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# **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**The Hindu & The Indian express**

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# Bills to oust arrested Ministers trigger chaos

The Bills were referred to a Joint Committee of Parliament comprising 21 LS and 10 RS members

The Union government says the pieces of legislation are intended to bring 'morality back into politics'

Amit Shah and Venugopal engage in sharp exchange over the former's arrest in 2010

**Sandeep Phukan**  
**Vijaita Singh**  
NEW DELHI

Opposition and ruling party MPs exchanged barbs in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday over the government's claim of bringing in political morality through three new Bills allowing the removal of elected representatives arrested on serious criminal charges.

As the Bills were introduced, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Congress leader K.C. Venugopal engaged in a sharp spat over Mr. Shah's 2010 arrest while he was Home Minister of Gujarat.

Trinamool Congress MPs escalated their protest by tearing copies of the proposed legislation in front of Mr. Shah's seat, resulting in a brief jostle between Opposition and ruling

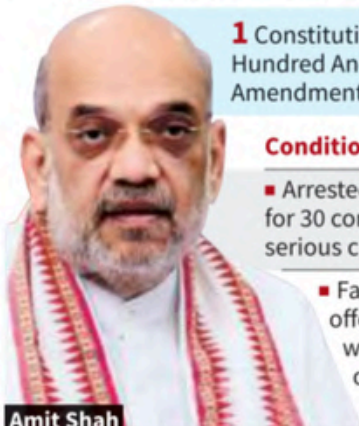
party MPs. BJP members, including Union Ministers Kiren Rijiju and Ravneet Singh Bittu, stepped in to shield Mr. Shah, while the Trinamool accused the Ministers of "pushing and shoving" women MPs.

As the Home Minister introduced the three Bills, Opposition MPs shouted that they were "unconstitutional and anti-federal". A resolution was passed by a voice vote to refer them to a Joint Committee of Parliament that will have 21 members from the Lok Sabha and 10 from the Rajya Sabha. The Committee has been mandated to submit its report to the House by the Winter Session.

The three Bills are the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2025; the Constitution (One Hundred And Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025; and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

## Bills in focus

The three Bills tabled by the Home Minister propose the removal of Prime Minister, Chief Ministers and Ministers under certain conditions



Amit Shah

**1** Constitution (One Hundred And Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025

**2** Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2025

**3** Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025

### Conditions for removal:

- Arrested and detained for 30 consecutive days on serious criminal charges
- Facing charges of offences punishable with imprisonment of five years or more

### Removal authority:

- The President (for PM and Union Ministers)
- Governors (for CMs and State Ministers)
- Lieutenant-Governors (for Ministers in Union Territories)

**Additional provision:** The legislation allows for the possibility of reappointment once the detained Minister or Chief Minister is released

2025; and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025. The Bills propose that any Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, or Ministers who are arrested and detained in custody for 30 consecutive days without obtaining bail, on charges of committing an offence punishable with imprisonment for five years or more, shall be removed from office by the

31st day. For example, the Prime Minister in this situation can be removed by the President, or a Chief Minister by the Governor of the State, if they do not resign on their own.

**'Return to medieval era'** Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, speaking at an event to felicitate the joint Opposition Vice-Presidential candidate,

said the Bills would take the country back to "medieval times when the King could remove anybody at will".

He explained how the proposed legislation could be used. "He tells ED to put a case and a democratically elected person is wiped out within 30 days," Mr. Gandhi said.

As soon as the Bills were tabled in the Lok Sabha at

2:00 p.m., the House witnessed uproarious scenes as Opposition members trooped into the well, raising slogans. Opposition MPs, including the AIMIM's Asaduddin Owaisi and Congress MPs Manish Tewari and Mr. Venugopal, opposed the introduction of the Bills, saying that they were against the Constitution and federalism.

### Political morality

"Leaders of the BJP are saying that this Bill is to bring morality into politics. Can I ask the Home Minister a question? When he was the Home Minister of Gujarat, he was arrested. Did he uphold morality at that time?" Mr. Venugopal asked.

Mr. Shah promptly responded by accusing the then-Congress government at the Centre of levelling false allegations.

