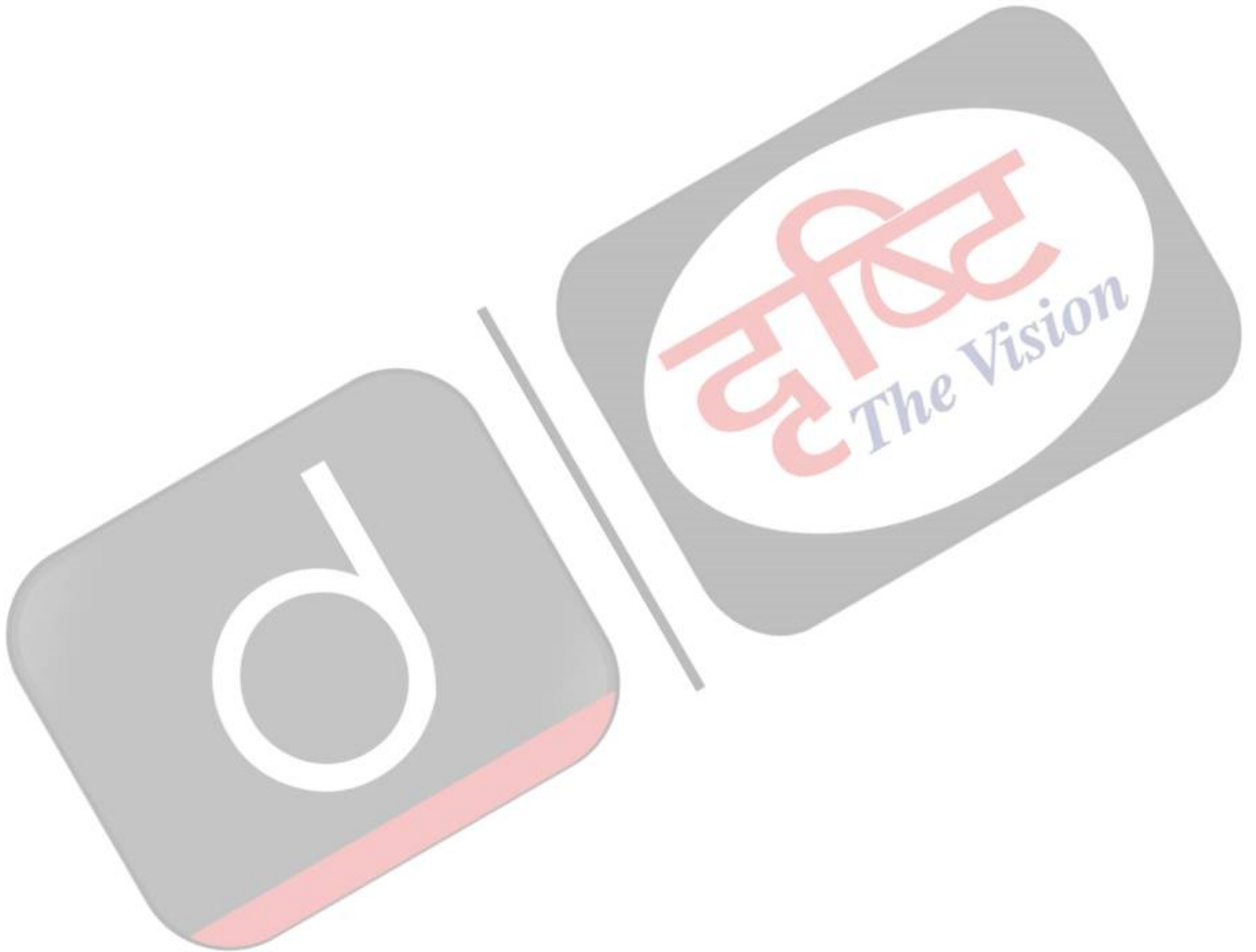# The Company Rule in India

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The Company Rule in India (1773–1858)

Arrival of East India Company

- *British EIC arrived (1608)→ Permission to trade (from Jahangir)*
- *EIC's rule in India began →1757 after Battle of Plassey*

Regulating Act of 1773

- Estd:
  - British Crown's control over the EIC & centralised governance
  - Supreme Court of Calcutta (1774)

First Governor General of Bengal – Warren Hastings

- Prohibited Company servants from private trade or bribes

Amending Act of 1781

- Resolved issues of Regulating Act 1773
- Exempted Governor-General Council from Supreme Court jurisdiction and revenue oversight

Pitt's India Act of 1784

- Differentiated commercial & political functions of the Company
- Court of Directors →commercial affairs; Board of Control → political affairs
- Established double government
- Granted British Crown supreme control over Company territories

(Amendment) Act of 1786:

- **Lord Cornwallis** became GGB – granted overriding authority & made Commander-in-Chief

Charter Act of 1793

- Enhanced powers of the Governor-General
- Increased control over Bombay & Madras presidencies
- Trade Monopoly of EIC → +20 years
- Board of Control to be paid from Indian revenues

Charter Act of 1813

- Ended EIC's monopoly in Indian trade (except tea & China)
- Allowed Christian missionaries in India; promotion of western education
- Authorised local taxes & punishments for non-payment

Charter Act of 1833

- Estd. centralised government
- GGB → Governor-General of India

First Governor-General of India → Lord William Bentick

- Estd. Law Commission (1834) (Chairman - Lord Macaulay)
- EIC became purely administrative (no commercial activities)
- Proposed open competition for civil service positions (later opposed)

Charter Act of 1853

- Final Charter Act reshaping governance in India
- Estd. **Indian (Central) Legislative Council** (mini-Parliament)
- First separation of legislative & executive functions
- Opened civil service to Indians & evaluated recruitment
- Allowed Company to retain territories (under Crown) indefinitely

The Company's rule ended with the Government of India Act 1858 abolishing the EIC rule and placing India under direct control of British Crown.

India's Proposed Shipbuilding Mission

For Prelims: Shipbuilding Mission, Ship Repair and Recycling Mission, International Maritime Dispute Resolution Centre, Vadhavan Port, Galathea Bay, India Ports Global Ltd (IPGL), Chabahar Port, India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), Mundra Port, Maritime India Vision 2030.

For Mains: Significance of port infrastructure for India's economy.

Source: LM

Why in News?

Recently, the **Minister for ports, shipping, and waterways** is preparing a **Shipbuilding Mission** to create a robust **global shipbuilding industry** by 2047, driven by the **Make in India** initiative.

- The government is preparing a **comprehensive strategy** to place India among the top maritime powers.

What are the Key Features of the Proposed Shipbuilding Mission?

- **Global Market Position:** The government wants to position India among the top **shipbuilding industry and a global maritime hub** by **2047**.
  - India currently holds **less than 1%** of the global market share in shipping-related activities.
- **Comprehensive Strategy:** The mission has **identified twelve areas** for action including **financing, insurance,** ship ownership and leasing, chartering, shipbuilding, **ship repair, ship recycling,** flagging and registration, operations, technical management, staffing and crewing, and **arbitration**.
- **Development of Shipbuilding Parks:** It aims to establish **mega shipbuilding parks** along both coasts of India. The government has invited **South Korea and Japan** to explore foreign investment opportunities.
  - They will be established in **Maharashtra, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Gujarat.**
- **Changing Current Trade Dynamics:** Presently, approximately **95% of India's trade** relies on foreign vessels, resulting in an annual **outflow of USD 110 billion.** The initiative aims to change this dynamic significantly.
- **Maritime Development Fund:** The government plans to establish a **Maritime Development Fund** with a corpus of around **Rs 25,000 crore** to provide long-term financing for maritime initiatives.
  - It may be set up on the lines of **National Bank For Financing Infrastructure And Development (NaBFID).**
- **Allied Missions: Two more missions** are set to launch soon in line with this focused approach.
  - **Cruise India Mission:** It will enhance **port infrastructure** and build **exclusive cruise terminals** to accommodate large cruise ships.

- - **Repair and Recycling:** Beyond shipbuilding, India is gearing up to launch a **Ship Repair and Recycling Mission**.
    - Kochi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, and Vadinar (Gujarat) will be further developed to become **major repair hubs**.
- **Centre of Excellence:** A Centre of Excellence in Shipbuilding and Repair will be established to **foster innovation** in these sectors.
- **Free Trade Depot:** A Free Trade Depot will be set up at shipyards to provide **customs exemptions on imported materials** for vessel repairs.
- **International Maritime Dispute Resolution Centre (IIMDRC): IIMDRC** has been launched to **resolve maritime disputes** domestically, reducing reliance on global hubs like **Dubai and Singapore**. The IIMDRC provides **merit-based and industry-governed solutions**, positioning India as a global hub for arbitration.
- **Domestic Protection and Indemnity Entity:** The Ministry is exploring the establishment of the **India Club,** a domestic entity to **provide third-party maritime insuranc**e for **coastal shipping** and **inland waterways**. It aims to mitigate exposure to international sanctions and pressures. E.g.,US, UK and European Union sanctioned Russian shipping companies due to the **Ukraine war.**

What are the Recent Developments in India's Maritime Sector?

