

2nd India-UK 2+2 Foreign and Defence Dialogue held in New Delhi

Key Points:



The second India and the United Kingdom 2+2 Foreign and Defence Dialogue was held in New Delhi on 3 December 2024. The first was held in New Delhi in October 2023, and both countries have agreed to hold their third Dialogue next year in the United Kingdom. The 2+2 Foreign and Defence Dialogue is different from the 2+2 Foreign and Defence Minister Dialogue.

The 2+2 Foreign and Defence dialogue is a Senior official-level mechanism for discussing and reviewing all aspects of the India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

- ❖ India does not hold 2+2 Foreign and Defence Minister Dialogue with the United Kingdom.
- ❖ The 2+2 Foreign and Defence Minister Dialogue is a ministerial-level discussion just below in importance, the summit-level meeting between the Prime Ministers of India and the United Kingdom.

Who Co-Chaired the 2+2 Dialogue?

Representatives from India and the United Kingdom co-chaired the second India and the United Kingdom 2+2 Foreign and Defence dialogue.

- ❖ Piyush Srivastava, Joint Secretary, Europe West, Ministry of External Affairs, and Vishwesh Negi, Joint Secretary, International Cooperation, Ministry of Defence, represented India. Ben Mellor, India Director, Indian Ocean Directorate, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, and Shimon Fhima, Director Strategic Programmes, Ministry of Defence, led the United Kingdom delegation.

About the Second Dialogue Agenda

During the dialogue, both sides discussed bilateral, regional and international issues. They discussed and reviewed all progress made under the India-UK Roadmap 2030 and agreed to revitalise the partnership by identifying new focus areas of collaboration.

- ❖ They expressed satisfaction with the progress in launching new key initiatives such as the Technology and Security Initiative, Electric Propulsion Capability Partnership, and the Defence Industrial Roadmap.
- ❖ In a significant breakthrough in India-United Kingdom relations, both countries signed a framework agreement in November 2024 for co-designing, co-creating, and co-producing Electric Propulsion Systems (engines) for the next generation of Indian naval ships.

India Emerges as Prime Global Target for Mobile Malware Attacks

According to a recently published Zscaler ThreatLabz 2024 Mobile IoT and OT Threat report, India has emerged as the most targeted country for mobile malware attacks.

- ❖ The Report, published by the cloud security company Zscaler Inc. on 3rd December 2024, analysed security attacks by hackers on mobile and IoT/OT from June 2023 to May 2024.
- ❖ Malware, or malicious software, is a type of programme or file that steals data and damages or destroys the computer and its system. Cybercriminals or hackers use malware. Common types of malware are computer viruses, worms, spyware, Trojan horses, and ransomware.

Main Points of the Zscaler ThreatLabz 2024 Report

28 % of the attacks on mobile phones in the world were reported from India.

- ❖ After India, the United States was second, followed by Canada, South Africa, and the Netherlands.
- ❖ In the 2023 report, India was ranked third in the world after the United States and Canada.
- ❖ The United States remains the top target of Internet of Things (IoT) device attacks, followed by Singapore, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Canada.
- ❖ Within the Asia Pacific region, India accounted for 66.5% of mobile malware attacks.
- ❖ Within the Asia Pacific region, India was ranked seventh as the origin of the malware. Last year, it was ranked fifth.
- ❖ The major source of the origin of the malware in the Asia Pacific region was Singapore, followed by China and South Korea.

Cyber security Law in India

The Information Technology (IT) Act of 2000 is the main law governing cybersecurity, data protection, and cybercrime.

Its main features are:

It grants statutory recognition and protection to electronic transactions and communications;

- ❖ Safeguard electronic data, information and records; Aim to prevent unauthorised or unlawful use of computer systems; and
- ❖ Make activities such as hacking, denial-of-service attacks, phishing, malware attacks, identity fraud and electronic theft are punishable offences.

Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) was established in January 2004 under the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

- ❖ The Information Technology Amendment Act 2008 makes CERT-In the national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents in the country.
- ❖ It is responsible for collecting, analysing and disseminating information on cybersecurity incidents and taking emergency response measures.

