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The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

10th October 2026



SC upholds right to peaceful protest



CONTEXT: **The central question:** When does maintaining public order become suppressing dissent?

Start with the Indian street



SCENARIO 1:

Protesters move to the pavement + passage for ambulances + peaceful demonstration

Would a blanket order to disperse them still be justified?

SCENARIO 2:

Protesters begin throwing stones + attacking police personnel + damaging vehicles

Can the police intervene then?

Does the outbreak of violence give the police an unlimited licence

Larger issue: when **intervention becomes necessary**, how much **force is justified**, and what **accountability** follows if the State exceeds its powers.

Fundamental Rights behind protest

What it protects (only for Indian citizens)

Peaceful Protest

Article
19(1)(a)

Freedom of **speech** and
expression

Article
19(1)(b)

Right to **assemble peacefully**
and without arms

Article
19(1)(c)

Right to **form associations** or
unions

Article 19(1)(d)

Right to **move freely**
throughout India

Article 21

Protection of **life** and **personal
liberty**

Relevance to protest

Raising slogans, expressing
grievances and criticising
government

Public demonstrations,
meetings and peaceful
marches

Organising through student
unions, trade unions and
civil-society groups

Relevant to peaceful
marches, **subject to lawful
restrictions**

**Protection against arbitrary
State action** and **excessive
force**



SC upholds right to peaceful protest

CONTEXT: The central question: When does maintaining public order become suppressing dissent?

Protests can serve several functions

Accountability

Representation

Agenda-setting

Corrective governance

Political participation



But why isn't the right to protest absolute?

1. Specific intelligence assessment indicates an imminent risk of violence in march to Parliament

Constitutional doctrine of reasonable restrictions.
CITIZENS (A21) = Homes + Travel + Emg

19(2) freedom of speech and expression sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the State, public order, decency or morality, contempt of court, defamation and incitement to an offence

19(3) peaceful assembly sovereignty and integrity of India + public order.

2. Prohibit every demonstration in city for 6m?

Framework for evaluating restrictions:

- 1. Legality:** Is the action authorised by valid law?
- 2. Legitimate purpose:** Is it directed at a constitutionally recognised objective?
- 3. Necessity:** Is the restriction genuinely required in the circumstances?
- 4. Proportionality:** Does it go no further than reasonably necessary to address the threat?



SC upholds right to peaceful protest



CONTEXT: The central question: When does maintaining public order become suppressing dissent?

When may the police lawfully disperse a gathering?

Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023

Sec 148 Dispersal of assembly (5+) Authorises **magistrates** and **police officers** to disperse assemblies, **also by force**

FORCE = Legality + Necessity + Proportionality + Precaution + Accountability
NHRC: necessary + limited to min required

Sec 149-151 Use of armed forces and related protections Govern specified situations involving **armed forces** and **protections** associated with action under these provisions

Sec 163 Urgent cases of nuisance or danger Allows an empowered **Executive Magistrate** to issue **preventive orders** when the statutory conditions are satisfied

Does a designated protest site guarantee permission?

PERMISSION REQUIRED ?



Why is an NOC NECESSARY?

Since 'Public Order' is a State Subject, every State regulates public assemblies through its own laws.

ORGANISERS MUST PROVIDE:

- Purpose of the protest
- Duration
- Venue & Route
- Loudspeakers/ Tents/Pandals
- Expected Participants
- Crowd Management Plan

Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (2018)
Repeated prohibitory orders = "Chilling effect"

Landmark cases



Kameshwar Prasad (1962) → Peaceful demonstrations are protected.



Himat Lal Shah (1973) → Public meetings allowed subject to reasonable regulation.



Ramlila Maidan (2012) → Police action must be fair, reasonable & proportionate.



MKSS (2018) → Right to protest is constitutional but can be regulated.



Shaheen Bagh Case (2020) → Public spaces cannot be occupied indefinitely.

The Message

The Method & Location

20153 CSMT REWA EXP	15:20 D 11
22159 SMT-CHENNAI EXP.	15:30 D 9
22221 RAJDAHANI EXP	CANCELLER
22225 JALAPUR VANDEBHARAT	16:05 D -
12125 PRAGATI EXP	16:25 D -

'Can't use hammer to kill fly': Supreme Court on Delhi EC protest curbs

Why more force is not more policing?

