

# RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



**CONTEXT:** Several Political parties has promised in their election manifesto to include Disability as “specific ground for discrimination” under Article 15 of the Constitution.

## “WHO IS A DISABLED PERSON?”

**Salient Features**  
**The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill 2016**

Types of Disabilities have been increased from existing 7 to 21

- Blindness
- Low-vision
- Leprosy Cured persons
- Locomotor Disability
- Dwarfism
- Intellectual Disability
- Mental Illness
- Cerebral Palsy
- Specific Learning Disabilities
- Speech and Language disability
- Hearing Impairment (deaf and hard of hearing)
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Acid Attack victim
- Parkinson's disease
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Thalassemia
- Hemophilia
- Sickle Cell disease
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Chronic Neurological conditions
- Multiple Disabilities including deaf blindness

Population, India 2011			Disabled persons, India 2011		
Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
121.08 Cr	62.32 Cr	58.76Cr	2.68 Cr	1.5 Cr	1.18 Cr

## ISSUES FACED BY DISABLED PERSONS

- **Social Stigma:** Limited Awareness
- **Exclusionary system:** Eg - CRP of Supreme Court report on District Court complexes:
  - 50% do not have ramps
  - 25% have availability of Wheelchairs
  - 5% have tactile paving

- **Loss of Dignity , Independence & Privacy**
- **Poor State of Health Infrastructure**
- **Poor access to Education**
- **High level of Unemployment**
- **“Economic Deprivation”:**
  - Eg - WHO : Avg disabled person spent ₹2477 monthly on healthcare
- **UNCRPD : “Invisible Minority”:**
  - 1.3 Billion globally
  - 80% : Developing countries
  - 70% : Rural areas
- **Impact of Climate Change**

Disability type	Not literate	Upto school	Graduates
Locomotor*	44.3	49.9	5.8
Visual*	63.6	34	2.4
Hearing	58.8	38.3	2.9
Speech	57.6	40.6	1.8
Intellectual*	70.2	29	0.8
Mental illness	48.4	48.6	3
Any type	49	46.3	4.7
No disability	24	64.5	11.5

Distribution of Disabled Workers in India – Census, 2011

Total	Cultivators (CL)	Agriculture Labourers	In Household Industries (HHI)	Others
97,44,386	22,74,322	29,77,272	4,35,053	40,57,739
%	23	31	4	42

## STEPS TAKEN

- Adoption of UNCRPD in 2006
- **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016**



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- **Accessible India Campaign**
- Deen Dayal Rehabilitation Scheme
- **ADIP** : Modern technology aids
- **UDID** : Unique Disabilities ID Card
- **SPARK Project:**
  - ILO & IFAD
  - Maharashtra
- **GLAD Network** : UNESCO
- **Chhattisgarh Government:** “Nominate at least 1 disable person in each panchayat”

## RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ACT 2016

- Right to Equality, Accessibility & Reasonable accommodation
- **Section 3** : No person shall be discriminated on ground of disability
- Increased “**Quota of Reservation**”:
  - Government Jobs : 3 to **4%**
  - Higher Education : 3 to **5%**
- Right to “**Free Education**” : Every child with Benchmark disability between **6-18 years**
- Chief Commissioner for PWD to act as regulatory body over Grievance Redressal Agencies
- Separate **National & State Funds**
- **Penalties** for Offences committed against PWD
- Faster Adjudication of Cases : **Special Courts**



# MEDICAL TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY



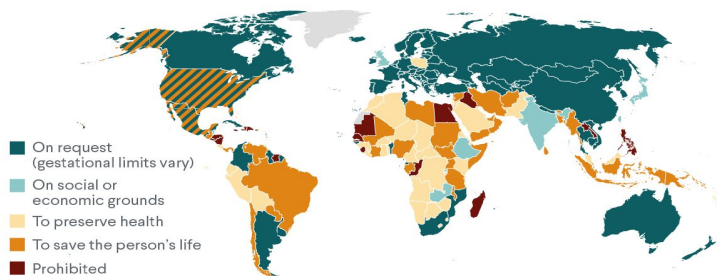
**CONTEXT:** Exercising its power under Article 142 to do “complete justice”, Supreme court recently allowed a rape survivor to terminate her 30 week pregnancy.