"I want to set the record straight. Fake allegations were levelled against me, but despite that, I abided by morality and ethics and not only resigned but did not accept any constitutional post until I was cleared of all charges," the Home Minister said.

"The Constitution is being amended to turn this country into a police state," warned Mr. Owaisi.

"The Bill opens the door for political misuse," said Mr. Tewari.

Accusing the government of bringing the Bills in "undue haste", Revolutionary Socialist Party MP N.K. Premchandran said, "These Bills are not being introduced as per the procedures of the House... They have not even been circulated to members."

**RAHUL SLAMS BILLS**

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## Bills to Oust Arrested Ministers Trigger Chaos

Source: The Hindu | Page 1

GS Paper: GS2 – Polity (Parliament, Constitution, Federalism)

### Context

- Govt introduced three Bills (2025) to remove PM, CMs, Ministers if arrested >30 days on serious criminal charges (5+ years imprisonment).
  - Opposition says “anti-federal, open to misuse.”
- Bills sent to Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC).

### Parliamentary Committees

- Standing Committees → permanent (e.g., Public Accounts Committee, Estimates Committee).

- Ad-hoc Committees → temporary, for specific issue (e.g., JPC, Select Committees).

### Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC):

- Temporary, includes members from Lok Sabha + Rajya Sabha (here: 21 LS + 10 RS).
- Examines a specific Bill/issue in detail and submits report to Parliament.

### The Three Bills at a Glance (2025)

#### 1. The Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025

- Inserts into: Article 75 (Union Ministers), Article 164 (State CMs & Ministers), Article 239AA (Delhi).
  - If arrested >30 days → automatic removal on 31st day.
  - Re-appointment allowed after release.

#### 2. Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2025

- Extends same 30-day rule to UT Ministers under 1963 Act.

#### 3. Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025

- Amends Section 54 of J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019.
- Applies 30-day rule to J&K CM and Ministers.

### Criticism & Concerns

- Federalism: Weakens States’ autonomy.
- Presumption of innocence violated.
- Political misuse: e.g., Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal jailed for months under Section 19, PMLA (ED power to arrest) → cited as example.
- Govt stance: Ensures morality in politics, with re-appointment safeguard.



## Lok Sabha clears Bill that bans real money gaming

The Bill targets companies offering fantasy sports and card games in which, according to the IT Minister, 'lifetime savings evaporate'; Speaker Om Birla says the 'good Bill' is in 'national interest'

Aroon Deep  
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, by a voice vote on Wednesday.

The Bill seeks "to prohibit the offering, operation, facilitation, advertisement, promotion and participation in online money games", targeting firms that offer fantasy sports and card games where users can deposit and risk money.

Speaker Om Birla urged MPs to unite around the Bill and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw referred to cross-party support for the goal of the proposed law. "This is a good Bill. We are seeing suicides and families getting destroyed every day [due to these platforms] ... Bringing such a Bill is in the national interest," Mr. Birla said.

"[T]he lack of a coherent and enabling legal framework has hindered the sector's structured development and the promotion of responsible gaming practices, requiring urgent policy intervention and support mechanisms," the Bill's introduction said.

### Sweeping measures

The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025 prohibits offering, operation, facilitation, advertisement, promotion and participation in online money games

- 'Real money gaming' refers to platforms such as Dream11 and PokerBaazi where players risk their money for winnings
- The industry has argued that fantasy games are those of 'skill' and cannot be regulated by States as gambling

- The Bill makes the distinction between games of chance and skill irrelevant, as it seeks to ban all "online money gaming"
- The industry says it has annual revenues exceeding ₹31,000 crores and that it employs over two lakh people

### PUNISHMENTS

- The Bill proposes imprisonment up to three years and/or fine of up to ₹1 crore for entities offering or facilitating online money gaming

- The Bill also seeks to prohibit advertisement related to online money games and bars banks and financial institutions from transferring funds for any of such games

- Advertising can attract imprisonment up to two years and/or fine up to ₹50 lakh. Facilitating financial transactions can lead to imprisonment up to three years and/or fine up to ₹1 crore

The Bill provides for the creation of an authority that will promote e-sports, which the government is keen to develop as a creative and recreational industry. "[T]he parallel proliferation of online money games ... offering monetary returns against user deposits has led to serious social, financial, psychological and public health harms..." it added.

