



26 July, 2023

## National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

**Context:** NCPCR has directed Manipur DGP to file FIR against three individuals for posting photographs of a minor involved in a horrific incident recently.

- The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is a statutory body established by the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.
- It operates under the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- The NCPCR started its functioning on March 5, 2007.
- According to the commission's definition, a child includes a person up to the age of 18 years.
- The commission's mandate is to align all laws, policies, programs, and administrative mechanisms with the child rights perspective in India's Constitution and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CPCR Act, 2005, Section 13).
- The Commission is also responsible for monitoring the proper and effective implementation of:
  - Right to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.
  - Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.
  - Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

### Composition of Commission

- A chairperson, who is a person of eminence and has made significant contributions to promoting children's welfare.
- Six members, with at least two of them being women, having expertise in areas like Education, Child Health, Juvenile Justice, Elimination of Child Labour, Child Psychology, or Sociology, and Laws relating to children.
- The appointment of members is done by the Central Government, and they serve a term of 3 years.

### POCSO Act, 2012

- The POCSO Act (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act) was enacted in 2012 in India to protect children from sexual offenses.
- It defines and addresses different types of sexual offenses against children below 18 years, including penetration, non-penetration, and child pornography.
- The Act establishes special courts for speedy trials of these cases, ensuring quick justice for the victims.
- Confidentiality of the child's identity is strictly maintained throughout the legal process to protect their privacy.
- The Act mandates reporting of any knowledge or suspicion of child sexual abuse, and failure to report can result in penalties.

## National Dental Commission Bill, 2023

**Context:** The National Dental Commission Bill, 2023, has been recently introduced in the Lok Sabha by the government.

- The Bill intends to repeal the 1948 Dentists Act and replace it with the National Dental Commission (NDC).
- Its objectives include making dental education affordable and ensuring accessible quality oral healthcare.
- The proposed change will replace the Dental Council of India with the National Dental Commission.

### National Dental Commission

- The new commission will draft policies and maintain quality standards in dental education and the profession.
- It will also regulate fees for 50% of seats in private dental colleges.
- Composition:
  - The NDC's composition will mirror the National Medical Commission (NMC) that replaced the Medical Council of India.
  - The NDC will have its head office in New Delhi and consist of a chairperson, eight ex-officio members, and 24 part-time members, all appointed by the central government.

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- The eight ex-officio members will include representatives from NMC, health ministry, AIIMS, New Delhi.
- Out of the 24 part-time members, 19 will be appointed on a rotational basis from state and union territory nominees for two years.
- The remaining five members, serving a four-year term, will include two dental faculties from government institutes and three experts in various fields.
- As per the Bill, the commission's members will declare their assets, liabilities, and professional engagements upon entering and leaving office.
- Dental Advisory Council
  - Under the Bill, a Dental Advisory Council will be formed by the central government.
  - The council will serve as an advisory body to the commission, acting as a platform for states and union territories to express their perspectives.
  - Additionally, the council will provide advice on measures to improve equitable access to dental education and establish a uniform system of examination.
- The Bill will introduce an exit test for dentists similar to the proposed National Exit Test for MBBS graduates.

## Controlled Human Infection Studies (CHIS)

**Context:** India has initiated the process of introducing Controlled Human Infection Studies (CHIS), a method utilized in various countries for vaccine and treatment development.

- CHIS is considered ethically sensitive in India due to potential harms and issues with payment, third-party risk, and vulnerable participants.
- ICMR's Bioethics Unit introduced a policy supporting CHIS, open for public comments, citing scientific benefits.
- The policy addresses the necessity, benefits, and challenges of implementing CHIS in India.

### What is it?

- **Global Health Priority:** Alleviating the impact of infectious diseases remains a key global health priority.
- **Controlled Human Infection Studies (CHIS):**
  - In CHIS, healthy volunteers are intentionally exposed to pathogens in a controlled environment.
  - **Objectives:** The studies aim to promote understanding of:
    - Pathogenesis of infectious diseases.
    - Transmission mechanisms.
    - Prevention and treatment methods for infectious diseases in humans.
- **Applications of CHIS:**
  - **Insights into Pathogen Behavior:** CHIS provides insights into how pathogens infect human hosts and cause diseases.
  - **Understanding Immune Responses:** CHIS help in better understanding immune responses to infections.
  - **Evaluating Vaccines and Drugs:** CHIS is used to evaluate the efficacy of vaccines and drugs designed to prevent and treat infectious diseases.
- **Historical Significance:** CHIS has a long history and has made significant contributions to treating and preventing infectious diseases of global health importance.
- **Increasing Utilization:** Recognition of CHIS's potential value has led to its growing application in a wider range of research contexts.
- **Relative Unfamiliarity:** Despite their importance, CHIS remains relatively unfamiliar as a research method.

