



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

17th February, 2026

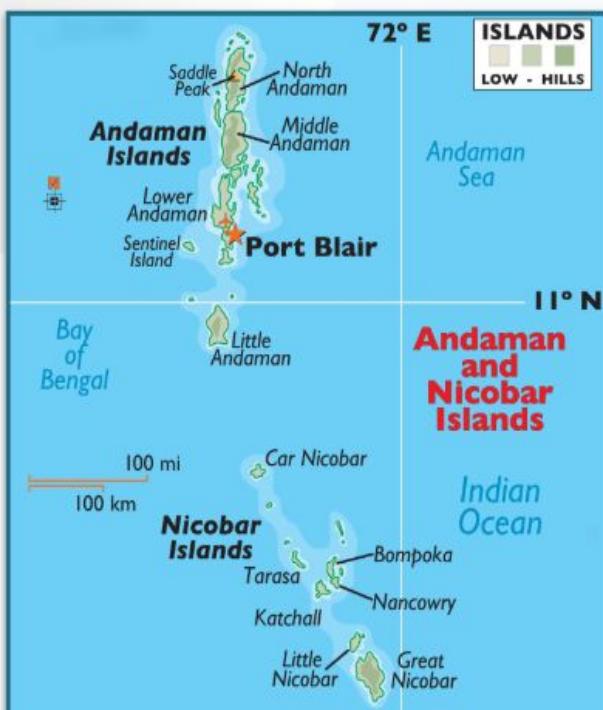


NGT clears Great Nicobar Project



CONTEXT: The National Green Tribunal cleared the Great Nicobar Project, citing its "strategic importance" and the adequacy of environmental safeguards.

Geography



Mapping related aspects

836 islands (31 inhabited)

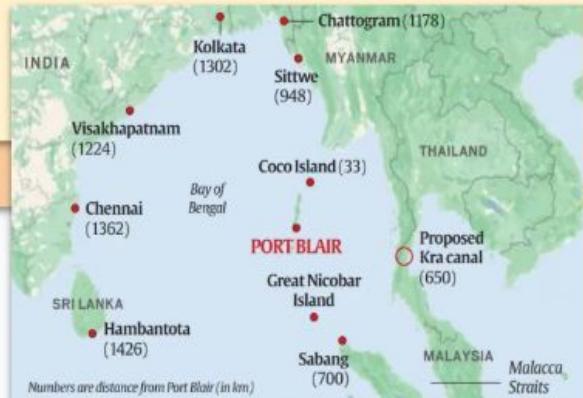
Closer to Chennai/ Kolkata?

Significance

Maritime borders (Indo, Myn, Thai)

95% is tropical rainforest

Sundaland Biodiversity Hotspot



UPSC PYQ (P) 2018

Consider the following statements:

1. The Barren Island volcano is an active volcano located in the Indian territory.
2. Barren Island lies about 140 km east of Great Nicobar.
3. The last time the Barren Island volcano erupted was in 1991 and it has remained inactive since then.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

UPSC PYQ (P) 2017

Which of the following is geographically closest to Great Nicobar?

