



**VAJIRAM & RAVI**  
Institute for IAS Examination

# The Analyst

**CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout**

**28th July 2025**



# Glacial Lake Outburst Floods(GLOFs)

**CONTEXT:** With rising temperatures and subsequent glacial melt, the increased risk of GLOFs is threatening life and property in the higher Himalayas.

## What are GLOFs?

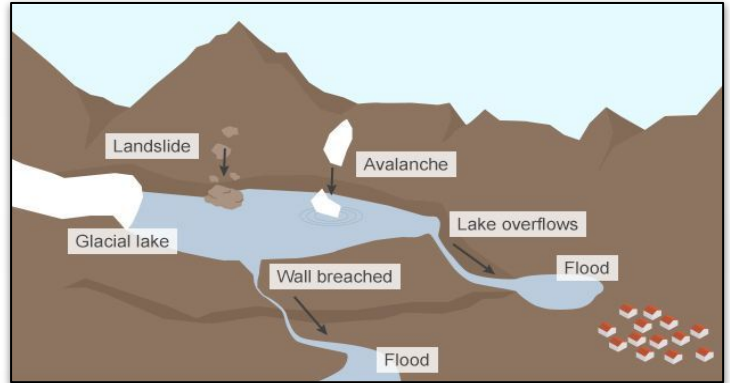
- Glacial Lakes – often dammed by Moraines or Ice – Unstable
- Disaster Events – Boundary Breaks – **abrupt discharge of water** – GLOF event
- **Triggered By** – CC, Earthquakes, Glacial Calving, breakage of Terminal Moraine
- GLOFs – **unleash large volumes of water**, sediment and debris downstream

## Why are GLOFs under the spotlight?

- IHR – **NRSC** – 11-RBs – 28k; Rise in GLOFs events – Kedarnath, Chamoli
- Two prominent Glacial Lakes – Supra-Glacial & Moraine-Dammed lakes
- CC – *Nature* 2021 – 53% increase – GLs
- South Lhonak Lake – **Sikkim**
- Soaring Global Temperatures & Rapid Infra Development
- *Nature* 2023 – 15 mn – particularly in **Southeastern Tibet** & the **China-Nepal** border area

## Risk Factors?

- **Climate Change:** 2023 & 2024 – hottest years – glacial melt.
- **Monitoring Challenges:** Short window, terrain and weather station absence.
- **Remote Sensing:** only captures post-facto surface area changes – not early warnings.



Almost two-thirds of GLOF events are triggered by ice avalanches or landslides, and the remaining due to excessive meltwater pressure on weak moraine dams and earthquakes.

- **Rising Flash Floods:** Silting – Teesta
- **'Cascading' Disaster** – Chorabari – 2013
- **Absence of Innovative Technology**

## Mitigation Measures Taken:

- **NDMA** – CoDRR – 'Proactive' shift
- **National Glacial Lake Outburst Floods Risk Mitigation Programme** – Multi-Stakeholder
- NDMA – **list of 195 "high-risk"** glacial lakes
- **ICIMOD** – Hindu-Kush Himalayas
- CWC – **Remote Sensing** – SAR Interferometry
- **State Disaster Management Authority**
- **Scientific Expeditions** – Bathymetry, ERT & Slope Surveys



# Glacial Lake Outburst Floods(GLOFs)

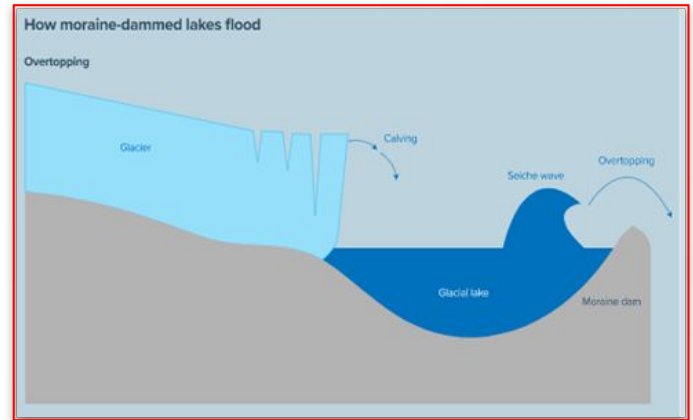
**CONTEXT:** With rising temperatures and subsequent glacial melt, the increased risk of GLOFs is threatening life and property in the higher Himalayas.