"Online money games have become a matter of great concern in our society," Mr. Vaishnaw said. "Many people get addict-

ed, lifetime savings evaporate in games, and with the algorithms in use, there may be untold levels of fraud and cheating," he added.

The Bill was not released in draft form for consultation. Mr. Vaishnaw said it did not make sense to open a prohibition law up for consultation and pointed out that the government had been engaging with the real money gaming industry for years. "There is political unanimity on the problem of online money gaming," he

said. "A political call had to be taken on what had to be done," Union IT Secretary S. Krishnan told *The Hindu*. "The industry has been saying that they wanted clarity on how they should be regulated... So that clarity has been provided."

The Bill may face pushback from the industry. "If passed in its current form, the Bill is likely to face a constitutional challenge on grounds of trade restriction and legislative competence," Vidushpat Singhania, managing partner at Krida Legal, said.

## Lok Sabha clears Bill that bans real money gaming

The Hindu | Page 6 | GS2, GS3

### Context

Lok Sabha passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, seeking to curb social and financial harms caused by real-money online gaming (fantasy sports, rummy, poker, betting apps).

### Summary of the Bill

**Ban:** Real-money online games prohibited (offering, operating, advertising, promoting).

### Penalties:

- Up to 3 years jail / ₹1 crore fine for offering or facilitating.
- Up to 2 years jail / ₹50 lakh fine for advertising.
- Banks/payment gateways barred from enabling such transactions.

### E-Sports Legalised:

- Educational, creative, and recreational e-sports exempted.
- A Central Regulatory Authority to be established.



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**Objective:** To prevent suicides, family distress, and financial losses due to addictive real-money gaming.

**Concerns:** Industry fears job/revenue losses; also debate over Union vs. State legislative competence.



### India's democracy is failing the migrant citizen

**I**n a democracy of 1.4 billion, every vote matters. But for millions of migrants from Bihar, democracy is quietly leaving them behind. A silent crisis is unfolding, where the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of State electoral rolls, and at short notice, has led to the mass deletion of nearly 3.5 million migrants (4.4% of the total voters). These are the migrants who have been labelled as “permanently migrated” for being absent during house-to-house verification. These voters now face permanent disenfranchisement not just in their places of work but also at home.

In a State where migration is not just an economic choice but also a survival strategy, this sweeping administrative action is threatening to erase millions from India's democratic record. For decades, out-migration has sustained Bihar's economy and its households. Locked homes, especially among poor and most vulnerable migrants, are a common sight across villages. Increasingly, migrants either migrate with their families or shift their families to marital homes for their care and safety. Yet, this reality of circular and split-family migration is now being read by the state as an abandonment of electoral rights.

#### The ‘sedentary citizen’ is the issue

The deeper issue lies in India's electoral infrastructure, which is still designed around a sedentary citizen. Voter registration is tethered to proof of residence and in-person verification. But for migrant workers – many live in rented rooms, at construction sites, on foot paths or in slums – such documentation is either unavailable or denied.

This exclusion deepens in the context of regionalism and sub-nationalism, where migrants are often seen as job-stealers or political threats. Growing demands for job quotas in private sectors and strict domicile-based norms for government jobs reflect the larger political sentiments, which curtails the political inclusion of migrants. In host States, migrants are treated as outsiders and fears of altered electoral outcomes fuel resistance to their



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A migrant's dual belonging, which is economic participation in a host State and political identity in his home State, is being demonised by the state

enfranchisement. It discourages voter registration at destinations. As a result, migrants remain stuck: unable to register in destination States, and now removed from their origin rolls.

#### The findings of a study

A Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai study in November 2015, funded by the Election Commission of India, titled ‘Inclusive Elections in India: A Study on Domestic Migration and Issues in Electoral Participation’, confirmed the marginalisation of migrants in a host State's electoral processes. The study identifies a triple burden – administrative barriers, digital illiteracy, and social exclusion – preventing a migrant from effectively participating in electoral processes. Crucially, the study found that lower voter turnout was directly correlated with the higher migration rates in the source States. And yet, rather than bridging this turnout gap, Bihar's SIR initiative is widening the democratic deficit.