- (a) Sumatra
- (b) Borneo
- (c) Java
- (d) Sri Lanka

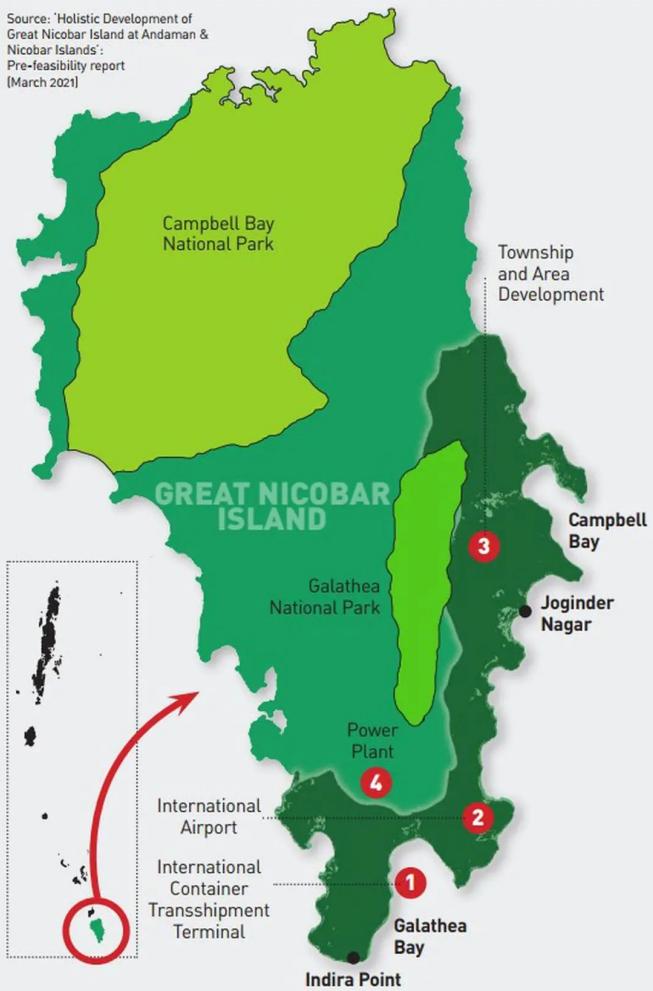


NGT clears Great Nicobar Project



CONTEXT: The National Green Tribunal cleared the Great Nicobar Project, citing its "strategic importance" and the adequacy of environmental safeguards.

Source: 'Holistic Development of Great Nicobar Island at Andaman & Nicobar Islands: Pre-feasibility report (March 2021)



TheWire.in

NGT Greenlights Infra Projects on Great Nicobar, Cites National Importance, Need For Balanced Approach

All safeguards set up by the Union environment ministry are in place to protect the island's biodiversity and people, the NGT said, adding that there were...

Strategic importance
EC granted in Nov 2022

Idea first floated in the 1970s

Malacca, Sunda, and Lombok

Chinese military facility at Coco Islands (Myanmar)

Act East Policy

Chance of big oil discovery

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT ?

- Provides India leverage over the energy security of south Asia.
- Allows forward deployment of forces to protect Indian coastline.
- Checks arms and drugs from reaching Indian shores.



The Great Nicobar Infrastructure Project

Implementing Agency: A&NI Integrated Development Corporation

Estimated Cost: Escalated from ₹72,000 Cr to ₹92,000 Cr (2026)

Mega Project: Blueprint

Transhipment Port

Located at Galathea Bay.
AIM: Rival Colombo/Hong Kong, Singapore

Int'l Airport
Dual-use (Civilian + Defence)

Power Plant
Gas/Solar based (originally: coal)

Township

To house ~3.5 lakh people
Current population: ~8,000

As many as 114 supertankers carrying 9.5 billion oil barrels for south Asian markets traverse this route. With 52 per cent of world cargo at stake, the straits are a happy hunting ground for pirates.



NGT clears Great Nicobar Project



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The "Axes of Concern" 🚨

1. Indigenous Rights & Ethics 🌱

- **PVTG Displacement**
- **Forest Rights Act, 2006**
 - Administration: 'tribal consent obtained'
 - Tribal Council, revoked "No Objection"

2004: The islands were devastated by a 10-metre-high tsunami following an earthquake. The tribals escaped and later claimed they were forewarned by ancestors



UPSC PYQ (P) 2019

Consider the following statements about **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India**

1. PVTGs reside in 18 States and one Union Territory.
2. A stagnant or declining population is one of the criteria for determining PVTG status.
3. There are 95 PVTGs officially notified in the country so far.
4. Irular and Konda Reddi tribes are included in the list of PVTGs.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a. 1, 2 and 3 c. 1, 2 and 4
b. 2, 3 and 4 d. 1, 3 and 4

2003: CCMB came out with its first report identifying Andaman tribes as the most ancient people of India and dating their arrival to over 65,000 years ago

The "Axes of Concern" 🚨

2. Ecological Devastation 🌱

- **Rainforest Loss** (130 sq km/ ~1 million trees)
- **Turtle Nesting**
 - Administration: 'tribal consent obtained'
 - Tribal Council, revoked "No Objection"
- **Endemic Species**
 - **Nicobar Megapode**
 - **Nicobar long-tailed macaque**
 - **Robber Crab**
- **New Discoveries**

THE HINDU

Proposed Great Nicobar Island port threatening the survival of largest turtles on Earth

An approved international container port at Great Nicobar Island may prevent leatherback turtles from reaching their nesting sites.

23 May 2023



TOP: The Times of India

World's new wolf snake species discovered on Great Nicobar Island in a major scientific breakthrough

Scientists have unveiled Lycodon irwini, a new species of wolf snake discovered in Great Nicobar Island's dense forests. This exceptionally...

25 Nov 2025



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The "Axes of Concern"

3. Economic Viability

- **Questionable Traffic**
- **Cost Overrun**
 - 2x mainland costs
 - Budget has already jumped 20% in 4 years
- **Debt Trap**
 - Port rev < Interest
 - Viability Gap Funding
 - Public expense
- **Procedural Irregularities**
 - Rushed Clearances
 - CRZ-1A => CRZ-1B

57 ha: Port area.
60 ha: Airport area.
81 ha: Defence township.
503 ha: Other township areas.

