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DAILY NEWS ANALYSIS

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FOREWORD

We, at Team Vedhik is happy to introduce a new initiative - "Daily Current Affairs_The Hindu" compilations to help you with UPSC Civil Services Examination preparation. We believe this initiative - "Daily Current Affairs_The Hindu" would help students, especially beginners save time and streamline their preparations with regard to Current Affairs. A content page and an Appendix has been added segregating and mapping the content to the syllabus.

It is an appreciable efforts by Vedhik IAS Academy helping aspirants of UPSC Civil Services Examinations. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Babu Sebastian, former VC - MG University in extending all support to this endeavour. Finally I also extend my thanks to thank Ms. Shilpa Sasidharan and Mr. Shahul Hameed for their assistance in the preparing the compilations.

We welcome your valuable comments so that further improvement may be made in the forthcoming material. We look forward to feedback, comments and suggestions on how to improve and add value for students. Every care has been taken to avoid typing errors and if any reader comes across any such error, the authors shall feel obliged if they are informed at their Email ID.

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Solomon Islands suspends all visits from foreign Navies

ASSOCIATED PRESS
HONIARA

Solomon Islands has suspended visits from all foreign Navies, citing a need to review approval processes, the country's leader said on Tuesday, after a U.S. Coast Guard ship was unable to refuel at its port.

The decision comes amid concerns over the Solomons' growing ties with China in recent years, switching diplomatic recognition from

Taipei to Beijing in 2019 and signing a security pact with the Asian power in April.

Western governments are wary that the islands could provide China with a military foothold in a strategically important region.

Welcoming a U.S. hospital ship to the capital Honiara, Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare said he was reviewing the process for allowing foreign military vessels to dock in the country. "We

have requested our partners to give us time to review and put in place our new processes before sending further requests for military vessels to enter the country."

He said delays in processing approvals to a U.S. Coast Guard ship and a British navy vessel meant both were turned away.

The U.S. Embassy in Canberra confirmed that it had received notification of the suspension of naval visits.

EWS quota: SC to hear pleas on Sept. 13

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

A five-judge Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice of India U.U. Lalit said it would give priority to hear two batches of petitions separately challenging the 10% quota for the economically weaker sections (EWS) and an Andhra Pradesh law which grants reservation to Muslims.

The Bench said it would start with the EWS case on September 13.

The Supreme Court had referred the EWS quota case to the Constitution Bench in August 2020.

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SC to hear EWS quota petitions on Sept. 13

The petitions in this issue raise a “substantial question of law” as to whether grant of 10% reservation violated the 50% ceiling cap on quota declared by the top court itself. The Constitution Bench has to also answer if “economic backwardness” alone could be the sole criterion for granting quota in government jobs and educational institutions for those who would otherwise have to compete in the general category.

In the Andhra case, the Constitution Bench will hear appeals against a State High Court decision that “The Andhra Pradesh Reservation of Seats in the Educational Institutions and of Appointments/Posts in the Public Services under the

State to Muslim Community Act, 2005’ was violative of Articles 15(4) and 16(4) (State’s power to grant quota to socially and educationally backward classes) of the Constitution.

Referring the EWS case two years ago to a five-judge Bench, the top court had refused to stay the implementation of the Constitution (103rd Amendment) Act that provides the 10% quota.

Several petitions, including Janhit Abhiyan and Kerala Munnoka Samudaya Aikya Munnani, the latter represented by advocate V.K. Biju, had challenged the validity of the Constitutional amendment, saying the 50% quota limit was part of the basic structure of the Constitution.

EXPLAINER

Explained | Challenging the Special Marriage Act, 1954

Why are Sections 6 to 10 of the Special Marriage Act under scrutiny? How are these provisions being misused?

JAGRITI CHANDRA

The story so far: The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a writ petition challenging provisions of the Special Marriage Act (SMA), 1954 requiring couples to give a notice declaring their intent to marry 30 days before their marriage.

What does the petition seek? What did the court say?

