

JULY

6

# CRUX 10

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**MK Yadav Sir**

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# RBI panel suggests measures to push ₹ beyond borders

Charts short, medium, and long-term recommendations for internationalisation of ₹

MANOJIT SAHA  
Mumbai, 5 July

An inter-departmental group (IDG) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), set up to examine internationalising the rupee, has recommended steps for transactions in the domestic currency popular in other countries, thereby reducing dependence on the dollar.

The panel, headed by Radha Shyam Ratho, suggested a short-term, a medium-term, and a long-term recommendation for this. "The internationalisation of a currency is interlinked with the economic progress, especially its prominence in global trade. The measures... would involve steps towards (in parallel) liberalising the capital account, promoting international usage of INR, and strengthening financial markets."

The panel said capital account convertibility was not a pre-condition for internationalising the rupee, or vice versa, and that the current level of capital account convertibility gave enough room for initiating steps for internationalisation.

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**OIL IMPORTERS' DOLLAR DEMAND PUSH RUPEE TO 3-WEEK LOW P4 ▶**

**RBI MAY ASK CARD ISSUERS TO TIE UP WITH MULTIPLE NETWORKS P6 ▶**

## WHY THE MOVE?

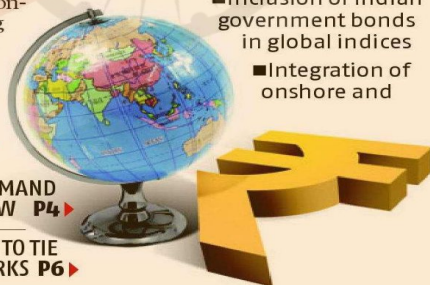
- Linkages of the Indian economy with the rest of the world in terms of trade and capital flows have increased over the years
- Russia's invasion of Ukraine and resultant sanctions reduced dollar dependence

## BENEFITS

- Allows India's exporters and importers to limit exchange rate risk
- Permits domestic firms, financial institutions to access international financial markets without assuming exchange rate risk

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Opening of rupee accounts by non-residents
- Inclusion of Indian government bonds in global indices
- Integration of onshore and offshore forex market
- Waiver of the withholding tax for masala bond issuances
- Expanding RTGS system for settling international transactions
- Banking services in rupee through offshore branches of Indian banks
- Inclusion of rupee in IMF's SDR basket



**Context:** An Interdepartmental group (IDG) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), set up to **examine internationalising the rupee**, has recommended steps for transactions in the domestic currency popular in other countries, thereby reducing dependence on the dollar.

- The measures - would involve steps towards (in parallel) **liberalising the capital account, promoting international usage of INR, and strengthening financial markets.**
- The panel said **capital account convertibility** was not a prefor internationalising the rupee, or vice versa, and that the current level of capital account convertibility gave enough room for initiating steps for internationalisation.

## Internationalisation of Indian Rupee

- It refers to the **process of making the Indian rupee a globally accepted currency**, similar to other major currencies like the US dollar, Euro, and Japanese yen etc.,
- This process aims to **promote India's economic growth and development** by increasing the use of the rupee in cross-border transactions, foreign investment, and global trade.
- It requires the **liberalization of India's capital account**, which means allowing free flow of capital in and out of the country without any restrictions.

# FDI inflows from traditional sources see a decline in FY23

Rhik Kundu

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NEW DELHI

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows into India fell in FY23 amid a sharp decline in equity flows from traditional sources like the US, Mauritius, Netherlands and Caymen Islands, but inflows from Singapore and the UAE rose significantly, official data showed.

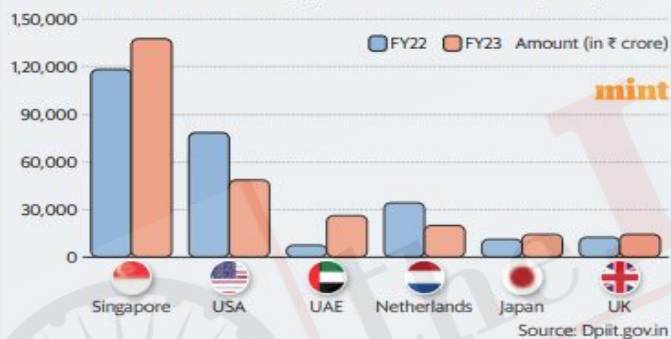
FDI equity inflows from Mauritius fell to ₹48,895 crore, down from ₹69,945 crore registered in the previous fiscal. FDI from the US stood at ₹48,666 crore, down from ₹78,527 crore in FY22. FDI from the Netherlands declined to ₹19,855 crore from ₹34,442 crore and inflows from Caymen Islands declined to ₹6,069 crore from ₹28,383 crore.

