



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

28th November 2025



Pre-Censorship: What They Don't Want You to See

CONTEXT: SC suggests creation of an 'impartial and autonomous authority' to vet content before posting.

Need of Social Media Regulation

- Rights Without Responsibilities
- User Generated content potentially disastrous
- Irreversible Harm by Virality- Individual and Social
- Taking Down - a Post Facto exercise - Fait Accompli - Lack of Right to be forgotten
- Current Mechanism falls short
- Dichotomy of rights

CURRENT LEGAL PROVISIONS

IT Act, 2000

Digital Media
Ethics Code

Intermediary
Guidelines, 2021

Conditions to Claim Safe Harbour (Due Diligence)

An intermediary must:

1. **Not initiate the transmission** of the content.
2. **Not select** the receiver of the content and **Not modify** the content.
3. **Remove illegal content quickly** if ordered by court or government.
4. **Follow Intermediary Guidelines, 2021**, including:
 - Appointing grievance officers, Publishing compliance reports, Ensuring traceability (for significant platforms), Responding to user grievances.

Issues with the regulatory body

- Freedom of speech - FR, evolution
- Inspires innovation - Society - changes - Food Pharmed
- Orange Economy
- Dissent vs Authoritarianism
- Ensuring Autonomy of the body
- Effective Functioning : Bureaucratic Red Tapism vs Speed - Minimum vs Maximum.



Pre-Censorship: What They Don't Want You to See



CONTEXT: SC suggests creation of an 'impartial and autonomous authority' to vet content before posting.

Constitutional Framework on Free Speech

- The Constitution permits restrictions on free speech under **Article 19(2)** on limited grounds, including:
 - Sovereignty and integrity of India
 - Security of the State
 - Friendly relations with foreign states
 - Public order
 - Decency and morality
 - Contempt of court
 - Defamation
 - Incitement to offences
- The Supreme Court has repeatedly held that restrictions cannot extend beyond these grounds.
- In *Shreya Singhal v. Union of India* (2015), the Court struck down **Section 66A** of the IT Act for criminalising vague expressions like "annoyance" or "hatred," affirming that even speech that "offends, shocks, or disturbs" remains constitutionally protected.

