

# Factly Weekly

**Compilation**

2024

**For UPSC CSE Prelims  
Exam**

**1<sup>st</sup> Week  
August 2024**

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## UPSC Syllabus: Indian Economy

### SC Ruling on NPAs

#### Why in News?

The Supreme Court has decided that banks or creditors must find early signs of trouble in MSME accounts before they become non-performing assets (NPAs).

#### About SC Ruling on NPAs

1. The focus is on a notification called “Instructions for the Framework for Revival and Rehabilitation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises,” issued on May 29, 2015.
2. This notification was updated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in March 2016. These updates were made using the powers given by Section 21 and 35(A) of the Banking Regulation Act.
3. The court said that the May 2015 notification has “**statutory force**,” meaning it is legally binding on all Scheduled commercial banks licensed by the RBI.
4. According to the court, banks must follow the process outlined in the Framework to help MSMEs before their accounts are labeled as NPAs.
5. MSMEs need to provide verified documents to prove they are MSMEs before their accounts can be classified as NPAs.
6. If MSMEs fail to provide proof and their accounts are classified as NPAs, banks can use Chapter III of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, to take action to recover their money.

### “VIRAASAT” Exhibition

#### Why in News?

Recently, “VIRAASAT” exhibition was held at Handloom Haat in Janpath on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2024.

#### About “VIRAASAT” Exhibition



Figure 1. Source: PIB

**1. About:** “VIRAASAT” is a fortnight-long exhibition dedicated to celebrating the 10th National Handloom Day, began at Handloom Haat in Janpath, New Delhi, on Saturday, 3rd August 2024.

**2. Organised by:** The event was organized by the National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd (NHDC) under the aegis of the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, will conclude on 16th August 2024.

**3. Purpose and Focus:** The exhibition aims to celebrate the rich tradition of handloom and handicrafts in India and to provide a platform for handloom weavers and

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artisans to connect with buyers.

4. The exhibition features popular handloom varieties such as Banarasi, Jamdani, Baluchari, Madhubani, Kosa, Ikkat, Patola, Tussar Silk, Maheshwari, Moirang Phee, Phulkari, Laheriya, Khandua, and Tangaliya. These products attract customers worldwide with their exclusive weaves, designs, and traditional motifs.

**5. Historical Context:** The Swadeshi Movement was launched on 7th August 1905, promoted indigenous industries, particularly handloom weaving. Since 2015, the Government of India has commemorated 7th August every year as National Handloom Day to honor this tradition.

**6. Significance of National Handloom Day:** The first National Handloom Day was celebrated on 7th August 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Chennai. This day highlights the socio-economic contribution of the handloom sector and reaffirms the Government's resolve to protect handloom heritage and empower weavers with better opportunities.

### Handloom Sector in India

i) The handloom sector directly or indirectly employs 35 lakh people, making it the second-largest employment sector in India after agriculture.

ii) This sector represents India's rich and diverse cultural heritage, with traditional values and unique regional varieties.

iii) Government Initiatives: The Government of India has launched various schemes to brand high-quality handloom products with zero defects and zero environmental impact.

These initiatives ensure the products are genuinely handcrafted and provide a guarantee for buyers.

## Asset Management Companies (AMCs)

### Why in News?

Recently, SEBI announced in a circular that it will hold Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), Managing Directors (MDs), or any equivalent officials of asset management companies (AMCs) responsible and accountable for implementing mechanisms to deter potential market abuse.

### About Asset Management Companies (AMCs)

Aspects	Description
About	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. An asset management company (AMC) is a firm that <b>invests money collected from clients</b> into various investments such as stocks, bonds, real estate, and more.</li><li>2. AMCs create pooled investment structures <b>like mutual funds, index funds, or exchange-traded funds (ETFs)</b> which they manage as a single portfolio.</li><li>3. AMCs are often called <b>money managers or money management firms</b>.</li><li>4. If they offer mutual funds or ETFs to the public, they are also known as <b>investment companies or mutual fund companies</b>.</li></ol>

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Regulated by	SEBI is the Indian <b>Capital Market Regulator</b> that governs and controls every AMC in India.
How size of AMCs are calculated	The performance and size of AMCs are typically <b>measured by their assets under management (AUM)</b> , which is the total value of the assets they manage.

