Believe in your dreams

STUDY IQ
One the most charismatic of India’s modern leaders, Marudur Gopalan Ramachandran, or MGR, was only the second actor-turned-politician after Ronald Reagan who managed to take centre stage.
Vagaries(अनियमितता) of the job market

- Mismatch between the number of people who annually reach working age and the availability of jobs has been a matter of concern globally - since the global financial crisis of the last decade.
- The International Labour Organisation (Q-1-HQ+Formation) latest forecast that a few more millions are set to join the pool of the jobless during this year and the next.
- With the growth in global gross domestic product registering a six year low in 2016, expectations of generation of less new jobs
- ILOs-World Employment and Social Outlook 2017- challenge currently affects about 42 per cent of the total working population - This concern refers to lack of access social protection schemes among the self-employed vs salaried classes.
- Self-employed- nearly 50 per cent of workers in the emerging economies and 80 per cent in developing countries.
- Absence of strong welfare legislation or effective enforcement in a majority of these countries.
- Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia has been the most affected by such volatile conditions (Q-2-gobi desert)
- Share of these vulnerable workers dropped from 46 per cent to 42 per cent 2015 to 2016
- Vulnerability declined by an average annual rate of 0.5 percentage points in the previous decade
- It is this celebrated rise in income levels - globalization
- The challenge for policymakers worldwide is to ensure that incomes do not fall below the levels of basic -poverty reduction targets under the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
The death of Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani on January 8 was a landmark for the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Rafsanjani was a pivotal figure in the country’s path since the 1979 revolution: a founding father, a military leader in the war with Iraq, and twice President.

His presidency also saw a historic shift in ties with India, laying the groundwork for transforming ties with India.

In September 1993, P.V. Narasimha Rao became the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Iran since the revolution—“a turning point”.

In March 1994, Iran bailed out India in the UN Commission on Human Rights, blocking a consensus on Kashmir-persecution” of minorities, on the Babri Masjid—(Q-3-Built by + when?)

Taliban’s spectacular advance in Afghanistan by then with the support of Pakistan—concentrated minds in both countries.

April 1995, Rafsanjani finally arrived in New Delhi, to be greeted by Prime Minister Rao himself.

It turned out to be a landmark visit—Speaking to over 10,000 Shias at Lucknow’s Bara Imambara

Rafsanjani gave an unexpected endorsement(समर्थन) of Indian secularism.

Pakistan journalist’s question on the Babri Masjid (“I believe there is no need for further propaganda in this regard”), and even praised India’s “serious will” on Kashmir while dismissing Pakistan’s call for American mediation.

Rafsanjani signed—India-Iran-Turkmenistan+ Tehran-Delhi-Beijing

Rafsanjani did not single-handedly change the relationship—Structural factors, such as India’s economic liberalisation and the situation in Afghanistan, were more important.
Economic diplomacy+ Ground Situation
1)- Chabahar vs Gwadar port - China’s regional infrastructure plans, and the Chinese navy’s presence in the Indian Ocean.
2)- India’s oil imports from Iran trebled from the previous year, pushing it into fourth place in the ranking of Indian suppliers.
3)- Reserve Bank of India to allow Iranian banks to open branches in India, which would boost the bilateral trade.
4)- Afghanistan is a more complicated story
5)- Tehran-Washington balancing act, this has eased in recent years as the Obama administration in the U.S. has taken a softer approach
6)- With Boeing and Airbus queuing up to sell to Iran, it’s easier for India to do so.
7)- Donald Trump- Barack Obama’s nuclear deal with Iran is “one of the worst deals ever made”.
8)- Mr. Rouhani seeking re-election this year
Rohith Vemula left us on January 17, 2016. The Ambedkar Students’ Association (ASA) activist at the University of Hyderabad was a young Dalit leader.

Opposed to the Hindu right and committed to Ambedkarite anti-caste philosophy and democratic politics, importantly, associational freedoms.

