



Mains Marathon
Compilation

26th June to 2nd July, 2023

Mains Marathon Compilation for the Month of June, (Fourth Week) 2023

- 1. Discuss the geopolitical and economic implications for India of a potential crisis in the Taiwan Strait. How can India mitigate the risks associated with such a crisis?**
- 2. Critically analyze the regulatory process for new drugs and vaccines in India. How can this process be streamlined to ensure safety while also allowing for flexibility in times of crisis?**
- 3. Discuss the historical ties between India and Egypt and how they have shaped the current relationship between the two countries.**
- 4. Discuss the need for the proposed Digital India Bill, and How does the Digital India Bill aim to tackle emerging challenges in the digital space.**
- 5. Discuss the regional disparities in higher education quality as reflected in the NIRF rankings. Based on the NIRF rankings and the case study of Tamil Nadu, suggest strategies for improving the quality and inclusivity of higher education in other states.**
- 6. Discuss the current status of India-U.S. digital trade. What are the key challenges and opportunities in this sector? How can the two countries further enhance their digital trade partnership?**
- 7. Examine the role of Supreme Court judgments in shaping the discourse around the Uniform Civil Code. Also, evaluate the potential impact of the Uniform Civil Code on different communities in India, particularly in areas of property and inheritance.**
- 8. How can the National Research Foundation (NRF) address the most pressing issues in Indian science and significantly improve India's research output?**
- 9. In light of a recent controversy in Tamil Nadu, discuss the constitutional provisions under Article 164 regarding the appointment and dismissal of Ministers. How does this incident reflect the role of the Governor in the context of these provisions?**
- 10. India recently became a signatory to the Artemis Accords. Discuss the implications of this decision for India's lunar exploration program. How can international cooperation, particularly with the US, benefit India's space ambitions?**

1. Discuss the geopolitical and economic implications for India of a potential crisis in the Taiwan Strait. How can India mitigate the risks associated with such a crisis?

Introduction: Briefly describe the situation in Taiwan Strait.

Body: What are the geopolitical and economic implications of conflict and what measures India can take to mitigate the risks?

Conclusion: Conclude with the way forward.

After the communists' triumph in 1949, Chinese republicans of the Kuomintang government fled to Taiwan, a small island off the east coast of China, which has since retained the name Republic of China (RoC). Taiwan was formerly known as Formosa. Since its founding in 1949, the People's Republic of China has believed that Taiwan must be reunified with the mainland, while the RoC has held out as an "independent" country. India does not have formal diplomatic ties with Taiwan, as it follows the One-China policy. Taiwan Strait, just 130 kilometers (80 miles) wide at its narrowest point, is a major international shipping channel and all that lies between self-ruled Taiwan and China.

What are the geopolitical and economic implications for India in Taiwan Strait?

- **Trade:** India's 50% of exports is to the east of the Indian Ocean which will be adversely affected because of the crisis. Disruption in sea lines of communication along Malacca Strait will be adversely affected.
- **Supply chain impact:** Disruption in shipping will negatively impact the supply of raw materials needed for key industries like pharmaceuticals, and electronics which will finally impact our exports in the Western World.
- **The safe supply chain for semiconductors:** Taiwan is crucial for semiconductor supplies which are widely used in computers 5G smartphones, electric cars, and medical equipment. Disruption will lead to unemployment in these industries and impact services ranging from logistics supply chain to e-commerce.
- **Submarine cables:** Disruptions of submarine cables could impact the data flow between India and data servers located in the USA.

Steps India can take to mitigate risks:

- **Non-alignment:** India's policy of NAM allows India to engage with multiple partners like ASEAN, EU, Japan, and South Korea, which have vital stakes in the Pacific.
- **Global South:** India should take the lead in engaging Global South or like-minded developing nations to engage with US-China-Taiwan and maintain peace in Taiwan Strait.
- **De-risking approach:** India should take a cue from the EU and focus on this approach to reduce over-dependency on China for its imports and find new trade partners. India could cooperate with the EU, African Union, Latin America, and small Pacific Island states to find alternative investment destinations.

