



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

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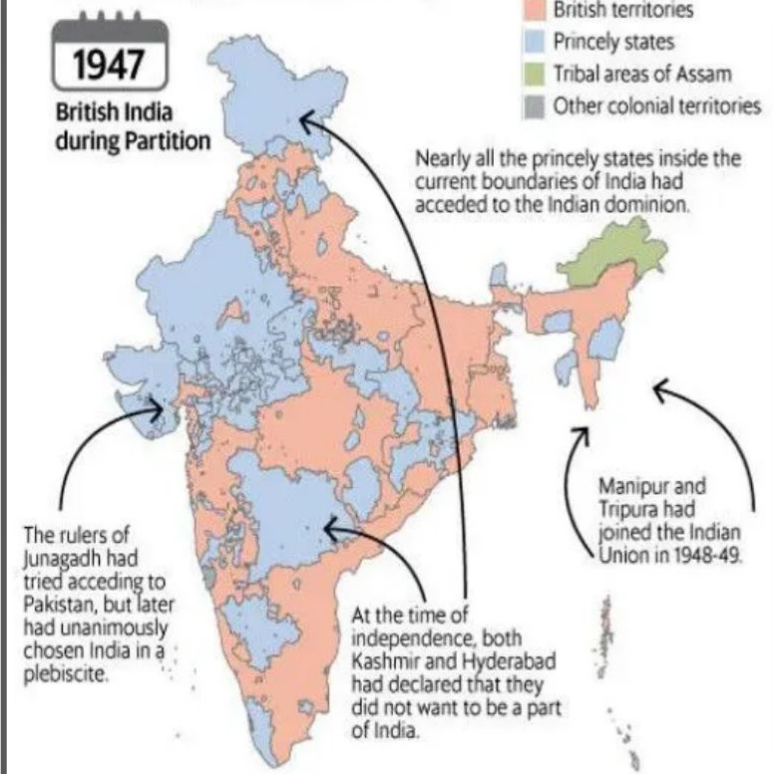
31st July 2025



Linguistic States: Creation of Second Class Citizens?

CONTEXT: Statement of TN Governor

The early years (1947-1956)



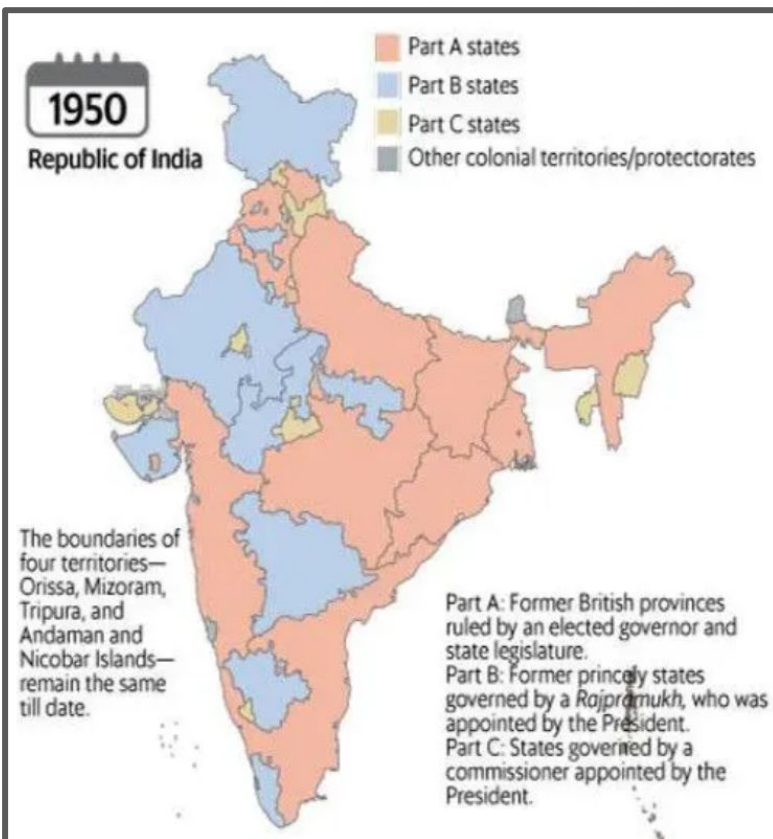
Reorganisation of States

Rationale

- Linguistic and Cultural affiliations
 - First linguistic state: Andhra Pradesh
- Tribal and Ethnic identities
- Economic development
- Administrative viability
- Security issue

