

NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHT

The Haryana Government's law to reserve 75% jobs for locals, could trigger an exodus of large domestic and multinational investors across sectors such as auto and information technology that rely on highly skilled manpower, Indian industry has warned. The law that kicks in from January 15, 2022, requires firms with 10 or more employees to reserve 75% of all jobs offering a salary of less than ₹30,000 a month for eligible candidates of State domicile. The move to regulate hiring of those earning less than ₹30,000 a month, is aimed at disallowing the influx of talent from other parts of the country even in sectors such as IT and IT enabled services (ITeS), which the State does not have enough captive supply of. PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Pradeep Multani said Indian industry needs the most efficient work force to stay competitive in a globalised world. "We believe that any Indian should be allowed to work in any State of India without any restrictions," he said. "We have already lost out to Sri Lanka and Bangladesh in textiles and MNCs moving out of China have not come to India but shifted to Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh," he noted.

The Editors Guild of India (EGI) on Sunday expressed shock over the Tripura police's action of booking 102 people, including journalists, under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). "The Editors Guild of India is deeply shocked by the Tripura police's action of booking 102 people, including journalists, under the coercive Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, for reporting and writing on the recent communal violence in the State," the EGI said in a statement. "This move comes a few days after the police had filed UAPA charges against some Delhi-based lawyers who had visited Tripura as part of an independent fact finding enquiry commission into the communal violence," it said.

Due to the increase in ammonia levels in the Yamuna near Wazirabad, water supply in the Capital was hit on Sunday but was restored by evening, the Delhi Government said. Delhi Jal Board (DJB) vice chairman Raghav Chadha said water production was hit due to heavy sewage and industrial discharge from Haryana and asked people to use water judiciously.

KARBI ANGLONG AGREEMENT

1. Karbi Anglong peace deal was recently signed. What has been the history? Naga insurgency has been an inspiration for separatist movements in the North-Eastern region to protect their culture. Bodoland movement and the ULFA movement aimed for a sovereign Assam. But many smaller groups have also fought to protect their distinct ethnic, linguistic and cultural identity from being subsumed within a broader Assamese identity. Karbi Anglong, is the largest district in Assam and comprises various tribal and ethnic groups including the Kukis, Dimasas, Garos, Rengma Nagas, Tiwas and Karbis. Karbis were the majority among them and demanded a separate state of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills. But on the negative side they exploit alienation caused by an insensitive and exploitative state, and engage in extortion, ethnic violence, killings, etc.

2. **What has been the approach of Centre?** The Centre offered autonomy under the Constitution on the one hand while using security forces to crush militancy on the other. Insurgents who negotiate for peace are accommodated in state legislatures or Autonomous Councils. This approach has had various degrees of success, in Mizoram, Tripura, the Bodo areas. However, Karbi Anglong separatists rejected Sixth Schedule status. They demanded for an autonomous state under Article 244(a) of the Constitution.

3. **What is Karbi Anglong Agreement?** It is tripartite agreement signed between the Centre, five insurgent groups active in Karbi Anglong, and the Assam government. It marks the culmination of an extended process of negotiation to end insurgency in the region. It will ensure greater devolution of autonomy to the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC). KAAC is an autonomous district council in Assam for development and protection of tribals of Karbi Anglong and West Karbi Anglong district. It proposed to notify Karbi as the official language of KAAC. English, Hindi & Assamese will continue to be used for official purposes. A Special Development Package of Rs. 1000 crores over 5 years will be given by the Union and Assam for the focussed development of KAAC areas.

4. **It also provides for rehabilitation of cadres of the Karbi armed groups, who have agreed to renounce violence. Assam Government shall set up a Karbi Welfare Council for focussed development of Karbi people living outside KAAC area.** The Consolidated Fund of the State will be augmented to supplement the resources of KAAC. Over a thousand armed insurgents have surrendered their arms.

5. **Does the agreement satisfy the local demands?** The current Karbi Anglong agreement signed falls short of fulfilling the demand for autonomous. Yet it promises more autonomy than currently enjoyed by the Autonomous Council under the Sixth Schedule. 10 seats on KAAC has been marked for people from any community, paving the way for other community representation. Autonomy and funds alone may not be sufficient to improve the condition of the people. Autonomous Councils are often captured by vested interests, who invoke fears of a militant past. The enhanced development funds are often diverted to private parties.

SIGNIFICANCE OF MILLET FARMING

1. The United Nations General Assembly recently adopted a resolution declaring 2023 the International Year of Millets, as proposed by India to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). What are millets? India is the largest global producer of millets, with a 41% market share. A compound annual growth rate of 4.5% is projected for the global millet market in the coming decade. Millets - Sorghum, pearl millet, finger millet and several small millets (kodo, little, foxtail, proso and barnyard). All millets, maize, and barley together are called coarse cereals. Millets were one of the oldest foods known to humans. But they were discarded in favour of wheat and rice with urbanization and industrialization.

2. **How significant are millets?** Provide food, nutrition, fodder and livelihood security. Help mitigate the effects of climate

In a major turnaround, the Government has decided to lift its ban on the Italian defence company involved in the Agusta Westland VVIP helicopter deal, just days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with his Italian counterpart Mario Draghi, sources confirmed here. Over the past few years, bilateral relations have been held up over the helicopter case as well as the case of the Italian marines accused of killing Kerala fishermen. Mr. Modi's first visit to Rome has seen the formal burial of both issues.

Troops and patrols deployed throughout Baghdad following the failed assassination attempt with drones that targeted Iraq's Prime Minister in his residence. The attack significantly raised tensions, sparked by the refusal of Iran backed militias to accept last month's parliamentary election results.