## Objectives:

- Hazard Assessment
- Installing – AWWWS
- Est. EWS – Downstream
- Mitigating Risk – Drawing Down Water Levels & Retention Structures
- Community Engagement

## Measures Required:

- **Early Warning Systems:** Continuous monitoring; Establishing robust EWSs – Real time – Bhutan
- **Structural Measures:** Dams or Diversion channels; protective barriers or embankments; Strengthening of moraine dam
- **Community Preparedness:** Developing and practicing evacuation plans; Conducting public awareness campaigns
- **Climate Change Mitigation:** Reducing GHGs
- **Cooperation:** Strengthening regional cooperation
- **ITBP Deployment**



## Mains Practice Question:

*"The Himalayan region is prone to devastating Glacial Lake Outburst Floods. Highlight the measures taken to mitigate its effect and the additional efforts required"*

**(15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Q1. With reference to the Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF), consider the following statements:**

1. Glacial lakes are typically dammed by stable materials like ice and sediment composed of loose rocks and debris.
2. Seismic activity can disrupt the fragile balance around glacial lakes, leading to their sudden release of water.
3. Intense and prolonged rainfall in the region can contribute to the rapid expansion of glacial lakes, increasing the risk of a GLOF event.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) None





# Faith, Fear & Fatalities: Stampedes in India

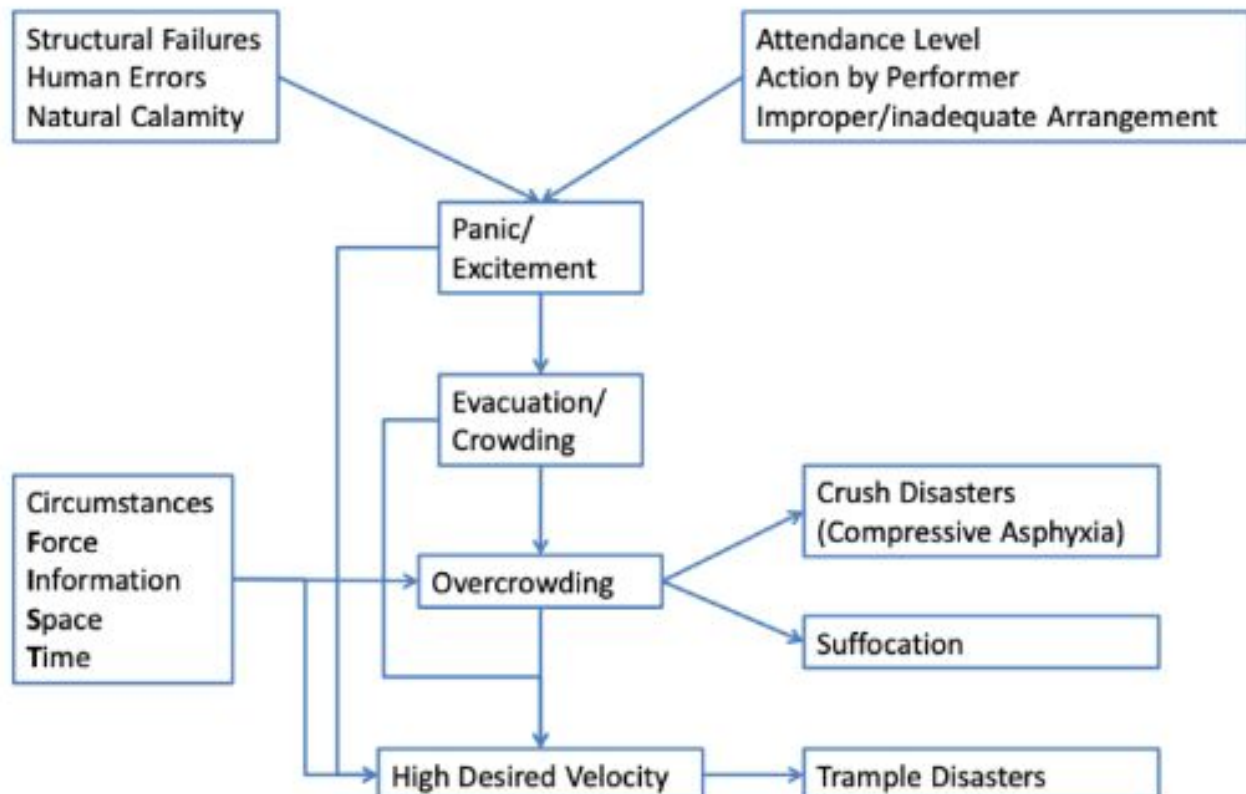
**CONTEXT:** 30 injured in the incident; rumour about a snapped electric line led to panic among devotees gathered along a stairway; rescue efforts continued for hours; magisterial probe ordered

## What is Stampede?

- Disruption - orderly movement of crowds - injuries and fatalities
- As 'a response' - perceived danger, loss of physical space or a will to 'attain something'



