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सत्यमेव जयते



MK Yadav Sir

Table of Contents

1. Municipal Bonds
2. Pending in Judiciary
3. Executive and Judiciary Tussle
4. Invasive Alien Species
5. Bhoj Wetland
6. Palakkad Tusker-7
7. IISF 2022
8. Leopard 2 Tanks
9. Groningen Gas Field
10. Republic Day Tableaux

LIVE MINT

Page 13

MUNICIPAL BONDS

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Economy)

Sebi sets up database on municipal bonds

PTI

feedback@livemint.com

Markets regulator Sebi has launched an information database on municipal bonds.

As part of efforts to develop the bond markets, an outreach programme on municipal bonds and municipal finance was organised by Sebi in the national capital on 20 and 21 January.

Representatives from various stakeholders, including the ministry of housing and urban affairs, municipal corporations, stock exchanges, credit rating agencies, merchant bankers and debenture trustees, participated in the programme.

At the launch event, Sebi chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch emphasised the potential of municipal bonds in infrastructure development and nation building.

"The information database contains a wide range of information in the form of statistics and regulations, circulars, guidance note and Frequently Asked Questions issued by Sebi in respect of municipal debt securities," it said.

The repository contains various checklists for pre-listing requirements and sample letters and certificates from various intermediaries to be obtained by an issuer who plans to tap the municipal bond market.

Context: The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has launched an information database including a repository of information pertaining to municipal bonds on its website to assist municipal debt issuers and other stakeholders in the municipal debt market.

Municipal Bonds

- **About**: A municipal bond, also known as **muni bonds,** is **issued by a local government or an allied agency** in order to finance public projects such as roads, airportsm schools etc.
  - Municipal bonds are **debt investments** issued by state and local government entities to raise money to fund operations or certain projects.
  - Muni bonds are around 20 times less likely to default than corporate bonds with similar credit ratings.
  - The bonds can be **issued by states, cities, counties, utility providers, transit authorities, school districts, hospitals, and more.**
- **Types of Municipal Bonds:** Municipal bonds are **categorized based on the source of its interest payments** and principal repayments.
  - It is structured in ways that **can offer benefits such as risks and tax treatments**. Income generated by a municipal bond **may be taxable.**
    - **General obligation bond (GO)**: It is **issued by government agencies** and not exalt backed by revenue from a particular project.
      - ➢ There are some GO bonds which are **supported by dedicated property taxes** and some by payable general funds.
    - **Revenue municipal bonds**: It **secure principal and interest payments** through sales, fuel, hotel occupancy, and other taxes.
      - ➢ When a municipality is a conduit issuer of bonds, a **third party covers interest and principal payments.**
- **Nodal Authority**: In India, guidelines for Municipal Bonds are issued by **SEBI**.

TIMES OF INDIA

Page 9

PENDING IN JUDICIARY

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Polity & Governance)

63 lakh cases pending in lower courts due to 'lack of counsel'

Delhi, UP, Maha & 4 Other States Account For 77% Of Cases: NJDG

Chethan.Kumar
@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: Of the over four crore cases pending in lower courts in the country, about 63 lakh cases remain undecided because of non-availability of counsel, according to the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), as of January 20. At least 78% of such cases are criminal and the rest civil.

While Uttar Pradesh has the most cases pending due to this reason, an analysis of a few randomly selected states shows thousands of such cases in the pendency list. Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, UP, and Bihar together account for 77.7% (or more than 49 lakh) of the 63 lakh such cases.

Advocate KV Dhananjay said a variety of reasons could be attributed to this: Death of lawyers, unaffordability of advocates when cases drag on, delay in fixing of lawyers by prosecution, and inefficiency of free legal services.

Anisha Gopi, team lead of Nyaaya, an initiative helping citizens understand legal rights, said: "Delay is one of the major barriers and this happens for a variety of reasons like a large volume of cases, not enough judges and adjournments for various reasons (one of them being lawyers not being available)."

Gopi said, "Lawyers are often overburdened. The way the registry in our courts functions, case listings come up at the last minute and lawyers are then often forced to miss either of the hearings. Another reason is that an average case in India takes four years to be completed. When litigation continues for longer than anticipated, the aggrieved person may run out of resources to continue paying hefty legal fees."