Conclusion:

The growing rivalry between China and the United States in the Taiwan Strait could have a devastating impact on Indian economic and national security interests. There is an urgent need to assess the impact should the conflict arise and pursue diplomatic efforts to maintain peace and stability in the region.

2. Critically analyze the regulatory process for new drugs and vaccines in India. How can this process be streamlined to ensure safety while also allowing for flexibility in times of crisis?

Introduction: Briefly describe the regulatory process for vaccines in India.

Body: Critically analyze and suggest measures to streamline the process.

Conclusion: Conclude with the way forward.

Recently, the WHO gave the Indian vaccine regulatory structure the highest rating on various parameters. The rating points to the fact that India is a stringent regulator of vaccines alongside developed countries such as the US, Japan, and EU member states. The regulatory process in India aims to ensure the efficiency, quality, affordability, and safety of pharmaceutical products.

What are certain factors on which the regulatory process can be analyzed?

- **Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO):** CDSCO is in charge of licensing new medications and vaccines in India. It gives marketing permits, manages post-marketing safety, and supervises the clinical trial approval procedure.
- **Clinical Trials:** These are done to ensure the efficacy and safety of the drug. Mistrust, arbitrary decree, and lax regulations have historically plagued clinical trials in India.
- **Delay in approval:** In India, the procedure for receiving regulatory approval can be time-consuming. In urgent situations like epidemics or emergencies, approval delays might prevent timely access to life-saving medicines and vaccinations.
- **Lack of evidence-based assessment:** India's regulatory framework has been primarily focused on analyzing formulations that have received foreign regulatory approval and determining if they are appropriate for India. This can also be seen in the adoption of 'emergency use authorizations (EUA) during COVID-19.
- **Inadequate regulation:** Poor regulation often floods the market with poor-quality and fake medications. They may not meet efficiency, safety, and potency standards and may endanger life of patients. The detection and reduction of possible dangers associated with pharmaceutical products are further hampered by inadequate monitoring of adverse drug reactions and post-market surveillance.

What steps can be taken to ensure safety and maintain flexibility during the crisis?

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- **Strengthen regulatory agencies:** Augment the resources and capacity building of regulatory agencies like CDSCO and the Drug Controller General of India.
- **New Drugs and Clinical Trials Rules:** The rules should be updated and framed in light of the recent COVID pandemic. There should be clear guidelines on the process to be followed during exigencies and the process be evidence-based.
- **Transparency and Standardized testing:** India's regulatory system requires transparency between consumers and regulatory agencies. Standardized testing is essential to ensuring the safety and effectiveness of medicines.
- **Single regulatory agency:** The establishment of a single regulatory body will enhance oversight and quicken the approval process for medications. A centralized organization can offer uniform regulatory enforcement, homogeneous standards, and efficient industry oversight.
- **Pharmacovigilance:** The current gaps in the regulatory landscape can be filled by creating effective pharmacovigilance programs and encouraging transparency and accountability. The need is to establish strong quality checks, efficient inspection processes, and strong regulatory frameworks.

Conclusion:

The estimated value of total vaccines manufactured in India is around \$ 900 million out of which 65%-70% is exported. The above-listed measures will make Indian pharma companies competitive, increase their export share and bring the quality of medicines at par with the global industry earning India the title of "*pharmacy of the world*."

3. Discuss the historical ties between India and Egypt and how they have shaped the current relationship between the two countries.

Introduction: Give a brief introduction about the recent visit of PM to Egypt.

Body: Which historical factors are involved and how have they shaped relations in the present context?

Conclusion: Highlight the main factors necessary for good relations.

Recently PM Modi visited Egypt and the two sides have decided to elevate their bilateral relationship to a "strategic partnership". PM Modi was also conferred PM Modi with the Order of the Nile, Egypt's highest honour.

Historical factors which have shaped the relationship:

- **Trade:** The two ancient civilizations Indus Valley Civilization (2600–1900 BCE) and the ancient Egyptian civilization (3100–332 BCE) had trade and cultural regions.
- **Maritime Trade Route:** Both nations had large maritime boundaries which played a crucial role in the exchange of spices, stones, metals, and jewellery.