### How does it work?

- Healthy adult volunteers are recruited for Controlled Human Infection Studies (CHIS).
- Volunteers receive a clear explanation of the process and risks involved, and their health is closely monitored throughout the study.
- CHIS may involve testing vaccines or treatments using controlled doses of challenge agents like viruses.
- Strict guidelines are in place to protect participants, who are financially reimbursed for their time.
- CHIS has been utilized in developed countries to study diseases like malaria, typhoid, and dengue.

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## National Conclave on Standards & Regulations for Technical Textiles

**Context:** The Ministry of Textiles organized the '6th National Conclave on Standards & Regulations for Technical Textiles.'

- Ministry of Textiles organized the 6th National Conclave on Standards & Regulations under the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM).
- The conclave focused on technical sessions covering various aspects of technical textiles, including protective textiles, geotextiles, medical textiles, and more.
- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) released four new standards during the event.
- More than 150 participants from different sectors attended the conclave.
- Ministry officials emphasized the importance of quality standards and effective implementation of QCOs in technical textiles to support growth in the sector.

### Technical Textiles

- Technical textiles find applications in various industries, including automobiles, civil engineering, construction, agriculture, healthcare, industrial safety, and personal protection.
- The demand for technical textile products is driven by a country's development and industrialization.
- There are **12 segments of technical textiles** based on usage: Agrotech, Meditech, Buildtech, Mobiltech, Clothtech, Oekotech, Geotech, Packtech, Hometech, Protech, Indutech, and Sportech.
- Each segment serves specific purposes; for instance, 'mobiltech' includes products used in vehicles like seat belts and airbags, while 'geotech' is the fastest-growing sub-segment used for soil stabilization, among others.

### National Technical Textiles Mission

- The National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) was approved in 2020 by the CCEA.
- It aims to position India as a global leader in technical textiles and increase domestic market use from USD 40 billion to USD 50 billion by 2024.
- The Ministry of Textiles operates a Mission Directorate for NTTM.
- The four-year mission (2020-2021 to 2023-2024) has four components:
  - Research, development, and innovation with Rs. 1,000 crores budget.
  - Market promotion and development for technical textiles.
  - Export promotion with an aim to reach Rs. 20,000 crores by 2021-2022.
  - Focus on education, training, and skill development related to technical textiles.
- **Market scenario of Technical Textiles**
  - **Growth Rate (per annum):** 8%
  - **India's Share in World Market:** USD 19 billion
  - **World Market Size:** USD 250 billion
  - **Major Players in World Market:** USA, Western Europe, China, Japan

### Initiatives for Technical Textiles

- **100% FDI under Automatic Route:** The Government of India allows 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) under the automatic route. International technical textile manufacturers like Ahlstrom and Johnson & Johnson have already established operations in India.
- **Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme:** To enhance exports and indirectly promote investments in textile machinery.
- **Harmonized System of Nomenclature (HSN) Codes for Technical Textile:** In 2019, the Government of India allocated 207 HSN codes to technical textiles for effective monitoring of import and export data and to provide financial support and incentives to manufacturers.
- **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles Sector:** Aims to promote high-value production of Man-Made Fiber (MMF) fabrics, garments, and technical textiles.
- **Technotex India:** A flagship event organized by the Ministry of Textiles in collaboration with FICCI, featuring exhibitions, conferences, and seminars with participation from stakeholders across the global technical textile value chain.

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## NEWS IN BETWEEN THE LINES

### The Biological Diversity Amendment Bill

Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021



On July 25, the Lok Sabha passed the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021 amidst Opposition demands for PM's statement on Manipur violence.

**Purpose:** The Bill amends the 2002 Act to benefit tribes and vulnerable communities from medicinal forest products.

**Exemptions:** AYUSH practitioners and traditional knowledge users exempted from prior intimation to access biological resources.

**Simplifying Compliance:** Eases burden, boosts investment and simplifies patent applications.

**Concerns:** Environmentalists worry about "bio piracy" and unclear benefit sharing.

**Penalties:** Bill decriminalizes some offences and introduces monetary penalties.

**Background:** 2002 Act for equitable sharing of benefits from biological resources.

**Committee Review:** Joint Parliamentary Committee raised concerns about potential abuse due to exemptions.

### The National Socialist Council of Nagaland



The National Socialist Council of Nagaland is a separatist militant group formed on January 31, 1980, by Isak Chisi Swu, Thuingaleng Muivah, and S.S. Khaplang. It opposes the 'Shillong Accord' signed by the Naga National Council (NNC) with the Indian government.

**Objective:** Aims to establish 'Greater Nagaland' based on Mao Tse Tung's ideology with a spiritual outlook - 'Nagaland for Christ.'

