



## CURRENT AFFAIRS: JUNE 2025

### 50 YEARS OF EMERGENCY

2025 marked 50 years since the imposition of the National Emergency, declared on June 25, 1975, and lasting until March 21, 1977.

#### **Why Emergency in 1975 was imposed?**

- **Social Unrest:** Large-scale protests, strikes, and demonstrations, notably JP Movement led by Jayaprakash Narayan, questioned the legitimacy of Indira Gandhi's rule. This unrest created an environment conducive to the declaration of Emergency, which the government claimed was necessary to restore order.
- **Economic crises post 1971 war:** Country was grappling with severe economic distress, including inflation, unemployment, and economic stagnation, exacerbated by global oil crisis.
- **Political Factors:** Allahabad High Court had invalidated Indira Gandhi's election in the case of State of UP vs. Raj Narain, accusing her of electoral malpractice. Her response to this judgment and growing political unrest led to a desire to centralize power.

#### **Major Constitutional Amendments during Emergency:**

- 38th Amendment (1975): Barred judicial review of Emergency declaration by making President's satisfaction to be 'final and conclusive' under Articles 352, 356 and 360.
- 39th Amendment (1975): It introduced changes in the method of deciding election disputes relating to President, Vice President, Prime Minister and Speaker.
  - o To be decided by such authority as may be determined by Parliament. Thus, effectively keeping these offices beyond scope of judiciary.
- 42nd Amendment (1976):
  - o Gave primacy to Directive Principles over Fundamental Rights under article 31C.



- o Curtailment of powers of Supreme Court and High Court by various measures, like
  - > Article 32A was inserted to deny SC power to consider the constitutional validity of State laws. (omitted by 43rd amendment act)
  - > Deny HC power to check constitutional validity of Central laws (Article 131A & 226A).
- o Extended Lok Sabha term from 5 to 6 years.
- o Gave Parliament power to amend the Constitution virtually unchecked by adding clauses 4 & 5 to Article 368.

Apart from this during emergency civil liberties and fundamental rights were suspended (as noted in the ADM Jabalpur case), media was censored, and mass arrests occurred under laws like MISA.

### Post-Emergency Reforms

- Shah Commission established in May 1977 to probe abuses like sterilisations, government employees forcibly retired, Censorship of courts & Parliament, etc.
- Changes brought after Internal Emergency through 44th Amendment Act (1978):
  - o Changes under Article 352:
    - > Changed ground for imposing emergency to “armed rebellion” to prevent further misuse on ground of “internal disturbance” which has wider connotation.
    - > Added safeguards like ‘Union Cabinet to communicate to President in writing’ to prevent hasty decisions in future.
    - > Mandatory Parliamentary approval within a month by special majority for Emergency Proclamations.
  - o Fundamental Rights: Restricted scope of Article 359 i.e. Right to protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20) and right to life and personal liberty (Article 21) remain enforceable during emergency.



> It omitted right to property as a fundamental right and made it a constitutional right under Article 300A.

o Removal of Article 257A: It allowed Government of India to deploy any armed force of Union or any other force to deal with any grave situation of law and order in any State.

o Term of Lok Sabha: Back to 5 years from 6 years by amending Articles 83 and 172.

o Restored judicial review: Amendment restored the power of the judiciary to review election disputes concerning President and Vice-President.

#### About National Emergency (Article 352)

- **Grounds:** War, external aggression, or armed rebellion
- **Proclamation of National Emergency:** President can declare emergency after receiving a **written communication about cabinet's decision** in favour of emergency.
- **Approval:** Proclamation must be approved by both Houses (Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha) **within one Month**.
  - o If Lok Sabha is dissolved during this time, then **approval within 30 days of new Lok Sabha being constituted** and in meanwhile Rajya Sabha should have approved.
- **Majority Required:** Resolution for proclamation must be passed **by a majority of the total membership of that House** and by a **majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting** (Special Majority).
- **Duration:** Indefinite period by re promulgation. One proclamation is for **6 months period** unless revoked.
- **Revocation:** By President or Lok Sabha passing a resolution disapproving it (and Not Rajya Sabha).

#### Effect of Proclamation of National Emergency

- **On Centre - State Relations:**
  - o Centre entitled to give executive's **directions to States on 'any' matter**.
  - o **Under Article 250**, Parliament can make **law on any State List** subject.
  - o The President can modify **distribution of revenues** between the Centre and the State.
- **On life of Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly:** May be extended by a law for one year at a time (for any length of time). However, cannot continue beyond six months after emergency ceased to operate.
- **On Fundamental Rights:**
  - o **Under Article 358: Rights under Article 19 are automatically suspended** (only for Emergency imposed due to war or external aggression). (Change made by 44<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment)
  - o **Under Article 359:** Other fundamental rights (**except Article 20 and 21**) can be suspended **by President's Order**.