4. Geo & Disaster Risks

- "Ring of Fire" 2004 Tsunami, Myanmar (March 2025)

Post-NGT Verdict Trajectory



Article 136 (SLP)

1. HPC & EC
2. ICRZ
3. FRA, 2006

Phase-Gate Model

Shompen Policy (2015)

Island Carrying Capacity Framework (NITI)

Eco-Watchdog Committee

Zone V seismic standards

Way ahead

NGT ordered "strict compliance"

1. Compensatory Afforestation
2. Coral Translocation
3. Turtle Conservation Plan

Article 136 (SLP)

1. HPC & EC
2. ICRZ
3. FRA, 2006

NGT clears Great Nicobar Project



CONTEXT: The National Green Tribunal cleared the Great Nicobar Project, citing its "strategic importance" and the adequacy of environmental safeguards.

Mains Practise Question

The Great Nicobar project will define not just one island's fate, but the nation's moral standing and environmental future.

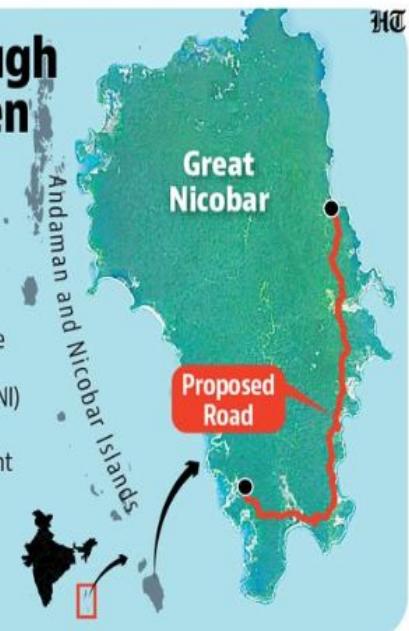
(15 Marks, 250 words)

Road through green haven

80.0302

hectares of private land proposed to be acquired

- The Trunk Infrastructure Road will cut through Great Nicobar Island (GNI)
- According to the draft social impact assessment report, there was no alternative location
- Anthropologists have cautioned against the project



Need for balanced Federalism



CONTEXT: India's Constitution created a federal system with a centralising bias with need for calibrating Centre-State balance.



What is Federalism?

Federalism

Power divided between two levels of government

- National (Union/Centre)
- Regional (States)

Both have:

- ✓ Defined powers
- ✓ Independent authority in their sphere
- ✓ Constitutional protection

1935-1950 Historical Context

Government of India Act, 1935

Partition: 14 prov, 500+ princely

Model

Example

Bias

Unitary

UK, France

100% Centre

Classical

USA

State-strong

Quasi (K.C. Wheare)

India (Art-1)

Centre-strong

Cooperative + Competitive

Germany; **Modern India**

Market-driven

Founding fathers' fear: Centrifugal forces



UPSC PYQ (P) 2021

Which one of the following in Indian polity is an essential feature that indicates that it is federal in character?

- The independence of judiciary is safeguarded
- The Union Legislature has elected representatives from constituent units
- The Union Cabinet can have elected representatives from regional parties
- The Fundamental Rights are enforceable by Courts of Law

UPSC PYQ (P) 2017

Which one of the following is not a feature of Indian federalism?

- There is an independent judiciary in India
- Powers have been clearly divided between the Centre and the States
- The federating units have been given unequal representation in the Rajya Sabha
- It is the result of an agreement among the federating units



Need for balanced Federalism



CONTEXT: India's Constitution created a federal system with a centralising bias with need for calibrating Centre-State balance.

The Trajectory: How We Got Here

Phase 1: Necessary Centralisation (1950s-1960s)

- Fragility of new nation
- Migrations and communal violence
- Poor social indicators

Phase 3: Coalition Era Balance (1989-2014)

- Coalition governments
- Regional parties = kingmakers
 - Federal bargaining
- Sarkaria (1988), Punchhi (2010)

Phase 2: Dominance Consolidation (1970s-1980s)

- Single-party dominance
- "High command culture"
- Article 356 abuse 90+ times
- **Emergency** (1975-77)

Phase 4: Renewed Centralisation

- **Single-party majority** returns
- **Constitutional** amendments
- **Centralised scheme** expansion
- **Governor's** role controversy
- **Language** policy
- **Finance Commission** devolution