- **Port Infrastructure:** India has **ambitious plans** for mega ports across the country, including the recently approved Rs 76,220 crore port at **Vadhavan** in Maharashtra.
    - A mega port has been proposed at **Galathea Bay in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands** to capture **transhipment cargo** currently handled outside India.
- **Target of 40 Million TEUs:** The ministry projects that **container handling capacity** in India will reach **40 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units)** in the next five years.
    - **Jawaharlal Nehru Port** will increase its handling capacity from the current 6.6 million TEUs to **10 million TEUs**, positioning itself as the **first Indian port** to achieve this milestone.
- **Hydrogen Manufacturing Hubs:** A total of **3,900 acres** of land has been allotted in **Deendayal Port Authority (DPA), Kandla** and **VO Chidambaranar Port Trust (formerly Tuticorin Port Trust)** for setting up **hydrogen manufacturing hubs**.
- **Global Expansion: India Ports Global Ltd (IPGL)** took over the operations of terminals at various international ports in **Sri Lanka, Myanmar, and Bangladesh**.
    - Also, India has successfully operationalised its contract for **Chabahar port.**
- **Trade Corridors:** The proposed 4,800 km **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)** will link Indian ports with countries like **Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)** and eventually extend to Europe.
- **MAITRI Platform: MAITRI (Master Application for International Trade and Regulatory Interface)** integrates multiple Indian operational portals with those of the UAE, streamlining cross-border trade processes.
    - It is designed as the backbone of the **Virtual Trade Corridor (VTC)** of IMEC which will facilitate secure and efficient **sharing of trade data** between countries.

What are the Key Facts Related to the Shipbuilding Industry?

- **About Shipbuilding:** Shipbuilding refers to the **construction, repair, and maintenance** of vessels used for transportation, defence, and trade.
    - Specialised facilities called **shipyards** handle large-scale projects and **complex ship assembly processes**.
- **Global Shipbuilding Market Overview:** The global shipbuilding market was valued at **USD 207.15 billion in 2023** and is expected to grow to USD 220.52 billion in 2024.
    - Major shipbuilding countries include **China, South Korea, Japan, India, Germany, and the USA.**
    - **China, South Korea, and Japan** collectively control **85%** of the market.
- **India's Share in Shipbuilding Market:** India holds **0.06%** of the global shipbuilding market. India **ranks 12th with USD 1.12 billion i**n shipbuilding exports while **China** leads with **USD 25 billion exports**.
- **India's Shipbuilding Market Growth:** In 2022, India's shipbuilding industry was valued at **USD**

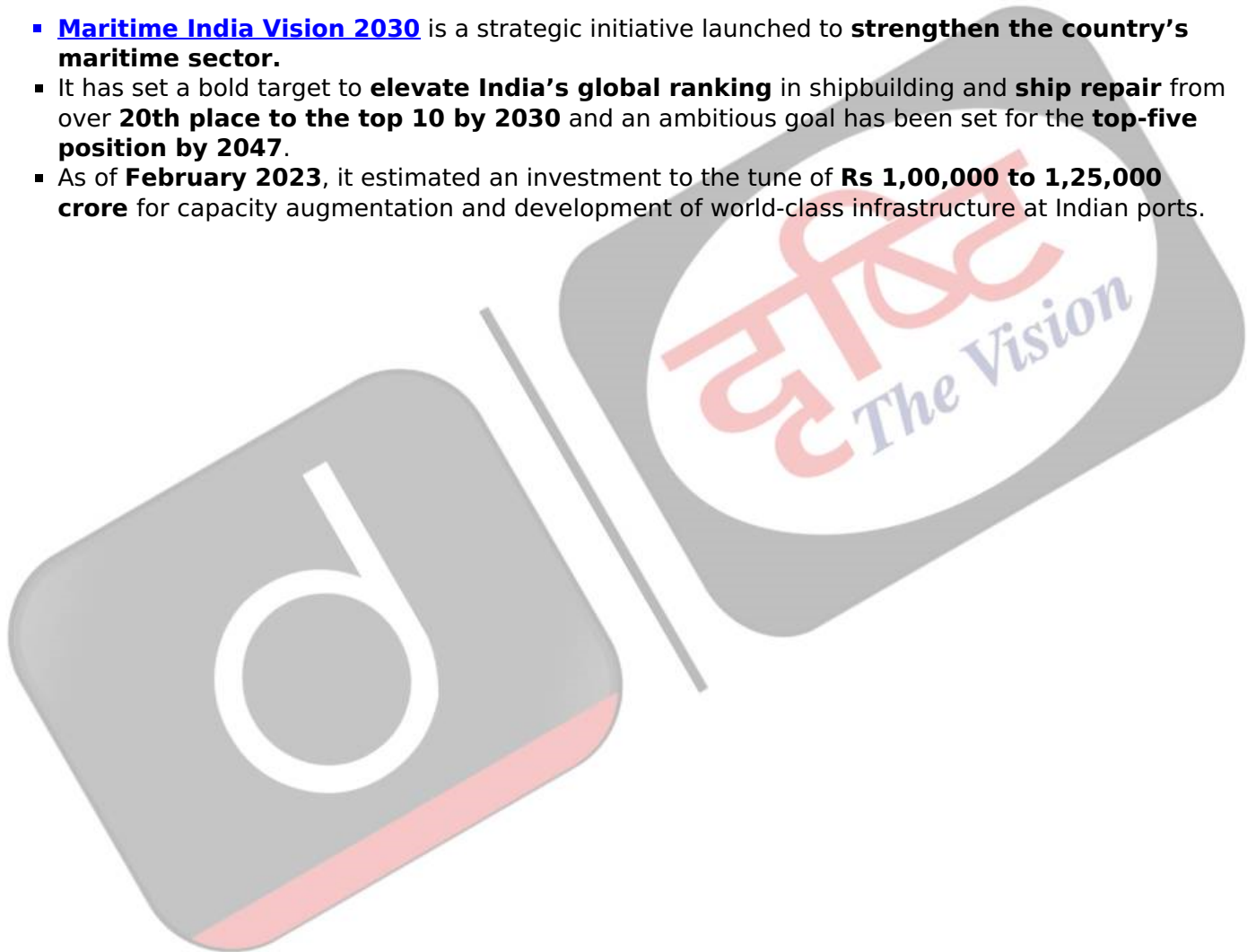**90 million** and is projected to reach **USD 8,120 million by 2033.**
- ○ The Indian shipbuilding market could unlock an opportunity worth over **USD 237 billion by 2047** due to government support, **strategic location,** labour cost advantages.
- **India's Top Shipbuilding Companies:**
  - ○ **Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL):** Known for constructing **warships** for the Indian Navy and Coast Guard.
  - ○ **Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL):** CSL specialises in **offshore vessels, oil tankers, aircraft carriers**. It is the largest shipbuilder in India and country's largest ship-repair facility.
  - ○ **Adani Group Initiative:** In 2024, Adani Group announced a major shipbuilding initiative at **Mundra Port in Gujarat**, with a Rs 45,000 crore investment.
    - It aims to position India as a global shipbuilding hub, targeting a **USD 62 billion market by 2047.**

What is Maritime India Vision 2030?

- **Maritime India Vision 2030** is a strategic initiative launched to **strengthen the country's maritime sector.**
- It has set a bold target to **elevate India's global ranking** in shipbuilding and **ship repair** from over **20th place to the top 10 by 2030** and an ambitious goal has been set for the **top-five position by 2047**.
- As of **February 2023**, it estimated an investment to the tune of **Rs 1,00,000 to 1,25,000 crore** for capacity augmentation and development of world-class infrastructure at Indian ports.

Major Ports in India

- Deendayal — Gujarat
- Mumbai — Maharashtra
- Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNPA)
- Mormugao — Goa
- New Mangalore — Karnataka
- Cochin — Kerala
- Kolkata — West Bengal
- Paradip — Odisha
- Visakhapatnam — Andhra Pradesh
- Kamarajar (Ennore)
- Chennai — Tamil Nadu
- V.O. Chidambaranar

- ❍ Ports in India are classified as **Major** and **Minor Ports** according to the jurisdiction of the Central and State government as defined under the **Indian Ports Act, 1908** i.e. Major Ports are owned and managed by the Central Government and Minor ports are owned and managed by the State Governments.
- ❍ The **Major Port Authorities Act, 2021** provides for regulation, operation and planning of major ports in India and provide greater autonomy to these ports. It replaced the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.
- ❍ There are **12 major ports**. **13th Major Port** (under construction) is **Vadhavan port, Maharashtra**.

Conclusion

India's **Shipbuilding Mission**, driven by **Maritime India Vision 2030,** aims to position the country among the **top global shipbuilding hubs.** With government support, strategic investments, and international collaborations, the mission will boost **India's maritime infrastructure,** create millions of jobs, and strengthen **global competitiveness.** Its focus on innovation and sustainable growth will significantly enhance **India's economic and geopolitical standing.**

> *Drishti Mains Question:*
>
> Discuss the salient features of India's Shipbuilding Mission under the Maritime India Vision 2030.

India Water Week 2024

Source: PIB

Why in News?

Recently, **the President of India** inaugurated the **8th India Water Week (IWW) 2024** in New Delhi, under the aegis of **the Ministry of Jal Shakti.**

- This prestigious international forum has gained **significance as a key platform for discussions and collaboration on water resource management**.

What is India Water Week 2024?

- **Aim:**
    - It aimed to **address critical challenges pertaining to water management** and fostering innovation in water-related technologies and practices.
        - Since its inception in 2012, IWW has evolved into a crucial platform in **global water diplomacy, facilitating dialogue, innovation, and knowledge exchange on critical water-related challenges.**
- **Theme:**
    - The theme of IWW 2024, **'Partnerships and Cooperation for Inclusive Water Development and Management'** highlighted the pivotal role of collaborative efforts across sectors and nations in tackling the escalating water challenges of the 21st century.
    - It emphasized the need for integrated and holistic approaches to **water conservation, efficient management, and the equitable distribution of water resources.**
    - The theme also underscored the critical importance of **international cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships** in ensuring sustainable water development and addressing global water security concerns.
- **Participants:**
    - Nations like **Denmark, Israel, Australia, and Singapore** presented their water-related innovations and experiences.
        - **China and Bangladesh did not participate** in the International Water Week events in India.
    - Representatives of the **World Water Council, World Bank** and **Asian Development Bank** were also present.