## PERSONALITY RIGHTS

Delhi high court recently protected personality rights of Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev from being misused via AI by websites and platforms.



- HC emphasized on growing misuse of AI tools that can clone voices with astonishing accuracy; generate deepfakes that mimic facial expressions etc. thus exploiting personality rights.

- o This poses risks not only to reputation and privacy but also to the economic interests of public figures, as their personas are often used to endorse products or causes.

## About Personality Rights

- Personality rights refer to the right of an individual to control the unauthorized use of their personal attributes like Name, Image, voice, Likeness and Distinctive expressions or traits.

- o These rights include both commercial and non-commercial aspects.

- Personality rights are not expressly mentioned in any statute in India.

- Components of Personality Rights:

- o Right to publicity: Right to protect one's image and likeness from being commercially exploited without permission.

- > It is partially and indirectly governed by statutes like Trademarks Act, 1999 and Copyright Act, 1957.

- o Right to privacy: Right to not have one's personality represented publicly without permission.

- > It is broadly governed under Article 21 of the Constitution and through the Supreme Court judgment in Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) Case (2017).

- Posthumous Personality Rights in India: There is no specific statutory recognition protecting Posthumous Personality Rights.

- o However, Emblems Act, 1950 prohibits commercial use of images of Mahatma Gandhi and Prime Minister.



o Deepa Jayakumar v. AL Vijay (2019) Judgment: Personality right, reputation or privacy enjoyed by a person during his lifetime comes to an end after his or her lifetime.

#### Important Judicial pronouncements on Personality rights in India

- **ICC Development (International) Ltd. vs. Arvee Enterprises, 2003 (Delhi HC):** Any effort to take away publicity right from the individuals would be violative of Articles 19 and 21.
- **Arun Jaitley vs Network Solutions Private Limited and Ors case, 2011 (Delhi HC):** Popularity or fame of an individual will be no different on the internet than in reality.
- **Rajinikanth v. Varsha Productions (Madras HC, 2015):** Madras HC ruled that using a celebrity's name, image, or style without consent violates personality rights.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL VALIDITY OF NARCO TESTS

The Supreme Court recently overturned the Patna High Court's order which allowed narco-tests on all accused and witnesses.

- The judgement was based on supreme courts observation on Selvi v. State of Karnataka 2010 case wherein constitutional validity narco-analysis tests and other tests including polygraph was considered.

#### About narco-analysis test

- It is an interrogation method whereby a suspect of a crime is injected with a psychoactive drug under controlled conditions to suppress their reasoning power or the ability to determine what is good/bad for themselves.
- The drug used for this test is sodium pentothal, which is also used in higher dosages for inducing general anaesthesia in surgeries.

#### Key Highlights of the Judgement

- Involuntary Narco Test Contravenes Constitution:
  - o Such tests violate Articles 20(3) (right against self-incrimination) and 21 (right to personal liberty).



- o Forced narco-tests are strictly illegal under all circumstances.
- o Any information obtained from an involuntary test is not admissible in court.
- Voluntary Narco-Test Cannot Be Sole Basis for Conviction:
  - o Even if done voluntarily and with safeguards, narco-analysis reports cannot be used directly as evidence.
    - > This is because subject does not exercise conscious control over the responses during the administration of the test.
  - o However, new information discovered through the test can be admitted under the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.
  - o In addition to selvi case this has also been reiterated by the Supreme court in Vinobhai v. State of Kerala and Manoj Kumar Soni v. State of M.P. cases.
- Limited Right to Voluntarily Undergo the Narco-Test:
  - o The accused does not have an absolute right to undergo narco-analysis.
  - o However, the accused can undergo a voluntary narcoanalysis test at an appropriate stage i.e., when the accused is exercising his right to lead evidence in a trial.

## **QUALITY COUNCIL OF INDIA (QCI)**

Minister of State for Commerce and Industry inaugurated the new unified headquarters of the Quality Council of India (QCI) at the World Trade Centre in New Delhi.

### **About Quality Council of India**

- Genesis: Established as a National body for
- Mission: To lead nationwide quality movement in India.
- Non-Profit Organization (NPO): It is an NPO registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860



- PPP Model: Supported by the Government of India and three premier industry associations - ASSOCHAM, CII, and FICCI.
  - DPIIT (Ministry of Commerce) was made the nodal agency for all matters connected with quality and QCI.
- Chairman: Chairman of QCI is appointed by the Prime Minister on the recommendations of the industry to the Government.
- Role in Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM): Serves as the implementing agency for Swachh Survekshan survey to assess and rank cities on sanitation and cleanliness parameters.

