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MK Yadav Sir

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THE HINDU Page 15

IOM
(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – IR)

With 8,565 dead, UN says 2023 was the deadliest year in a decade for migrants

Agence France-Presse
GENEVA



Disappearing shores: The casualty numbers of 2023 mark a 20% increase when compared to the previous year. GETTY IMAGES

At least 8,565 people died on migration routes worldwide in 2023, making it the deadliest year since records began a decade ago, the UN's International Organization for Migration said on Wednesday.

"The 2023 death toll represents a tragic increase of 20% compared to 2022, highlighting the urgent need for action to prevent further loss of life," the IOM said in a statement.

Last year's total surpassed the previous record reached in 2016, when 8,084 people died during migration.

The IOM said that because safe and regular migration pathways remain limited, hundreds of thousands of people attempt to migrate every year via irregular routes in unsafe conditions.

The Mediterranean ocean crossing continues to be the deadliest route for migrants, with at least 3,129 deaths and disappearances registered last year.

Primary cause

Slightly more than half of the total migrant deaths in 2023 came as a result of drowning, with 9% caused by vehicle accidents, and 7% in violence.

The IOM's Missing Migrants Project was established in 2014 as an open-access database on migrant deaths and disappearances.

It has since documented more than 63,000 cases worldwide, though the true figure is estimated to be much higher due to challenges in data collection, particularly in remote locations.

"As we mark the Missing Migrants Project's 10 years, we first remember all these lives lost," IOM deputy director general Ugochi Daniels said.

"Every single one of them is a terrible human tragedy that reverberates through families and communities for years to come," Ms. Daniels added.

- **Context:** The International Organisation for Migration said the biggest increase in deaths last year was on the treacherous Mediterranean Sea crossing, to 3,129 from 2,411 in 2022.
  - Overall, the biggest jump in deaths in recent years was in Asia, where more than 2,000 migrants died compared to an annual average of under 1,000 since 2014. IOM said 2,138 migrants died in Asia last year, 68 more than in 2022.

International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

- **About:** Established in 1951, IOM is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration, collaborating closely with governmental, intergovernmental, and non-governmental partners.
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.
- **History**: IOM was born in 1951 amid the chaos and displacement of Western Europe following the Second World War.
- **Status of IOM**: It was granted Permanent Observer status to the UN General Assembly in 1992, and a cooperation agreement between IOM and the UN was signed in 1996.
- **Membership and Global Presence**: With 175 member states, 8 states holding observer status, and offices in over 100 countries, IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration. India is a member of IOM.
- **Areas of Focus:** IOM works in four broad areas of migration management, including:
  - Migration and development
  - Facilitating migration
  - Regulating migration
  - Forced migration
- **World Migration Report:** Published annually by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) of the UN.

KULASEKARAPATTINAM LAUNCHPORT
(Syllabus GS Paper 3 – Sci and Tech)

WHY INDIA IS BUILDING A SECOND ROCKET LAUNCHPORT, IN TAMIL NADU

ANJALI MARAR
BENGALURU, MARCH 6

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the second rocket launchport of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) at Kulasekarapattinam in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, on February 28. Once operational, the launchport will be used for commercial, on-demand, and small satellite launches.

Why does India need a new launchport?

With the Centre's recent policy announcing the opening of the space sector to private players, a sharp rise in the number of commercial launches is certain. To ensure that ISRO's first launchport, the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, is not overburdened with a high number of launches, the space agency has decided to build another facility.

While SHAR will be only used for launching bigger and heavy-lift-off missions, the Kulasekarapattinam launchport will be used for launching smaller payloads, using Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLVs). SHAR will also be available for India's big ticket missions to the Moon, Venus, and the human-flight mission, Gaganyaan.

Private players may develop space-qualified sub-systems, build satellites, and even launch vehicles at the new launchport. It will also facilitate a dedicated launch infrastructure for all the on-demand commercial launches.

Why is it located in Tamil Nadu?