### Role and Function of an AMC

**1. Investment Management:** AMCs **manage and optimize portfolios** to meet specific investment goals. They perform thorough market analysis and use their expertise to make informed investment decisions on behalf of their clients.

**2. Diversification:** By pooling funds from multiple investors, AMCs can **diversify investments across a wide range of assets**. This reduces risk as the performance is not reliant on a single investment.

**3. Access to a Wide Range of Investments:** AMCs **provide individual investors access to a variety of investment options**, including those that may require large capital and would otherwise be inaccessible.

**4. Administration and Record-Keeping:** AMCs **handle all administrative tasks** such as record-keeping, reporting, and regulatory compliance, which simplifies the investment process for their clients.

## Finance Bill 2024

### Why in News?

The Finance Bill, 2024, was passed in the Lok Sabha with an amendment **relaxing the long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax** proposal on real estate. The amendment allows taxpayers to choose between a new lower tax rate or the old regime with an indexation benefit.

### About the Amendment:

1. Individuals or Hindu Undivided Families (HUFs) who bought houses before July 23, 2024, can opt for:

- i) Paying LTCG tax under the new scheme at 12.5% without indexation, or
- ii) Claiming the indexation benefit and paying 20% tax.

### Other Measures taken to aid the Middle class in the Finance Bill 2024

- i) Reduction in customs duty on various goods to promote trade, investment, and employment.
- ii) Increase in the tax exemption limit on LTCG in listed equities and bonds from ₹1 lakh to ₹1.25 lakh.
- iii) Simplification of tax governance and reduction in tax slabs in 2023 and this year.
- iv) Increase in the standard deduction for the salaried class.

### About LTCG Tax

1. Long-Term Capital Gains (LTCG) tax is a tax levied on the profits earned from the sale of certain assets held for a specified period, which is considered long-term.

2. The nature and rate of LTCG tax vary depending on the type of asset and the jurisdiction in which the asset is located or sold.

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3. The definition of long-term assets varies based on the type of asset:

**i) Equity Shares/Mutual Funds:** Assets held for more than 12 months.

**ii) Immovable Property (e.g., land, buildings):** Assets held for more than 24 months.

**iii) Other Assets:** Generally, assets held for more than 36 months.

### Maritime partnership exercise (MPX)

#### Why in News?

Recently, a maritime partnership exercise (MPX) took place between India and Russia in St. Petersburg.

#### About Maritime partnership exercise (MPX)



Source: PIB

Aspects	Description
Participants	INS Tabar naval ship is participating from India and Soobrazitelny naval ship from Russia.
Significance	This exercise highlights the commitment of both nations to maintain peace, stability, and security in the region.
Activities during the exercise	The MPX involved a series of complex naval maneuvers. <b>i) Communication Drills:</b> Ships practiced advanced communication techniques. <b>ii) Search &amp; Rescue Tactics:</b> Teams performed search and rescue operations. <b>iii) Replenishment at Sea:</b> Ships conducted refueling and supply operations while at sea. <b>iv) Professionalism and Interoperability:</b> Ships from both navies

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	demonstrated high levels of professionalism and the ability to work seamlessly together.
Benefits	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Bilateral Naval Ties:</b> The MPX reinforces the strong naval relationship between India and Russia.</li><li><b>2. Enhanced Cooperation:</b> The exercise strengthens the resolve and commitment of both nations towards ensuring enhanced cooperation in the maritime domain.</li><li><b>3. Global Partnerships:</b> The Indian Navy remains dedicated to fostering partnerships with navies across the world.</li></ol>

## UPSC Syllabus: Defence exercises

### Standardised Precipitation Index' (SPI)

#### Why in News?

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has recently analyzed precipitation and drought trends using the 'Standardised Precipitation Index' (SPI).