## WHAT IS INDIA'S LAW ON ABORTION?

- Inclusion of “**Unmarried**” women
- **Section 3B** : Increased Upper gestational limit to **24 weeks** for “Special categories” of women:
  - Survivor of rape
  - Victim of incest
  - Vulnerable women
  - Change in marital status during pregnancy
- **Prevention of Privacy** : Prohibits disclosure of identity

	MTP ACT 1971	MTP Amendment ACT 2021
Failure of contraceptive (Methods/Device)	Upto 20 weeks only by a married woman	Unmarried women also covered
Upto 12 weeks	Advice of 1 registered medical practitioner(RMP)	Advice of 1 RMP
12 to 20 weeks	Advice of 2 RMP	Advice of 1 RMP
20 to 24 weeks	Not allowed	2 doctors for some categories of pregnant women
More than 24 weeks	Not allowed	State Level Medical Board In Case Of Substantial Foetal Abnormality
Breach of confidentiality	Fine upto 1000 Rs	Imprisonment up to a year, or fine, or both
Any time	1 RMP, if immediately necessary to save pregnant woman's life, opinion formed in good faith.	

Access to abortion as of September 2023



## ISSUES WITH MTP ACT 2021

- “Limitations beyond **24 weeks**”
- Enhance “**Psychological impact**”

- Violation of “**Right to Body autonomy**”
- Lack of “**Accessibility**” to Safe abortion
- Different interpretations of “**Foetal Viability**”

## OPERATION SAFE

**7 million** abortions are conducted a year in India

**Only 50%** of these operations are legal

**8%** of women opting for abortion die due to complications arising from unsafe procedures

**22 million** unsafe abortions are reported globally every year

## 17,000 POSTS VACANT

STATE/UT	REQUIRED*	AVAILABLE	SHORTFALL
Haryana	516	33	483
Himachal	372	18	354
Punjab	600	151	449
J&K	224	127	97
Ladakh	28	12	18
All India	21,920	4,485	17,435

\*DATA FOR RURAL CHCs; SOURCE: GOVT RURAL HEALTH STATISTICS 2022

## “PRO - LIFE VS PRO - CHOICE DEBATE”

### PRO - CHOICE:

- “Body autonomy”
- Roe vs Wade Judgement 1973
- “**Transformative Constitutionalism**” : Bhaton Boro vs State of Assam 2017
- **KS Puttaswamy Case 2017**

### PRO - LIFE :

- Fundamental Right of “Unborn Child”
- Embryo as separate “living entity”
- SC : Refused to allow termination of pregnancy to “protect right of unborn baby”



# STOPPING TAX EVASION

**CONTEXT:** The article highlights the issue of "Tax evasion" by MNCs and various steps taken by Government of India to curb such practices in light of recent India - Mauritius treaty.

## Tax Haven



## The Tax Havens Attracting the Most Foreign Profits

Countries with the most artificially shifted profits from high-tax countries in 2017



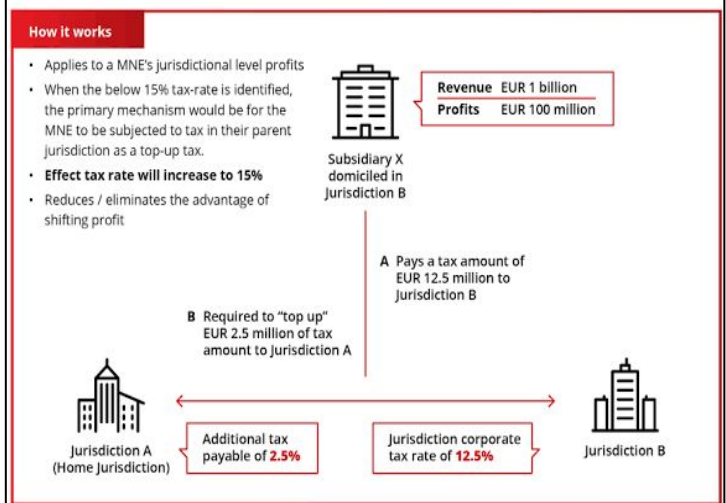
In current USD  
Some notable tax havens such as British Virgin Islands are not included due to insufficient data.  
Source: missingprofits.world



## STEPS TAKEN

- **Equalization Levy:**
  - Budget 2016 : 6% on Non - resident service providers
  - Finance Act 2020 : 2% on E-commerce operators
- **Multilateral Instrument (MLI)** under OECD:
  - Option to select "Tax treaties" & swift amendments
  - Principal Purpose Test (PPT)
  - Anti - Avoidance Rule
- **Global Minimum Tax (GMT):**
  - Subject to Tax Rule (STTR)