Separate data from the Union law ministry shows that between 2017-18 and 2021-22, over one crore people have benefited from pro-bono legal services offered through the legal services authorities, in sharp contrast to the performance in the previous decades.

The five states that saw the maximum increase in 2021-22 were MP, UP, Jharkhand, Bihar and Assam. Together, these states accounted for 94% (58.6 lakh) of the 62.2 lakh beneficiaries in 2021-22, while they account for 70.4% or 73.1 lakh of the 1.03 crore beneficiaries in the past five years. However, experts argue that the exponential increase the data shows was hard to accept and called for a more detailed study.

STATE OF AFFAIRS

State	Civil	Criminal	Total (In lakh)
Uttar Pradesh	4.5 lakh	20.2 lakh	24.7
Bihar	2.1 lakh	7.2 lakh	9.3
Maharashtra	4.4 lakh	3.9 lakh	8.3
Delhi	60,000	2.3 lakh	2.9
Karnataka	1.3 lakh	60,000	1.9
Tamil Nadu	87,000	19,000	1.06
Gujarat	35,000	32,000	67,000
Rest of India	4.6 lakh	9.5 lakh	14.1
All India	**18.8 lakh**	**44.2 lakh**	**63 lakh**

Source: NJDG As of 2.30pm Jan 20 | All Figures In Lakh Rounded Off

Context: Of the over four crore cases pending in lower courts in the country, about 63 lakh cases remain undecided because of non-availability of counsel, according to the **National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)**, as of January 20.

- At least 78% of such cases are criminal and the rest civil.

Highlights of the NJDG data

- **Status of states:** While **Uttar Pradesh has the most cases pending** due to this reason, an analysis of a few randomly selected states shows thousands of such cases in the pendency list.
  - Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, UP, and Bihar together account for 77. 7% (or more than 49 lakh) of the 63 lakh such cases.
- **Variety of reasons could be attributed to this:** Death of lawyers, unaffordability of advocates when cases drag on, delay in fixing of lawyers by prosecution, and inefficiency of free legal services.
- **Initiative helping citizens understand legal rights:** Delay is one of the major barriers and this happens for a variety of reasons like a **large volume of cases, not enough judges and adjournments for various reasons** (one of them being lawyers not being available).
- **Lawyers are often overburdened**: The way the registry in courts functions, c**ase listings come up at the last minute** and lawyers are then often forced to miss either of the hearings.
  - Another reason is that **an average case in India takes four years to be completed.**
  - When litigation continues for **longer than anticipated**, the aggrieved person may run out of resources to continue paying hefty legal fees.
- **Union law ministry data**: Between 2017-18 and 2021-22, over one crore people have benefited from **pro-bono legal services offered through the legal services authorities**, in sharp contrast to the performance in the previous decades.
  - The five states that saw the **maximum increase in 2021-22** were MP, UP, Jharkhand, Bihar and Assam.
  - Together, these states accounted for 94% (58. 6 lakh) of the 62. 2 lakh beneficiaries in 2021-22, while they account for 70. 4% or 73. 1 lakh of the 1. 03 crore beneficiaries in the past five years.

National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

- **About**: NJDG is a part of the e-Courts Integrated Mission Mode Project. It was **launched in 2015.**
- **Objectives**: The aim is to track judicial performance across different courts in the country.
- **Nodal Authority**: Department of Justice, **Ministry of Law & Justice.**
- **Functions**: The NJDG is working as National data warehouse for case data including the **orders/judgments for Courts across the country.**
  - NJDG works as a monitoring tool to identify, manage & reduce pendency of cases.

THE HINDU Page 1

TUSSLE BETWEEN EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIARY

(Syllabus: GS Paper 2 - Polity & Governance)

Rijiju endorses former HC judge's view that top court 'hijacked' the Constitution

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

In a sign of escalating tensions between the Executive and the Judiciary, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Sunday said the majority of people had "sane views", similar to the one expressed by a retired High Court judge, who said the Supreme Court had "hijacked" the Constitution by deciding to appoint judges by itself.

Mr. Rijiju took to Twitter to share a video interview of the former Delhi High Court judge, Justice R.S. Sodhi (retd), and called it the "voice of a judge".