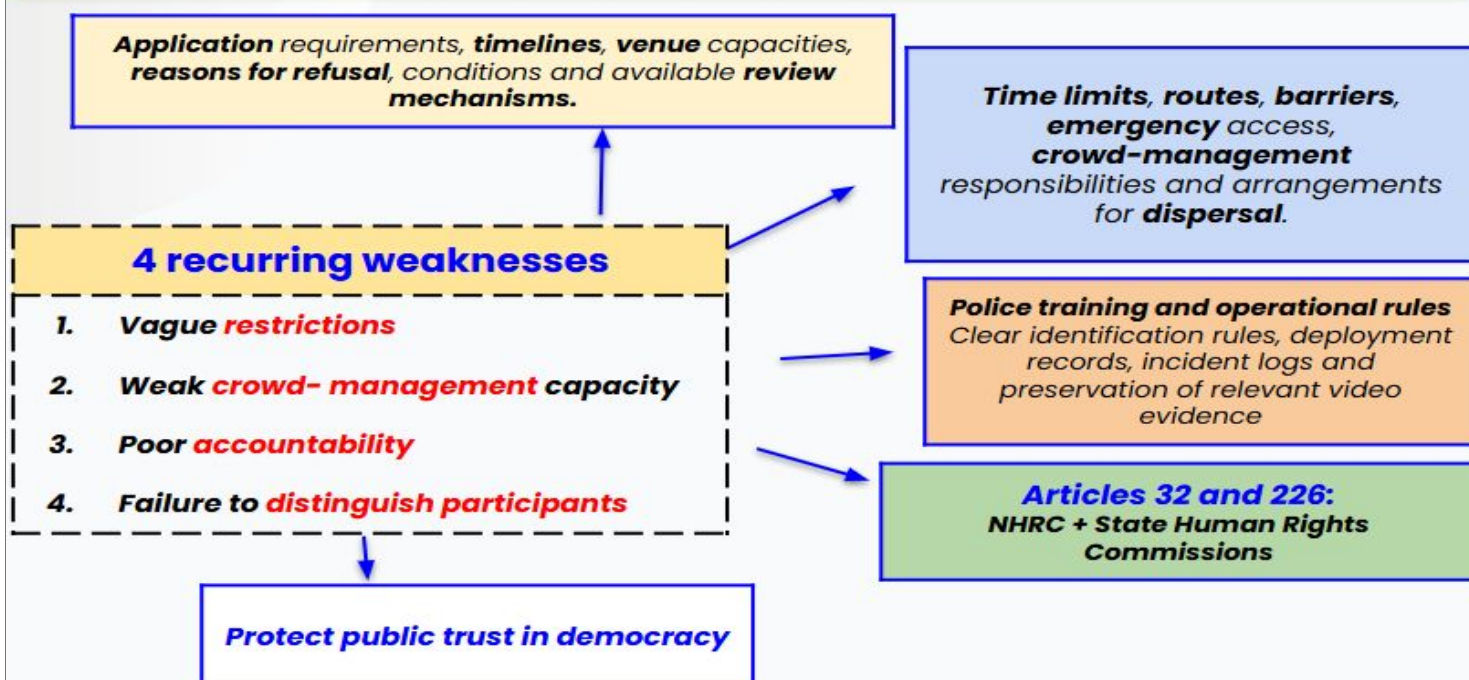
D.K. Basu v. State of West Bengal (1997) (Sec36, BNSS)
Anita Thakur v. Government of J&K (2016)

SC upholds right to peaceful protest



CONTEXT: **The central question:** When does maintaining public order become suppressing dissent?

Where does the real governance failure occur?



✦ MAINS POINTER — UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms, 1990

8th UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, the principles provide guidance to States on law-enforcement use of force and firearms.

They emphasise:

- non-violent means should be used as far as possible;
- force should be used only when necessary;
- the level of force should be proportionate to the legitimate objective;
- injuries and damage should be minimised;
- medical assistance should be provided to injured persons;
- serious incidents involving force should be reported and investigated.

The standards also distinguish between violent and non-violent assemblies, calling for particular restraint when law enforcement deals with non-violent gatherings.

These principles are international standards and guidance, not a substitute for domestic legislation.

Their value lies in establishing a professional benchmark for democratic policing.



SC upholds right to peaceful protest

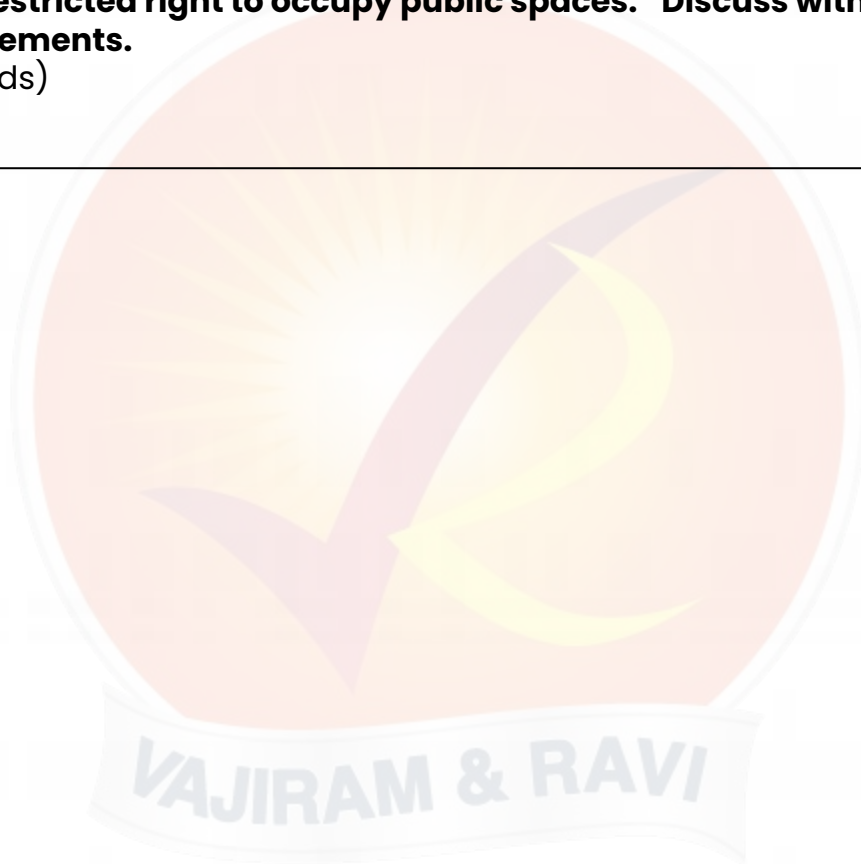


CONTEXT: **The central question:** When does maintaining public order become suppressing dissent?

Mains Practise Question

“The right to protest is an essential component of democratic participation, but it does not confer an unrestricted right to occupy public spaces.” Discuss with reference to judicial pronouncements.

(15 Marks, 250 words)



Critical Minerals Stockpiling Policy



CONTEXT: India set to finalise **critical mineral stockpiling policy** amid supply chain disruptions

What exactly are critical minerals?