Rohith has in death, as in life, brought anti-caste resistance to the centre of deliberative democratic politics.

What is an atrocity?

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. We now have an amended Act with a covering letter that states that it is being strengthened to make it more effective.

Section 3-Amendment Act defines ‘economic boycott’ as

(i) ‘refusal to deal with... other person’;

(ii) ‘to deny opportunities including access to services’;

(iii) ‘to refuse to do anything on the terms on which things would be commonly done in the ordinary course.

Social boycott’ is defined as including acts against a person ‘to isolate him from others’.

Section 4- expands the definition of atrocity- When a person not belonging to a Scheduled Caste or Tribe ‘by words either written or spoken or by signs or by visible representation or otherwise promotes or attempts to promote enmity, hatred or ill-will against members of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes.

Prevents him from using or having access to a place of public resort, ‘entering any educational, shop or place of public entertainment ’-he shall be punishable.
Serious job losses are taking place - Amartya Sen

- He predicts that the demonetisation will hit the economy quite drastically.
- The unrealistic governmental expectation that the ‘black money problem’ can be solved, or largely removed, by demonetisation soon became clear even to the government.
- “the secondary impact” shouldn’t at all be surprising since the availability of money plays a very big part in facilitating business and trade - Particularly for small businesses (farming, for example), money is often used in the form of cash.
- If in the 18th or 19th century, Britain had been demonetised suddenly, it would have devastated British industrial progress.
- Black money - gradually been replaced - surprising as demonetisation can make only a very small contribution — at a huge social cost.
- There are going to be huge job losses too, and the recent reports by All India Manufacturers’ Organisation are beginning to show that serious job losses are already happening.
- The truth may ultimately prevail, but the government might be able to maintain the loyalty of a large part of the public for a long time, certainly until after the U.P. elections.
- It is worth remembering that the notorious Irish famines in the 1840s did not immediately cause serious public agitation against the government run from London.
- That happened only later — much later — but when it did happen - making the Irish people deeply suspicious of everything that the government in London did.
The International Labour Organization (ILO) is a United Nations agency dealing with labour issues, particularly international labour standards, social protection, and work opportunities for all.

The ILO has 187 member states: 186 of the 193 UN member states plus the Cook Islands are members of the ILO.

In 1969, the organization received the Nobel Peace Prize for improving peace among classes, pursuing decent work and justice for workers, and providing technical assistance to other developing nations.

The ILO registers complaints against entities that are violating international rules; however, it does not impose sanctions on governments.

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The Gobi Desert is a large desert region in Asia.

- It covers parts of northern and northwestern China, and of southern Mongolia.
- The desert basins of the Gobi are bounded by the Altai Mountains and the grasslands and steppes of Mongolia on the north, by the Taklamakan Desert to the West, by the Hexi Corridor and Tibetan Plateau to the southwest, and by the North China Plain to the southeast.
- The Gobi is most notable in history as part of the great Mongol Empire, and as the location of several important cities along the Silk Road.
The Babri Masjid (translation: Mosque of Babur), was a mosque in Ayodhya, India. Located in Faizabad district, it was one of the largest mosques in the Uttar Pradesh state. According to the mosque's inscriptions, it was built in 1528–29 CE (935 AH) by Mir Baqi, on orders of the Mughal emperor Babur (after whom it is named).

The mosque was located on a hill known as Ramkot ("Rama's fort"). According to a section of Hindus, the Mughals destroyed a structure marking the birthplace of Rama (Ram Janmabhoomi) to build the mosque, a claim denied by the Muslims. The political, historical and socio-religious debate over the history of the site and whether a previous temple was demolished or modified to create the mosque, is known as the Ayodhya dispute.

Starting in the 19th century, there were several conflicts and court disputes between Hindus and Muslims over the mosque. On 6 December 1992, the demolition of the Babri Masjid by militant Hindu nationalist groups triggered riots all over India, leading to around 2,000 deaths.