Like SHAR, the new launchport is also situated in Southern India, near the equator. It is because "for a launch site close to the equator, the magnitude of the velocity imparted due to Earth's rotation is about 450 m/s, which can lead to substantial increase in the payload for a given launch vehicle. Geostationary satellites must necessarily be in the equatorial plane. So, for such satellites, the closer the launch site is to the equator the better it is," according to *From Fishing Hamlet to Red Planet: India's Space Journey*, a book edited by former ISRO scientists

The location of Kulasekarapattinam launchport has more advantages than SHAR for launching smaller launch vehicles. It will allow a direct southward and smaller launch trajectory for the light weight SSLVs carrying less fuel, which will boost ISRO's attempts to enhance payload capacities.

Currently, the trajectory followed by launches from SHAR is longer. The path requires the vehicle to skirt eastwards around Sri Lanka before taking the actual southward flight. This consumes additional fuel. Launches from Kulasekarapattinam, however, will not burn additional fuel as the launchport is geographically located several kilometres to the west of Colombo, Sri Lanka. The location will allow a straight southward flight and help save the limited fuel on SSLVs.

What is the status of the new launchport?

The Tamil Nadu government has completed the acquisition of over 2,000 acres of land in Kulasekarapattinam. The acquired land has now been handed over to ISRO.

Last week, ISRO Chairman S Somanath said it might take up to two years for the completion of the construction at the site. The new facility could permit anywhere between 20 to 30 SSLV launches annually.

Context: The Prime Minister of India recently laid the foundation stone of the **second rocket launchport** of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) at Kulasekarapattinam.

Kulasekarapattinam Launchport

- **About:** The Kulasekarapattinam launchport in Tamil Nadu offers a natural advantage to ISRO's future launches due to its strategic geographical location.
- **Scientific Benefit:** The launchport enables direct southward trajectories for SSLVs, which are lighter and require less fuel, thereby optimizing ISRO's payload capacities and efficiency.
- **Strategic Importance**: Located in Tamil Nadu, the Kulasekarapattinam facility reduces the launch trajectory distance compared to launches from SHAR, cutting fuel consumption and enhancing strategic maneuverability for ISRO's space missions.

Need a New Launchport

- **Increasing Commercial Launches**: The Union government's policy opening the space sector to private players will lead to a surge in commercial launches.
- **Preventing Overburdening of Existing Facility**: To avoid overburdening the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR in Sriharikota, India needs a new launchport.
- **Diversification of Launch Capabilities**: Kulasekarapattinam launchport will handle smaller payloads, diversifying India's launch capabilities.
- **Preserving SHAR for Major Missions**: SHAR will remain dedicated to heavy-lift-off missions and significant endeavors like missions to the Moon, Venus, and the Gaganyaan human-flight mission.

SSLV

- **About**: SSLVs, or Small Satellite Launch Vehicles, are compact launch vehicles developed by ISRO for launching small satellites.
- **Characteristics:** SSLVs feature a three-stage launch vehicle with a lift-off weight of approximately 120 tonnes, measuring 34 meters in length and 2 meters in diameter.
- **Propulsion Systems**: SSLVs are equipped with a combination of solid propulsion for the initial stages and liquid propulsion for the terminal stage.

IAA GOLDEN COMPASS AWARD

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 – Sports and Awards)



Srinivasan Swamy chairman R K Swamy.

Global award for Srinivasan Swamy

Srinivasan Swamy, the chairman and managing director of R K Swamy Ltd, on Wednesday received the prestigious IAA Golden Compass Award at the 45th International Advertising Association (IAA) World Congress in Penang, Malaysia. The award honours individuals who have significantly contributed on the world stage in the fields of marketing, advertising and media.

Swamy is the first Indian industry leader to receive the award. Earlier recipients include Shelly Lazarus, chairman emeritus, Ogilvy & Mather; former Unilever CEO Paul Polman; Paul Rossi, president, Economist Group; Marc Pritchard, chief brand officer at Procter & Gamble; and Andrew Robertson, president and CEO of BBDO Worldwide.

Swamy was one of the founding members of the Confederation of Asian Advertising Agency Associations, serving as its vice-chairman and chairman. He was also the first Indian to be IAA chairman and world president.