## **INDIA AND SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (SCO)**

Recently, India has refused to sign a joint declaration at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' meeting in Qingdao, China.

- Due to India's refusal the meeting concluded without a joint communique.
  - According to the SCO Charter, the group makes decisions by agreement without a vote, and these decisions are considered adopted if no member state raises objections.
- India in SCO granted observer status in 2005 and elevated to full membership in 2017.

## **Why did India refused to sign a Joint Declaration?**

- Double Standard for Terrorism: In the document, there was no mention of the recent Pahalgam attack but included militant activities in Balochistan.
  - India emphasized that SCO should not hesitate to criticize nations that promoted cross-border terrorism.
- Non-Negotiable Core Principles: India has consistently maintained that peace and terrorism cannot coexist, and this principle remains non-negotiable even in multilateral forums.



## Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)



**Genesis:** It emerged from the "Shanghai Five" mechanism in 1996. It was officially established at the Shanghai Summit in 2001 by Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.



### Key Objectives:

- To strengthen mutual trust, friendship and good neighborliness between the Member States.
- To jointly ensure and maintain peace, security and stability in the region
- To promote a new democratic, fair and rational international political and economic international order.



### Membership (10 members):

China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India, Pakistan, Iran (2023) and Belarus (2024).

- It includes 3 observer states and 6 dialogue partners.



### Structure:

- **The Council of Heads of States:** Apex decision-making body
- **Council of Heads of Governments:** Second-highest council
- **Two Standing bodies** - the Secretariat in Beijing (China) and the RATS in Tashkent, Uzbekistan



### Other key details:

The UN General Assembly has entitled observer status to it.

## UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)

India has been elected to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for the term 2026–2028.

- Membership in ECOSOC is region-based and divided among five geographic groups Africa, Asia-Pacific, Eastern European, Latin American & Caribbean, and Western European and other States.
- India is elected under the Asia-Pacific group, alongside China, Lebanon, and Turkmenistan (4 seats available)

### About UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

- Headquarter: New York (USA)





- Genesis: Established in 1945 as one of the six main organs of the United Nations.
- Members: 54 (elected by the UN General Assembly for a 3-year term; 18 elected each year)
- Key Role:
  - o Advance the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental
  - o Coordinates work of UN bodies and specialized agencies
  - o Issues policy recommendations to the UN system and member states.

## **SILVER NOTICE**

The INTERPOL has issued the first silver notice on India's request.

- It was issued to track the global assets of former French Embassy officer Shubham Shokeen, who is wanted in connection with a visa fraud.

### **About Silver notice**

- Silver Notice is the newest addition to the INTERPOL's colour-coded Notices.
  - o INTERPOL's colour-coded notices are international requests for cooperation or alerts allowing police in member countries to share critical crime-related information
- Purpose: Allows tracing and gathering information on assets of fugitives and key accused, even if the assets are in foreign countries.
- Global Collaboration: India is one of 51 countries participating in the first phase of this Interpol pilot project, running at least until November 2025.
- First Use: The first Silver Notice was issued in January on behalf of Italy.
- Limit: Each country can request up to 9 Silver Notices during the pilot phase.

## About INTERPOL

- Headquarters: Lyon, France.
- Genesis: Established as International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC) during 2nd International Police Congress in Vienna in 1923 and established as INTERPOL in 1956
- Members: 196 countries (India a founding members).
- National Central Bureau (NCBs): Established by member countries as a point of access for INTERPOL affairs.
  - o CBI is India's NCB to the INTERPOL, and it has also developed Bharatpol portal for better coordination
- Governing Bodies: The General Assembly and Executive Committee.

## Interpol Notices



**RED NOTICE**  
Wanted persons



**ORANGE NOTICE**  
Imminent threat



**YELLOW NOTICE**  
Missing persons



**PURPLE NOTICE**  
Modus operandi



**BLUE NOTICE**  
Additional information



**GREEN NOTICE**  
Warnings and intelligence



**BLACK NOTICE**  
Unidentified bodies



**SILVER NOTICE (Pilot Phase)**  
Identification and tracing of criminal assets



**INTERPOL-UN SECURITY COUNCIL SPECIAL NOTICE**  
Entities and individuals subject to UNSC sanctions



## **BHARAT FORECAST SYSTEM**

Ministry of Earth Sciences unveils Bharat Forecast System (BFS), one of the world's first indigenously developed high-resolution weather forecast systems.

