



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Exercise KAZIND-2023

Indian Army and [Indian Air Force](#) contingent departed for [Kazakhstan](#) to participate in the 7th edition of Joint Military '[Exercise KAZIND-2023](#)'.

- The exercise will occur in **Otar, Kazakhstan from 30th October to 11th November, 2023.**
- The exercise between India and Kazakhstan began as "**Exercise PRABAL DOSTYK**" in 2016. After the second edition, it was renamed "**Exercise KAZIND**" and upgraded to a company-level exercise. This year, it was further upgraded to a **bi-service exercise with the inclusion of the Air Force component.**
 - In this edition, both sides will practice counter-terrorism operations in a sub-conventional environment under a [United Nations](#) mandate.



Read more: [KAZIND-2022](#)

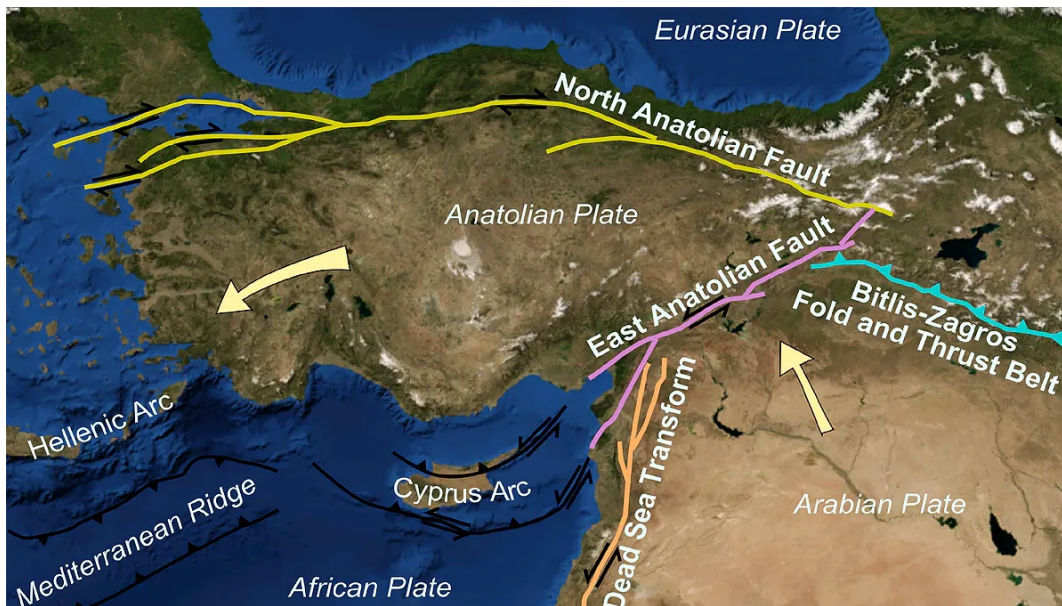
Causes of the 2023 Turkey-Syria Earthquakes

A recent study published in the journal Science sheds light on the catastrophic [earthquakes](#) that struck [Turkey and Syria in February 2023](#). These earthquakes, with unprecedented scale and destruction, have prompted a closer look at the intricate interplay of **tectonic forces**.

- Earth's crust is divided into [tectonic plates](#), where **fault lines** form due to interactions such as **collisions, separations, or sliding.**
 - The **East and North Anatolian Fault Lines**, stretching over 700 km and 1,500 km, played a significant role in the Turkey earthquakes.
- During the earthquakes, the conversation between the fault lines was interrupted by a seismic

cascade (chain reaction of **ruptures or movements in the Earth's crust** that occurred during the earthquakes). Leading to a much bigger rupture than anticipated and causing extensive damage.

- These findings underscore the unpredictable nature of seismic events and reveal shortcomings in enforcing building codes to **prevent disaster in earthquake-prone regions.**



Read more: [Earthquakes in Turkey and Causes](#)

Dark Pattern Sales by Airlines Deemed 'Cybercrime'

The [Ministry of Civil Aviation](#) has directed its attention towards contentious practices observed within airlines and online travel agencies identified as "[dark patterns](#)", a matter raising **potential cybercrime concerns.**

- This has triggered a significant **influx of consumer complaints, leading to government involvement.** Specifically, the government has called upon major carrier **IndiGo** to rectify deceptive online practices related to seat selection and additional fees.
- Dark patterns are manipulative design strategies used in websites or apps. They are **crafted to trick or push users into doing things they might not want to do.**
 - These can include hidden fees, misleading buttons, or confusing layouts, all aiming to make users take actions that benefit the company, not the user.

Read more: [Dark Patterns](#)

PFRDA's Mandatory Penny-Drop Verification for NPS

The [Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority \(PFRDA\)](#) has introduced **mandatory 'penny drop' verification for [National Pension System \(NPS\)](#) subscribers**, ensuring timely fund transfers during withdrawals.

- The **penny drop verification process** involves **Central Recordkeeping Agencies (CRA)** verifying the **active status of the savings bank account** and cross-referencing the name in the account with the subscriber's **Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN)** or submitted documents.
- The verification success, inclusive of name matching, is vital for **processing exit/withdrawal requests** and modifying subscriber bank account details.
 - Failure in the penny drop verification prohibits any such requests, prompting CRA to collaborate with nodal offices for rectification.

Read more: [National Pension System](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/rapid-fire-current-affairs-258>