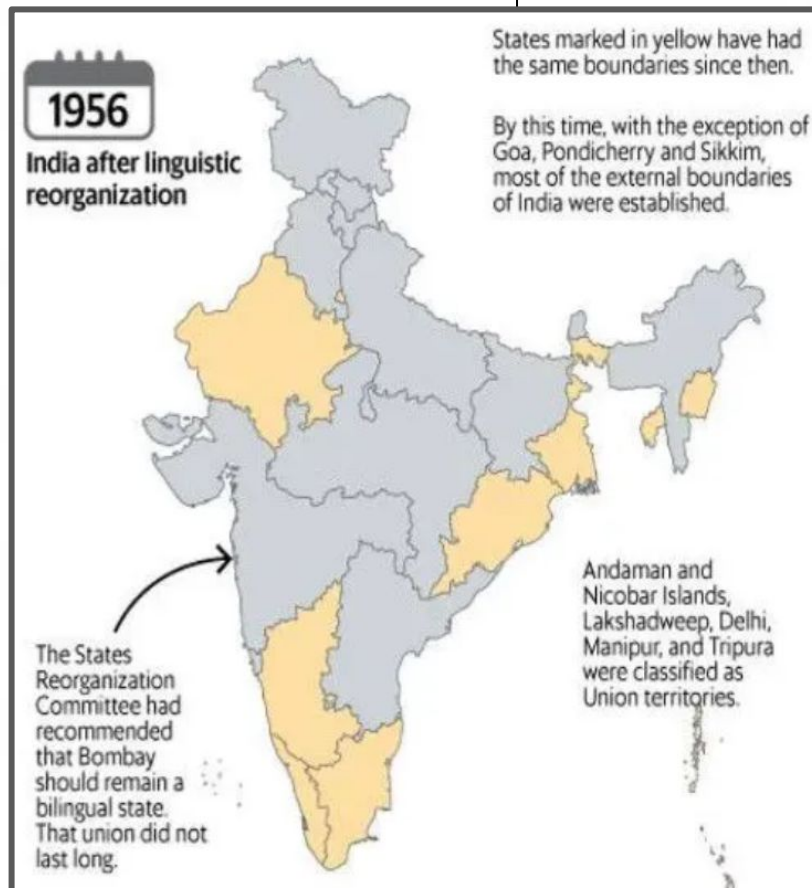
Commissions & Acts

- Dhar '48
 - 2 new Provinces: Assam, NEFA
 - Not Linguistic
 - Factors: geographical continuity, financial self-sufficiency, administrative convenience, future development capacity
 - Safeguarding tribal rights
- JVP '48
 - Factors: Security, Unity, Eco Prosperity
 - Delay creation of new provinces
- Fazl Ali '53
 - Language as one of the basis
 - Factors: Unity & security of the nation, Linguistic & cultural homogeneity, Financial, eco, & admin considerations
 - 16 states, 3 centrally administered territories
- 7th CAA, 1956
- SRA, 1956



Linguistic States: Creation of Second Class Citizens?

CONTEXT: Statement of TN Governor



Linguistic reorganization continues right after 1956 SRC (1956-1966)

1957

Naga Hill Tuensang Area was carved out of Assam as UT



1960

Gujarat and Maharashtra were carved out of Bombay



1961

Goa joined the Indian Union and with it, European colonialism came to an end on the subcontinent

1962

Pondicherry officially became a part of the Union

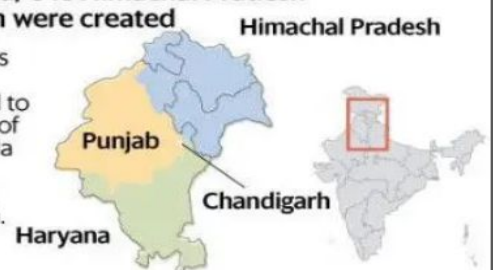
1963

Nagaland was granted statehood

1966

Punjab, Haryana, UTs Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh were created

Akali Dal's protests for linguistic reorganization led to the former states of East Punjab, Patiala and East Punjab States Union and Himachal Pradesh.



Linguistic States: Creation of Second Class Citizens?

CONTEXT: Statement of TN Governor

Fixing the North-East jigsaw (1971-1991)

1971

UT Himachal Pradesh was granted statehood

1972

Manipur and Tripura were granted statehood. Mizoram, Meghalaya and North East Frontier Agency were carved out of Assam as UTs

1975

A protectorate of India until then, Sikkim joined the Indian Union after a referendum

1987

UTs Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh became states. The state of Goa, Daman and Diu was split into two: the state of Goa and UT of Daman and Diu

1991

Delhi was deemed National Capital Territory and given a legislative assembly, with power jointly shared with the central government

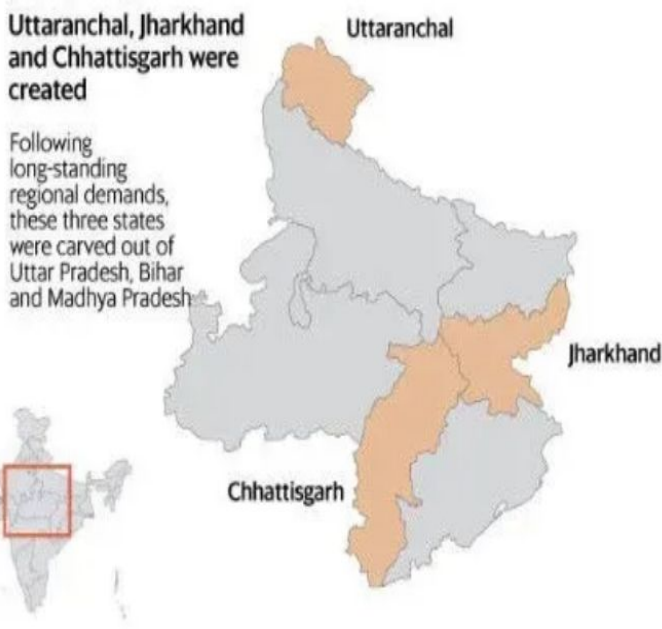


Old faultlines make a return in new millennium (2000-Present)

