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MK Yadav Sir

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INDIAN EXPRESS Page 5

BASIC STRUCTURE DOCTRINE
(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – Polity)

'If I have to do something about basic structure doctrine, I should do it through my judgments'

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 15

CHIEF JUSTICE of India D Y Chandrachud on Friday chose not to speak on the basic structure doctrine, saying he would rather express through his judgments and not through a public pronouncement outside the court.

Delivering the Ram Jethmalani Memorial Lecture on the topic — 'Has the basic structure doctrine served the nation well?' — CJI Chandrachud recalled the days he worked with the late jurist and said, "The topic of the day, which Mahesh Jethmalani (senior advocate and son of Ram Jethmalani) has thought everybody would open up with, is about the basic structure doctrine. Much as I admire Ram Jethmalani, one thing I wouldn't share with him is his ability to court controversy. So I thought if I have to do something about this doctrine, I should do it through my judgments and not in an off the court pronouncement. I have taken Mahesh's permission to talk on something a little different and



Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud. *Express*

all of you probably don't know about."

The CJI left the event soon after his address.

CJI Chandrachud had recently presided over the five-judge Constitution Bench, which heard the petitions challenging the changes made to Article 370 of the Constitution and one of the arguments of the rival side had touched upon the basic structure theory.

Union Minister for Law Arjun Singh Meghwal who spoke after the CJI, too, did not broach the topic of the doctrine.

"Basic structure ke baare mein baki log batayenge (Others will speak on the basic struc-

brief address.

Talking about the changes he had brought in the working of the Supreme Court ever since he took over as the CJI in November last year, CJI Chandrachud said, "My first goal... was to institutionalise the courts and move away from an ad hoc model of operation..."

"I have in the course of my 10 months as the Chief Justice realised that institutionalisation in addition to enhancing transparency also humanises the work space. The staff are able to draw boundaries between work and home, and increase their work efficiency. It has also positively changed things for those on the other side, that is, the bar."

Talking about the Supreme Court Collegium, the CJI said, "One of the criticisms expressed about the Collegium is that we have no factual data to evaluate people whom we are considering for appointment to the Supreme Court... We are still a work in progress but we are improving. I have a centre for research and planning. It is headed by an officer from the Haryana judicial service with two very

and a number of young people, interns, law researchers... We have prepared a broad platform where we have assessed every one of the top 50 judges in the country who would be considered for appointment as judges of the Supreme Court."

The CJI said: "We have data on judgments, we have data on reportable judgments, we have data on the quality of judgments which judges are delivering." "The idea is to make the process of recommending appointments to the Supreme Court more transparent, not transparent in terms of sharing our discussions in the public realm, you can't obviously do that, but by laying down objective parameters for selection for both the High Courts and the Supreme Court."

Speaking on the occasion, senior advocate and jurist Fali S Nariman said, "The doctrine of basic structure is now established and accepted by six nation states around the world – Bangladesh, Pakistan, Uganda, Israel, Malaysia and a small country called Belize in central America."

FULL REPORT ON

Context: The **Chief Justice of India** recently chose not to speak on the **basic structure doctrine**, emphasizing his preference to convey his stance through his judgments rather than making public pronouncements outside the court.

Background

- **Introduced by**: Indian Judiciary on 24th April 1973.
- **Establishment**: Keshavananda Bharati case to restrict the amending powers of the Parliament.
- This limitation ensures that the '**Basic Structure of the Constitution**' cannot be altered through the exercise of its 'constituent power' **under Article 368 of the Indian Constitution**.

Basic Structure of Doctrine

- **Definition**: Some important parts of the Constitution cannot be changed or removed by the Parliament through an amendment.
- **Not Mention in Constitution:** It's interesting to note that the **Constitution of India doesn't include the term "Basic Structure"** anywhere.
- **Aim of the Doctrine:** To safeguard the essence of Indian democracy and uphold the rights and freedoms of its citizens.
- **Soul of the Constitution:** The essence of the Constitution, inseparable from the values expressed in the Preamble, is vital for the document's integrity and the sanctity of its principles.