Pavan Kampelli wins historic maiden Medal at Asian Esports Games

Pavan Kampelli won the first-ever medal for India in the Asian Esports Games. Pavan Kampelli also nicknamed “Mr Tomboy”, won a bronze medal in the e-football event at the 2024 Asian Esports Games in Bangkok, Thailand.



- ❖ The Asian Esports Games 2024 were held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 25 November to 1 December 2024. The International Olympic Committee will host the inaugural Olympic Esports Games in Saudi Arabia in 2025.

Esports is becoming popular in the world, where players play games over the internet through electronic devices like mobile phones, gaming consoles etc.

Bronze Medal for Pavan Kampelli

Pavan Kampelli won a historic bronze medal for India in the e-football event. He defeated 2022 eFootball World Finals Winner (Mobile), Asgard Azizi of Indonesia, 2-1, to win the bronze medal. Pawan Kampelli won a \$ 500 cash prize for his bronze medal win in the Games.

- ❖ Also, for the first time, an Indian has won a medal in an international e-football event. Nattawat Namburee of Team Thailand won the gold medal, and Malaysia's Ahmad Muhaimin “Minbappe” Abdul Razak won the silver.

About Asian Esports Games and Final Medal Tally

The Asian Esports Games was organised by the Asian Electronic Sports Federation and was hosted by the Thailand Esports Federation with support from the Thailand government in Bangkok, Thailand. One hundred seventy-nine athletes from 29 countries from Asia participated in the Asian Esports Games. Thailand topped the medal chart with 2 gold medals.

About Asian Electronic Sports Federation (AESF)

The Asian Electronic Sports Federation (AESF) was founded in 2018. It is the governing body of esports in Asia and is recognised by the Olympic Council of Asia. Headquarters: Hong Kong. Members: 45 countries and Territories.

Devendra Fadnavis to Become Maharashtra CM for the Third Term

Devendra Fadnavis, a prominent leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), has been unanimously elected as the leader of the Maharashtra BJP legislature party.

- ❖ Devendra Fadnavis, a prominent leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), has been unanimously elected as the leader of the Maharashtra BJP legislature party.
- ❖ This development paves the way for his swearing-in as the Chief Minister of Maharashtra for a record third term. Alongside him, Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Ajit Pawar are set to assume the roles of deputy chief ministers.



BJP won 132 out of 288 assembly seats, its best-ever performance in the state.

- ❖ The Mahayuti coalition, comprising BJP, Shiv Sena, and NCP, secured a dominant 230 seats out of 288, ensuring a strong majority in the assembly.
- ❖ Following the election results, Mahayuti leaders Devendra Fadnavis, Eknath Shinde, and Ajit Pawar met Governor CP Radhakrishnan to formally stake their claim to form the government.

Leadership Roles Announced

Devendra Fadnavis: Unanimously chosen as the leader of the BJP legislature party, Fadnavis is poised to take the oath as the Chief Minister.

- ❖ Eknath Shinde: The leader of the Shiv Sena faction will continue his role as Deputy Chief Minister, contributing his expertise to governance.
- ❖ Ajit Pawar: The senior NCP leader is also set to serve as Deputy Chief Minister, reinforcing the coalition's unity.

Maria Victoria Juan Wins Aster Guardians Global Nursing Award 2024

Nurse Maria Victoria Juan has been honoured with the Aster Guardians Global Nursing Award 2024, a prestigious recognition that celebrates exceptional contributions to the nursing profession worldwide.

- ❖ Nurse Maria Victoria Juan has been honoured with the Aster Guardians Global Nursing Award 2024, a prestigious recognition that celebrates exceptional contributions to the nursing profession worldwide.



Maria, whose career has been a testament to dedication and resilience, was chosen for this award for her outstanding efforts in transforming the healthcare landscape, particularly in the Philippine Army Health Services and the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Kirti Vardhan Singh Launches Nano Bubble Tech to Purify Delhi Zoo Pond Water

Union Minister Kirti Vardhan Singh launched a 15-day trial of Nano Bubble Technology at the Delhi Zoo to improve pond water quality and promote the health of aquatic animals.