ALUMINUM	HAFNIUM	RHODIUM
ANTIMONY	HOLMIUM*	RUBIDIUM
ARSENIC	INDIUM	RUTHENIUM
BARITE	IRIDIUM	SAMARIUM*
BERYLLIUM	LANTHANUM*	SCANDIUM
BISMUTH	LEAD	SILICON
BORON	LITHIUM	SILVER
CERIUM*	LUTETIUM*	TANTALUM
CESIUM	MAGNESIUM	TELLURIUM
CHROMIUM	MANGANESE	TERBIUM*
COBALT	METALLURGICAL COAL	THULIUM*
COPPER	NEODYMIUM*	TIN
DYSPROSIUM*	NICKEL	TITANIUM
ERBIUM*	NIOBIUM	TUNGSTEN
EUROPIUM*	PALLADIUM	URANIUM
FLUORSPAR	PHOSPHATE	VANADIUM
GADOLINIUM*	PLATINUM	YTTERBIUM*
GALLIUM	POTASH	YTTRIUM*
GERMANIUM	PRASEODYMIUM*	ZINC
GRAPHITE	RHENIUM	ZIRCONIUM

Is it **essential to industries** such as batteries, electronics, renewable energy, transport or manufacturing?

Is global **production or processing concentrated** in a few countries?

Can industries **replace it without major cost, performance or redesign problems?**

If **imports stop tomorrow**, can domestic production or alternative suppliers respond quickly?

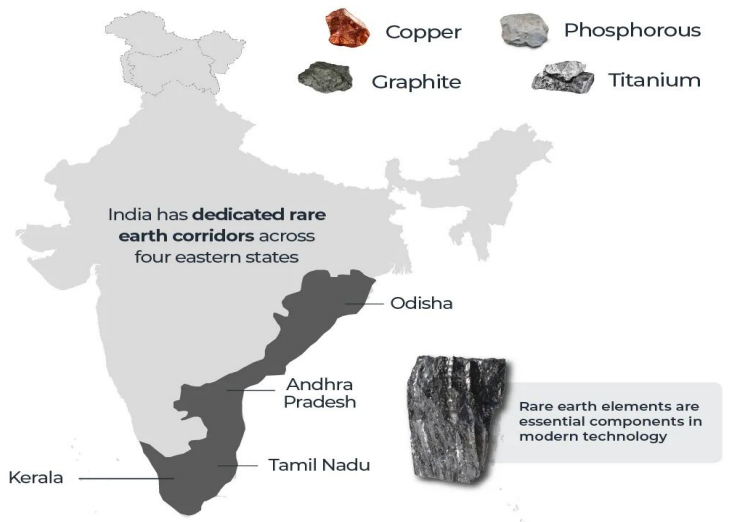
Major Reserves/Occurrence in India

Lithium	Discovered in Karnataka and Jammu & Kashmir .
Cobalt & Nickel	Found in association with copper ores ; small deposits in Odisha and Jharkhand . India's reserves are relatively modest.
Rare Earth Elements	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Odisha, and Kerala . Monazite sands of Kerala rich in REEs. 1.29 million tonnes (Mt) of in-situ rare-earth oxide in hard-rock deposits of Gujarat and Rajasthan .
Graphite	High-quality graphite in Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Tamil Nadu .

India's rare earth minerals

India's Ministry of Mines has identified 30 minerals critical to strengthening national security, securing supply chains for high-tech industries and clean energy, and reducing dependence on imports.

India currently produces four critical minerals



Rare earth elements are essential components in modern technology

Critical Minerals Stockpiling Policy

CONTEXT: India set to finalise **critical mineral stockpiling policy** amid supply chain disruptions

Why India is vulnerable?

1. Geological resources

Mineral deposits in India and overseas



2. Mining and extraction

Ore, brines and other mineral-bearing material



3. Processing and refining

Concentration, chemical treatment, separation and purification



4. Advanced materials and components

Battery-grade chemicals, permanent magnets, cathodes and other inputs



5. Finished products

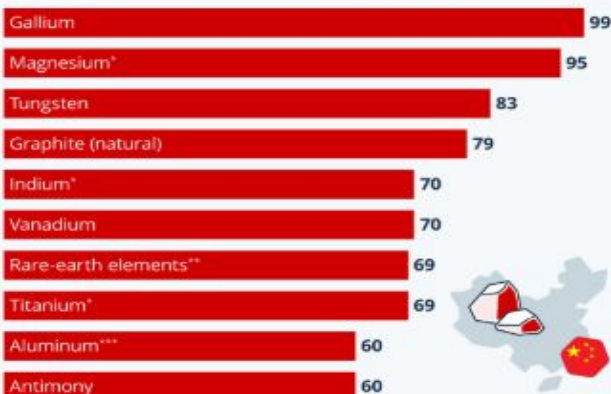
EVs, electronics, renewable-energy equipment, grid infrastructure and defence applications

Selected critical minerals, estimated supply risk and economic importance*



China's Monopoly on Critical Minerals

China's share in the estimated global mining/production of selected critical minerals in 2024 (in percent)



* Refinery production

** Group of 17 elements. Data include the 15 lanthanides & yttrium, but exclude most scandium

*** Smelter production

Source: USGS Mineral Commodity Summaries 2025

Weaponization of Export Controls

Vulnerability to Traditional Chokepoints

The "Missing Middle"

Inadequate Exploration + Weak Circular Economy

Absence of Strategic Mineral Stockpiles

Critical Minerals Stockpiling Policy

CONTEXT: India set to finalise **critical mineral stockpiling policy** amid supply chain disruptions

The new stockpiling policy

National Critical Mineral Stockpile Programme

- **Strategic stockpile**
- **At least five critical minerals**
- **Allocation of ₹500 crore**
- **A joint initiative**

What stockpiling cannot do

- **domestic processing capability**
- **skilled workers**
- **diversified suppliers**
- **recycling and material recovery**
- **downstream manufacturing**