Components of Basic Structure

- Supremacy of the Constitution
- Sovereign, democratic and republican nature of the Indian polity
- Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary
- Judicial review
- Parliamentary system
- Rule of law
- Principle of equality
- Free and fair elections
- Independence of Judiciary
- Limited power of Parliament to amend the Constitution

ECONOMIC TIMES Page 7

GSTATs
(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – Polity)

GSTATs Appointments: SC Seeks FinMin's Response

Indu Bhan
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday sought response from the finance ministry on a PIL challenging constitutional validity of some provisions of the Finance Act 2023 related to appointment and service conditions of members of Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunals (GSTATs).

Madras Tax Bar (MTB), a society of lawyers specialising in taxation laws, through senior counsel Arvind Datar, told a bench led by CJI DY Chandrachud that the impugned provisions are violative of fundamental rights and also contravene the principles of independence of the judiciary, rule of law, and separation of powers, which are part of the basic structure of the Constitution. Datar said the formation of tribunals — under the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 — was contrary to four constitutional bench judgments as they exclude advocates from being appointed as judicial members.

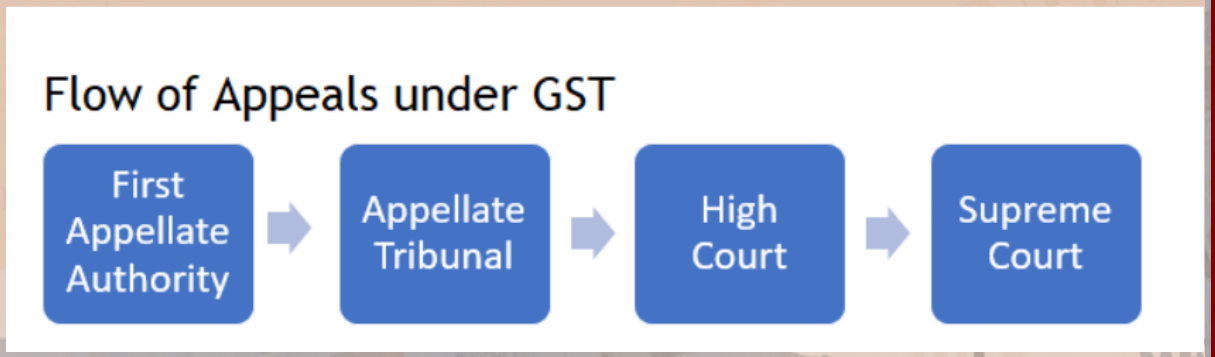
He also raised objection to the provision that make officers below the rank of secretaries and additional secretaries with vague and non-adjudicatory experience eligible for appointment as technical members. The top court bench, while issuing notice to the government, also asked MTB to serve the petition on the Attorney General of India. The finance ministry on Thursday notified setting up of 31 appellate tribunals across the country. Parliament had in March cleared changes in the Finance Act for setting up appellate tribunals for resolution of disputes under goods and services tax.

Context: Recently, the **Supreme Court requested a response** from the finance ministry regarding a PIL that questions the constitutional validity of certain provisions in the **Finance Act of 2023**.

- Specifically concerning is the appointment and service conditions of **Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunals (GSTATs) members**.

Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunals

- **About:** It serves as the **second level of appeal** within the GST framework, available for challenging any unsatisfactory rulings issued by the First Appellate Authorities under the CGST and SGST.
- **Establishment by**: Section 109 of the CGST Act 2017
- **Composition**: Two judicial members and two technical members.
  - The Tribunal is likely to be **headed by a former Supreme Court judge** or a former **Chief Justice of a High Court.**
- **Headquarters**: New Delhi



PIB

Sept 16

SAHITYA NATAK AKADEMI

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 – Art & Culture)

VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA TO CONFER SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AMRIT AWARDS TOMORROW

Context: On the occasion of **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**, Vice-President of India will confer the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Amrit Awards to 84 distinguished artists in the performing arts of India.

