

Daily Editorial Analysis

29 July 2021



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Wounded mountains: on Himachal landslide tragedy

The article talks about the landslide tragedy that took place in the Kinnaur district. Heavy rains in the area caused floods and led to the landslide crushing the bridge, causing the death of 9 tourists.

Though warning was triggered that there could be a surge in infections post relaxation, but no vigilance was kept on the travel to risky areas. Losses to the ecology may be disastrous in the coming future.

The Hydropower that HP is projecting as the source of green power again could pose threats to ecology resulting in cloudbursts, flash floods, etc. Kinnaur is the focus point for hydropower developments for the Sutlej-valley.

It may be impossible to assign and assess the real value of loss to people and communities caused due to weak afforestation plans. Bringing concrete changes can only help preserve the natural riches of the mentioned areas.

Words to look out for

Pummel:

- **Synonyms:** batter, pound, strike
- **Antonyms:** defend, guard, fortify
- **Word usage:** The wrestler pummeled his opponent to the ground.

Vigil:

- **Synonyms:** watchful, alert, patrol
- **Antonyms:** careless, neglect, aloofness
- **Word usage:** The vigil pilot saved the lives of a lot of passengers.

Impound:

- **Synonyms:** confiscate, seize, possess
- **Antonyms:** set free, alienate, discharge
- **Word usage:** The fraudster's property was impounded by the court.

Article Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/wounded-mountains/article35549242.ece>

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It begs the question: Begging is a matter of survival, not choice. Invisibilising destitutes solves nothing

The article throws light on the socio-economic issue of begging. In response to a petition asking to move all the beggars from intersections, the SC pointed out that government must ensure vaccinations for such homeless people.

Note that there is no such law against begging. However, as per the Bombay Prevention of Begging act, police can seize homeless people and send them to detention centers.

In 2018 the High Court stated the point that nobody begs out of wish. It becomes necessary due to the prevalence of lack of education, unemployment, and poverty.

Today, with heightened economic distress, poverty and homelessness are bound to rise. the situation indicates our failure to provide social protection to all. The crux is that unless we as a society and the government cannot provide a livelihood to all it won't be reasonable to call poor criminals.

Words to look out for

Destitute:

- **Synonyms:** penniless, poor, indigent
- **Antonyms:** rich, wealthy, affluent
- **Word usage:** The floods left thousands of people destitute.

Vagrancy:

- **Synonyms:** roving, nomadism, itinerancy
- **Antonyms:** permanence, upper-class, solidity
- **Word usage:** He was convicted of drunkenness and vagrancy.

Ethos:

- **Synonyms:** spirit, character, principles
- **Antonyms:** dolt, ignorance, stupidity
- **Word usage:** The ethos of this hotel chain is effortless service.

Article Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/it-begs-the-question-begging-is-a-matter-of-survival-not-choice-invisibilising-destitutes-solves-nothing/>

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