



## Kartavya Path

**For Prelims:** Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Kartavya Path, Central Vista.

**For Mains:** Kartavya Path and its Significance, History of Rajpath.

### Why in News?

The Prime Minister inaugurated the '**Kartavya Path**' and unveiled the statue of **Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose** at India Gate.

### What are Key Inaugurations?

- **Kartavya Path** symbolizes a shift from erstwhile Rajpath being an icon of power to Kartavya Path being an example of public ownership and empowerment.
- The **statue of [Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose](#) made of granite, is a fitting tribute to the immense contribution of Netaji** to our freedom struggle, and would be a **symbol of the country's indebtedness to him.**
  - Crafted by **Shri Arun Yogiraj**, who was the main sculptor, the 28 feet tall statue has been carved from a monolithic granite stone and weighs 65 MT.
- These steps are in line with Prime Minister's second 'Panch Pran' pledged during 75th **[Independence Day 2022](#)**, for New India in **Amrit Kaal: 'remove any trace of colonial mindset'**.

### What is the Need for Revamping Rajpath?

- Over the years, Rajpath and adjoining areas of the **[Central Vista Avenue](#)** had been witnessing pressure of increasing traffic of visitors, putting stress on its infrastructure.
  - **Central Vista Avenue** is part of the government's ambitious Central Vista redevelopment project.
- It lacked basic amenities like public toilets, drinking water, street furniture and adequate parking space.
- Further, there was **inadequate signage, poor maintenance of water features and haphazard parking.**
- Also, a need was felt to organise the Republic Day parade and other National events in a less disruptive manner with minimal restrictions on public movement.
- The redevelopment has been done **bearing these concerns in mind while also ensuring the integrity and continuity of architectural character.**

### What is the Brief History of Rajpath?

- Called Kingsway **during British rule**, the **three-km stretch was built as a ceremonial boulevard by Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker**, the architects of New Delhi, more than a hundred years ago.
- The capital of the Raj **moved to New Delhi from Calcutta in 1911**, and construction continued for several years thereafter.

- Lutyens **conceptualised the modern imperial city centred around a “ceremonial axis”,** which was named **Kingsway in honour of the then Emperor of India, George V**, who visited Delhi during the **Durbar of 1911**, where he formally proclaimed the **decision to move the capital**.
  - The nomenclature followed that of the Kingsway in London, an arterial road built in 1905, which was named in honour of King Edward VII, the father of George V.
- Following Independence in 1947, the road was **given its Hindi name, Rajpath**, on which the **Republic Day parades took place** over the decades that followed.

## What is the Kartavya Path and its Significance?

- The entire stretch and the area from the **Netaji statue under the Grand Canopy to the Rashtrapati Bhavan** will be known as Kartavya Path.
- Kartavya Path includes the **erstwhile “Rajpath and Central Vista lawns”**.
- Kartavya Path will **exhibit landscapes, lawns with walkways, added green spaces, refurbished canals, amenity blocks, improved signages and vending kiosks**.
- It also includes **a number of sustainability features like solid waste management, storm-water management, recycling of used water, rainwater harvesting, water conservation and energy efficient lighting systems, among others**.
- The revamped and expanded lawns on both sides of the erstwhile Rajpath are part of the **larger Central Vista project**, where a new triangular Parliament building, along with the Central Secretariat and several other government offices, are being rebuilt.

## What are the Key Points Related to Subhash Chandra Bose?

- **Birth:**
  - Subhas Chandra Bose was born on 23rd January 1897, in Cuttack, Orissa Division, Bengal Province, to Prabhavati Dutt Bose and Janakinath Bose.
    - His Jayanti is celebrated as **'Parakram Diwas'** on **23<sup>rd</sup> January**.

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- **Education and Early Life:**
  - In 1919, he had cleared the **Indian Civil Services (ICS)** examination. Bose, however, resigned later.
  - He was highly influenced by **Vivekananda's teachings** and considered him as his spiritual Guru.
  - **His political mentor was Chittaranjan Das.**
    - He worked as the editor for Das's newspaper-Forward, and later started his own

newspaper, Swaraj.