Sangeet Natak Akademi

- **About:** It is the apex body in the field of performing arts in the country.
- **Set up:** In 1953
- **Nodal Ministry**: Ministry of Culture
- **Headquarter**: New Delhi
- **Aim:** To preserve and promotion of the vast intangible heritage of India's diverse culture expressed in forms of music, dance and drama.
- **Appointment**: Chairman appointed by the President of India
- **Tenure**: 5 Years
- **Five Centres**: Kutiyattam Kendra, Sattriya Kendra, North-East Centre, North-East Documentation Centre & Chhau Kendra.

Sangeet Natak Akademi Amrit Awards

- **About**: It is a national honour bestowed by the country on performing artists, teachers and scholars in the field of performing arts.
- **Categories**: Hindustani and Carnatic vocal and instrumental, folk, classical dance forms like Bharatnatyam and Kathak and playwriting and direction.
- **Price**: 1,00000 Rs and a citation.

HIDUSTAN TIMES

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ADITYA L-1
(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Sci & Tech)

Aditya-L1 successfully performs 4th and final Earth-bound manoeuvre

Soumya Pillai
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Aditya-L1 completed its fourth and final Earth-bound manoeuvre on Friday morning, the Indian Space Research Organisation said in crucial mission update that set the stage for the trans-Lagrangean Point-1 insertion.

"The fourth Earth-bound manoeuvre (EBN#4) is performed successfully. Isro's ground stations at Mauritius, Bengaluru, SDSC-SHAR (Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota) and Port Blair tracked the satellite during this operation, while a transportable terminal currently stationed in the Fiji Islands for Aditya-L1 will support post-burn operations," Isro said in a statement.

Earth-bound manoeuvres involve the firing of rockets and some adjustments to angles, as required.



India's first solar mission took off successfully on Sept 2.

The new orbit attained on Friday is 256kmX121973km, the statement said.

India's first solar mission took off successfully on September 2, embarking on a 125-day journey before it is placed in a halo orbit around Lagrange Point 1 (L1), a spot between the Sun and the Earth about 1.5 million kilometres from us.

The craft will be slingshot from the Earth's orbit on September 19 to travel further in its journey to L1, the space agency said.

"The next manoeuvre Trans-Lagrangean Point 1 Insertion (TLII) — a send-off from the Earth — is scheduled for September 19, 2023, around 2am," it said.

L1 refers to Lagrange Point 1, a region 1.5 million km from Earth towards the Sun, where gravitational forces of celestial objects work in such a way that the spacecraft can be parked in what is known as a halo orbit – an oval that shifts on three axes. Once Aditya-L1 arrives at the L1 point another manoeuvre will be performed to bind the craft to the orbit.

The strategic placement will ensure that Aditya-L1 can continuously monitor the Sun. To be sure, the L1 point is only 1% of the Earth-Sun distance.

The mission will allow India's scientists to unlock new insights about the centre of our solar system, by ensuring uninterrupted observations of the Sun.

According to the space agency, the mission was conceived as Aditya-1 with a 400 kg class satellite carrying one payload, the Visible Emission Line Coronagraph VELC, that was to be launched in an 800-km low earth orbit.

Isro scientists said the instruments of Aditya-L1 are tuned to observe the solar atmosphere mainly, the chromosphere and the corona — two outermost layers of the star. The instruments will observe the local environment at L1 and carry out remote sensing and observation.

Earth-Bound Manoeuvres

- **About:** It involves the firing of rockets and some adjustments to angles, as required.
- **How it works**: Analogous to a **person on a swing, Aditya-L1 will use a similar** principle.
  - Just as someone **applies pressure when the swing** is descending to make it go higher, Aditya-L1 will gain velocity.
  - Once **it reaches sufficient speed, it will slingshot** around to align with its intended trajectory toward L1.