#### About Standardised Precipitation Index (SPI)

- 1. Purpose:** The SPI is used to estimate wet or dry conditions based on precipitation data.
- 2. Calculation:** The calculation of the SPI is based on long-term precipitation records for a particular location, with a long-term period of over 30 years being desirable for accurate calculation.
- 3. The index is negative for drought conditions and positive for wet conditions. As the dry or wet conditions become more severe, the index values become more negative or positive, respectively.**
- 4. The SPI includes timescales of 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 12, 24, 36, 48, 60, and 72 months.**

#### About India Meteorological Department (IMD)

Aspects	Description
About	The India Meteorological Department was established in 1875 and serves as the National Meteorological Service of India.
Nodal Ministry	The IMD operates under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
Headquarters	The headquarters of the India Meteorological Department is located in New Delhi.

Regional Centers	There are six Regional Meteorological Centres located in Mumbai, Chennai, New Delhi, Calcutta, Nagpur, and Guwahati, each headed by a Deputy Director General.
Mandate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The IMD provides meteorological observations and forecasts to optimize weather-sensitive activities such as agriculture, irrigation, shipping, aviation, and offshore oil exploration.</li><li>2. It issues warnings for severe weather events like tropical cyclones, dust storms, heavy rains, snow, cold waves, and heat waves, to protect life and property.</li><li>3. The IMD supplies essential meteorological data for agriculture, water resource management, industries, and oil exploration, and promotes research in meteorology and related disciplines.</li></ol>

## UPSC Syllabus: Geography

### Indian Siris Tree

#### Why in News?

The century-old Indian siris tree on the western bank of the River Godavari in Kumaradevam, East Godavari district, collapsed recently due to soil erosion caused by the heavy flow of floodwater.

This tree had been featured in over 100 movies and was believed to be the most photographed tree near the Godavari river.

#### About Indian Siris (Albizia lebbek)



Figure 2. Source: TH

1. The Indian Siris, scientifically known as *Albizia lebbek*, is a species of deciduous tree in the Fabaceae family.

2. It is native to tropical and subtropical regions of Asia and Africa.

3. It is known for its large, feathery leaves and fragrant flowers. The Indian Siris is widely appreciated for its aesthetic, ecological, and

economic benefits.

4. Habitat: The Indian Siris thrives in a variety of habitats, including riverbanks, dry forests, and coastal areas. It is highly adaptable to different soil types, although it prefers well-drained soils.

5. The tree is also tolerant of drought and can survive in arid conditions, making it suitable for reforestation projects in dry regions.

6. Uses:



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- i) The wood of the Indian Siris is durable and termite-resistant, making it valuable for construction, furniture, and cabinetry. It is also used for making agricultural tools and implements.
  - ii) Various parts of the tree, including the bark, leaves, and seeds, are used in traditional medicine. They are believed to have anti-inflammatory, anti-allergic, and antimicrobial properties.
  - iii) The Indian Siris is an excellent shade tree and is often planted in parks, gardens, and along roadsides. It helps in soil conservation and provides habitat for numerous bird and insect species.
  - iv) Due to its attractive foliage and fragrant flowers, the Indian Siris is popular as an ornamental tree in landscaping.
7. Cultivation: It grows best in full sunlight and requires minimal maintenance once established. Regular pruning can help maintain its shape and encourage healthy growth.
8. Cultural Significance: In India, the Indian Siris holds cultural and symbolic importance. It is often associated with prosperity and protection. The tree is also mentioned in various ancient texts and scriptures, highlighting its longstanding presence and value in Indian society.
9. Conservation: Conservation efforts, including sustainable harvesting practices and reforestation programs, are essential to ensure its continued survival and availability for future generations.

## UPSC Syllabus: Environment

### Bailey bridge

#### Why in News?

Recently, the Indian Army's Madras Engineer Group (Madras Sappers) constructed a Bailey bridge at Chooralmala to reach Mundakkai village, which was severely impacted by landslides.

#### About Bailey Bridge



Figure 3. Source: Statesman

1. A Bailey bridge is a type of modular bridge with pre-built parts requiring minimal construction work and can be assembled quickly when needed.

2. The Bailey bridge was invented by Donald Coleman Bailey, an English civil engineer, during World War II (1939-45), as noted in a US Army Engineer School manual.

#### How Does the Bailey Bridge Work?

1. The prefabricated parts of a Bailey bridge include light steel panels connected by pins, which are large, screw-like objects that help establish the guardrails of the bridge.