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- **Cultural Exchanges:** Both nations have contributed to enriching the culture of others whether in terms of architecture, the spread of Buddhism, or maintaining diplomatic connections during the Mauryan Empire.
- **Anti-Imperialism:** Both nations had suffered from the evils of imperialism and were committed to anti-imperialism philosophy as seen during the golden years of the relationship in the 1950s when Prime Minister Nehru and President Nasser connected frequently.
- **Non-Aligned Movement:** Egypt alongside India was one of the founding members of NAM. President Gamal Abdel Nasser, together with Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia, Jawaharlal Nehru of India, Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana and Sukarno of Indonesia played the leading role in the early days of the movement. Both India and Egypt were against aligning with any superpower and disapprove of bloc politics.

Relationship in the present context:

- **Defence Cooperation:** Egypt hosts the headquarters of the League of Arab States and has the largest standing army in the region. All these factors have enabled Egypt to cooperate with India in defence which is marked by activity with the air force and special ops exercises and a series of high-level visits coupled with increased defence exports from India to Egypt.
- **Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZONE):** This core economic zone around both sides of the canal can offer India access to markets in Europe, Africa and the Gulf. By gaining substantial access to SCZONE. India could successfully boost its exports through the “Made by India for the World” programme.
- **Countering Fundamentalism:** Egypt and its educational institutions occupy a reputed place in the Muslim world and have played a key role in countering doctrines spouted by terrorist groups like Al Qaeda and ISIS. Educational and cultural linkages can help Indian Muslims in fields like Commerce, engineering, and medicine.
- **New areas of cooperation:** The two sides are also pursuing closer cooperation in green energy, pharmaceuticals and defence, with MoUs in agriculture, archaeology and antiquities, and competition law. Egypt joined the “New Development Bank” set up by BRICS and is keen to join this grouping in the upcoming summit.

Conclusion:

The four pillars of politics, defence, and security; economic engagement; academic and scientific exchanges; and cultural and people-to-people connections form the foundation of the India-Egypt strategic alliance.

4. Discuss the need for the proposed Digital India Bill, and How does the Digital India Bill aim to tackle emerging challenges in the digital space.

Introduction: What is Digital India Bill?

Body: What is the need for a new bill and how does it aim to resolve new challenges?

Conclusion: Conclude with the way forward.

Digital India Bill will be the successor to the decades-old Information Technology Act, of 2000, the country's core Internet law. It will address emerging issues like user harm, competition and misinformation in the digital space.

What is the need for Digital India Bill?

- **Classification of Intermediaries:** The government is considering a review of the definition of intermediaries and classifying them based on their nature and not just based on their size. A classification framework with few defined categories, which requires intermediaries to undertake risk assessments is need of the hour.
- **Safe harbour:** It is the most important regulatory freedom afforded to tech giants like Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and WhatsApp under Section 79 of the IT Act, 2000. The diversity and complexity of the tech platforms have raised the relevance of safe harbour.
- **User harm:** With the evolution of the internet the online space is rife with specific online crimes and unique natures which are not defined in IPC. For eg, Online misinformation is currently not a legal offence in India. The present Digital Data Bill aims to address challenges which are likely to emerge from AI platforms like ChatGPT and Google's Bard.

How does the Digital India Bill aim to tackle emerging challenges in the digital space?

- **The difference in nature of intermediaries:** The draft bill aims to distinguish communication services (where end-users interact with each other) from other forms of intermediaries (such as search engines and online marketplaces). The former are subject to high forms of regulation vis-à-vis the latter & are subject to "content down request" within a short period.
- **Regulate communication platforms:** Platforms like Twitter might be required to follow rules, such as appointing officers based in India and establishing internal grievance appeals processes with impartial outside stakeholders.
- **Accountability and Online safety:** The proposed steps must include a risk assessment framework, and periodic review of regulations to keep digital infrastructure updated with the needs of the time will lead to accountability and online digital safety.
- **Experience of other nations:** Draft Bill could take suggestions from the EU's Digital Services Act which increases the legal obligations of intermediaries and the Australian classification system of differentiating between communication and search engine intermediaries.

