



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

22nd July 2025



CONTEXT: Supreme Court suggested that ED may be misused by political powers to target rivals.

What is the Enforcement Directorate (ED)?

Origin & History of ED

1st May, 1956	"Enforcement Unit" u/ DEA - MoFin; FERA, 1947; HQ: Delhi (Dir: Legal Service Officer); Bombay + Calcutta
1957	Renamed as "ED"; Chennai
1960	Administrative control = Department of Revenue
1970s-90s	Global drug + ML menace International Anti Money Laundering regime
2000	FERA repealed, replaced by FEMA 1999 (liberalised)
2005	ED empowered under PMLA to fight money laundering
2018	Enforcement of FEOA began

ED
tasked
with
enforc-
ing

PMLA, 2002

FEMA, 1999

FEOA, 2018

COFEPOSA



Structure of ED

- ◆ **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- ◆ **Director of Enforcement:** Top post
- ◆ **Regional Offices:** 5 (Mumbai, Chennai, Chandigarh, Kolkata, Delhi)
- ◆ **Zonal Offices:** 10 (headed by Deputy Directors)
- ◆ **Sub-Zonal Offices:** 11 (headed by Assistant Directors)

Recruitment:

- IRS (Income Tax, Customs, Excise)
- IPS (Police)
- IAS (Admin Services)
- Deputation & Direct recruitment

Tenure of ED Chief

- ◆ **Originally:** 2 years
- ◆ Amended in **2021:** Can be extended up to 5 years
- ◆ **High-Level Committees** must recommend extension
- ◆ **SC (2023):** Amendments valid but arbitrary extensions struck down

Expanding Powers of ED

- ◆ From **6 to 30+ offences** in schedule (e.g., terrorism, wildlife crimes, etc.)
- ◆ **"Criminal conspiracy"** added (2009)
- ◆ Can seize property linked to **crime abroad** (2015-2018)
- ◆ **Crypto/Virtual Digital Assets** u/ PMLA (2023)
- ◆ **GSTN** added u/PMLA for data sharing (2023)



CONTEXT: Supreme Court suggested that ED may be misused by political powers to target rivals.

How Does ED Work Under PMLA?

⚡ Powers:

🔍 Sec 16	Power of survey
🏠 Sec 17	Search & seizure
👮 Sec 19	Arrest of accused
📄 Sec 50	(⚠️) Summon, Statement as evidence

ED can not take an action suo motu

Can conduct search/arrest directly

Has 60 days to file prosecution after arrest

📖 OTHER Statutory Functions

FEMA, 1999 📊	Civil enforcement: Investigate, adjudicate, and penalize
FEOA, 2018 🏠	Seize property, initiate confiscation
COFEPOSA, 1974 🗑️	Preventive detention proposals

ED summons actors Rana Daggubati, Prakash Raj, 2 others in illegal betting app...

5 hours ago

ED issues fresh summons to Google and Meta in betting app case after tech giants f...

6 hours ago

ED arrests Ramprastha Group directors in ₹1,100 crore money laundering cas...

8 hours ago

🔥 Why Is ED Facing Criticism?

1. 📖 "Ordinary" crimes
2. 🎯 Allegations of targeting **opposition & activists**
3. 🗑️ Lack of transparency (ECIR) in **case selection**
4. 🗑️ Stringent **bail rules**
5. 📊 **Low conviction rate** (e.g., 0.5%)

(b) Out of the above, the number of cases that have led to conviction and acquittal on merit are as under:

Year	Convictions	Acquittal on merit
01.04.2015 – 31.03.2016	00	00
01.04.2016 – 31.03.2017	01	00
01.04.2017 – 31.03.2018	00	00
01.04.2018 – 31.03.2019	00	00
01.04.2019 – 31.03.2020	01	00
01.04.2020 – 31.03.2021	00	00
01.04.2021 – 31.03.2022	00	00
01.04.2022 – 31.03.2023	00	00
01.04.2023 – 31.03.2024	00	00
01.04.2024 – 28.02.2025	00	00
Total	02	00