In the interview, Justice Sodhi also said the top court could not frame laws as it did not have the right to do so. "...Only Parliament will amend the Constitution. But here, I feel the Supreme Court for the first time hijacked the Constitution. After hijacking, they [the SC] said that 'we will appoint [judges] ourselves and the government will have no role in it'," he said in Hindi.



> Actually majority of the people have similar sane views. It's only those people who disregard the provisions of the Constitution and mandate of the people think that they are above the Constitution of India
>
> KIREN RIJIJU
> Union Law Minister

Endorsing the view, Mr. Rijiju tweeted: "Actually majority of the people have similar sane views. It's only those people who disregard the provisions of the Constitution and mandate of the people think that they are above the Constitution of India."

Another tweet said: "Voice of a Judge...Real beauty of Indian Democracy is– its success. People rule themselves through their representatives. Elected representatives represent the interests of the People & make laws. Our Judiciary is independent and our Constitution is Supreme." Mr. Rijiju's remarks are the latest in the tussle between the Centre and the Supreme Court over judicial appointments.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

Context: In a sign of **escalating tension between the Executive and the Judiciary**, Union Law Minister said that the majority of people have "sane views", similar to the one expressed by a retired High Court judge, who said the Supreme Court has "hijacked" the Constitution by deciding to appoint judges itself.

Previous incidents of the tussle

- **Fundamental Rights vs DPSP:** The tussle between the judiciary and executive began when the judiciary defended the fundamental Rights in the **Golak Nath Case,1967** against the supremacy of legislature (Parliament) established by the executive under the leadership of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India.
- **Shield of "Basic Structure"**: The Government in her next move got the three arbitrary **constitutional Amendment Acts in 1971.**
  - The judiciary in response established the "**Doctrine of Basic Structure**" of the constitution through the Kesavananda Bharati case,1973.
- **Struck down of NJAC**: The NJAC judgment was a crucial turning point leading to the present confrontation. No doubt, there always has been a certain amount of creative tension but **NJAC judgment became the tipping point.**
- **Struck down of tribunal ordinance**: Supreme Court struck down the **Tribunal Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Ordinance of 2021.**
- **Displeasure over Delays in clearing recommendations of collegium:** The Supreme Court expressed anguish over the **delay by the Centre in clearing the names recommended by the Collegium** for appointment as judges in the higher judiciary, saying it "effectively frustrates" the method of appointment.

Constitutional Provisions

- **Division of powers:** The constitution of India divided the power and authority among three organs of government –**executive, legislature and judiciary.**
- **Article 50**: The article puts an obligation on the State to separate the judiciary from the executive. But, since this falls under the Directive Principles of State Policy, it is not enforceable.
- **Article 123**: The President, being the executive head of the country, is **empowered to exercise legislative powers** (Promulgate ordinances) in certain conditions.
- **Articles 121**: **No discussions** shall take place in Parliament with respect to the conduct of any Judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court in the discharge of his duties except upon a motion for presenting an address to the President praying for the removal of the Judge as hereinafter provided.
- **Article 211**: This provides that the **legislatures cannot discuss the conduct of a judge** of the Supreme Court or High Court. They can do so only in case of impeachment.
- **Article 361:** The President and Governors enjoy **immunity from court proceedings.**
- **Doctrine of separation of powers:** It is a part of the basic structure of the Constitution, although not specifically mentioned. It calls for the **division of powers of the state among three organs** to avoid the overpowering of any one organ.

DTE JAN 21

INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)

Alien plants growing together threatening tiger habitats: Study

Multiple alien species affected soil nutrients in Kanha Tiger Reserve, put pressure on native forage plants and drove away herbivores

By Ninad Avinash Mungi
Published: Friday 20 January 2023



Context: Several **alien invasive plants** growing together can have a detrimental effect to the biodiversities in tiger habitats, a new study has found.

- The study was conducted in **Kanha Tiger Reserve,** comparing uninvaded native forests with old-growth invasions of single and multiple alien plants.
- The study was funded by **WII Grant-in-aid and Banjaar Tola**, Taj Safari. It was conducted in collaboration with Madhya Pradesh Forest Department.