CHART 1  
Impact on low-tax countries / tax incentives<sup>3</sup>



## ISSUES OF TAX EVASION

- **Base Erosion & Profit Shifting :**
  - Eg - 4% of Global GDP stored in "Tax havens"
  - USD 1 Trillion in Tax havens equivalent to 35% profit
- **"Race to Bottom"** countries
- Effective Tax rate equivalent to **0%**
- **"Greenwashing"** to earn "Green Tax credits"
- **Treaty Shopping**
- **Round Tripping**



# EUROPEAN STATE OF CLIMATE REPORT



**CONTEXT:** Recently released report highlights the issue of Global Warming being faced by European countries & steps taken by European Union.

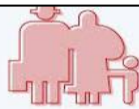
## Europe's Wildfire Season Is Starting Earlier Each Year

Cumulative area of land burnt by forest fires of approx. 30 ha or larger in the EU in 2022 vs. previous years



## Climate Change, the Great Displacer

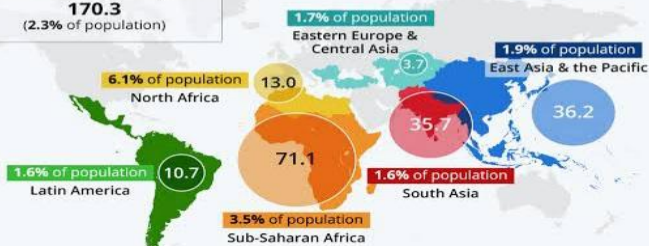
Average number of internal climate migrants by 2050 per region (in millions)\*



Total in surveyed regions

170.3

(2.3% of population)



## FINDINGS

- UN's WMO & EU's Climate Agency "Copernicus"
- "Fastest" Warming content
- Average SST for Ocean : **Highest** annual level in 2023
- **IMPACT:**
  - Wildfires
  - Heatwaves
  - Glacier Ice Loss
  - Lack of Snowfall
  - Economic Loss

## STEPS TAKEN BY EU

- **Paris Agreement 2015:**
  - Reduce GHG emission by 55% by 2030
  - Climate Neutral by 2050
- **"Fit for 55" Package:**
  - 40% Renewable energy
  - 36% improvement in Energy efficiency
- Green Deal : **"Just Transition Fund"**
- Social Climate Fund
- Emission Trading System (ETS)
- **Carbon Border Adjusted Mechanism (CBAM)**

EVBOX

## Fit for 55 Package

JULY 2021



# OPERATION MEGHDOOT

**CONTEXT:** Recently Operation “Meghdoot” completed its 40th anniversary highlighting the achievements of Indian Soldiers by securing strategic Siachen Glacier.

- **Bone of Contention:**
  - Karachi Agreement 1949
  - Simla Agreement 1971
- Pakistan’s attempts in 1980s
- **India’s Response:**
  - Expedition led by Col. Narinder “Bull” Kumar
  - Operation Meghdoot : 14th April, 1984
  - IAF & Indian Army
- Securing strategic passes of **Soltoro Ridge:**
  - Sia La
  - Bilafond La
  - Gyong La



## 1. Mahavira:

- **599 - 525 BCE**
- Born - **Kundalgrama**, Vaishali (Digha Nikaya)
- One of 24 Tirthankaras:
  - Predecessor : **Parshvanath**
- Renunciation : **30 years**
- **"Kevala Jnana"** :
  - 43 years
  - Jrimbhikgram on bank of Rijupalika river
- **1st Sermon:**
  - Pava
  - 11 Gandharas

## 2. INSV Tarini:

- **Indian Naval Sailing Vessel**
- Historic transoceanic expedition of 2 months:
  - **LC Dilna K**
  - **LC Roopa A**
- To Port Louis, Mauritius

## 3. Star Campaigners:

- **Section 77 of RPA 1951** : Law related to expenditure incurred by "leaders of party" popularly known as "Star Campaigners":
  - Recognised Party : **Max 40**
  - Unrecognized Party : Max 20
- **Expenditure incurred on "travel" is not included in election expenditure of Candidate:**
  - ₹95 lakh in Large constituency
  - ₹75 lakh in smaller constituency
- **ECI : Revoke status in case of violation of MCC**

## 4. Llama 3:

- **Large language model (LLM)**
- By Company **Meta**
- Backbone of AI chatbots : comprehend and generate human language texts
- **Examples:**
  - Chat GPT : Open AI
  - LaMDA : Google