The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a writ petition challenging the Constitutional validity of certain provisions of the SMA under which couples seek refuge for inter-faith and inter-caste marriages. The writ petition has called these provisions violative of the right to privacy guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution as they require couples to give a notice of 30 days before the date of marriage inviting objections from the public. The writ petition filed by counsels K. R. Sripathi and Anupama Sripathi and advocate on record Sriram Parakkat has also said that the provisions contravene Article 14 on prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste and sex as well as Article 15 on right to equality as these

requirements are absent in personal laws.

A Bench of Justices Dinesh Maheshwari and Bela M. Trivedi rejected the writ petition on the grounds that the petitioner, 35-year-old Athira Sujatha, was no longer an aggrieved party as she had already solemnised her marriage under SMA. The petitioner's lawyers said that they were now deliberating on an alternative approach to initiate this litigation such as through a public interest litigation involving other victims. Another writ petition in *Nandini Praveen vs Union of India & Others* filed on similar grounds was admitted by the Supreme Court in 2020 and the government's reply to is awaited.

What are the provisions that have been challenged?

Section 5 of the SMA requires couples getting married under it to give a notice to the Marriage Officer 30 days before the date of marriage. The writ seeks striking down of provisions that follow in Section 6 to Section 10. Section 6 requires such a notice to be then entered into the Marriage Notice Book maintained by the Marriage Officer, which can be inspected by "any person desirous of inspecting the same". These notices have to be also

affixed at a "conspicuous place" in the office of the Marriage Officer so that anyone can raise an objection to the marriage. Section 7 provides the process for making an objection such as if either party has a living spouse, is incapable of giving consent due to "unsoundness of mind" or is suffering from mental disorder resulting in the person being unfit for marriage or procreation. Section 8 specifies the inquiry procedure to be followed after an objection has been submitted.



The petition reads, "The impugned provisions, by throwing the personal information of the individuals open to public scrutiny, seriously damage one's right to have control over her or his personal information and its accessibility. By making the personal details of the couple accessible to everyone, the very right of the couple to be the decision makers of their marriage is being hampered by the state."

How do these provisions make couples vulnerable?

These public notices have been used by anti-social elements to harass couples getting married. In Athira's case, who got married in 2019 under SMA, her marriage notice containing her address was circulated on Facebook and WhatsApp calling on people to visit her parents and make them "aware" about her marriage. While Athira had the support of her parents, for many others who often marry without their parent's consent this can be life-threatening. There have been instances, where marriage officers have gone over and beyond the law and sent such notices to the parents of the couple leading to a Muslim woman in Delhi being confined to her house by her

parents in March 2020 until her boyfriend filed a habeas corpus in the Delhi High Court. Following another petition, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) was slapped with a contempt notice and the Delhi government issued a warning to all SDMs in the State. The Haryana government has laid down 16 pre-requisites which ask couples to issue a notice in a newspaper and that such notices be sent to their parents. In certain States, couples have to seek a no-objection certificate from their parents. The Maharashtra Department of Registration and Stamps publicly shares the details of couples marrying under SMA on its website and so did the Kerala government until Athira came forward and pointed out that this allowed communal elements to access personal details and threaten and harass couples. Many also complain about the behaviour of the staff at the SDM's office who often delete or delay applications and dissuade couples from marrying under SMA and ask them to convert at a Arya Samaj temple. With as many as 11 States passing anti-conversion (or so called love-jihad) laws, parents and the State are now armed to punish and harass such couples.

THE GIST

■ The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a writ petition challenging the Constitutional validity of certain provisions of the Special Marriage Act, 1954 under which couples seek refuge for inter-faith and inter-caste marriages.

■ The writ petition has called the provisions under the SMA violative of the right to privacy guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution as they require couples to give a notice of 30 days before the date of marriage inviting objections from the public.

■ These public notices have been used by anti-social elements to harass couples getting married.

SC impleads NHRC, NCW in Personal Law case

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A five-judge Constitution Bench on Tuesday impleaded the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), the National Commission of Women (NCW) and the National Commission of Minorities as parties in a batch of petitions challenging the Muslim Personal Law practices such as polygamy and *nikah halala*.

The Supreme Court's Bench led by Justice Indira Banerjee issued notices to the statutory bodies after se-



nior advocate Shyam Diwan, for petitioner Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, sought their arraignment in the case.