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2. Workers place beams through the guardrails on either side to form the deck or path of the bridge, with all beams constructed to lock into the guardrails, ensuring stability.
3. The bridge can be extended, and the lightness of the parts allows for mobility without the need for heavy installation equipment.
4. In disaster relief situations, this is ideal as the parts can be transported in small trucks, making it useful during wartime as well.

### Key Facts About Madras Sappers

1. The Madras Sappers is an engineering group of the Corps of Engineers of the Indian Army, originating from the Madras Presidency army of the British Raj.
2. This regiment has its headquarters in Bengaluru.
3. The Madras Sappers were the only regiment of the Madras Presidency Army to survive the reorganizations that took place between 1862 and 1928.

## Miombo Forest

### Why in News?

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) have recently signed two agreements to initiate projects focused on safeguarding the miombo forest.

### About Miombo Forest



Source: Miombo woodland

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Aspects	Description
<b>About</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Miombo is a <b>biome</b> encompassing <b>tropical and subtropical grasslands, bushlands, and savannahs</b>.</li> <li>It is a vast <b>African dryland forest ecosystem</b> covering nearly 2.7 million square kilometres across southern Africa.</li> </ol>
<b>Distribution</b>	They are found in <b>Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe</b> .
<b>Flora</b>	The woodlands are characterized by the <b>dominance of Brachystegia species</b> .
<b>Fauna</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is home to various mammal species, such as <b>African elephants, lions, leopards, zebras, giraffes, and several species of antelope</b>.</li> <li>It also hosts numerous bird species, including the <b>Miombo rock thrush and the African pitta</b>.</li> </ol>
<b>Climate</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The climate in the Miombo region is <b>typically tropical, with a distinct dry season</b> that can last for several months.</li> <li>Rainfall is <b>seasonal</b>, occurring mainly during the wet season from November to April.</li> <li>Temperatures vary widely between the <b>hot, wet season and the cooler, dry season</b>.</li> </ol>
<b>Significance</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ecological:</b> The Miombo forest encompasses <b>four bioregions</b>. It plays a crucial role in maintaining the <b>Greater Zambezi</b>, which is one of the most important transnational river basins.</li> <li><b>Economical:</b> The forest facilitates trade in the <b>border region between Mozambique and Zimbabwe</b>.</li> <li><b>Social:</b> The Miombo forest is vital for millions of people in rural areas <b>providing essential resources</b> such as <b>firewood, food, and water</b>.</li> </ol>
<b>Threat</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Miombo Forest faces significant <b>threats from deforestation and land degradation</b>.</li> <li><b>Climate change</b> poses additional challenges, with <b>increasing temperatures and changing rainfall patterns</b> potentially altering the ecosystem's dynamics.</li> </ol>
<b>Conservation Efforts</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Efforts to conserve the Miombo Forest include the <b>establishment of protected areas, community-based natural resource management, and sustainable land use practices</b>.</li> <li><b>International and local organizations</b> work together to promote reforestation, sustainable agriculture, and the protection of wildlife habitats.</li> <li><b>Community involvement</b> is critical to these conservation strategies.</li> </ol>

Read more: [Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#)

## Nandini Sahakar Scheme

### Why in News?

The National Cooperative Development Corporation has recently launched the Nandini Sahakar Scheme to support women entrepreneurs.

### About Nandini Sahakar Scheme

Aspects	Description
About	The Nandini Sahakar Yojana is a women-focused initiative by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
Focus	Women-focused framework for financial assistance, project formulation, hand-holding, and capacity development.
Aim	i) The scheme aims to improve socio-economic status of women and supports entrepreneurial dynamism of women through women cooperatives. ii) It will converge critical inputs of women's enterprise, business plan formulation, capacity development, credit and subsidy and/ or interest subvention of other schemes.
Objective	i) Align with the principles of Atmanirbhar Bharat as outlined by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. ii) Improve the socio-economic status of women. iii) Support entrepreneurial dynamism through women cooperatives.
Features	<b>1. Financial Assistance:</b> The scheme provides financial assistance to women cooperatives for business model-based activities. There is no minimum or maximum limit on financial aid for projects. <b>2. Project Formulation:</b> It assists women cooperatives in project formulation, ensuring their business plans are well-structured. <b>3. Capacity Development:</b> The scheme focuses on building the capacity of women cooperatives to effectively manage their enterprises. <b>4. Convergence:</b> It brings together critical inputs such as credit, subsidies, and interest subvention from other schemes to support women's enterprise.

