

PSIR & GS-2

DAILY BRIEF

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Briefs, scans the best academic platforms, national newspapers & leading think tanks to pick the most relevant articles & research. It converts them into crisp, high-impact points you can directly use in your mains answers.



PSIR OPTIONAL BY
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US's credibility crisis is Indo-Pacific's biggest challenge



On the surface, the Indo-Pacific region seems peaceful and stable compared to what is happening in Europe and West Asia. But the potential for conflict is clearly simmering underneath. Will China do what Russia has done to Ukraine or the US has done to Iran in the region?

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Context The Ukraine and Iran have damaged the one thing that region's peace actually rests on the belief that American security promises will be honoured.

Facts

China tested a submarine-launched intercontinental ballistic missile in the Pacific: giving the US only a few hours' notice and with incomplete information.

Chinese assertion of sovereignty in the South China Sea: almost become a new normal.

China declared Taiwan the "red line" & Trump maintained "studied silence".

Analytical Crux

Two wars fought nowhere near Asia have done their real damage inside Asia i.e. by eating the belief that US will actually turn up. The issue is among America's own allies and partners, not among its rivals i.e. Japan and Seoul on extended deterrence, ASEAN on the South China Sea, Taipei after Trump's remark on troops. That is why deterrence in the Indo-Pacific is failing at the level of credibility rather than capability & capability without credibility deters nobody. China's easiest route to dominance is not to fight a war, but to wait until the region stops believing the American guarantee.

Verbatim Quotes

"On the surface, the Indo-Pacific region seems peaceful & stable compared to what is happening in Europe and West Asia. But the potential for conflict is clearly simmering underneath."

-Chintamani Mahapatra

A quiet revolution in the queue for justice



A quiet revolution in the queue for justice

Knowing that the system will now hear them without an endless wait may embolden many to come forward and claim, at last, their day in court. That is worth building on.

 **Rahul Bajaj** Last Updated : 12 July 2026, 02:34 IST

Context Indian courts have begun listing cases filed by persons with disabilities on priority, and this small procedural change carries far more weight than it appears to.

Facts

■ **National Judicial Data Grid records:** 5,04,12,584 cases pending before Indian courts.

■ India has 22 judges per million people, against the long recommended benchmark of 50 per million.

■ High Court of Meghalaya from 1 July 2026 : identifies cases involving persons with disabilities (as per the RPwD Act, 2016) for priority listing.

Analytical Crux

The reform is small and the argument for it is large. Priority listing creates no new right for a disabled litigant; it only moves the file up the queue. But in a system where the RPwD Act is barely enforced i.e. inaccessible websites, buildings cleared without an accessibility check, commissions that can only recommend. Therefore, the courtroom is the single place where a disabled person can get an order that actually binds someone. Once that is true, delay stops being an administrative irritant and becomes the denial itself: a right you can only realise after ten years is not much of a right.

Verbatim Quotes

"It is no secret that India's justice system groans under its own weight. An indefinite delay is not a minor inconvenience. It is a quiet denial of justice."

- Rahul Bajaj

Tryst with constitution- vacancies, bye elections & petitions

Tryst with the Constitution: Vacancies, Bye-Elections and Election Petitions

Pending election petitions can delay bypolls, causing representation gaps due to judicial delays and differing court views.



Context Seats in Parliament and State assemblies are lying vacant without bye-elections because a pending election petition freezes the seat which have turned a voter-protecting rule into a representation gap.

Facts

- Section 151 A, Representation of the People Act, 1951 : the EC must conduct a bye-election within six months of a seat falling vacant.
- Two statutory exceptions : (i) remainder of the term is less than one year ; (ii) the EC, in consultation with the Union Government, certifies that holding the bye-election within the period is difficult.

Analytical Crux

There is a case of two constitutional goods pulling in opposite directions. Section 151 A wants the seat filled within six months and Section 84 wants the real winner of the last election declared. Telangana Rashttra Samiti (2010) resolves that clash in favour of the mandate and strips the EC of discretion.

The sharpest move is to show that the 2010 rule works if election petitions are decided fast and they are not, which is how a doctrine built to protect the voter ends up leaving 14 assembly seats and 6 parliamentary seats with no member at all. Judicial delay is not merely a litigant's problem, it is a representation problem, and it converts a protective judicial doctrine into a democratic cost.

PSIR PAPER II, 2025: India maintains strong ties with countries that will assure a free and open Indo-Pacific and guarantee greater connectivity with rest of the world. Analyze.

PSIR PAPER II, 2025: For India, a multipolar world order would also mean a multipolar Asia. Comment.

GS PAPER II, 2025: Discuss the 'corrupt practices' for the purpose of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. Analyze whether the increase in the assets of the legislators and/or their associates, disproportionate to their known sources of income, would constitute 'undue influence' and consequently a corrupt practice.

GS PAPER II, 2024: Examine the need for electoral reforms as suggested by various committees with particular reference to 'one nation – one election' principle.

GS PAPER II, 2024: Explain the reasons for the growth of public interest litigation in India. As a result of it, has the Indian Supreme Court emerged as the world's most powerful judiciary?

GS PAPER II, 2023: Who are entitled to receive free legal aid? Assess the role of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) in rendering free legal aid in India.

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