

Daily Editorial Analysis

23 July 2021



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Water as woe: On Mumbai's annual mayhem

This is the second covid year when the flooding of the city has taken a toll on human lives, with 32 dead, besides adding to the economic misery of the vulnerable who live in hovels in suburban landslide-prone locations.

The catastrophic floods have resulted in the emergence of a management plan drawn up by the National Disaster Management Authority and the first dedicated stormwater drainage manual by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

There have been calls to free the city's rivers and lakes from various impediments, enable perennial flow in the Mithi river, create fresh holding lakes for excess waters, and rehabilitate those who live in risky locations.

Mumbai's neglect is not unique, though, and most big cities are haphazardly expanding to the suburbs where basic infrastructure, including drainage is absent, and lakes and rivers are heavily encroached. Such unplanned growth, with no defenses against weather disasters, is leaving cities a lot poorer.

Words to look out for

Parlous:

- **Synonyms:** dangerous, perilous, risky
- **Antonyms:** harmless, innocuous, anodyne
- **Word usage:** It was parlous to go to the beach during the thunderstorm

Inundate:

- **Synonyms:** flood, overwhelm, swamp
- **Antonyms:** drain, parch, dehydrate
- **Word usage:** The tsunami inundated the coastal areas in no time.

Hovel:

- **Synonyms:** shack, slum, dump
- **Antonyms:** mansion, villa, manor
- **Word usage:** The success story of a boy's journey from a hovel to a large mansion was inspiring.

Article Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/water-as-woe-the-hindu-editorial-on-mumbais-annual-mayhem/article35454716.ece>



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Resolve LAC dispute: To tackle Afghan situation, India and China have no choice but to work together

Indo-China relations have been at a low since the outbreak of the first conflict at Pangong-Tso last year. While both countries have been negotiating peace for a while now, the friction points in eastern Ladakh remain open to conflict. That said, China has said that it is ready to seek a mutually acceptable solution to the border issue with India.

This agreement between the two countries comes at an opportune moment since cooperation between them will help pose a strong barrier to the Taliban's attempt to regain power in Afghanistan.

While China may think it can depend on Pakistan to keep the Taliban away from Xinjiang, the terrorist outfit is hardly subservient to Pakistan. And their rise to power will threaten both New Delhi and Xinjiang. Thus, notwithstanding their geographical realities, it is high time that India and China reached an agreement to outline the LAC for mutual benefit.

Words to look out for

Fester:

- **Synonyms:** decay, decompose, rot
- **Antonyms:** heal, recover, recuperate
- **Word usage:** The fruits turned out to be festered despite looking fresh.

Subservient:

- **Synonyms:** submissive, slavish, obsequious
- **Antonyms:** domineering, adamant, bossy
- **Word usage:** The subservient attitude of the employee did not bode well with the client because they wanted someone whose opinion holds some merit.

Mutual:

- **Synonyms:** joint, shared, common
- **Antonyms:** sole, separate, single
- **Word usage:** The policy was revamped to ensure mutual benefits.

Article Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/resolve-lac-dispute-to-tackle-afghan-situation-india-and-china-have-no-choice-but-to-work-together/>

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