## Process of a Stampede



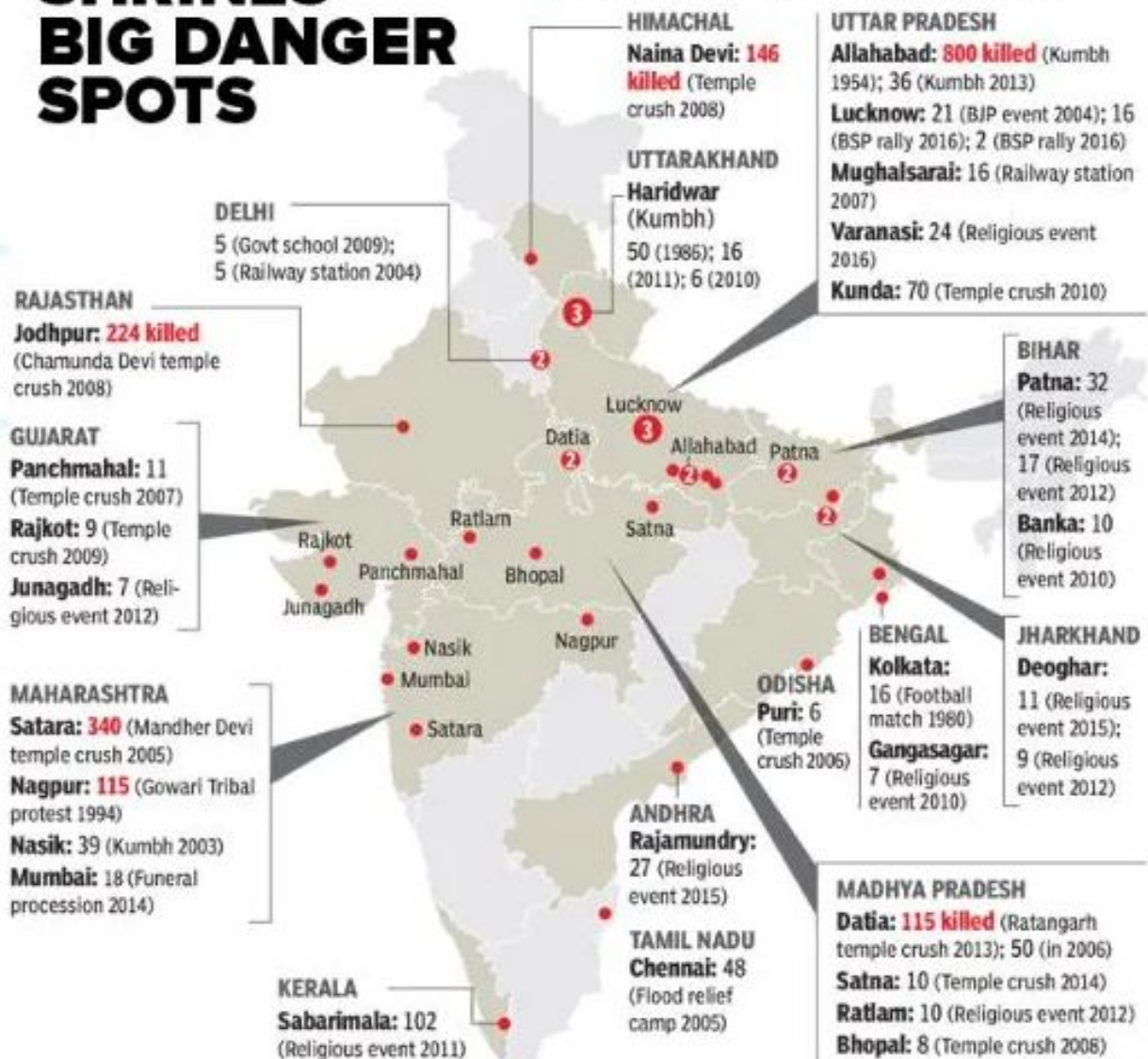
# Faith, Fear & Fatalities: Stampedes in India

**CONTEXT:** 30 injured in the incident; rumour about a snapped electric line led to panic among devotees gathered along a stairway; rescue efforts continued for hours; magisterial probe ordered

## STATIONS, SHRINES BIG DANGER SPOTS



● Number of incidents; No number indicates single incident



# Faith, Fear & Fatalities: Stampedes in India



**CONTEXT:** 30 injured in the incident; rumour about a snapped electric line led to panic among devotees gathered along a stairway; rescue efforts continued for hours; magisterial probe ordered

## What are the major causes of Stampedes in India?

- **Structural Causes** – Structural collapse; Improper & unauthorised built structures; Difficult terrain; Narrow streets; Absence – emergency exits
- **Fire/Electricity causes** – Fire – makeshift facility; Non-availability of fire extinguishers; Building & fire code violations; Illegal electric connections & faulty electric equipment
- **Crowd Behaviour** – ‘Craze’; Crowds forcing to entrance/exits; anxious and competitive crowd
- **Security Issues** – Under deployment; Lack of adequate scientific planning; Lack of adequate surveillance
- **Lack of Coordination between Stakeholders** – Coordination gap between agencies; Inadequate water, medical assistance, etc.; Communication delays

## What are the Impact of these Stampedes?

- **Trauma and Loss** – resultant deaths & injuries ;stampede killing 121 people in Hathras.
- **Economic Hardships** – majority of victims – lower socioeconomic backgrounds; poverty
- **Erosion of Trust** – undermine faith in governance
- **Loss of Social and Human Capital** – Mostly – children and women are the victims





# Faith, Fear & Fatalities: Stampedes in India

**CONTEXT:** 30 injured in the incident; rumour about a snapped electric line led to panic among devotees gathered along a stairway; rescue efforts continued for hours; magisterial probe ordered

## Managing Crowd at Events and Venues of Mass Gathering

### *A Guide for State Government, Local Authorities, Administrators and Organizers*



2014

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (NDMA)  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



## What Should be the Way Forward?

- **Legislation, Rules and Regulations for Stampedes**– SC – need for a comprehensive legislation – liability
- **Specialisation and Professionalism** – communication, specialized personnel training, safety insurance, etc.
- **Use of technology** – CCTV surveillance, VMS, mobile control room, drones, face recognition, etc.
- **Capacity Evaluation** – Of location or structure before holding mass gatherings
- **Crowd Behaviour Management** – Stopping rumours; calm panicking crowds, systematic exits, etc.
- **Penalties** – Stricter penalties, revocation of licenses; random checks and inspections.
- **Learning from Global Best Practices** – For ex- Crowd management during Haj Pilgrimage in Makkah.