Context: India's first solar mission, **Aditya-L1, completed its fourth Earth-bound manoeuvre**, and the Indian Space and Research Organisation (ISRO) announced the upcoming manoeuvre which marks its departure from Earth orbit.

Aditya L1

- **About**: It represents India's inaugural space mission dedicated to the study of the Sun.
- **Launched by**: PSLV-XL launch vehicle.
- The spacecraft is **destined to be positioned in a halo orbit** encircling Lagrange point 1 (L1) within the Sun-Earth system, located approximately 1.5 million kms away from Earth.
- This continuous observation capability will significantly enhance the capacity to
- **monitor solar activities** and their immediate impact on space weather in real time.
- **Payloads**: It carries a **total of seven payloads**, which are designed to scrutinize the photosphere, c**hromosphere, and the outermost solar layers** (the corona) using various detectors for electromagnetic waves, particles, and magnetic fields.
- **Objective**: To unravel the fundamental drivers of space weather, which encompass the origin, composition, and dynamics of the solar wind.

Lagrangian Points

- **About**: It is known as Lagrange points or libration points.
- **Founded by**: mathematician Joseph Louis Lagrange.
- **Located**: about 1.5 million kms inside Earth's orbit, between the Sun and the Earth.
- These are particular points in **space where the gravitational forces** between two
- **massive objects, like a planet and its moon** or a planet and the Sun, create areas of heightened gravitational stability.

THE HINDU Sept 16

WTO REPORT 2023
(Syllabus: GS Paper 3– Economy)

Ukraine war fragmenting world trade: WTO

Context: The onset of the **Ukraine war has started** fragmenting world trade as per the **recent World Trade Report 2023**.

World Trade Report 2023

- **Launched:** September 2023.
- **Published by**: WTO
- **Objective**: Extend beyond merely enhancing trade efficiency, encompassing peace, security, poverty alleviation, and sustainability.
  - It presents insights into **how re-globalization, characterized by heightened international cooperation** and expanded integration, **can bolster security**, inclusivity, and environmental sustainability.

Highlights of Report

- **Addressing the Narrative Shift**: The report delves into the changing narrative surrounding globalization.
- **Broadened Policy Goals**: It highlights the importance of policy objectives that extend beyond trade efficiency, encompassing aspects like peace, security, poverty alleviation, and sustainability.
- **Re-globalization Focus:** The report promotes the concept of "re-globalization," which seeks to expand trade integration to involve more economies, and people, and address a broader array of issues.
- **Impact of Geopolitical Tensions**: The report discusses how geopolitical tensions, exemplified by the Ukraine conflict and the ascendancy of China, have had repercussions on global trade dynamics.
- **Resilient Supply Chains**: It underscores the significance of resilient supply chains, especially underscored during the COVID-19 pandemic.

WTO : Agreements

Frame work starts with basic principles

1. GENERAL AGREMENT ON TARRIFS & TRADE (GATT)
2. GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES (GATS)
3. TRADE RELATED ASPECTS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (TRIPS)
4. TRADE RELATED INVESTMENT MEASURES (TRIMS)

TRIPS	TRIMS	GATS
LITERAL WORK	TO FACILITATE INVESTMENTS	MOVEMENT OF PERSONS
ARTISTIC WORK	TO LIBERALIZE WORLD TRADE	AIR TRANSPORT
INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY	TO STRIKE OUT INVESTMENT MEASURES WHICH CAN CREATE HINDRANCE	FINANCIAL SERVICES
	TAKINF INTO ACCOUNT NEEDS OF DEVELOPING AND LEAST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES	SHIPPING

World Trade Organization (WTO)

- **About**: It is the only global international organization dealing with international Trade between nations.
- **Set up:** In 1995 by replacing the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) under the Marrakesh Agreement.
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Members**: 164 members and **India is a founding member** of WTO.