Key Points

- The researchers **evaluated the differences in soil parameters**, native grasses, herbs, shrubs, tree regeneration, habitat use by mammals, herbivory, bird occurrence, etc.
- **India's biodiverse ecosystems** are threatened by a variety of alien plants like Lantana camara, Parthenium hysterophorous, Prosopis juliflora, etc, introduced during British colonisation.
- **Lantana** alone has pervasively invaded 44 per cent of India's forests.

Invasive Alien Species (IAS)

- **About**: An alien species is **a species introduced outside its natural past or present distribution**; if this species becomes problematic, it is termed an invasive alien species (IAS).
  - The **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) defines** IAS as "an alien species whose introduction and spread threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species with socio-cultural, economic and environmental harm and harm to human health".
  - IAS are such a problem that **Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 and one clause of UN Sustainable Development Goal 15** – Life on Land specifically address the issue.
- **Common features of invasive exotics include**
  - The ability to reproduce both asexually and sexually
  - Fast growth
  - Rapid reproduction
  - High dispersal ability
  - Tolerance of a wide range of environmental conditions
  - Ability to live off of a wide range of food types

Key Facts about Kanha Tiger Reserve

- It is located in the **Maikal Range of Satpuras** and span across two districts of MP – **Mandla and Balaghat.**
- It is declared as one of the finest wildlife reserves in the world and is famous globally to **save Barasingha from near extinction.**
- In 1879, the park was declared as the **reserve forest.**
- In 1952, it was termed as the **wildlife sanctuary.**
- In 1955, the park was termed as the **National Park.**
- As per the official website, the total area of the Kanha Tiger Reserve is **1945 sq km.**
- Rudyard Kipling's '**The Jungle Book'** is said to be inspired by the Kanha National Park.
- The sunset point called, **'Bammi Dadar'** is the famous tourist spot at Kanha Tiger Reserve.
- The two famous tribes of **Gonda and Baigas** originally inhabited the forest.

DTE JAN 21

BHOJ WETLAND

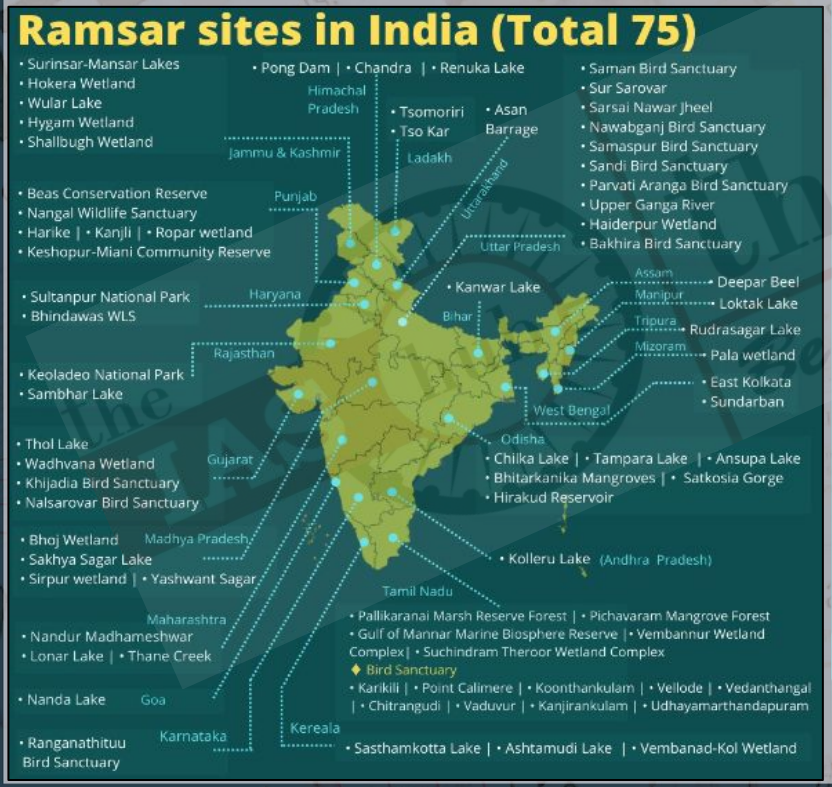
(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)