## Mains Practise Questions:

*"Stampedes in India have frequently led to significant loss of life, particularly during religious, cultural, and public gatherings. Analyze the key reasons for recurring crowd management failures in India. Suggest measures to enhance crowd management systems to mitigate such disasters in the future."*

**(15 Marks, 250 words)**



# China's Dam on Brahmaputra

**SYLLABUS : GS 3:** Environment; Security

**Newspaper** The Indian Express **Page Number :** EXPLAINED

**DIVYAA**

NEW DELHI, JULY 27

CHINA ON July 19 formally began the construction of a massive dam on the Brahmaputra river, close to the border with Arunachal Pradesh. The \$167.8-billion hydropower project, with a generation capacity of 60,000 MW, will be the world's largest upon completion.

Since being announced in 2021, the project has raised concerns in India and Bangladesh about the impact it may have on the flow of the river.

## Concerns in Arunachal

The dam on the Yarlung Zangbo, as the Brahmaputra is known in Tibet, is being built at the "Great Bend", where the river makes a U-turn in Medog county before entering India at Gelling in Arunachal Pradesh. The river is called Siang in Arunachal Pradesh.

A week before the dam's groundbreaking ceremony, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu told PTI that it was a potential "water bomb" and an "existential threat". He said if China "suddenly release

water, our entire Siang belt would be destroyed... In the long run... Siang and Brahmaputra rivers could dry up considerably".

Other experts too have flagged the risk of flooding due to the intentional or unintentional operation of reservoirs in Tibet, and unforeseen events such as dam failure, landslides, or earthquakes. Tibet is a seismically active zone, and the region where the dam is coming up is considered to be earthquake-prone and ecologically fragile.

## EXPLAINED GLOBAL

### View from Assam

The Brahmaputra is the life-line of Assam, fundamental to its economy, and central to its history, culture, and ecology. Any significant disruption in the flow of the river in the state will have far-reaching consequences.

But Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma on July 21 said that he was "not immediately worried because Brahmaputra... is not dependent on a single source [of water]." It gets most of its waters from Bhutan, Arunachal Pradesh, and rainwater in Assam, Sarma said.

On June 2, he had posted on X that "the Brahmaputra is not a river India depends on upstream", and that "China contributes only ~30-35% of the Brahmaputra's total flow".