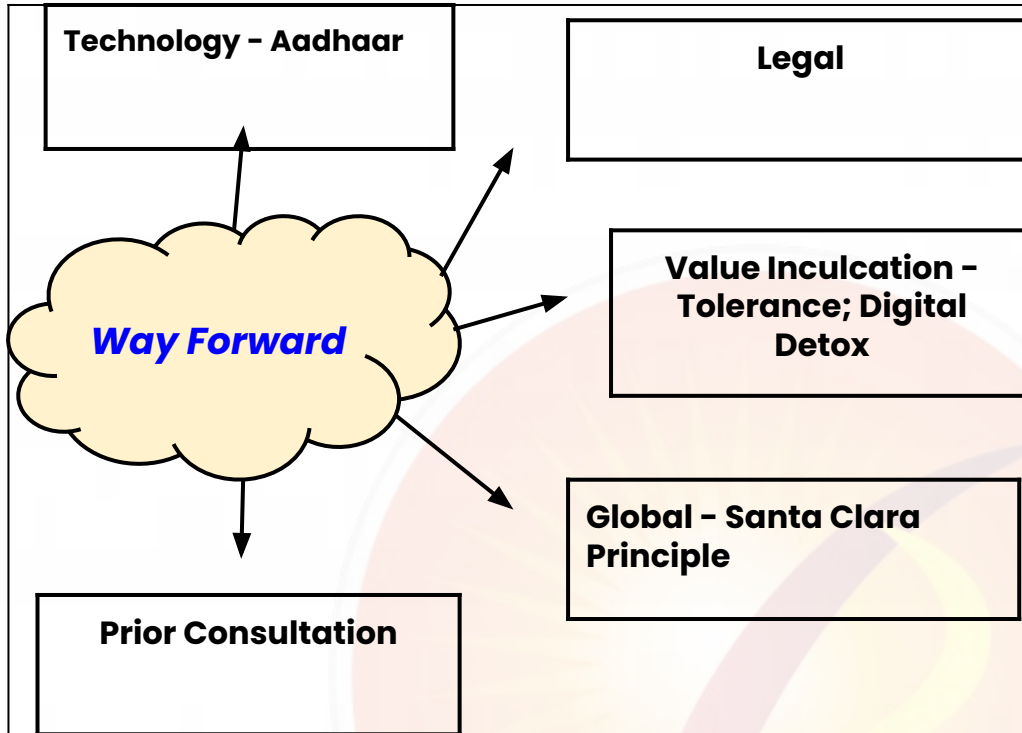
Landmark Free Speech Cases

- Romesh Thapar v. State of Madras (1950) – Birth of Press Freedom
- PUCL v. Union of India (2003) – Right to Know
- Shreya Singhal v. Union of India (2015) – Online Free Speech
- Subramanian Swamy v. Union of India (2016) – Criminal Defamation
- Anuradha Bhasin v. Union of India (2020) – Internet Shutdowns



28th November, 2025

CONTEXT: SC suggests creation of an 'impartial and autonomous authority' to vet content before posting.



Mains Practise Question

Question : Do the current legal provisions—IT Act, 2000 and the Intermediary Guidelines—adequately balance free speech with accountability? Give your opinion. Also suggest Alternative Reforms.
(15 Marks, 250 words)



28th November, 2025

CONTEXT: Recent Announcement of new scheme on Textiles brings spotlight on the significant Industry.

Key Components of Tex-RAMPS

1. Research & Innovation

Promotion of advanced research in smart textiles, sustainability, process efficiency, and emerging technologies to boost India's innovation capacity.

2. Data, Analytics & Diagnostics

Creation of robust data systems including employment assessments, supply chain mapping, and the India-Size study to facilitate evidence-based policymaking.

3. Integrated Textiles Statistical System (ITSS)

A real-time, integrated data and analytics platform to support structured monitoring and strategic decision-making.

4. Capacity Development & Knowledge Ecosystem

Strengthening of State-level planning, dissemination of best practices, capacity building workshops, and organisation of sectoral events.

5. Start-up & Innovation Support

Support for incubators, hackathons, and academia-industry collaborations to nurture high-value textile start-ups and entrepreneurship.

Textile sector is emerging as strength of the country: Modi

In *Mann Ki Baat* address, PM says start-ups are lending global stature to India's handloom identity; he also underscores the rising interest in science among children post-Chandrayaan-3 launch

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday that the textile industry, which was an expression of India's cultural diversity, now had more than 3,000 active start-ups, and the driving force behind its rapid growth were women from villages, designers from cities, elderly weavers, and young entrepreneurs.

During the *Mann Ki Baat* address, Mr. Modi said start-ups had given global stature to India's handloom identity. Commenting on the 10th anniversary of National Handloom Day, which is celebrated on August 7 every year to commemorate the launch of the Swadeshi movement in 1905, he said, "Just like Khadi gave new strength to the freedom movement ..., today as the country progresses towards becoming a developed nation, the textile sector is turning out to be the country's strength."

"In these 10 years, lakhs

Just like our Khadi gave new strength to the freedom movement... today, when the country is moving towards becoming a developed India, the textile sector is turning out to be the strength of the country

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister



of people associated with this sector have scripted many success stories," he said, citing the example of Kavita Dhawale from Paithan village in Maharashtra, who, with government support, is now earning three times more by selling self-made Paithani saris. About 650 tribal women from Mayurbhanj (Odisha) have revived the Santhali sari. The family of Naveen Kumar from Nalanda (Bihar), who has been associated with the sector for generations, has incorporated a modern approach to transform the business.

Referring to Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla's return from space, Mr. Mo-

di said the entire country was filled with pride. He said the Inspire-Manak Abhiyan scheme – in which five children are selected from each school – had promoted innovation among youngsters. After Chandrayaan-3's launch, the number of children joining the campaign had doubled. The number of start-ups in the space sector grew from 50 to 200 in just five years.

The Prime Minister praised Devesh Pankaj, Sandeep Kuchi, Debdutt Priyadarshi, and Ujjwal Kesari for winning medals in the International Chemist Olympiad.

Mr. Modi also spoke

about 12 Maratha forts which have been recognised by UNESCO as World Heritage Sites.

Paying homage to Khudiram Bose, the 18-year-old freedom fighter who was hanged on August 11, 1908, in Muzaffarpur, Bihar, Mr. Modi said, "Inside the jail, British officers were preparing to hang a young man. There was no fear on the face of that youth; rather it was full of pride ..."

On wildlife conservation, the Prime Minister said that for the first time, a grassland bird census had been conducted in Kaziranga National Park (Assam) and 40 species were identified using sound recording devices and AI.