Specific Manifestations: How Centralisation Operates

Mechanisms of Centralisation

Cases

Concurrent List Expansion

Education, forests, wildlife, economic planning

Subordinate Legislation

Union law; **bureaucratic notifications**

Finance Commission Bypass

Health-education cess, surcharges, **Conditional Transfers**

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

JJM, Ayushman Bharat, PM Awas Yojana, etc

Governor's Discretion

Multiple **bills reserved/delayed** post-2014

Article 356 Threat

"breakdown of constitutional machinery"

Goods and Services Tax

GST Council, Compensation cess, Revenue volatility



Need for balanced Federalism



CONTEXT: India's Constitution created a federal system with a centralising bias with need for calibrating Centre-State balance.

The New Committee: Justice Kurian Joseph Panel

- **Constituted by:** Government of Tamil Nadu (April 2025).
- **Members:** Justice Kurian Joseph (Chair), K. Ashok Vardhan Shetty (Retd. IAS), Dr. M. Naganathan (Economist).
- **Mandate:** To review Union-State relations in the context of contemporary challenges.
- **Part I Focus (Feb 2026):** Governors, Language Policy, Delimitation, GST, Education, and Health.
- Follows the legacy of the **Rajamannar Committee (1969)**, the first state-appointed panel to question Central dominance.

Decentralization breeds innovation. India's best schemes started as **State Experiments**:

- **Tamil Nadu:** Mid-day Meal Scheme.
- **Kerala:** Public Health Model.
- **Maharashtra:** Employment Guarantee

- **Delimitation** concerns (2026 census)
- **One Nation, One Election**
- **Education and health CSS**
- **Language policy**
- **Governor's role:** discretionary powers, time-bound assent to State bills, clearer guidelines on when bills should be reserved for President
- **Reforming GST Council**

Mains 2020 (GS II): Indian Constitution exhibits centralising tendencies to maintain unity and integrity of the nation. Elucidate in the perspective of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897; The Disaster Management Act, 2005 and recently passed Farm Acts."

Strategic Way Forward to promote federalism in India

1. "Right-Sizing" the Union
2. Encouraging "Parallel Experimentation"
3. Fiscal Flexibility
4. Legislative Restraint
5. Building State Capacity
6. **S.R. Bommai vs Union of India (1994)**
7. Informed Debate:



Need for balanced Federalism



CONTEXT: India's Constitution created a federal system with a centralising bias with need for calibrating Centre-State balance.

Mains Practise Question

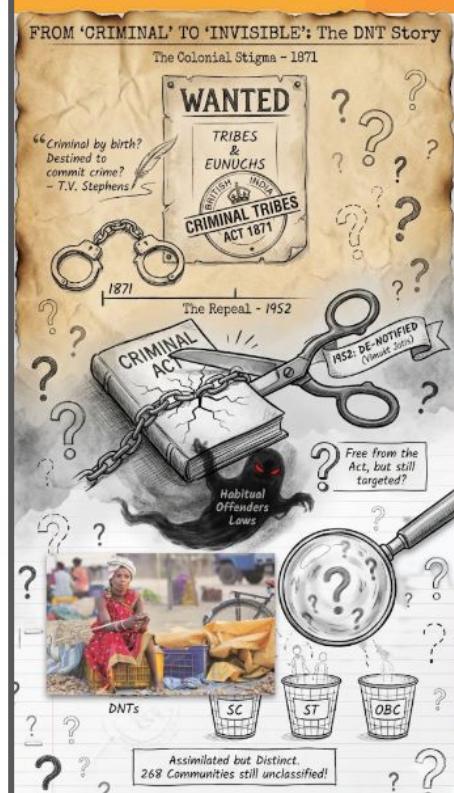
The Indian Constitution was born with a centralising bias out of necessity, but persistent centralization has now become a hurdle to effective governance." Critically analyze this statement in light of the recently submitted Justice Kurian Joseph Committee Report.

(15 Marks, 250 words)