- ❖ The technology aims to remove algae, foul odors, and discoloration, ensuring cleaner, healthier water. Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Kirti Vardhan Singh, inaugurated a 15-day trial of Nano Bubble Technology at the National Zoological Park in Delhi on Tuesday.
- ❖ This initiative is aimed at improving the water quality in the zoo's ponds to benefit aquatic animals by removing algae, foul odors, and discoloration often caused by polluted water.
- ❖ The success of this trial could lead to the broader implementation of the technology to ensure cleaner, healthier water for the animals.

Technology for Cleaner Water

Nano Bubble Technology uses microscopic bubbles to purify water, removing algae and organic growth. The primary aim is to ensure the health and visibility of aquatic creatures in the zoo's ponds, including gharials and marsh crocodiles. The zoo's four ponds, which are often affected by water contamination, will be tested during the 15-day trial.

Arunachal Pradesh launches 'Mission Himveer' to boost local economy

To boost market linkage for agricultural and horticultural products in Arunachal Pradesh, the state government has launched Mission Arun Himveer by signing a pact between the agriculture marketing board and the IndoTibetan Border Police, North East Frontier.

- ❖ As part of the initiative, the state government will supply fruits, vegetables, meat, and poultry to the ITBP. These produces will be procured from local farmers, self-help groups (SHGs), farmer producer organisations and farmer cooperatives.



The mission aims to provide readymade markets for farmers in remote villages and regions with low marketable surplus.

- ❖ It also seeks to stimulate a vibrant local economy while addressing employment challenges across the state.
- ❖ This new agreement follows a similar understanding with the Army in August 2022, under which the state government, via LAMPS (Liberalized Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies), supplied around 400 tons of fruits and vegetables worth Rs 72 lakh to the armed forces from local farmers.

About Arunachal Pradesh

- ❖ Capital – Itanagar
- ❖ Chief Minister – Pema Khandu
- ❖ Governor – LG (Retd) Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik
- ❖ Legislative Assembly Seat – 60

SBI Launches Nationwide Drive to Reactivate Inoperative Accounts

State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a nationwide drive to raise awareness about the importance of inoperative account activation.

- ❖ A savings or a current account is treated as inoperative if the customer has no transaction in the account for a period of over two years.
- ❖ Activation of these accounts requires Re-KYC. Necessity of regular transactions in the account and preventing categorization into in-operative was the key message.
- ❖ SBI chairman C S Setty emphasised the need to drive Re-KYC exercise in letter and spirit, to maintain PMJDY accounts in active status and enabling customers to conduct transactions seamlessly.

2 December – International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is an important global event observed annually on December 2,. Objective – To raise awareness about human trafficking, and promoting the rights and dignity of all individuals, especially those who have been victims of slavery.

- ❖ The International Day for the Abolition of Slavery marks the date of the adoption, by the General Assembly, of the United Nations Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (resolution 317(IV) of 2 December 1949).



South Korea's short-lived and chaotic period of martial law

ଦକ୍ଷିଣ କୋରିଆରେ ଲାଗୁ ହୋଇ ୬ ଘଣ୍ଟା ମଧ୍ୟରେ ପ୍ରତ୍ୟାହାର ହେଲା ସାମରିକ ଆଇନ

ଦକ୍ଷିଣ କୋରିଆର ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ରପତି ଯୋନ୍ ସୁକ୍ ଯୋଲ ବେଶରେ ଜରୁରୀକାଳୀନ ସାମରିକ ଆଇନ ଘୋଷଣା କରିଥିବା ବେଳେ ପୁଣି ତାହାକୁ ୬ ଘଣ୍ଟା ମଧ୍ୟରେ ପ୍ରତ୍ୟାହାର କରାଯାଇଛି।

ମଙ୍ଗଳବାର ବିଳମ୍ବିତ ରାତିରେ ଦକ୍ଷିଣ କୋରିଆରେ ଏକ ନାଟକୀୟ ରାଜନୈତିକ ଅଘ୍ଟିରତା ଦେଖାଦେଇଛି। ବିଳମ୍ବିତ ରାତିରେ ଅଧିବେଶନରେ ଉଭୟ ଶାସକ ତଥା ବିରୋଧୀ ଦଳର ୩୦୦ ଜଣଙ୍କ ମଧ୍ୟରୁ ୧୯୦ ଜଣ ନେତା ସର୍ବସମ୍ମତି କ୍ରମେ ସାମରିକ ଆଇନକୁ ଲାଗୁ କରିବାକୁ ନିଷ୍ପତ୍ତି ନେବାର କିଛି ଘଣ୍ଟା ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଏହାକୁ ପୁଣି ହଟାଇ ଦିଆଯାଇଛି।