PIB

Sept 15

TRAI AND OTT PLATFORM
(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Economy)

Extension of last date to receive counter comments on TRAI's Consultation Paper on 'Regulatory Mechanism for Over-The-Top (OTT) Communication Services, and Selective Banning of OTT Services'

Context: Recently, the **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)** published a Consultation Paper concerning the 'Regulatory Mechanism for **Over-The-Top (OTT)** Communication Services, and Selective Banning of OTT Services.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)

- **About:** It is a regulatory body set up by the Government of India under section 3 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.
- **Aim**: To regulate telecom services, including fixation/revision of tariffs for telecom services which were earlier vested in the Central Government.
- **Establishment**: In 1997
- **Composition**: Chairperson, two whole-time members and two part-time members, all of which are appointed by the Government of India.
- **Nodal Ministry**: Ministry of Communications and Broadcasting
- **Headquarters**: New Delhi
- **Tenure**: 3 years or till the age of 65 years



Over-The-Top (OTT) Platform

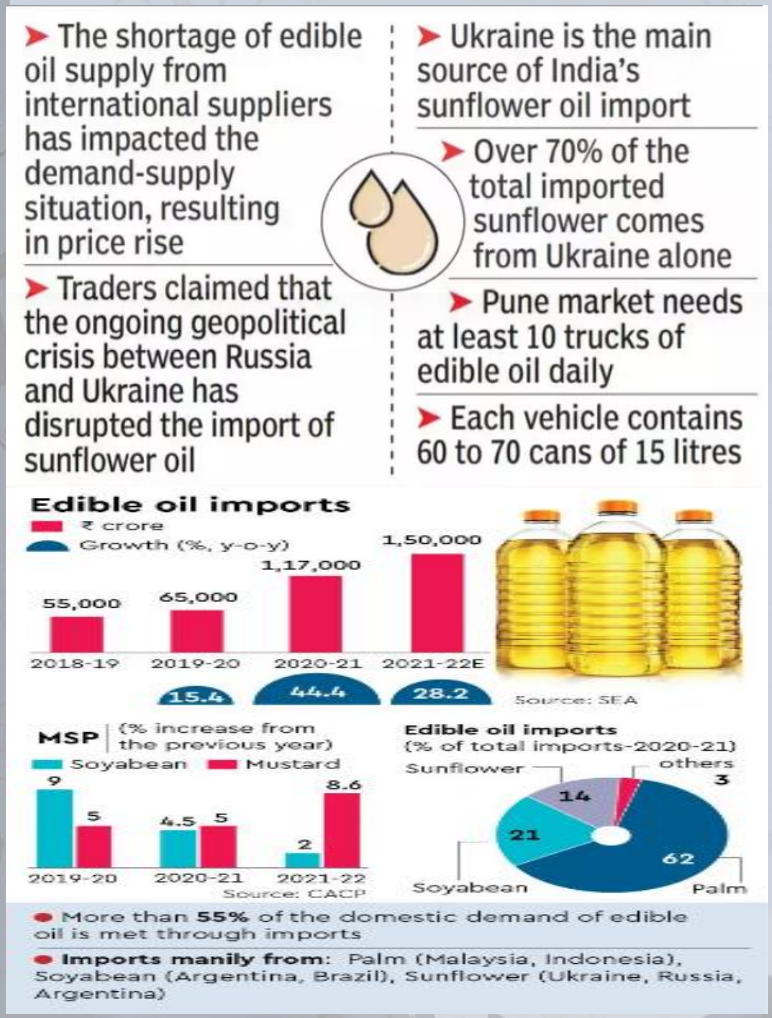
- **About:** Originally designed as a **content hosting service**, quickly expanded its scope to encompass the **production & and distribution of short films**, feature movies, documentaries & web series
- These platforms **provide a variety of content and employ** artificial intelligence to recommend content to users based on their previous viewing habits on the platform.
- **Examples:** Netflix, Disney+, Hulu, Amazon Prime Video, Hulu, Peacock, Curiosity Stream, Pluto TV, and so many more.