2000

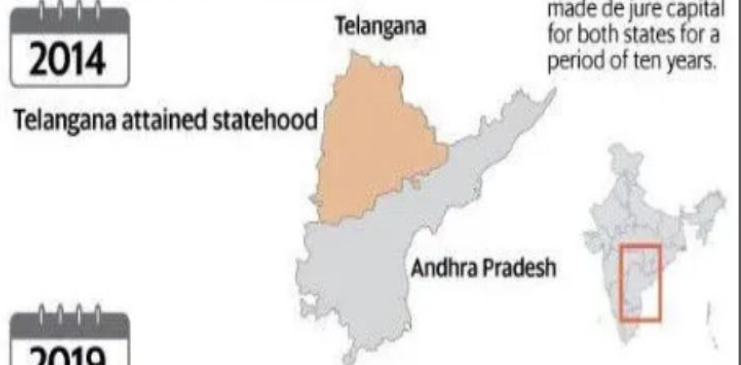
Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh were created

Following long-standing regional demands, these three states were carved out of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh



2014

Telangana attained statehood



2019

The splitting of Jammu and Kashmir

This is the first time a state is being split into two UTs.



Linguistic States: Creation of Second Class Citizens?



CONTEXT: Statement of TN Governor

Benefits of Linguistic Reorganization

- Preservation and Growth of Regional Culture
- Enhanced Citizen-Government Communication
- Strengthened State-Level Governance
- Increased Grassroots Political Engagement
- Reduction in Language-Based Marginalization
- Minimization of Border Disputes
- Efficient and Streamlined Administration
- Improved Education Through Mother Tongue Instruction
- Greater Inclusivity in Political Leadership
- Facilitation of Inter-State Dialogue

Challenges

- Emergence of Exclusionary Regional Identities
- Politicization of Language for Divisive Agendas
- Disparities in Regional Development and Access
- Challenges to National Cohesion and Unity
- Marginalization of Smaller Language Communities
- Tension Between Regional and National Priorities
- Cross-Border Conflicts Fueled by Linguistic Differences

Opinions

1. **B.R. Ambedkar:**
 - Supported
 - Official language of every province
 - "One state. One language" but not "One language. One state"
2. **K.M. Munshi:**
 - Opposed
3. **Jawaharlal Nehru:**
 - Recognized the dangers of linguistic chauvinism, communalism
 - Congress' earlier endorsement

He said: "Within a decade of our Independence, there had to be a linguistic reorganisation of Bharat and this happened following violent protests in many parts of the country... people had started refusing to live with each other. When we created linguistic states, a large population became second-class citizens..."

He said, "In my own state Tamil Nadu... people of different languages... they all live together but the moment it became a linguistic state, one third of the population became a second-class citizen. It happened in other parts also."

He said, "They created a homeland for Mizos, another for Garo and Khasi in Meghalaya, and even within Assam, there are more than 20 ethnicity-based homelands created under statutory provisions. You kept creating homelands for ethnic groups and within them, there are sub-groups which started fighting. It was like a nuclear reaction... Society started breaking and from a peaceful region, it turned into more than 50 armed organisations."

MAINS PRACTISE QUESTION

To what extent has the linguistic reorganisation of Indian states strengthened the federal structure and promoted regional identity, while posing challenges to national integration? Analyse.

PYQs

2022

- The political and administrative reorganisation of states and territories has been a continuous ongoing process since the mid-nineteenth century. Discuss with examples.

2016

- Has the formation of linguistic states strengthened the cause of Indian unity?



CONTEXT: Inspite of mounting threats, India is the epicentre of inspiring efforts to protect & revive mangrove ecosystems.