- **International WASH Conference:**
  - **About:**
    - A key highlight of IWW 2024 was the **International Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Conference**, organised by the **Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS)** under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
  - **Aim:**
    - The conference focused on fostering **global cooperation in WASH** to address critical sanitation challenges and promote hygiene standards.
  - **Theme:**
    - It was centered around the theme, **'Sustaining Rural Water Supply'** providing a platform for knowledge exchange, showcasing innovations, and sharing best practices to tackle global WASH issues, with a particular emphasis on achieving **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6**.
  - **Outcome:**
    - The Conference culminated in significant outcomes, highlighting **India's leadership in rural water management** through initiatives like the **JJM and Swachh Bharat Mission.**
    - It emphasized the critical importance of global partnerships, community-driven solutions, and technology-based innovations to address future water and sanitation challenges.
- **Highlighted Initiatives:**
  - **Catch the Rain campaign (2021)**, advocated for a nationwide, people-centric movement to confront the ongoing water crisis effectively.
  - **National Safe Water Dialogue** focused on the impact of **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)**, discussing topics like water disinfection, community engagement, and impact assessment of JJM.

What is the Current State of Water in India?

- **Water Scarcity:** As of 2024, India has **18% of the world's population but only 4% of its freshwater resources**, making it one of the most water-stressed countries globally .
- **Groundwater Depletion:** Groundwater is crucial for 80% of drinking water and two-thirds of irrigation needs.
  - However, **over-extraction has led to severe depletion,** particularly in agricultural states like Punjab, where the water table is falling drastically .
- **Water Pollution:** Around **70% of India's water is contaminated,** with nearly half of the country's rivers unsafe for drinking or irrigation.
  - This makes **India rank 120th out of 122 countries on a [Global Water Quality Index 2024.](#)**
- **Rural Water Access:** About **163 million Indians lack access to safe drinking water,** and 600 million face high-to-extreme water stress. Many rural areas still rely on unsafe sources .
- **Climate Vulnerability:** Climate change has exacerbated droughts and floods in India, further impacting water availability. **It is projected that by 2030**, India's water supply may only meet half of its demand.

What are the Factors Related to the Water Crisis in India?

- **Rapid Population Growth and Urbanisation:** The rising population and accelerating urbanisation have led to increased demand for water, placing immense pressure on existing water resources and infrastructure.
- **Depleting Groundwater Reserves:** Over-extraction of groundwater, particularly for agricultural use, has resulted in **alarming rates of groundwater depletion**, especially in states like Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan.
- **Inefficient Agricultural Practices:** Agriculture, which consumes around 80% of India's freshwater, is heavily dependent on **water-intensive crops and inefficient irrigation techniques**, leading to unsustainable water use.
- **Pollution of Water Bodies:** Industrial waste, untreated sewage, and agricultural runoff have severely **polluted rivers, lakes, and groundwater**, further reducing the availability of safe and potable water.
- **Climate Change:** Erratic rainfall patterns, increasing frequency of **[droughts](#)**, and changing monsoon cycles due to **climate change have disrupted water availability**, exacerbating the crisis in drought-prone and semi-arid regions.
- **Unequal Distribution and Access:** Regional imbalances in water availability, with some areas facing acute shortages while others have an abundance of resources, have resulted in unequal access, particularly in rural and marginalised communities.
- **Aging Infrastructure and Poor Water Management:** The lack of modern water management systems, combined with aging and **inadequate infrastructure for water storage, distribution, and treatment**, has led to inefficiencies and wastage.
- **Over-reliance on Monsoons:** India's heavy reliance on monsoon rainfall for water replenishment makes the country vulnerable to monsoon variability, which impacts both agricultural production and water availability.
- **Weak Governance and Policy Implementation:** Inconsistent and fragmented water policies, coupled with **poor governance and weak enforcement of regulations**, have hindered effective water management and conservation efforts.

What are the Government Initiatives Related to Water Management in India?

- **[National Water Policy, 2012](#)**
- **[Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana](#)**
- **[Jal Shakti Abhiyan- Catch the Rain Campaign](#)**
- **[Atal Bhujal Yojana](#)**
- **[Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)](#)**
- **[National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)](#)**

Way Forward

- **Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM):** A holistic and coordinated framework for managing water resources across sectors and regions is essential. This would include ensuring efficient use of surface and groundwater, along with maintaining the ecological integrity of water bodies.
- **Promotion of Water-Efficient Agricultural Practices:** Shifting towards water-efficient crops, promoting micro-irrigation systems like drip and sprinkler irrigation, and encouraging the adoption of **sustainable agricultural practices** will reduce water consumption in agriculture.
- **Strengthening Groundwater Regulation and Recharge Mechanisms:** Strengthening regulatory frameworks to curb over-extraction of groundwater, while enhancing community-led initiatives for **groundwater recharge, rainwater harvesting, and watershed management**, is crucial to arrest groundwater depletion.
- **Revitalization of Water Bodies:** Restoring and **rejuvenating traditional water bodies such as ponds, lakes, and wetlands** will help in water retention, flood control, and groundwater recharge. This should be complemented by stringent measures to prevent pollution of rivers and aquifers.
- **Climate-Resilient Infrastructure and Planning:** Developing climate-resilient water infrastructure that can withstand extreme weather events such as **droughts and floods,** along with incorporating water resource planning into urban and rural development, will strengthen India's ability to manage water challenges under changing climatic conditions.
- **Effective Policy Implementation and Institutional Strengthening:** Strengthening governance at the national and state levels through better **coordination between institutions, timely policy interventions, and robust regulatory frameworks** is essential.
- **Fostering International and Regional Cooperation:** Given the transboundary nature of many water bodies, India should actively engage in **regional and international cooperation on shared water resources.**

Drishti Mains Question:

Discuss the significance of International Water Week as a platform for global collaboration in water resource management. How can such international events contribute to addressing the pressing challenges of water scarcity?

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Mains

Q. What is water stress? How and why does it differ regionally in India? **(2019)**

Q. What are the salient features of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan launched by the Government of India for water conservation and water security? **(2020)**

Disproportionate Burden on Working Women

For Prelims: **Women's Labor Force Participation,** Wage Disparities, **Gender Disparity**, **Female Labor Force Participation Rate**, **International Labour Organization (ILO)**

For Mains: State of Women Participation in Workforce, Corporate, Challenges and Barrier to Women's Labor Force Participation.

Why in News?

The recent tragic death of a 26-year-old female Chartered Accountant at Ernst & Young (EY), has reignited discussions about the **excessive workload** and stress faced by **young women professionals (white-collars) in India.**

What is the State of Working Women in India?

- **Work Hours and Stress Levels:**
  - According to the **International Labour Organisation (ILO)** report, young **professional Indian women work** an average of **55 hours per week, with 9-11 hours daily,** leaving **only 7-10 hours for rest** due to household responsibilities.
    - Compared globally, in **Germany** women in IT and media work for 32 hours, and in **Russia**, for 40 hours.
- **The Younger Professional Women Work More:**
  - Women aged **15-24 in ICT/media** roles worked approximately **57 hours weekly**, while those in **professional, scientific and technical activities logged about 55 hours**.
    - This data suggests that as age decreases, the number of hours worked increases, highlighting a concerning trend for younger women entering the workforce.
- **Gender Imbalance in Professional Roles:**
  - Only **8.5% of women hold professional scientific and technical jobs**, and **20% are in ICT sectors**.
    - India ranks **15th lowest among 145 countries** in women's representation in professional scientific and technical roles.