Denotified tribes

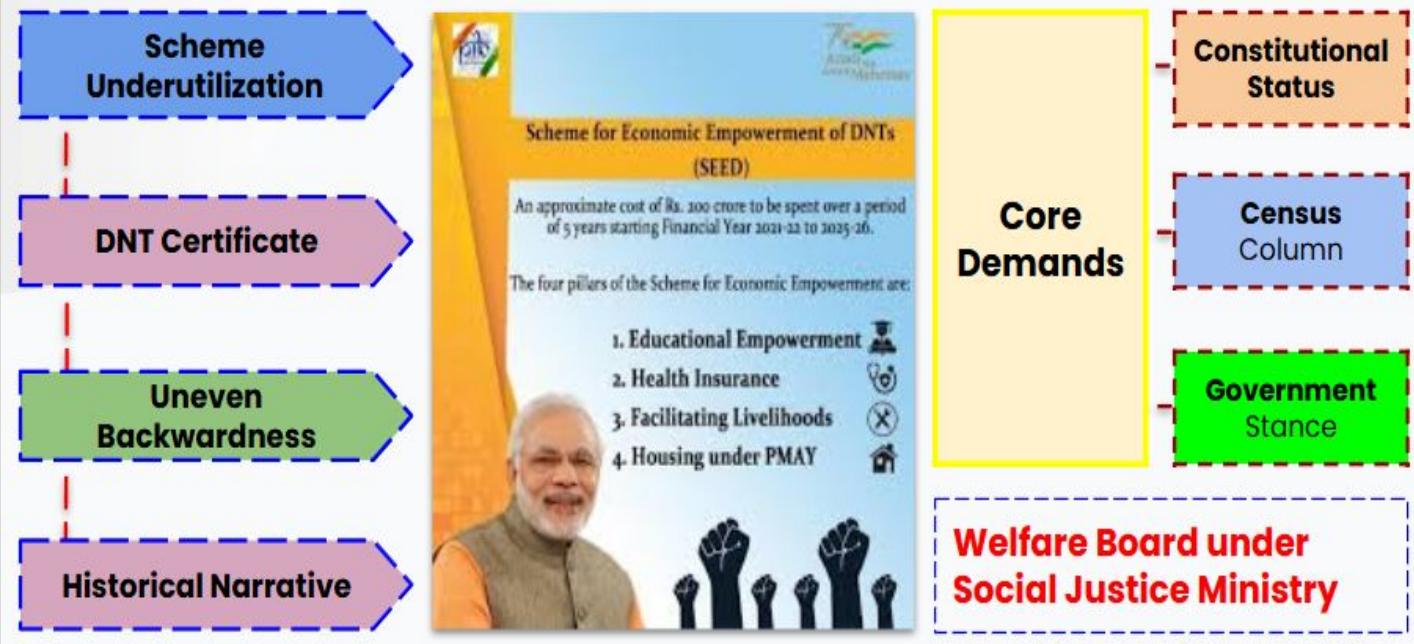
SYLLABUS : Prelims Denotified Tribes, Schemes **GS 1** Diversity of India (Tribal issues) GS 2 Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population
Newspaper The Hindu **Page Number:** 08



What Does "Denotified" Mean?

Colonial "Criminal Tribes" Act, 1871	1911 Census: Institutionalizing Stigma Last explicit count: 1931 Census	PRESENT	Examples of Communities	Current Status
<p>Colonial "Criminal Tribes" Act, 1871</p> <p>"Criminal by birth? Destined to commit crime? - T.V. Stephens"</p> <p>1871</p> <p>WANTED TRIBES & EUNUCHS CRIMINAL TRIBES ACT 1871</p> <p>The Colonial Stigma - 1871</p> <p>1952: DE-NOTIFIED (Vimukt Jatis)</p> <p>Free from the Act, but still targeted?</p> <p>Habitual Offenders Laws</p> <p>Assimilated but Distinct. 268 Communities still unclassified!</p>	<p>1911 Census: Institutionalizing Stigma Last explicit count: 1931 Census</p> <p>"born criminals" "addicted to committing crimes" "potential criminals"</p> <p>Control "nomadic" populations</p>	<p>Denotified Tribes</p>	<p>Pardhis, Bawarias, Sansis, Kanjars</p>	<p>No official backward class status</p>
<p>Repeal of CTA (1952)</p> <p>"Denotified Tribes"</p> <p>Habitual Offenders Act</p> <p>SC, ST, or OBC lists: "Vimukt Jatis"</p>	<p>Nomadic Tribes</p>	<p>Barjaras Gaddi shepherds Gujjar Bakarwals</p>	<p>Some have OBC status</p>	
	<p>Semi-Nomadic Tribes</p>	<p>Lambadas, Kallars Nat</p>	<p>Mixed status</p>	

Current Failures



Denotified tribes

SYLLABUS : Prelims Denotified Tribes, Schemes **GS 1** Diversity of India (Tribal issues) GS 2 Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population
Newspaper The Hindu **Page Number:** 08

The Current Census Debate

The Hindu

Denotified tribes seek constitutional recognition, separate Census entry

Denotified tribes, nomadic tribes, and semi-nomadic tribes across the country are coming together to push for a "separate column" for...