Mangroves

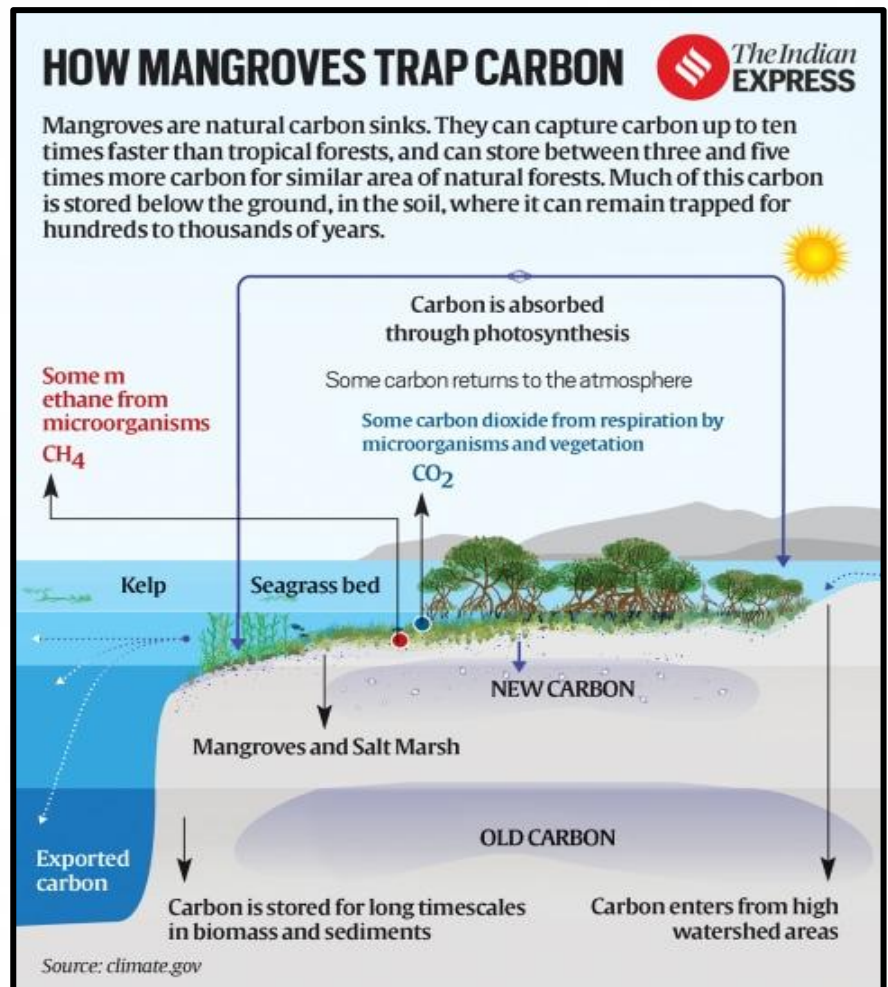
- Salt-tolerant trees and shrubs
- Littoral forest ecosystem
- Vivipary
- Aerial, breathing roots
- Waxy, succulent leaves
- High-rainfall (1,000–3,000 mm), 26°C to 35°C
- IUCN: 50% at risk of collapse by 2050

Significance

- Climate related benefits
 - Coastal Shield
 - Carbon Sequestration
 - Flood control
- Biodiversity Conservation
 - Habitat
 - Biodiversity Hotspot
- Economic
 - Livelihood support
 - Forest products
- Strategic & Cultural
 - National security buffer
 - Heritage & Traditions

Challenges

- Rising Sea Levels
- Anthropogenic Environmental Stress
- Industrial Pollution
- Frequent Cyclones: Amphan (2020), Mocha (2023)
- Resource Overexploitation
- Nitrogen Imbalance - N/Ph ratio



Initiatives

- ISFR 2023
- Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes
 - financial assistance
 - awareness campaigns
- SAIME initiative
- Magical Mangroves campaign: WWF India
- National Coastal Mission Programme on 'Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs'
- CRZ Notification, 2019
 - ESAs
 - 50 m buffer zone
 - Compensatory plantation
- Technological Innovations
 - Remote Sensing, GIS, real-time monitoring systems



Mangroves & Coastal Security



CONTEXT: In spite of mounting threats, India is the epicentre of inspiring efforts to protect & revive mangrove ecosystems.

Under the **Green Tamil Nadu Mission and other coastal restoration programmes**, the districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, and Cuddalore, among others, have significantly expanded mangrove cover. As a result, **Tamil Nadu nearly doubled its mangrove extent – from 4,500 hectares to more than 9,000**

Nadu is the **restoration of a green belt of mangroves near Buckingham Canal in Kazhipattur in Chennai. Under the Green Tamil Nadu Mission, the Forest Department planted 12,500 mangrove seedlings from five species in 2024 with the help of scientific experts. The restoration involved removing invasive *Prosopis juliflora* weeds before planting the mangroves, with the goal of restoring Chennai's natural shield against cyclones and storm surges.**

Conservation in Mumbai

In early 2025, **Amazon's Right Now Climate Fund** partnered with **Hasten Regeneration** and the **Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation** to launch a \$1.2 million (₹10.3 crore as of July 24, 2025)

The project combined ecological restoration with urban cleanup: biodegradable barriers called trash booms were installed to intercept plastic pollution, targeting the collection of at least 150 tonnes of plastic over three years. Simultaneously, the initiative has planned to plant about 3.75 lakh mangrove saplings, creating new habitat for flamingos and empowering local communities, especially women, by providing paid employment in planting and maintenance activities.