Chart 2 shows the mean weekly hours of across various ages in 2023.
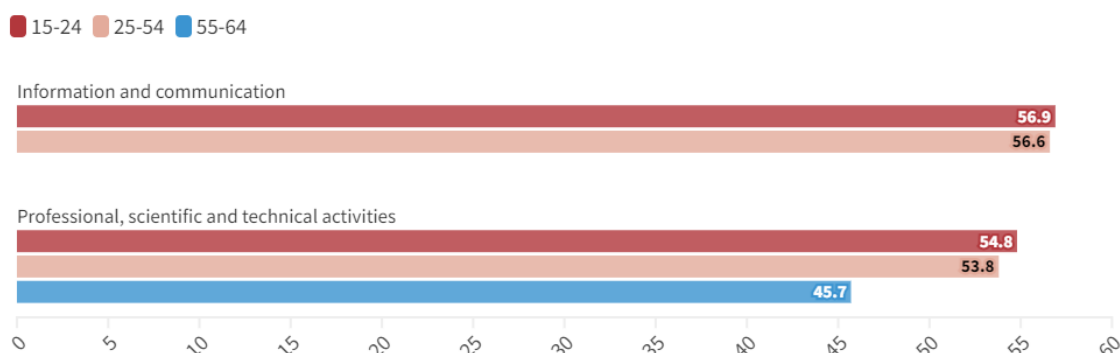
- **Women Leading in Unpaid Domestic Work:**
  - As per **National Family Health Survey (2019-21) data**, in 2019, women not in the labour force spent 7.5 hours daily on unpaid domestic and care work.
  - Employed women spent an average of 5.8 hours daily on unpaid domestic work.
    - Unemployed men contributed 3.5 hours, while employed men spent only 2.7 hours daily on domestic work.
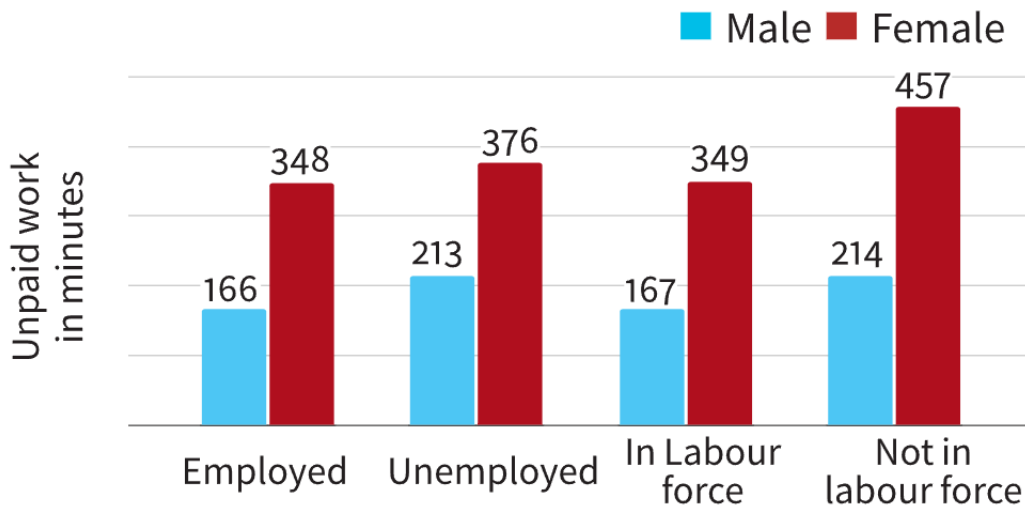
- **Regional Variations:**
    - About 85% of women aged 15-59 do unpaid domestic work, showing little difference between urban and rural areas.
    - Male participation is below 50% in many areas, in states like Haryana and Rajasthan as per **NFHS (2019-21)** data.

Table 3 | *The table shows the % of men/women aged 15-59 who participated in select activities in 2019*

Area	Gender	Employment and related activities	Unpaid domestic services
Rural	Male	69.7%	29.2%
Rural	Female	22.5%	93.2%
Urban	Male	73%	22.5%
Urban	Female	19.9%	88.8%
Total	Male	70.7%	27%
Total	Female	21.7%	91.8%

What is the Scenario for the White-Collar Jobs in India?

- **Current Situation of Regulation:**
    - **White-Collar Worker** refers to a salaried professional, typically performing administrative or managerial tasks.
    - Currently, several central legislations, such as the **Industrial Disputes Act, 1947,** the **Shops and Establishments Act, 1954**, and the **Factories Act, 1948,** govern the rights of private employees.
    - The **lack of standard contract templates** leads to differences between companies, **causing inconsistencies in employee rights** and **complicating**

regulations.
- **Need for Regulation:**
  - A 2023 **ASSOCHAM** study found that **42% of Indian white-collar workers** exceed the legal limit of 48 working hours per week.
  - Additionally, a 2022 TeamLease survey (India-based HR company) revealed that 68% of professionals struggle with work-life balance, affecting their mental health and personal relationships.
  - The **rise of the gig economy further complicates** matters, as many freelancers lack access to essential benefits like paid leave and health insurance.
- **Concerns Against Stricter Labour Laws:**
  - **Impact on Innovation and Adaptability:** Stricter regulations may hinder the flexibility and rapid response essential for dynamic sectors like IT.
  - **Employer-Employee Relationships:** Open communication and mutual trust are considered more effective for achieving work-life balance than rigid regulations.
  - **Effect on Job Creation:** Increased compliance costs could lead to reduced hiring or layoffs, negatively affecting the employment landscape.

What are the Challenges to Women's Participation in the Labor Force?

- **Patriarchal Social Norms:** Deep-rooted **patriarchal norms and traditional gender roles** restrict women's access to education and employment. Societal expectations often prioritise their roles as caregivers and homemakers, discouraging active participation in the workforce.
- **Gender Wage Gap:** Women in India face significant wage disparities compared to men. According to the **World Inequality Report 2022,** men earn **82%** of labour income, while women capture only 18%. This wage gap discourages women from pursuing formal employment.
- **Safety Concern:** Women often face **safety concerns in the workplace,** including harassment and violence, which deter their participation in the labour force.
- **Underrepresentation in Leadership Roles:** Women are often underrepresented in leadership and decision-making positions which perpetuate gender biases in organisational policies and **hinder the advancement of other women** in the workforce.

What Can be Done to Improve Working Conditions for Women in White-Collar Roles?

- **Focus on Women's Inclusion and Support:** Policies ensuring **gender equality,** including **paid maternity leave, flexible hours, and safe workplace environments,** are essential to improving conditions for women in white-collar jobs.
  - Companies should work to **eliminate gender bias in hiring, promotion, and pay** to foster equal opportunities.
- **Cultural Transformation:** Promoting employee well-being through CSR initiatives like arrangements **for women's mental health support, and discouraging excessive work hours** can enhance work-life balance and reduce burnout.
- **Legal Reforms and Enforcement:** Strict enforcement of existing **labour laws** is crucial, along with **updating regulations** to address **gig and freelance work**. This includes ensuring **minimum wage**, **addressing safety concern** of women, social security benefits, and efficient dispute resolution mechanisms for non-traditional workers.
- **Government Policies and Awareness**: Governments should create policies that **encourage flexible work environments**, ensure **health coverage**, and promote **diversity**.
  - **Awareness campaigns** on employee(including women) rights and employer responsibilities can also help in maintaining fair working conditions.

__Drishti Mains Question:__

What are the challenges faced by women in the workforce in India, and what measures can be implemented to address these issues?

SC Halts Criminal Cases under AFSPA

For Prelims: **Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958**, **Disturbed Areas**, **Supreme Court (SC)**, Parliament, Central Armed Police Forces, Disturbed Areas (Special Courts) Act, 1976

For Mains: Continuation of AFSPA, Human Rights Implications, Other Alternatives, Arguments in favour and against, and Long-term Consequences of AFSPA.

Source: IE

Why in News?

Recently, the **Supreme Court (SC)** has quashed **FIRs** and set aside all proceedings against **30 21 PARA (Special Forces)** personnel accused of **allegedly killing civilians in Nagaland**.

- The **Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** declined to grant sanctions for initiating criminal prosecution against these personnel.

Note:

- The **AFSPA Act has been extended for six months** (starting from 1st October 2024) in **hill districts of Manipur**, **eight districts of Nagaland and three districts of Arunachal Pradesh.**
  - The extension follows a **review of the law and order situation** in these states maintain order and facilitate the operations of armed forces in "disturbed" areas.
- As per MHA, **AFSPA has been lifted in 70% of northeastern states** but remains in force in Jammu and Kashmir, with potential consideration for revoking it in J&K.

What are the Key Facts of the Case and the Supreme Court's Ruling?

- **Background:**
  - The incident involved a **tragic case of mistaken identity by Army personnel,** leading to the **deaths of civilians in Nagaland in 2021**.
  - The subsequent **legal proceedings were halted** by the **Supreme Court** due to the **lack of Central government (Ministry of Home Affairs) sanction** required under **Section 6** of **Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), 1958.**
  - Thus, the **Supreme Court** has **closed criminal proceedings against Army personnel** involved in the incident and left the possibility open for the proceedings to be revived if the government grants the required sanctions.
- **Legal Provisions:**
  - **Section 6 of the AFSPA:** It **protects actions** carried out under the act stating that **no prosecution, suit**, or other legal proceedings can be initiated against any individual for actions taken or believed to be **taken under the Act without prior approval from the Central Government**.

What is Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA),1958?

- **Background:**
  - On 15th August 1942, the British colonial government introduced the **Armed Forces Special Powers Ordinance** to suppress the **Quit India movement.**
    - This led to several ordinances, including one for **"Assam disturbed areas"** in 1947 passed by the Indian government to deal with the security challenges after partition.
  - The **Armed Forces (Assam and Manipur) Special Powers Act, 1958**, followed the **Assam Disturbed Areas Act of 1955** to address unrest in the Naga Hills.
    - The Act was **later replaced by the AFSPA** for broader use.
- **About:**
  - AFSPA was passed by Parliament on 11th September 1958. It was implemented in response to **escalating violence in the North-eastern States**, which the State governments struggled to manage.
  - It grants extensive powers to the armed forces and **Central Armed Police Forces** in **"disturbed areas".**
    - It allows them to **kill individuals violating the law, arrest and search** premises **without a warrant**, and **receive protection from prosecution** and legal suits **unless sanctioned by the Central government.**
  - Both the **state and Union governments can issue notifications** declaring certain areas as "disturbed", granting the armed forces the authority under AFSPA.
  - For the States of **Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland**, the MHA issues periodic "**disturbed area" notifications.**
- **Disturbed Area Under AFSPA:**
  - A "disturbed area" is designated by a notification under **Section 3 of the Act,** which is invoked where the **deployment of armed forces in aid of civil power** is deemed necessary.
  - The Act was amended in 1972 to allow **both the Central government and State governments to declare** an area as "disturbed."
    - Such a designation can be **based on conflicts or disputes** between different religious, racial, linguistic, regional, or caste communities.
  - The **Central Government, or the Governor of a State or the Administrator** of a Union Territory, can declare any part or the entirety of a State or Union Territory as disturbed.
    - Once declared, the area remains under this status for a **continuous period of 3 months**, as per the **Disturbed Areas (Special Courts) Act, 1976.**
    - The **State government** can recommend whether the Act should continue in the region.