OPPOSITION IN ED NET

DURING NDA-II*

CM 1, EX-CMs 14, MINISTERS 19, MPs 24, MLAs 21, EX-MLAs 11, EX-MPs 7

ACTION TAKEN: Arrests 19, chargesheet 32

DURING UPA*

EX-CMs 2, MINISTERS 3, MPs 3, MLA 0, EX-MLA 0, EX-MPO

ACTION TAKEN: Arrests 0; chargesheet 9; convicted 3

* INCLUDES THOSE WITH CLOSE RELATIVES UNDER PROBE

Note: Data from court documents, agency statements and reports; numbers are of those booked, arrested, raided or questioned

INVESTIGATION IN CASES OF MONEY LAUNDERING

Searches conducted	Enforcement reports recorded	Prosecution Complaints filed	Persons convicted
3,086	4,964	943	23

Note: Investigations from July 2005- Feb 2022
Source: Ministry of Finance

Why is ED 'used' in political battles: SC

CONTEXT: Supreme Court suggested that ED may be misused by political powers to target rivals.

Supreme Court's **RECENT** Sharp Remarks

Bar and Bench

ED not a 'super cop' to investigate everything: Madras High Court

9 hours ago



The Wire India

Why Are You Being Used For Political Battles?: CJI Gavai Asks ED

11 hours ago



"Why is ED being used?"

CJI asked ED: "Don't percolate this virus across India. Fight political battles in elections, not courts."

"Don't use SC as a **political platform**"

How Should **Political Fights** Happen?

"No evidence of money laundering"

ED failed to prove "proceeds of crime".

3 Big Concerns

- 82% of ED cases (2014-2024) are against **opposition leaders** (Source: ADR).
- Only 5% **convictions**
- "Weaponization" of Fear

Reforms Needed

WAY AHEAD

✓ Ensure due process and share ECIR with accused

✓ Reduce political interference

✓ Make bail process more humane

✓ Parliamentary/judicial oversight on high-profile ED actions

✓ Improve conviction rates through strong evidence



CONTEXT: Supreme Court suggested that ED may be misused by political powers to target rivals.

Mains Practise Question

"The Enforcement Directorate has emerged as one of the most powerful investigative agencies in India, but its perceived political misuse has raised serious concerns." Critically examine this statement in light of recent controversies.

(15 Marks, 250 words)



'ED crossing all limits'

Supreme Court stays probe into Tasmac liquor case



CONTEXT: A detailed article touching upon various legalities with reference to right to vote in India.

Part 1: Types of Rights in India

1 Natural

Source: *Not written in law; based on morality / human dignity*

Enforceability: Not directly enforceable unless linked to fundamental rights

Example: Right to life (Article 21)

2 Fundamental (Part III, Constitution)

Guaranteed by Constitution (Art 12–35)

Enforceability: SC (Article 32)

3 Constitutional (Outside Part III)

Source: Rights mentioned in the Constitution but not in Part III.

Enforceability: Through High Courts (Article 226) or enabling laws

Examples: Right to Property (Article 300A); Right to Free Trade (Article 301)

4 Statutory/Legal (Created by Laws)

Source: Granted by Parliament/State Legislatures (not Constitution).

Enforceability: As per the law

Examples:

- Right to Work (MGNREGA)
- Right to Food (NFSA)
- Right to Vote (RP Act, 1951)

Part 2: Constitutional & Legal Provisions on Voting

Article 326

Grants **universal adult suffrage**

326. Elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies of States to be on the basis of adult suffrage

The elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assembly of every State shall be on the basis of adult suffrage; that is to say, every person who is a citizen of India and who is not less than eighteen years of age on such date as may be fixed in that behalf by or under any law made by the appropriate Legislature and is not otherwise disqualified under this Constitution or any law made by the appropriate Legislature on the ground of non-residence, unsoundness of mind, crime or corrupt or illegal practice, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter at any such election.

Exceptions:

- **Non-citizens.**
- **Persons disqualified** under law (e.g., unsound mind, corrupt practices).

Representation of the People Act, 1950

Section 16: Bars non-citizens from electoral rolls

Section 19: Requires voter to be:

- **≥18 years** on **qualifying date**.
- "Ordinary resident" of the constituency.