▪ **Association with Congress:**

- He stood for unqualified swaraj (independence), and opposed the Motilal Nehru Report which spoke for dominion status for India.
- He actively participated in the [Salt Satyagraha of 1930](#) and vehemently opposed the suspension of the Civil Disobedience Movement and signing of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact in 1931.
- In the 1930s, he was closely associated with left politics in Congress along with [Jawaharlal Nehru and M.N. Roy](#).
- Bose won the congress presidential elections at Haripura in 1938.
- Again in 1939 at Tripuri, he won the presidential elections against Gandhi's candidate Pattabhi Sitarammaya. Due to ideological differences with Gandhi, Bose resigned and left congress. Rajendra Prasad was appointed in his place.
- He founded a new party, '**the Forward Bloc**'. The purpose was to consolidate the political left and major support base in his home state Bengal.

▪ **Indian National Army:**

- He reached Japanese-controlled Singapore from Germany in July 1943, issued from there his famous call, '**Delhi Chalo**', and announced the formation of the [Azad Hind Government](#) and the Indian National Army on 21st October 1943.
- The **INA was first formed** under **Mohan Singh and Japanese Major Iwaichi Fujiwara** and comprised Indian prisoners of war of the British-Indian Army captured by Japan in the Malayan (present-day Malaysia) campaign and at Singapore.
- The INA included both the Indian prisoners of war from Singapore and Indian civilians in South-East Asia. Its strength grew to 50,000.
- The INA fought allied forces in 1944 inside the borders of India in Imphal and in Burma.
- In November 1945, a British move to put the INA men on trial immediately sparked massive demonstrations all over the country.

▪ **Death:**

- He is said to have died in 1945 when his plane crashed in Taiwan. However, there are still many conspiracy theories regarding his death.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

### Prelims

**Q. During the Indian Freedom Struggle, who of the following raised an army called 'Free Indian Legion'? (2008)**

- (a) Lala Hardayal
- (b) Rashbehari Bose
- (c) Subhas Chandra Bose
- (d) V.D. Savarkar

**Ans: (c)**

**Exp:**

- The Free Indian Legion was an infantry regiment formed by Indian volunteers. The legion was made up of Indian prisoners of wars and expatriates in Europe.
- The Indian Independence leader, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose formed this legion with the help of German Government to fight against the British. The legion is also known as "**Tiger Legion**".
- **Therefore, option (c) is the correct answer.**

### Mains

**Q.** In what ways did the naval mutiny prove to be the last nail in the coffin of British colonial aspirations in India? **(2014)**

[Source: TOI](#)

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## Red-Eared Slider Turtles

**For Prelims:** Red-Eared Slider Turtles & its presence in India

**For Mains:** Distinct Features of Red-Eared Slider Turtles, Effect of Invasive Species on Environment

### Why in News?

Recently, experts have expressed the concern that the presence of **invasive and non-native** south Red-Eared Slider Turtles would lead to the **extinction of native species of their own kind.**

- India is home to **29 freshwater turtles and tortoise species** of the 356 turtle species recognised worldwide and **around 80% of them are threatened.**

### What do we need to know about the Red-Eared Slider Turtle?



- **About:**
  - The red-eared slider is **primarily aquatic** and will emerge from the water for basking on rocks and logs.
    - When basking, red-eared sliders **commonly pile on top of each other**, and when startled by the sound or sight of a potential predator, **they will slide off their basking spot back into the water**, hence their name, “**slider.**”
  - Red-eared slider turtles are classified as controlled **pest animals** under the **Victorian Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.**



- **Scientific Name:** *Trachemys scripta elegans*
- **Habitat:** They can tolerate a wide range of habitats and are sometimes found in estuaries and coastal wetlands with brackish water.
  - They can also tolerate a range of water quality and accept high levels of organic pollutants such as effluent and inorganic pollutants.
- **Geography:** The red-eared slider is native to **South-Eastern USA and Mexico.**
- **Protection Status:**
  - [IUCN Red List](#): Least Concern
  - [CITES](#): N/A
  - [Wildlife Protection Act 1972](#): N/A
- **Distinctive Features:**
  - They have a **broad red or orange stripe** behind each eye with **narrow yellow stripes** marking the rest of the **black body, neck, legs and tail.**
  - They have distinctive **long claws on their front and hind legs** where claws are **longer and more prominent in males** than females.
  - They retract their head straight back into their shell when threatened. Native turtles **tuck their neck to one side underneath the shell.**

