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सत्यमेव जयते



MK Yadav Sir

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ONLINE GAMBLING

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

Some Betting Apps Continue to Roll the Dice with Online Ads

ON THIN ICE Firms like Betway, Lotus365 and Fun88 continue operations and ads across online platforms despite blanket ban

Dia Rekhi & Aashish Aryan

Chennai | New Delhi: Betting apps, some of which are among the 138 banned by the Centre earlier this year, continue to advertise their operations on digital platforms in defiance of the rules, say legal experts.

Among those advertising aggressively during the ongoing Indian Premier League is Betway, which also features on platforms like news aggregator DailyHunt, short video platform Josh and social question-and-answer website Quora. Others that continue to promote their offerings include Lotus365 and Fun88. "It's impossible for the government to monitor everything," says technology and gaming lawyer Jay Sayta, while pointing out that the government has issued three advisories asking print, electronic and digital media not to feature advertisements by the banned apps.

Platforms which advertise banned apps could suffer severe penalties under the IT Rules including "loss of intermediary status and potential blocking of websites, criminal prosecution under state gaming laws and action under the Consumer Protection Act," he added.

Emails sent to DailyHunt and Josh's parent — VerSe Innovation, Quora, Instagram, Betway, Lotus365 and Fun88 remain unanswered.

AGGRESSIVE ADVERTISING

Betway, which calls itself "an online gambling company, offering first-class sports betting and casino entertainment," has been vocal with its advertisements in the current IPL season.

Significant Social Media Presence ▸▸ 17

Defiance of the Rules

Govt banned **138** betting apps in Feb

In April, govt's new gaming rules completely ban betting/wagering

Ban also bar advertisements of such apps

Legal experts say apps continue to function on govt inaction

Industry experts say govt must act as it's impossible for intermediaries to track all such infractions



Context: Betting apps, some of which are among the 138 banned by the Centre earlier this year, continue to advertise their operations on digital platforms in defiance of the rules.

- Platforms which advertise banned apps could suffer severe penalties under the **IT Rules** including loss of intermediary status and potential blocking of websites, criminal prosecution under state gaming laws and action under the **Consumer Protection Act.**

Online Gambling

- **About**: Online gambling involves **participating in gambling activities** through the internet by placing bets or wagers on games and events to win money or prizes. It can be played on various devices and involves virtual chips or digital currencies instead of cash.
  - The **global online gambling market** was valued at USD 63.53 billion in 2022 and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 11.7% from 2023 to 2030, with the Asia-Pacific region being the largest market.
  - There are **different types of online gambling**, including casino games like slots, blackjack, and roulette, sports betting, poker, and lottery. It is regulated in most countries, including India, with varying degrees of restrictions and laws.
- **Laws and Regulations:**
  - **Public Gambling Act, 1867:** At present, India has just **one central law** that governs gambling in all its forms. It's called the Public Gambling Act, 1867, which is an old law, ill-equipped to handle the challenges of digital casinos, online gambling and gaming.
  - **7th Schedule of the Constitution**: Gambling in India is largely a **state subject.** This means states are expected to create their own laws to regulate gambling in their jurisdictions.
  - **Laws in Various States**: States like Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh have adopted the Public Gambling Act with some amendments.
    - However, other regions like Goa, Sikkim, Daman, Meghalaya, and Nagaland, have drafted specific laws to regulate public gambling in their jurisdictions.

BUSINESS STANDARD

Page 1

ANGEL TAX

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

Investors from 21 nations get angel tax exemption

Funding from countries such as Mauritius and Singapore in unlisted start-ups to attract the tax

SHRIMI CHOUDHARY
New Delhi, 25 May

Investment from countries such as Mauritius, Singapore, and the Netherlands in unlisted Indian start-ups will attract angel tax.

The government has notified the list of "specified jurisdictions" featuring 21 nations, including the US, the UK, Australia, and Germany, which will be eligible for immunity from the new tax.