Representation of the People Act, 1951

Section 62: Grants the **right to vote** to registered electors

Exceptions:
Disqualified under RP Act, 1950.
In prison (unless preventive).

Conduct of Election Rules, 1961

Rule 18: Postal ballots for **service voters**



CONTEXT: A detailed article touching upon various legalities with reference to right to vote in India.



Part 3: Judicial Interpretations (Key Cases)

1 *N.P. Ponnuswami* (1952) – Statutory Right

- Held: Right to vote is not a fundamental right, only a statutory right.

2 *Jyoti Basu vs Debi Ghosal* (1982) – Reiterated Statutory Status

- **Held:** Voting is neither a fundamental nor a common law right, only a statutory right.

3 *PUCL Case* (2003) – Constitutional Right?

- **Justice P.V. Reddy's Observation:**
 - If not fundamental, at least a "constitutional right" (since it flows from Article 326).



Part 3: OTHER Judicial Interpretations

4 *Kuldip Nayar* (2006) – Back to Statutory Right

- Constitution Bench Ruling: Voting remains a statutory right.

5 *Raj Bala vs State of Haryana* (2015) – Constitutional Right

- Division Bench View: Followed PUCL, called it a constitutional right.

6 *Anoop Baranwal* (2023) – Final Word (For Now)

- **Majority View:** Reaffirmed statutory right (following *Kuldip Nayar*).
- **Justice Rastogi's Dissent:**
 - Right to vote is **intrinsic to democracy** (basic structure).
 - **Linked to Article 19(1)(a)** (freedom of expression).
 - Suggested it should be a **constitutional right**.



CONTEXT: A detailed article touching upon various legalities with reference to right to vote in India.

 Citizens for Justice and Peace | CJP

Manipur High Court holds right to vote as an extension of Article 19(1) (a), affirms voters right to know

The judgment held that the casting of votes is a part of the voter's right to freedom of speech and expression under Article 19 (1) (a) of the Indian...

13 Oct 2023




 Supreme Court Observer

Challenge to the ECI's Revision of Electoral Rolls in Bihar

Does the ECI's SIR notification for Bihar violate fundamental rights under Articles 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution?

5 days ago



 GOV.UK

16 year olds to be given right to vote through election reforms

Sixteen year olds will be given the right to vote in all UK elections as part of seismic changes to modernise UK democracy.

5 days ago



Mains Practise Question

Though the right to vote is central to a democracy, in India, it is currently treated as a statutory right. Explain the provisions.

(15 Marks, 250 words)



Syllabus: Prelims: Government Budgeting
Newspaper: The Hindu, **Page No. 11**

Features of the New Income Tax Bill

Introduction of the 'Tax Year' Concept	Tax will be calculated within same tax year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From 1 April (12 months)
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claiming simplicity Reduction: 823 pages to 622 pages
Expansion of the Definition of 'Income'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual digital assets
Clarity in Provisions	Easy-to-read tables: TDS/ Presumptive taxation rates/ assessment time limits
Virtual Digital Space	Includes anything <i>stored or accessed online</i> : bank, social media, emails, cloud Electronic Record: Digital files, messages, transaction histories, etc.
Removal of Redundant Provisions	

Reduction in Act's Volume

Item	Existing Income-Tax Act, 1961	Proposed in the Income-tax Bill, 2025	Change (Reduction/Addition)
Words	512,535	259,676	Reduction: 252,859 words
Chapters	47	23	Reduction: 24 chapters
Sections	819	536	Reduction: 283 sections
Table	18	57	Addition: 39 tables
Formulae	6	46	Addition: 40 formulae

Source: Ministry of Finance

INSIDE BILL INTRODUCED IN PARLIAMENT

Particulars	Income-tax Act, 1961	Bill tabled in LS
Chapters	47	23
Sections	819*	536
Words	5.12 lakh	2.60 lakh

*Effective sections. About 1200 provisos and 900 sections have been removed in the new Bill.