What are the Committees and their Recommendations on AFSPA?

- **Recommendations of Jeevan Reddy Committee:** In November 2004, the Central Government established a five-member committee led by Justice B.P. Jeevan Reddy to review the AFSPA's provisions in the northeastern states. The committee recommended a few measures that need to be taken.
    - Repealing the AFSPA and incorporating its provisions into the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, (UAPA)1967**.
    - Modifying the UAPA Act to **clearly define the powers** of the armed and paramilitary forces.
    - Setting up **grievance cells** in each district where armed forces are deployed.
- **Second ARC Recommendations:**
    - The 5th report of the **Second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) recommended repealing the AFSPA**, since it will remove feelings of discrimination and alienation but these recommendations have not been implemented.
- **Recommendations of Santosh Hegde Commission:**
    - **Reviewing the AFSPA every 6 months** to ensure its necessity and enhance its humanitarian aspects.
    - **Amending the UAPA Act** to address terrorism, rather than relying solely on the AFSPA.
    - **Allowing investigations of armed forces** for excesses committed during their duties, even in "disturbed areas."

What are the Reasons for Violence in the North-Eastern States of India?

- **Multi-Ethnic Diversity:** The North-East is India's most **ethnically diverse region**, home to around 40 million people and 213 of the 635 tribal groups.
    - Each tribe has a distinct culture, leading to **resistance against integration with common society** and concerns over the **loss of cultural identity.**
- **Lack of Economic Development:** Government policies have contributed to economic stagnation in the region, resulting in **limited employment opportunities.**
    - This economic disenfranchisement drives many youths to join insurgent groups in search of better prospects.
- **Demographic Changes:** The **influx of refugees** from Bangladesh has altered the region's demographic landscape, causing discontent and fueling the insurgency, particularly with groups like the **United National Liberation Front (ULFA)**, which was formed in response to anti-immigrant sentiments.
- **Perceived Army Excesses:** The implementation of the AFSPA has been criticised as draconian, contributing to **alienation among locals** and being **used as propaganda by insurgent groups**.
    - **Irom Sharmila Chanu from Manipur fasted for 16 years** to protest the use of AFSPA in the Northeast and to demand its repeal.
- **Political Instability in Neighboring Counties:** The ongoing instability in Bangladesh and Myanmar has further complicated the security dynamics in the North-East, contributing to the region's insurgency issues.
- **External Support:** Historically, insurgent groups in the North-East have received support from neighbouring countries.
    - East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) provided training and weapons in the 1950s and 1960s, **while China offered support from 1967 to 1975 as part of its revolutionary foreign policy.**

Way Forward

- **Building Trust and Confidence**: Implement a **bottom-up governance model** to **empower local communities** and **bridge the gap** between the government and the populace.
- **Prioritising Peace Accords**: There is a need to **establish peace accords with insurgent groups** as a prerequisite for the **eventual repeal of AFSPA** which should be accompanied by **proper rehabilitation and support** mechanisms.
- **Enhanced Connectivity**: Improving **infrastructure and connectivity** in the Northeast should be the priority to **bolster security** and **peace in the region.**
- **Adherence to Human Rights**: The focus should be to **strengthen counterinsurgency operations** by ensuring a**dherence to human rights norms**, which will enhance

the **effectiveness and legitimacy** of security measures.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year's Question (PYQs)

Mains

Q. Human rights activists constantly highlight the fact that the Armed forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) is a draconian act leading to cases of human rights abuses by security forces. What sections of AFSPA are opposed by the activists? Critically evaluate the requirement with reference to the view held by the Apex Court. **(2015)**

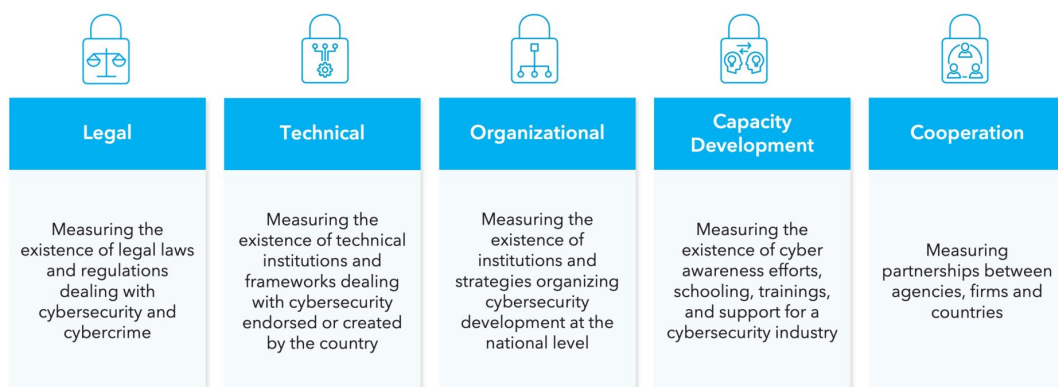# Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2024

Source: PIB

Why in News?

Recently, India has achieved a major milestone in cybersecurity by securing **Tier 1 status** in the **5th edition of Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2024**, published by the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**.

- The 4th edition of the GCI report was published in 2020.

Global Cybersecurity Index 2024

5 pillars for measuring the commitment of countries to cybersecurity

Legal	Technical	Organizational	Capacity Development	Cooperation
Measuring the existence of legal laws and regulations dealing with cybersecurity and cybercrime	Measuring the existence of technical institutions and frameworks dealing with cybersecurity endorsed or created by the country	Measuring the existence of institutions and strategies organizing cybersecurity development at the national level	Measuring the existence of cyber awareness efforts, schooling, trainings, and support for a cybersecurity industry	Measuring partnerships between agencies, firms and countries

What is the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI)?

- **About:**
    - GCI, **launched in 2015** by ITU **measures the** comprehensive development and **commitment** to **cybersecurity at a global level.**

- The GCI utilises a **multi-stakeholder approach** and leverages the capacity and expertise of **different organisations**.
- **Aim:**
  - It aims to **improve the quality of the survey,** foster international cooperation, promote knowledge exchange and **raise awareness** of the importance and different dimensions of **cybersecurity.**
- **Pillars of Assessment:**
  - The assessment is based on **5 pillars: Legal Measures, Technical Measures, Organisational Measures, Capacity Development**, and **Cooperation**.
  - The index aggregates the assessment into an **overall score** for each country.
- **5- Tier Analysis:** Countries are categorised into five tiers based on their cybersecurity efforts, with Tier 1 representing the highest level.
  - Tier 1- Role-modelling (score of 95–100)
  - Tier 2- Advancing (score of 85–95)
  - Tier 3- Establishing (score of 55–85)
  - Tier 4- Evolving (score of 20–55)
  - Tier 5- Building (score of 0–20).
- **Key Highlights of GCI 2024:** The GCI 2024 evaluated 194 countries and highlighted threats such as **ransomware attacks, breaches in critical industries, system outages**, and **privacy violations.**
  - **Global:** Since 2021, countries have increasingly prioritised cybersecurity, raising the global average score to 65.7/100.
    - GCI 2024 placed **46 countries in Tier 1,** compared to 30 in the previous edition.
    - **Most countries (105) are ranked in Tiers 3 and 4**, reflecting progress in expanding digital services but also **highlighting the need for stronger cybersecurity measures** in their digital transformation strategies.
  - **India's Performance in GCI 2024**
    - **India ranks in Tier 1** with countries like the US, Japan and Australia.
    - India scored **98.49/100**, an improvement from 97.5 in the 2020 edition due to its **robust legal framework like the [Information Technology Act (2000)](#),** the **[Digital Personal Data Protection Act (2023)](#).**
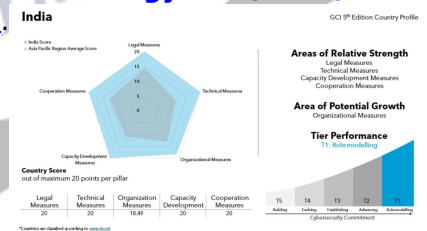
  - **Key Issues Highlighted in Report:**
    - **Worrisome Threats:** Increasing ransomware attacks, cyber breaches in critical industries, and costly system outages.
    - **Cyber Capacity Gap**: Persistent limitations in skills, staffing, equipment, and funding for cybersecurity.
    - **Implementation Challenges:** Difficulty in operationalising cybersecurity agreements effectively.
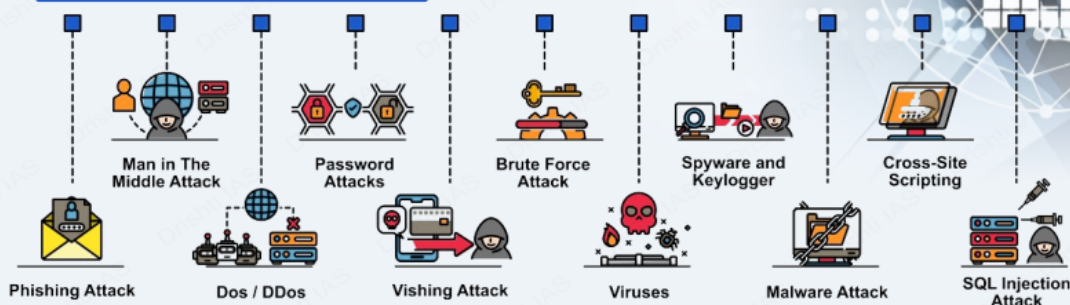 - **Key Recommendations:**
    - **National Cybersecurity Strategy:** Develop and regularly update a comprehensive national cybersecurity framework.
    - **Capacity Building:** Enhance training for cybersecurity professionals, youth, and vulnerable groups.
    - **Cooperation:** Strengthen both domestic and international collaboration on information sharing, training, and cybersecurity initiatives.