Conclusion:

The new Digital India Bill should aim to ensure an open and secure Internet in the nation, protect users' rights and lower their online dangers, as well as hasten the development of technological innovation in the country.

5. Discuss the regional disparities in higher education quality as reflected in the NIRF rankings. Based on the NIRF rankings and the case study of Tamil Nadu, suggest strategies for improving the quality and inclusivity of higher education in other states.

Introduction: Describe the NIRF rankings framework.

Body: Factors highlighting disparities in education and suggestion to improve them

Conclusion: Conclude with SDG.

The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) was established in 2016 by the Ministry of Education to determine the indicators on which higher education institutions (HEI) performance could be measured. NIRF rankings are based on 5 important factors namely; Teaching, Learning & Resources, Research and Professional Practice, Graduation Outcomes, Outreach, and Inclusivity and Perception. Out of the top 100 medical colleges in the country Tamil Nadu has the largest share (35). Delhi (32), followed by Kerala (14) and West Bengal (8). The performance of large states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh is abysmally poor.

Factors highlighting regional disparities in Higher Education

- **Colonial Influence:** South India and Bengal witnessed early contact with colonial powers and this led to the establishment of modern educational institutions, and infrastructure.
- **Political Will:** South India had visionary leaders who were focused on making education an important tool to attain social justice in comparison to leaders of other states who mobilized people on caste, and communal lines.
- **Language:** Due to Dravidian politics, Tamil Nadu had focussed on developing Tamil language not just medium of communication but rather enriching the language and making opportunities available for Tamil speakers.
- **Infrastructure:** Due to the high urban population in Southern states relative to North India which is predominantly rural they have wide access to transportation, connectivity, and accommodation facilities.
- **Quality of Education:** The top-ranked states attract the best talent, and provide the best academic research & opportunities to students which makes them attractive to students pursuing higher education.

Strategies to improve the quality and inclusivity of higher education in other states

- **Dispersed Education Institutes:** Other states should focus on the dispersal of educational institutes across the state and not just concentrated within the

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capital area. It invariably puts pressure on the city's resources and increases the cost of living for migrants. Dispersed institutes will also cater to the needs of rural and under-served areas, and provide an opportunity for quality education for students from poor and disadvantaged social groups.

- **Bridge language barriers:** This is necessary to address the needs of students from diverse linguistic backgrounds. Training programs and multilingual education can create an inclusive learning environment.
- **Social and Economic welfare architecture:** Proper implementation of reservation policy in the recruitment of teachers and students and economic welfare programs in the form of scholarships, and grants for economically disadvantaged students can help in improving the quality and inclusion of educational institutions in India.

Conclusion:

The above policy measures could help in achieving the SDG 4 of "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all".

6. Discuss the current status of India-U.S. digital trade. What are the key challenges and opportunities in this sector? How can the two countries further enhance their digital trade partnership?

Introduction: Describe the current status of India-USA digital trade.

Body: What are the key challenges in digital trade? How opportunities can enhance their relationship?

Conclusion: Way forward.

Recently PM Modi's visit to the USA raised the prominent issue of technology cooperation and tried to address some of the concerns raised by US Inc. In 2023 the USA emerged as India's biggest overall trading partner with a 7.65% increase in bilateral trade to \$128.55 billion in 2022-23. Despite the strength of the US export market and the potential of the online services market in India the U.S. ran a \$27 billion deficit in trade in digital services with India in 2020.

What are the key challenges in this sector?

