



**VAJIRAM & RAVI**  
Institute for IAS Examination

# The Analyst

**CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout**

**21st August 2025**



# Constitution (130th) Amendment Bill to remove Ministers



**CONTEXT:** Government brings bills to sack arrested ministers.

Amendment of  
article 75

2. In article 75 of the Constitution, after clause (5), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(5A) A Minister, who for any period of thirty consecutive days during holding the office as such, is arrested and detained in custody, on allegation of committing an offence under any law for the time being in force, which is punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or more, shall be removed from his office by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister to be tendered by the thirty-first day, after being taken in such custody:

Provided that if the advice of the Prime Minister, for the removal of such Minister is not tendered to the President by the thirty-first day, he shall cease to be a Minister, with effect from the day falling thereafter:

Provided further that in case of the Prime Minister, who for any period of thirty consecutive days during holding the office as such, is arrested and detained in custody, on allegation of committing an offence under any law for the time being in force, which is punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or more, shall tender his resignation by the thirty-first day after such arrest and detention, and if he does not tender his resignation, he shall cease to be the Prime Minister with effect from the day falling thereafter:

Provided also that nothing in this clause shall prevent such Prime Minister or Minister from being subsequently appointed as the Prime Minister or a Minister, by the President, on his release from custody, as per clause (1).”.

Amendment of  
article 164

3. In article 164 of the Constitution, after clause (4), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The elected representatives represent hopes and aspirations of the people of India. It is expected that they rise above political interests and act only in the public interest and for the welfare of people.

2. It is expected that the character and conduct of Ministers holding the office should be beyond any ray of suspicion.

3. A Minister, who is facing allegation of serious criminal offences, arrested and detained in custody, may thwart or hinder the canons of constitutional morality and principles of good governance and eventually diminish the constitutional trust reposed by people in him.

4. There is however, no provision under the Constitution for removal of a Minister who is arrested and detained in custody on account of serious criminal charges.



# Constitution (130th) Amendment Bill to remove Ministers



**CONTEXT:** Government brings bills to sack arrested ministers.

## Arguments in Favor:

- Right of a citizen
- Constitutional obligation on the part of PM/CM
- Doctrine of Implied Limitation
  - Language of Article 75 (1)
  - Not explicit but Implied limitations
- Doctrine of Good Governance
- Salus Populi Suprema Lex
- Law Commission Report on Electoral Disqualification
  - Disqualification at the stage of framing of charges
  - Prima facie judicial satisfaction
  - Filing of false affidavits
- Deterrence
- Nepotism & Dynastic Politics
- International Precedents
- Moral Authority to govern
- Data on disqualification

## Arguments against:

- No Presumption of innocence
- Principle of Natural Justice
- Will of the people
- Probable Weaponization of Investigative Agencies
- Violates Due Process
- Low Conviction Rates
- Threat to Federalism
- Lacks Safeguards Against Misuse
- Contradicts Supreme Court Precedent
- Ignores Judicial Discretion
- Diverts from Real Issues

## Cleansing Politics:

### Judicial Contributions:

- UoI vs. ADR, 2002
  - Voters' Right to be informed
- PUCL vs. UoI, 2004
  - Section 33B of RPA

- K. Prabhakaran v P. Jayarajan
  - Section 8(3) of RPA application
  - Intent behind disqualification provisions
- Lily Thomas v Union of India, 2013
  - Immediate disqualification if convicted
  - Section 8(4) of RPA unconstitutional
- Manoj Narula v Union of India, 2014
  - Can't read a disqualification into Article 75(1)
  - Legitimate expectation from PM
- Public Interest Foundation v UOI, 2018
  - Cannot disqualify candidates, against whom criminal charges framed
- Rambabu Singh Thakur v Sunil Arora, 2020
  - Details regarding pending criminal cases
- V. Senthil Balaji case, 2025
  - "Freedom or post"
- Arvind Kejriwal case, 2024
  - Bar from signing official docs

## **MAINS PRACTISE QUESTION:**

***Discuss the changes proposed by the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025. Give arguments both in favor of and against the amendment, and refer to relevant judicial decisions on criminalization of politics and disqualification of legislators.***