Gujarat's success

Gujarat has become a national leader in mangrove restoration **under the Indian government's Mangrove Initiative for**

The goal of this effort is **to rebuild coastal resilience across the Kutch and coastal Saurashtra regions, supporting biodiversity and local livelihoods alike, promoting ecotourism, and contributing to the nation's blue carbon goals.**

Gujarat is already home to 23.6% of India's mangrove cover and currently an

MAINS PRACTISE QUESTION

Mangroves are vital to India's coastal ecology and climate resilience. Discuss the ecological and socio-economic significance of mangroves in India and the initiatives taken by the government for their conservation.

PYQ 2019

- *Discuss the causes of depletion of mangroves and explain their importance in maintaining coastal ecology.*



Dilution of RTI



SYLLABUS : GS Paper 2: Important Aspects of Governance, Transparency and Accountability GS Paper 4: Information Sharing and Transparency in Government, Right to Information **Newspaper** The Hindu **Page Number** : 14

Provisions

- Section 2(h): Public authorities
- Section 4 1(b): Proactively disclose information
- Section 6: Procedure for securing information
- Section 7: Time limit for providing information(s) by PIOs
- Section 8: Exempted from disclosure
- Section 19: 2 tier mechanism for appeal
- Section 20: Penalties if delay, incorrect, incomplete or misleading or distorted information
- Section 23: Lower courts barred

Issues with RTI

- Rejection rate
 - CIC annual report 40%
 - RBI VS Jayantilal Mistry (2015) – public authorities evade access to rightful info
- Pendency – 30k in CIC (8,000 of that >1 year)
- Non appointments of ICs- only 4 out of 10 are appointed
- Killing of RTI activist – CHRI

THEN AND NOW

TERM

2005 ACT: Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and Information Commissioners (ICs) at central and state levels will serve for five years.

2019 BILL: Central government will notify the term of office.

SALARY

2005 ACT: At central level, salary of CIC and ICs equivalent to salary of Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners, respectively. At state level, equivalent to salary of Election Commissioners and Chief Secretary, respectively.

2019 BILL: Salaries, allowances, and other terms and conditions of service of central and state CIC and ICs will be determined by the central

government.

DEDUCTIONS

2005 ACT: At the time of appointment, if CIC and ICs (at central and state levels) are receiving pension or any other retirement benefits for previous government service, their salaries will be reduced by an amount equal to that pension. Previous government service includes service under: (i) the central government, (ii) state government, (iii) corporation established under a central or state law, and (iv) company owned or controlled by the central or state government.

2019 BILL: The Bill removes these provisions.

Source: PRS Legislative Research



Dilution of RTI



SYLLABUS : GS Paper 2: Important Aspects of Governance, Transparency and Accountability GS Paper 4: Information Sharing and Transparency in Government, Right to Information **Newspaper** The Hindu **Page Number** : 14

Issues with RTI

- Section 8- exemption like national security, sovereignty, foreign relations
- Inadequate training to PIO - CHRI- 45% do not receive training
- Dilution - RTI amendment act 2019
- Official Secrets Act
- Misuse
 - SC in CBSE case (2011) - situation should not be such that 75% of public servants and majority of their time be devoted to rti
 - 2019- CJI - growing of 'RTI industry', RTI activism as profession + issues of blackmail and extortion - need of review - possible inclusion of locus standi
- Girish Deshpande case - prove public interest
- NGOs under RTI - DAV college case (2019)- Substantial financing does not mean over 5%
- RTI vs Privacy - Electoral bonds

Suggestions

- 2nd ARC
 - Repeal OSA - substitute by chapter under NSA
 - Selection committee - PM + LoO + CJI
 - Protect whistle-blower
 - All govt official - 1 day training on RTI
- Redressal mechanism
 - Delhi govt 1997- public grievance commission
- Application to Judiciary
- Application to Political Parties
- 2019 - CJI - guidelines and inclusion of locus standi to filter out frivolous complaints
- Information in vernacular
- Education about rights
- Autonomy of ICs



Capacity of Legal Aid Systems



SYLLABUS :GS Paper 2: Welfare Schemes for Vulnerable Sections of the population by the Centre and States and the Performance of these Schemes; Mechanisms, Laws, Institutions and Bodies constituted for the Protection and Betterment of these Vulnerable Sections **Newspaper** The Hindu **Page Number** : 09

Background

- legal advice, representation in proceedings, mediation, negotiation, ADR mechanisms
- **Constitutional provisions**
 - Article 21
 - Article 39-A
- **Statutory provisions**
 - Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987
 - Section 341 of the Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023
- **Significance**
 - Social welfare and justice
 - Protection of rights
 - Rule of law
 - Legal awareness
- **Issues**
 - Awareness in undertrials
 - Quality of aid
 - Funding & Resources
 - Delays
 - Barriers: geographical, language

Govt Initiatives

- Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice in India Scheme
- Tele-law
- Nyaya Bandhu (Pro Bono Legal Services) programme
- Nyaya Mitra
- Lok Adalat

Judgements

- M.H. Hoskot vs. State of Maharashtra
 - Right to free legal assistance for prisoners u/A21
- Hussainara Khatoon v. State of Bihar
- Khatri & Ors. v. State of Bihar
 - Importance of legal aid in protecting rights of prisoners
- SC directions, 2024
 - Strengthen LSAs
 - Periodic review of Prisoner Legal Aid Clinics
 - Legal Aid Defence Counsels Audit
 - Periodic reporting to higher tier