## Why is the Turtle's Presence in India a Concern?

- **Favorable Pet:** In India, **keeping indigenous turtles as pets is prohibited** under the Wildlife Protection Act.
  - But the **foreign breeds are not restricted** and are kept as pets in many families across India.
  - They are **small and easy-to-maintain** species and therefore a hit in the pet market.
  - The species **breeds faster** compared to other local turtle varieties. As their size increases, **they no longer fit in small tanks or ponds.**
    - The owners release them in the **wild or nearby waterbodies** and once released, **they become a threat to the local fauna.**
- **Presence in India:** In India, these turtles are mainly found in urban [wetlands](#) such as Sukhna lake in Chandigarh, temple ponds of Guwahati, lakes of Bengaluru, Sanjay Gandhi national park in Mumbai, Yamuna River in Delhi, etc.
- **Effect on Native Species:**
  - As they mature fast, grow larger, and produce more offspring, and are very aggressive, **they can out-compete native turtles for food, nestling, and basking sites.**
  - They **eat plants and animals** and can finish off a wide range of aquatic species, including fish and rare frogs.
  - They can also **transfer diseases and parasites to native reptile species.**
  - The species is considered **as one of the world's 100 worst invasive non-native species.**

## What can be done to Control the Invasion?

- There should be **more rules to prevent the species** from entering the Indian environment and negatively impacting it.
- **Manual intervention is required** to procure and rehabilitate these turtles from urban wetlands.
  - A **campaign** to declare or give up turtles should be held to take these turtles in custody.
- These turtles should be **restrained, captivated and sent to local zoos.**

## What are some International Programmes on Invasive Species?

- **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2000):** The Protocol seeks to **protect biological diversity** from the potential risks posed by **Living Modified Organisms** resulting from modern biotechnology.
- **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD):** It was one of the **key agreements** adopted at the [1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.](#)
  - **Article 8 (h) of the Convention** calls on Parties to prevent the introduction of, control or

eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.

- **Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) or Bonn Convention (1979):** It is an **intergovernmental treaty** that aims to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species throughout their range.
  - It also aims to control or to eliminate already present invasive alien species.
- **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES):** It also considers the **problems of invasive species** when they are involved in trade and threatens the survival of living animals or plants.
- **Ramsar Convention (1971):** [The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands](#) of International Importance also addresses the environmental, economic and social impact of invasive species on wetlands within their jurisdictions and to take account of the methods of control and solutions for combating invasive species.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

**Q. Consider the following statements: (2019)**

1. Some species of turtles are herbivores.
2. Some species of fish are herbivores.
3. Some species of marine mammals are herbivores.
4. Some species of snakes are viviparous.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Ans: (d)**

**Exp:**

- Green sea turtles are adapted to mostly vegetarian diet of sea grasses and algae. As adults, these are the only predominantly herbivorous sea turtles, although they are carnivorous from hatching until juvenile size. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Surgeonfish and parrotfish are two species of fish often seen feeding on reef algae. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Manatees, sometimes called sea cows, are large mammals that live in the warm sea waters. They live in shallow coastal areas and feed on sea vegetation. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- Snakes that are viviparous nourish their young ones through a placenta and yolk sac. Boa constrictors and green anacondas are two examples of viviparous snakes. **Hence, statement 4 is correct.**
- **Therefore, option (d) is the correct answer.**

**Source: DTE**

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# Chola Dynasty

**For Prelims:** Art and Craftmanship in Chola Era, Cholas Sculpture.

**For Mains:** Chola Dynasty.

## Why in News?

The Tamil Nadu Idol Wing CID has initiated steps to **retrieve six Chola-era bronze idols**, stolen from the Nareeswara Sivan temple, Tamil Nadu back in the 1960s, and currently kept at various museums in the United States.

- The idols were successfully traced to the US recently with the help of the images available with the Indo-French Institute, Pondicherry, which had documented nine bronze sculptures in 1956. Of them, seven were stolen five decades ago.
- The institute had provided images of antique Panchaloha idols of **Tripuranthakam, Thirupurasundari, Nataraja, Dakshinamurthy Veenadhara, and Saint Sundarar** with his wife Paravai Natchiyaar.