## UPSC Syllabus: Programme and schemes

### QCI Surajya Recognition and Ranking Framework

#### Why in News?

The Quality Council of India (QCI) has recently launched the QCI Surajya Recognition & Ranking Framework.

#### About QCI Surajya Recognition & Ranking Framework

Aspects	Description
About	The Quality Council of India (QCI) Surajya Recognition & Ranking Framework is an initiative aimed at promoting excellence in governance across various domains.
Objective	Drive excellence among states to improve citizens' quality of life for a Viksit Bharat.
Aim	i) It emphasized the collective synergy of states as the driving force behind creating a Viksit Bharat. ii) The Surajya initiative aims to promote high standards and best practices in key sectors of India. iii) It celebrates states' commitment to quality and continuous improvement.
Framework Pillars	Shiksha (Education), Swasthya (Health), Samriddhi (Prosperity), and Sushasan (Governance).

#### Focus of the Initiative

##### 1. Shiksha (Education):

- i) It enhances education quality through robust accreditation and certification.
- ii) Uttar Pradesh leads with the highest number of accreditations, assessments, and ratings. Delhi ranks prominently among union territories.

##### 2. Swasthya (Health):

- i) Guaranteeing superior healthcare services and maintaining high medical care standards.
- ii) States excelling in Ayushman Arogya Yojana (NABH) certifications: Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Mizoram, and Manipur.
- iii) Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra lead in Medical Entry Level Testing Labs (MELT) rankings (NABL).
- iv) Chandigarh (100% certification in Ayushman Arogya Yojana) and Jammu & Kashmir (71.43% certification rate) perform well among union territories. Delhi excels in MELT, followed by Jammu & Kashmir.

##### 3. Samriddhi (Prosperity):

- i) Driving economic prosperity through quality assurance in manufacturing and industrial practices.

ii) Leading states in ZED certifications: Gujarat, Karnataka, and Rajasthan. Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi achieve significant ZED certifications.

iii) Top performers in the MSME Competitive LEAN Scheme: Maharashtra and Bihar.

#### **4. Sushasan (Governance):**

i) It ensures transparent, accountable, and responsive governance.

ii) The Sushasan category to be featured in future editions of the rankings.

## **UPSC Syllabus: Governance**

### **DNA Profiling**

#### **Why in News?**

In mid-June, the Madras High Court overturned the conviction of a man in a POCSO rape case, citing insufficient proof by the prosecution. The court questioned the sole reliance on DNA evidence for establishing guilt, noting the victim's false accusation as a key factor in the wrongful conviction. This has increased the focus on the process of DNA profiling.

#### **What is DNA?**

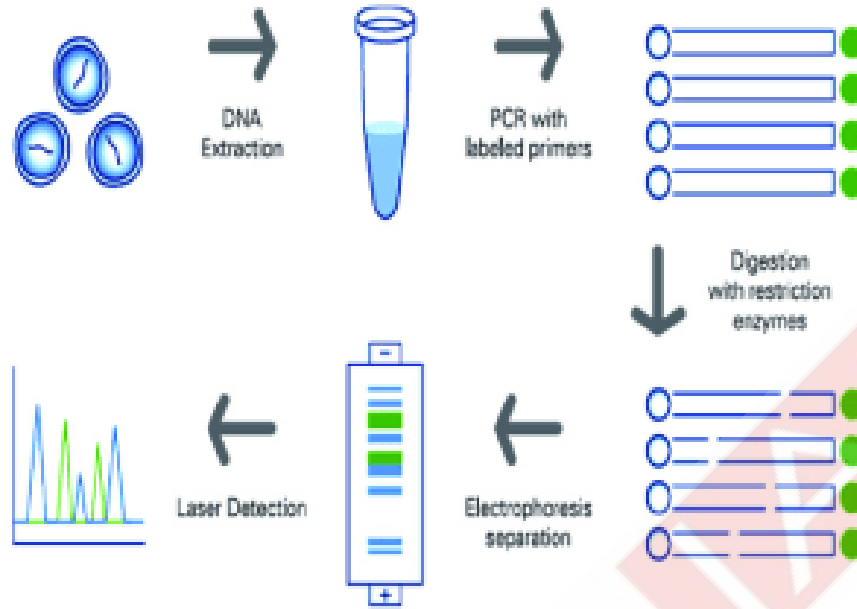
1. DNA stands for Deoxyribonucleic Acid, which is the genetic material present in the nucleus of almost all cells in living organisms.
2. It carries information that determines the internal organization, physical characteristics, and physiological functions of the body.
3. DNA is made up of four nucleotide bases: Adenine (A), Guanine (G), Thymine (T), and Cytosine (C), arranged in a double-helix structure.