Scope & Reach

- Mandated to serve 80% population
- Only 15.5 lakh aided in 2023-24
- Services available at courts, prisons, JJBs
- 1 legal clinic per 163 villages (India Justice Report 2025)

Budget Allocation & Spending

- <1% of total justice budget
- Total allocation doubled (₹601cr to ₹1,086cr, 2017-18 to 2022-23)
- State contributions rose (₹394cr to ₹866cr)
- NALSA funding declined (₹207cr to ₹169cr)
- Per capita spending doubled (₹3 to ₹7 since 2019) – Wide disparities: Haryana (₹16) vs West Bengal (₹2)

Workforce Challenges

- Para-legal volunteers declined 38% (5.7 to 3.1 per lakh population)
- Low deployment: Only 14,000 of 53,000 trained in 2023-24
- Poor compensation: Most states pay ₹250-500/day (Kerala highest at ₹750)

Systemic Challenges

- Inconsistent service quality
- Lack of accountability mechanisms
- Low public trust
- Resource constraints affecting effectiveness

New Initiative

- Legal Aid Defence Counsel (LADC) scheme since 2022
- Operational in 610/670 districts
- Initial ₹200cr allocation (fully utilized), reduced to ₹147.9cr in 2024-25

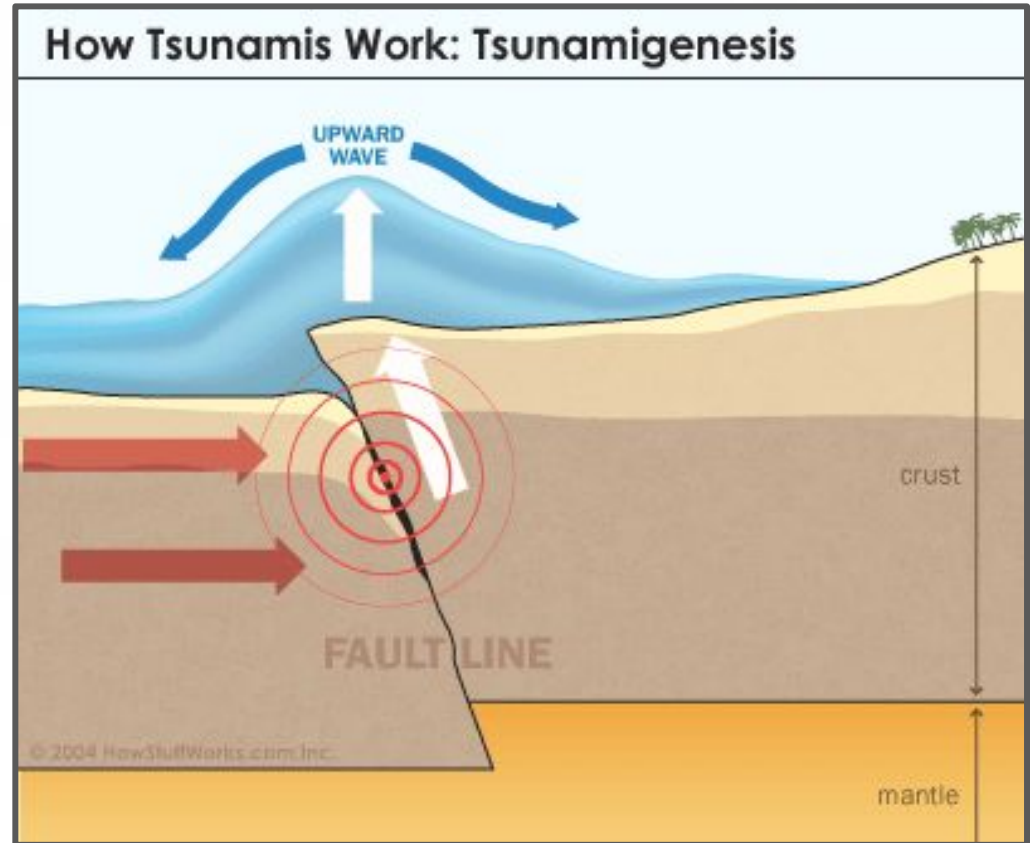


SYLLABUS :GS Paper 1: Important Geophysical Phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity

Newspaper The Hindu **Page Number** : 16

Causes

- Earthquakes
- Submarine landslides
- Volcanic eruptions



How a tsunami occurs

- 1 An earthquake rocks the ocean floor
- 2 Displaces volume of water, pushing it up
- 3 Sets off an oscillation, which develops underwater at great speed
- 4 Sea water is sucked back from the shore