## How was the Medieval Chola Dynasty?

- **About:**
  - The **Cholas (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century AD)** are remembered as **one of the longest ruling dynasties in the southern regions of India.**
  - The reign of the Cholas began in the **9<sup>th</sup> century when they defeated the Pallavas** to come into power. This rule stretched **over for over five long centuries until the 13<sup>th</sup> century.**
  - The **medieval period** was the era of absolute power and development for the Cholas. This is when kings like Aditya I and Parantaka I.
  - From here Rajaraj Chola and Rajendra Chola further expanded the kingdom into the Tamil region. Later **Kulothunga Chola took over Kalinga to establish a strong rule.**
  - This magnificence lasted **until the arrival of the Pandyas** in the early 13th century.



#### ▪ Prominent Monarchs:

- **Vijayalaya:** The Chola Empire was founded by **Vijayalaya**. He took over the Tanjore kingdom in the 8<sup>th</sup> century and led to the rise of the mighty Cholas by defeating the Pallavas.
- **Aditya I:** Aditya I succeeded **Vijayalaya to become the ruler of the empire**. He defeated king **Aparajita and the empire gained massive power** under his reign. He **conquered the Pandya Kings** along with the Vadumbas and established control over the Pallavas' power in the region.
- **Rajendra Chola:** He succeeded the **mighty Rajaraja Chola**. Rajendra I was the first to **venture to the banks of Ganges**. He was popularly called the **Victor of the Ganges**. This period is referred to as the **golden age of the Cholas**. After his rule, the kingdom witnessed a widespread downfall.

#### ▪ Administration And Governance:

- During the governance by the Cholas, the **entire southern region was brought under the umbrella of a single governing force**. The Cholas ruled in a sustained Monarchy.
- The massive kingdom was divided **into provinces which were known as mandalams**.
- Separate governors were held in charge for each mandalam.
- These were further divided into **districts called nadus which consisted of tehsils**.

- The system of rule was such that **each village acted as a self-governing unit** during the era of the Cholas. The Cholas were ardent **patrons of art, poetry, literature and drama**, the administration was seen **investing in the construction of several temples and complexes with sculptures and paintings.**
- The king remained the central authority who **would make the major decisions and carry out the governance.**
- **Architecture:**
  - Chola architecture (871-1173 AD) was the epitome of the Dravida style of temple architecture.
  - They produced some of the most grandeur temples in medieval India.
  - Chola temples like Brihadeshwara temple, Rajarajeshwara temple, Gangaikonda Cholapuram temple took Dravidian architecture to newer heights. Temple architecture continued to flourish even after Cholas.

## What are the Key Points of Cholas Sculpture?

- An important piece of **Chola sculpture was the sculpture of Nataraja in the Tandava dance posture.**
  - Though the earliest known Nataraja sculpture, which has been excavated at **Ravana phadi cave at Aihole, was made during the early Chalukya rule**, the sculpture reached its peak under the Cholas.
- The later phase of Chola art, in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, is **illustrated by the sculpture showing Bhudevi, or the earth goddess** as the younger consort of Vishnu. She stands in a gracefully flexed attitude on a lotus base holding a lily in her right hand, while the left arm hangs along her side.
- Chola bronze images are considered amongst the finest in the world.





## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

### Prelims

**Q. Consider the following events in the history of India: (2020)**

1. Rise of Pratiharas under King Bhoja
2. Establishment of Pallava power under Mahendravarman-I
3. Establishment of Chola power by Parantaka-I
4. Pala dynasty founded by Gopala