However, countries such as Singapore, Ireland, the Netherlands, and Mauritius, from where most of the investment comes to India, do not find mention in this list.

Investment vehicles in Mauritius and Singapore are used by global investors to enter India and invest in the unlisted space. Experts are of the view that it is not clear that whether specific special purpose vehicles (SPVs) located in non-specified countries will get immunity from the tax.

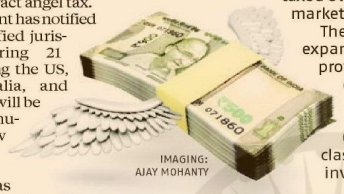
"A limited relief has been granted to certain categories of investors such as category 1 foreign portfolio investors, pension funds, and broad-based investment funds. Even such investors may need to take a re-look at setting up SPVs for investment in India vis-a-vis investing directly to avail of angel-tax exemption. Not including Singapore, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg is surprising, considering a large number of investments are routed to India through these jurisdictions, which are important financial centres," said Gouri Puri, partner, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co.

According to industry estimates, Singapore, Mauritius and the UAE together constitute over 50 per cent FDI in India, and keeping them out of the list would impact the whole start-up industry.

Last Friday, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) had proposed to exempt a host of foreign investors including sovereign wealth funds, pension funds, banks, and insurers from angel tax. It had also put out additional valuation norms for those that come within its net. Barring hedge funds, broad-based pooled investment vehicles or funds in which the number of investors is more than 50 have been excluded from the tax. Besides, foreign investment in start-ups recognised by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) will not attract this tax, the CBDT had said.

The CBDT has proposed to accept valuations by a merchant banker done within 90 days of the issue of shares by a start-up.

Turn to Page 11



IMAGING: AJAY MOHANTY

THE FINE PRINT

Angel tax

Until now, investments by domestic investors in closely held firms were taxed over and above the fair market value.

The Finance Act, 2023, expanded the Angel tax provision, removing the exemption for foreign funds and non-residents. Last week, CBDT excluded certain classes of foreign investors

Exempted

Sovereign wealth funds, pension funds, category 1 FPIs, investment routed through 21 nations, including US, UK, Germany and Australia

Not exempted

Start-ups not registered with DPIIT; foreign investment from countries like Mauritius, Singapore, Luxembourg

Context: Investment from countries such as Mauritius, Singapore, and the Netherlands in unlisted Indian startups will attract **angel tax.**

Key Points

- The government the **list of "specified featuring nations,** including the UK, Australia, Germany, which eligible for immunity from the new tax.
- However, countries such **Singapore, Ireland, Netherlands,** and most of the investment comes to India, do not find mention in this list.
- Investment vehicles in **Mauritius and Singapore** are used by global investors to enter India and invest in the unlisted space.
- By mentioning this list of countries, the government **aims to attract more foreign investment into India** from countries that have robust regulatory frameworks.
- This move aligns with the government's initial intention of bringing foreign direct investment within the purview of angel tax to prevent the circulation of unaccounted money.
- Until now, investments by domestic investors in closely held firms were taxed over and above the **fair Act, 2023,** the Angel tax removing the for foreign and nonresidents.
- For a startup to escape the angel tax provisions, apart from registering itself with the DPIIT, there is a threshold of ₹ 25 crore paid up capital and share premium.

Angel Tax

- A term used to **refer to the income tax payable** on the capital raised by unlisted companies.
- It is **levied on the capital raised via the issue of shares** from an Indian investor.
- This tax **predominantly affects start-ups** and the angel investments they attract.
- It derives its genesis from s**ection 56(2) (viib) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.**
    - **Section 56(2) (viib)** was Introduced by the finance act, 2012
    - It taxes any **investment, received by any unlisted Indian company**, valued above the fair market value by treating it as income.
    - The investment in **excess of fair value** is characterized as 'Income from other sources.
    - If the f**air market value of a startup share** is Rs 50 apiece, and in a subsequent funding round they offer it to an investor for Rs 60, then the difference of Rs 10 would be taxed as income.