Since its establishment in 1948, the Republic of Korea, or South Korea, has been mostly under military rule until the establishment of the current democratic system in 1987. Martial Law in South Korea has been imposed 16 times, and the last one was imposed in 1979 when the military dictator and President of South Korea, Park Chun Hee, was assassinated in 1979. Since the establishment of the present constitutional system in 1987, this was the first instance of martial law being imposed in the country

What is Martial Law?

Martial law refers to the suspension of the country's constitution and the replacement of civilian rule with military rule. Martial law is also called an 'emergency' in which the existing laws, fundamental rights of the citizen, civil authority, and the ordinary administration of justice are suspended. Almost every constitution provides for martial law. In India, martial law is called an emergency, and it was last imposed in 1975 by the Indira Gandhi government.

Why did President Yoon impose the Martial Law?

President Yoon Suk Yeol, who assumed office in May 2022, imposed martial law in the country in a television address, accusing the opposition parties of sympathising with North Korea and paralysing the government with anti-state activities. After the end of the Second World War, the Korean peninsula was divided into the Republic of Korea(South Korea) and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea).

- ❖ South Korea supported the United States, and other Western countries fought a bloody civil war with communist North Korea supported by China and the Soviet Union. In 1953, a United Nations-supervised armistice was negotiated between the two countries, and a demilitarised zone was established between them, which has become their de facto border. Both countries have not signed a peace treaty and are technically at war.

About the National Assembly of South Korea

South Korea has a unicameral legislature called the National Assembly. The National Assembly has 300 members who are elected for a four-year term through a combination of direct and indirect elections. The President of South Korea is elected by the people directly for a term of five years.



About the Republic of Korea or South Korea

It formally came into existence in August 1948. It is a highly industrialised country in Asia and a member of the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development).

Capital: Seoul

Currency: South Korean Won

President: Yoon Suk Yeol

ଦକ୍ଷିଣ କୋରିଆ ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ରପତି ଯୁନ୍ ସୁକ୍ ଯିଓଲଙ୍କ ସରକାର ଗତ ଭାରିରେ ନିଜେ ଜାଗାଇଥିବା ସାମରିକ ଆକ୍ରମଣ ବୁଧବାର ସକାଳେ ପ୍ରତ୍ୟାହାର କରିନେଇଛନ୍ତି। ସାମରିକ ଆକ୍ରମଣ ଲାଗୁ ହେବା ପରେ ସୈନିକମାନେ ସଂସଦ ଘେରାଇ କରିଥିଲେ ଏବଂ ସମସ୍ତ ସାମରିକ ଶାସନକୁ ପ୍ରତ୍ୟାହାର କରିବାକୁ ଲୋଡ଼ ଦେବା ପରେ ଯୁନ୍ ଆଜି ଲୋର ପ୍ରାୟ ସାତେ ଖଟରେ ଏହାକୁ ପ୍ରତ୍ୟାହାର କରିବାକୁ ବାଧ୍ୟ ହୋଇଛନ୍ତି।

ବିରୋଧୀ ସାଂସଦମାନେ ଦେଶର ସଂସଦକୁ ନିୟନ୍ତ୍ରଣ କରୁଥିବା ବେଳେ ସେମାନେ କମ୍ୟୁନିଷ୍ଟ ଭରଣ କୋରିଆ ପ୍ରତି ସହାୟତା ପ୍ରଦାନ କରୁଥିବା ଅଭିଯୋଗ କରି ଯୁନ୍ ମଙ୍ଗଳବାର ବିକସିତ ଭାରିରେ ଦେଶ-ବିରୋଧୀ ଚଳୁଳ ମୁକୋପାତନ କରିବାକୁ ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠିତ ଦେଇ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚଲ ଲା' ଲାଗୁ କରିଥିଲେ। ତିନି ଘଣ୍ଟାରୁ କମ୍ ସମୟ ପରେ ସଂସଦରେ ଏହାକୁ ପ୍ରତ୍ୟାହାର କରିବା ପାଇଁ ଲୋଡ଼ ଦିଆଯାଇଥିଲା। ବାଚସ୍ପତି ଉ ଓନ୍ ଶିକ୍ ଘୋଷଣା କରିଥିଲେ ଯେ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚଲ ଲା' ଅବୈଧ ଓ ସାଂସଦମାନେ ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସହିତ ଗଣତନ୍ତ୍ରର ସୁରକ୍ଷା କରିବେ।



ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚଲ ଲା' ଆଦେଶ ପ୍ରତ୍ୟାହାର କଲା ଦକ୍ଷିଣ କୋରିଆ: ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ରପତିଙ୍କ ବିରୋଧରେ ମହାଲିୟୋର ପ୍ରସାର
ଦକ୍ଷିଣ କୋରିଆ ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ରପତି ଯୁନ୍ ସୁକ୍ ଯିଓଲଙ୍କ ସରକାର

Opposition Chief whip Pramila Mallick Pitches for Salary hike of MLAs In The Odisha Assembly

ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ବିଧାୟକମାନଙ୍କ ଦରମା କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ଦେଶରେ ୨୭ ନମ୍ବର ସ୍ଥାନରେ ଅଛି। ଏ ସମ୍ପର୍କରେ ଯଦି ନୂଆ କମିଟି ଆବଶ୍ୟକ, ତେବେ ବାଚସ୍ପତି ନୂଆ କମିଟି କରି ଦରମା ଓ ପେନସନ ବୃଦ୍ଧି କରନ୍ତୁ। ଏଥିସହ ବିଧାୟକମାନଙ୍କ ଦରମା ୨ ଲକ୍ଷ ୫୦ ହଜାର ଏବଂ ପୂର୍ବତନ ବିଧାୟକ ମାନଙ୍କ ପେନସନ ୭୦ ହଜାର କରାଯାଇ ବୋଲି ପୂର୍ବରୁ କମିଟି ସୁପାରିଶ କରିଥିଲା।

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ବିଧାନସଭାର ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କ ଦରମା ଓ ପୂର୍ବତନ ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କ ପେନସନ୍ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇଁ ନୂଆ କମିଟି ଗଠନ ହେବ। ଏହି କମିଟିରେ ବିଜେପି ବିଧାୟକ ଲାଲୁ ମହେନ୍ଦ୍ର ଅଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷ ରହିବେ। ଏନେଇ ମଙ୍ଗଳବାର ଗୃହରେ ବାଚସ୍ପତି ସୁରମା ପାଢ଼ୀ ଘୋଷଣା କରିଛନ୍ତି।

ବନ୍ଧୁ ଦରମା ବଢ଼ିଲାଣି। ଦରମା ଓ ପେନସନରେ ତଳି ହେଉନା ନିର୍ବାଚନମଣ୍ଡଳରେ ଲୋକଙ୍କ ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ପୂରଣ କରି ହେଉନା। ତେଣୁ ତୁରନ୍ତ ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କ ଦରମା ଓ ପୂର୍ବତନ ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କ ପେନସନ୍ ବଢ଼ାଆ ବିଧାୟକ ଆନ୍ଧିକ ଭଲଭନ ପାଣି ବି ଓ କୋଟି କର। ବିଧାନସଭାରେ ଏହି ଦାବି ଗୋଟିଏର ଉଠିଥିଲା। ସବୁ ଦଳର ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କ ସ୍ତର ସମାନ ଥିଲା।

ଶୂନ୍ୟକାଳରେ ପ୍ରଥମେ ବିରୋଧୀ ଦଳ ମୁଖ୍ୟ ସଚେତକ ପ୍ରମିଳା ମଲିକ କହିଥିଲେ, ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କ ଦରମା ଓ ପୂର୍ବତନ ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କ ପେନସନ୍ ବଢ଼ାଇବା ପାଇଁ ଗତ ବିଧାନସଭାରେ ଅମର ଶତପଥୀଙ୍କ ଅଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷତାରେ ଏକ କମିଟି ଗଢ଼ା ହୋଇଥିଲା। ଦରମା ଓ ପେନସନ୍ ବଢ଼ାଇବାକୁ ଏହି କମିଟି ସୁପାରିସ କରିଥିଲା।

ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କର ଅଭେଦ ଲକ୍ଷ ଟଙ୍କା ଏବଂ ପୂର୍ବତନ ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କ ପେନସନ୍ ୭୦ ହଜାର କରିବା ପାଇଁ କୁହାଯାଇଥିଲା। ବିଭିନ୍ନ ରାଜ୍ୟର ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କ ଦରମା ଟଙ୍କାରେ ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ବହୁତ କମ୍ ରହିଛି। ସୁପାରିସକୁ ସରକାର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀ କରନ୍ତୁ, ନଚେତ୍ ନୂଆ କମିଟି ଗଢ଼ି ଏ ବିଷୟରେ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ନିଆଯାଉ। ସେହିପରି ବର୍ତ୍ତମାନ ବିଧାୟକ ଆନ୍ଧିକ ଭଲଭନ ପାଣି(ଲାଡ଼) ବାର୍ଷିକ ୩ କୋଟି ରହିଛି। ଏହା ଯଥେଷ୍ଟ ନୁହେଁ। ଏହାକୁ ଅତି କମ୍ରେ ୫ କୋଟି କରାଯାଉ। ଏହାକୁ ସମର୍ଥନ କରି ବିଚେଡ଼ି ସ୍ୱଳ୍ପ ପ୍ରାପ୍ତ କେଶରୀ ଦେବ କହିଥିଲେ, ସବୁ ବିଧାୟକଙ୍କର ଏହି ସମାନ ଦାବି ରହିଛି। ବିଧାୟକମାନେ ନିଜ ଏରିଆକୁ ଥରେ ଗଲେ କେତେ ଖର୍ଚ୍ଚ ହେଉଛି ତାହା ସମସ୍ତେ ଜାଣନ୍ତି।



West Bengal announced a Rs 40,000 salary hike for MLAs, who now each earn Rs 1.21 lakh a month.



An analysis of MLA salaries across India, according to state Assemblies and media reports, shows that Jharkhand MLAs are now set to earn the highest salary at Rs 2.9 lakh a month after a committee had hiked MLAs' salaries in August this year. The hike is yet to be cleared by the Assembly though.

State governments each set their own salaries and allowances for legislators.

In most states, chief ministers, Cabinet ministers and leaders of the Opposition get higher salaries than MLAs. Salaries are regularly updated to account for inflation, through amendments to a state's salaries and allowances Act. In most cases, a hike is recommended by a committee.

Aside from their base salaries, **MLA also receive allowances for work conducted in their constituencies**, hiring aides and telephone bills. MLAs can also avail several perks, including government housing, free travel across the country, access to medical facilities and loans to buy vehicles.

- ❖ After Jharkhand, Maharashtra has the highest MLA salary at Rs 2.6 lakh a month, followed by Telangana and Manipur at Rs 2.5 lakh each. Only eight states offer salaries higher than Rs 2 lakh a month.

- ❖ According to data from PRS Legislative, an independent research institute, the salary of a Telangana MLA is Rs 20,000, but the constituency allowance stands at Rs 2.3 lakh, working out to Rs 2.5 lakh, remaining the highest in the country.
- ❖ At the bottom end are five states with salaries lower than Rs 1 lakh a month. Kerala has the country's lowest MLA salary at Rs 70,000.
- ❖ Based on data sourced by The Financial Express from various state notifications and media reports, Karnataka also makes a high monthly payment to MLAs amounting to Rs 2.05 lakh. The others in this bracket are Uttar Pradesh (Rs 1.87 lakh); Bihar (Rs 1.65 lakh); Jammu and Kashmir (Rs 1.60 lakh)
- ❖ In terms of total expenditure, Uttar Pradesh is at the top, spending approximately Rs 90.4 crore on MLA salaries per year, also because it has the highest number of MLAs, at 403. In contrast, Puducherry spends just Rs 4.2 crore on salaries every year, given that it has a 33-MLA House.