This is not just a bureaucratic failure. It is a democratic rupture. The average turnout rate in Bihar's last four Assembly elections was only 53.2%, the lowest among major Indian States. In contrast, Gujarat and Karnataka – States with fewer outbound migrants – reported an average of a turnout of 66.4% and 70.7%, respectively, in the last four elections.

Our own estimates, based on mobile visitor location register data, suggest an annual outflow of approximately seven million circular migrants from Bihar. Out of this number, 4.8 million migrate seasonally between June and September. However, half of them (2.7 million) return home during the festivals of Durga Puja, Chhath and Deepavali between October and November. This year, where there will be an Assembly election, many of the return migrants will be unable to vote as their names have been struck off. Without coordination with destination States to verify or re-enrol these voters, the deletion process becomes a de facto disenfranchisement of the poor migrants.

The limited uptake of the ‘One Nation One Ration Card’ Scheme in the last six years, since its launch in 2019 (nation-wide portability of ration

card holders under National Food Security Act, 2013), underscores the constraints of migrants in the host States. Most migrants from Bihar avail rations in their home State, with only 3.3 lakh households availing portability in destination States as of May 2025. Dual residency, fear of losing entitlements and bureaucratic hurdles deter transfers. The same logic applies to voter IDs – they keep origin-based documents not because they are indifferent to civic duties, but because they lack security and acceptance in host States.

This dual belonging – economic participation in host States, political identity in home States – is now being demonised by the state. Migrants are being told bluntly that ‘if you're not home when we knock, your right to vote vanishes’.

Along the 1,751 kilometre-long open India-Nepal border, the issue becomes even more complex. The region has long celebrated the ‘roti-beti ka rishta’, a tradition of cross-border economic and marital ties. Many Nepali and Indian women migrate post-marriage, yet new documentation norms and restrictive citizenship interpretations now threaten their legal and electoral status. Here, disenfranchisement is not just regional or class-based but also gendered and xenophobic.

#### Time for a portable identity system

The way forward is clear. India must move toward portable, flexible, and mobile voter identity systems. The Election Commission of India must halt blanket deletions of migrants and adopt a cross-verification model with destination State voter rolls. Civil society and local governance bodies such as panchayats should be empowered to conduct migrant outreach and re-registration drives.

It is high time that the Kerala model of migration surveys should be replicated among high internal migration origin States such as Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. If these steps are not taken, India risks scripting the largest silent voter purge in post-Independence India – a purge not of enemies, but of the hard-working poor who leave home only in search of bread, dignity and work.

India's democracy is failing the migrant citizen

The Hindu | Page 8 (Editorial) | GS–2, GS–3

#### Context

The article highlights how India's electoral system, built around a sedentary citizen, excludes millions of internal migrants. Due to rigid voter ID and residence-linked rules, migrants are disenfranchised, leading to democratic and social exclusion.

#### Summary

- **Mass Deletion of Migrant Voters:** Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of State electoral rolls led to the mass deletion of nearly 3.5 million migrants (4.4% of total voters) who were labelled as “permanently migrated.”
- **Sedentary Electoral Infrastructure:** Voter registration tied to proof of residence and in-person verification excludes migrant workers living in rented rooms, construction sites, footpaths, or slums.



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- **Study Findings:** Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai (2015), study 'Inclusive Elections in India: Domestic Migration and Issues in Electoral Participation' confirmed disenfranchisement of migrants due to bureaucratic barriers, digital illiteracy, and exclusion.
- **Turnout Data:** Lowest turnout among Indian States seen in Bihar (53.3%); contrast – Gujarat and Karnataka reported average migrant turnout of 66.4% and 70.7% respectively.
- **Annual Out-Migration:** Based on mobility data, Bihar sees annual outflow of approx. 4.8 million migrants between June–September (half of them, 2.7 million, from just three festivals: Durga Puja, Chhath, and Diwali until October and November).

- **NFSA, 2013:** Only 3.3 lakh households avail ration portability in destination States out of millions of eligible migrants.
- **Way Forward:** Adoption of portable, flexible, mobile voter identity systems. Replicating the Kerala model of migrant surveys in States like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh can help re-enrol migrant voters.