Possible reserve material

**Raw mineral ore or
concentrate**

**Refined minerals or
chemical compounds**

**Processed materials
such as
battery-grade inputs**

**Specialised
components, such as
permanent magnets**

Potential benefit

Can preserve access
to feedstock for some
processing industries

Can supply industries
directly if material
meets specifications

Closer to the needs of
manufacturers

Can protect selected
downstream
industries

India's wider policy response

**National Critical Mineral
Mission (2024-25 to 2030-31)**

MMDR Act

**Domestic processing
ecosystems**

9 Centres of Excellence

**₹1,500 crore Critical
Mineral Recycling**

**India's mineral
diplomacy**

Processing parks@

Gujarat

**Andhra
Pradesh**

Odisha

Maharashtra

Rare-earth
processing

Nickel

Lithium

**Dedicated
Rare-Earth
Corridors**



Source: Union Budget 2026-27

Magnet Power

THE SCHEME

₹3,500-5,000 cr
incentive scheme

Domestic
critical mineral
production
priority

Crucial for
EVs, renewable
energy
infrastructure

THE CARROT

Reverse auction
of incentives
planned

Five large
companies
express interest

TACKLING THE DRAGON

Mitigating China's
magnet supply curbs

Boosting domestic
availability

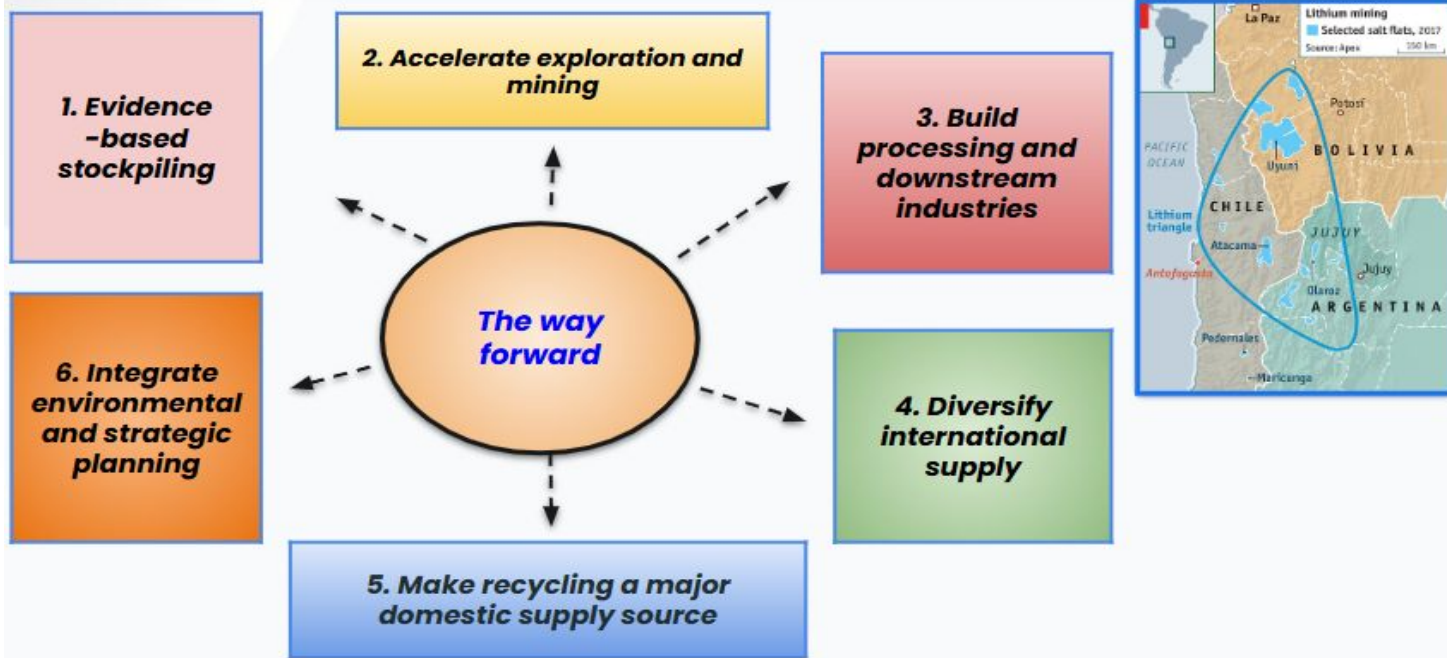
Chinese curbs spark
domestic lobbying



Critical Minerals Stockpiling Policy

CONTEXT: India set to finalise **critical mineral stockpiling policy** amid supply chain disruptions

What should India do?



Mains Practise Question

Examine the significance and limitations of a National Critical Mineral Stockpile Programme for India.

(15 Marks, 250 words)



Newspaper : The Hindu, **Page No :** 15

India's share of global greenfield investments more than double China's during 2020-25

DNA of global FDI fundamentally mutated

Strategic sectors = 16% to 44% of all global greenfield investments

Out of the \$845.7 billion total greenfield FDI:

1. **AI Infrastructure & Related Tech:** 12.4% share
2. **Semiconductor Value Chain:** 8.1% share
3. **Energy Transition Technologies:** 7.8% share



India's Ascent: 5.7% of global greenfield investments, 2x China's 2.8%.