NGT probe into cruise operating in Bhopal Ramsar wetland

Pollution control authorities directed to monitor contamination by ship periodically

By Himanshu Nitnaware
Published: Friday 20 January 2023





Context: The National Green Tribunal has directed the **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board (MPPCB)** to periodically monitor the activities of a cruise vessel polluting the **Bhoj wetland in Bhopal, MP.**

Key Points

- The wetland is also a **Ramsar site** with international importance and has two lakes, Upper lake, also called **Bhojtal and Lower Lake or Chhota Talaab.**
- **Small cruise vessels** with passengers act as floating colonies that pollute water bodies with sewage, wastewater and other contaminants.
- A **mid-sized cruise vessel** can consume 150 tonnes of fuel each day and dump toxic waste in water.
- Launching cruise vessels will be a direct **violation of the state government's own laws.**
- As per a notification released on March 16, 2022, **only non-motorised boats are permitted.**
- It will also directly violate the provisions of the **Environment Protection Act, 1986**, which states prevention of water pollution and other air pollution Acts and Biological Diversity Act of 1974 and 2002, respectively.
- Upper lake hosts 15 varieties of fish and turtles. About 2,500 migratory birds across the world visit the wetland that serves as a breeding and nesting habitat for them.
- The launching of the cruise vessel and **increasing human activity** due to tourists will directly **impact biodiversity.**

THE HINDU Page 4

PALAKKAD TUSKER-7

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Env & Eco)

Context: A rogue tusker, Palakkad Tusker-7, that terrorised Dhoni and neighbouring villages in Palakkad for months on end was finally captured and confined in a kraal.

Palakkad Tusker-7

- The elephant, which was **code-named as Palakkad Tusker-7 (PT-7)**, was roaming inside the forest at Dhoni and neighbouring villages in the district was found by the Rapid Response Team after a search that went on for several hours.
- Excited over the achievement of the forest department's team, State Forest minister **renamed PT-7 as 'Dhoni',** the village where the elephant had hit hard.



Rogue jumbo PT-7 captured in 'textbook operation'

Abdul Latheef Naha
PALAKKAD

A rogue tusker that terrorised Dhoni and neighbouring villages in Palakkad for months on end was finally captured and confined in a kraal on Sunday.

A 72-member forest team led by Chief Forest Veterinary Officer Arun Zachariah enslaved the wild beast codenamed PT-7 (Palakkad Tusker-7) in a textbook operation that lasted for eight hours.

Although the forest team had gone after PT-7 on Saturday, the elephant eluded them by retreating into an area inside the jungle. The team resumed their operation at 4.30 a.m. on Sunday and caught the tusker.

Dr. Zachariah darted the tusker around 7 a.m. by using an anaesthetic cocktail of Xylazine and Ketamine.

The tusker was then brought to the Dhoni forest camp and then confined in a kraal with the help of three kumkis.

People of Dhoni were jubilant as their "enemy" was finally captured. PT-7 had raided the farmlands frequently in the past several months.

PIB JAN 23

IISF 2022

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Sci & Tech)

The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shivraj Singh Chauhan and Union Minister for Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh today jointly inaugurated "India International Science Festival, IISF-2022" in Bhopal

Context: The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and Union **Minister for Science & Technology** jointly inaugurated India International Science Festival, IISF-2022 in Bhopal with the theme, "**Marching towards Amrit Kaal with Science Technology and Innovation".**

India International Science Festival -2022

- **About**: The eighth India International Science Festival is to be held in Bhopal.
- **Theme** : Marching Towards AMRIT KAAL with Science and Technology.
  - The theme aligns with and **signifies the following:**
    - Self-Reliant India
    - G20 vision of India in 2023 (India is hosting the 2023 G20 meet)
    - One Earth One Family One Future
- **Events at IISF:** This year IISF features **14 events.** They are related to student science, Guinness world records, how to develop science through **games and toys, scientist conclave, innovation festivals, technology shows, etc.**
- **Key features**: Students from more than 2500 schools are to participate. Also, startups from the Biotech and agricultural fields will also participate in the festival
- **AMRIT KAAL**: According to the Government of India, the festival is a step in **moving towards "AMRIT KAAL".**
  - During the 75th Independence Day celebrations held in 2021, PM unveiled a new road map for India.
  - This road map is for 25 years.
  - It talks about how to **make India a developed country,** how to reduce the differences between rural and urban areas, and more. All these are to be achieved using science and technology.
  - These 25 years were referred to by the Prime Minister as AMRIT KAAL. And the term was frequently used by the finance minister during **Budget presentations.** The IISF is striving forward in this context.