On the other hand, FDI inflows from Singapore rose to ₹1.37 trillion from ₹1.18 trillion during the previous fiscal while FDI from the UAE rose to ₹26,315 crore, up from ₹7,699 crore during FY22.

However, total FDI inflows into India declined by 16% to ₹3.67 trillion during FY23, as

### Mixed bag

FDI inflows from traditional sources like the US and Netherlands have declined, but inflows from Singapore and the UAE have gone up.



SATISH KUMAR/MINT

compared to ₹4.37 trillion in FY22. Economists said the Indian decline was part of a global FDI slow-down due to slower growth across countries. "India is not an anomaly. FDI comes in batches. I am not too worried on the FDI front, as some of the things will materialise even though a lot is happening globally," said D.K. Joshi, chief economist at CRISIL. "But, India is better positioned for growth, as compared to many other countries. So, we will get growth and continue to attract FDI," Joshi added.

Some experts said a large chunk of inflows from tax havens like Mauritius, Cyprus, Caymen Island and Singapore were actually investments rerouted through these countries by investors sitting elsewhere. "It is often difficult to pinpoint where the actual investment is coming from," said a senior market expert, who didn't want to be named.

Rules and regulations set by the government in August 2022, aim to curb such practices. Earlier, the central government gave approvals on a case-by-case basis.

**Context:** Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows into India fell in FY23 amid a sharp decline in equity flows from traditional sources like the US, Mauritius, Netherlands and Cayman Islands, but inflows from Singapore and the UAE rose significantly, official data showed.

### Key Points

- Total FDI inflows into India **declined by 16% to ₹ 3.67 trillion during FY23**, as compared to ₹ 4.37 trillion in FY22.
- The Indian decline was **part of a global FDI slow-down** due to slower growth across countries.
- A large chunk of inflows from tax havens like **Mauritius, Cyprus, Caymen Island and Singapore** were actually investments rerouted through these countries by investors sitting elsewhere.
- In terms of sectors, the **top draws for FDI inflows in FY23** were computer hardware and software ( ₹74,718 crore), services ( ₹69,852 crore), trading ( ₹38,060 crore), drugs and pharma ( ₹16,654 crore), chemicals ( ₹14,662 crore), automobiles ( ₹15,184 crore), and construction/infrastructure ( ₹13,588 crore).
- Among the states, **Maharashtra topped the list for attracting the largest amount of FDI**, followed by Karnataka, Gujarat, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Telangana, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

## Delhi Lieutenant Governor distributes Honey Bee-Boxes and Toolkits to 130 beneficiaries under 'Gramodyog Vikas Yojna'

**Context:** The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi distributed Honey Bee-Boxes and Toolkits to 130 beneficiaries here on 4th July, 2023

- The program was organized under the '**Gramodyog Vikas Yojna**' of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, State Office Delhi, Government of India.

### Gramodyog Vikas Yojana

- It is one of the two components of Khadi **Gramodyog Vikas Yojana** which aims to promote and develop the village industries through common facilities, technological modernization, training etc.
- In 2020, **Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)**, approved a programme for the benefit of artisans involved in manufacturing of Agarbatti and to develop village industry under 'Gramodyog Vikas Yojana'.
- As per the programme, initially, **four Pilot Projects** will be started, including one in the North-Eastern part of the country.
- Each targeted cluster of artisans will be **supported with about 50 Automatic Agarbatti making machines** and 10 Mixing machines.
- A total of 200 **Automatic Agarbatti making machines** and 40 Mixing machines will be provided to the artisans.
- **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)** a statutory organization under MSME that will provide training, and assist artisans working in this area.