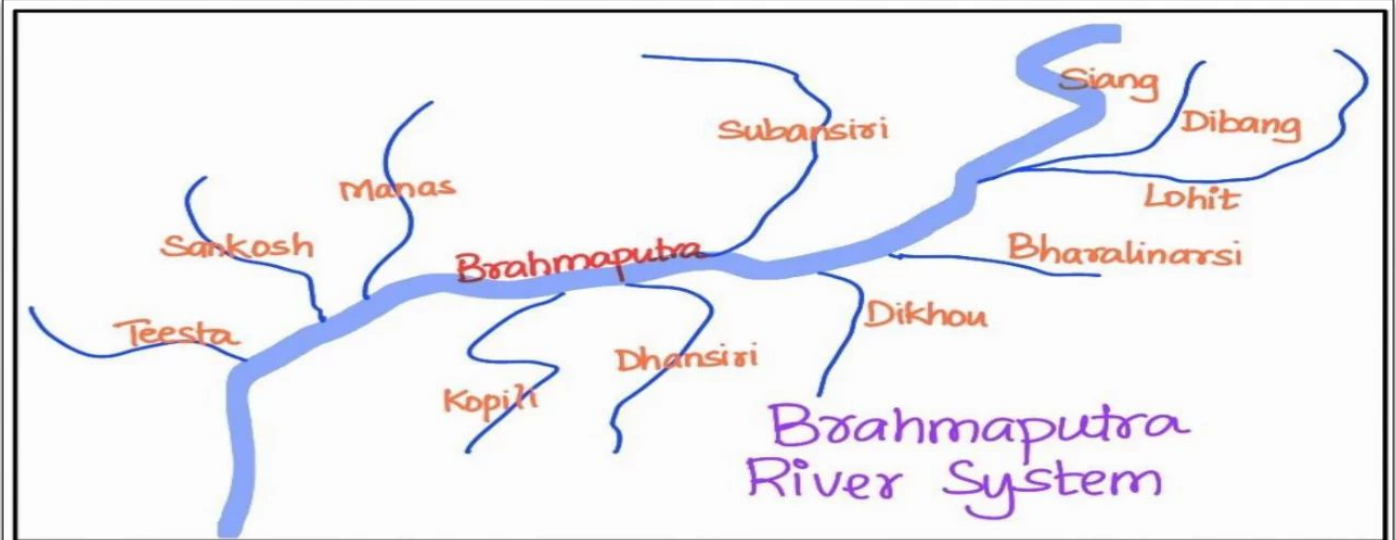




# China's Dam on Brahmaputra

**SYLLABUS : GS 3:** Environment; Security

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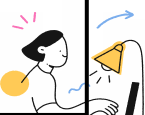
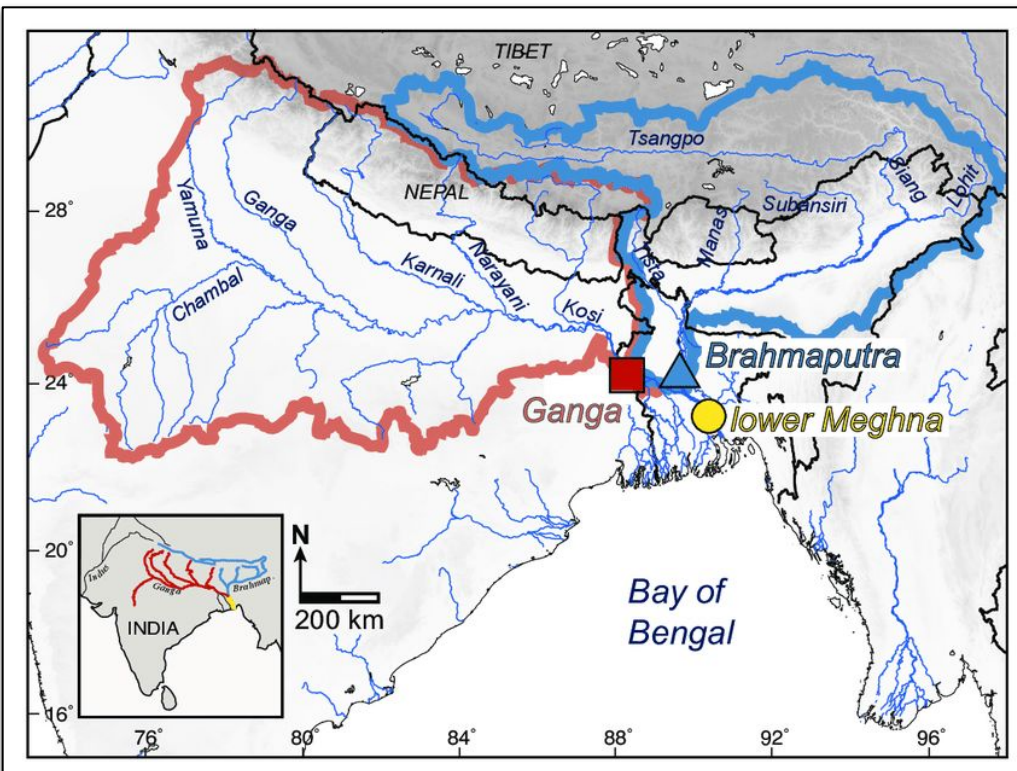
In the unlikely event of China reducing water flow, "it may actually help India mitigate the annual floods in Assam", he had said.

## The Indian response

While it has issued no official reaction after the July 19 ceremony, New Delhi has long been monitoring Chinese infrastructure interventions on the river. In January, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir

Jaiswal said: "As a lower riparian state with established user rights to the waters of the river, we have consistently expressed... our views and concerns to the Chinese side over mega projects on rivers in their territory."

On July 23, Guo Jiakin, spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, told reporters that the project was "fully within China's sovereignty". "China is engaged in cooperation with downstream countries on sharing hy-





# China's Dam on Brahmaputra



**SYLLABUS : GS 3:** Environment; Security

**Newspaper** The Indian Express **Page Number :** EXPLAINED

drological data, flood prevention and disaster reduction," he said.

Ashok Kantha, a former Indian Ambassador to China, had previously told *The Indian Express* that the project, with its "very large reservoir, in a very difficult area" was "very risky, dangerous, and irresponsible". India, Kantha had said, needed to raise its concerns with China "forcefully".

India is engaged with China in a series of confidence-building measures after Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri announced last October that the two sides had reached an agreement "on patrolling arrangements along the Line of Actual Control, leading to disengagement and a resolution of the issues that had arisen in these areas in 2020".

## Mitigation measures

At the heart of India's concerns, as articulated by CM Khandu, lies the fear that China may seek to weaponise the dam project at some stage, perhaps to build pressure on behalf of Pakistan during a future conflict.

India should make scientific calculations about the Chinese dam project and build its own capability to preempt any deliberate action in the future, said Uttam Sinha, senior fellow at the Manohar Parrikar Institute for

Defence Studies and Analyses.

Water experts Naresh K Mathur and Debarshee Dasgupta had previously written in *The Indian Express* that as a mitigation strategy, India could plan storage on rivers of the Brahmaputra system to absorb potential variations in flows.