The Supreme Court also issued notice in a separate petition in the batch, which said the personal law prac-

tices violated Section 494 of the Indian Penal Code.

The section makes “marrying again during lifetime of husband or wife” an offence punishable with imprisonment up to seven years and fine. The case will be listed after the Dasara holidays.

‘Unconstitutional’

Mr. Upadhyay argues that polygamy and *nikah halala* (bar against remarriage with divorced husband without an intervening marriage with another man) are unconstitutional.

He has sought a declaration that Section 2 of the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1937 violative of Articles 14, 15 and 21 of the Constitution, insofar as it seeks to recognise and validate polygamy and *nikah halala*.

The All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) had filed an application in the case, contending that this was a “cultural issue” and inextricably interwoven with the religion of Islam.

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SC impleads NHRC, NCW in Personal Law case

The Constitution allowed the continuance of the different practices of various religions until the State succeeds in its endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code (UCC), the AIMPLB had said.

It had argued that personal laws do not derive its validity from legislature or any other competent authority. Their sources were the scriptural texts of their respective

religions.

The personal law do not fall within the definition of 'laws' under Article 13 of the Constitution. The validity of a personal law cannot be challenged on the basis of fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution. The Board had argued that the petitions were a push for a judicial pronouncement to bring the UCC.

Rupee gains 39 paise on FPI inflows, dip in oil price

‘Currency may appreciate to 79.20’

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MUMBAI

The rupee rebounded by 39 paise to close at an almost two-week high of 79.52 against the U.S. dollar on Tuesday, supported by foreign fund inflows and a correction in crude oil prices.

The dollar retreating from the 20-year high levels against a basket of world currencies also supported the local unit.

The rupee fell to a record intra-day low of 80.15 versus the dollar on Monday.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which measures the greenback’s strength against a basket of six currencies, slipped 0.06% to 108.76. The dollar index had surged to 109.48 in overnight trade, a level not seen since September 2002.



“Indian rupee outperformed among the regional currencies following month-end re-balancing inflows and recovery in risk assets on the expectation of inflows”, said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities. “Most Asian currencies firmed after a sharp drop on Monday. We could see a further appreciation towards 79.20 and 78.70 while breaking of 79.80 will negate the said view.”

Telangana tops inflation charts at 8.32%

West Bengal and Sikkim too report rates above 8%, well over the nation's 6.8%

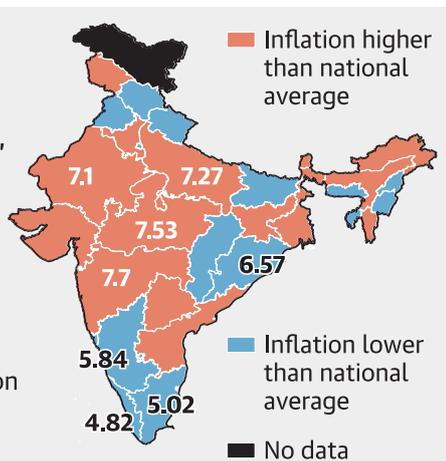
VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

India's retail inflation has been a bugbear for the economy since it surged past 6% in January, but there are wide disparities in the pace of price rise experienced by consumers across the country, with a dozen States clocking an average inflation of less than 6% and another 12 States averaging more than 7% through 2022 so far.

While headline inflation measured by the Consumer Price Index has averaged 6.8% in the first seven months of 2022, well above the 6% upper tolerance threshold set by policy makers, consumers in Telangana, West Bengal and Sikkim

Degrees of inflation

As many as 14 States, along with the erstwhile State of J&K, witnessed a retail inflation higher than the national average of 6.79% through 2022. Map shows average retail inflation in the first seven months of 2022



faced the steepest spike in prices, with their combined retail inflation for rural and urban areas averaging 8.32%, 8.06%, and 8.01%, respectively.

As many as 14 States,

along with the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir, have witnessed price rise higher than the national average through 2022, with all but two of these States seeing higher than 7% inflation.