### **About Bharat Forecast System**

- Developed by: Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, an autonomous institute of the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- Role: It enhances India's weather prediction resolution from 12 km to 6 km, enabling every village in India to access more precise and location-specific forecasts.
- Data Sources: Integrates real-time inputs from 40 Doppler Weather Radars, improving accuracy of localised forecasts and nowcasts.
  - o Doppler Radar is a specific type of radar that uses the doppler effect (Change in frequency of wave emitted by a source moving relative to the observer) to gather velocity data from particles that are being measured.

## **NEW RAMSAR SITES IN RAJASTHAN**

India added two more wetland into Ramsar list of Wetlands of International Importance.

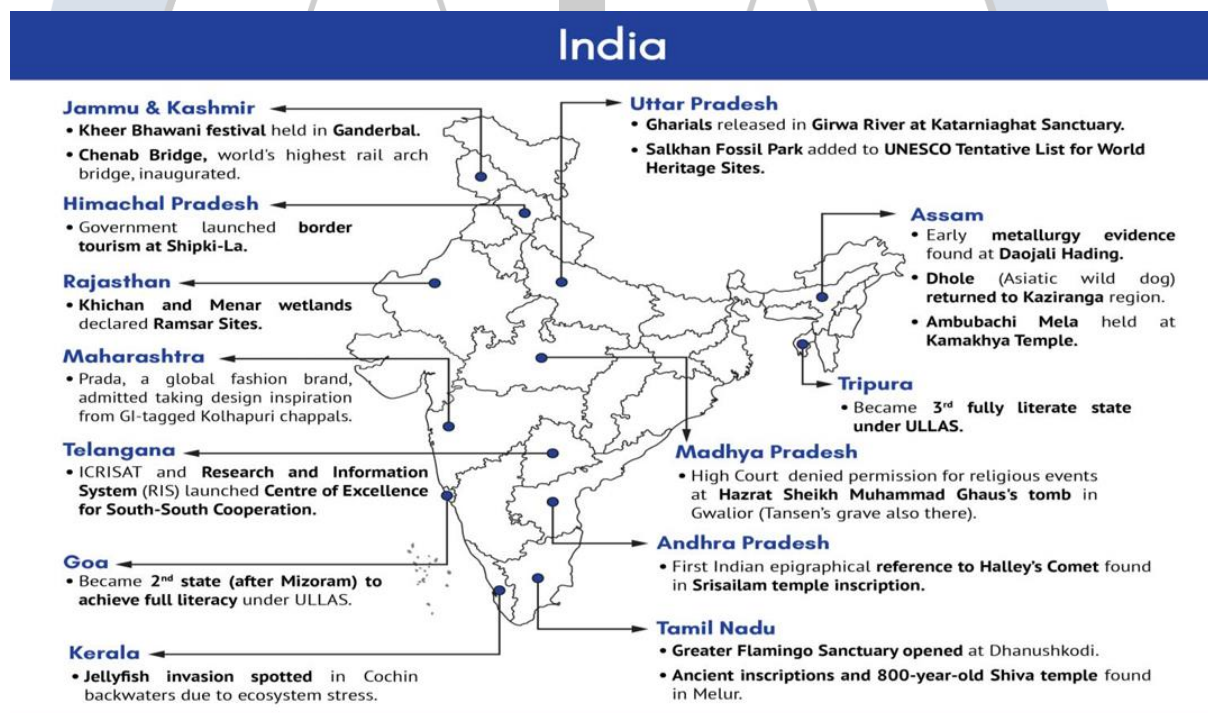
- Khichan and Menar wetlands in Rajasthan were declared Ramsar Sites on world environment day 2025, raising India's total count to 91.
- World Environment Day is celebrated annually on 5th June (Since 1973) led by the UN Environment Programme. The theme for 2025 is Beat Plastic Pollution.
- With the addition of these wetlands, Rajasthan now has four Ramsar sites, including Sambhar Salt Lake and Keoladeo Ghana National Park in Bharatpur.

## **FIBER OPTIC DRONES**

Recently used in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, fiber optic drones are seen as a game-changer in drone warfare due to their resistance to electronic warfare (EW).

## About Fiber Optic Drones

- These drones are tethered to the operator using long fiber optic cables (up to 20 km) instead of radio links.
  - o Fiber optic cable is made up of a collection of glass tubes spun as thin as hairs.
  - o They can support faster speeds, longer distances, and simultaneous communications.
  - o Unlike wired cable, fiber only supports a single communication on a single frequency at one time.
- No radio link means they cannot be jammed or intercepted by electronic warfare (EW) systems.



## World