**CONTEXT:** Beoncy Laishram case

## Transgender Rights :

- 2011 census
- **Constitutional Provisions**
  - a. Article 14
  - b. Article 15
  - c. Article 19(1)(a)
  - d. Article 21
- **Judicial Interventions**
  - a. **Naz foundation v NCT of Delhi 2009:** Section 377 offended Article 14
  - b. **NALSA v UoI, 2014:** Right of all persons to self-identify their gender. recognize third gender as SEBC & provide reservations
  - c. **Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India (2018):** Section 377 infringed on the fundamental rights of autonomy, intimacy, and identity.

## Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019:

- **Definition**
- **Prohibits discrimination** in employment, education etc.
- **Allows self-perception of gender identity** - But certificate of identity issued by DM.
- **Criminalises begging.**
- **Prescribed offences along with the penalties.**
- **National Council for Transgender Persons** - MoSJ&E as Chairperson.  
**Functions:**
  - Advise on policies, legislation
  - Monitor and evaluate the impact.
  - Redress grievances

## Critic:

- Spirit of NALSA Judgment - self determination, reservation
- Livelihood alternative?
- Silent on Civil Rights - marriage, adoption, succession
- Focus more on Transwomen - intersex, gender queer?
- Punishment inequality

## Other Govt Initiatives:

- **National Portal for Transgender Persons** - ID
- **Garima Greh** - shelter, food, medical care, recreational, capacity-building/skill development
- **Kerala transgender policy.** Samanwaya - Education programme, reserve 2 seats
- **Odisha Sweekruti Scheme** - umbrella scheme, enabling environment to ensure equal opportunities, equity
- **Smile Scheme:** MoSJ& E
  - welfare and rehabilitation to beggars
  - scholarships, Skill Development and Livelihood under the PM-DAKSH scheme.

## Issues:

- **Discrimination**
- **High dropout rate in schools**
- **Exploitation, and exclusion**
- **Lack of awareness:** about welfare schemes and their rights
- **Lack of sensitivity**
- **High Poverty:** compelled to engage in prostitution, begging
- **Homosexuality a criminal offence:** in 70 countries
- **Isolation and Drug Abuse:** low self-confidence and self-esteem
- **Health Issues:** poor access to healthcare services. HIV



# Transgender Rights



**CONTEXT:** Beoncy Laishram case

## Suggestions:

- Sexuality/gender education
- Political participation
- Transgender Welfare Board in every state.
- Welfare schemes for "Gender Minorities" - housing
- Religious institutions to influence societal attitude
- Gender neutral Sexual harassment related laws
- Anti-Discrimination Bill

## **MAINS PRACTISE QUESTION:**

***Despite constitutional guarantees and recent legislative measures, the transgender community in India continues to face systemic discrimination and marginalization. Discuss the challenges faced by transgender persons. Suggest measures to ensure their full social, economic, and political inclusion.***



# Online Gaming Bill, 2025

**SYLLABUS : GS Paper 2: Governance**

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

- **Types of Online Games**

- E-sports
- Fantasy
- Skill based

- **Data**

- Revenue - \$3bn in FY23
- Growth - 28% CAGR from FY20 to FY23
- Numbers - India 2nd largest no. of gamers

- **State of AP vs. K Satyanarayana**

- Game of skill is not gambling

An "online money game" has been defined as a service played by a user by paying fees, depositing money or other stakes in expectation of winning which entails monetary and other enrichment in return of money or other stakes; but shall not include any e-sports. This is an expansive

**Rationale:**

- Addiction
- Lifetime savings
- Algorithms
- Undetected fraud & cheating
- Suicides
- National Security
  - Digital wallets & crypto for ML
  - Messaging for terror orgs
  - Offshore entities evading tax

national security concerns related to online gaming platforms, including the use of digital wallets and cryptocurrencies for money laundering and illicit fund transfers, these platforms serving as potential messaging and communication grounds for terror organisations, and offshore entities circumventing Indian tax and legal obligations, among others.