THE HINDU

Page 1

IRDA INITIATIVE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

All-in-one policy plan to spread insurance in India

IRDA is devising an affordable product covering health, life, property, accident risks to give citizens protection, expedite claim settlements by linking death registries onto one industry platform

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

If India's insurance regulator's plans fructify, households across the country could soon be able to get an affordable single policy that covers health, life, property and accident, get their claims settled within hours, and even secure value-added services at the time of buying a policy.

In an ambitious bid to expand the poor insurance penetration in the country, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) is devising a new affordable bundled product to give citizens protection against multiple risks, and seeking to expedite claim settlements by linking death registries onto a common industry platform.

These initiatives are part of a broader overhaul – including legislative amendments to attract more investments through differentiated licences for niche players similar to the banking sector – with an eye on making insurance "available, affordable and accessible" to all citizens with a "gram panchayat- to district- to State-level' approach.

'UPI-like moment'

The regulator believes these changes could double the number of jobs in the sector to 1.2 crore.

IRDA chief Debasish Panda said on Thursday that they are striving to create an "UPI-like moment" in insurance through a plan worked out with general and life insurance firms that he termed "Bima Trinity".

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Cover drive for the uninsured

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority is driving multi-pronged changes to expand citizens' safety nets

- A new bundled insurance product Bima Vistar to provide life, health, accident and property cover through a single, simple policy
- A Bima Sugam platform as a one-stop shop for customers, integrating insurers and distributors
- Linking digital death registries to platform so claims can be settled within hours or a day
- Permitting insurers to sell value-added services with policies; for example, a yoga class bundled with a health scheme
- Women to lead campaign to spur insurance penetration in each Gram Sabha
- Roping in States to form insurance committees and expand coverage across districts

Move will also allow smaller, micro and regional insurers to reach different strata of society

Context: In an ambitious bid to expand the poor insurance penetration in the country, the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA)** is devising a new affordable bundled product to give citizens protection against multiple risks, and seeking to expedite claim settlements by linking death registries onto a common industry platform.

Key Points

- These initiatives are part of a broader overhaul, including **legislative amendments to attract more investments** through differentiated licences for niche players similar to the banking sector, with an eye on making insurance "available, affordable and accessible" to citizens with a 'Gram Sabha- to district- to State-level' approach.
- The regulator believes these changes could double the number of jobs in the sector to 1.2 crore.
- A new **Bima Sugam platform** will integrate insurers and distributors on to one platform to make it a one-stop shop for customers, who at a later stage can pursue service requests and settlement of claims through the same portal.

IRDA

- **About**: It is an **autonomous and statutory body** established under the IRDA Act 1999.
  - It is the apex body that **supervises and regulates the insurance sector** in India.
- **Objective**: To **protect the interests of policyholders,** to regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance industry in India.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Finance.
- **Head Office:** Hyderabad.
- **Composition**: IRDAI is a 10-member body- a Chairman, five full-time members, and four part-time members appointed by the Government of India.

LIVE MINT

Page 10

Andhra infra plans to get ADB push

The Centre and the Asian Development Bank signed a $141.12 million loan agreement aimed at supporting the development of high-quality internal infrastructure in three industrial clusters in Andhra Pradesh. The loan will be utilized to enhance road networks, water supply systems, and electricity distribution networks, fostering industrialization and job creation in the targeted areas. "This financing is the second tranche of the $500 million multi-tranche financing facility (MFF) for the program approved by ADB in 2016 to build infrastructure in three industrial clusters in the Visakhapatnam and Srikalahasthi-Chittoor nodes in the state," the ministry of finance said. By adopting a multi-sectoral approach, the ADB financing aims to boost manufacturing, improve competitiveness, and increase the manufacturing sector's contribution to Andhra Pradesh's gross domestic product.