On the cleanliness drive, he said this year, more than 4,500 cities and towns had joined and over 15 crore people participated all over the country. "... Amid the showers of Sawan, the country is once again going to be adorned by the fervour of festivals.... many best wishes to all of you for these holy festivals," he added.



28th November, 2025

CONTEXT: Recent Announcement of new scheme on Textiles brings spotlight on the significant Industry.

US Tariffs To Hit Nearly Quarter Of India's Textile Exports In Next 6 Months: Experts

In 2024-25, the overall size of the textile and apparel sector is estimated at USD 179 billion, comprising a domestic market of USD 142 billion.

Press Trust of India | India News | Aug 28, 2025 22:52 pm IST

Read Time: 3 mins

Share



PRESENT SIGNIFICANCE

- GDP contribution = 2.3%
- Industrial Contribution = 13%
- Export Contribution = 12% (34.4 bn\$ - 2023-24)
- Employment
- Equity

FUTURE -

- Total Size of industry - 175 → 350bn \$
- CAGR - Expected @ 10-15%
- 5th largest Global market
- 6th Largest exporter
- Make in India - Plank

The Seven PM MITRA Parks



PYQ Relevance of the Topic

84. Among the agricultural commodities imported by India, which one of the following accounts for the highest imports in terms of value in the last five years?

- (a) Spices
- (b) Fresh fruits
- (c) Pulses
- (d) Vegetable oils

2. “जिस समय हम भारत के जनसांख्यिकीय लाभ (डेमोग्राफिक डिविडेंड) को शान से प्रदर्शित करते हैं, उस समय हम रोजगार-योग्यता की पतनशील दरों को नज़रअन्दाज़ कर देते हैं।” क्या हम ऐसा करने में कोई चूक कर रहे हैं? भारत को जिन जाँबों की बेसबरी से दरकार है, वे जाँब कहां से आएंगे? स्पष्ट कीजिए।

“While we flaunt India's demographic dividend, we ignore the dropping rates of employability.” What are we missing while doing so? Where will the jobs that India desperately needs come from? Explain.



CONTEXT: Recent Announcement of new scheme on Textiles brings spotlight on the significant Industry.

Top 10 largest textile exporting countries

Rank	Countries	Textile Exports 2023 (USD Billion)	Export Value 2024 (USD Billion)
1.	China	\$260.8 billion	\$301 billion
2.	Bangladesh	\$48.9 billion	\$38.48 billion
3.	Vietnam	\$42.1 billion	\$44 billion
4.	Turkey	\$38.6 billion	\$35.7 billion
5.	India	\$37.5 billion	\$36.61 billion
6.	Italy	\$37.1 billion	–
7.	Germany	\$30.7 billion	–
8.	United States	\$21.8 billion	\$22.6 billion
9.	Pakistan	\$18.4 billion	\$16.6 billion
10.	Spain	\$14.6 billion	\$21 billion

Issues in Textile sector

Lagging Behind Competitors

Fragmented Cotton Supply Chain

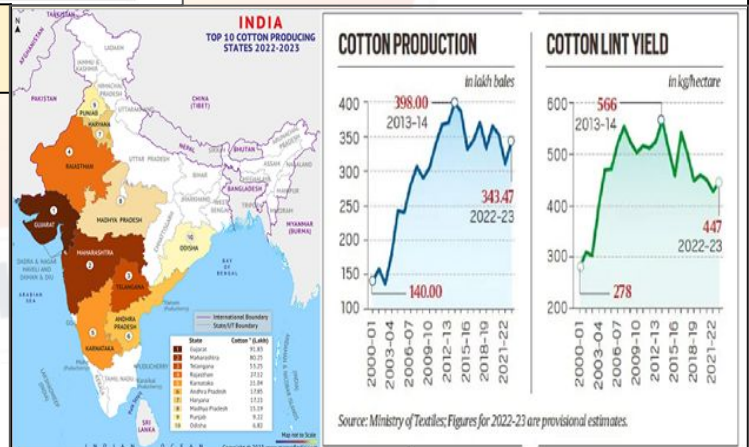
Regulatory and Trade Barriers

High Raw Material Costs in MMF Sector

Sustainability Challenge

Other major Schemes for Textiles

- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles
- Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS)
- PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel) Parks
- Samarth (Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector)
- National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM)
- Textile Cluster Development Scheme (TCDS)



Jamdani: Here's what you need to know about this UNESCO-recognised weaving pattern

Jamdani has a rich cultural and regional history. The weaving pattern was included in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Heritage of Humanity in 2013 and in 2016, it received the GI (Geographical Indication) tag. Read on to know more about this weave.