**What is the correct chronological order of the above events, starting from the earliest time?**

- (a) 2 - 1 - 4 - 3  
(b) 3 - 1 - 4 - 2  
(c) 2 - 4 - 1 - 3  
(d) 3 - 4 - 1 - 2

**Ans: (c)**

## Exp:

- The Pallava dynasty existed from 275 CE to 897 CE, ruling a portion of southern India. Pallavas became a major power during the reign of Mahendravarman I (571–630 CE) who ruled the Southern portion of present day Andhra region and Northern regions of what forms present-day Tamil Nadu.
- Pala dynasty reigned in Bihar and Bengal from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Its founder, Gopala (750-770 CE), was a local chieftain who rose to power in the mid-eighth century during a period of anarchy.
- From the middle of the eighth century the dominance over Madhyadesha became the ambition of two particular clans among tribal people in Rajasthan, known as the Gurjara and the Pratihara. According to a contemporary Arab account from 851 CE, Raja Mihir Bhoja (840–851 CE), the greatest of the Pratiharakings, was among the princes of India that battled against the Arab invaders.
- The **Chola Empire was founded by Vijayalaya**. The reign of the Cholas began in the 9<sup>th</sup> century when they defeated the Pallavas to come into power. The medieval period was the era of absolute power and development for the Cholas. **Parantaka I (reigned 907-953) laid the foundation of the kingdom**. He took the northern boundary up to Nellore (Andhra Pradesh), where his advance was stopped by a defeat at the hands of the Rashtrakuta king Krishna III. Parantaka was more successful in the south, where he defeated both the Pandyas and the Ganga

## Mains

**Q.** Chola architecture represents a high watermark in the evolution of temple architecture. Discuss. (2013)

[Source: IE](#)

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## Bihar to Turn Liquor Bottles into Bangles

**For Prelims:** Rural Livelihoods Promotion Programme, JEEViKA, Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act, 2016.

**For mains:** Bihar's Liquor Prohibition and Related Issues.

### Why in News?

Bihar is preparing to make glass bangles out of **seized liquor bottles**, through its Rural Livelihoods Promotion Programme, known as JEEViKA.

- These bottles will be given to JEEViKA workers who have been trained in bangle-making. The programme will set up a factory for this.
- Funded by the World Bank, JEEViKA is a **rural social and economic empowerment programme** that comes under Bihar's rural development department.

### What is the Economic Viability of the Move?

- Some are apprehensive about the **economic viability of the government's new "innovative"**

**idea** of making glass bangles out of seized liquor bottles.

- It may sound like an innovative idea but **in making glass bangles other materials too are used like limestone and soda.**
- There are several **small and big established factories in places like Faizabad, Mumbai and Hyderabad which constitute about 80%** of glass bangle-making products.
- The seized illegal liquor bottles **will not be enough to sustain a glass bangle-making factory's economic viability.**

## What are Bihar's Liquor Prohibition and Related Issues?

### ▪ About:

- Introduced on 5 April 2016, the **Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act, 2016**, imposed a total ban on alcohol in the state.
- In March 2022, the Bihar assembly passed a Bill amending the prohibition Act.
- Called the Bihar Prohibition and Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2022, the law says **people caught consuming liquor will now have to pay a fine** before a magistrate and won't be sent to jail.
  - The amendment is still awaiting implementation after the Patna High Court voiced its reservations about judicial power being vested in officials designated as special executive magistrates in districts and subdivisions.

### ▪ Issues:

- As a result, the old system of arrest continues — data from the excise department shows that in August 2022 alone, **30,000 persons were arrested for violating liquor laws.**
- The liquor prohibition policy has been the subject of many controversies — chief among them is the allegation that the **law has choked up the state's judicial processes.**
- Liquor law violations have led to overcrowding of jails in Bihar. There are around **1.5 lakh people in Bihar jails for the violations.**
  - Most of them belong to the lower and downtrodden classes of society who can't bribe their way out of prison.

[Source: TH](#)

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## Indo-China Disengagement at Hot Springs & Gogra Post