# Why India needs a national space law

What does the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 stipulate? Is it self-executing? Why is it important that countries enact their own national space legislations? What has been India's approach to space legislation? Why is creating affordable insurance frameworks for space startups crucial?

## EXPLAINER

Shrawani Shagun

The story so far:

India is set to celebrate its second National Space Day on August 23. Following Chandrayaan-3's soft-landing near the lunar south pole to the upcoming Gaganyaan and Chandrayaan missions, as well as the Bharat Antariksh Station, the Indian space programme is set to make history many times over. Yet an essential component remains grounded – the legal architecture. In the race to explore, innovate, and commercialise outer space, a strong space law is necessary.

**What about global space legislation?**

The Outer Space Treaty of 1967 establishes that space is the province of all mankind, and therefore prohibits national appropriation, and places responsibility on states for national activities in space, whether conducted by the government or private entities. Its companion agreements create binding frameworks of rights, responsibilities, and liability rules. However, these treaties are not self-executing. According to Aarti Holla-Maini, director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), "The core United Nations treaties on outer space provide the foundational principles for all space activities: from the peaceful use of outer space to the responsibility and liability of states. National legislation is the means by which nations can give effect to these principles domestically, ensuring that their growing space sectors develop in a safe, sustainable, and internationally responsible way." India has ratified the key UN space treaties but it is still in the process of enacting comprehensive national space legislation.

While space policy may signal intent, law is what creates an enforceable structure. "National space legislation offers predictability, legal clarity, and a



The ISRO carrying out the Well Deck trials of the Gaganyaan missions's crew module in 2024. FILE PHOTO

stable regulatory environment for both government and private actors," Rossana Deim-Hoffmann, UNOOSA Global Space Law Project Lead said. Many countries now have national space legislation. Japan, Luxembourg, and the U.S. have enacted frameworks to facilitate licensing, liability coverage, and commercial rights over space activities.

**Will India enact similar legislation?**

India's approach to space legislation reflects a methodical, incremental strategy. As space law expert Ranjana Kaul notes, "It should be understood that national space legislation includes two cardinal interdependent aspects: (i) technical regulations governing space operations in orbit by commercial entities – this is the first aspect of 'authorisation' process under Article VI [of the Outer Space Treaty]. The Department of Space is proceeding meticulously in this matter."

This methodical approach has yielded concrete regulatory developments, which

includes the Catalogue of Indian Standards for Space Industry, critical for ensuring the safety of space operations; the Indian Space Policy, providing details of activities that non-governmental entities are encouraged to undertake; and the IN-SPACE Norms, Guidelines and Procedures (NPG) for implementation of Indian Space Policy, 2023, in respect of authorisation of space activities.

However, the second component is still pending. According to Dr. Kaul, "(ii) the overarching regulatory framework (textual part) – this is the ... 'space activities law' that will contain provisions of the OST that are meticulously, carefully, appropriately drafted."

**What are industry perspectives?**

From the industry's standpoint, the current regulatory transition creates significant operational challenges. Gp. Capt. T.H. Anand Rao (retd.), director of the Indian Space Association, identified priorities for national space legislation

beginning with the fundamental need for a statutory authority.

"IN-SPACE, which currently operates without formal legal backing, requires clear statutory authority to strengthen its role as the central regulatory body," Mr. Rao said. "The national space law should clearly set out licensing rules, qualifications, application processes, timelines, fees, and reasons for acceptance or denial, to avoid unnecessary delays and confusion from multiple ministry approvals." The dual-use nature of space technologies creates particular complications, with companies facing delays from multiple ministry clearances even after provisional approvals. Clear FDI rules, such as allowing 100% FDI in satellite component manufacturing under automatic routes, would attract critical capital for startups to scale operations. This operational clarity extends to liability frameworks, with Mr. Rao emphasising that "while India is ultimately responsible internationally, private companies must hold proper third-party insurance to cover any damages. This includes creating affordable insurance frameworks for startups managing high-value space assets. Innovation protection remains equally crucial, "legislation should secure intellectual property rights without excessive government control, encourage partnerships among industry, academia, and government, and foster investor trust." This balanced approach would prevent migration of talent and technologies to more IP-friendly jurisdictions. Mr. Rao also stressed the need for mandatory accident investigation procedures, enforceable space debris management laws, unified frameworks for space-related data and satellite communications, and an independent appellate body to prevent conflicts of interest. Without statutory backing, IN-SPACE's decisions remain vulnerable to procedural challenges.