Some of the other major States where inflation has stayed sharply elevated include Maharashtra and Haryana (7.7%), Madhya Pradesh (7.52%), Assam (7.37%), Uttar Pradesh (7.27%), Gujarat and J&K (7.2%), as well as Rajasthan (7.1%).

Retail prices in States such as Kerala (4.8%), Tamil Nadu (5.01%), Punjab (5.35%), Delhi (5.56%), and Karnataka (5.84%) have been rising at less than 6%.

Smaller States such as Manipur, Goa and Meghalaya have had an average inflation of less than 4% through this period, at 1.07%, 3.66%, and 3.84%, respectively.

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Telangana tops inflation charts at 8.32%

“The variation in the States’ inflation rates is mainly on account of two factors,” said Madan Sabnavis, chief economist at Bank of Baroda.

“One is food prices, where non-producing States have higher inflation as transport prices get added. Second is that some States lowered fuel prices while

others didn’t, which also made a difference,” Mr. Sabnavis said.

Moreover, States that have more rural areas than urban areas face a higher inflation as the rural segment of the Consumer Price Index has a higher weightage for food costs, Mr. Sabnavis pointed out.

Chennai airport becomes fifth busiest in country

Officials say air traffic may improve with the launch of new flight services

STAFF REPORTER
CHENNAI

After nearly two years of COVID-19 lull, the increased international air traffic has helped Chennai airport climb one rank up to become the fifth busiest airport in the country after Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru.

Officials of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) said there has been a consistent increase in the number of international passengers in the last few months. In May and June, while Chennai airport had 3.45 lakh and 3.88 lakh international passengers, in July it went up to 4.29 lakh passengers.

“The slump in international traffic was a big blow to the Chennai airport during the pandemic. Now, gradually more airlines are starting services and more people are travelling abroad too. This has helped the airport,” an official

said.

While the Kolkata airport witnessed 15.1 lakh passengers (domestic and international together) in May and Chennai airport 14.6 lakh in June, Kolkata’s passenger traffic dropped by nearly 7% to 14.07 lakh in June and Chennai managed to get 14.53 lakh. Last month too, Chennai airport recorded 6% higher passenger traffic than that of Kolkata.

Till February 2014, Chennai airport held onto being the third busiest in the country and post March, Bengaluru airport overtook and continues to retain that position. Hyderabad and Kolkata airports too recorded sharp growth, relegating Chennai to the sixth spot.

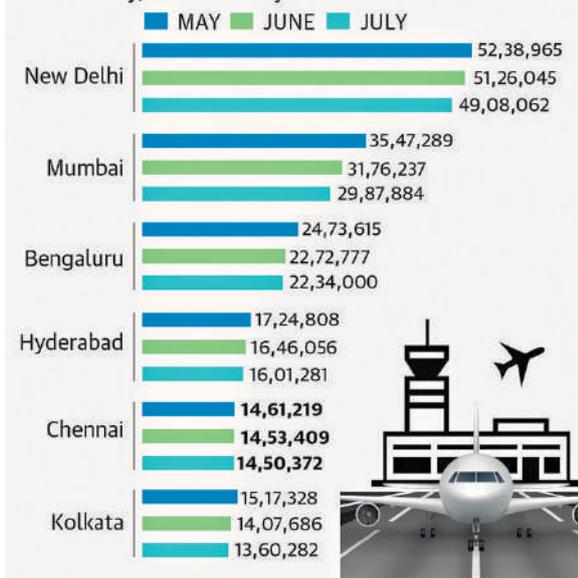
Interestingly, if one looks at the international passenger traffic data for July, Chennai airport stood third behind Delhi and Mumbai; it over-

took Bengaluru and Hyderabad, recording 4.29 lakh passengers.

But Chennai lags behind other metro cities in terms of domestic passenger traffic, sources said. In July, the Chennai airport had only 10.2 lakh domestic air passengers, far behind Delhi (36.5 lakh passengers), Mumbai (21.5 lakh passengers), Bengaluru (19.1 lakh passengers) and Kolkata (11.99 lakh passengers).

AAI officials said, in the domestic sector, Akasa Air is set to operate flights from Chennai to cities like Bengaluru, Mumbai and Kochi from next month. “We are expecting airlines to resume connectivity for some cities and add more flights to the sectors where the demand is growing,” an official said. They said they plan to seek a land parcel measuring nearly 305 acres from the State government.