Meanwhile, integrated marketing services firm R K Swamy saw its ₹423.56 crore initial public offering being subscribed 25.78 times on the last day on Wednesday. **STAFF WRITER**

Context: **Srinivasan K. Swamy**, CMD of integrated marketing services company RK Swami Ltd. has been presented with the **IAA Goden Compass Award at the 45th IAA World Congress held in Penang, Malaysia.**

IAA Golden Compass Award:

- **About:** The IAA emphasizes its commitment to recognizing individuals within the marketing communications community who embody leadership and dedication to the industry.
- **Creation of the IAA Compass Awards**: To honor their commitment to driving excellence in communications as well as their contribution to the worldwide advancement of the International Advertising Association.
- **Categories of Awards**: Six distinct categories acknowledge the outstanding contributions of individuals and chapters to the marketing communications landscape.
    - IAA Champion Award
    - IAA Young Leader Award
    - IAA Honorary Life Member
    - IAA Executive Director Award
    - IAA Chapter Excellence Award
    - IAA Golden Compass Award
- **Recognition of Industry Leaders**: The prestigious Golden Compass Award singles out external industry leaders for their remarkable achievements in international advertising and marketing.
- **Presentation of Awards:** The IAA Compass Awards are typically presented at either the World Congress, held biennially, or at a global flagship event conducted annually.

International Advertising Association (IAA):

- **About:** Established in 1938, it is the only global association that represents all spheres of the marketing and marketing communications industry.
- **Location:** New York, USA.

DTE

Mar 6

ORANS

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Env and Eco)

Villagers oppose declaring 'orans' as deemed forests, fearing loss of access and livelihood

Context: Recently, a state government notification has instilled fear among Rajasthan community dwellers, anticipating the potential loss of access to forest produce and livelihoods due to the proposed classification of **orans (sacred groves)** as deemed forests, particularly affecting communities in western Rajasthan.

Orans:

- **About:** Orans are **community forests** preserving biodiversity, facilitating water management, and sustaining Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) extraction in Rajasthan's Aravali Mountain Range and Great Indian Desert.
- **Significance**: Sacred groves represent historical, cultural, and emotional ties between human communities and forests, fostering unity and reverence among rural populations.
- **Challenges of Degradation and Depletion**: Orans face degradation and depletion due to natural and anthropogenic factors, threatening their ecological and communal integrity.
- **The Extent of Orans**: Rajasthan hosts approximately 25,000 orans, covering over 600,000 hectares, serving as vital lifelines for local communities.
- **Historical Degradation**: Orans have suffered neglect, degradation, and opposition from various quarters, but efforts by organizations like KRAPAVIS aim to revive and restore their vitality.
- **Biodiversity Hotspots**: Orans boast diverse flora such as rohida, bordi, kumbhat, and desi babool, alongside various grasses like sevan and murath, providing habitats for over 250 species of birds and animals.

Sacred Grooves

- **About:** These are communally protected forests with significant religious connotations for the protecting community.

Community and Conservation Reserve:

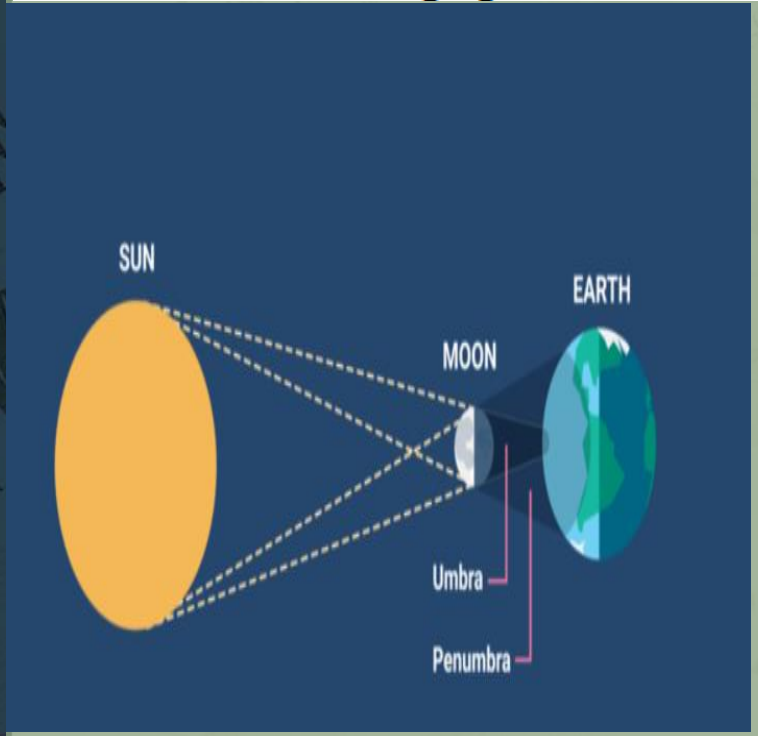
- **About**: Conservation reserves and community reserves in India are terms denoting protected areas of India which typically act as buffer zones to connectors and migration corridors between established national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and reserved and protected forests of India.
- **Declared by**: State government.
- **Regulation:** These protected area categories were first introduced in the **Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act of 2002 – the amendment to the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.**
- **Need:** These categories were added because of reduced protection in and around existing or proposed protected areas due to private ownership of land, and land use.