# From India's Crown, a Flavour worth a Fortune

Price of Kashmir saffron rockets to ₹3.25 lakh/kg this year, now that Valley crop has GI tag

Sutanuka.Ghosal@timesgroup.com

**Kolkata:** Kashmir saffron is now about five times costlier than silver.

A 10 gm packet of saffron costs as much as 47 gm of silver — about ₹3,250. Saffron prices in the Kashmir valley have skyrocketed to ₹3.25 lakh per kg, from ₹2 lakh per kg last year, after the precious

crop from the Valley got the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. A GI tag is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation due to that origin. The tag has helped the domestic spice fight off competition in global markets from Iranian saffron, as the Kashmiri crop is clearly seen as the genuine article. The golden crop, which brings colour,

flavour and aroma to biryani and many other dishes, is scripting a revival. Its per-hectare production has increased manifold, bringing cheer to growers who had been seeing a constant decline.

“Kashmir saffron is the only GI-tagged saffron in the world. Now buyers from the US, Canada and Europe have started picking up saffron from Kashmir,” said Choudhary Mohammad Iqbal, agriculture director, Kashmir. “Farmers are getting good prices for their crop and traders too are making good money.” Rehman Ahmed, owner of Dalijheel Saffron Co in Kashmir’s saffron centre of Pampore, agrees. “The GI tag has really helped saffron planters,” he said. “Earlier, saffron farmers were getting ₹1.30-1.5 lakh per kg. Now, that has shot up to ₹1.8-2 lakh per kg.”



## In Full Bloom

Kashmiri saffron is now about 5x costlier than silver

US, Canada buying saffron from India

Saffron wrongfully selling as Kashmiri in global markets takes a beating post GI tag

**18** tonnes of saffron is produced in the Valley annually

Export policy coming soon to help farmers deal with foreign buyers



'Iranian Saffron Sold as Indian' >> 8

**Context:** Saffron prices in the Kashmir valley have skyrocketed to ₹3.25 lakh per kg, from ₹2 lakh per kg last year, after the precious crop from the Valley got the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

- The tag has helped the domestic spice fight off competition in global markets from Iranian saffron, as the Kashmiri crop is clearly seen as the genuine article.
- Kashmir saffron is the only GI-tagged saffron in the world.
- Now buyers from the US, Canada and Europe have started picking up saffron from Kashmir.

### Saffron

- It is a plant whose dried stigmas (thread-like parts of the flower) are used to make saffron spice.
- Saffron cultivation is believed to have been introduced in Kashmir by Central Asian immigrants around the 1st Century BCE.
- It represents the rich cultural heritage of the J&K region.
- It is a very precious and costly product.
- It is referred to as 'bahukam' in ancient Sanskrit literature.
- It is cultivated and harvested in the Karewa (highlands) of J&K.
- Pampore region, commonly known as Saffron bowl of Kashmir, is the main contributor to saffron production.
- Pampore Saffron Heritage of Kashmir is one of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage systems (GIAHS) recognised sites in India.

**National Saffron Mission**

India International Kashmir Saffron Trading Centre (IIKSTC) constructed at Pampore

**To Facilitate:**

- Collection
- Stigma Separation
- Quality Evaluation
- Processing
- Packaging
- e-auction

Promoting unique local products

## Why Nirbhaya Fund has failed to make women feel safer

In 2013, The Centre Set Up The Nirbhaya Fund To Support Government And Non-Government Initiatives For Women's Safety. However, **Richa Gandhi's** Analysis Shows The Distribution And Utilisation Of Money Have Not Been Up To The Mark

The brutal gang rape of a 23-year-old physiotherapy student in a Delhi bus, and her subsequent death in December 2012, shook the nation. The incident, known as the Nirbhaya case, led to protests and demands for better safety measures for women. The Centre therefore created a non-lapsable corpus known as the Nirbhaya Fund in 2013. Since its inception, the government has pumped ₹1,000 crore into the fund every year, but the disbursement of money has been slow and lopsided.



Illustration: Mansi Jain

- **Funding pattern**
  - 60:40 for all States o 90:10 for States with difficult terrains
  - 100% for UTs
  - Few initiatives are 100% funded
- **Nodal agency:** Department of **Economic Affairs under the Ministry of Finance** is responsible for the administration of the fund.
  - The **Women and Child Development Ministry** is the nodal agency for expenditure from the Nirbhaya Fund.
  - it provides for an **Empowered Committee (EC)** of officers chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD) to appraise and recommend proposals to be funded under this framework.

**Context:** The Centre created a non-lapsable corpus known as the **Nirbhaya Fund** in 2013 after brutal gang rape of a 23-year old girl led to protests and demands for better safety measures for women.