Good turnaround | There has been a sharp recovery in the air passenger traffic after normal flight services were restored at Chennai airport in the last few months. The following is the break-up of the number of passengers who used the airports in the top five metro cities in May, June and July



West U.P. turns hotspot of cattle disease

Farmers allege lack of vaccines, doctors to tackle lumpy skin; Minister says dedicated teams deployed

A.M. JIGEESH
NEW DELHI

Vijay, a farmer near Shamli in western Uttar Pradesh, lost two of his cows in the past 10 days to the lumpy skin disease. “One was a milking cow and the other was just two-and-a-half year old,” says Vijay adding that many in his village were going through a similar situation. He is now left with two cows and one buffalo.

According to farmers, the infection is spreading like wildfire in western Uttar Pradesh. “There is no intervention from the government. There is no compensation for farmers who lost their cows and buffaloes. There is no treatment or vaccination. Those who do cattle-rearing are forced to manage this disease on their own,” said a farmers’ leader from Shamli, Jitender Singh Hudda. Mr. Hudda said farmers would launch protests if the administration continues to neglect the situation. “Hun-



Losing game: Farmers allege that even if the cattle recover, the disease damages their general health. ■FILE PHOTO

dreds of cows are infected. The deaths are also on the rise. It is an emergency situation,” he said.

The State government has a different position. Livestock and Dairy Development Minister Dharam Pal Singh told *The Hindu* that the government was dealing with the issue with utmost seriousness. “Chief Minister

Yogi Adityanath is regularly monitoring the situation. We have deployed dedicated teams with veterinary doctors to the western Uttar Pradesh districts sharing a boundary with other States. Our effort is not to allow the infection to spread to eastern Uttar Pradesh or other parts of the State,” Mr. Singh said.

He said that all borders had been blocked and transport, sale, trade and cattle trade fairs banned. “Particular attention has been given to districts such as Saharanpur, Meerut and Bijnore. Farmers have been advised about the precautions to be adopted at cattle sheds. Vaccination has been started. *Goshalas* will be given priority in the process,” Mr. Singh said adding that teams are working similar to the COVID-19 management teams. “Our report is that nearly 100 cows had died. We are trying to give all assistance to farmers,” he said. Asked about compensation, he said the priority now was to check the spread of the disease.

‘A different story’

But farmers have a different story. Chandrapal Singh is into cattle-rearing and is also an All India Kisan Sabha activist from Bulandshahar, close to Gautam Buddh Na-

gar district. “The spread is very high here, particularly among cows. There is no governmental aid. Vaccines and doctors are not available. There is not a single village that is not affected by the infection in our locality. Cows will have big abscesses on their skins along with fever and they will die. Authorities told us that they do not have proper facilities. Fifteen to 20 villages have one veterinary doctor. They just asked us to create space between the cows. We had complained to the authorities, but it is of no use. In my village, some 30 cows died. Milk production has come down,” Mr. Singh said.

Another worry is that though cows are recovering, the disease damaged their general health. “Their livers are getting damaged. The death rate has been high in the past two weeks. Thirty cows died in my village. Not a single doctor has visited,” said Dharamveer, a farmer.

Huge haul of fake ₹2,000 notes: NCRB

Post-2016, there has been an increase in seizure of fake money, data reveal

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

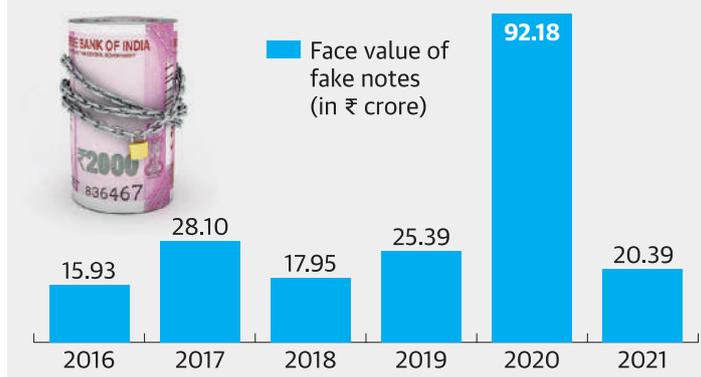
Nearly 60% of all fake notes seized in 2021 were of ₹2,000 denomination, the Crime in India 2021 report compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) shows.