The storage of the Upper Siang project in Arunachal Pradesh, with its 300-metre-high dam, can serve as a buffer against variations in the flow of the river. But progress has been slowed by local resistance against the potential adverse environmental impact of the dam.

Sinha said there is a need to build more inland channels to carry the flow of excess water. The National Water Development Authority has proposed two links to connect the Brahmaputra and its tributaries to the Ganga basin with the aim of transferring surplus water to water-scarce regions.

Experts have also stressed on the need to utilise diplomatic channels to seek detailed hydrological and project-related data from China in order to assess downstream impact.

India should also have conversations with other low riparian neighbours — Bhutan, Bangladesh and even Myanmar — on developing a coordinated protocol for advance warning and disaster preparedness.



Prelims Booster

The National Water Development Agency (NWDA), a Registered Society under the Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resources) was set up in the year 1982 to carry out detailed studies, surveys and investigations in respect of Peninsular Component of National Perspective for Water Resources Development. The Government subsequently modified the functions of NWDA to include the Himalayan Component of National Perspective for Water Resources Development on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 1994 and composition of Society and Governing Body on 13<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2003 & 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2004. In 2006, it was decided that NWDA will explore the feasibility of linking sub-basins of rivers in States like Bihar. It was decided that NWDA will also take up the work for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Ken-Betwa link, which is one of the priority links under Peninsular Component of National Perspective Plan. To enable National Water Development Agency to undertake above activities, its functions were modified on 30<sup>th</sup> Nov., 2006. The functions of NWDA were further modified MoWR resolution dated 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2011 to undertake the work of preparation of DPRs of intra-State links also by NWDA. The functions of NWDA were further modified MoWR resolution dated 7<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2016 to undertake implementation of ILR projects and completion of water resources projects under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) and to act as a repository of borrowed fund or loan from Banks/other institutions for the execution of projects.





# The Co-operative Societies



**SYLLABUS : GS 2:** Indian Constitution  
**Newspaper** The Hindu **Page Number : 12**

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha alleged on Sunday that the National Cooperation Policy, unveiled by Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Friday, violates the Constitution, centralises power, and snatches rights of State governments.

It said the policy lacks the perspective to protect the rights of farmers and workers on livelihood, minimum support price, minimum wage and sharing of surplus. It urged the political parties and State governments to fight against the attack on cooperative federalism.

“The Union Cooperative Ministry is applicable only to the Union Territories and the Multi-State Cooperative Societies. In the true spirit, the Multi-State Cooperative Societies also violate the Constitutional provisions regarding cooperative societies. Such efforts are aimed at seizure of people’s resources by the ruling class parties, especially the BJP-RSS. The trend of centralisation of power needs to be vehemently resisted,” it said.

PART IXB

## The Co-operative Societies

Part IXB of the Constitution grants constitutional status to co-operative societies and contains provisions for their democratic functioning. It was inserted by the Constitution (Ninety-seventh Amendment) Act, 2011.





# The Co-operative Societies



**SYLLABUS : GS 2:** Indian Constitution  
**Newspaper** The Hindu **Page Number : 12**

- **Co-operative societies fall under Entry 32 of the State List (List II) in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.** Hence, regulation and governance of cooperative societies fall primarily under the jurisdiction of State Legislatures.
- The 97th Amendment added **Article 19(1)(c)** to Part III of the Constitution, which made **forming cooperative societies a part of the fundamental right to form associations or Unions or cooperative societies.**
- The Amendment Act also amended **Part IV by adding a new Directive Principle of State Policy under Article 43B.** This new article directs the State to ***promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control, and professional management*** of cooperative societies. By placing this in the DPSP, the Constitution gave a policy direction to the State for the development of cooperative societies. Though **not enforceable by Courts**, this provision guides legislative and executive action.
- Initially, the 97th Amendment inserted **Part IXB** (Articles 243ZH to 243ZT), making certain provisions mandatory for all States.
- However, in its 2021 judgment (***Rajendra N. Shah versus the Union of India***), the Supreme Court held that since cooperative societies are a State subject, the Amendment should have been ratified by at least half of the State Legislatures under Article 368(2). Since such ratification was not done, **Part IXB is not binding on the States for matters falling under their exclusive jurisdiction.**
- It should be noted here that **forming a cooperative society is a Constitutional Right** but being a member of the same is not a Right as guaranteed by the Constitution, the same is governed by the respective laws of the State related to cooperatives.
- The **Multi-State cooperatives fall in the jurisdiction of the Union Government via Entry 44 (Corporations whether trading or not, with objects not confined to one State) of the Union list (List I)**, hence the Central Government can make laws regarding the same.



# Computer Emergency Response Team



**SYLLABUS : GS 3:** Security

**Newspaper** The Hindu **Page Number : 12**

A critical vulnerability in the Organ Retrieval Banking Organisation (ORBO) website of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, that exposed sensitive data of voluntary organ donors across India along with their identity, health profile and contact details was detected and resolved, thanks to an independent security researcher who flagged the flaw.

ORBO is the nodal facility for cadaver organ and tissue donation-related activities of the AIIMS.