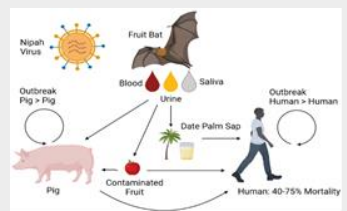
**Area of Operation:** Primarily consists of Tangkhul Nagas in parts of Nagaland and Manipur's four districts.

**Government-in-exile:** Established the Government of the People's Republic of Nagaland (GPRN) for international interactions.

**Funding:** Engages in drug trafficking, extortion, and bank robberies for finance; receives support from neighbouring countries and ISI.

**Linkages:** Developed extensive linkages with Naga groups in Myanmar; procures arms through various contacts in Thailand and China.

### Nipah Virus



#### What is Nipah Virus?

Nipah virus is a highly pathogenic zoonotic virus transmitted from fruit bats to humans.

- It causes severe respiratory and encephalitic infections with high fatality rates.
- No specific drugs or vaccines are available for Nipah virus.
- Prevention includes raising awareness, reducing bat-to-human transmission, and avoiding close contact with infected individuals.
- WHO provides technical guidance for managing and preventing outbreaks.
- The virus has been detected in bats in several Indian states and UTs, including Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya and Pondicherry.
- The survey coverage includes Telangana, Gujarat, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Odisha and Chandigarh.

### International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC)



**Inauguration:** PM Narendra Modi dedicated the IECC complex at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, costing approximately 2,700 crore rupees, for hosting meetings, conferences and exhibitions.

**Largest MICE Destination:** Spread over 123 acres, it is India's largest Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions destination, featuring state-of-the-art facilities.

**Iconic Infrastructure:** The Convention Centre has a multi-purpose hall and plenary hall with a combined capacity of 7,000 people, surpassing Sydney Opera House's seating capacity. The amphitheater can seat 3,000 persons.

**Architectural Design:** Inspired by Indian traditions, the Convention Centre's design incorporates elements of traditional Indian art and culture, showcasing India's heritage while embracing modernity.

**Trade and Commerce Hub:** With seven exhibition halls, the complex promotes India as a global business destination, facilitating trade and commerce and offering SMEs a platform to showcase products internationally.

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## Sahkar Se Samridhhi Scheme



Ministry of Cooperation | सहकारिता मंत्रालय  
Government of India | भारत सरकार

- Launched by the Ministry of Cooperation to strengthen the cooperative movement in India.
- Aims to enhance performance, productivity, and profitability of cooperative societies.
- Focuses on making primary cooperatives transparent and economically vibrant.
- Initiatives to strengthen urban and rural cooperative banks, relief in Income Tax Act for cooperatives.
- Revival of cooperative sugar mills and establishment of new multi-state societies.
- **Strengthening Primary Cooperatives:** Model Bye-Laws, Computerization, New Multipurpose PACS, Grain Storage, CSCs, FPOs, Priority for Petrol/Diesel Outlets, LPG Distributorship, Jan Aushadhi Kendra, PMKSK, PM-KUSUM Convergence, O&M of PWS, Micro-ATMs, Rupay Kisan Credit Card.
- **Strengthening Urban and Rural Cooperative Banks:** Branch Expansion, Doorstep Services, Loan Settlement, PSL Targets, Nodal Officer, Increased Housing Loan Limit, Lending to Real Estate,
- **Three New Multi-State Societies:** Seed, Organic and Export.

## 'Janjatiya Darpan'



- Unique gallery at Rashtrapati Bhavan dedicated to tribal arts, culture, and heroes.
- Inaugurated by India's first tribal President, Droupadi Murmu, after one year in office.
- Developed by Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA), an autonomous institution under Union Culture Ministry.
- Showcases themes like unsung tribal freedom fighters, Halma practices, Dokra art, Gunjala Gondi scripts, textiles, Warli and Gondi paintings, masks, jewelry, metalwork, weapons, and tattoos.
- Aims to present rich tribal art and culture contributions to the nation.
- Gallery completed in a remarkable 10-day timeframe.

## Place in News

### Godda

**Godda, Jharkhand:** Known for abundant natural resources and advancements in the power sector.

**Rajmahal Coalfield:** Houses one of Asia's largest coalfields.

**Transnational Power Project:** India's first commissioned project, supplying 1600 MW to Bangladesh.

**Geographical Location:** In eastern India, bordered by Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh.

**Formation:** Became the 28th state on November 15, 2000, after separation from Bihar.

**Mineral-rich State:** Abundant coal, iron ore, mica, bauxite, and copper reserves.

**Tribal Population:** Various tribes, like Santhal, Munda, Oraon, preserving unique cultures.

**Industrial Hub:** Emerging in steel, power, and manufacturing sectors, boosting economic growth.

**Dams and Rivers:** Several rivers and dams like Subarnarekha and Maithon aiding irrigation and power.

**Famous National Parks:** Betla and Hazaribagh attracting wildlife enthusiasts.



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