- **Protectionism posture:** US tech companies noted that market access, trade, and openness to Indian companies in UU is not reciprocated by the Indian side and India adopts a protectionist industrial policy to safeguard its domestic companies.
- **Freedom of expression:** US tech companies have noted *government censorship and control over political speech* as a major hurdle for companies to work in the USA.
- **Equalization Tax:** The imposition of the equalization levy aims to create a fair competition environment for Indian businesses that fulfill their tax obligations within India, as compared to foreign e-commerce companies operating in India but not paying any income tax in the country. US companies have held that

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it creates a system of double taxation and complicates the taxation process and is without any constitutional validity or international commitments

- **Information Technology Rules, 2021:** Tech companies have addressed concerns regarding impractical compliance deadlines and content take-down protocols.
- **Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022:** The tech firms have ambiguities about cross-border data flows, compliance timelines, and data localization issues raised in the draft bill. Data localization requirements can lead to substantial cost escalations for companies and are often perceived as discriminatory by foreign firms operating in the country.

How can both nations use opportunities to enhance their partnerships?

- **Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET):** India is prepared to exchange its core technologies with the United States under this framework, expecting reciprocity from Washington also. The primary objective of this collaboration is to foster partnerships in vital and emerging technological domains such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, semiconductors, and wireless telecommunications.
- **Strategic Trade Dialogue:** To facilitate trade and achieve "deeper cooperation" in important sectors, India and the U.S. jointly created a Strategic Trade Dialogue with an emphasis on removing regulatory obstacles and harmonizing export controls.
- **Strengthen Data Protection Law:** According to tech companies, Data Protection Law might be improved by "proactively supporting cross-border data flows through certifications, standard contractual clauses, and binding corporate rules."

Conclusion:

The recent visit of PM Modi to the USA has addressed concerns of the US tech industry and hopefully, both nations will come to common ground regarding the contentious issues to increase bilateral digital trade from the current level.

7. **Examine the role of Supreme Court judgments in shaping the discourse around the Uniform Civil Code. Also, evaluate the potential impact of the Uniform Civil Code on different communities in India, particularly in areas of property and inheritance.**

Introduction: Define UCC.

Body: What role did SC play in shaping discourse around UCC and highlight its impact on various issues.

Conclusion: Way forward.

Uniform Civil Code is a constitutional provision mentioned in Article 44 of the Indian Constitution that aims to replace personal laws based on religions, customs, and traditions with one common law for everyone irrespective of religion, caste, creed, sexual orientation, and gender.

Role of SC judgments in shaping discourse around UCC:

- **Shah Bano Case:** In its Mohd. Ahmed Khan vs. Shah Bano Begum decision of 1985, when a divorced Muslim woman demanded support from her former husband, the SC asked for the execution of the UCC while deciding whether to give precedence to the CrPc or the Muslim personal law. SC urged that Common Civil Code will help the cause of national integration.
- **Sarla Mudgal Case:** The Supreme Court in Sarla Mudgal v Union of India held that religious conversion for the sole purpose of committing bigamy is unconstitutional & the Court also urged the government to put the UCC into effect.
- **Paulo Coutinho v. Maria Luiza Valentina Pereira case (2019):** In this case, SC upheld Goa as a shining example of an Indian state where UCC is applicable and again revived the debate around UCC.

The potential impact of UCC on communities:

- **Gender Justice:** The primary objective of UCC is to promote gender justice and equality by eliminating discriminatory practices against women. Regardless of a person's religious background, the UCC seeks to develop a standard body of laws that guarantees equal rights and opportunities for all citizens. This might result in a more equitable division of land and inheritance rights among various populations.
- **Marriage laws:** The minimum legal age for marriage, bigamy's abolition, and problems with interfaith weddings would be resolved to a certain extent if a UCC were to be put into effect.
- **Hindu Religion:** Existing legislation like the Hindu Marriage Act (1955) and the Hindu Succession Act (1956) would need to be revised if the UCC were to be implemented. For instance, Section 2(2) of the Hindu Marriage Act states that the Scheduled Tribes are exempt from its prohibitions. The law specifies in sections 5(5) and 7 that customary practices will take precedence over the rules. However, UCC won't permit all of these exceptions.
- **Property:** If UCC comes into effect the benefit of Hindu Undivided Family (HUF) in Income Tax will not be availed by Hindus. Once the law comes into effect, no Hindu will be entitled to claim any interest in ancestral property due to his birth in the family.
- **Inheritance & Succession Rules:** UCC could establish a uniform set of laws that provides equal inheritance rights to all individuals, regardless of their religious background or gender. A UCC would streamline these procedures, making them more consistent and accessible to all citizens. Simplified inheritance procedures could reduce legal complexities, speed up the settlement of inheritance matters, and minimize disputes.