INDIA TODAY Mar 6

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 – Geography)

What is Total Solar Eclipse that will make the Sun disappear in April?



Context: A total solar eclipse will make the Sun disappear in April 8, 2024, as the world will witness a rare celestial event graze through the skies.

Total Solar Eclipse

- **About:** It is a condition when the Moon passes between the Sun and the Earth and completely blocks the Sun's disk, casting a huge shadow on the surface.
- **Experience along the Path of Totality**: People within the path of totality, where the Moon's shadow completely covers the Sun, will witness a total solar eclipse.
- **Opportunity to Observe the Sun's Corona**: Weather permitting, observers within the path of totality can witness the Sun's corona, its outer atmosphere normally hidden by the Sun's brightness.
- **Visibility of the Sun's Corona**: The corona, the Sun's outermost layer extending millions of kilometers into space, is visible as a faint, pearly-white halo encircling the darkened disk of the Sun, exclusively during a solar eclipse.
- **Phenomenon of Chromosphere**: Totality during the eclipse allows viewers to potentially observe the chromosphere, a region of the solar atmosphere appearing as a thin circle of pink around the Moon, along with the corona.
- **Rare View of Stars and Darkened Surroundings**: During totality, viewers may briefly observe stars as the surroundings go completely dark, offering a rare celestial spectacle.
- **Dip in Air Temperatures**: Additionally, a total solar eclipse is often accompanied by a decrease in air temperatures, adding to the unique experience of this celestial event.

ALL INDIA RADIO

Mar 6

INDUSTRY REVOLUTION 4.0

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Economy)

India enters into industry 4.0 revolution, says Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal

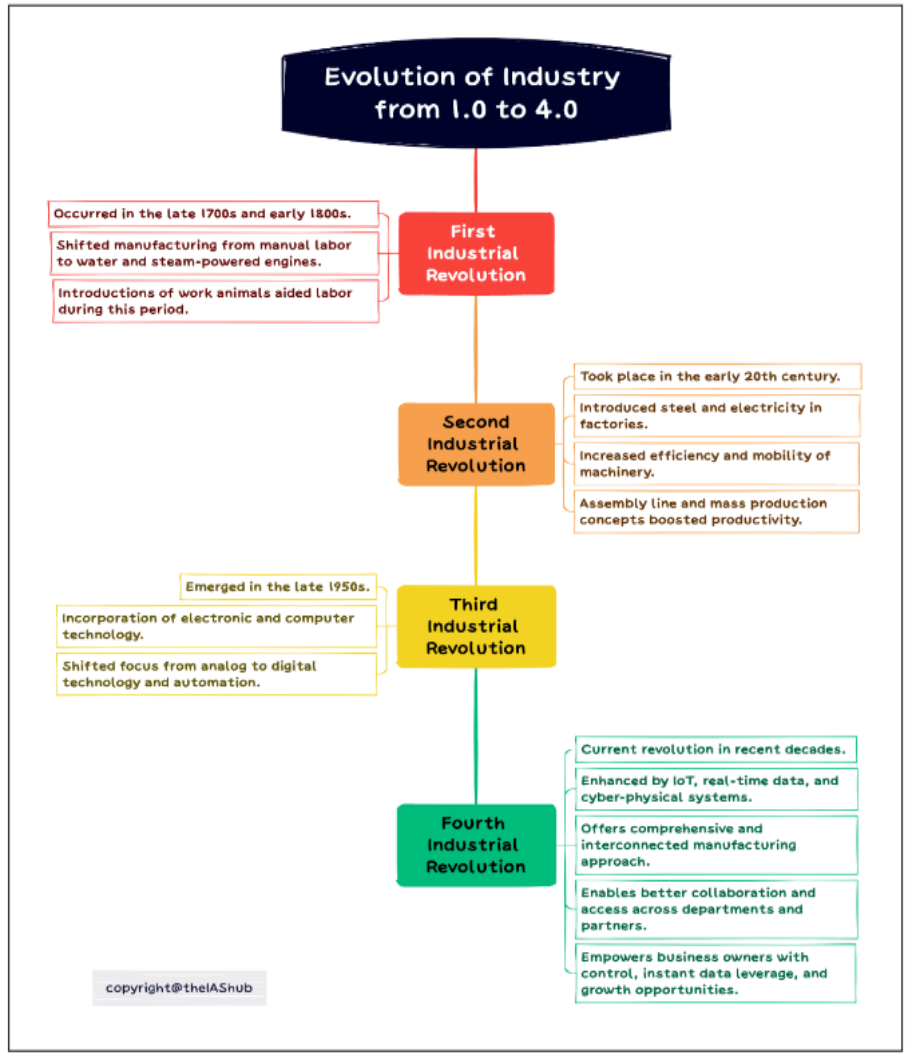
Context: Law Minister of India said that India has entered into industry 4.0 revolution which includes technological advancements like Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, robotics and blockchain technology.