SCHEDULE II (16 ROWS) Incomes exempt, such as agricultural income

SCHEDULE III (39 ROWS) Certain persons eligible for exemption on certain income such as partners of firms and HUF, etc.

SCHEDULE IV (14 ROWS) Exemptions to non-residents

SCHEDULE V (8 ROWS) Exemption to business trusts, Sovereign Wealth Funds, etc.

SCHEDULE VI (12 ROWS) Exemptions to IFSC units

SCHEDULE VII (48 ROWS) Persons exempt from tax



Syllabus: Prelims: Government Budgeting
Newspaper: The Hindu, **Page No. 11**

Specific Features and Issues

"Unchecked Powers"

Expands the **power** of tax officials to conduct **searches and seizures**

- **Inspect** "any information stored in an electronic media or computer system"
 - Emails
 - Social media accounts
 - Digital applications

🔴 **Risk:** ⚠️ **Privacy violation**

🔧 **SOLUTION:** that tax officials must **record tangible reasons** before accessing digital data

🧠 Legal & Policy Justifications

◆ Ministry of Electronics & IT

- Powers are necessary in **today's digital world**.
- **Tax Dept. under DPDP Act** → has duties like confidentiality.

◆ Ministry of Law & Justice

- **Right to Privacy is not absolute.**
- Listed **7 limitations** on privacy (from Article 19 & SC verdicts):
 - National Security
 - Public Order
 - Morality
 - Contempt of Court
 - Defamation
 - Incitement to offence
 - Crime prevention

🔧 Other Key Recommendations

🏛️ 1. Relief for Religious-Charitable Trusts

🔴 Earlier Proposal

Tax 30% on **all anonymous donations**, except wholly religious orgs

✅ Committee's Recommendation

Allow **religious- cum- charitable trusts** to remain exempt – like before

💡 Why important?

📄 2. TDS Refunds W/o Mandatory Return Filing

- Even **non-taxable individuals** (e.g., students, housewives) had to **file return just to claim TDS refund**.

✅ Recommendation:

- **Remove Clause 263(1)(ix)**

isting provision recognises "religious-cum-charitable" entities as a distinct and valid class eligible for concessions on anonymous donations, understanding that such organisations often receive contributions through traditional means like **donation boxes where donor identification is practically impossible**.

"Many **legacy trusts were starting at disqualification** under vague definitions. By recommending clarity on 'wholly for charitable or religious purpose', the committee saves hundreds of older institutions from legal limbo," Amit Baid, head of tax at BTG Advaya, said.

"The recommended removal of sub-clause (1)(ix) of Clause 263 stands to offer relief to small taxpayers **by permitting refund claims even if returns are filed after the due date** – an important step in preventing undue hardship **for those with income below the taxable threshold but with TDS already deducted**," Amit Maheshwari, Tax Partner, AKM Global said.

Syllabus: GS 2: Appointment to various Constitutional posts

Newspaper: Indian Express, **Page No. 13**

Vice President of India – A Complete GUIDE

2nd highest constitutional office

Modeled on the **American Vice-President**

Article 63 There shall be a **Vice President** of India

Article 64 The Vice President shall be **ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha**

Article 65 **VP to act as President** in case of vacancy or absence

Article 67 **Term of office:** 5 years

Article 69 Oath or affirmation of office

Article 70 **President's functions** in contingencies

Article 71 Matters relating to **election disputes**

Election of the Vice President

Indirect Election by an **Electoral College**.

Comprises **both elected and nominated members** of **both Houses of Parliament**.

✗ Does **not** include **MLAs** of State Assemblies.

System Used:
Proportional representation using **single transferable vote**.
Secret ballot voting method.

Disputes: only by the **SC** – final and binding.


Vice President of India – A Complete GUIDE

Qualifications

To **contest for Vice President**, a person must:

 Be a **citizen of India**.

Be **35 years or older**.

 Be **eligible to be elected to RS**.

✗ Not hold any **office of profit** under central/state/local governments or public authorities.

