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Next Dalai Lama could be from India: monk

Why In News:

China rejected the assertion by the Dalai Lama that his successor could be found in India a move that could undermine the legitimacy of the next in line chosen by Beijing.

The 14th Dalai Lama has been living in India in exile since 1959.

In Brief:

Dalai Lama:

The **14th Dalai Lama** religious name: **Tenzin Gyatso**, shortened from **Jetsun Jamphel Ngawang Lobsang Yeshe Tenzin Gyatso**; born **Lhamo Thondup**, (6 July 1935) is the current Dalai Lama.

Dalai Lamas are important monks of the Gelug school, the newest school of Tibetan Buddhism, which was formally headed by the Ganden Tripas.

From the time of the 5th Dalai Lama to 1959, the central government of Tibet, the Ganden Phodrang, invested the position of Dalai Lama with temporal duties.

The 14th Dalai Lama was born in Taktser, Amdo, Tibet, and was selected as the tulku of the 13th Dalai Lama in 1937 and formally recognized as the 14th Dalai Lama at a public declaration near the town of Bumchen in 1939.

His enthronement ceremony as the Dalai Lama was held in Lhasa on 22 February 1940, and he eventually assumed full temporal (political) duties on 17 November 1950, at the age of 15, after the People's Republic of China's incorporation of Tibet.

The Gelug school's government administered an area roughly corresponding to the Tibet Autonomous Region just as the nascent PRC wished to assert control over it.

U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT FLAGS CURBS ON INDIAN MEDIA

Why in news?

The country Human Rights reports for 2018 were released last week as part of an annual exercise in which the U.S. State Department submits its assessment of such rights as per the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international agreements to the U.S. Congress.

In Brief:

- The 2018 India report covers a range of issues including press and media freedoms, forced disappearances, custodial deaths and the NGO clampdown — which became an issue between the U.S. and India, after the NDA government cancelled licenses of some 15,000 NGOs under the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act.

Note



- In terms of custodial deaths, the Report cites official (Indian) figures of 1,674 cases of such death between August 2017 and February 2018
- The report, in a separate section, Role of the Police and Security Apparatus , says, “Police continue to be underpaid, overworked, and subject to political pressure, in some cases contributing to corruption.”

Civilian deaths

- The report also cites figures from the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on alleged violation of human rights by security forces in Kashmir. Non-governmental forces, including organized insurgents and terrorists, committed numerous killings and bombings in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the north eastern States, and Maoist-affected areas.

Press attacked

- There were numerous instances of journalists and members of media being threatened or killed in response to their reporting.

KAZAKHSTAN'S LEADER NURSULTAN NAZARBAYEV

In news:

Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev, who was widely expected to seek another term in 2020, unexpectedly resigned on Tuesday after three decades (since 1989) in power. Bestowed by parliament with the official title of “The Leader of the Nation”, he was the last Soviet-era leader still in office.

In brief:

The resignation comes just weeks after the strongman dismissed the country's government.

He would retain key Security Council and party leader positions and hand over the presidency to a loyal ally Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, speaker of the upper house of parliament for the rest of his term, which ends in April 2020.

Nazarbayev has been widely hailed for maintaining stability and ethnic peace in Kazakhstan, but has faced criticism over allegations of suppressing dissent and sidelining the opposition.

International observers have long judged elections in Kazakhstan to be neither free nor fair. He won 97.7 % of the vote in the last presidential election in 2015.

This decision is believed to be stemmed from rising dissatisfaction in Kazakhstan, where the commodity-dependent economy has struggled to recover from a 2014 plunge in oil prices and Western sanctions against Russia, a key trading partner.

Mr. Nazarbayev has no apparent long-term successor. His decision hit the price of Kazakh bonds, while the London-listed shares of Kazakhstan's biggest bank, Halyk Bank, tumbled 5 %.

About Kazakhstan:

Though low in its overall population density, Kazakhstan is the ninth largest country in the world with an area of about 2.7 million sq-km. It borders Russia to the north, China to the east and Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan to the south.

Note



Mr. Nazarbayev ordered the construction of Astana, a futuristic capital city built from scratch in 1997 at exorbitant cost. The city now boasts a Norman Foster-designed shopping centre and an artificial beach, with sand specially imported from the Maldives, but lacks the culture and class of the country's former capital, Almaty.

ABEL PRIZE

- The highest award for Mathematics awarded annually by the King of Norway.
- For this year, it has been awarded to a American mathematician Karen **Uhlenbeck** for her fundamental work in geometric analysis and gauge theory.
- She is the first women to win Abel prize.

INDIA REACHES OUT TO MOZAMBIQUE

Why In News:

- Mozambique has been devastated by tropical cyclone IDAI
- India extends humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR) operations to this cyclone hit nation.

In Brief:

India –Mozambique Relations :

- Notably not only partner in food production but also energy & security related interests.
- MOU with sowing & purchasing of pulses, investment through state owned oil & Gas production , Investment through many private players such as Tata Steel, Indol steel, Essar steel. Many investment in coal & other minerals.
- Second after Mauritius in India FDI is Africa.

“It’s Strategic Location” in Indian Ocean:

- It’s located in eastern side of African continent ,mainly in Mozambique channel, dominating two key **Maritime Choke Points** in Indian ocean.
- India should maintain a close relation with African countries. Because of its youthful demography & rising purchase power can act as a reliable export markets assure rapidly industrializing.

Note

Choke points : It refers to a point of natural congestion along two wider & important navigable passages. Maritime choke points are naturally Narrow channels of shipping having high traffic because of their strategic channel