Of the fake Indian currency notes with a face value of ₹20.39 crore seized in 2021, ₹12.18 crore was in the denomination of ₹2,000.

The new ₹2,000 and ₹500 currency notes were introduced in 2016 after the old ₹500 and ₹1,000 notes were scrapped by the Union government. The government had said that curbing of fake notes was one of the primary objectives of the 2016 demonetisation exercise.

Post-2016, there has been an increase in seizure of fake money, the NCRB data reveal. While in 2016, fake currency with a face value of ₹15.92 crore was seized, the

Invalid notes | Post-2016, there has been a rise in seizure of counterfeit currency. In 2016, fake notes with a face value of ₹15.93 crore were seized. The seizures crossed the ₹17 crore mark in the following years



seizures in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 stood at ₹28.10 crore, ₹17.95 crore, ₹25.39 crore, ₹92.17 crore and ₹20.39 crore, respectively. In 2015, before demonetisation, ₹15.48 crore in fake currency was seized.

The huge increase in 2020 was on account of the seizure of dummy money issued from “Children Bank of

India” that were recovered from a house in Pune. On June 10, 2020, the police recovered ₹82.8 crore in fake currency, of which around ₹43 crore was in the denomination of ₹2,000 from the Pune house. Six persons, including an Army official, were arrested for the crime. The police found that the accused used to dupe custom-

ers by slipping in the dummy money while exchanging dollar bills to rupees.

The 2021 report says fake money with a face value of ₹6.6 crore in ₹500 denomination and ₹45 lakh in ₹200 denomination were found.

The highest recovery of fake ₹2,000 notes was made in Tamil Nadu (₹5 crore), followed by Kerala (₹1.8 crore) and Andhra Pradesh (₹1 crore).

The Finance Ministry informed Parliament on August 8 that the value of the counterfeit currency in the banking system reduced from ₹43.47 crore in 2016-17 to ₹8.26 crore in 2021-22.

The Ministry attributed the reduction in number of counterfeit banknotes from 7.62 lakh pieces in 2016-17 to 2.09 lakh pieces in 2020-21 to the Centre’s decision to cancel the legal tender status of ₹1,000 and ₹500 notes on November 8, 2016.

‘China claims on Arunachal Pradesh outrageous’

German envoy Phillip Ackerman draws parallel between Russia’s aggression and China’s infringement

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

China’s claims on Arunachal Pradesh are “outrageous” and its transgressions at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with India are a “violation of the international order”, said Germany’s new Ambassador to India, drawing parallels between Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and China’s “infringement” on India’s border.

In remarks that are a first for any diplomat or dignitary speaking about the India-China tensions since April 2020, German envoy Phillip Ackerman said that India should understand that both Russian and Chinese actions are clear violations of international law, adding however, that they differ in “dimension” as, unlike Russia, he said China has not “destroyed” Indian villages and

towns.

“We should not forget that China claims that Arunachal Pradesh is part of China, which is outrageous in a way, and we see very clearly that the infringement at the border is extremely difficult and should not be accepted,” Mr. Ackerman told journalists at his first briefing in Delhi since he presented his credentials to President Droupadi Murmu last week.

“But it should also be noted that what happens at the border with China has nothing to do with what happens with Ukraine. China doesn’t hold 20% of Indian territory, China has not been systematically destroying every village, every town [as Russia has]. By dimension, it is completely different although at an abstract level, they are both [violations of international law]. If you



Phillip Ackerman

transgress the border, it is against the rule of international law,” the Ambassador added.

When asked by *The Hindu* whether the German government had accepted the differences over New Delhi’s refusal at the United Nations to criticise Russia’s actions, and India’s move to increase its imports of cheaper Russian oil (an estimated increase of

50 times), Mr. Ackerman said that Germany had wished that India had been more “outspoken” on certain issues, but welcomed India’s decision last week to vote against Russia at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) over Ukrainian President Zelenskyy’s virtual address, calling it “progress” in India’s position.