SAURAV ANAND

ADB LOAN

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Infrastructure)

Context: The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and the Government of India signed a $141.12 million loan agreement which aims to support the development of essential infrastructure, such as roads, water supply systems, and electricity distribution networks, in three industrial clusters located in Andhra Pradesh.

- This financing is part of a larger $500 million **multi-tranche financing facility (MFF)** approved by ADB in 2016 to enhance infrastructure in the Visakhapatnam and Srikalahasthi-Chittoor nodes.
- ADB also approved a $250 million loan, as part of the MFF, to support the government's **National Industrial Corridor Development Program (NICDP)** in October 2021.

Multi-tranche financing facility

- MFF is a **longer-term partnership** between Asian Development Bank (ADB) and client country.
- It provides **funds for complex project** which would need a longer commitment than a typical ADB investment loan could offer.
  - Like a wide-range road network or energy program.
- It can **finance multiple projects** under investment program in a sector or in various sectors.

Asian Development Bank

- **About**: It is a **regional development bank (ADB)** established on 19th December 1966. It is headquartered in Manila, Philippines.
- **Objectives of ADB:**
  - It envisions a **prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific**. It aims to eradicate extreme poverty in the region.
  - ADB **assists its members, and partners**, by providing loans, technical assistance, grants, and equity investments to promote social and economic development.
  - ADB **facilitates policy dialogues, provides advisory services**, and mobilizes financial resources through financing operations that tap official, commercial, and export credit sources.
- **Members**: From 31 members at its establishment in 1966, ADB has grown to encompass 68 members as of now.
  - **India was one of the 31 initial member countries.**
- **Shareholders**: Among the five largest shareholders are Japan and the **United States (each with 15.6% of total shares), the People's Republic of China (6.4%), India (6.3%), and Australia (5.8%).**
  - It is **modelled closely on the World Bank** and has a similar weighted voting system where votes are distributed in proportion to members' capital subscriptions.

DST

MAY 26

UNANI MEDICINE SYSTEM

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Health)

Ministry of Minority Affairs supports Development of Unani Medicine System

Context: Ministry of Minority Affairs has supported Central Council of Research in **Unani Medicine (CCRUM)** and National Institute of Unani Medicine (NIUM) Bengaluru, under the Ministry of Ayush, for the promotion and upgradation of Unani Medicine facilities in India.

- **Ministry of Minority Affairs** has approved a grant of Rs. 45.34 Crores under **Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK),** a centrally sponsored scheme (CSS).
- This will support the upgradation of **Unani Medicine facilities** at Hyderabad, Chennai, Lucknow, Silchar and Bengaluru.

Unani Medicine System

- The Unani system **originated in Greece** and was introduced in India by the Arabs and Persians sometime around the eleventh century.
- Unani System emphasise the use of **naturally occurring, most herbal medicines,** though it uses ingredients of animal and marine origin.
- **Hippocrates** is known as the father of this system of medicine.
- The term **Yūnānī** (Greek) means Perso-Arabic system of medicine.
- It was **introduced to India in 13th century** with the establishment of Delhi Sultanate and it took its own course of development during Mughal Empire.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)

- **About**: It is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme**, under the Ministry of Minority Affairs.
- **Objectives**: It seeks to **provide better socio economic infrastructure facilities** to the minority communities particularly in the field of education, health & skill development which would further lead to lessening of the gap between the national average and the minority communities with regard to backwardness parameters.
- **Implementation**: PMJVK is implemented through the **State Governments/ Union Territory Governments.**
  - Projects under PMJVK are **proposed by the States/ UTs** where land is already available with the State/ UT.
    - The **Central Government does not acquire land** for construction under the scheme. The land cost or land acquisition costs are not covered under this programme.
    - The scheme is now **implemented in all Districts** of the country including all the Aspirational Districts.
- **Beneficiaries under PMJVK:** As far as PMJVK is concerned, the communities notified as minority communities under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 would be taken as Minority Communities. At present **6 Minorities communities have been notified as Minority Communities;**
  - Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Zoroastrians (Parsis) and Jains.