2 weeks ago

Denotified tribes seek 'separate column' and formal identity after decades of misclassification

Classification & numbers

- They were labelled 'criminal tribes' under the Criminal Tribes Act, 1871
- The Act was repealed in 1952, after which these communities were denotified



- The previous National Commission identified nearly 1,200 communities
- Nearly 267 communities remain outside the SC, ST, and OBC lists
- Estimates suggest up to 7 crore people in Uttar Pradesh alone

Key demands

- Separate Census column for denotified tribes
- Dedicated Constitutional Schedule
- Sub-classification to reflect graded backwardness within communities

Commissions & Findings

Ayyangar Commission (1949)

Started efforts to account for these communities even before official denotification.

Renke Commission (2008)

1st National Commission

Recommended measures.

Idate Commission (2017)

Identified ~1,200 DNT communities (most in SC/ST/OBC lists). Identified **268 communities** that were completely **unclassified**.

Anthropological Survey of India

NITI Aayog-commissioned study on the 268 unclassified tribes; **Currently:** "cold storage".



SC affirms women's choice



SYLLABUS: Prelims MTP Act **GS 1:** Social Empowerment, Role of Women

GS 2 : Mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of vulnerable sections

Newspaper The Indian Express **Page Number:** 11

Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act

Gestational Period	Permission Required From	Conditions / Grounds (MTP Amendment Act, 2021)	
0 to 20 Weeks	1 Registered Medical Practitioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to life/mental/physical health of the woman. • Substantial risk that the child would be born with serious abnormalities. • Failure of Contraception (Now applies to any woman, married or unmarried). 	
20 to 24 Weeks	2 Registered Medical Practitioners	<p>Only for "Special Categories" of women (defined in Rules):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survivors of rape/incest. • Minors. • Change in marital status (Widowhood/Divorce). • Women with disabilities. • Emergencies/Disasters. 	
Beyond 24 Weeks	State Medical Board	<p>Only for Substantial Fetal Abnormalities diagnosed by the Board. (No upper time limit here).</p>	
Privacy		Crime to reveal identity of woman (jail)	

MTP Act: The Consent Checklist

Whose permission is actually required?

✗	Husband/Partner?
NO. (Irrelevant under MTP Act).	 Consent Not Required
✗	In-Laws?
NO.	
✓	The Pregnant Woman?
YES. (Mandatory).	 Sale Decision Maker
✓	Medical Practitioner?
YES. (Opinion required).	 • 0-20 Weeks: 1 Doctor.
YES. (Opinion required).	 • 20-24 Weeks: 2 Doctors.
⚠	Medical Board?
ONLY for >24 weeks (in case of foetal abnormalities).	 Subject to legal provisions and specific conditions.

Source: Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, India. Consult a qualified healthcare provider for medical advice. Jan 2026

Case Analysis: Bombay HC vs. Supreme Court

The Act does not explicitly allow abortion beyond 24 weeks **solely for "mental trauma"** or **"change of circumstances"** if the **foetus is healthy**.

Law Trend

Bombay High Court Denies 28-Week Abortion to Teen; Says Termination Would Amount to Foeticide

Arguing for termination, the petitioner's lawyer submitted that the girl did not wish to continue with the pregnancy and that it was her...

2 weeks ago



Foetus was "healthy + viable."

Potential life of the foetus >> petitioner's

SC: Indian law = framework of "protecting family honor" vs pure individual rights.

SC's Stance

"The court cannot compel completion of a pregnancy if a woman is not intending to do so."

"Mental Trauma"

That forcing a woman to carry an unwanted pregnancy violates her autonomy.

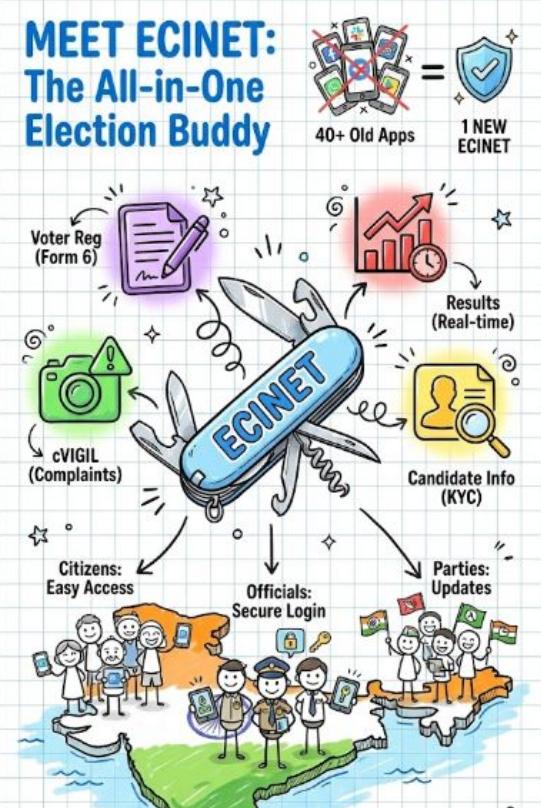


SYLLABUS: GS 2 : Salient features of the Representation of People's Act.