In mid-May, the researcher, Aniket Tomar, came across the vulnerability and alerted the Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT).

In an email about the critical data exposure, he said the vulnerability disclosed personally identifiable and medical informa-

tion of registered organ and tissue donors without any authentication mechanism for accessing it.

The data leak provided unrestricted access to the complete list of organ and tissue donors registered with the AIIMS.

The information included full name, residential address, date of birth, blood group, mobile number and emergency contact details of the donor putting hundreds of individuals at significant risks of

identity theft, phishing attacks, and social engineering exploitation.

“Such a data breach from a reputed medical institution not only undermines public trust in digital health systems but also violates data protection principles under the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023,” Mr. Tomar said in his alert to the CERT.

“I was able to view several lakh donor entries... The data was not limited to Delhi, the entries appeared to include donors from various regions across India, indicating a nationwide scope,” Mr. Tomar told *The Hindu*.

On June 18, 2025, the CERT wrote to Mr. Tomar appreciating him for detecting the critical vulnerability.

The vulnerability was successfully mitigated and the exposed data were no longer publicly accessible, the researcher said.



# Computer Emergency Response Team



**SYLLABUS : GS 3: Security**  
**Newspaper The Hindu Page Number : 12**

## Indian Computer Emergency Response Team

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology  
Government of India



सत्यमेव जयते

CERT-In is operational since January 2004. The constituency of CERT-In is the Indian Cyber Community. CERT-In is the national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents as and when they occur.

In the Information Technology Amendment Act 2008, CERT-In has been designated to serve as the national agency to perform the following functions in the area of cyber security:

- Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on cyber incidents.
- Forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents
- Emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents
- Coordination of cyber incident response activities.
- Issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes and whitepapers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents.
- Such other functions relating to cyber security as may be prescribed

## THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005

**24. Act not to apply in certain organisations.**—(1) Nothing contained in this Act shall apply to the intelligence and security organisations specified in the Second Schedule, being organisations established by the Central Government or any information furnished by such organisations to that Government:

Provided that the information pertaining to the allegations of corruption and human rights violations shall not be excluded under this sub-section:

Provided further that in the case of information sought for is in respect of allegations of violation of human rights, the information shall only be provided after the approval of the Central Information Commission, and notwithstanding anything contained in section 7, such information shall be provided within forty-five days from the date of the receipt of request.





**SYLLABUS : GS 3: Security**  
**Newspaper The Hindu Page Number : 12**

**MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS**

**(Department of Personnel and Training)**

**NOTIFICATION**

New Delhi, the 23rd November, 2023

**G.S.R 864(E).**—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 24 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (22 of 2005), the Central Government hereby makes the following further amendment in the Second Schedule to the said Act, namely: —

In the Second Schedule to the Right to Information Act, 2005, after serial number 26 and the entry relating thereto, the following serial number and entry shall be inserted, namely: -

“27. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team.”

[F. No. 1/3/2021-IR II]

S. D. SHARMA, Jt. Secy.

**Note:-** The second Schedule to the Right to Information Act, 2005 was amended *vide* notification numbers, -

- (i) G.S.R. No. 347, dated the 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2005,
- (ii) G.S.R. No. 235(E), dated the 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2008;
- (iii) G.S.R. No. 726(E), dated the 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2008;
- (iv) G.S.R. No. 442(E), dated the 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2011;
- (v) G.S.R. No. 673(E), dated the 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2016; and
- (vi) G.S.R. No.319(E), dated 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2021



**SYLLABUS : PRELIMS:** Important Institutions  
**Newspaper** The Hindu **Page Number** : 16

## Agence France-Presse

GENEVA

The world urgently needs to find a global approach on regulating artificial intelligence, the United Nations' top tech chief said this week, warning that fragmentation could deepen risks and inequalities.

Doreen Bogdan-Martin, head of the UN's International Telecommunications Union (ITU) agency, said she hoped that AI "can actually benefit humanity". But as concerns mount

over the risks posed by the fast-moving technology – including fears of mass job losses, the spread of deep-fakes and disinformation, and society's fabric fraying – she insisted that regulation was key.

"There's an urgency to try to get... the right framework in place," she said, stressing the need for "a global approach".

Her comments came after U.S. President Donald Trump this week unveiled an aggressive, low-regulation strategy aimed at en-

suring the United States stays ahead of China on AI.

## About International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

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SHARE    

ITU is connecting the world – and beyond. As the United Nations specialized agency for digital technologies, we are working towards harnessing innovation and connecting everyone to ensure a better future for all.

### WHO WE ARE

ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for digital technologies (ICTs). The Organization is made up of a membership of 194 Member States and more than 1000 companies, universities and international and regional organizations. Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, and with regional offices on every continent, ITU is the oldest agency in the UN family – connecting the world since the dawn of the telegraph in 1865.

### WHAT WE DO

We facilitate international connectivity in communication networks. We allocate global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies connect seamlessly, and work to improve access to digital technologies in underserved communities worldwide. ITU works to bring digital connectivity to everyone, providing a trusted, multilateral platform to broker international agreements and standards, share knowledge, build capacity, and work with members and partners to spread access to technology around the world.