DTE

MAY 26

19TH WORLD METEOROLOGICAL CONGRESS

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)

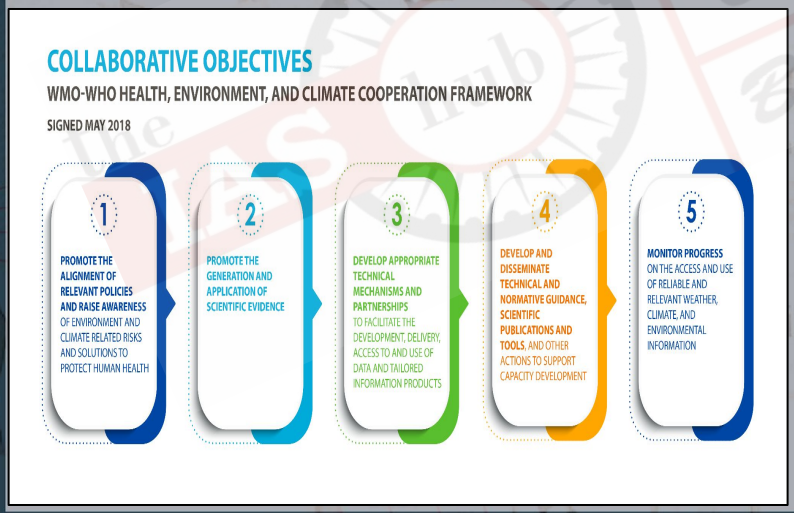


World Meteorological Congress endorses 10-year plan to integrate and scale up climate, health services

Speakers at the 19th World Meteorological Congress also raised concerns over extreme heat and the need to strengthen early warning systems

NEXT NEWS >

By Kiran Pandey
Published: Thursday 25 May 2023



Context: The **World Meteorological Congress** May 24, 2023 recognised climate change as a threat to human health and endorsed a 10-year plan to scale up health services.

- The **2023-2033 Implementation Plan for Advancing Climate, Environment and Health Science and Services by the World Health Organization (WHO)-WMO** was chalked out with the aim to achieve "better health and well-being for people facing existing and emerging extreme weather events, climate change and environmental risks through the effective integration of climate, environment and health science and services across the world".
- This will **promote a coordinated approach** to manage the impact of climate, weather, air pollution, ultraviolet radiation, extreme events and other environmental factors on health.

World Meteorological Organization

- **About**: It is a **specialized agency of the United Nations** responsible for promoting international cooperation on atmospheric science, climatology, hydrology and geophysics.
- **Origin**: It was established by the **Convention of the World Meteorological Organization,** signed in 1947 and ratified in 1950.
    - The Convention serves as the constituent treaty of the WMO, setting forth its purposes, governance, and general framework.
- **Members**: It is made up of 193 countries and territories, and facilitates the "free and unrestricted" exchange of data, information, and research between the respective meteorological and hydrological institutions of its members.
    - **India is a member of WMO.**
    - It also **collaborates with nongovernmental partners** and other international organizations on matters related to environmental protection, climate change, resource management, and socioeconomic development.
- **Governance**: Headquartered in **Geneva**, Switzerland, the WMO is governed by the **World Meteorological Congress**, composed of member states, which meets every four years to set policies and priorities.
    - The World Meteorological Congress, the supreme body of the Organization, determines policy.

TIMES OF INDIA

Page 11

INS VIKRANT AND MIG-29K

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Sci & Tech)

MiG-29K lands on INS Vikrant at night

Navy Hails Pilots, Sailors For Achievement

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: In another milestone for India's first indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, a MiG-29K fighter undertook night landing on her deck in the Arabian Sea on Wednesday. The Navy said the "challenging" night landing trial demonstrated the "resolve, skill and professionalism" of the naval pilots and crew of the 45,000-tonne INS Vikrant, which is expected to become fully operational with its "air wing" by early next year.