Why Textiles Matter More Than You Think



CONTEXT: Recent Announcement of new scheme on Textiles brings spotlight on the significant Industry.

Way Forward in Textile sector

- Sustainability and circular economy
- Policy negotiations
- Infrastructure
- Technological interventions
- Upskilling and branding
- 5F Policy Focus

Mains Practise Question

Question : “Examine the key challenges faced by India’s textile sector and discuss the steps required to enhance global competitiveness.”
(15 Marks, 250 words)



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Economy; GS Paper 3: GDP Calculation

Newspaper: The Hindu; Page Number: 1

IMF gives 'C' grade for India's national accounts statistics

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The International Monetary Fund's annual review has given India's national accounts statistics – including Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross Value Added (GVA) – a grade of 'C', the second-lowest rating.

According to the IMF, this grade means the data available "have some shortcomings that somewhat hamper surveillance". This is of particular significance as the government will release the national accounts data for Q2 of this financial year on Friday.

Weaknesses cited

"National accounts data are available at adequate frequency and timeliness and provide broadly adequate granularity," the IMF noted in its annual Article IV assessment of India's economic framework. "However, some methodo-



Grade 'C' means the available data have shortcomings that hamper surveillance. REUTERS

logical weaknesses somewhat hamper surveillance and warrant an overall sectoral rating for the national accounts of C." Overall, across all data categories, India has received grade 'B'. There are four grades in total: A, B, C and D.

'Sizeable discrepancies'

For example, it highlighted an outdated base year of 2011-12 on which the data is based, and the use of wholesale price indices as data sources for deflators due to

the lack of producer prices indices.

It further pointed out periodic "sizeable discrepancies" between the production and expenditure approaches of measuring GDP, "that may indicate the need to enhance the coverage of the expenditure approach data and the informal sector".

The Indian government has, from the beginning, used the income approach to measure GDP by measuring the incomes of the government, people, and companies. However, it also provides an estimate based on the expenditure approach, which attempts to quantify GDP through the spending done by these entities.

Often, due to the differing data sources and their coverage, the two estimates of GDP differ, which has attracted criticism from some economists.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Inflation data also has issues

Regarding India's main inflation measure, the Consumer Price Index, the IMF graded India a 'B', which means the data provided "have some shortcomings but are broadly adequate for surveillance".

It said that while the CPI data scores well on its frequency and timeliness, coming as it does once a month and with only a month's lag, the rating of 'B' reflects the outdated CPI base year, items basket, and weights (set in 2011-12), "implying that the CPI basket likely fails to accurately represent current spending habits".

It is important to note that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is currently working on updating the GDP and CPI base years and methodology to make them more up to date. The new series of both datasets are expected to be released in early or mid 2026.

The other facets of government data – government finance statistics, external sector statistics, monetary and financial statistics, and inter-sectoral consistency – were all scored 'B', with the IMF pointing out strengths and weaknesses in each of them.

Notably, India's national accounts statistics received a 'C' grade in last year's review as well, with the IMF noting this year that "data weaknesses have remained broadly unchanged" since the last report, but acknowledged that plans to upgrade real sector statistics "are advancing".

Issues in GDP Measurement

- Outdated base year (2011–12) used for GDP calculations.
- Dependence on WPI instead of Producer Price Index.
- Discrepancies between production and expenditure GDP estimates.
- Need to improve coverage of expenditure data and informal sector.
- Income approach dominant; expenditure data also used.
- Differences arise due to varying data sources.

Inflation falls to record low of 0.25% in October; food prices ease further

October marks lowest reading in current series since 2013; RBI trims FY26 inflation forecast to 2.6%



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Economy; GS Paper 3: GDP Calculation

Newspaper: The Hindu; Page Number: 1

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

- The CPI measures the average change in prices of a fixed basket of goods and services that households typically consume.
- It reflects how the purchasing power of money changes over time due to inflation.
- **Components:** CPI includes various categories, such as:
 - **Food and Beverages:** Items like cereals, pulses, vegetables, milk, meat, and beverages.
 - **Housing:** Rent or imputed rent for self-occupied houses.
 - **Clothing and Footwear:** Costs of garments, footwear, and other related items.
 - **Fuel and Light:** Includes LPG, kerosene, firewood, and electricity.
 - **Miscellaneous:** Education, healthcare, transport, communication, and recreation expenses.
- **Publishing Authority:** The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is responsible for compiling and releasing CPI data.