Conditions of Office


Cannot remain a **member of any House of Parliament or State Legislature**. (Deemed to have vacated seat upon taking oath)

Term & Vacancy

- Term: 5 years
- Eligible for re-election

Causes of Vacancy:

- Expiry of term
- Resignation (submitted to President)
- Removal
- Death
- Disqualification or Election declared void

 Election must be held as **ASAP**

Oath or Affirmation

- **President** (or person designated by him).



Syllabus: GS 2: Appointment to various Constitutional posts

Newspaper: Indian Express, **Page No. 13**



Powers and Functions of the Vice President

Legislative Role:

Ex-officio Chairman of RS

Presides over sessions, ensures **order** and **procedure**.

Not a member, but has a **casting vote**.

Appoints committee chairpersons/members in RS

Important for motions like:

Removal of **Supreme Court/High Court** judges

Executive Role:

Acts as President in cases of:



Death, resignation, removal, impeachment, absence, or illness of President.

Can act for **maximum 6 months** until new President is elected.

Dy Chairman of RS takes over



India-USA VP Comparison

	India 	USA 
Succession	Acts as President for max 6 months	Becomes President for remainder of term
Role in Legislature	Chairman of Rajya Sabha	President of the Senate
Election	Separately elected by MPs	Elected along with President
Power in Executive	Only temporary President	Permanent successor in case of vacancy



Removal Procedure of Vice President

- **Not impeached** like the President.
- Removed by:
 - **Effective Majority** (majority of total membership) of **Rajya Sabha**, and
 - **Simple Majority** of **Lok Sabha**.
- Resolution: **only originate in RS**
- **14-day advance notice**

3rd V-P to resign before term end

New Delhi: As he tendered his resignation Monday, Jagdeep Dhankhar became the third Vice-President in the history of independent India to resign before completing his term.

Earlier, VV Giri stepped down from vice presidency on July 20, 1969 to contest the presidential election following President Zakir Husain's death. He then served as acting President and was later elected as President.

R Venkataraman resigned as Vice President in 1987 after being elected President. He had served as Vice-President from August 1984 to July 1987 and held the presidency until July 1992.

ENS



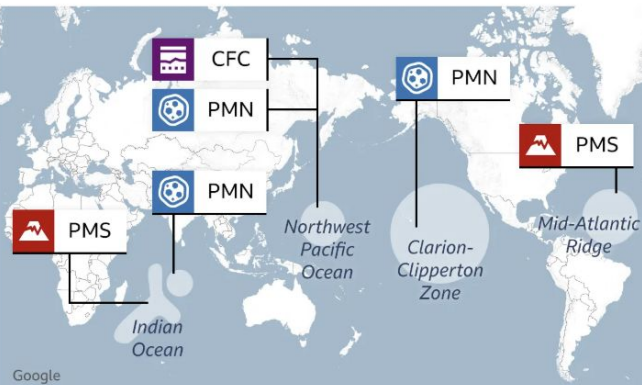
New Deep Sea Mining Rules

Syllabus: GS 3: Environmental pollution and degradation
Newspaper: The Hindu, **Page SCIENCE**

What is *deep sea mining*?

Exploration areas for minerals in the international seabed area*

Contracts with the ISA for exploration



Number of active contracts

■ Polymetallic nodules (PMN): 19 ■ Polymetallic sulphides (PMS): 7
■ Cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts (CFC): 4

*The part under ISA jurisdiction is defined as "the seabed and ocean floor and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction."

Source: International Seabed Authority (ISA)

BBC

IUCN: Deep-sea mining is the process of **retrieving mineral deposits** from the deep seabed – the **ocean below 200m**

Mineral deposits

- **Ocean floors:** PmN (Mn/ Cu/ Co)
- **Mid-Ocean Ridges:** Sulfides (Cu/ Zn/ Pb/ Au/ Ag)
- **Seamounts:** Ferromanganese

International Seabed Authority

- Seabed/ ocean floor/ subsoil **outside** national jurisdiction
- **1994/ UNCLOS:** High seas (200NM)
- **HQ** – Kingston, Jamaica

NATIONAL: Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002

Environmental concerns

- Sediment plumes
- Noise
- Light pollution
- Leaks



Deep Sea Mining Rules



What Did the July 2025 Negotiations Involve?