### WHY WE MATTER

Technology has become the backbone of modern life. Networks and devices everywhere rely on ITU's work. Every time we use a mobile phone, send an e-mail, access the Internet, watch TV or streaming services, take a plane, consult the weather forecast, or use satellite images to navigate or explore, we are relying on ITU's work. 2.6 billion people, largely in developing countries, remain unconnected. ITU works to close this digital divide through universal connectivity and sustainable digital transformation.





**SYLLABUS : GS 2:** Statutory Bodies  
**Newspaper** The Hindu **Page Number : 12**

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), along with the police in Rajasthan and Maharashtra, has busted an inter-State drug syndicate allegedly involved in the clandestine manufacture of synthetic drugs.

On July 22, several precursor chemicals, including chloroform, ammonium chloride, propylene chloride, toluene and bromine used to manufacture Mephedrone were recovered from a laboratory located in a secluded village in Rajasthan's Barmer district, the NCB said.

Interrogation of two members held in the raid led to the arrest of one more person by the Raigad police in Maharashtra.



## About NCB

The National Policy on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances is based on the Directive Principles, contained in Article 47 of the Indian Constitution, which direct the State to endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption, except for medicinal purposes, of intoxicating drugs injurious to health. The government's policy on the subject which flows from this constitutional provision is also guided by the international conventions on the subject.

India is a signatory to the single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Conventions on Psychotropic Substances, 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988.

The broad legislative policy is contained in the three Central Acts, viz. Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, and The Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988. The responsibility of drug abuse control, which is a central function, is carried out through a number of Ministries, Departments and Organisations. These include the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue which has the nodal co-ordination role as administrator of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 and the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988.

The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 which came into effect from the 14th November, 1985 made an express provision for constituting a Central Authority for the purpose of exercising the powers and functions of the Central Government under the Act.





**SYLLABUS : GS 2: Statutory Bodies**  
**Newspaper The Hindu Page Number : 12**

The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 which came into effect from the 14th November, 1985 made an express provision for constituting a Central Authority for the purpose of exercising the powers and functions of the Central Government under the Act.

In presence of this provision, the Government of India constituted the NARCOTICS CONTROL BUREAU on the 17th of March, 1986. The Bureau, subject to the supervision and control of the Central Government, is to exercise the powers and functions of the Central Government for taking measures with respect to:

- Co-ordination of actions by various offices, State Governments and other authorities under the N.D.P.S. Act, Customs Act, Drugs and Cosmetics Act and any other law for the time being in force in connection with the enforcement provisions of the NDPS Act, 1985.
- Implementation of the obligation in respect of counter measures against illicit traffic under the various international conventions and protocols that are in force at present or which may be ratified or acceded to by India in future.
- Assistance to concerned authorities in foreign countries and concerned international organisations to facilitate coordination and universal action for prevention and suppression of illicit traffic in these drugs and substances.
- Coordination of actions taken by the other concerned Ministries, Departments and Organizations in respect of matters relating to drug abuse.

The Narcotics Control Bureau is the apex coordinating agency. It also functions as an enforcement agency through its zonal offices. Zonal offices are located at Agartala, Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Cochin, Dehradun, Delhi, Goa, Gorakhpur, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Imphal, Indore, Itanagar, Jaipur, Jammu, Jodhpur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Patna, Raipur, Ranchi, Siliguri, Srinagar and Vishakhapatnam. The zonal offices collect and analyse data related to seizures of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substance, study trends, modus operandi, collect and disseminate intelligence and work in close cooperation with the Customs, State Police and other law enforcement agencies.



**Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs):**

1. It is a flood caused by the sudden release of water from a glacial lake.
2. Almost 2/3rd of GLOFs are triggered by ice avalanches or landslides.
3. Constructing a barrier or dam across a glacial lake eliminates the risk of GLOFs.

**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 is NOT correct regarding the National Water Development Agency (NWDA)?**

- a) It presently comes under the Ministry of Irrigation.
- b) It was Set up in 1982 under the Societies Registration Act.
- c) It studies the water balance of the Peninsular rivers.
- d) Its role was expanded in 2016 to implement the Interlinking of Rivers projects.

**Answer: a**

**Q3. Regarding the 97th Constitutional Amendment Act, consider the following statements:**

1. It made the right to form cooperative societies a fundamental right under Article 19.
2. It added Article 43A to promote cooperative societies as a part of the Directive Principles.

3. It inserted Part IXB, making certain provisions on cooperatives mandatory for all states.

4. In the Rajendra N. Shah case, the Supreme Court ruled that Part IXB is not binding on the States for matters falling under their exclusive jurisdiction.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer: c**

**Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the International Telecommunication Union:**

1. It is the oldest specialised agency in the UN family.
2. It currently has 194 member countries.
3. Its headquarters are situated in Paris, France.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer: a**

**Q5. Which of the following statements is NOT correct regarding the Narcotics Control Bureau?**

- a) It functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- b) It is a statutory body.
- c) It has its headquarters located in Mumbai.
- d) It is the nodal drug law enforcement and intelligence agency.

**Answer: c**





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