Types of CPI

- **CPI for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW):**
 - Tracks price changes for industrial workers.
 - Base Year: 2016
 - Used for wage adjustments in organized labor.
- **CPI for Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL) and Rural Labourers (CPI-RL):**
 - Measures inflation for rural and agricultural laborers.
 - Base Year: 1986-87
- **CPI (Urban), CPI (Rural), and CPI Combined:**
 - Measures retail inflation at a national level.
 - Base Year: 2012
- The **CPI Combined** is widely used as the official retail inflation rate in India.



Assam approves ST status to 6 communities

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Polity; GS 2: Vulnerable sections

Newspaper: The Hindu; Page Number: 4

Assam Cabinet approves panel report to grant ST status to six communities

All Bodo Students Union and several allied tribal organisations take out march to demand its withdrawal; the move undermines the interests of indigenous tribal communities, they allege

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The Assam Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, has approved a report by a Group of Ministers (GoM) on granting Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to six communities of the State. The decision has led to protests by tribal organisations in the State demanding its withdrawal.

The six communities are Koch-Rajbongshi, Matak, Moran, Chutia, Tai Ahom, and "tea tribes" (Adivasis). Information Technology Minister Keshab Mahanta and Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Pijush Hazarika are members of the GoM headed by Education Minister Ranaj Pegu.

"The GoM report will be placed before the Assembly and forwarded to the Ministry of Home Affairs for further action," the Chief Minister said after the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday night. The five-day Winter Session of the 126-member



Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the report will be placed before the Assembly and forwarded to the Centre. FILE PHOTO

House concludes on November 29.

The Cabinet's approval is seen as a crucial step for the long-standing demand for ST status by the six communities, who have been organising a series of demonstrations for almost a month.

Opposing the move, the All Bodo Students Union (ABSU) along with several allied tribal organisations on Thursday took out a torchlight rally in Kokrajhar town.

They raised slogans demanding the withdrawal of the decision, alleging that it undermines the interests of indigenous tribal communities.

Other organisations that joined the protest include the Coordination Committee of Tribal Organisations of Assam, Tribal Sangha, Boro Samaj, Rabha and Garo students' bodies.

An ABSU spokesperson said the decision would jeopardise the socio-political identity and rights of the

existing ST communities.

The ABSU and the allied groups will continue their agitation until the State government revises its stance on the matter, he said.

There was, however, no report of any untoward incident during the rally, a police officer said.

Protest at university

On Thursday, tribal students at Bodoland University, Kokrajhar, staged a protest on the campus opposing the decision. The agitation escalated after students boycotted their third-semester final examination and assembled at the university's main gate to voice their concerns.

The protesters argued that extending ST status to additional communities would dilute the rights and constitutional safeguards of existing tribal groups, affecting opportunities in education and employment.

The university authorities postponed the third-semester examination after the unrest.

(With inputs from PTI)

What does the Constitution says ?

(25) "Scheduled Tribes" means such tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this Constitution;

Constitution Article

Article 342 in Constitution of India

342. Scheduled Tribes

- (1) The President may with respect to any State or Union territory, and where it is a State after consultation with the Governor thereof, by public notifications specify the tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within tribes or tribal communities which shall for the purposes of this Constitution be deemed to be Scheduled Tribes in relation to that State or Union territory, as the case may be.
- (2) Parliament may by law include in or exclude from the list of Scheduled Tribes specified in a notification issued under clause (1) any tribe or tribal community or part of or group within any tribe or tribal community, but save as aforesaid a notification issued under the said clause shall not be varied by any subsequent notification.



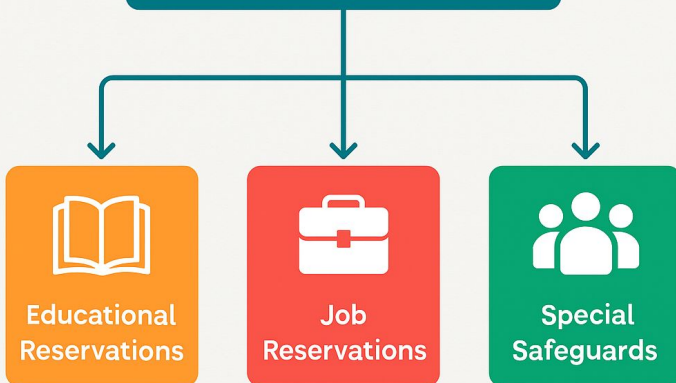
SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Polity; GS 2: Vulnerable sections

Newspaper: The Hindu; Page Number: 4

How ST Status Is Granted ?