DTE

Sept 16

EDIBLE OIL
(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – ECONOMY)

India looking at record edible oil imports; August 2023 demand 35% higher than last year



Context: India could soon see record imports of edible oil of over 16 to 16.5 million tonnes this year due to low rainfall in the **month of August, along with other factors**, is driving the high demand.

- Data released on September 2023, showed the i**mport of edible oil in August 2023 was 35 percent higher** than imports in August 2022.

Edible Oil

- **About**: Oilseeds and edible oils rank among the most highly sensitive essential commodities.
- **Largest Consumer**: India holds the distinction of being the globe's **second-largest consumer** and **foremost importer of vegetable oil**.
- **Popular Edible Oils in India**: Palm oil, soya bean oil, sunflower oil, and mustard oil.
- **India's Diverse Oilseed Production**: Rapeseeds, soybeans, peanuts, groundnuts, copra, cottonseeds, and sunflower seeds.
- **Import Dependency**: Currently, India satisfies roughly 55% to 60% of its edible oil demand through imports.
- **Soybean Oil Importation**: Soybean oil accounts for 22% of imports and primarily originates from **Argentina and Brazil**.
- **Sunflower Oil Imports**: Sunflower oil, comprising 15% of imports, is predominantly sourced from **Ukraine and Russia**.

THE HINDU Sept 16

SKILL INDIA MISSION
(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 – Government Schemes)

Centre launches Skill India Digital app to find jobs, training opportunities

Context: The **Skill India Digital app was formally launched** by the Centre, bringing together listings for upskilling courses and job opportunities. It had been soft-launched in April, f**ollowing its announcement by the Union Finance Minister** of India during the Budget session of Parliament.

Skill India Digital App

- **Launched:** In 2023.
- **Developed by**: National Skill Development Corporation.
- **Ministry**: Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- **Course and Job Listings Integration**: The Skill India Digital app seamlessly integrates listings for upskilling courses and job opportunities.
- **Verifiable Certificates**: Through linkage with DigiLocker and Aadhaar, the app facilitates the issuance of verifiable certificates upon course completion.
- **Course Distribution**: The app serves as a platform for the efficient distribution of skill courses to a wide audience.
- **Digital Matchmaking**: Utilizing digital matchmaking, the app connects potential employers with prospective employees, fostering employment opportunities.

Skill India Mission:

- **Launched in:** July 2015.
- **Aim:** To provide skill training and employment opportunities to the youth of India.
- **Objectives:**
  - To equip the Indian workforce with the skills needed to meet the demands of various industries and sectors.
  - To reduce unemployment by enhancing the employability of young people through skill development.
  - To foster entrepreneurship and promote self-employment.
- **Key Components:**
  - **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY):** A flagship scheme under Skill India, offering skill training and certification.
  - **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC):** A public-private partnership organization that plays a crucial role in implementing Skill India programs.
  - **Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs):** Vocational training institutes that provide skill training in various trades.
  - **Skill Development Centers:** These centers are set up across the country to deliver training and assessment services.
  - **Apprenticeship Training:** Encouraging apprenticeship programs to bridge the gap between education and employment.

TIMES OF INDIA Page 12

SWARUP BHATNAGAR AWARD
(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 – Art & Culture)

'Proud moment': IIT-D researcher among 12 to bag key science award

Shreya.Ghosh@timesgroup.com



Dipti Ranjan Sahoo

New Delhi: An engineering researcher at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, is among the 12 scientists being awarded the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for 2022. The prizes are given annually for achievement by a researcher under the age of 45 years in biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, medicine, engineering, and earth, atmosphere, ocean, and planetary sciences.