Conclusion:

The need for UCC was spelled out by the framers of the Constitution and it should be implemented in the true spirit of the Constitution by holding dialogue with people of different communities, religious scholars, and legal experts.

8. How can the National Research Foundation (NRF) address the most pressing issues in Indian science and significantly improve India's research output?

Introduction: What is NRF and what is its objective?

Body: What are the challenges faced by Indian research and science and what are suggestions to improve it?

Conclusion: Way forward.

Central Government has proposed to set up an apex body to promote, fund, and mentor scientific research in higher education institutions across the country. NRF is aligned with the aims and objectives of NEP 2020 which aims to make all higher education institutions teaching- as well as research-intensive.

What are the main issues challenging Indian science and research output?

- **Broad-based research:** There is an urgent need to develop research capacities in our colleges and universities. Studies have pointed out that less than 1% of higher learning institutions were engaged in research.
- **Lack of research in social sciences:** Research in India is heavily inclined toward natural sciences and there is a lack of focus on humanities, social sciences, and art. Limited sources of funding are the main reason for the lack of research in these areas.
- **Target National Objectives:** NRF should address issues having national ramifications like clean energy, climate change, sustainable infrastructure, improved transportation, and accessible and affordable healthcare.
- **Funding:** India's spending on research and development has remained below 0.7 percent of its GDP, as compared to other nations like the USA, Korea, & even China where spending is 2-5% of their GDP.

How can we improve India's research output?

- **Capacity building:** NRF needs to build research capacities in colleges and universities. NRF professorships for serving or retired faculty will be a good start. NRF plans to offer doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships to young researchers in colleges and universities.
- **Focus on 3C's:** NRF should focus on humanities and arts subjects as they help in inculcating creativity, critical thinking, and communication skills (3C's). Social sciences, Indian Languages and Knowledge Systems, Arts and Humanities are among the ten major 'centres' sought to be established under NRF, along with others like natural sciences, mathematics, earth sciences, and engineering.
- **Autonomy:** Since NRF is modeled on the National Science Foundation of the US, the top positions will be reserved by members of the government. The need will be to allow autonomy to NRF in decision-making and some oversight from the Parliament.
- **Private Sector cooperation:** Since lack of funding is major lacunae in research output there is a need for the private sector or Indian corporates to help the government in raising money so that NRF acts as a bridge between industry and government departments.

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- **Prioritise areas:** NRF should be sensitive towards concerns of rural areas like cleaning rivers, weather-proofing agriculture, and setting up Centres of Excellence to focus on research output aligning it with national objectives.

Conclusion:

The success of NRF in the domestic sphere can be extended to international research areas like Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO), and International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) but its success will finally depend on collaboration between the industry, academia, government departments, and research institutions.

9. In light of a recent controversy in Tamil Nadu, discuss the constitutional provisions under Article 164 regarding the appointment and dismissal of Ministers. How does this incident reflect the role of the Governor in the context of these provisions?

Introduction: What is the recent issue regarding the role of the Governor?

Body: What is the role of the Governor regarding the appointment and dismissal of Ministers?

Conclusion: Way forward

Recently, the Governor of Tamil Nadu dismissed the Council of Ministers without the recommendation of the Chief Minister setting a dangerous precedent to destabilize state government and putting federal principles in jeopardy. Article 164 (1) of the Constitution states that the Chief Minister shall be appointed by the Governor and “the other Ministers shall be appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister, and the Ministers shall hold office during the pleasure of the Governor”.