- State/UT begins process → conducts study & recommends inclusion.
- Tribal Affairs Ministry reviews and sends to Registrar General of India (RGI).
- RGI evaluates using criteria: culture, isolation, backwardness.
- NCST gives concurrence after RGI approval.
- Union Cabinet clears proposal.
- Parliament passes amendment to ST Order, 1950.
- President issues final notification.
- ST list is state-specific; only Parliament can modify it.

BENEFITS OF ST STATUS



Parliament passes bill to grant ST status to Narikoravan, Kurivikkaran communities in TN

The bill follows the suggestion of the Tamil Nadu government that the two communities be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes (ST) in the state.



28th November, 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Polity, GS Paper 2 : Role of Civil Services

Newspaper: The Hindu; Page Number: 4

Controversial remarks: M.P. govt.'s show-cause notice to IAS officer

Mehul Malpani

BHOPAL

The Madhya Pradesh government has issued a show-cause notice to senior IAS officer Santosh Kumar Verma after his remarks at a literary event earlier in Bhopal created a stir in the State and led to protests from the Brahmin community.

As per the notice issued by the General Administration Department on Wednesday, the government said the remarks made by Mr. Verma, who was recently appointed State president of the M.P. Anusuchit Jati and Janjati Adhikari Evam Karmachari Sangh (AJJAKS), prima facie amounted to "harming social harmony and creating

animosity in the society", and fell under the category of "indiscipline and serious misconduct".

"Thus, by violating Rule 3(1), 3(2)(b) (i)(ii) of the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968, you have rendered yourself liable for disciplinary proceedings under the All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1969," the notice read, asking him to respond within seven days why disciplinary action should not be taken against him.

Mr. Verma, however, issued a clarification on Tuesday, saying he did not intend to hurt sentiments or create a political controversy. "I don't have ill will against any community. I express regret if I have hurt anyone," Mr. Verma said.

Key Constitutional Articles for Civil Servants

- Article 309 – Recruitment & Service Conditions:
 - Legislature makes service laws
 - President/Governor frames rules until laws are made
- Article 310 – Doctrine of Pleasure:
 - Civil servants serve at the pleasure of President/Governor
 - Limited by protections in Article 311
- Article 311 – Safeguards:
 - No dismissal/removal without inquiry
 - Must be given reasonable opportunity to be heard

10. ¹THE ALL INDIA SERVICES (CONDUCT) RULES, 1968

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951 (61 of 1951), the Central Government after consultation with the Governments of the State concerned, hereby makes the following rules, namely:—

1. Short title and commencement. —

- 1(1) These rules may be called the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968.

3. **General.**— 3(1) Every member of the Service shall at all times maintain absolute integrity and devotion to duty and shall do nothing which is unbecoming of a member of the Service.

⁵(1A) Every member of the Service shall maintain:—

- high ethical standards, integrity and honesty;
- political neutrality;
- promoting of the principles of merit, fairness and impartiality in the discharge of duties;
- accountability and transparency;
- responsiveness to the public, particularly to the weaker section;
- courtesy and good behavior with the public.

3(2) Every member of the Service shall take all possible steps to ensure integrity of, and devotion to duty by, all Government servants for the time being under his control and authority.

⁶(2A) Every member of the service shall in the discharge of his duties act in a courteous manner and shall not adopt dilatory tactics in his dealings with the public or otherwise.