- Since its inception, the government has pumped **1,000 crore into the fund every year**, but the disbursement of money has been slow and lopsided.

### Key Points

- Approximately **70% of the Nirbhaya Fund has been utilised so far.**
- Of the 40 projects/ schemes covered under it, only three - Safe City project, establishment of fast-track courts, ePCOSOs, and one-stop centres - have been appraised, according to a study by Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy.
- The distribution of funds among states is also **lopsided with seven states pocketing 60% of the funds.**
- The **Safe City initiative**, which covers just eight metropolitan areas, has got the biggest slice of funds at Rs 2,920 crore.
- With its **misplaced priorities and poor implementation**, it's not surprising that the Nirbhaya Fund has failed to foster a sense of safety among women.
- A 2019 survey revealed that **32% of Indian women felt unsafe in public spaces.**
- **Lengthy approval processes and a lack of coordination** between the Centre and state governments have impeded the implementation of projects.
- The **absence of a robust monitoring and evaluation mechanism** has also contributed to the poor utilisation of funds.
- There is a **lack of accountability** as no single agency oversees the implementation of initiatives supported by the Nirbhaya Fund.

### Nirbhaya Fund

- **About:** Post-2012, **Nirbhaya Gang rape case**, a dedicated fund was set up in **2013** with the focus on implementing the initiatives aimed at improving the security and safety of women in India.
- **Funds:** The government's contribution towards the **non-lapsable corpus fund was Rs. 1000 crores.**
  - Under the Nirbhaya Fund, the **Centre gives money to the states**, which in turn spend it on programs meant for ensuring women's safety.
  - **Central Victim Compensation Fund (CVCF)** has been funded under the Framework of Nirbhaya Fund to support States/ UTs for their Victim Compensation Scheme.
  - The CVCF is a **one-time grant of top-up funds to the States/UTs** subsequent to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

# In boost to ties, Taiwan to set up office in Mumbai

**Ananth Krishnan**

In a significant step aimed at boosting economic linkages, Taiwan on Wednesday announced it would open its third representative office in India in Mumbai, more than a decade after it last expanded its presence in India.

Taiwan's Foreign Ministry said the move to establish in Mumbai a Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre (TECC) – the term used to describe Taiwan's *de facto* diplomatic missions because India and Taiwan do not maintain formal diplomatic relations – came in the light of Taiwan and India witnessing “significant progress in numerous domains, including economics and trade, science and technology, critical supply chains”.

Talks to open a TECC in Mumbai have been long in the works, following the opening of the TECC in Chennai in 2012, which has emerged as a hub for Taiwanese firms. “The TECC in Mumbai will help expand mutually beneficial trade and investment opportunities between Taiwan and India,” the statement said, adding that it “will provide visa services, document authentication, and emergency assistance to businesspeople, tourists, and Taiwanese nationals” in western India.

### Third Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre in India, after New Delhi and Chennai

involved in setting up the offices as head of the China desk in the Ministry of External Affairs.

“The move in 1995 proved to be a turning point as we put in place the requisite institutional framework for promoting India-Taiwan relations,” Mr. Kantha told *The Hindu*. “The Chennai office in 2012 was then instrumental in southern India becoming a hub for Taiwanese investment. Today, we are on the cusp of a major expansion for a number of reasons. There is a critical mass and more importantly, the requisite strategic interest for both sides in the context of what is happening geopolitically, and the restructuring of global and regional value chains.”

Mr. Kantha said opening the TECC in Mumbai thus had its own strong logic, and was not necessarily linked to the current downturn in India-China relations, which have been in a state of freeze since Chinese transgressions across the Line of Actual Control starting in April 2020.