A major four day Communist Party conclave that will open in Beijing on Monday is expected to further tighten President and General Secretary Xi Jinping's grip over China's ruling party and enshrine his place in the party's official history. Mr. Xi, who took over in 2012, has already abolished term limits and ended the collective leadership model. The 20th Party Congress to be held in October next year will likely see him begin his third five year term.

Sudanese security forces fired tear gas at multiple anticoup rallies, with protesters in several cities joining a call for twodays of civil disobedience against last month's military takeover. Hundreds of anti coup protesters rallied in the capital Khartoum, as well as in its twin city of Omdurman, Wad Madni to the south, and the northern city of Atbara.

Non Muslims will be allowed to marry, divorce and get joint child custody under civil law in Abu Dhabi according to a new decree issued on Sunday by its ruler. It is the latest step in the United Arab Emirates — where personal status laws on marriage and divorce had been based on Islamic sharia principles, as in other Gulf states — to maintain its competitive edge as a regional commercial hub. The decree from Abu Dhabi's Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, who is also president of the UAE federation of seven emirates, said the law covers civil marriage, divorce, alimony, joint child custody and proof of paternity, and inheritance. It aims to "enhance the position and global competitiveness of the emirate as one of the most attractive destinations for talent and skills".

change with low carbon footprint of 3,218-Kg equivalent of CO2 per hectare. [Wheat - 3,968 kg; Rice - 3,401kg] What are the favourable factors? Drought resistant Suitable for harsh, hot and dry environments. Can grow in arid regions, requiring only 350-400 mm of annual rainfall. Some varieties of pearl millet survive at temperatures up to 46°C. Require minimal inputs for growth. Being hardy crops, they can withstand extreme temperatures, floods and droughts.

3.What are the concerns with millets farming? Market and economic barriers. Low demand, especially in urban markets. Unjust pricing and value wringing by intermediaries. Low remuneration leading to farmer distress. Lack of input subsidies and price incentives. Subsidised supply of fine cereals through the PDS and change in consumer preferences leading led to a shift from the production of millets (jowar in particular) to soybean, maize, cotton, sugarcane and sunflower.

4.What are the government's initiatives so far? Millet Mission in 2018 as part of the National Food Security Mission - Promotion of technological interventions, improvement in seed quality and MSP for bajra and jowar. Millet Network of India and the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation - Collective formation efforts to boost the domestic growth of millets. Setting up farmer organizations to help small and marginal farmers overcome hindrances in millet production and marketing. Odisha Millet Mission: 7.2 million women emerged as 'agripreneurs' about 70,000 farmers in the state took up millet farming.

5.What are the other measures needed? Market dynamics Incentivizing the adoption of inter-cropping involving millets. Providing crop insurance and support for storage facilities. Broadening the millet marketing policies. Ecosystems and sustainability The value of millets is evident in their relevance to the sustainable development goals of food security, nutrition and poverty eradication. In line with goals of the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration (2021-30), local practices can support rural economies.

6.Biofuel and climate resilience-In India, 2025 is set as the deadline for achieving 20% ethanol blending with petrol. Most bio-ethanol in India is produced using sugar molasses and maize. Creating bio-ethanol using sorghum (jowar) and pearl millet (bajra), thus bringing down carbon emissions by about half. Millets can deliver greater returns than maize, while using 40% less energy in processing, and are cost advantageous as a feedstock for bio-ethanol production.

e-SHRAM PORTAL-SECURING LABOUR

1.The Centre recently launched the e-Shram portal to create a national Aadhaar-seeded database of unorganised workers. What is the e-Shram portal? The portal is expected to create a unified database for unorganised workers to help them access various benefits of central and state government welfare schemes. Unorganised workers form over 80% of the workforce - self-employed, migrant and MSME workers. The aim is to register 38 crore unorganised workers.

2.How does it help? Under the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008, a similar attempt was made. But it resulted in the registration of just 120 million workers. But the digitisation under this portal will now help in targeting income transfers better and in including the workers in other social security schemes.

3.How significant is registering unorganised workers? At present, unorganised workers are registered under different welfare boards, or not at all. In the absence of any central register, migrant workers often do not receive the benefits. Of the 50 million workforce of construction workers, at least 15 million are not registered. Of the 35 million or more registered, about 40% are not active.

4.What should be done? Decentralised registration process with participation of municipalities, panchayats and civil society groups. Flexibility to register in any centre of convenience, rather than a specified office. Advertising and educating the masses Making it easy for workers registered under other welfare boards to enlist on this portal.

MUMBAI CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

1.The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) is drafting a Mumbai Climate Action Plan (MCAP) to tackle climate challenges. Click here to learn about India Cooling Action Plan What is the MCAP? It is a comprehensive roadmap outlining specific

The Palestinians slammed Israel for rejecting the promised reopening of the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem, a move that would restore Washington's main diplomatic mission for the Palestinians in the contested city. Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said late on Saturday there was no room in Jerusalem for another American mission.

activities to reduce emissions and meet the goals of the Paris Agreement. It was drafted with the technical support from World Resources Institute India (WRI India).

2.What are the signs of climate change impact in Mumbai so far?

Steady rise in air temperature over the past 50 years. Uneven increase in night time temperatures. Faster warming of the winter months compared to the summer. The number of extreme caution days is increasing. e.g Mumbai sees 174 caution days and 187 extreme caution days per year. Caution days - Temperature is 26-32°C. Extreme caution day - Temperature is 32-42°C. Temperatures above 35°C can impact human health and productivity.

3.Since 2007, a constant rise in temperature mainly due to concretization, lack of green cover and housing density in Mumbai. A substantial increase in intense rainfall and storm events in the last 5 years, resulting in frequent water logging and flooding.