distorts spending priorities, and the outlay focuses on subsidies in some form or the other.

Impact on the financial position of the states:

- The giving of free gifts ultimately adversely affects the exchequer and most of the states in India do not have strong financial systems, often with very limited resources in terms of revenue.

Against free and fair elections:

- Irrational pre-election promises of free public money influence voters unfairly, hinder the freedom of equal opportunity for all, and destroy the integrity of the election process.

Away from environment:

- When free electricity is provided, it will lead to excessive use of natural resources and also distract attention from renewable energy systems.

Swadeep Kumar

Diminution of the Gandhi Ji: An endanger for the essence of India's future

Context: In the magazine Antim Jana which is published by the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS), the description of the Savarkar and quoting Savarkar with Gandhi ji is not only questionable on the ground of historical truth but also on the ground of Indian cultural philosophy

In this article, Savarkar is praised and tried to bring Savarkar to the same stature as Gandhi. Such type of intention is really the thread for Indian history as well as the Indian philosophy

Introduction

Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS) is an institution presided by the prime minister of India. This institution is formed to propagate the ideals of Gandhi Ji in the world. A magazine Anitam Jana is released from this institution. The word Antim Jana means the last people or marginalized people. Gandhi always talked about the lowest call or marginalized people. Savarkar was the founder of secret societies during the first decade of the 19th century and also participated in the national movement against the British. He was arrested two times but was left after the apology. The comparison of Savarkar with Gandhi Ji is completely irrational

What is GSDS

GSDS is an institute that is dedicated the research works on the Gandhian philosophy. It was constituted in 1984. The Prime minister of India is the Chairman of the GSDS. If any article is published through this institution, it can not free the prime minister from such responsibility. Therefore prime minister's office should keep close eyes on the functioning of this institution The lionizing of Savarkar and the diminution of Gandhiji has implications in terms of the essence of India's future.

Recent Trend

It has been observed that some people of rightist ideology not only criticize the ideas of Gandhiji but also they justify the assassination of Gandhi Ji also. the Savarkar was accused of the murder of Gandhi ji. However he was left in the absence of evidence but still, nobody can forget the role of RSS and Hindu Mahasabha in the assassination of Gandhiji. Through social media, these types of illogical and inappropriate facts are being spread in society which would be dangerous for the integrity and unity of India

The Philosophy of Gandhi ji

Gandhiji belied in nonviolence but Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) criticized the concept of nonviolence. However, the nonviolence of Gandhi was not cowardness and it was the tool of the powerful person. Gandhiji invoked the epic, the Mahabharata, in ways starkly different from an invocation as a battle cry. He said; "It is said that in the Mahabharata period the Pandavas used to stay in this Purana Qila." Just like the Pandavas, said Gandhiji, the Muslims "are under your protection, and under my protection". Gandhi believed in communal harmony / during the Karachi session of the congress in 1931, Gandhiji emphasized religious tolerance and religious neutrality of the state. the religion of the Gandhi ji was the collection of righteous things

While the RSS and Savarkar propagated extreme Hinduism, in their sights, minorities are a threat to the unity and integrity of India. So minorities should be separated from the country or they should be subjugated. Shruti Kapila in Violent Fraternity: Indian Political Thought in the Global Age (2021) recounts that Savarkar's idea of the virile and masculine and his desire to claim India's history and space, saw the nation as a battleground which makes violence the only desirable means to meet supremacist goals.

Gandhi believed in the unity of all communities and belied in peace and nonviolence.

Impact of Such Articles

The Indian education system has been based on reading books. Our students have trust in written things. If they would be provided wrong information, it would be dangerous for the new generation. Generally, through the education system, the government wants to spread some specific ideas, however, it is not correct for the education system

These types of articles would hamper the communal harmony and the solidarity of the Muslims towards the nation also. We should not make those people our heroes who always abused a particular community. The communal philosophy and the communal person can never be the Hero of India

Conclusion

Gandhi worked for the solidity of all people. He worked for social justice. He believed that every citizen of India including the marginalized people and those people who are standing at the last line of the country should also be uplifted. These types of works or articles would devalue the Gandhian philosophy. Therefore we must be aware of this regard. No communal and hateful person should be praised and regarded as the hero of the nation

Anshul