## Sweeping measures

The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025 prohibits offering, operation, facilitation, advertisement, promotion and participation in online money games

■ 'Real money gaming' refers to platforms such as **Dream11** and **PokerBaazi** where players risk their money for winnings

■ The industry has argued that **fantasy games** are those of 'skill' and cannot be regulated by States as **gambling**

■ The Bill makes the distinction between games of chance and skill irrelevant, as it seeks to **ban all "online money gaming"**

■ The industry says it has **annual revenues exceeding ₹31,000 crores** and that it employs over **two lakh people**

## PUNISHMENTS

■ The Bill proposes **imprisonment up to three years and/or fine of up to ₹1 crore** for entities offering or facilitating online money gaming

■ The Bill also seeks to **prohibit advertisement related to online money games** and bars banks and financial institutions from transferring funds for any of such games

■ Advertising can attract imprisonment up to two years and/or fine up to ₹50 lakh. **Facilitating financial transactions can lead to imprisonment up to three years and/or fine up to ₹1 crore**



# Online Gaming Bill, 2025



**SYLLABUS : GS Paper 2:** Governance

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

## Concerns:

- Trade restriction
- Death blow to online gaming industry - \$9bn by 2029
- 28% GST - 15k to 20k cr Revenue Loss - Proposal to increase to 40%
- Sunrise Sector
- FDI - 25k cr by June 2022
- Jobs - 2 lacs direct & indirect

The Bill has envisioned the creation of a central authority to promote competitive e-sports, while ensuring overall compliance with the law. The Centre will recognise, categorise and register "online social games" with the authority and facilitate the development and availability of such games for recreational and educational purposes. These may

gaming Bill too allows for authorised officials to carry out search operations at physical and virtual places, even without a warrant.



# CPEC Phase 2



**SYLLABUS : GS Paper 2:** India and its Neighborhood- Relations  
**Newspaper:** *Indian Express* **Page Number:** *WORLD*

## CPEC - China's Interests

- Flagship project under BRI
- Route to IO
- Stabilizing Xinjiang
- Uyghur minority persecution
- Stronger Pakistan would advantage China over its strategic competitor, India, and by extension the United States.
- Port of Gwadar, as CPEC's jewel

## Issues with CPEC

- Funds to build new coal-fired power plants
- Plagued by stalled projects, reports of corruption, and terrorist attacks
- Increasing CAD in Pakistan, as imports of materials for the projects. BoP crisis - IMF bailout

## India's Concerns

- Sovereignty & Territorial Integrity
- Pressing Pakistan to strengthen its control over Pakistan occupied areas of Kashmir
- Control of the Gwadar, construction of the Payra port in Bangladesh
- Debt Trap Diplomacy: extracting economic or political concessions e.g. Hambantota Port
- Encirclement or 'string of pearls' strategy



# National Space Law need



**SYLLABUS : GS Paper 3:** Awareness in the fields of IT, Space  
**Newspaper:** *The Hindu* **Page Number:** 8

## What about global space legislation?

The Outer Space Treaty of 1967 establishes that space is the province of all mankind, and therefore prohibits national appropriation, and places responsibility on states for national activities in space, whether conducted by the government or private entities. Its companion agreements create binding frameworks of rights, responsibilities, and liability rules. However, these treaties are not self-executing. According to Aarti

foundational principles for all space activities: from the peaceful use of outer space to the responsibility and liability of states. National legislation is the means by which nations can give effect to these principles domestically, ensuring that

responsible way.” India has ratified the key UN space treaties but it is still in the process of enacting comprehensive national space legislation.

While space policy may signal intent, law is what creates an enforceable structure. “National space legislation offers predictability, legal clarity, and a

national space legislation includes two cardinal interdependent aspects: (i) technical regulations governing space operations in orbit by commercial entities – this is the first aspect of ‘authorisation’ process under Article VI [of the Outer Space Treaty]. The Department of Space

includes the Catalogue of Indian Standards for Space Industry, critical for ensuring the safety of space operations; the Indian Space Policy, providing details of activities that non-governmental entities are encouraged to undertake; and the IN-SPACE Norms, Guidelines and Procedures (NPG) for implementation of Indian Space Policy, 2023, in respect of authorisation of space activities.