Venue

ISA Session in **Kingston**, Jamaica



36-member Executive Council + later **full 169-member Assembly**



Progress

Line-by-line review of **107** draft regl

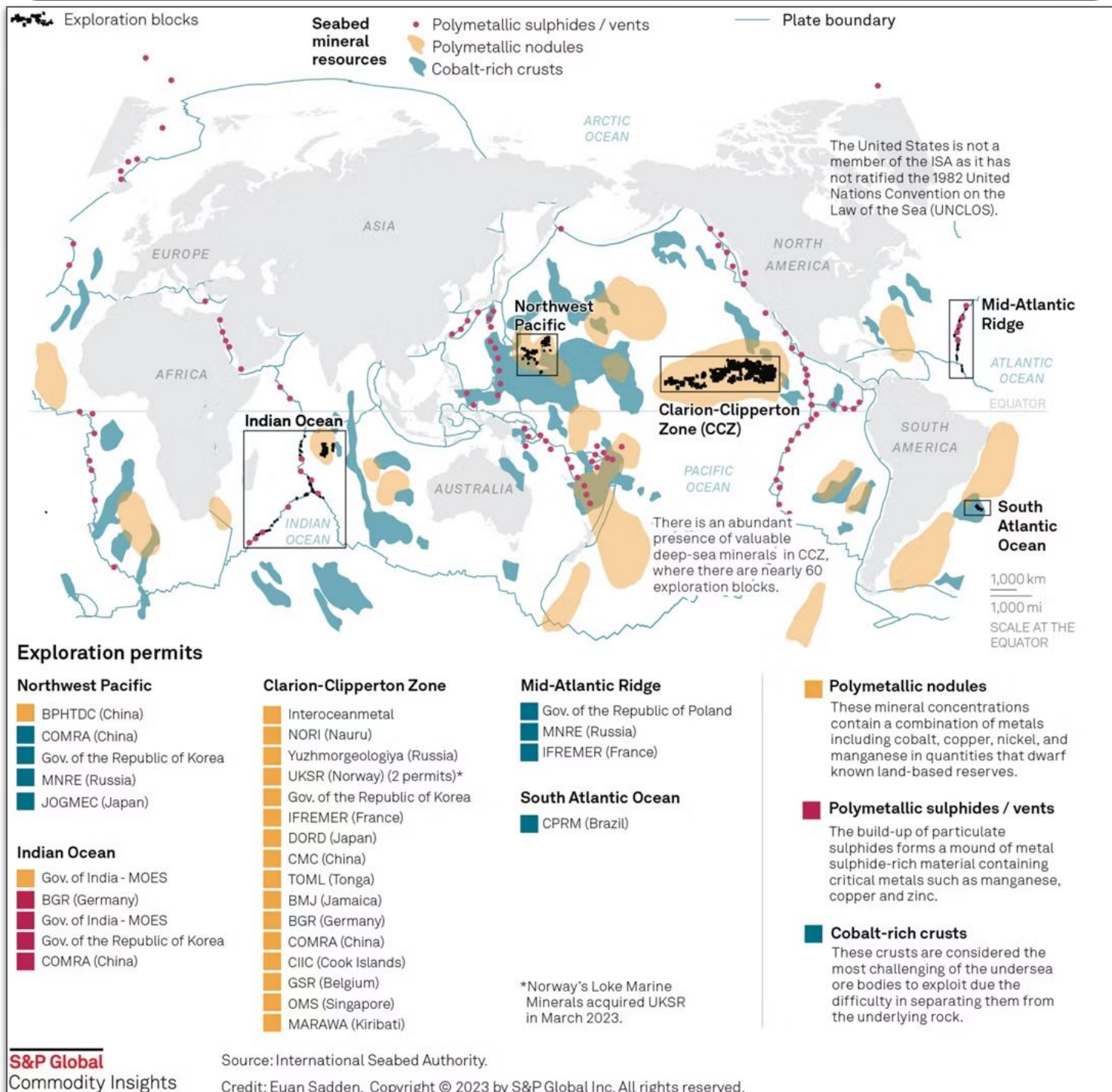


Focus

Regulation of **exploitation** (not just **exploration**) of ocean floor minerals



