



01.05.2026 NEWS

SUPREME COURT SUGGESTS LEGAL AMENDMENT FOR ABORTION IN SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES

- » “Suggestion by the Supreme Court to the Central Government.”
- The Supreme Court has suggested that the Central Government consider amending the law to allow abortion for women affected by sexual assault.
- On the 24th of last month, a bench comprising Justices B.V. Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan heard a case related to terminating the pregnancy of a minor girl who became pregnant due to sexual assault. The Court permitted the 15-year-old girl to terminate her approximately 30-week pregnancy.
- The Court observed that it is not appropriate to fix a strict time limit for terminating pregnancies arising from sexual assault. Since the case involves a minor, she should be focusing on her education, but forcing her into motherhood would be unjust. The judges emphasized understanding the mental trauma of the victim.
- They further stated that sexual assault leaves lifelong scars, and denying abortion could worsen the situation. If there are no health risks to the mother, termination should be allowed.
- The decision to terminate the pregnancy should depend on the minor and her parents. AIIMS can assist by providing medical advice, and based on that, the girl can make an informed decision.

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TAMIL NADU RANKS FIRST IN FISH PRODUCTION IN INDIA

- Tamil Nadu has secured the first position in marine fish production in India, surpassing Gujarat, according to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research – Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (ICAR-CMFRI).
- Tamil Nadu produced 6.85 lakh tonnes of fish.
- According to the report : India's total marine fish production reached 35.7 lakh tonnes in 2025.

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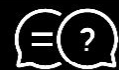
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- This marks a 3% growth compared to 2024. Tamil Nadu recorded the highest production (6.85 lakh tonnes).
- Gujarat dropped to second place due to a 15% decline caused by climate factors, extended fishing bans, and cyclones. Kerala ranks third with 6.24 lakh tonnes and a 2% growth.
- Among major states : Karnataka recorded 44% growth. Maharashtra recorded 18% growth.
- Top fish varieties in 2025 : Indian mackerel – 2.70 lakh tonnes (1st); Ribbon fish – 2.57 lakh tonnes (2nd); Oil sardine – 2.53 lakh tonnes (3rd)
- Kerala contributes 17% to the country's total marine fish production.
- Economic value : Total value of marine fisheries: Rs.69,254 crore (10.45% growth from 2024); Retail fish market value: Rs.97,702 crore

WORKERS' RIGHTS MUST CONTINUE! (MAY DAY CONTEXT)

- In the late 1800s, industrial growth led to exploitation of workers. They were forced to work long hours with low wages.
- May Day and Haymarket Incident, On May 1, 1886, workers in Chicago protested demanding : 8 hours work, 8 hours rest, 8 hours for personal life.
- On May 4, the protest at Haymarket Square turned violent when a bomb exploded, leading to police firing and deaths.
- Subsequently : Workers' leaders were arrested. A controversial trial was conducted. On November 11, 1887, several leaders were executed.
- This incident became a symbol of workers' struggle worldwide.
- Development of Labour Rights : Russia first implemented the 8-hour work law. Later, many countries followed. Some countries reduced working hours further (e.g., 6 hours).
- France currently has one of the lowest working hours (around 35 hours/week). Impact of Technology on Labour Earlier industrialization displaced workers.
- Today, automation and AI are creating similar fears : Workers across industries continue to protest for rights and job security.
- In Tamil Nadu : In 1923, May Day was first celebrated in Chennai by Singaravelar.

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