INDIAN EXPRESS

Page 13

LEOPARD 2 TANKS

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 - Sci & Tech)

Context: Germany has not decided whether to allow its **Leopard 2 tanks** to be sent to Ukraine, U.S. Defense Secretary said after a U.S.-led meeting of Ukraine's allies ended Friday with no consensus.

Leopard 2 tanks

- **About**: The Leopard 2 is one of the world's leading battle tanks, **used by the German Army** for decades and by the militaries of more than a dozen other European nations, as well as by the armies of countries as far apart as Canada and Indonesia.
- **Key Features:** The tank, which is **powered by a diesel engine**, features night-vision equipment and a laser range finder that can measure distance to an object, enabling it to better aim at a moving target while traveling over rough terrain.
    - There are **multiple iterations of the Leopard 2** with different features and designs.
- **Advantages of Leopards over other tanks:** The chief advantage of the Leopard 2 was the quantity that could be sent to Ukraine and the relative **ease of repair and logistics.**
- **Significance**: It has seen service in **conflicts in Afghanistan, Kosovo and Syria.**
    - Until now, both Ukraine and Russia have used Soviet-era tanks in battle, and the Leopards would offer a big step forward in capability.
    - Ukraine's government has been calling for tanks on **top of earlier packages of military aid** from allies in the United States and Europe that included aircraft, air defense systems to protect against Russian missile and drone attacks and longer-range artillery.
    - **Supplies of the Leopard 2 would help offset Russia's superiority** in artillery firepower, which aided Russia in seizing two cities in eastern Ukraine's Luhansk province over the summer.
    - They could be of particular value as the war approaches its second year and Ukraine looks to reclaim lost territory and expects a **Russian spring offensive.**

LEOPARD 2 TANK

Ukraine believes it needs these quickly, but Germany appears to be hesitating to clear their supply



German Chancellor Scholz speaks to soldiers in front of a Leopard 2 main battle tank in Ostenholz, Germany, in October 2022. *DPA via AP, File*

GERMANY HAS not decided whether to allow its Leopard 2 tanks to be sent to Ukraine, and Chancellor Olaf Scholz's seeming foot-dragging on what is seen as an important element of battlefield support to Ukraine has frustrated Kyiv.

Leopard 2 tank

The Leopard 2 is one of the world's leading battle tanks, used by the German army and by militaries of more than a dozen other European nations, Canada, and Indonesia. The diesel-powered tank has seen action in Afghanistan, Kosovo, and Syria.

The tank has night-vision equipment and a laser range finder that can measure distance, enabling it to better aim at a moving target while travelling over rough terrain. There are multiple iterations of the tank with different features and designs.

Potential in the war

Both Ukraine and Russia are using Soviet-era tanks, and the Leopards can offer a big step forward in capability. Ukraine's government has been calling for tanks on top of earlier packages of Western military aid that included aircraft, air defence systems, and longer-range artillery.

The Leopards can help offset Russia's superiority in artillery firepower, using which it seized two cities in eastern Ukraine's Luhansk province over the summer. They can be of great value as the war approaches its second year and Ukraine looks to reclaim lost territory and expects a Russian spring offensive.

"Ukraine needs them (Leopards) as soon as possible, and everything points to Russia preparing for a bigger offensive in the spring, so the clock is really ticking," said Minna Alander, a research fellow at the Finnish Institute of International Affairs.

Leopards' advantages

Britain has promised Ukraine 14 of its Challenger 2 tanks, and the US could send Stryker combat vehicles, though possibly not M1 Abrams tanks, which require constant upkeep and run on special fuel.

The chief advantage of the Leopard 2 is that it can be sent in relatively large numbers relatively easily, and is easier to maintain and repair.