The Way Forward

Shift to "Brownfield-to-Greenfield" Ecosystems (*Economic Survey*)

Balance the Portfolio (*NITI Aayog*)

Revive Rural Consumption

Multilateral Framework on Technology Transfer

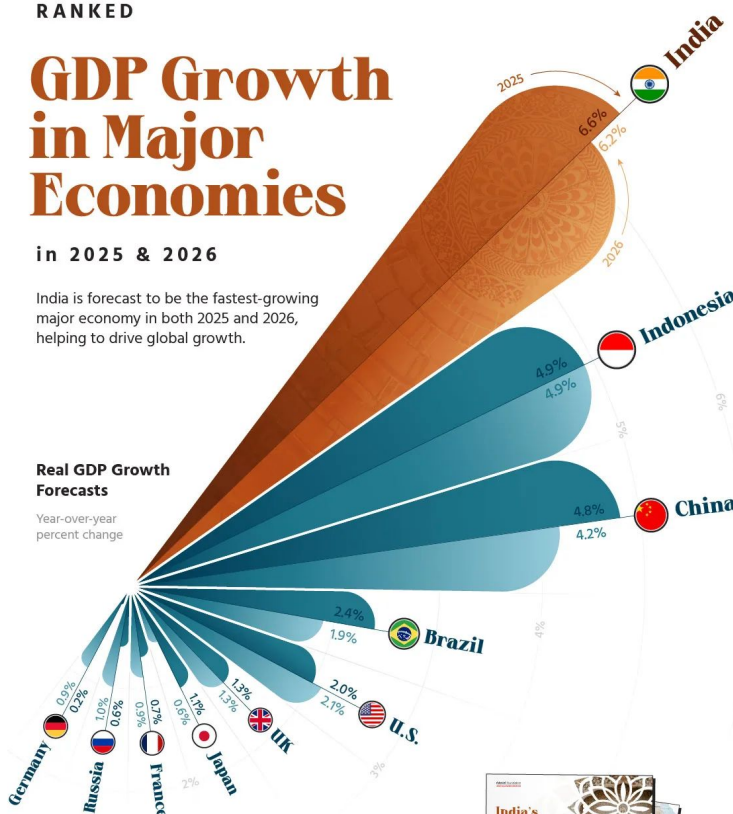
RANKED

GDP Growth in Major Economies

in 2025 & 2026

India is forecast to be the fastest-growing major economy in both 2025 and 2026, helping to drive global growth.

Real GDP Growth Forecasts
Year-over-year percent change



Discover the forces shaping India's rise as a global economic power and the reckoning that will determine whether it can sustain its momentum.



DOWNLOAD THE REPORT



What is a Bilateral Investment Treaty?



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Bilateral Investment Treaties

Newspaper: The Indian Express; Page No : 23

What is a Bilateral Investment Treaty?

A Bilateral Investment Treaty is an **agreement** between two countries that establishes **rules for protecting investments** made by investors of one country in the other country.

Why did India **reset its BIT policy** in 2016?

RETROSPECTIVE TAX DISPUTE

2004-2007: Cairn discovers oil in Rajasthan, lists on BSE

Dec 2011: Vedanta completes acquisition of 58.5% in Cairn India from Cairn Energy

Jan 2012: SC rules in favour of Vodafone in I-T case

March 2012: Government introduces retrospective amendments to tax laws

Jan 2014: Tax dept begins

probe on transactions related to asset transfer from 2006, prior to IPO

March 2015: Cairn Energy initiates international arbitration on case

Dec 2018: Arbitration tribunal rules in favour of Cairn Energy

March 2021: India files appeal against verdict

Exhaustion of Local Remedies

Investor-State Dispute Settlement

The policy debate

Why **investors** favour **flexibility**

Why **governments** want **safeguards**

What did the 2016 Model BIT change?

Definition of investment

Enterprise-based, not broader asset-based approach

Local remedies

Required investors to pursue domestic remedies for **five years** before international arbitration

Investor protection

More **specifically defined protections**, including safeguards against denial of justice and serious due-process violations

Taxation and certain other matters

Exclusions to **preserve the government's regulatory authority**

Arbitral tribunal's powers

Restricted principally to awarding monetary compensation

What has changed after 2016 reset?

1. **India-UAE BIT, 2024**

3 years pursuing domestic remedies

2. **India-Saudi Arabia investment agreement**

2 years pursuing domestic remedies

3. **Union Budget 2025-26**

What is a Bilateral Investment Treaty?

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Bilateral Investment Treaties
Newspaper: The Indian Express; Page No : 23

What is proposed in the new model?

**Shorter
local-remedies
period**

**No general MFN
clause**

**Exclusion of
tax-related
provisions**

1 BACKGROUND OF INDIA'S BIT



Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT)

Agreement to promote and protect investments



2015 Model BIT

Emerged after investor-state disputes (White Industries case)



Cautious approach

- Narrower investment definition
- Clearly defined protections
- Regulatory exceptions
- 5 years local remedies



Greater flexibility since then

New-generation agreements with UAE, Uzbekistan and Israel

2 NEED FOR REVISING MODEL BIT



Improves investor confidence

Clear and predictable provisions



Enhance regulatory autonomy

Safeguards for public policy objectives



Effective dispute resolution

Early consultation and dispute prevention



Promote responsible investment

Sustainable and legally compliant practices



Align with global rule-making

Stronger role in international investment rules

3 KEY ISSUES IN REVISED MODEL BIT



MFN provision

Scope and applicability (dispute settlement)



Investor obligations and accountability

Domestic law compliance, State counterclaims



Reforming dispute settlement

Reassess 5-year local remedies, strengthen consultation and mediation



Clarity in investor protections

Expropriation, FET and regulatory exceptions



Sustainable development

Environmental protection and responsible business practices



4 OTHER KEY CONSIDERATIONS



Treaty network

Build a stable and predictable network



Definition and scope of investment

Clarity to reduce disputes



Exclusion of certain claims

Taxation, public health, environment, essential services and national security



Transparency and procedural safeguards

Transparency, conflict of interest, consistent proceedings



Investment facilitation

Promote and facilitate new investments

SYLLABUS: Prelims: ICC vs ICJ

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 1,16

International Criminal Court (HQ: The Hague)

Why was it created?

Rome Statute (1998, 2002)

4 Crimes Under ICC Jurisdiction

1. **Genocide**
2. **Crimes Against Humanity**
3. **War Crimes**
4. **Crime of Aggression**

**Individuals
Not States**

How Does a Case Get to the ICC?