E-Governance in Elections

Newspaper The Indian Express Page Number : 08

MEET ECINET: The All-in-One Election Buddy



40+ Old Apps = 1 NEW ECINET

Voter Reg (Form 6) Results (Real-time)
 cVIGIL (Complaints) Candidate Info (KYC)
 Citizens: Easy Access Officials: Secure Login
 Parties: Updates

The New Tech: ECINET App

Officially in Jan 2026.

"All-in-One" digital platform

Used for SIR in 12 States/ UTs

build "clones" for SECs



Why Now? (Reading Between Lines)

Timing = push for "ONOE"

Ram Nath Kovind Committee (High-Level Committee) recommended simultaneous elections in **two phases**:

- Phase 1:** Lok Sabha + State Assemblies.
- Phase 2:** Local Bodies (<100d of Ph 1)

Prerequisite: Single Common Electoral Roll

- States use separate rolls** = duplication + "missing voters."
- "Soft power" strategy:** ECI cannot constitutionally order SECs



#OneNationOneElection

Simultaneous elections will save 4.5 lakh crore 1.5% of India's GDP

State and central elections cost between 4-7 lakh crore

These huge savings can be directed towards education, health and infrastructure development

ONE NATION ONE ELECTION why is it important?

SYLLABUS: GS 2 : Salient features of the Representation of People's Act.

E-Governance in Elections

Newspaper The Indian Express Page Number: 08

ECI vs SEC

Election Commission of India		State Election Commission
Articles	Article 324	Article 243K (Panchayats) 243ZA (Municipalities)
Mandate	Conducts elections for President, VP, Parliament, State Assemblies.	Conducts elections for Local Bodies.
Relation	Independent Constitutional Body.	(Not under ECI control).
Electoral Rolls	LS/Vidhan Sabha.	Local Bodies (distinct from ECI rolls).
Appointment Process	President of India; Selection Committee (PM, LoP LS, Union Cabinet Minister)	Governor; specific State Acts
Removal Process	CEC: Same as a Supreme Court Judge ECs: On recommendation of CEC	SEC: Same as a High Court Judge
Tenure	6 years or up to 65 years of age	Varies by State



Bharat-VISTAAR

SYLLABUS: GS 2 E-governance **GS 3:** E-technology in the aid of farmers, Indigenization of technology and developing new technology - AI
Newspaper: The Indian Express **Page Number:** 05

Bharat-Virtually Integrated System to Access Agricultural Resources



Decoding Bharat-VISTAAR

₹150 Cr, FY26-27

"Bharati"

155261; App/Digital

Initially Hindi + English

BHASHINI



Integration: It fuses AgriStack with ICAR) scientific packages.

Agri Stack

India's Initiative to Digitally Empower Farmers

1 What is Agri Stack?

A comprehensive digital framework that aggregates data from multiple sources



2 Key Components

Unified Farmer Service Interface



Consent Manager



Bharat-VISTAAR

SYLLABUS: GS 2 E-governance **GS 3:** E-technology in the aid of farmers, Indigenization of technology and developing new technology - AI
Newspaper: The Indian Express **Page Number:** 05

Scheme Coverage

How Will Bharat VISTAAR Help?

Agritech Startups Can Build Offerings On Top



Source: Industry Inputs

Inc42

Farmers can check **eligibility, apply, and track status** for:

PM-KISAN

PM Fasal Bima Yojana

Soil Health Card

Modified Interest Subvention Scheme

Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation

Per Drop More Crop

PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana

PM Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan

Agriculture Infrastructure Fund

Kisan Credit Card



SYLLABUS: GS 2 Important International institutions
Newspaper: The Indian Express **Page Number:** 16

IAEA: 's nuclear watchdog

"Atoms for Peace"

- Established: 1956 (Started work in 1957).
- Headquarters: Vienna, Austria.
- Members: 178 countries

Nobel Peace Prize in 2005

How is the IAEA Structured?