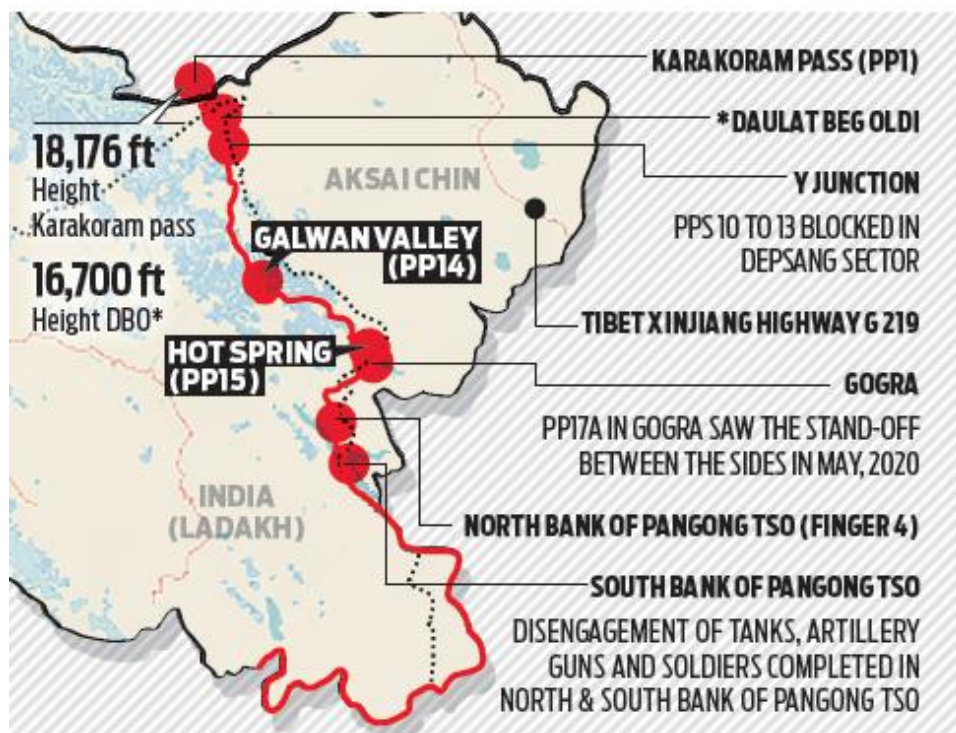
**For Prelims:** India-China Standoff, Pangong Tso Lake, Line of Actual Control, Hot Springs and Gogra Post, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), India-China Military Talks, Aksai Chin.

**For Mains:** India-China stand-off and disengagement.

### Why in News?

Recently, the **Indian and Chinese troops** have begun **disengaging at Patrolling Pillar-15 (PP-15) in the [Gogra-Hotspring region of Eastern Ladakh.](#)**

- Forces of the [two countries have been locked in a confrontational position](#) in the area since **April 2020.**
  - The move comes ahead of [Shanghai Cooperation Organisation \(SCO\) summit in Uzbekistan.](#)



## Why are the Key Highlights about the Current Disengagement?

- Indian and Chinese armies have begun to **disengage from Patrolling Point-15 in the Gogra-Hotsprings area of Eastern Ladakh**, marking a step forward to end the standoff ongoing since May 2020.
  - **PP-15 is one of the 65 patrolling points** in Ladakh along the [Line of Actual Control \(LAC\)](#).
- The disengagement has begun in a **coordinated and planned way**, which is conducive to peace and tranquility in the border areas.
- As per the understanding reached earlier on disengagement, **a buffer zone is to be created at the friction points once troops are withdrawn by both sides and new patrolling norms are to be worked out** after complete disengagement and de-escalation.
- The consensus about the disengagement was reached in the **16<sup>th</sup> round of India China Corps Commander Level Meeting**.
  - The 16<sup>th</sup> round of talks was held on July 17, 2022, at the **Chushul border personnel meeting point on the Indian side**.
  - Since the stand-off began in May 2020, the two sides have so far held 16 rounds of talks with disengagement undertaken from both sides of Pangong Tso.
- With disengagement at PP-15, forces of the **two countries have disengaged at all friction points** in the region **which included the North and South banks of the Pangong Tso, PP-14, PP-15 and PP-17A**.
  - The [last disengagement](#) between the forces of the two countries had been achieved at **PP-17 A in August 2021 following the 12<sup>th</sup> Corp Commander Level meeting**.
- The **friction points that remain now are Demchok and Depsang**, which **China has constantly refused to accept**, maintaining that they are not a part of the current stand-off.