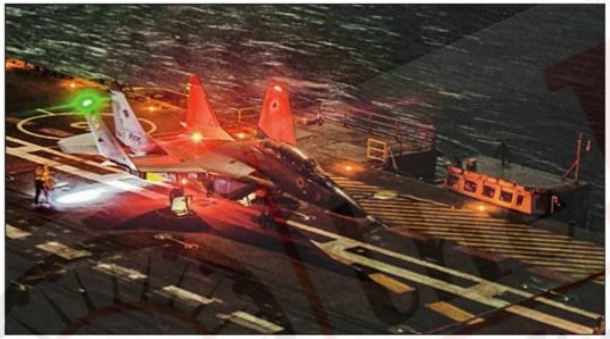
Both the Russian-origin MiG-29K and the indigenous naval light combat aircraft had landed on the carrier's deck for the first time during daytime in February. INS Vikrant, the largest-ever warship to be built in India for about Rs 20,000 crore, will become fully combat-ready when the MiG-29Ks complete the crucial trials from her flight deck, which is comparable to two football fields with an angled ski-jump.

"The carrier is undergoing air certification and flight integration trials with helicopters and fighters for achieving combat-ready status at the earliest. Since February, day and night landing of all helicopters in the naval inventory has been carried out," an officer said.

Consequently, India is now looking to seal a mega multi-billion contract for 26 foreign fighters in a government-to-government deal. In this race, the maritime version of French fighter Rafale has emerged as the frontrunner over the American F/A-18 Super Hornet after trials, as was reported by **TOI** in December.

The Navy is now also finalising the initial case for a "repeat order" of INS Vikrant, instead of a more potent 65,000-tonne carrier due to budgetary constraints. In sharp contrast, with already the world's largest navy, China is now fast building its fourth aircraft carrier after "launching" its third carrier, the over 80,000-tonne Fujian, in June last year.

PTI



The Navy said the 'challenging' night landing trial demonstrated the 'resolve, skill and professionalism' of the naval pilots and crew

Context: In another milestone for India's first indigenous aircraft carrier **INS Vikrant, a MiG-29K fighter** undertook night landing on her deck in the Arabian Sea.

- Both the **Russian-origin MiG-29K** and the indigenous naval light combat aircraft had landed on the carrier's deck for the first time during daytime in February.
- **INS Vikrant,** the largest-ever warship to be built in India for about Rs 20,000 crore, will become fully combat-ready when the MiG-29Ks complete the crucial trials from her flight deck, which is comparable to two football fields with an angled ski-jump.

INS Vikrant

- **About**: It is country's maiden **indigenous aircraft carrier** (IAC-1).
- **Built by:** Cochin Shipyard Ltd.
  - The IAC was **commissioned in 2022** making it the most potent sea-based asset.
- **Capabilities**: It can project **Air Power over long distances**, including Air Interdiction, Anti-Surface Warfare, offensive and defensive Counter-Air, Airborne Anti-Submarine Warfare and Airborne Early Warning.
  - It has a **STOBAR (short take off but arrested recovery)** system of aircraft launch and recovery on the flight deck.
  - It is armed with the **Barak LR-SAM (long range surface-to-air missile)** air defence and AK-630 close-in weapon system besides a slew of advanced sensors and an electronic warfare suite.