General Conference	All members meet yearly
Board of Governors	35 countries; INDIA = Permanent Recs to GC, Safeguards agreements
Secretariat	Day-to-day operations, led by DG

Key Functions of the IAEA

A. Nuclear Safeguards (Anti-Weapons Checks)

- Inspections
- Monitoring: uranium/plutonium.
- Reports to UN

B. Promoting Peaceful Nuclear Tech

- Helps **build nuclear power plants**.
- Health:** Supports cancer treatment
- Agriculture:** Improves crop yields with nuclear tech.

C. Emergency Response

- Disasters:** Helps during nuclear accidents (e.g., Fukushima).
- Security:** Prevents nuclear terrorism.

PRELIMS pointers on India & IAEA

Civil-Military Separation

- Civilian reactors** under IAEA Safeguards
- Military:** Minimum Credible Nuclear Deterrent

Safeguards

- Umbrella Agreement**, 2009 (INFCIRC/754)
- "India-Specific" Additional Protocol**, 2014
- Fuel Supply:** Sixteen reactors (approx. 6,380 MW)

@Haryana

GCNEP – INDIA'S GLOBAL NUCLEAR ENERGY HUB

WHAT:

THE GLOBAL CENTRE FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY PARTNERSHIP (GCNEP) IS THE 6TH R&D UNIT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DAE)

WHY:

TO BUILD GLOBAL CAPACITY AND FOSTER COLLABORATION FOR SAFE, SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE NUCLEAR ENERGY.



SYLLABUS: GS 2 Important International institutions
Newspaper: The Indian Express **Page Number:** 16

UPSC PYQ (P) 2020

In India, why are some nuclear reactors kept under "IAEA safeguards" while others are not?

- (a) Some use uranium and others use thorium
- (b) Some use imported uranium and others use domestic supplies
- (c) Some are operated by foreign enterprises and others are operated by domestic enterprises
- (d) Some are State-owned and others are privately owned

UPSC PYQ (P) 2018

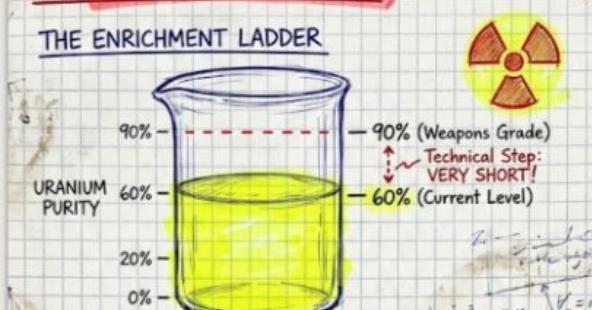
In the Indian context, what is the implication of ratifying the 'Additional Protocol' with the 'International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)?'

- (a) The civilian nuclear reactors come under IAEA safeguards.
- (b) The military nuclear installations come under the inspection of IAEA.
- (c) The country will have the privilege to buy uranium from the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).
- (d) The country automatically becomes a member of the NSG.

IRAN's latest meet with IAEA

THE NUCLEAR THRESHOLD (Status: Critical)

THE ENRICHMENT LADDER



Nuclear Enrichment

- Weapons-grade
- Stockpile: **400 kg–440 kg**
- "Breakout time" = 2 weeks



Q1. With reference to Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes in India, consider the following statements:

1. The term "Denotified Tribes" originated after the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act in 1952.
2. The last explicit census enumeration of the so-called "criminal tribes" was conducted in 1931.
3. All Denotified Tribes in India are officially classified as Scheduled Tribes.
4. Some Nomadic Tribes have been included in the OBC category.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: c

Q2. With reference to the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act and its amendments, consider the following statements:

1. Up to 20 weeks of gestation, termination of pregnancy requires the opinion of one registered medical practitioner.
2. From 20 to 24 weeks, termination requires the opinion of two registered medical practitioners and is allowed only for certain categories of women.
3. Beyond 24 weeks, termination is permitted in all cases with the approval of the State Medical Board.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: b

Q3. With reference to the ECINET App recently launched by the Election Commission of India, consider the following statements:

1. It is an all-in-one digital platform designed to serve voters, election officials, and candidates.
2. It allows voters to access forms and check application status.
3. It is intended only for use by central election authorities and not by State Election Commissions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: c

Q4. With reference to the Agri Stack initiative in India, consider the following statements:

1. It is a digital framework aimed at integrating agricultural data from multiple sources.
2. It includes components such as farmer registry, geo-referenced village maps, and crop-sown registries.
3. It is primarily designed to replace all existing agricultural schemes with a single digital platform.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: b

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA):

1. It is an international organization that promotes the peaceful use of nuclear energy.
2. Its headquarters are located in Geneva, Switzerland.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a





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