Shrawani Shagun is a researcher focusing on environmental sustainability and space governance.

## THE GIST

▼ The Outer Space Treaty of 1967 establishes that space is the province of all mankind, and therefore prohibits national appropriation, and places responsibility on states for national activities in space, whether conducted by government or private entities.

▼ India's approach to space legislation reflects a methodical, incremental strategy.

▼ Gp. Capt. T.H. Anand Rao (retd.), director of the Indian Space Association, identified priorities for national space legislation beginning with the fundamental need for a statutory authority.

## Why India needs a national space law

The Hindu, Page No. 10, GS-3

## Context

- India is set to celebrate its second National Space Day on August 23 with missions like Chandrayaan-3, Gaganyaan, and the proposed Bharat Antariksh Station.
- But despite technological progress, India lacks a dedicated national space law, which is necessary to regulate exploration, innovation, and commercialization of outer space.

## Outer Space Treaty & UNOOSA

- The Outer Space Treaty (1967) is the foundational framework for international space law.



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- The treaty establishes that outer space is the province of all mankind, prohibits national appropriation, and makes states responsible for all activities — whether by government or private entities.
- However, the treaty is not self-executing; hence nations must create domestic legislation.
- The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) oversees the implementation of these treaties and promotes international cooperation.

### Summary

India has ratified the treaty but is still in the process of enacting its own national space legislation.

Many countries like Japan, Luxembourg, and the U.S. have already enacted such laws, offering clarity on insurance, liability, and commercial rights in space activities.

A statutory authority could:

- Provide clear licensing and liability frameworks.
- Enable third-party insurance for space startups.
- Protect intellectual property rights.
- Establish debris management rules and prevent conflicts of interest.

Such a framework would create a stable regulatory environment, attract private investment, and strengthen India's credibility in global space governance.

**“India's space programme has advanced technologically, but the absence of a national space legislation remains a critical gap. Discuss the need for such a law in the context of India's obligations under the Outer Space Treaty, 1967 and the challenges faced by emerging space startups.” (150 words)**



# India successfully test-fires Agni-5 intermediate-range ballistic missile

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

India on Wednesday successfully test-fired its intermediate-range ballistic missile Agni-5 from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur, Odisha.

In a statement, the Defence Ministry said the launch validated all operational and technical parameters and was conducted under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command. "The intermediate-range ballistic missile Agni-5 was successfully test-fired from Chandipur on August 20. The launch validated all operational and technical parameters," the Ministry said.

The missile tested on Wednesday was a variant of Agni-5, India's intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) with a range of 5,000 km. Designed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), the system has been developed keeping in view the country's security requirements.

### Previous trial

The previous trial of Agni-5 was conducted on March 11, 2024, when the DRDO successfully tested the missile equipped with Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle technology, allowing it to strike multiple targets with a single launch.



The intermediate-range Agni-5 missile was test-fired from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha. FILE PHOTO

India successfully test-fires Agni-5 intermediate-range ballistic missile

The Hindu | Page 5 | GS3

### Context:

India has successfully test-fired its intermediate-range ballistic missile Agni-5 from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur, Odisha on August 20. The launch, conducted under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command, validated all operational and technical parameters. Agni-5 is designed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) with a range of 5,000 km, and it plays a critical role in meeting India's security requirements. The last trial (March 11, 2024) tested the MIRV (Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle) capability.



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### Ballistic Missile vs. Cruise Missile:

- **Ballistic Missile:**

- Launched directly into the earth's atmosphere and follows a parabolic trajectory.
- Powered only in the initial phase; later, gravity guides it.
- Can carry nuclear/ conventional warheads to long ranges.
- Example: Agni series.

- **Cruise Missile:**

- Powered throughout its flight; flies at low altitudes within the atmosphere.
- Follows a controlled flight path, making it more precise.
- Usually smaller in payload and range compared to ballistic missiles.
- Example: BrahMos.