Role of the Governor in the context of these provisions:

- **Appointment of Chief Minister:** The Governor appoints the chief minister who is the leader of the majority party or coalition in state assembly.
- **Constitutional role:** In *Shamsher Singh v. State of Punjab*, SC ruled that save in a few well-known exceptional circumstances, a governor may only use formal constitutional powers "upon, and in accordance with, the aid and advice of their ministers." The decision to invite a party to form the government is one of these exceptions, as are decisions to remove a government that has lost its majority. In both cases, the Council of Ministers' assistance and advice is either unavailable or unreliable.
- **Discretionary role:** In *Nabam Rebia vs Deputy Speaker*, SC held that the discretionary powers of the Governor are limited to the postulates of Article 163(1) which mandates that the power of the Governor primarily flows from the “aid and advice” of the Council of Ministers.
- **Dismissal of minister:** Governor does not have the power to directly dismiss the minister because they are appointed based on the recommendation of the CM. The decision as to who should be or who should not be a minister is a political one and is the sole prerogative of the chief minister.

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- **Dismissal of the Council of Ministers:** If the Chief Minister loses the majority support in the state assembly or fails to prove their majority in a trust vote, the Governor can dismiss the entire Council of Ministers. The Governor usually acts on the advice of the Chief Minister, but in certain circumstances, they may use their discretionary powers to dismiss the Council of Ministers.

Conclusion:

- The dismissal of ministers directly by the Governor is a serious issue that raises serious issues regarding the Governor's role in our constitutional system. There is an urgent need to address these concerns and the partisan role played by the governor by adhering to recommendations of **the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution, Sarkaria Commission, and Punchhi Committee report.**

10. India recently became a signatory to the Artemis Accords. Discuss the implications of this decision for India's lunar exploration program. How can international cooperation, particularly with the US, benefit India's space ambitions?

Introduction: What are Artemis Accords?

Body: What is its impact on India's space program?

Conclusion: Way forward.

Artemis Accords 2020 are a set of 13 principles that ensures that space exploration is conducted in a safe, sustainable, and transparent manner and full compliance with international law. The signatory countries agree to abide by these principles that are mostly a reiteration of established international law on space exploration, like a commitment not to use space for military purposes, a promise to cooperate on matters of safety of space assets and astronauts, and a willingness to share scientific data from space missions. The founding members of the Artemis Accords are Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the US. By signing the Artemis Accords, India has expressed its commitment to adhere to the best practices in space exploration.

What implications does this have on India's lunar exploration program?

- **Close cooperation in space programs:** By signing the accords India has opened up possibilities of much closer cooperation between ISRO and NASA on the Artemis mission which aims at returning to the moon, setting up a permanent station there, and then using it for deep space exploration.
- **Gaganyaan Project:** India's human spaceflight program could receive a push from the signing of the accords and it could help in expediting the project to send astronauts into space.
- **Knowledge sharing:** Artemis Accords enables the sharing of information and experience, and helps to progress technical innovation, scientific research, and the expansion of humanity's presence in space.

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- **Diversification in the supply chain:** Artemis Accords will help to create a semiconductor ecosystem that encourages supply chain diversification with numerous US-based companies ready to collaborate with India. These projects demonstrate the expanding technological and innovative cooperation between India and the United States.

How can these accords benefit India's space ambitions?

- **Chandrayaan 3:** The accords will help India in collaborating with other nations to achieve success in its lunar mission. This can help to foster scientific curiosity and help India in raising skilled engineers and scientists.
- **Geopolitics:** The accords will give India a say in space-related matters which are mostly discussed among developed nations and Russia, and China.
- **Cooperation with ISRO:** Accords will help ISRO in utilizing India's private sector for deep space exploration. The private sector can help offer products and services to foreign nations like software, ground tracking technology, and developing scientific payloads.
- **Strong regulatory framework:** India will need domestic law to govern its space activities in line with international commitments and a strong regulatory framework to promote space activity and protect India's international interests.

Conclusion:

These accords will push India to review its policy on outer space and pursue deeper lunar cooperation among like-minded nations & contribute to the development of new global norms that will strengthen the essence of the Outer Space Treaty.