CYBER SECURITY

Cybersecurity refers to any technology, measure, or practice for preventing cyberattacks or mitigating their impact.

CYBER SECURITY ATTACKS

- Man in The Middle Attack
- Password Attacks
- Brute Force Attack
- Spyware and Keylogger
- Cross-Site Scripting
- Phishing Attack
- Dos / DDos
- Vishing Attack
- Viruses
- Malware Attack
- SQL Injection Attack

> *'Crime in India' Report 2022 (NCRB) highlighted 24.4% surge in cybercrimes in India since 2021.*

Common Cybersecurity Myths

- Strong passwords alone are adequate protection
- Major cybersecurity risks are well-known
- All cyberattack vectors are contained
- Cybercriminals don't attack small businesses

Cyber Warfare

- Digital attacks to disrupt vital computer systems, to inflict damage, death, and destruction.

CYBER THREAT ACTORS

CYBER THREAT ACTOR	MOTIVATION
NATION-STATES	GEOPOLITICAL
CYBERCRIMINALS	PROFIT
HACKTIVISTS	IDEOLOGICAL
TERRORIST GROUPS	IDEOLOGICAL VIOLENCE
THRILL-SEEKERS	SATISFACTION
INSIDER THREATS	DISCONTENT

Types of Cybersecurity

- Critical infrastructure security (Robust access controls)
- Network security (Deploying firewalls)
- Application security (Code reviews)
- Cloud Security (Tokenization)
- Information security (Data masking)

Recent Major Cyber Attacks

- WannaCry Ransomware Attack (2017)
- Cambridge Analytica Data Breach (2018)
- Financial data of 9M+ cardholders, including SBI, leaked (2022)

Regulations & Initiatives

- International:
  - UN Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on Advancing Responsible State Behaviour in Cyberspace
  - NATO's Cooperative Cyber Defense Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE)
  - Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, 2001 (India not a signatory)
- India:
  - IT Act, 2000 (Sections 43, 66, 66B, 66C, 66D)
  - National Cyber Security Policy, 2013
  - National Cyber Security Strategy 2020
  - Cyber Surakshit Bharat Initiative
  - Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)
  - Computer Emergency Response Team-India (CERT-In)

Steps Needed for Cyber Security

- Network Security
- Malware Protection
- Incident Management
- User Education and Awareness
- Secure Configuration
- Managing User Privileges
- Information Risk Management Regime

Drishti IAS

What is ITU?

- It is the **United Nations** (UN) specialised agency for **Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)s**.
- It was **founded in 1865 t**o **facilitate international connectivity in**

- **communications** networks.
    - It is headquartered in **Geneva, Switzerland.**
    - It allocates **global radio spectrum and satellite orbits**, develops the **technical standards** that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strives to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.
    - ITU currently has a membership of **193 countries** and over 900 private-sector entities and academic institutions.
        - India has been a member of ITU since 1869 and has been a member of the **ITU Governing Council** since its inception in 1952.

UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims

Q. In India, which of the following review the Independent regulators in sectors like telecommunications, insurance, electricity, etc.? (2019)

1. Ad Hoc Committees set up by the Parliament
2. Parliamentary Department Related Standing Committees
3. Finance Commission
4. Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission
5. NITI Aayog

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2
(b) 1, 3 and 4
(c) 3, 4 and 5
(d) 2 and 5

Ans: (a)

Q. In India, the term "Public Key Infrastructure" is used in the context of (2020)

(a) Digital security infrastructure
(b) Food security infrastructure
(c) Health care and education infrastructure
(d) Telecommunication and transportation infrastructure

Ans: (a)

Q. Which of the following is/are the aims/aims of the "Digital India" Plan of the Government of India? (2018)

1. Formation of India's own Internet companies like China did.
2. Establish a policy framework to encourage overseas multinational corporations that collect Big Data to build their large data centres within our national geographical boundaries.
3. Connect many of our villages to the Internet and bring Wi-Fi to many of our schools, public places and major tourist centres.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (b)

World's Oceans Approaching Critical Acidification Level

Why in News?

Recently, a recent report released by the **Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK),** Germany highlighted an alarming trend regarding **ocean acidification.**

- It indicated that the world's oceans are **nearing a critical threshold** that could **severely impact marine life** and **climate stability.**

What are the Key Findings of the Report?

- **Planetary Boundaries: Six** of **nine** critical Earth systems, including climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution, **have been breached**.
- **Ocean Acidification:** Rising CO_2 emissions are set to **exceed sustainable levels** of ocean acidification.
- **Tipping Points and Potential Recovery:** Crossing ecological tipping points threatens irreversible ecosystem damage and impacts billions. Although the ozone layer is recovering, urgent action is required on other environmental boundaries to prevent further degradation.

Planetary Boundaries

- **About:**
  - The planetary boundaries framework, introduced by **Johan Rockström and 28 scientists in 2009,** outlines earth's environmental limits to ensure stability and biodiversity for humanity's safe operation.
- **Nine Planetary Boundaries:**
  - **Climate change.**
  - Change in biosphere integrity (biodiversity loss and species extinction)
  - Stratospheric **ozone depletion.**
  - **Ocean acidification.**
  - Biogeochemical flows (phosphorus and nitrogen cycles).
  - Land-system change (for example deforestation).
  - Freshwater use (alterations across the entire water cycle over land).
  - Atmospheric **aerosol l**oading (microscopic particles in the atmosphere that affect climate and living organisms).
  - Introduction of novel entities(consisting of microplastics, endocrine disruptors, and organic pollutants).