DTE

MAY 26

REGULATION OF FIRECRACKER PRODUCTION

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Sci & Tech)

Buying time? West Bengal government sets up panel as explosions in illegal firecracker factories kill 16

Three back-to-back explosions; Green activists say priority should be to close illegal units

Toxic fumes | The Supreme Court has repeatedly raised concerns over the use of harmful chemicals in the manufacture of firecrackers



Under the scanner: Firecrackers stacked for sale at a shop in Tamil Nadu. ▪ FILE PHOTO

July 2017: Supreme Court bans use of five chemicals – antimony, lithium, mercury, arsenic and lead – labelled as toxic by the Central Pollution Control Board, in firecrackers

Oct. 2018: SC bans use of firecrackers that are loud and toxic, and permits only "green or reduced-emission" ones. Ban follows petition filed by two infants through their fathers, flagging air pollution

March 2020: Court orders CBI Joint Director in Chennai to probe violation of the 2018 ban

"Every day there is a celebration, but you should also be mindful of the people living around you... people who have asthma"

JUSTICE M.R. SHAH

Context: West Bengal was once known as a model state for noise pollution control, including **fireworks**.

- But now it has been rattled by a series of explosions in three **illegal firework** units, with at least 16 people, including women and minors, dead within a week.

Explosive fireworks

- It depend on four primary ingredients - **oxidiser, fuel, colouring agents & binder.**
- The **oxidisers in fireworks are chemicals** that release oxygen to allow the explosion to take place. Ex: Nitrates, chlorates.
- The fuel for burning is usually **charcoal**.
- **Colouring agents** impart desired colours like aluminium compounds for brilliant whites, barium nitrate for greens.
- **Binders** are used to hold the mixture of the firework together in a paste while burning.
- Also, other metals like titanium & strontium are added to regulate the speed of the burning reaction.

Existing guidelines

- Currently, guidelines exist four types of explosive firecrackers - **atom bombs, Chinese crackers, garland crackers and maroons.**
- The guidelines for these were drawn up by **Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO)** in 2008 after the Supreme Court ordered it to regulate regarding their composition.
- According to these guidelines, the **sulphur, nitrate & aluminium power contents** must not exceed 20%, 57%, & 24% respectively.
- In July 2016 the SC ordered that **no firecrackers** shall contain antimony, lithium, mercury, arsenic and lead.

INDIAN EXPRESS

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KHORRAMSHAHR BALLISTIC MISSILE

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Sci Tech)

Iran says successfully test-launched ballistic missile amid nuke tensions

REUTERS
DUBAI, MAY 25

IRAN SUCCESSFULLY test-launched a ballistic missile with a potential 2,000-km range on Thursday, state media said, two days after the chief of Israel's armed forces raised the prospect of "action" against Tehran over its nuclear programme.

Iran, which has one of the biggest missile programmes in the Middle East, says its weapons are capable of reaching the bases of arch-foes Israel and the United States in the region.

Despite U.S. and European opposition, the Islamic Republic has said it will further develop its "defensive" missile programme.

"Our message to Iran's enemies is that we will defend the country and its achievements. Our message to our friends is that we want to help regional stability," Iranian Defence Minister Mohammadreza Ashtiani said.



Khorramshahr-4 missile launched at an undisclosed location in Iran, in this image released by Defence Ministry. *Reuters*

State TV broadcast a few seconds of footage of what it said was the launch of an upgraded version of Iran's Khoramshahr 4 ballistic missile with a range of 2,000 km and able to carry a 1,500-kg warhead.

Israel, which the Islamic Republic does not recognise, sees Iran as an existential threat. Iran says its ballistic missiles are an important deterrent and retaliatory force against the United States, Israel and other potential regional adversaries.

An Israeli military spokesperson said the military does not comment on such matters.

On Tuesday, the top Israeli general mooted possible military action against Iran as efforts by six world powers to revive Tehran's 2015 nuclear deal have stalled since last September, amid growing Western fears about Tehran's accelerating nuclear advances.

The deal, which Washington ditched in 2018, imposed curbs on Iran's nuclear activities that extended the time Tehran would need to produce enough fissile material for a nuclear bomb, if it chose to do so. Iran denies seeking nuclear weapons.