Waves get bigger as water gets shallower

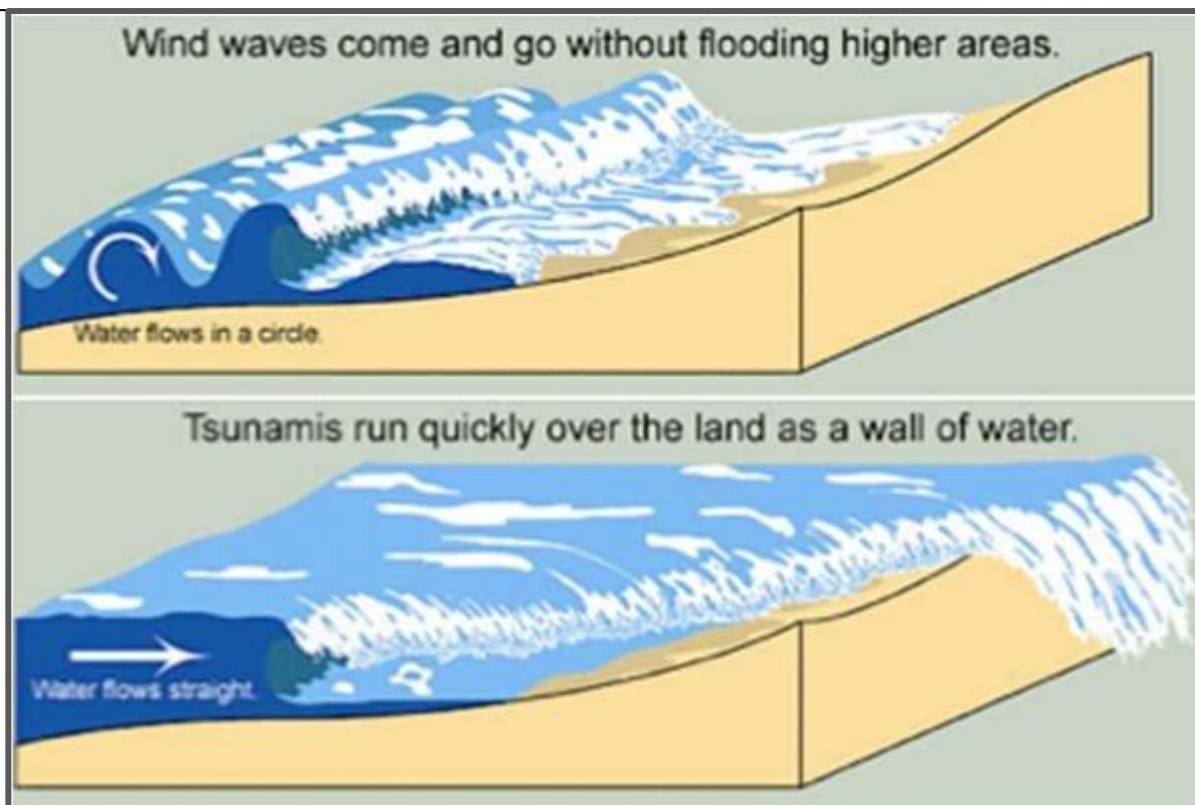
Sources: Nature/USGS

AFP



Tsunami

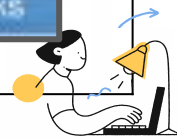
SYLLABUS :GS Paper 1: Important Geophysical Phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity **Newspaper** The Hindu **Page Number : 16**



Typical Tsunami Wave vs. Typical Wave

WAVE FEATURE	WIND-GENERATED WAVE	TSUNAMI WAVE
Wave Speed	5-60 miles per hour (8-100 kilometers per hour)	500-600 miles per hour (800-965 kilometers per hour)
Wave Period	5 to 20 seconds apart	10 minutes to 2 hours apart
Wavelength	300-600 feet apart (100-200 meters apart)	60-300 miles apart (100-500 kilometers apart)

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Appointment of DGPs: Police Reforms



SYLLABUS : GS Paper 2: Governance
Newspaper The Hindu Page Number : 12

Background

Prakash Singh vs. Union of India

- State Security Commission - no unwarranted interference + evaluate performance
- DGP - 2 years, merit-based and transparent process
- POs on operational duty (SP, SHOs) - 2 years
- Separate prosecution, investigation, law and order, and other functions
- Police Establishment Board - below DSP transfers, postings, promotions
- Police Complaints Authority
- National Security Commission - select Chiefs of Central Police Organisations (CPOs) - 2 years

The Union government has notified a single-window system for appointing Directors-General of Police or the heads of the police force of the States.

The new policy, effective from April 22, comes against the backdrop of several States not following the Supreme Court orders in the Prakash Singh case and the guidelines of the Union Home Ministry.

The single-window system comprises a detailed check list and standard easy-to-use formats for the States to send proposals, facilitating smooth and expeditious empanelment by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), pol-

The Supreme Court guidelines and the consequent Ministry circulars made it clear that an officer considered for appointment should have a minimum residual service of six months from the date of occurrence of vacancy.

The States should send proposals to the UPSC at least three months before the vacancy arises or the date of superannuation of the incumbent.