1. State Referral
2. UNSC Referral
3. Proprio Motu

Principle of Complementarity

1. country is **unwilling**
2. genuinely **unable**
3. actively shielding a **dictator**

"State Parties": 124 countries

Non-Members: US, Ch, Rus, Ind

No Enforcement Power + No Trials in Absentia

Differences between the ICJ and the ICC

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Criminal Court (ICC) are two courts with different functions within the international legal system.

	ICJ International Court of Justice	ICC International Criminal Court
Established	1945	2002
UN-relationship	Highest court of the UN	Not part of the UN
Location	The Hague, the Netherlands	The Hague, the Netherlands
Jurisdiction	UN member-states	Individuals
Types of cases	Legal disputes between states and requests for advisory opinions on legal questions	Prosecutes individuals for the most serious crimes as per the Rome Statute
Appeals	No	Yes
Enforcement power	None - relies on the UN Security Council to uphold judgements, with permanent members having veto power	None - relies on cooperation from member states to enforce its decisions

Source: International Court of Justice, International Criminal Court | January 30, 2024

@A3Labs

The Four Core Crimes Under ICC Jurisdiction



The Jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC)

The ICC's Subject-Matter Jurisdiction. The ICC is authorized to prosecute and try individuals for **4** crimes deemed to be the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole.



Genocide

The committing of certain acts with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, including killing members of the group; deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life to bring about its physical



Crimes Against Humanity

The committing of certain acts as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against any civilian population, with knowledge of the attack, including murder, enslavement, forcible transfer of population, torture, rape, enforced disappearance, and other



War Crimes

Serious violations of the laws and customs applicable in armed conflicts, including the willful killing of civilians and other noncombatants; intentionally directing attacks against the civilian population or civil objects; rape; and intentionally using starvation of



Crime of Aggression

The planning, preparation, initiation, or execution by a person able to exercise control over the political or military action of a State, of the use of armed force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of another

SYLLABUS: Prelims: ICC vs ICJ

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 1,16

US sanctions International Criminal Court

“History will judge this moment. Future generations, and above all the victims of mass atrocities, will ask how we responded when an institution created to protect them came under attack,” it said.

“We will ban transactions with this rogue court, cutting off their resources and crippling their ability to operate against us because our message is clear: the United States and the American people are not subject to the jurisdiction of this fake ICC,” Rubio said in a video posted on social media. “Either the ICC will end its threats, or we will end the ICC.”

As justification for its actions, the administration has pointed to the court’s ongoing investigation into abuses committed in Afghanistan, which could ensnare US military and intelligence personnel, as well as the ICC’s arrest warrant for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant for war crimes committed in Gaza.

Before Friday’s actions, the US had sanctioned ICC judges and prosecutors, a UN special rapporteur focusing on the occupied Palestinian territories and Palestinian rights groups that have provided evidence to the court.

Pillay earlier said: “Justice as integral to the peace process in the aftermath of great conflicts is still a relatively new development. It needs nurturing and greater support from states.” She held out hope for it.

In 2023, she said: “I’m 82. Many people asked me: ‘When are you going to stop?’ As long as there are human rights violations and someone is suffering, why wouldn’t you care? We have to continually recite the principles... That’s what keeps me optimistic, that we have a duty.”

She added: “As Nelson Mandela said when he thanked the world for helping end apartheid: ‘Thank you, you chose to care’. So that’s my call upon all states: they should care and act collectively.”

The Indian Express

‘Hater of America’: Trump attacks Navi Pillay, sanctions ICC as Nobel Peace Prize...

12 hours ago



• ‘For her efforts to promote peace, international law’

“...has been instrumental in ensuring that war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide are prosecuted.”



NAVANETHEM
‘NAVI’ PILLAY, 85
South Africa



Satellite Spectrum Allocation Policy

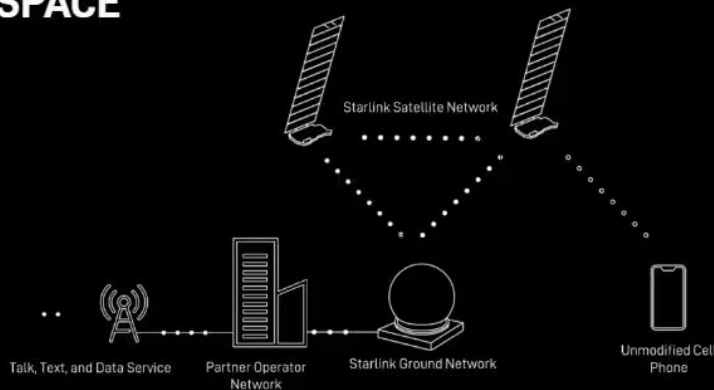
SYLLABUS: Prelims: Satellite Communication

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 12



What is **Satellite Communication (Satcom)**?

A CELLPHONE TOWER IN SPACE



Starlink satellites with Direct to Cell capability have an advanced eNodeB modem onboard that acts like a cellphone tower in space, allowing network integration similar to a standard roaming partner.

FREQUENCY BANDS IN SATCOM



Range: 1 GHz to 2 GHz

Use: GPS navigation signals and Mobile satellite services (MSS)

L-band

Range: 4 GHz to 8 GHz

Use: Fixed satellite services (FSS) and Data transmission

C-band

Range: 17 GHz to 31 GHz

Use: High-speed broadband

Ka-band

Use: Used for MSS, weather and Air traffic control applications

Range: 2 GHz to 4 GHz

S-band

Use: Satellite internet services and DTH television broadcasting

Range: 10 GHz to 15 GHz

Ku-band

Source: TRAI

Use of orbiting satellites

Services: internet, voice, and data

Main USP: remote + rural regions

Low Earth Orbit: Starlink (SpaceX), OneWeb (Eutelsat + Bharti), Kuiper (Amazon), Jio-SES

Satellite Spectrum Allocation Policy



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Satellite Communication

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 12

Satellite Spectrum Allocation Policy in India

SATELLITE FREQUENCY BANDS & APPLICATIONS



L-BAND (1–2 GHz)

Mobile satellite services, GPS, and maritime communication.