Ballistic Missile	Cruise Missile
It is propelled only for a brief duration after the launch.	**Self-propelled till the end of its flight.**
Similar to a **rocket engine.**	Similar to a **jet engine.**
Long-range missiles leave the earth's atmosphere and reenter it.	The flight path is within the earth's atmosphere.
Low precision as it is unguided for most of its path and its trajectory depends on gravity, air resistance, and Coriolis Force.	Hits targets with **high precision** as it is constantly propelled.
Can have a very long-range (300 km to 12,000 km) as there is no fuel requirement after its initial trajectory.	The **range is small (below 500 km)** as it needs to be constantly propelled to hit the target with high precision.

Context: Iran unveiled what it dubbed the latest iteration of its **liquid-fuelled Khorramshahr ballistic missile** amid wider tensions with the West over its nuclear program.

- Iran, which has one of the biggest missile programmes in the Middle East, says its weapons are capable of reaching the bases of arch-foes Israel and the United States in the region.

Khorramshahr Missile

- The **Khorramshahr**, named after the **city of Khorramshahr in Iran**, is a medium-range ballistic missile that was tested by Iran in January 2017.
- Its range is 2,000-kilometre (1,240-mile) with a 1,500 kg warhead and is 13 m in length.

Ballistic Missile

- **About**: a rocket-propelled **self-guided strategic-weapons system.**
- **Mechanism**: follows a **ballistic trajectory (the path of an unpowered object)** to deliver a payload from its launch site to a predetermined target.
  - Short-range ballistic missiles stay within the Earth's atmosphere, while intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) are launched on a sub-orbital flight.
- **Key features**: may travel above the atmosphere into outer space.
- **Types**:
  - **Air-launched ballistic missile (ALBM)**
  - **Tactical ballistic missile:** Range between about 150 to 300 kilometres (93 to 186 mi)
  - **Theatre ballistic missile (TBM)**: Range between 300 to 3,500 kilometres (190 to 2,170 mi)
  - **Short-range ballistic missile (SRBM)**: Range between 300 to 1,000 kilometres (190 to 620 mi)
  - **Medium-range ballistic missile (MRBM):** Range between 1,000 to 3,500 kilometres (620 to 2,170 mi)
  - **Intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) or long-range ballistic missile (LRBM)**: Range between 3,500 to 5,500 kilometres (2,200 to 3,400 mi)
  - **Intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM):** Range greater than 5,500 kilometres (3,400 mi)
  - **Submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM):** Launched from ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs)
- **India's Ballistic Missiles:** Prithvi-III , Dhanush , Prahaar, Shaurya and Pralay.

PIB MAY 26

KHELO INDIA PROGRAMME

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Sports & Games)

PM declares open 3rd edition of Khelo India University Games

Context: The Prime Minister declared open **Khelo India University Games 2023.**

- The games will witness the participation of over 4750 athletes from more than 200 Universities competing in 21 sports categories.

Khelo India University Games (KIUG)

- It is a **national level multi-sport event h**eld in India, where athletes from universities across the country compete in different sports disciplines.
- It is organised by **Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** along with Association of Indian Universities, Indian Olympic Association and National Sports Federation.
- It was launched after the success of the **Khelo India Youth Games**, which had completed its third edition in 2020.
    - Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG), formerly Khelo India School Games (KISG), are the annual national level multidisciplinary grassroot games in India held in January or February for two categories, namely under-17 years school students and under-21 college students.
- On 22 February 2020, Prime Minister inaugurated the first edition of the **Khelo India University Games in Cuttack.**
    - The inaugural event was held at **JNL Indoor Stadium.**
- The Khelo India University Games is **intended to identify and train capable athletes** in the age group of 18 to 25 years for the Olympics and the Asian Games.

Khelo India Programme

- **National Programme for Development of Sports**, branded as Khelo India, aims at improving India's sports culture at the grass-root level through organized talent identification, structured sporting competitions and infrastructure development.
- It was launched in 2**017-18.**
- **Khelo India State Centres of Excellence (KISCE)** are sports facilities across India, built upon existing facilities, aiming to provide basic facilities for sportspersons with potential.
- Each centre will cater to three **sporting disciplines.**

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