⁷(2B) Every member of the Service shall:—

- commit himself to and uphold the supremacy of the Constitution and democratic values;
- defend and uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of State, public order, decency and morality;
- maintain integrity in public service;
- take decisions solely in public interest and use or cause to use public resources efficiently, effectively and economically;
- declare any private interests relating to his public duties and take steps to resolve any conflicts in a way that protects the public interest;

Tripura IAS Who Forcibly Stopped Wedding Relieved From Post

Sailesh Kumar Yadav had written to Chief Secretary Manoj Kumar on Sunday requesting that he be relinquished from the charge of district magistrate of West Tripura

Press Trust of India | India News | May 04, 2021 01:17 am IST

Read Time: 3 mins

Share



M.P. govt.'s show-cause notice to IAS officer



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Indian Polity, GS Paper 2 : Role of Civil Services

Newspaper: The Hindu; Page Number: 4

Rule 5 of Conduct Rules

- **Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964:** Prohibits government servants from associating with political parties or organizations involved in politics.
- **All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968:** Similar to the 1964 Rules, applicable to IAS, IPS, and Indian Forest Service officers.
- **Prior to 1966:**
 - Before the 1964 and 1968 Rules, the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, 1949, prohibited political activities by government employees.
- **Violations and Consequences:**
 - Violations of Rule 5 could lead to disciplinary action, including dismissal.



PM Modi inaugurates Skyroot's first orbital rocket



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Science and Technology; GS Paper 3 : Space Technology; Newspaper: The Hindu; Page Number: 5

Indian Regulatory Framework for Private Space Companies:

- **NewSpace India Limited (NSIL):**
 - It is a **Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)** of the Government of India under DoS and is responsible for producing, assembling and integrating the launch vehicle with the help of industry consortium.
 - It was established in 2019 under the Company Act 2013, with the main objective to **scale up private sector participation in Indian space programmes**.
 - In 2022, the agency called for complete manufacturing of its workhorse Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).
 - A consortium of HAL and L&T has been selected to manufacture five PSLV, with the first flight of the privately manufactured vehicle likely this year.
- **Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center (IN-SPACe):**
 - As part of the 4th 'Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' stimulus, the Union Finance Minister announced the creation of IN-SPACe in 2020.
 - IN-SPACe was set up as a **single-window**, independent, nodal agency to authorise, promote and supervise space activities of private non-governmental entities (NGEs).
 - Since its establishment, IN-SPACe has signed 45 MoUs with NGEs to support them in space activities.

Background: Skyroot Aerospace

- Founded by Pawan Chandana and Bharath Dhaka
- In November 2022, Skyroot launched its sub-orbital rocket, Vikram-S, becoming the first Indian private company to launch a rocket to space.



PM Modi inaugurates Skyroot's first orbital rocket



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Science and Technology; GS Paper 3 : Space Technology; Newspaper: The Hindu; Page Number: 5

- Key findings

- Impact on Indian Economy

- India's space sector has directly contributed about \$24 billion (₹20,000 crore) to India's GDP over the last decade.
 - It has directly supported 96,000 jobs in the public and private sector.
 - For every dollar produced by the space sector, there was a **multiplier effect of \$2.54 to the Indian economy.**
 - India's space force was 2.5 times more productive than the country's broader industrial workforce.

- **8th largest space economy (in terms of funding) in the world**

- With \$13 billion invested in the last decade it is the 8th largest space economy (in terms of funding) in the world.
 - Satellite communications contributed 54% to the space economy, followed by navigation (26%) and launches (11%).
 - **Diversified space sector**
 - The Indian space sector was diversifying and now had 700 companies including 200 start-ups.
 - It had seen revenues grow to \$6.3 billion in 2023, which was about 1.5% of the global space market.

200 times increase in Space StartUps in just two years," says Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh

India's share in global space economy to rise 4 times by 2030: MoS Department of Spacecraft



28th November, 2025

SYLLABUS: Prelims: International Organisations; GS Paper : 2 – IR, Paper 3 : Space technology; Newspaper: The Indian Express; Page Number: 1

LIST INCLUDES SEVEN INDIAN NAMES FOR GEOLOGICAL FEATURES ON MARS, INCLUDING CRATER NAMED AFTER RENOWNED GEOLOGIST M S KRISHNAN

On Martian surface, a slice of Kerala: Periyar river, Varkala beach, ISRO birthplace

njali Marar
Chennai, November 27

WHAT'S COMMON to Kerala's longest river, its largest fort, its most popular beach and two of its towns that helped propel India's space dreams? They all now have a second address — 225 million kilometres away on Mars.

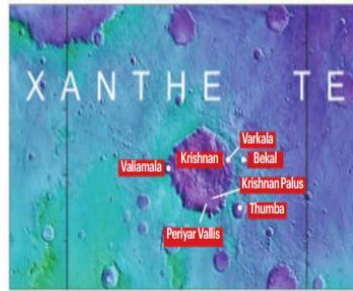
All these places — Periyar river, Bekal fort, Varkala beach, and Thumba and Vallamala — are among the newest names for

geological features on Mars, according to an announcement by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) on November 24.