Industrial Revolution 4.0

- **About:** The concept of 'Industry 4.0' was initially formulated by the German government back in 2011.
- **Evolution of Industrial Revolution**: Industry 4.0 signifies a novel stage in the Industrial Revolution, concentrating mainly on intercommunication, automation, application of machine learning, and instantaneous data.
- **Integration of Technologies**: Industry 4.0 integrates the Industrial Internet of Things (IoT) and smart manufacturing, merging physical procedures and production with intelligent digital technologies, machine learning, and extensive data.
- **Objective**: To develop a comprehensive and more interconnected ecosystem for businesses that are centered around manufacturing and supply chain management.
- **Companies and organizations today face a common challenge**: the need for interconnectedness and real-time data across processes, partners, products, and personnel. This is where Industry 4.0 becomes crucial.

4th industrial revolution in India: status

- The digital economy is projected to reach $1 trillion by 2025, contributing around 25% of India's GDP. (Source: McKinsey Global Institute).
- Industry 4.0 technologies have the potential to create 90 million jobs in India by 2030. (Source: BCG and World Economic Forum).



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Mar 5

WILD LIFE AMENDMENT ACT, 2022

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Env and Eco)

Notification of Rules framed under Section 49M of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (as amended in 2022)

Context: The notification of rules framed under Section 49M of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (as amended in 2022), was recently issued.

Wild life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022

- **About:** The Act aims to increase the scope of protected species by aligning with CITES, specifically targeting animals listed in the Appendices of CITES and Schedule IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- **Compliance with CITES Regulations**: The amendment enforces the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), necessitating countries to regulate trade through permits for all listed specimens.
- **Streamlining Schedules**: It rationalizes schedules by reducing them from VI to IV, eliminating Schedule V which includes animals deemed vermin or those destructive to food crops.
- **Designation of Authorities**: The Act designates the Central government to appoint a Management Authority and a Scientific Authority, responsible for granting trade permits and advising on the impact of trading on species' survival, respectively.
- **Regulation of Invasive Alien Species**: It grants the Central government the authority to regulate or prohibit the import, trade, possession, or proliferation of invasive alien species.
- **Management of Sanctuaries**: The Act entrusts the Chief Wild Life Warden with the responsibility to control, manage, and maintain all sanctuaries within a state, appointed by the respective State government.
- **Consultation for Special Areas**: Management plans for sanctuaries in special areas must be prepared after consulting the concerned Gram Sabha, ensuring local participation and consideration.

Wildlife Protection Act, 1972

- **About:** It establishes a legislative framework for the preservation of various wild animal and plant species. It also encompasses the management of habitats, regulation of trade in species' parts, and control of products manufactured from them.
- **Classification under the Act**: The act includes schedules categorizing plants and animals, subjecting them to different levels of government protection and oversight.
- **India's Inclusion in CITES**: The Wildlife Act played a crucial role in India's admission to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).
- **Constitutional Provisions**: Article 48A of the Indian Constitution mandates the State to safeguard and improve the environment, including the protection of wildlife and forests.
- This provision was added by the 42nd Amendment in 1976.
- **Article 51A**: It imposes fundamental obligations on Indian citizens, emphasizing compassion for all living things and the preservation and enhancement of the natural environment, including woods, lakes, rivers, and wildlife.