S-BAND (2–4 GHz)

Mobile satellite communication, weather satellites, some satellite TV.



C-BAND (4–8 GHz)

Primarily used for satellite TV broadcasting and long-distance communication.



X-BAND (8–12 GHz)

Used for military communication and radar applications.



KU-BAND (12–18 GHz)

Common for satellite TV, broadband internet, fixed satellite services.



KA-BAND (26–40 GHz)

Used for high-speed satellite internet, military communications, high-resolution satellite imagery.

INCREASING FREQUENCY

Why Satellite Spectrum is Unique

Satellite spectrum to be assigned administratively, not via auction: Jyotiraditya Scindia

Union Communications Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia on Thursday (April 3, 2025) in Parliament made it clear that satellite spectrum would...

3 Apr 2025

**Auction
Argument**
2012 Supreme
Court 2G
Judgment

**Administrative
Argument**

First Schedule (Adm)
5 + 2 year period
**SUC: 5% of AGR + 1% off
Urban Premium**



Satellite Spectrum Allocation Policy

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Satellite Communication

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 12

Strategic and Regulatory Context



Guidelines

100% Foreign Direct Investment

NavIC Adoption

Localise at least 20% of ground

infra

India-Based Data Centres &

DNS

Monitoring Infra in India

Service Restriction During

Hostilities



UPSC PYQ (P) 2018

With reference to the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), consider the following statements:

1. IRNSS has three satellites in geostationary and four satellites in geosynchronous orbits.
2. IRNSS covers entire India and about 5500 sq. Km beyond its borders.
3. India will have its own satellite navigation system with full global coverage by the middle of 2019.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

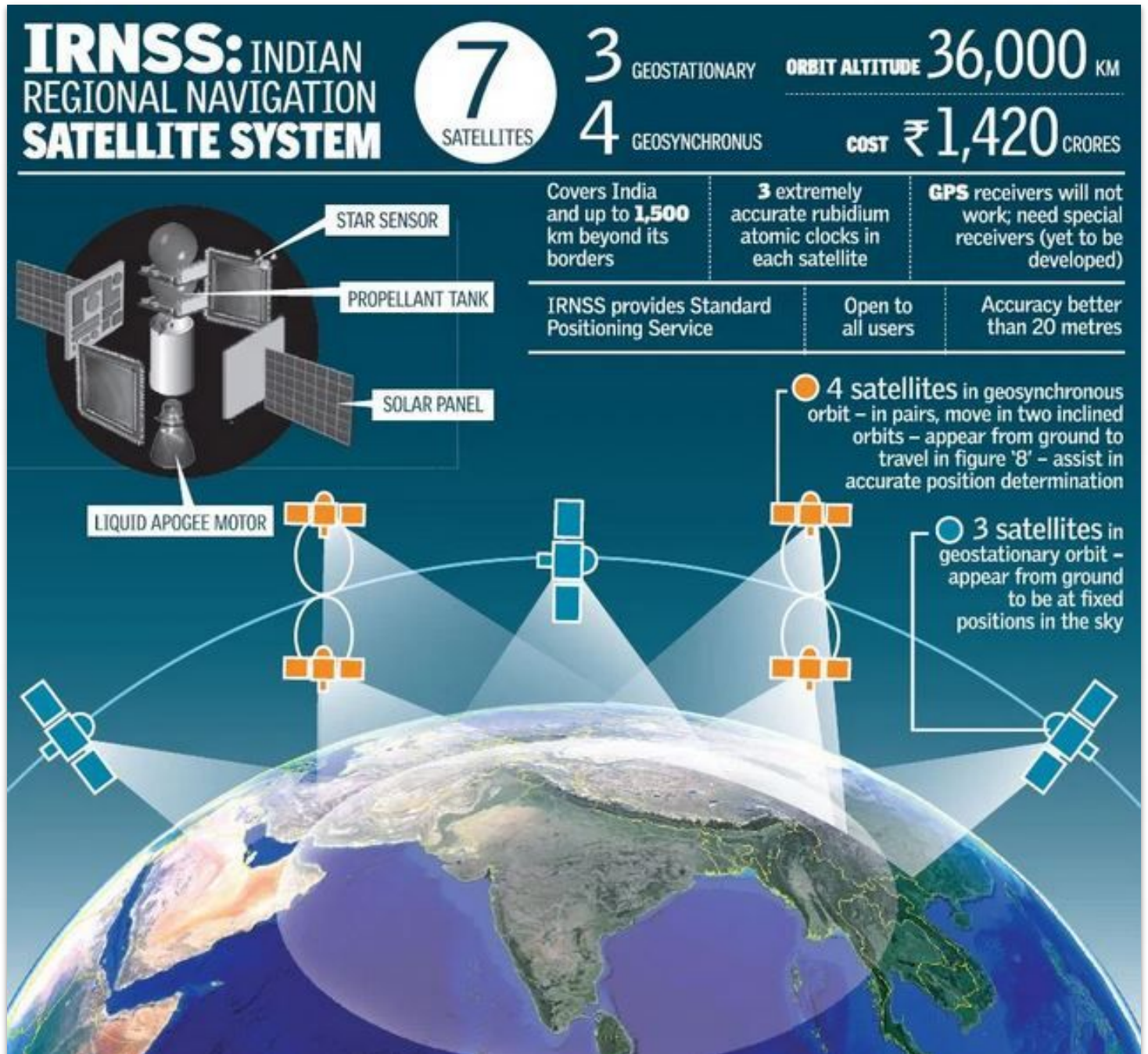
- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) None