"The Leopards are in Europe, they are easy to get to Ukraine, and several European countries use them, so they are readily available," Alander said. "Logistics and maintenance would be easier. Spare parts and know-how are here in Europe, so the training of Ukrainians would be easier."

Where Germany comes in

Although many countries have Leopards, under the contracts they sign with German weapons manufacturers, they require a re-export licence from the German federal government before they can send such weapons to another country. The US has similar requirements.

Even if Germany agrees and the Ukrainians get trained quickly, that could still take months — and there are questions about how many tanks could be provided and at what level they could be maintained.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

GRONINGEN GAS FIELD

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Geography)

Netherlands Plans to Shut Europe's Largest Gasfield This Year

The Netherlands seeks to shutter Europe's biggest gasfield this year because of safety concerns, the Financial Times reported, citing government officials. The Dutch government plans to close the earthquake-prone Groningen gasfield by October 1, but will monitor to see if there's a gas shortage in Europe after this winter, the FT cited Hans Vijlbrief, state secretary for mining, as saying. If needed, it could remain operating until October 2024, Vijlbrief added. The gasfield, located in Netherland's north-east region close to the German border, has only been producing a fraction of its capacity, the report cited Vijlbrief as saying. **Bloomberg**



Context: The **Netherlands** seeks to shutter Europe's biggest gas field this year because of safety concerns.

- The gas field in Groningen, the Netherlands, has again come under the spotlight **amid concerns over energy supplies.**

Groningen gas field

- **About:** The Groningen gas field is **a natural gas field in Groningen province** in the northeastern part of the Netherlands.
- It is the largest natural gas field in Europe.
- **Origin**: The region of Groningen in the Netherlands has a gas field that **began operations in 1963.**
  - During the 1980s, the area **saw numerous earthquakes** - minor enough to avoid large damage but big enough for local buildings to develop cracks.
  - Following these quakes, the Dutch government had earlier said that it would **shutter the field in response to local protests.**
- **Causes**: In Groningen, the ground subsiding has been caused by extraction alone over several years.
  - Such **extraction causes rocks to contract** - as the pores get to hold less and less hydrocarbons over time.

PIB JAN 23

REPUBLIC DAY TABLEAUX

(Syllabus: GS Paper 1 - Art & Culture)

Twenty-three tableaux – 17 from States/UTs & six from various Ministries/Departments - to be on display during Republic Day Parade 2023

Context: Twenty-three tableaux - 17 from States/Union Territories and six from various Ministries/Departments, depicting the nation's rich cultural heritage, economic progress and strong internal and external security will roll down the Kartavya Path during the Republic Day parade on January 26, 2023.

Key Points

- **Seventeen tableaux of States/UTs** from Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Dadar Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Gujarat, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala will be showcased during the parade, depicting the geographical and rich cultural diversity of the country.
- **Six tableaux from Ministry** of Culture, Ministry of Home Affairs (Central Armed Police Forces), Ministry of Home Affairs (Narcotics Control Bureau), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (Central Public Works Department), Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (Indian Council Agricultural Research) will also be on display, showcasing the works and achievements in the last few years.
- The selection of States/UTs tableaux for Republic Day parade has been **made on zonal basis,** categorising States/UTs into six zones, namely **Northern Zone, Central Zone, Eastern Zone, Western Zone, Southern Zone and North Eastern Zone.**
- Normally, approximately **15 tableaux from States/UTs are selected for Republic Day parade**, based on proportionate ratio of each zone.

Selection Process of Tableaux

- The **Ministry of Defence** carries out the selection process of tableaux for the Republic day parade.
- The Ministry sets up an **expert committee** with distinguished people from various fields of arts to shortlist the tableaux proposals received from various states and organizations.
- The expert committee consists of prominent persons in the field of **art, culture, painting, sculpture, music, architecture, choreography, etc.**
- In order for all states to get representation, **states are given representation on a rotational basis.**
- It needs to be noted that **writing or use of logos on tableaux is not allowed** except the name of states or Union Territories that are presenting it on the day of the parade.
- There is also a **pattern to where the names of the states should be written** - in Hindi in the front, in English on the back and in regional language on the sides of the tableau.

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