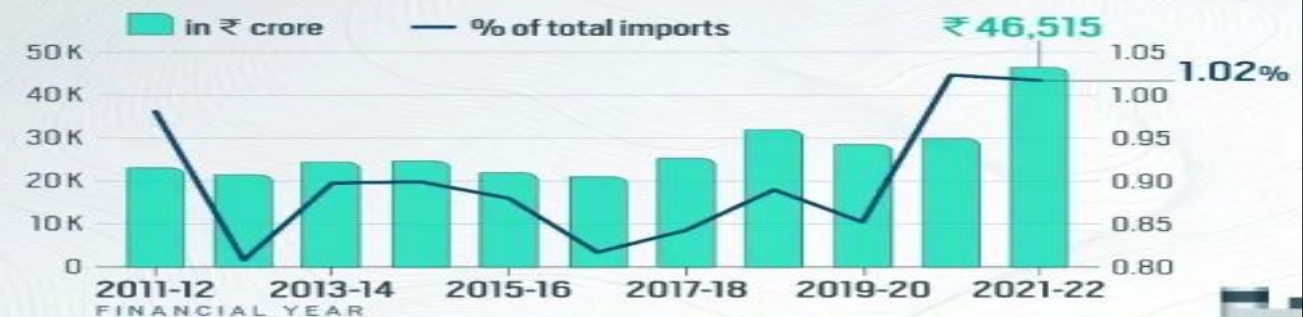
The opening of offices in 1995 and 2012 did not

**Context:** Taiwan announced that it would open its **third representative office in India in Mumbai**, more than a decade after it last expanded its presence in India.

### Key Points

- The move to establish in Mumbai a **Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre (TECC)** - the term used to describe Taiwan's *de facto* diplomatic missions because India and Taiwan do not maintain formal diplomatic relations - came in the light of Taiwan and India witnessing “significant progress in numerous domains, including economics and trade, science and technology, critical supply chains”.
- While **India and Taiwan do not maintain formal diplomatic ties**, the two sides in 1995 decided to open a TECC in New Delhi and an “India Taipei Association” in Taipei, which was a “turning point” to promote relations.
- The **opening of offices in 1995 and 2012** did not create much of a fallout on India-China relations despite Chinese sensitivities on Taiwan, partly because India had conveyed to Beijing that the offices would not be official and there would be no government-to-government engagement.
- India is also increasingly aware of its stakes when it comes to **maintaining peace and the status quo in the Taiwan Strait**.
- A blockade by China would severely **disrupt semiconductor exports to India with Taiwan**, as of 2022, producing 92% of the world's most advanced logic chips and 70% of smartphone chipsets, among other critical components.

## INDIA'S RISING IMPORTS FROM TAIWAN



# JAPAN INDIA MARITIME EXERCISE 2023 (JIMEX 23)

**Context:** The seventh edition of the bilateral **Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23)** hosted by the Indian Navy, is being conducted at/ off Visakhapatnam from 05 -10 July 2023.

- This edition marks the **11th anniversary of JIMEX**, since its inception in 2012.

## Key Points

- JIMEX 23 will witness the participation of INS Delhi, **India's first indigenously built Guided Missile Destroyer**, INS Kamorta, an indigenously designed and built Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette, fleet tanker INS Shakti, a submarine, maritime patrol aircraft P8I and Dornier, ship-borne helicopters and fighter aircraft.
- JMSDF will be represented by the guided missile destroyer **JS Samidare and its integral helicopters**.
- The exercise will be **conducted over six days in two phases** - a Harbour Phase at Visakhapatnam comprising professional, sports and social interactions, after which, the two navies will jointly hone their warfighting skills at sea and enhance their interoperability through complex multi-discipline operations in the surface, sub-surface and air domains.
- Having grown in scope and complexity over the years, JIMEX 23 **provides an opportunity to learn from each other's best practices** and facilitates operational interactions between IN and JMSDF to foster mutual cooperation and reaffirm their shared commitment towards maritime security in the region.

## Other Military Exercises between India and Japan:

- Annual joint land military exercise named '**Dharma Guardian**'.
- Joint Air Force exercise '**Shinyuu Maitri**'.
- Trilateral Maritime **Exercise Malabar** with the USA.

## GANDHI SAGAR SANCTUARY

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)

### Project Cheetah: Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary to be new home for African felines

Relocation to be undertaken in accordance with the Cheetah Action Plan, according to officials



NEXT NEWS >

By Himanshu Nitnaware  
Published: Wednesday 05 July 2023



**Context:** Officials plan to shift some African cheetahs from Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh to the **Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary** located on the northern border of Mandsaur and Nimach districts, in the same state.

- Since March, six cheetahs including three cubs have lost their lives at the KNP.

#### Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary

- **About:** It is a wildlife sanctuary situated on the northern boundary of **Mandsaur and Nimach districts in Madhya Pradesh, India.**
  - It was notified in 1974 and more area was added in 1983.
- **Location:** The western part is in Nimach district and eastern part is in Mandsaur district.
  - It is in the Khathiar-Gir dry deciduous forests ecoregion.
- **River:** The **Chambal River** passes through the sanctuary dividing it into two parts.
- **Principal tree species found in the Sanctuary:** Khair (Acacia catechu), Salai, Kardhai, Dhawda, Tendu, Palash etc.
- **Predominant animal species:** The deer, of which the most easily sighted are the chinkara or Indian gazelle, Nilgai and sambar.
  - In addition the Indian leopard, langur, Indian wild dog, peacock, otter, and **Mugger crocodile** are present.
- **Places archaeological and religious importance:**
  - **Chaturbhujnath temple**, dedicated to Vishnu, is located about 8 km from Gandhi sagar dam site.
  - **Hinglajgarh or Hinglaj Fort** is an ancient fort situated near village Navali in Bhanpura tehsil of Mandsaur district in Madhya Pradesh.
  - **Taxakeshwar temple or Takhaji** is a place of religious and historical importance in Mandsaur district.
  - **Bhanpura Museum** is located in Bhanpura, about 30.0 km (18.6 mi) from Gandhi sagar dam and 127.0 km (78.9 mi) from Mandsaur in north-east direction. The museum depicting the popular arts of Mandsaur.
  - **Dharmrajeshwar** is an ancient Buddhist and Hindu cave temple site of 4th-5th Century in Mandsaur.

# Cabinet green light for data protection Bill, goes to House

Exemptions to govt entities from adverse consequences likely retained

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK  
NEW DELHI, JULY 5

THE UNION CABINET Wednesday approved the draft data protection Bill, paving the way for its introduction in the Monsoon session of Parliament. If passed, the law will become India's core data governance framework, six years after the Supreme Court declared privacy as a fundamental right. The Bill is one of the four proposed legislations in the IT and telecom sectors to provide the framework for the rapidly growing digital ecosystem.

The Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022, approved by the Cabinet, is learnt to have retained the contents of the original version of the legislation proposed last November, including those that were red flagged by privacy experts. Wide-ranging exemptions for the Central government and its agencies, remain unchanged. The Central government will have the right to exempt "any instrumentality of the state" from adverse consequences citing national security, relations with foreign governments, and maintenance of public order among other things.

The control of the Central government in appointing

**EXPLAINED**  
**E** Overhauling digital framework

THE DIGITAL Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022, is a key pillar of an overarching framework of technology regulations the Centre is building which also includes the Digital India Bill — the proposed successor to the Information Technology Act, 2000; Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022; and a policy for non-personal data governance.

**EXPLAINED**  
**POLICY**  
**THE DATA PRIVACY FRAMEWORK** PAGE 17

members of the Data Protection Board — an adjudicatory body that will deal with privacy-related grievances and disputes between two parties — is learnt to have been retained as well.

The Chief Executive of the  
**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

**Context:** The Union Cabinet approved the draft Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022.

- The Bill is expected to be tabled in Parliament Monsoon Session that begins on July 20.

**Highlights of the bill**

- The DPDP Bill, 2022 applies to all processing of personal data that is carried out digitally.
- This would include both personal data collected online and personal data collected offline but is digitised for processing.
- In effect, by being completely inapplicable to data processed manually, this provides for a somewhat lower degree of protection as the earlier drafts only excluded data processed manually specifically by "small entities" and not generally.
- As far as the territorial application of the law is concerned, the Bill covers processing of personal data which is collected by data fiduciaries within the territory of India and which is processed to offer goods and services within India.

## Safety Circle

### Key features

- 1] Will not apply to offline personal data
- 2] Organisation may be tagged Significant Data Fiduciary if it processes large or sensitive data

Such entities will need to appoint Data Protection Officer and Independent Data Auditor

3] An independent Data Protection Board of India envisaged

4] Board can provide an Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanism

### Clear communication

Organisation to give itemised notice in English and regional languages

Explain in clear and plain language describing personal data collected

Purpose of processing data

### Accountability and control

Users get right to withdraw consent at any time

Every user consent should also have the contact details of a Data Protection Officer

Will manage, review or withdraw consent on behalf of a user via a transparent and interoperable platform



### Steep penalties

Monetary penalties for various violations

Board can impose up to ₹500 cr penalty for each violation

Users shall have the right to correction and erasure of personal data

Shall have right to obtain summary of personal data

Can seek identities of all Data Fiduciaries with whom personal data has been shared