“I think the Indian side well recognises this problem of international law violation. Basically, this is also an Indian problem – you have it on your northern border, and you have been experiencing this every couple of years. ...So, while we don’t agree on methods or measures, we do have an understanding of the problem [in Ukraine],” he added.

The comments by the German Ambassador are particularly unusual given that the

Modi government itself has thus far not referred to China’s actions at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) as transgressions, and has maintained that Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA) forces have “amassed troops” along the LAC, and only that they had “attempted transgressions”.

After the Galwan killings in June 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had affirmed that “no one has entered Indian territory, nor was anyone inside Indian territory”.

In a veiled reference to China and LAC tensions on Monday, Mr. Jaishankar had said that “adherence to laws, norms and rules” was imperative for unity in Asia.

The Ministry of External Affairs did not respond to requests for a response to the German envoy’s comments.

General Studies Paper I

| | |
|---|--|
| A | History of Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of art forms, literature and architecture from ancient to modern times; |
| B | Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues; |
| C | Freedom struggle-its various stages and important contributors / contributions from different parts of the country; |
| D | Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country; |
| E | History of the world will include events from 18 th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, re-drawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, |
| F | Political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.-their forms and effect on the society |
| G | Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India; |
| H | Effects of globalization on Indian society; |
| I | Role of women and women's organization; |
| J | Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism |
| K | Salient features of world's physical geography; |
| L | Geographical features and their location- changes in critical geographical features (including water bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes; |
| M | Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc. |
| N | Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent); |
| O | Factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India); |
| P | Population and associated issues; |
| Q | Urbanization, their problems and their remedies |
| | |

General Studies Paper II

| | |
|---|--|
| A | India and its neighbourhood- relations; |
| B | Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate; |
| C | Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests; |
| D | Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests. |
| E | Indian Constitution, historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure; |
| F | Comparison of the Indian Constitutional scheme with other countries; |
| G | Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein; Inclusive growth and issues arising from it; |
| H | Parliament and State Legislatures - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these; |
| I | Structure, organization and functioning of the executive and the judiciary, Ministries and Departments; |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| J | Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions; |
| K | Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional bodies; |
| L | Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies; |
| M | Mechanisms, laws, institutions and bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections; |
| N | Salient features of the Representation of People's Act; |
| O | Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; |
| P | Citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures; |
| Q | Issues relating to poverty and hunger, |
| R | Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States, Performance of these schemes; |
| S | Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to education and human resources; |
| T | Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to health |
| General Studies Paper III | |
| A | Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment; |
| B | Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth; |
| C | Inclusive growth and issues arising from it; |
| D | Infrastructure Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. Government budgeting; |
| E | Land reforms in India |
| F | Major crops, cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems; |
| G | Storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; |
| H | e-technology in the aid of farmers; Technology Missions; Economics of Animal-Rearing. |
| I | Issues of buffer stocks and food security, Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; |
| J | Food processing and related industries in India – scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management; |
| K | Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices |
| L | Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology; |
| M | Indigenization of technology and developing new technology; |
| N | Developments and their applications and effects in everyday life; |
| O | Issues relating to intellectual property rights |
| P | Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment |
| Q | Disaster and disaster management |
| R | Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; |
| S | Money-laundering and its prevention; |

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| T | Various forces and their mandate; |
| U | Security challenges and their management in border areas; |
| V | Linkages of organized crime with terrorism; |
| W | Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security; |
| X | Linkages between development and spread of extremism. |
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| General Studies Paper IV | |
| A | Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions; |
| B | Dimensions of ethics; |
| C | Ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; |
| D | Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values. |
| E | Attitude: Content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; |
| F | Moral and political attitudes; |
| G | Social influence and persuasion. |
| H | Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service , integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections. |
| I | Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance. |
| J | Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world. |
| K | Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; |
| L | Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; |
| M | Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as |
| N | sources of ethical guidance; |
| O | Accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding; |
| P | Corporate governance. |
| Q | Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; |
| R | Philosophical basis of governance and probity; |
| S | Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption. |
| T | Case Studies on above issues. |