Syllabus: GS 3: Environmental pollution and degradation
Newspaper: The Hindu, Page SCIENCE



Syllabus: GS 3: Environmental pollution and degradation
Newspaper: The Hindu, **Page** SCIENCE

The "Mining Code" Deadlock

Key Points of Disagree- ment

How to protect **fragile marine ecosystems** 

Whether to **start mining before sufficient scientific data** is available

Moratorium request by 37 countries (led by Chile)

Environmental Risks

Deep-sea ecosystems are **less studied than Mars!**

Scientists' Warning

- **Global pause petition** by 600+ marine scientists

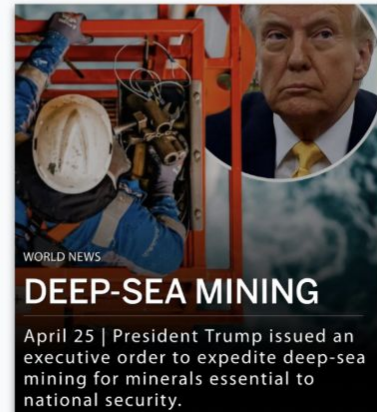
US Role & Controversy

April 2025: Trump's Directive

US is not a party to **UNCLOS** or the **ISA**

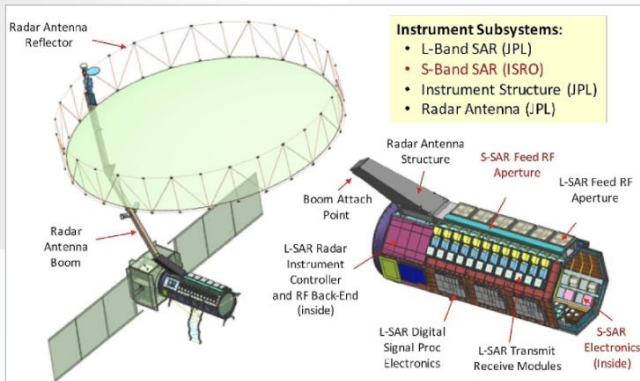
RESULT:  **The Metals Company** applied for permits

 **Industry Argument:** **Green energy transition**



Syllabus: GS 3: Space
Newspaper: Indian Express, Page No. 12

NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar



NISAR, which stands for NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar, will scan the entire globe every 12 days and provide a series of very detailed images of the Earth's surface.

Weighing 2,392 kg, it will be the first satellite ever to observe the Earth in two frequencies — NASA's L-band and ISRO's S-band. "Each system's signal is sensitive to different sizes of features on Earth's surface, and each specialises in measuring different attributes, such as moisture content, surface roughness, and motion," according to NASA.

- Launch:** July 30, 2025 at 5:40 PM IST
 - ISRO using its **GSLV-F16**
 - @*Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota*
- Mission Life:** 3 years
- Orbit:** 747 km (Sun-synchronous LEO)

ISRO said that GSLV-F16 will inject the observation satellite into a 734 km **Sun-synchronous orbit** — an orbit in which the satellite reaches over a place at the same time each day.

- Key Feature:** First dual-frequency radar satellite
 - NASA (L-band) (**Deeper** penetration)
 - ISRO (S-band) (**Surface-level** textures)
- ⚠ **Challenges and Delays**