DTE Mar 6

GRAY WHALE
(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Env and Eco)

Thar she blows: An ice-free Northwest Passage has enabled the Gray Whale's return to New England

Context: The Gray Whale was last seen in the Atlantic Ocean in the 18th century. But now, it has appeared off the coast of the United States' New England region, courtesy climate change.

Gray Whale

- **About:** It is a baleen whale that migrates between feeding and breeding grounds yearly.
- **Scientific name:** Eschrichtius robustus
- **Habitat**: North Pacific and adjacent seas
- **Native**: Canada; China; Japan; Mexico; Russian Federation; United States
- **Physical Features**: Gray whales possess a hump and a ridge of sharp bumps along their backs, in contrast to a dorsal fin commonly found in other whale species.
- **Migrations**: These whales are known for their extensive migrations, covering up to 12,000 miles round trip between feeding and breeding areas.
- **Population**: Estimated 150 individuals (western population); stable (eastern population).
- **Status**: Least Concern.

Whales:

- **About:** Whale, any of the larger species of aquatic mammals belonging to the order Cetacea.
- **Distribution**: Whales are distributed throughout the world's oceans and seas, from the Equator to the polar ice, except for the landlocked Caspian and Aral seas.
- **Characteristics**: They are mammals, and they share the defining traits of that group: they breathe air, are warm-blooded, give live birth, suckle their young on milk, and have hair. There are five cetacean species and 19 subspecies or subpopulations of cetacean that are currently classified as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

CBDT Clarifies: 85% of Trust Donations for Charitable or Religious Purposes per Finance Act, 2023

Context: Recently, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) clarified that according to the Finance Act, 2023, 85% of trust donations are designated for charitable or religious purposes.

Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)

- **About:** CBDT operates as a statutory authority under the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1963, functioning within the legal framework established by this act.
- **Part of**: Department of Revenue in Ministry of Finance
- **Historical Background:** Established initially in 1924 as the Central Board of Revenue, it oversaw both direct and indirect taxes.
    - Split into two entities, CBDT for direct taxes and Central Board of Excise and Customs for indirect taxes, in 1964 due to administrative complexities.
- **Structure**: CBDT is headed by a Chairman and six members, each designated with specialized functions.
- **Functions:**
    - Formulation of policies, levy and collection of direct taxes, and supervision of the Income Tax Department constitute CBDT's core functions.
    - CBDT also recommends legislative changes and alterations in tax rates aligning with government policies.

Finance Act, 2023

- **About**: It serves as a pivotal financial document delineating tax proposals and budgetary allocations for the fiscal year 2023-24, offering a roadmap for resource allocation and tax policy streamlining.
- **Provision Regarding Donations**: this act specifies that donations made by trusts or institutions shall be considered as applications for charitable or religious purposes only up to 85 percent of the donation, addressing concerns about the remaining 15 percent's nature.

INDIAN EXPRESS Page 22

ARTICLE 371 AND 6TH SCHEDULE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – Polity)

Ladakh, Article 371, and the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution

AJOY SINHA KARPURAM
NEW DELHI, MARCH 6

EXPLAINED POLITICS

IN A meeting with representatives from Ladakh, which has been witnessing protests recently, Union Home Minister Amit Shah offered to extend Article 371-like protections to the region. Shah is learnt to have told the Leh Apex Body (ABL) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) that their concerns related to jobs, land, and culture would be taken care of, but the government would not go as far as to include Ladakh in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

What is the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution?

Following the repeal of Article 370 in August 2019 and the subsequent enactment of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, Ladakh has been recognised as a separate Union Territory "without legislature". UTs like New Delhi and Puducherry have their own Legislative Assemblies.

Ever since the separation, organisations like the ABL and the KDA have demanded that Ladakh be included under the Sixth Schedule. This Schedule contains provisions regarding the administration of tribal areas in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

Inclusion under this Schedule would allow Ladakh to create Autonomous District and Regional Councils (ADCs and ARCs) — elected bodies with the power to administrate tribal areas. This would include the power to make laws on subjects such as forest management, agriculture, administration of villages and towns, inheritance, marriage, divorce and social customs. A majority of the population in Ladakh belongs to Scheduled Tribes.

