

2019



drishti

CURRENT AFFAIRS

POLITY AND NATION

25th November- 30th November



BusinessLine



1. Sabka Vishwas - Legacy Dispute Resolution Scheme

Why in News?

In a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha Union Minister of State for Finance & Corporate Affairs stated that the aim of Sabka Vishwas (Legacy Dispute Resolution) Scheme, 2019 is to help taxpayers in clearing the disputes under legacy taxes (Service Tax and Central Excise), which have been subsumed in Goods and Service Tax.

- This scheme was announced in the Union Budget 2019-20.

Sabka Vishwas - Legacy Dispute Resolution Scheme

- The Scheme became operational from 1st September 2019 and would continue till 31st December 2019.
- It is tailored to free the large number of small taxpayers of their pending disputes relating to legacy Service Tax and Central Excise cases with the tax administration.
- **Main components:**
 - **Dispute Resolution-** Aimed at liquidating the legacy cases of Central Excise and Service Tax that are subsumed in GST and are pending in litigation at various forums.
 - **Amnesty-** Offers an opportunity to the taxpayers to pay the outstanding tax and be free of any other consequence under the law. It provides complete amnesty from prosecution.
- **Objectives:**
 - One time measure for liquidation of past disputes of Central Excise and Service Tax.
 - To provide an opportunity of voluntary disclosure to non-compliant taxpayers.

2. State Party Status

Why in News?

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has granted the Jannayak Janta Party the status of a recognised State party with the symbol of “key” in Haryana.

Conditions for Recognition as a State Party

- Securing 6% of the valid votes polled in the state at a general election to the legislative assembly of the state concerned; and, in addition, winning 2 seats in the assembly of the state concerned;
- Securing 6% of the valid votes polled in the state at a general election to the Lok Sabha from the state concerned; and, in addition, winning 1 seat in the Lok Sabha from the state concerned;
- Winning 3% of seats in the legislative assembly at a general election to the legislative assembly of the state concerned or 3 seats in the assembly, whichever is more;

- Winning 1 seat in the Lok Sabha for every 25 seats or any fraction thereof allotted to the state at a general election to the Lok Sabha from the state concerned;
- Securing 8% of the total valid votes polled in the state at a General Election to the Lok Sabha from the state or to the legislative assembly of the state.

3. Global Migration Report 2020

Why in News?

- As per the Global Migration Report 2020, released by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), India continues to be the largest country of origin of international migrants with a diaspora of 17.5 million in 2018 across the world.

Global Migration Report 2020

- **Key Findings**

- The number of international migrants in 2019 is estimated at 270 million, showing an increase of 0.1% since 2017.
 - Around roughly two-thirds of international migrants are **labour migrants**.
- The vast majority of people globally (96.5 per cent) are estimated to be residing in the country in which they were born.
- IOM listed the US as the topmost destination for migrants.
- The international remittances increased to \$689 billion in 2018.
- India has received the highest remittance of \$78.61 billion.
- The **top three remittance recipients** were -
 - India
 - China
 - Mexico
- The **top three remittance- sending** the country were:
 - The United States
 - The United Arab Emirates
 - Saudi Arabia
- The top migration corridors for Indians are the United Arab Emirates, the US and Saudi Arabia.

Reasons of Migration

- Conflicts, like in Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen etc.
- Extreme Violence i.e. such as inflicted upon Rohingya forced to seek safety in Bangladesh.
- Severe economic and political instability, like in Venezuela.
- Environmental and Climate change.

4. 70th Constitution Day

Why in News?

The day **26th November** is celebrated every year as Constitution Day (also known as '*Samvidhan Divas*').

- The year 2019 marks the 70th Constitution Day.

Constitution Day

- The day is celebrated to commemorate the **adoption of the Constitution of India** on 26 November, 1949 by Indian Constituent Assembly.
 - However, the Indian Constitution came into effect on 26 January, 1950. This day is referred to in the Constitution as the '**date of its commencement**'.
 - It was 26 January, 1930 that **Purna Swaraj Day** was celebrated, following the resolution of the **Lahore Session (December 1929)** of the Indian National Congress (INC).
- **It aims:**
 - To publicize the glorious and rich composite culture and diversity of our nation.
 - To create awareness of Fundamental Duties as enshrined in the Indian Constitution.
 - To reiterate and reorient the citizens towards the values and principles expressed in the Indian Constitution.
 - To encourage all Indians to play their rightful role in strengthening Indian Democracy.
- On the occasion of 70th Constitution Day, the President of India launched the web portal of the 'National Youth Parliament Scheme' (NYPS).
 - **Objective of NYPS:** To increase the outreach of the youth parliament program to hitherto untouched sections and corners of the country.

5. Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act

Why in News?

More than 35% of the cases registered under the stringent **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA)** were recorded in Manipur, as per the **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** data.

States with maximum number of cases under UAPA:

- i. Manipur ii. Jammu & Kashmir iii. Assam

About Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act

- The UAPA Act was first introduced in 1967, on the recommendation of the **Committee on National Integration and Regionalism**.
- The act empowers the state to deal with activities directed against the integrity and sovereignty of India.
- Under the Act, the central government may designate an organisation and individual as a terrorist or terrorist organisation. The Act also assigns absolute power to the Central Government to deem an activity as unlawful.

- Any Indian or foreign national charged under UAPA is liable for punishment under this Act, irrespective of the location of crime or offense.
- The investigating agency can file a chargesheet in maximum 180 days after the arrests and the duration can be extended further after intimating the court.
- The anti-terror act has death penalty and life imprisonment as maximum punishment.
- Amendments:
 - Till the year **2004**, unlawful activities with respect to UAPA referred to actions related to secession and cession of territory. Following the 2004 amendment, **terrorist act** was recognised as an offence under UAPA.
 - The Act was also amended in **2008**, now the provisions of UAPA can be applied only when the competent authority in the Home Ministry or the State government gives sanction to file a chargesheet in seven days after being approached by the investigating agency.
 - The **2012** amendment was made to meet the commitments made at the Financial Action Task Force (an inter-governmental body responsible for setting global standards against money laundering and terror financing).
 - The amendment act criminalises the right to form associations by expanding the definition of a person to include an association of persons or body of individuals, whether incorporated or not.
 - It redefined proceeds of terrorism to mean property which is being used, or is intended to be used for a terrorist act or for the purpose of an individual terrorist or a terrorist gang or a terrorist organisation.
 - **UAPA was also amended in 2019**, whereby, the central government can now designate even individuals as terrorists.



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