🔧 **12-metre Unfurlable Antenna**

Applications & Benefits

Climate Science

Glacier melt, sea level rise, CO₂-absorbing vegetation shifts

Disaster Management

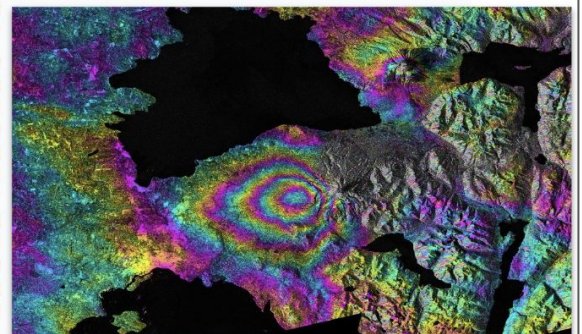
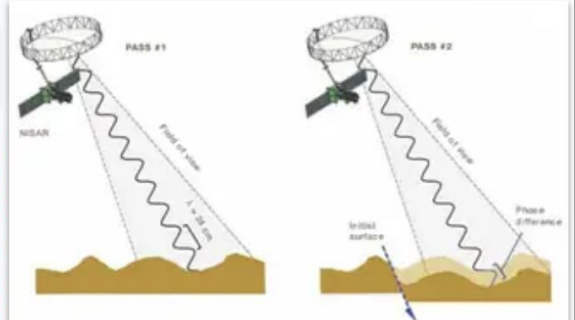
Detect earthquakes, landslides, volcanic activity **faster**
Help forecast flood risk with **soil moisture and river level mapping**

Agriculture & Water

Monitor **crop health**, predict **droughts**, manage **irrigation**
Understand groundwater levels and wetland dynamics

Urban Planning & Environment

Urban expansion analysis
Deforestation monitoring and forest policy implementation



Syllabus: GS 3: Indian Economy
Newspaper: Indian Express, Page No. 15

What is the Core Sector?

- **8 key infrastructure industries**
- **Index of Eight Core Industries** (OEA, DPIIT, MoC&I)
 - Petroleum Refinery Products (28.04%) > Electricity (19.85%) > Steel (17.92%) > Coal (10.33%) > Crude Oil (8.98%) > Natural Gas (6.88%) > Cement (5.37%) > Fertiliser (2.63%).
- **Index of Industrial Production**
 - **Released monthly** by the NSO
 - **Base year** for IIP: 2011-12.
 - **Components of IIP**
 - **Mining** (weightage of 10.93%)
 - **Manufacturing** (weightage of 77.45%)
 - **Electricity** (weightage of 11.62%)
- **IoECI** = 40.27% of IIP

UPSC PYQ (P) 2015

In the 'Index of Eight Core Industries', which one of the following is given the highest weight?

- (a) Coal production
- (b) Electricity generation
- (c) Fertilizer production
- (d) Steel production

Infra Growth

Three out of eight sectors recorded a positive growth

Steel recorded the highest increase in output

Coal witnessed highest contraction



Note: Figures for the last three months are provisional;
Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry



Q1. Regarding the Enforcement Directorate (ED), consider the following statements:

1. The ED is a statutory body established under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.
2. The ED functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Finance.
3. The ED is empowered to investigate offences under both the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999 and the PMLA, 2002.

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

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

Answer: b

Q2. Which of the following statements regarding Natural Rights, Fundamental Rights, and Constitutional Rights in the Indian context are correct?

1. Natural Rights are inherent and not dependent on any law or constitution.
2. Fundamental Rights are guaranteed by the Constitution and are enforceable by the courts.
3. Constitutional Rights include all rights mentioned in the Constitution, including but not limited to Fundamental Rights.

Select the correct answer using the code below.

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

Answer: d

Q3. Regarding the Vice-President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The Vice-President is elected by an electoral college consisting of members of both Houses of Parliament.
2. The Vice-President can act as President when the President is temporarily unable to discharge his functions.
3. To be eligible for election as Vice-President, a person must be qualified to be a member of the Rajya Sabha.

4. The Vice-President can be removed by a resolution of the Lok Sabha passed by a simple majority.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer: c

Q4. Regarding the International Seabed Authority (ISA), consider the following statements:

1. It is an autonomous international organisation established under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
2. Its headquarters is located in Geneva, Switzerland.
3. It regulates mineral-related activities in the international seabed area beyond national jurisdiction.
4. India is a member of the ISA.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- c) 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: b

Q5. Regarding the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR), consider the following statements:

1. It is a dual-frequency radar satellite mission using both L-band and S-band radars.
2. The mission aims to monitor changes in Earth's surface, including earthquakes, landslides, and glacier movements.
3. It will be launched by NASA using the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket.

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

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

Answer: b





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