#### **About DNA Profiling**

1. DNA profiling is a method used to identify individuals based on their unique DNA sequences.
2. Although 99.9% of human DNA is identical, the remaining 0.1% contains variations that can be used to create a DNA profile.
3. Specific locations in this 0.1% are examined, focusing on Short Tandem Repeats (STRs), which are repetitive sequences of DNA that vary from person to person.

#### **About Process of DNA Profiling**

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Source: Researchgate

Process	Description
<b>Sample Collection</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DNA can be collected from various biological materials like blood, saliva, semen, hair, or skin cells.</li> <li>2. The process of collecting, storing, and transporting DNA samples is crucial to avoid contamination and ensure the accuracy of the results.</li> </ol>
<b>Laboratory Analysis</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DNA profiling involves several steps: isolating DNA from the sample, amplifying specific genetic markers, and analyzing these markers to create a DNA profile.</li> <li>2. The key steps are isolation, purification, amplification, visualization, genotyping, and statistical analysis.</li> </ol>

### How reliable is DNA Profiling

1. DNA profiling is a powerful tool in forensic science, but it is not infallible. The process is based on probability, and various factors like sample contamination, degradation, or mishandling can affect the results.
2. The reliability of DNA evidence also depends on the quality of the sample and the expertise of the laboratory performing the analysis.

### DNA Profiling in Criminal Cases

1. **Role in Establishing Guilt or Innocence:** DNA evidence can be critical in criminal investigations, helping to identify or exclude suspects. However, DNA evidence alone may not be conclusive.
2. Courts often require additional evidence to corroborate DNA findings before reaching a verdict.

3. In legal cases, the probative value of DNA evidence can vary. Courts may treat DNA evidence as strong, but not absolute, and it must be weighed alongside other evidence.

4. The absence of DNA evidence does not automatically imply innocence or guilt; other evidence may still be critical to the case.

## UPSC Syllabus: Science and technology

### INS Tabar

#### Why in News?

Recently, the Russian President greeted Indian Navy personnel aboard the Indian Naval Ship (INS) Tabar. INS Tabar is currently participating in Russia's Navy Day celebrations.

#### About INS Tabar



Source: PIB

Aspects	Description
About	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. INS Tabar is a stealth frigate which is a type of warship built for the Indian Navy in Russia.</li><li>2. It is the third ship in the Talwar-class series of frigates in the Indian Navy.</li><li>3. The ship was commissioned (officially put into service) on April 19, 2004, in Kaliningrad, Russia.</li><li>4. The ship is part of the Indian Navy's Western Fleet, based in Mumbai under the Western Naval Command.</li></ol>
Capabilities	INS Tabar can perform various missions, including air, surface (on water), and sub-surface (underwater) operations. It can work independently or as part of



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	a larger naval fleet.
Key Features of INS Tabar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The vessel has a crew complement of approximately 280 personnel and is equipped with a comprehensive array of advanced weapons and sensors.</li><li>2. INS Tabar can travel at a top speed of 30 knots (56 km/h or 35 mph).</li></ol>
Weapons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. INS Tabar is equipped with a versatile range of advanced weapons and sensors.</li><li>2. It is the first ship in the Talwar class to be armed with supersonic BrahMos anti-ship cruise missiles.</li><li>3. The ship is also equipped with Barak-1 missiles for defense.</li></ol>

### Bagata Tribe

#### Why in News?

The Bagata tribal people, who worked on the Lower Sileru Hydro-Electric Project construction, continue to live in darkness as they struggle to obtain electricity.

