

## Case Filed Against Poison Remark on Yamuna Water | Haryana | 30 Jan 2025

## Why in News?

The Haryana government filed a case against the **political party leader** in **Sonipat Chief Judicial Magistrate Court** under the <u>Disaster Management Act, 2005</u> over his claim that <u>Yamuna</u> water from Haryana contained "poison."

## **Key Points**

- Complaint Filed Under:
  - **Section 54, Disaster Management Act, 2005:** Punishment for creating false alarms about disasters (up to **1-year imprisonment or fine**).
  - Sections 353 & 356 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023: Public mischief and defamation.
- Election Commission's Involvement: The <u>Election Commission</u> sought evidence regarding the claim, asking for a factual and legal basis.

## Disaster Management Act, 2005

- About:
  - The **Disaster Management Act, 2005** was passed by the government of India
    in **2005** for the 'efficient management of disasters and other matters connected to it.
    However, it came into force in **January 2006**.
- Objective:
  - To manage disasters, including preparation of mitigation strategies, capacity-building.
    - Definition of a "disaster" in Section 2 (d) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 states that a disaster means a "catastrophe, mishap, calamity or grave occurrence in any area, arising from natural or man made causes.
- Major Features of the Act:
  - Nodal Agency: The Act designates the Ministry of Home Affairs as the nodal ministry for steering the overall national disaster management.
  - Institutional Structure: It puts into place a systematic structure of institutions at the national, state and district levels.
  - National Level Important Entities:
    - The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA): It is tasked with laying down disaster management policies and ensuring timely and effective response mechanisms.
    - The National Executive Committee (NEC): It is constituted under Section 8 of the Act to assist the <u>National Disaster Management Authority</u> in the performance of its functions.
      - The NEC is responsible for the preparation of the National Disaster
         Management Plan for the whole country and to ensure that it is reviewed
         and updated annually.
    - The National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM): It is an institute for training and capacity development programs for managing natural calamities.
    - National Disaster Response Force (NDRF): It refers to trained professional

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