In all, seven Indian names feature in the latest list prepared by the IAU's Working Group for Planetary System Nomenclature. The name of two other locations on Mars honours the renowned geologist M S Krishnan, the first Indian to become the director of the Geological Survey of India in 1951. The crater named after

Krishnan measures 77 km in diameter and is believed to be over 3 billion years old. And a plain surface to the southeast of this crater, about 50 km in diameter, will be known as Krishnan Plaus.

According to the nomenclature rules for Mars, large craters, of the size 50 km or larger, are named after scientists, while smaller craters are to be named after small towns and villages anywhere in the world with populations of about 100,000 or less. "This category is simply a large source of



The newly named geological features. INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

crater names. No commemoration of specific towns or villages is intended," the rules say.

There are more than 2,000 features on Mars that have been named until now, according to the Gazetteer of Planetary Nomenclature maintained by the US Geological Survey, one of the most authoritative databases on the subject. About 50 of them have Indian references, including names of Indian towns and villages.

For naming stars or planets or geological features on the

planets, the IAU issues a 'Call for Proposal' seeking names from requestors worldwide. Along with the name, its origin and description of the feature needs to be submitted along with a short scientific explanation. The submission must also include the annotated and unannotated images of the feature, the feature type, latitude or longitude in the correct coordinate system, and its size, if known.

In some cases, there are country-specific groups to whom the names are first sub-

mitted after which it is sent to the IAU. In some other cases, the proposer sends the names to the IAU. The final selection is done by the highest officials of the IAU after deliberation and committee-level meetings.

In case of the latest Martian crater naming, the proposal was sent by scientists at the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST) based on their ongoing research.

In the latest addition, the IAU has chosen a 9-km wide

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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About International Astronomical Union (IAU)

- It was founded in 1919 as a senior body governing international professional astronomical activities worldwide.
- Its mission is to promote and safeguard the science of astronomy in all its aspects, including research, communication, education, and development, through international cooperation.
- Activities:
- Definition of fundamental astronomical and dynamical constants and unambiguous astronomical nomenclature
- Rapid dissemination of new discoveries
- Organization of international observing campaigns
- Promotion of educational activities in astronomy to early informal discussions of possible future international large-scale facilities.
- It is the only organization recognized professionally for the naming of astronomical bodies, which it does solely on the basis of merit, history, or discoverer's privilege.
- The IAU holds a general assembly every three years in varying parts of the world. The long-term policy of the IAU is defined by the General Assembly.
- Headquarters: Paris, France.
- A key activity of the IAU is the organization of scientific meetings. Every year the IAU sponsors 9 international IAU Symposia.



Q1. Consider the following conditions regarding an intermediary to claim safe harbour under Indian IT laws:

1. It must not initiate, select a receiver, or modify the content in the transmission.
2. It must remove unlawful content upon court or government order.
3. It must comply with the Intermediary Guidelines, 2021.
4. It must guarantee end-to-end encryption for all users.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) Only Three
- d) All Four

Answer: c

Q2. Consider the following statements:

1. SAMARTH aims to provide demand-driven skill development across the textile value chain, excluding spinning and weaving.
2. MITRA Parks Scheme focuses on creating world-class industrial parks with common infrastructure such as R&D labs and plug-and-play facilities.
3. RoSCTL provides incentives for all textile exports, including man-made fibre garments and technical textiles.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 3 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: b

Q3. Regarding Consumer Price Indices (CPI) in India, consider the following statements:

1. CPI for Rural, Urban and Combined are released by the NSO.

2. CPI for Agricultural Labourers and Rural Labourers are compiled by the EPFO.
3. CPI-IW includes both rural and urban workers across all sectors.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: a

Q4. Regarding the granting of Scheduled Tribe (ST) status in India, consider the following statements:

1. The President specifies STs for each State or Union Territory under Article 342.
2. Any inclusion or exclusion in the ST list requires a notification by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
3. Parliament has the exclusive power to amend the ST list.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a

Q5. Consider the following statements:

1. IN-SPACE authorises private sector activities but does not regulate them.
2. NSIL operates on a demand-driven model and owns the satellites it commercially deploys.
3. ISRO is no longer involved in launch vehicle development after the creation of NSIL.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) 2 only

Answer: d





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