## What We Need to Know about the Hot Springs and Gogra Post?

- **Location:**
  - **Hot Springs is just north of the Chang Chenmo river** and **Gogra Post is east of the point** where the river takes a hairpin bend coming southeast from Galwan Valley and turning southwest.
  - The **area is north of the Karakoram Range of mountains**, which lies north of the Pangong Tso lake, and south east of Galwan Valley.
- **Importance:**



- The area lies close to **Kongka Pass**, one of the main passes, which, according to China, marks the boundary between India and China.
- India's claim of the international boundary lies significantly east, as it includes the entire **Aksai Chin** area as well.
- Hot Springs and Gogra Post are **close to the boundary between two of the most historically disturbed provinces (Xinjiang and Tibet) of China.**

## What should be the Way Forward?

- India must **continue to press for complete disengagement and de-escalation from all friction areas.**
- Also, the **Corps Commander level talks should be continued** as the relationship cannot go back to normal as long as the situation along the standoff continues.
- India should keep its **stand firm over the restoration of the status quo and restoration along the LAC.**

## What is China's fully solar-powered, semi-satellite drone?

- **About:**
  - **China's first fully solar-powered Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)** has successfully completed its **maiden test flight** with all onboard systems functioning optimally.
  - The drone is a large machine **powered entirely by solar panels** with a wingspan of 164-ft.
  - Named the **Qimingxing-50, or Morning Star-50**, this drone **flies above 20-km altitude where there is stable airflow with no clouds.**
    - The **High-Altitude, Long-Endurance (HALE) UAV** can stay airborne for long durations.
    - This helps these drones to make the **maximum use of solar equipment to stay functional for extended durations.**
  - This drone is also referred to as **'High Altitude Platform Stations' or pseudo-satellites.**
- **Significance:**
  - It can **operate without a break for months, even years.**
  - It is capable of carrying out **satellite-like functions.**
    - If satellite services are not available for, say, **time-sensitive operations or in case of wartime disruption**, then near-space **UAVs can step in to fill the operational gap.**
    - **Morning Star-50's long-endurance** provides an **added advantage** to make this capability available over a longer period.
  - It can undertake **surveillance missions** that require it to stay operational, **watching over borders or oceans, for months.**
  - It can be used for **monitoring forest fires, providing communication and environment relay.**

## UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

**Q.** "China is using its economic relations and positive trade surplus as tools to develop potential military power status in Asia". In the light of this statement, discuss its impact on India as her neighbour. **(2017)**

**Source:** [TH](#)



## **Doctrine of Basic Structure**

# Doctrine of Basic Structure

**Original Idea:**  
• German Constitution

**Landmark Judgement:**  
• Kesavananda Bharati case 1973 (the phrase 'basic structure of the Constitution' was used for the first time)

**Constituents of Basic Structure:**  
• Supremacy of the Constitution, Parliamentary system, Free and fair elections, Independence of Judiciary, Limited power of Parliament to amend the Constitution, Powers of the Supreme Court under Articles 32, 136, 141 and 142, Powers of the High Courts under Articles 226 and 227...

## Evolution

### Shankari Prasad case and Sajjan Singh case

1951 & 1965

The SC held that Parliament has the absolute power to amend the Constitution under Article 368.

Parliament cannot amend Fundamental Rights, and this power rests only with a Constituent Assembly; 24th Amendment Act, 1971 was

1967

### Golak Nath v/s State of Punjab

### Kesavananda Bharti v/s State of Kerala

1973

Parliament could amend any part of the Constitution, but it cannot not alter the basic structure or essential features of the Constitution.

The Doctrine of Basic Structure reaffirmed and a provision of the 39th Amendment Act (1975) (keeping election disputes involving the PM and the Speaker outside the jurisdiction of all courts) was invalidated.

1975

### Indira Nehru Gandhi v/s Raj Narain

### Minerva Mills v/s Union of India

1980

Judicial review and harmony between Fundamental Rights and DPSP were added to the basic structure.

The SC held that the doctrine would apply to constitutional amendments enacted after the date of the judgement in the KB case.

1981

### Waman Rao v/s Union of India

### Indira Sawhney Vs. Union of India

1992

Rule of law declared as a part of the basic structure.

Federalism, Secularism, Democracy, Unity and integrity of the nation and Social justice were iterated as basic structure of the Constitution.

1994

### S.R Bommai vs Union of India

#### Significance:

- Limits the power of a majoritarian government to undermine the Constitution's central ideals.

#### Criticism:

- "Basic Structure" finds no mention anywhere in the Indian Constitution. Further, there is no exclusive definition of basic structure given by the judiciary.
- The SC has assumed much power in the name of basic structure.

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