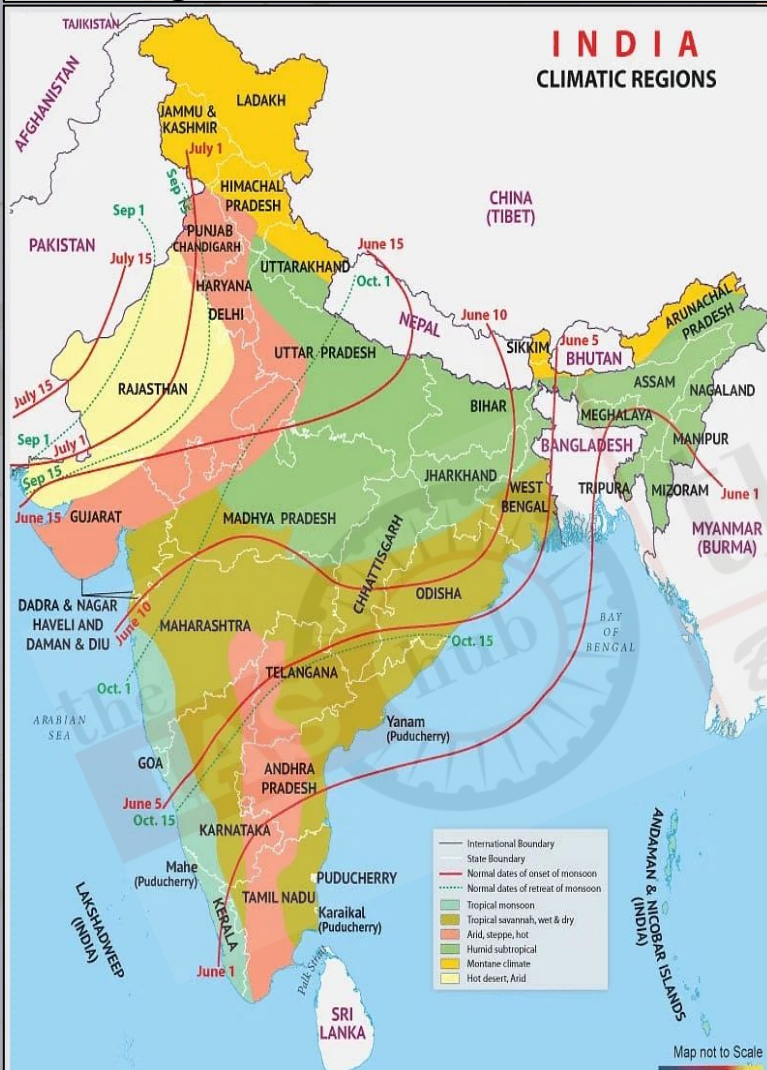


## RAINFALL DISTRIBUTION IN INDIA

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Geography)

### South India records its lowest June rainfall in 122 years

Interactions between Cyclone Biparjoy, Typhoon Mawar, Bay of Bengal winds and the blocking of the monsoon trough for a couple of weeks likely to blame, experts say



**Context:** South India has received its lowest June rainfall in 122 years according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD) due to extremely severe cyclone Biparjoy and other interactions of wind systems that led to a unique progress of the monsoon winds.

- As of July 4, **four of the states have deficient rainfall**. These are Telangana (53 per cent deficit), Kerala (52 per cent deficit), Karnataka (44 per cent deficit) and Andhra Pradesh (26 per cent deficit).
- The IMD has not cited any reasons for this lack of rainfall.

### Key Points

- The **Arabian Sea has warmed by over 1.5 degrees Celsius** since January which allowed Biparjoy to last for almost 10 days.
  - This long life cycle of the cyclone allowed the monsoon trough to arrive at the same time over Mumbai and Delhi.
- The **configuration of the trough is rather unique as well** and this allowed a faster progress of monsoon over the whole country and now the warm Arabian Sea is able to feed the monsoon.
- Another spectre looming over the **prospects for good rainfall is the El Nino** weather phenomenon which has already been declared by the World Meteorological Organization on July 4 and by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on June 8.
- El Nino is the warmer than normal phase** of the El Nino Southern Oscillation phenomenon and generally leads to suppressed monsoon rainfall.
- The IMD has not declared El Nino conditions** as yet but has highlighted in its monthly outlook for July that El Nino may develop in the month.

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