Dipti Ranjan Sahoo, researcher in structural engineering at IIT-D and assistant professor in the School of Infrastructure at IIT-Bhubaneswar, is being honoured in the engineering category. After the announcement of the prize winners on September 11, Sahoo shared his thoughts with **TOI**, saying, "It is a proud moment for me as well as for my students, family and parents. It gives me utmost satisfaction that the research done by my students and I in the area of earthquake-resistant design has received recognition."

After a BTech from the Indira Gandhi Institute of Technology under Utkal University in 2001, Sahoo got his master's degree in structural engineering from IIT-Kanpur in 2003, where he also completed his doctorate degree in civil engineering in 2008. A fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers (UK), Institute of Engineers (India) and the Indian Society of Earthquake Technology, Sahoo has written over 250 research articles, primarily on earthquake and structural fire engineering.

Explaining the goal of his research, Sahoo said, "There is great variation in the way we build buildings, bridges, etc., in different parts of the country. The levels of seismicity also vary from north to south and east to west in India. A particular building built in the northern part of the country may be vulnerable to moderate-to-major earthquakes, but a similar structure in the coastal regions could also be subjected to cyclones in addition to earthquakes. Therefore, there is a need to develop new techniques to encompass such variations."

He added his group had been working on the use of novel materials, development of energy absorbing devices and design methods.

The other 2022 awardees are Ashwani Kumar of CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology and Maddika Subba Reddy of Centre for DNA Fingerprinting Diagnostics, Hyderabad, for biology; Akkattu Biju of IISc and Debabrata Maiti of IIT-Bombay for chemistry; Vimal Mishra of IIT-Gandhinagar for earth and atmospheric sciences; Rajnish Kumar of IIT-Madras for engineering; Apoorva Khare of IISc and Neeraj Kayal of Microsoft Research Lab India for mathematics; Dipyaman Ganguly of Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata, for medicine; and Anindya Das of IISc and Basudeb Dasgupta of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research for physics.

Context: The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) announced the **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award (SSB)** for 2022.

Swarup Bhatnagar Award (SSB)

- **About:** The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards hold the distinction of being India's premier multidisciplinary science honours.
  - These prestigious awards are dedicated to the memory of Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, a distinguished chemist and visionary who served as the founder and director of CSIR.
- **Eligibility**: Individuals engaged in research within any scientific or technological domain and who are citizens of India are eligible for the prize as long as they are under the age of 45.
  - Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) who are conducting research in India.
- **Prize**: Rs. 5 lakh, recipients also get Rs. 15,000 per month up to the age of 65 years.

Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)

- **About:** It is an **autonomous body** and the **largest research and development** (R&D) organisation in India – running 37 laboratories and 39 field stations or extension centres.
- **Funded by:** Ministry of Science and Technology. it operates as an autonomous body through the Societies Registration Act, of 1860.
- **Established:** September 1942.
- **Located**: New Delhi.
- CSIR ranks **7th in Asia** and holds the top position within the country.

PAMPAPHONEUS BICCAI
(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Env & Eco)

265-million-year-old fossil belongs to oldest, largest South American predator before dinosaurs

Context: Recently, an international team of researchers published their documentation of the discovery of a **265-million-year-old fossil species** found in Brazil in the Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society.

Pampaphoneus biccai

- **Early Therapsid Clade**: Belong to the early therapsid clade known as **Dinocephalians.**
- **Prehistoric Existence**: These creatures lived just before the Earth's largest extinction event in history, which wiped out **86 percent** of all animal species globally.
- **Land Dominance**: Before the extinction event, dinocephalians were a prominent group of large terrestrial animals thriving on land.
- **Diverse Diet**: Both carnivorous and herbivorous members display a wide range of dietary preferences.
- **Cranial Features**: Their name, **"Dinocephalians**," is derived from their thick cranial bones, which translates to "terrible head" in Greek.
- **Geographic Distribution**: While these animals are rare in most parts of the world, they are well-documented in South Africa and Russia.
    - Dinocephalian is the **only known species of its kind in Brazil**.



Artist's illustration of Pampaphoneus biccai. (Marcio Castro via Harvard University)

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