Satellite Spectrum Allocation Policy

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Satellite Communication

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 12



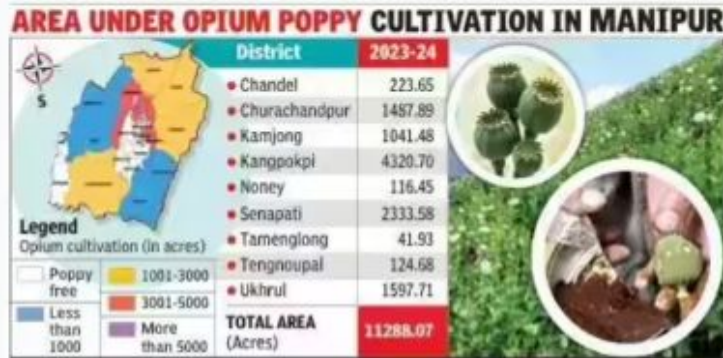
Bamboo replacing poppy in Manipur

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Major Crops

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 9

Context of the news

The Manipur Forest Department has undertaken bamboo plantation in 255 hectares of forestland that had been cleared for poppy cultivation, one of the triggers for the State's ongoing ethnic conflict.



Forest products

Mr. Bajpai said the department was coordinating with security forces and intelligence agencies to curb smuggling of forest products along the India-Myanmar border. Areca nuts and Burmese teak were among the items being smuggled into Manipur, he said.

The seized forest products have yielded the Manipur Forest Department ₹115 crore between the 2023-24 and 2025-26 financial years.



The Shadow Economy

₹115 crore from seized forest products (2023 - 2026)

Narcotics-Terror Nexus

Key Growing Requirements

4-6 hrs of direct sunlight

Soil Quality: organic-rich sandy loam or clay loam
pH: 5.5 - 6.5

Watering conditions
"Root rot"

Temperature
7°C - 40°C
Nitrogen-hungry

Warm, humid tropical or subtropical climates

Indian Forest Act, 2017
Bamboo grown on "non-forest areas"



Bamboo replacing poppy in Manipur

SYLLABUS: Prelims: Major Crops

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 9

'Green Steel' Initiatives

Important Industries related to Bamboo Sector

1. Agarbatti
2. Engineered bamboo and construction
3. Food and food contact articles
4. Fiber and fabric for textiles
5. Handicrafts
6. Herbal/ Medicine
7. Paper industry
8. Ethanol for fossil fuel blending, bio-gas gasification

Structure of the National Bamboo Mission

Top Tier: National Level	Middle Tier: State Level	Bottom Tier: District Level
- Executive Committee - Sub-Committees 1 & 2 - National Bamboo Mission Cell - Bamboo Technical Support Group (CBTC, ICPRI, RPRI)	- State Level Executive Committee - State Bamboo Mission - Departments: Agriculture, Forest, Industry, Rural Dev., ICAR/SARs	- District Level Agency - Local Departments (Agri, Forest, Industries) - Cooperatives, SHGs, DIC, PRIs

BAMBOO BOOST

₹50,000 crore expected investment in Manipur's bamboo sector over 10 years

5 lakh jobs to be generated directly and indirectly across the state

15 dedicated bamboo clusters to be set up, including Anantnag and Bhandara

₹1,534 crore approved for policy implementation during 2025-30

₹300 crore capital fund for bamboo Harbors and MEMTs

Bamboo to be used in thermal power, industries, EPDs, and urban micro-CPDs

Image 4: Engineered Bamboo Boards

National Bamboo Mission

Bamboo Industrial Parks

REED (Bamboo) Policy

A bamboo-based agarbatti initiative, named the **Gadchiroli Agarbatti Project (GAP)**, started production centres across the district in 2012. **By 2020, they had 32 centres** employing around **1,100 people**, and nearly **90 percent of these workers were women**. Monthly earnings reached around **₹5,000 for every woman**. Employment also increased from roughly 45-60 days annually to **more than 225 days**. Work also moved closer to home and became less physically strenuous in nature. Women gained new skills, confidence, and opportunities for leadership. This initiative also **reduced dependence on forests** as a source of income.



Q1. With reference to bamboo in India, consider the following statements:

1. Bamboo is botanically classified as a grass rather than a tree.
2. The National Bamboo Mission aims to promote bamboo cultivation and improve the value chain, including processing and marketing.
3. The Indian Forest (Amendment) Act, 2017 exempted bamboo grown in forest areas from the requirement of felling permits.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: b

Q2. With reference to satellite communication in India, consider the following statements:

1. Satellite communication can provide connectivity to remote and rural regions where terrestrial networks may be difficult to establish.
2. The Telecommunications Act, 2023 provides the regulatory framework for authorisation of satellite-based communication services in India.
3. Satellite spectrum in India must necessarily be allocated through competitive auctions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: a

Q3. With reference to the International Criminal Court (ICC), consider the following statements:

1. Its headquarters is located in The Hague, Netherlands.
2. It is an organ of the United Nations.
3. It prosecutes individuals rather than states.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: b

Q4. With reference to India's Model Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT), 2016, consider the following statements:

1. It adopts an enterprise-based definition of investment rather than a broader asset-based approach.
2. It allows foreign investors to directly approach international arbitration tribunals without exhausting domestic legal remedies.
3. It excludes taxation measures from the scope of the treaty to safeguard the government's regulatory authority.
4. It provides for Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanisms.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: b

Q5. With reference to the occurrence of critical minerals in India, consider the following statements:

1. Lithium reserves have been identified in Karnataka and Jammu & Kashmir.
2. Monazite sands found in Kerala are an important source of rare earth elements.
3. High-quality graphite deposits occur in Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Tamil Nadu.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: c





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