The ADCs and ARCs may also constitute village councils or courts to decide disputes between parties from Scheduled Tribes, and appoint officers to oversee the administration of the laws they enact.

In cases where the offences are punishable with death or more than five years of imprisonment, the Governor of the state can confer upon the ADCs and ARCs the power to try them under the country's criminal and civil laws.

The Schedule also gives ARCs and ADCs the power to collect land revenue, impose taxes, regulate money lending and trading, collect royalties from licences or leases for the extraction of minerals in their areas, and establish public facilities such as schools, markets, and roads.



Ladakh residents protest at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi, last year. *Prem Nath Pandey*

What protections are offered under Article 371?

Articles 371 and 371-A through J provide "special provisions" for specific states, often to give representation to certain religious and social groups and to allow these groups to exercise autonomy over their affairs without interference from the state and central governments.

Special provisions under Article 371 would allow protections to be extended to the population of Ladakh, while stopping short of the widespread autonomy provided to ADCs and ARCs under the Sixth Schedule.

When the Constitution first came into force, Article 371 stood alone, requiring the creation of "development boards" in Maharashtra and Gujarat for certain regions in order to assess their overall development and the need for government expenditure. As new states were created, more special provisions were introduced.

Under Article 371-A, which contains provisions related to Nagaland, Parliament cannot enact laws that affect the social, religious, or customary legal practices of Nagas, or the transfer and ownership of land without concurrence from the state Assembly. Similar protections have also been extended to Mizos from Mizoram under Article 371-G

Articles 371-B and C allow the creation of special committees in the Legislative Assemblies of Assam and Manipur. These committees comprise MLAs elected from tribal areas and Hill areas respectively.

Special provisions have also been introduced to provide reservations in the Sikkim Legislative Assembly (Article 371-F), in order to protect "the rights and interests of the different sections of the population".

Notably, the special provisions for Nagaland, Manipur, Sikkim, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh (371-H), and Goa (371-J) were introduced shortly after each of these states was officially created. If special provisions are introduced for Ladakh, it would be the first time they are introduced for a Union Territory as opposed to a state.

Shah reportedly assured the Ladakh delegation that the government would ensure representation and participation of locals through hill councils and was willing to provide up to 80 per cent reservation in public employment.

Context: In a meeting with representatives from Ladakh, which has been witnessing protests recently, Union Home Minister of India offered to extend Article 371-like protections to the region.

Sixth Schedule of the Constitution

- **About:** The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution pertains to the administration of tribal areas in specific states of India, namely Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.
- **Provisions for Autonomous Governance**: Inclusion under the Sixth Schedule would empower Ladakh to establish Autonomous District and Regional Councils (ADCs and ARCs) with legislative powers.
- **Extent of Legislative Authority**: ADCs and ARCs would have jurisdiction over matters such as forest management, agriculture, inheritance, social customs, and administration of villages and towns.
- **Judicial and Administrative Powers**: These councils could establish village councils or courts, appoint officers, and adjudicate disputes among Scheduled Tribes, with potential authority over criminal and civil laws.

Article 371

- **About:** Articles 371 and 371-A through J establish "special provisions" aimed at specific states, aiming to ensure representation for various religious and social groups while granting autonomy over their affairs.
- **Protection for Ladakh**: Article 371 offers protections for Ladakh's local population, although it doesn't grant the extensive autonomy provided to ADCs and ARCs under the Sixth Schedule.
- **Evolution of Article 371**: Initially, Article 371 required the establishment of "development boards" in Maharashtra and Gujarat, with subsequent states receiving additional special provisions as they were created.
- **Safeguards for Nagaland and Mizoram**: Article 371-A and 371-G safeguard Nagas and Mizos by preventing Parliament from enacting laws that affect their social, religious, or customary practices without state Assembly concurrence.
- **Special Committees in Assam and Manipur**: Articles 371-B and 371-C permit the formation of special committees in the Legislative Assemblies of Assam and Manipur, comprising MLAs elected from tribal and Hill areas respectively.
- **Reservations in Sikkim Legislative Assembly**: Article 371-F introduces reservations in the Sikkim Legislative Assembly to safeguard the rights and interests of various population segments.

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