



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

UNSC 1267 Committee

The **ISIL and Al Qaida Sanctions Committee** of the UNSC (**1267 Committee**) has **placed Abdul Rehman Makki** - the key planner of the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), **on its sanctions list**.

The move was made possible after **China withdrew the “technical hold”** that it had imposed in June 2022 when the US and India tried to get Makki on the global terror blacklist.

Read More - [India-US proposed to list Makki under UNSC 1267 Committee](#)

IT Amendment Rules 2022

Under the notified amendments to the IT Rules, 2021, MeitY proposed a draft rule [Rule 3(1)(b)(v)] under which social media platforms will have to take down content that has been **“fact-checked” as false by the PIB’s (Press Information Bureau) fact check unit**.

The notified amendments to IT Rules 2021 aim to impose a legal obligation on intermediaries to make reasonable efforts to prevent users from uploading certain categories of harmful/unlawful content. The **new provision will ensure that the intermediary’s obligation is not a mere formality**.

Read More - [Amendments to the Information Technology \(Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code\) Rules, 2021](#)

Windfall Tax

The Government has reduced the windfall profit tax **levied on domestically-produced crude oil** as well as on the **export of diesel and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF)**, in line with softening international oil prices.

Windfall taxes are designed to **tax the profits a company derives from an external, sometimes unprecedented event**. These profits **can’t be attributed to something the firm actively did**, like an investment strategy or an expansion of business but **are rather unearned and unanticipated gains**.

The government levies tax on windfall profits made by oil producers on any price they get **above a threshold of USD 75 per barrel**. The levy on fuel exports is based on margins that refiners earn on overseas shipments.

Read More - [Windfall Tax](#)

Saudi and Houthi Rebels Revive Talks

Amid **Yemen's longest ever pause in fighting** - more than 9 months - **Saudi Arabia and Iran-backed Houthi rebels** have revived back-channel talks in an **informal ceasefire**.

The roots of the **Houthi movement** can be traced to “**Believing Youth**”, a **Zaydi (oldest branch of the Shia sect)** revivalist group founded by **Hussein al-Houthi** and his father, **Badr al-Din al-Houthi (early 1990s)**. However, the movement turned political and started attacking the “**corrupt**” regime of **Ali Abdullah Saleh (in Yemen)** and his support for the US’ war on terror.

The rapid rise of the Houthis in Yemen set off alarm bells in **Saudi Arabia which saw them as Iranian proxies** which led to **Saudi begin a military campaign in Yemen in March 2015**.

Read More - [Houthi Rebels](#), [India’s Operation Rahat in Yemen](#)

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