However, the second component is still pending. According to Dr. Kaul, “(ii) the overarching regulatory framework (textual part) – this is the ... ‘space activities law’ that will contain provisions of the OST that are meticulously,

“IN-SPACE, which currently operates without formal legal backing, requires clear statutory authority to strengthen its role as the central regulatory body,” Mr. Rao said. “The national space law should clearly set out licensing rules, qualifications, application processes, timelines, fees, and reasons for acceptance or denial, to avoid unnecessary delays and confusion from multiple ministry approvals.” The dual-use nature of space technologies creates particular complications, with companies facing delays from multiple ministry clearances even after provisional approvals. Clear FDI rules, such as allowing 100% FDI in satellite component manufacturing under automatic routes,



**SYLLABUS : GS Paper 3:** Awareness in the fields of IT, Space  
**Newspaper:** *The Hindu* **Page Number:** 8

## Need for a National Space Law for India:

- **Grant Statutory Authority to IN-SPACE**
- **Establish Clear Licensing Rules:** qualifications, processes, timelines, fees
- **Prevent Regulatory Delays:** multiple ministry approvals
- **Address Dual-Use Technology Complications:** Streamlines clearances
- **Attract FDI**
- **Defined Liability Frameworks:** third-party insurance for damages
- **Affordable Insurance Frameworks:** insurance accessible for startups managing high-value assets

## Need for a National Space Law for India:

- **Secure IP Rights**
- **Prevent Brain and Technology Drain**
- **Mandate Binding Safety Standards**
- **Institute Accident Investigation Procedures**
- **Enforce Space Debris Management:** sustainable practices
- **Create Unified Data Frameworks:** clear rules for space-related data and satellite communications
- **Establish an Independent Appellate Body:** Prevents conflicts of interest
- **Provide Legal Certainty:** Shields regulatory decisions from procedural challenges
- **Fulfill International Responsibilities:** Operationalizes India's commitments
- **Support Commercial Ecosystem Growth:** stable and predictable environment

to scale operations. This operational clarity extends to liability frameworks, with Mr. Rao emphasising that “while India is ultimately responsible internationally, private companies must hold proper third-party insurance to cover any damages. This includes creating affordable insurance frameworks for startups managing high-value space assets. Innovation protection remains equally crucial, “legislation should secure intellectual property rights without excessive government control, encourage partnerships among industry, academia, and government, and foster investor trust.” This balanced approach would prevent migration of talent and technologies to more IP-friendly jurisdictions. Mr. Rao also stressed the need for mandatory accident investigation procedures, enforceable space debris management laws, unified frameworks for space-related data and satellite communications, and an independent appellate body to prevent conflicts of interest. Without statutory



**SYLLABUS : GS Paper 3:** Issues related to Direct and Indirect Farm Subsidies  
**Newspaper: Indian Express Page Number: 9**

- Cumulative rainfall 2.1% above average
- **Normal Rains:** except Bihar and Northeast
- **Aggressive Farmer Planting**
  - Crop Acreage Increase: rice and maize sowing
  - Spurred Fertilizer Demand - Urea
- **Supply Shortfalls**
  - Declining Urea Imports: 101.64 lt (2021-22) to 69.10 lt (2024-25)
    - Imports from China fell to a mere 1.04 lt (2024-25)
  - Tight Global Supplies: High international prices, from \$380 to \$530 per tonne
  - Domestic production issues
    - Plant shutdowns at Kakinada and Ramagundam
    - 13-15 lt production **capacity offline**
- **Usage**
  - Paddy 3+ urea applications
  - High Nitrogen Requirement: Paddy, maize, sugarcane
  - Crop Shift Impact: pulses/soybean to cereals increases urea demand
- **Lower Fertilizer Stocks:** urea, DAP, MOP, complexes lower than last year

## **Nano Urea**

- urea in the form of a nanoparticle
- desirable particle size of about 20-50 nm and more surface area.
- produced by Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO)
- conventional urea efficiency - 25 per cent
- efficiency of liquid nano urea - 85-90 per cent.
- environment-friendly production process.
- reducing subsidy bill.
- Reduces the unbalanced and indiscriminate use of conventional urea - minimising soil, water, and air pollution
- targeted supply of nutrients to crops - sprayed directly on the leaves (foliar fertilisation) and gets absorbed