The Nine Planetary Boundaries
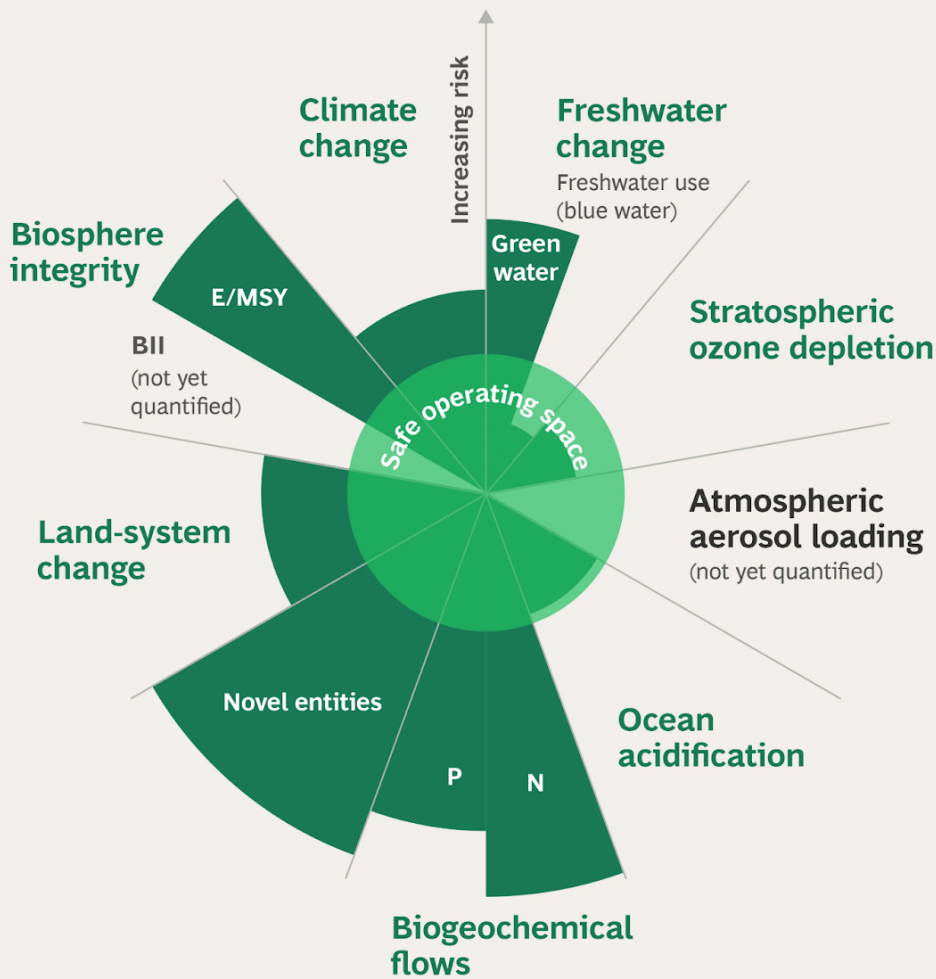
- **Breaching Planetary Boundaries:**
    - Breaching planetary boundaries doesn't signal an immediate disaster but increases the risk of irreversible environmental shifts, potentially making Earth uninhabitable for our current way of life.
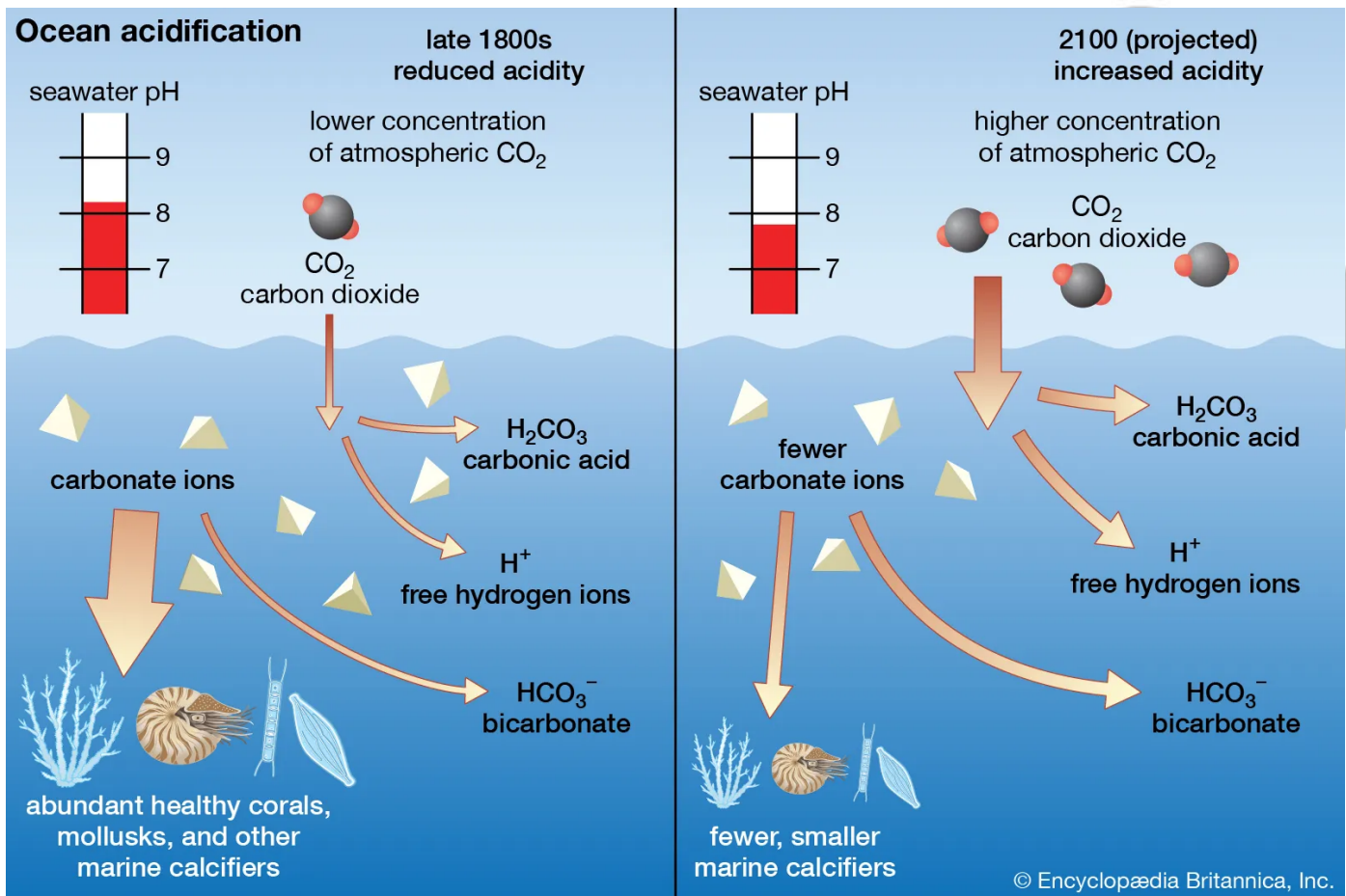
What is Ocean Acidification?

- **About:**
    - It refers to the process by which the **pH levels of the ocean decrease** due to the **absorption of excess atmospheric CO_2.**
    - As **CO_2 levels rise, more of it dissolves in seawater,** forming **carbonic acid,** which lowers the pH.
- **Ocean Acidification Process:**
    - When CO_2 is absorbed by seawater, it triggers chemical reactions that raise **hydrogen ions (H+)** concentrations.

- CO$_2$ dissolves and **forms carbonic acid (H$_2$CO$_3$)**, which breaks down into hydrogen ions (H+) and bicarbonate ions (**HCO$_3$**-).
- The rise in H+ increases the acidity of seawater, reducing the availability of carbonate ions.
  - **Climate Change Accelerating Ocean Acidification:**
    - Oceans naturally absorb carbon dioxide, but **increased atmospheric carbon dioxide levels** have caused oceans to absorb too much **CO2, l**eading to a nearly **30% increase in acidity since the 1800s**, about 10 times faster than in the last 50 million years.
    - If emissions continue, **surface ocean pH could drop from 8.1 to 7.7** in the next 100 years.
    - **Coastal areas** are especially vulnerable due to **acid sulphate runoff,** and **climate change-related sea level rise** worsens these effects.
  - **Impact of Ocean Acidification:**
    - This change in acidity can have **detrimental effects on marine organisms,** particularly those with **calcium carbonate shells or skeletons**, such as **corals** and **shellfish**.

Ocean acidification — seawater pH, late 1800s reduced acidity vs 2100 (projected) increased acidity. © Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

California's New Anti-Deep Fake Bill

Source: TH

Recently, the California **Governor** signed three new bills aimed at countering the use of **Deepfake** in political campaigns.

- **About the Legislation:**
    - The legislation aims to **protect election integrity** by preventing the deceptive use of **Deepfake** and **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** in political advertisements, **ensuring voters are not misled** and safeguarding **trust in democratic processes**.

Bill	Provisions
AB 2655	**Defending Democracy from Deep Fake Deception Act, 2024** ○ Requires large online platforms to remove or label election-related deepfakes.
AB 2839	**Elections: Deceptive Media in Advertisements** ○ Extends the prohibition period on distributing AI-generated or manipulated election ads containing deceptive content.
AB 2355	**Political Reform Act, 1974: Political Advertisements: AI** ○ Mandates electoral advertisements with AI-generated, to clearly disclose the use of AI in their creation.

- **Deep Fakes** are **AI-generated synthetic media** designed to deceive by manipulating visual and audio content. They are created using **Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)**.
- **California** is a US state that extends along the **Pacific Ocean**.
    - California's natural resources include the **Gulf of California**, a key hub for fishing and tourism; the **Mojave Desert,** known for extreme heat; **Death Valley,** one of Earth's hottest places; and the **Salton Sea**.

Read More: Deepfake, **Unveiling California's Past Extinction to Illuminate Modern Challenges**

# Tuvalu's Fight Against Rising Sea Levels

Source: TH

In recent times, Tuvalu, **a Pacific island nation** with 11,000 residents, faces severe **existential threats** from **rising sea levels**.

- **NASA** projects that **by 2050**, half of its **main atoll, Funafuti**, will be **submerged** by **daily**

tides.

- **Saltwater** has **contaminated groundwater, damaging crops** and **forcing reliance on rainwater tanks and a central raised garden** for food.
    - Tuvalu is **building seawalls** and **expanding artificial land** to **delay the impacts until 2100**.
- A **2023 climate and security treaty with Australia** offers **migration pathways for 280 Tuvaluans annually**.
- Tuvalu seeks **UN-backed recognition** of its maritime boundaries and statehood, even if submerged, a**mid concerns over illegal fishing and revenue loss.**
    - It seeks legal assurance from the **UN** and the **Pacific Islands Forum**.
- **Tuvalu:**
    - It lies in the **west-central Pacific**, halfway between **Hawaii** and **Australia**.
    - Its capital is **Funafuti**, and neighbours include **Kiribati** and **Nauru** to the north and **Fiji** as its nearest neighbour to the south.
    - It consists of 3 main islands (**Nanumanga, Niutao,** and **Niulakita)** and features 6 **coral atolls** (like **Funafuti, Nanumea, Nui)** along with over 100 small islets.