#### About Bagata Tribe



Aspects	Description
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About	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Bagata tribe resides in the states of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.</li><li>2. The Bagatas trace their community name to devoted warriors (Bhaktas) of the former rulers.</li><li>3. The Bagata tribes engage in farming to meet their daily needs.</li></ol>
Alternate Names	They are also known as Bagatha, Bagat, Bagodi, Bogad, or Bhakta.
Dance forms	Dhimsa is a popular dance enjoyed by Bagata tribes of all ages, who participate energetically. Their dances are collectively known as Sankidi Kelbar.
Family	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Nuclear families are common within their society.</li><li>2. Cross-cousin marriage is preferred, and marriage by negotiation is considered ideal.</li></ol>
Language	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. They primarily speak a form of the Oriya language among themselves.</li><li>2. Telugu and Adivasi Oriya are their main languages.</li></ol>
Religion	They worship Hindu gods and goddesses alongside their family and tribal deities.

## UPSC Syllabus: Art and Culture

### The Boilers Bill 2024

#### Why in News?

Recently, the Boilers Bill 2024 was introduced in Rajya Sabha. It repeals the Boilers Act, 1923 (5 of 1923). The Bill aims to meet current industry requirements and enhance the safety of personnel working with boilers.

#### Major Provisions of the Boilers Bill, 2024

<b>Enumeration of Functions and Powers</b>	of The functions and powers of the Central Government, State Governments, and the Central Boilers Board have been enumerated in detail to avoid any confusion.
<b>Decriminalization of Offenses</b>	of Three offenses out of the seven offenses have been decriminalized. Non-criminal offenses, are now subject to fiscal penalties through an executive mechanism instead of courts.
<b>Retention of Major Offenses</b>	Criminal penalties for four major offenses, which may result in loss of life and property, have been retained to ensure safety.
<b>Specific Provisions to</b>	Specific provisions have been included to ensure the safety of persons working inside boilers. It has also been provided that boiler repairs must be undertaken by

ensure Safety	qualified and competent persons.
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## UPSC Syllabus: Polity and nation

### Waqf Act 1995

#### Why in News?

The government is expected to introduce a bill in the Lok Sabha that seeks to amend 44 sections of the Waqf Act of 1995.

#### About Waqf Act and Waqf Board

The Waqf Act of 1995 governs the administration and management of Waqf properties.

Purpose of the act: The Act is designed to ensure that Waqf properties, which are typically dedicated by Muslims for religious, charitable, or specific private purposes, are managed efficiently and in accordance with Islamic law.

#### Key Provisions of the Waqf Act, 1995

**1. About Waqf:** A Waqf is a permanent dedication of movable or immovable property for religious, pious, or charitable purposes as recognized by Muslim law. Once a property is declared as Waqf, its status is irrevocable and cannot be changed or reversed.

**2. About Waqf Boards:** Each state in India is required to establish a Waqf Board, which acts as the custodian of all Waqf properties within the state.

The Waqf Board is responsible for administering the property, recovering lost properties, and ensuring that the properties are used for the intended religious or charitable purposes.

**3. Mutawalli:** The Mutawalli is appointed by the Waqf Board and manages Waqf property daily. The Board oversees their activities and can remove or replace them if needed.

**4. Waqf Tribunal:** The Waqf Tribunal is established by the state government, resolves disputes over Waqf properties. It consists of a judicial officer, a civil service officer, and a Muslim law expert.

5. The Act mandates a comprehensive survey of all Waqf properties, which is carried out by a Survey Commissioner appointed by the state government.

6. All Waqf properties are to be registered with the Waqf Board, and any unregistered property cannot be recognized as Waqf.

7. The Waqf Act strictly prohibits the sale, gift, exchange, or mortgage of Waqf properties. Any transfer of immovable Waqf property requires the approval of the Waqf Board, with a two-thirds majority.

**8. Penalties for Encroachment:** The Act prescribes penalties, including imprisonment of up to two years, for the unauthorized encroachment or misuse of Waqf properties.

Read More- [The Waqf \(Amendment\) Bill 2024- Key changes, Reasons and Concerns- Explained Pointwise](#)