T.N. yet to send list

In Tamil Nadu, though the vacancy for the post arises on August 30, 2025, when



NISAR's two eyes on Earth

SYLLABUS : GS Paper 3: Science and Technology- Developments and their Applications **Newspaper : The Indian Express Page No : 19**

What are SARs?

Radars, large dish-shaped antennas, send out signals in the non-visible spectrum of electromagnetic waves, typically microwaves or radio waves, and collect the signals that bounce back from objects.

The returning signals are analysed to obtain information such as the distance of the object from the radar, its velocity (if it is moving), composition, and texture. Larger antennas are usually able to collect more information.

A SAR is a special kind of imaging radar that is deployed in space where large dish-like radars cannot be sent. SARs use sophisticated technologies and algorithms to mimic the power and resolution of large ground-based radars.

What is the significance of ISRO partnering with NASA on NISAR?

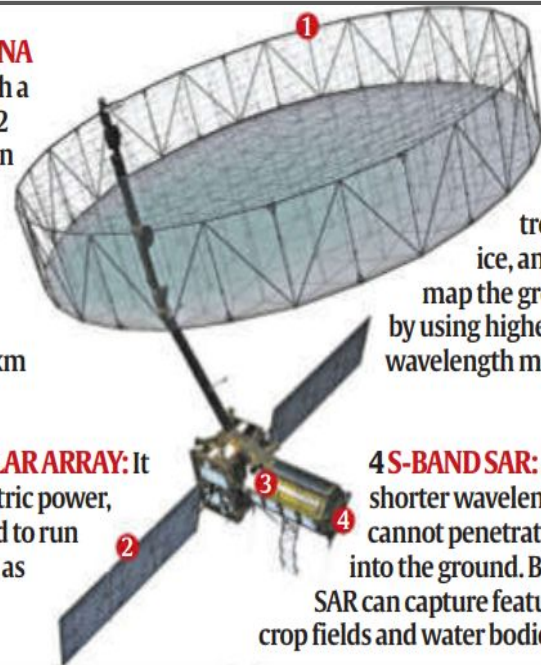
Developing and installing SARs on NISAR involved significant costs. That is why a collaboration between two space agencies made sense.

The L-band SAR, the 12-metre antenna, and many other components and systems, including GPS control, have come from NASA. ISRO has contributed the S-band SAR, the rocket, the spacecraft and its sub-systems, and will carry out the launch.

1 RADAR ANTENNA REFLECTOR:

With a diameter of just 12 m, the antenna can produce images whose resolution is comparable to those taken by ground-based antenna with 20 km diameter.

2 DEPLOYED SOLAR ARRAY: It will generate electric power, which will be used to run instruments such as the two synthetic aperture radars.



3 L-BAND SAR:

It can penetrate through tree cover, ice, and sand to map the ground below by using higher wavelength microwaves.

4 S-BAND SAR: As it uses shorter wavelength, it cannot penetrate very deep into the ground. But S-band SAR can capture features such as crop fields and water bodies.

The idea for a NISAR-like mission emerged in 2007 after a committee in the US recommended a space mission to study changes in land, ice, or vegetation cover. The mission aimed to carry out surface deformation monitoring to facilitate studies of earthquakes, landslides and volcanoes, and make observations that would help studies of climate change, the global carbon cycle, and changes in vegetation, biomass, and ice cover.

partnership on space. India has signed on to the Artemis Accords, a US-led partnership on space exploration that is closely linked to NASA's Artemis program to return humans to the Moon. NASA and ISRO have also worked out a strategic framework for human space-flight cooperation. One of the first outcomes was the participation of Shubhansu Shukla in the NASA-facilitated Axiom-4 private mission to the International Space Station.



Q1. Consider the following Commissions/Committees regarding the state reorganisation in India:

1. Dhar Commission (1948) recommended linguistic reorganisation of states.
2. JVP Committee (1948) advocated delaying linguistic provinces for the sake of national security and unity.
3. Fazl Ali Commission (1953) recognised language as one of the factors for state reorganisation.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding Mangrove forests:

1. They exhibit vivipary—a reproductive trait where seeds germinate on the tree itself.
2. They are found in low-rainfall regions with dry soil and low humidity.
3. They possess aerial roots that help in respiration.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: c

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Legal Aid in India:

1. Article 21 of the Constitution implicitly supports the right to free legal aid.
2. Article 39A explicitly directs the State to promote equal justice and provide free legal aid.
3. The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, provides for the establishment of legal aid institutions at the national and state levels.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: c

Q4. Consider the following pairs regarding the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005:

Sections RTI Act	Description
1. Section 2(h)	Defines “public authority”
2. Section 4(1)(b)	Mandates the suo motu disclosure of information by public authorities
3. Section 6	Allows any person to request information without giving reasons
4. Section 8	Specifies penalties for delay or refusal in providing information

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer: d

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR):

1. SAR is an active remote sensing technology that transmits microwave pulses and records echoes to create images.
2. SAR can capture data even in cloudy or dark conditions as it uses non-visible electromagnetic waves.

Which of the statements given above is/are NOT correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c





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