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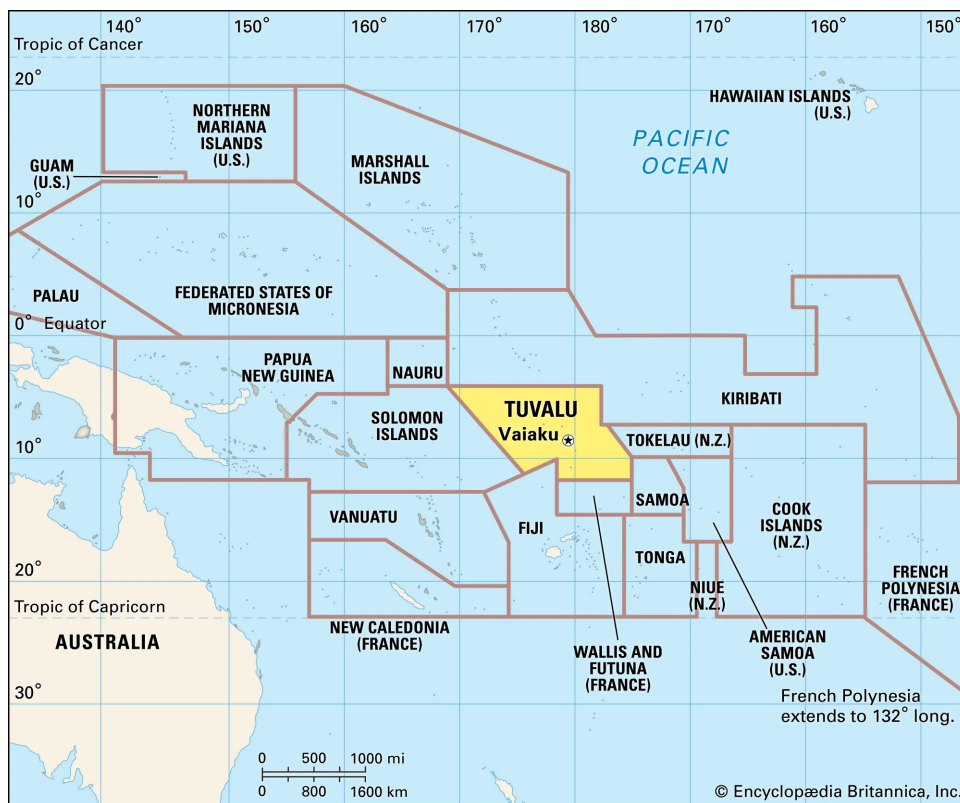
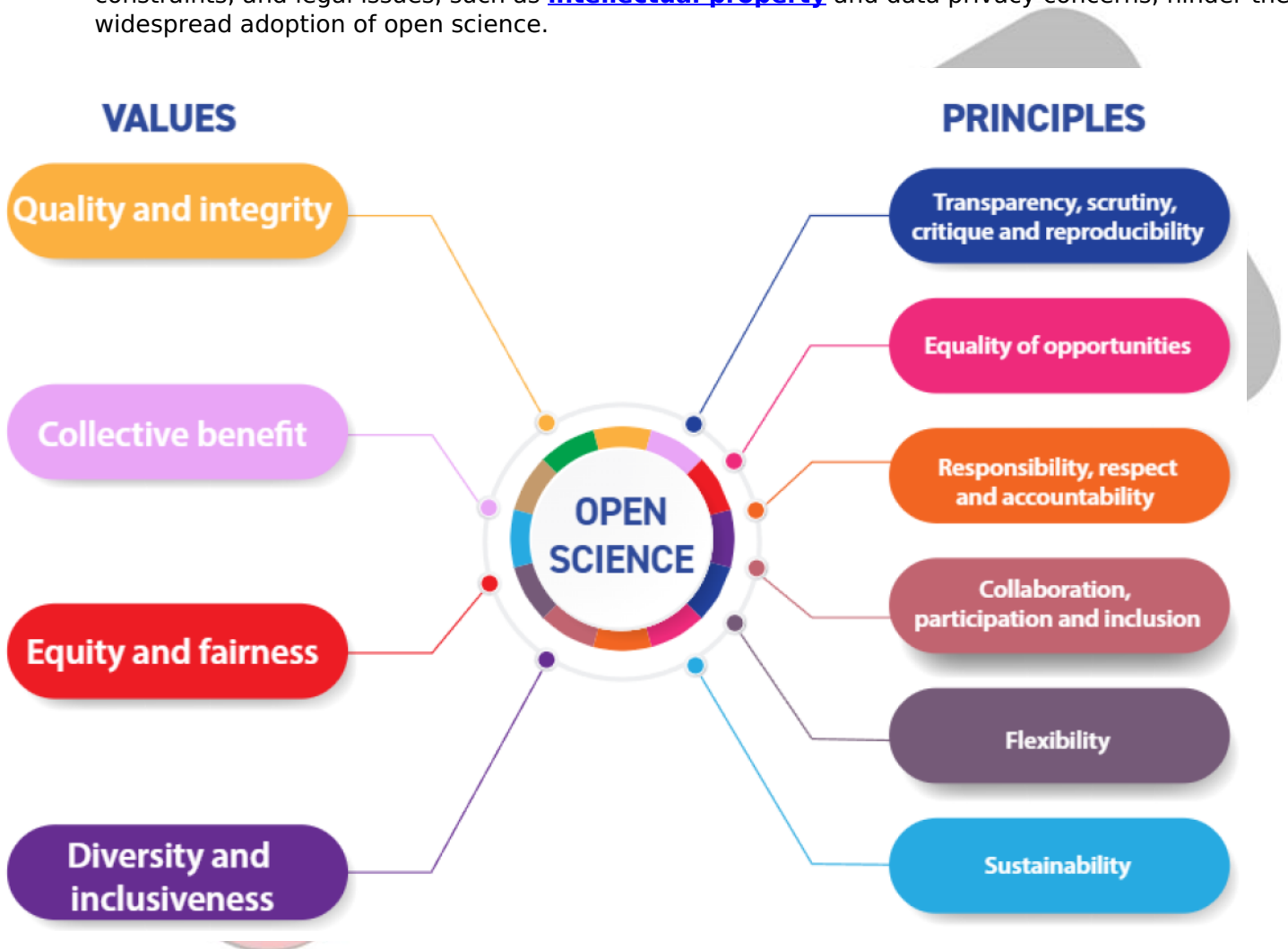**Read More: Line of Credit to Pacific Island Nations.**

Open Science

Open science is a set of principles and practices that aim to make **scientific research accessible to everyone**, ensuring that the production of knowledge is **inclusive, equitable, and sustainable.**

- It encompasses principles such as **free access to publications, availability of datasets, open-source software utilisation**, and **citizen science engagement**.
- The **UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science** defines and outlines shared values and

principles for open science.
- **Benefits of Open Science:**
  - Provides **free access to knowledge**, broadening research reach and enhancing recognition.
  - Fosters **collaboration across institutions and countries,** enabling joint projects.
  - Promotes **transparency and reproducibility,** improving research quality while maximising the impact of funding through **FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable)** principles.
- **Ethical Considerations Related to Open Science:** Open-access publishing demands transparency from authors, rigorous peer-review from publishers, and adherence to ethical standards to ensure research quality.
- **Impact of AI on Open Science: AI** boosts **data mining and analysis**, fostering collaboration and data sharing in open science.
  - However, it introduces challenges like bias and reliability issues.
- **Challenges to Open Science:** Technological barriers, institutional resistance, economic constraints, and legal issues, such as **intellectual property** and data privacy concerns, hinder the widespread adoption of open science.

VALUES

Quality and integrity

Collective benefit

Equity and fairness

Diversity and inclusiveness

PRINCIPLES

Transparency, scrutiny, critique and reproducibility

Equality of opportunities

Responsibility, respect and accountability

Collaboration, participation and inclusion

Flexibility

Sustainability

OPEN SCIENCE

Read More: Draft National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy

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Non-Publication of Details of Security Projects

Source: HT

Recently, the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** stated that details of projects granted **environmental clearance** related to national security will **not** be available on its **PARIVESH portal**.

- The project processing will occur via **PARIVESH 2.0** but **defence-related projects** will be **masked and inaccessible** to the public on the portal.
- The **Forest Conservation Act, 1980**, **amended in 2023**, **exempted specific projects** from seeking forest clearance.
    - **Strategic linear projects (Roads, Railways etc)** of national importance located **within 100 km** from international borders or the Line of Control/Actual Control.
    - **Security-related infrastructure** projects involving forest land **up to 10 hectares.**
    - Defence-related and public utility infrastructure in **Left Wing Extremism (LWE)** affected districts involving **forest land upto 5 hectares.**
    - Projects requiring up to **0.1 hectares of forest land** for connectivity to **road/rail amenities.**
- **PARIVESH 2.0** is a web-based application for online **submission and monitoring** of Environmental, Forest, Wildlife, and **Coastal Regulation Zone** clearances.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

EIA is a study conducted in the early stages of development project planning to predict and address potential environmental impacts

To Promote Environment-Friendly and Long-Term Growth

To Render Detail on the Environmental Impact

What are the Objectives of Environment Impact Assessment?

To Predict & Evaluate The Ecological, Economic & Social Effects of Growth Related Activities

Identification of Legitimate Options and Mitigation Measures.

- **Statutory Status:** Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 (Made EIA mandatory)
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)
- **Project Categorisation:** EIA Notification of 2006 categorised the developmental projects in:

- **Category A Project:** Needed prior Environmental Clearance (EC) from MoEF&CC
- **Category B Project:** Needed prior EC from State/UT Govt.
  - **Category B1 projects** (Mandatorily requires EIA)
  - **Category B2 projects** (Do not require EIA)

There are 39 categories of projects that require an EC process and are subject to EIA

EIA Process as per EIA Notification, 2006

Step	Objective	Carried Out By
▮ Screening ▮ Scoping	▮ Need of EIA ▮ Identifies important issues for EIA	▮ State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) (Category B) ▮ Standard Term of Reference (ToR) prepared by MoEF&CC with EAC/SEAC for Category B Projects"
▮ Public Consultation	▮ Addresses concerns of affected people	▮ State Pollution Control Board (SPCB)/ UT Pollution Control Board (UTPCB)
▮ Project Appraisal	▮ Scrutiny of Final EIA Report/ Environmental Management Plan (EMP)	▮ EAC for category A Projects and SEAC for category B1 Projects
▮ Decision Making	▮ Granting EC	▮ Category A: MoEf&CC ▮ Category B: State EIA Authority (SEIAA)
▮ Monitoring (Post EC)	▮ Compliance of general and specific conditions	▮ SPCB / UTPCB and Regional Offices

Government Initiatives For EC

- **PARIVESH (Proactive and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous, and Environmental Single Window Hub):** Single Window System for EC
  - Developed by MoEF&CC and National Information Centre (NIC)

- **Environmental Information System (ENVIS):** Collect, Collate, Storing, Retrieving and Disseminating Information Related to the Environment Sector
- **Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 2020:** Published by MoEF&CC to replace existing EIA Notification, 2006

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Read More: Environmental Impact Assessment