## **Urea Gold**

- fortified with Sulphur
- Developed by Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd
- Composition: 37% nitrogen and 17% Sulphur
- regular urea - 46% nitrogen
- Addresses Sulphur deficiency in Indian soils - oilseeds and pulses
- Enhancing the nitrogen use efficiency - gradual release of nitrogen - Coating of S



21st August 2025

# Taking stock of India China Ties

**SYLLABUS : GS Paper 2:** India and its Neighborhood- Relations  
**Newspaper:** Indian Express **Page Number: 14**

- First Chinese ministerial visit since October border disengagement decision

## Recent History of Ties

- 2019: Informal summit in Mahabalipuram created euphoria
- 2020: Violent Galwan clash, resulting in troop casualties
- Post-2020: Rupture in ties; massive troop buildup
- Multi-year standoff with reports of confrontations and infrastructure building
- Mid-2024: Significant progress in disengagement talks
- October 2024: Agreement to disengage in Depsang and Demchok
- EAM, NSA, Defence Min visits

## Geopolitical Catalyst: U.S. Election

- Chinese readiness for a confrontational U.S. stance
- U.S. tariffs accelerated India-China thaw
- Resumption of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and visas for Chinese nationals

## The New "Dual-Track" Strategy

- Agreement to progress on border issues and bilateral ties separately
- Formation of three new border mechanisms:
  - Expert Group for "Early Harvest" in boundary delimitation
  - Working Group for effective border management
  - New General Level Mechanisms for all sectors
- Use of existing diplomatic/military mechanisms for "border management and de-escalation"
- Agreement on a "political perspective" for the relationship and boundary settlement

## Bilateral Re-engagement Measures

- Resume direct flight connectivity
- Visas for tourists, businesses, and media
- Re-open border trade at Lipulekh, Shipki La, and Nathu La passes
- Facilitate trade and investment flows
- China to share emergency hydrological data on trans-border rivers

## Persisting Trust Deficits & Indian Concerns

- Troop presence: 50,000+ troops still stationed in eastern Ladakh
- Need time-bound de-escalation roadmap
- China's military cooperation and arms supply to Pakistan
- Mega dam on the Brahmaputra (Yarlung Tsangpo) impacting lower riparian states
- Concerns over cross-border terrorism
- Chinese export restrictions on critical items (rare earths, fertilisers)
- Onus on Beijing to assuage New Delhi's concerns



**Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Transgender people's rights in India:**

1. The Supreme Court in Naz Foundation v. NCT of Delhi held that Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code offended the provisions of Article 14 of the Constitution.
2. The Supreme Court in NALSA v. Union of India recognised the Right of all persons to self-identify their gender.
3. The Supreme Court in Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India held that Section 377 infringed on the fundamental rights of autonomy of an individual.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Q2. Consider the following statements :**

1. Only Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand & Arunachal Pradesh share a boundary with China.
2. Lipulekh pass is a Himalayan pass connecting the Uttarakhand & Tibet region.
3. Doklam plateau lies between the tri-junction of countries like Nepal, India & China.

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

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

**Answer: a**

**Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Nano-Urea:**

1. It has been produced by the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO).
2. The efficiency of Liquid Nano-Urea is three to four times higher than the conventional Urea efficiency.
3. The use of Nano-Urea can lead to minimising the soil & water pollution.

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

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

**Answer: c**

**Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Outer Space Treaty 1967:**

1. It establishes that space is the province of all mankind and therefore prohibits any kind of national appropriation of space.
2. Following the directives of the treaty, India has enacted its own comprehensive National Space Legislation.

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

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

**Answer: a**

**Q5. Regarding the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, often seen in the news, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a flagship project of China under the Belt & Road Initiative.
2. It creates rail-road network from Xinjiang province of China to the Indian Ocean.
3. India is a participant & significant contributor to the economic corridor.

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

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

**Answer: a**





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