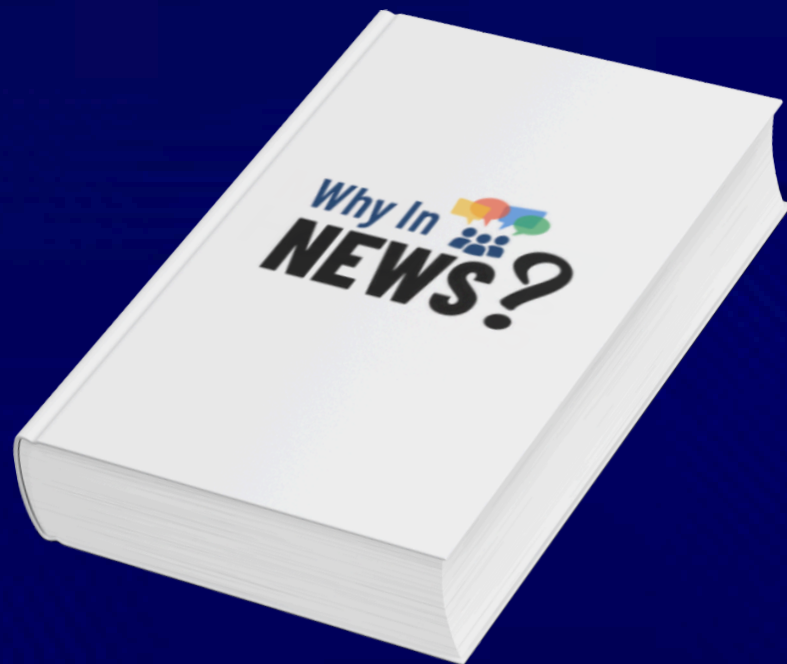


Why In **NEWS?**



English

Weekly Compilation
[20th - 25th October, 2025]



Source: NEXT IAS Magazine

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS SECULARISM IN MYSURU DASARA CASE

Why in News?

- Supreme Court ruled that a Muslim dignitary inaugurating Mysuru Dasara **does not** violate the Constitution.

Case Background:

- Petition challenged allowing **Banu Mushtaq**, a Muslim Booker Prize winner, to inaugurate rituals at **Chamundeshwari Temple** during Mysuru Dasara.
- **Claim:** Only a Hindu dignitary should perform temple rituals.

Supreme Court Observations:

- Petition **dismissed**, affirming secular principles are maintained.
- Invoked **Constitution's Preamble**: guarantees **secularism, liberty, equality, and fraternity**.
- Noted that since Dasara is organized by the State **government**, it must remain **secular** and cannot favor any religion.
- Cited 1994 **M. Ismail Faruqui judgment**: Indian State has **no religion**.

Secularism in India:

- Based on “**equal respect for all religions**”, not strict separation of religion and State.
- States can **regulate/reform** religious practices, but cannot **promote or favor** any religion.



Source: NEXT IAS Magazine

H-1B Visas

Why in News?

- U.S. President signed a proclamation raising H-1B visa fees to \$1,00,000 annually from \$1,500.

Type & Purpose:

- Non-immigrant work visa for skilled foreign professionals.
- Jobs in IT, engineering, finance, medicine, and research.

Validity:

- Initially valid for 3 years, extendable up to 6 years.

Employer-Sponsored:

- Cannot be applied independently; U.S. employer must sponsor the applicant.

Lottery System:

- Annual lottery due to high demand vs limited quota.

Dependents:

- Spouse and children under 21 get H-4 visa to live in the U.S.

Major Beneficiaries:

- Indian professionals are the largest group, mostly in IT and tech sectors.



Source: NEXT IAS Magazine

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Why in News?

- Former RBI Governor Urjit Patel was appointed IMF Executive Director for 3 years.

Origin & Membership:

- It was established in 1944 after the **Great Depression**.
- **191 member countries**; Executive Board representation based on financial quotas.

Executive Board:

- 25 Executive Directors, elected by members or groups.
- India is part of a four-country constituency: India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan.

Publications:

- World Economic Outlook, Global Financial Stability Report, Fiscal Monitor, Global Policy Agenda.

Role in Global Economy:

- **Crisis Management:** Provides financial assistance during currency crises.
- **Lending Mechanism:** Uses SDRs based on five currencies: USD, Euro, Yuan, Yen, Pound.
- **Financial Instruments:** Extended Credit Facility, Flexible Credit Line, Stand-By Arrangements.



Stay Tuned!