- **Agni-5 Specifics:**

- Classified as an ICBM (Intercontinental Ballistic Missile) though range is ~5,000 km.
- Enhances India's deterrence capability, particularly against adversaries like China.
- Features MIRV technology, enabling one missile to strike multiple targets.
- Strengthens India's second-strike capability under credible minimum deterrence.



# Kerala to help Himachal Pradesh adopt community-based palliative care model

**The Hindu Bureau**  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Health department will offer all support to Himachal Pradesh to implement the Kerala model of community-based palliative care in all Assembly constituencies in the north Indian State.

A team from Himachal Pradesh, including the Health Minister, Health Secretary and NHM Mission Director, had visited Kerala earlier to study the State's palliative care model. They had visited Thiruvananthapuram and Ernakulam districts to study the deliv-



A file photo of the palliative care unit of the General Hospital on a home visit at Palluruthy in Ernakulam district. THULASI KAKKAT

ery of palliative care services closely and had expressed their appreciation for the State's universal palliative care delivery for all bed-ridden patients.

With Himachal Pradesh deciding to adopt the community-based palliative care model of Kerala, it had been decided to give training in palliative care

delivery to 70 doctors and as many nurses.

### 10-day training

The first team consisting of 15 nurses and 15 doctors from Himachal Pradesh were given 10 days' training in palliative care delivery. The course certificates were distributed by Health Minister Veena George at the conclusion of the training programme here on Wednesday.

Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Rajan Khobragade, State Nodal Officer for Palliative Care Mathew Numpeli, among others, were present.

**Headline: Kerala to help Himachal Pradesh adopt community-based palliative care model**

The Hindu | Page 3

### Context:

Kerala will assist Himachal Pradesh in setting up a community-based palliative care system. A Himachal delegation studied Kerala's model, and training was given to doctors and nurses.

### Where this example can be used:

- As a model of community-driven healthcare.
- For inclusive and affordable healthcare delivery.
- To show ethical and compassionate governance in health.
- As a best practice in public health innovation.



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## DAILY MCQs FOR PRACTICE

**Q1. Which of the following statements correctly describes Agni-5 missile?**

- (a) It is a short-range tactical battlefield missile with a range below 500 km.
- (b) It is India's first submarine-launched ballistic missile.
- (c) It is an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) with a range of over 5,000 km.
- (d) It is a hypersonic cruise missile developed jointly with Russia.

**Q2. Recently, the government announced regulations distinguishing online games. Which of the following statements correctly reflects this distinction?**

- (a) All online games involving money have been banned.
- (b) Online games involving wagering or betting are prohibited, while e-sports have been recognized as a legitimate activity.
- (c) E-sports and betting are both brought under one authority for regulation.
- (d) Only fantasy sports platforms are exempted from restrictions.

**Q3. Which of the following best reflects India's obligations under the Outer Space Treaty, 1967?**

- (a) Outer space can be used for military purposes but not for placing nuclear weapons.
- (b) Only spacefaring nations are allowed to claim ownership over celestial bodies.
- (c) Outer space shall be used exclusively for peaceful purposes, and no national appropriation is allowed.
- (d) Private companies are free to exploit lunar resources without international oversight.



## DAILY MCQs FOR PRACTICE

**Q4. Consider the following differences between Ballistic Missiles and Cruise Missiles:**

1. Ballistic missiles follow a parabolic trajectory, while cruise missiles fly within the earth's atmosphere.
2. Ballistic missiles are generally faster and longer in range than cruise missiles.
3. Cruise missiles are powered throughout their flight, whereas ballistic missiles are powered only in their initial phase.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

**Q5. The Kerala model of community-based palliative care is significant because:**

- (a) It relies solely on government hospitals for care delivery.
- (b) It was initiated by the private corporate sector as part of CSR.
- (c) It is led by local communities with volunteer participation, supported by the state.
- (d) It is based exclusively on insurance-funded healthcare.

**Answers**

- (c) – It is an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) with a range of over 5,000 km.
- (b) – Online games involving wagering or betting are prohibited, while e-sports have been recognized as a legitimate activity.
- (c) – Outer space shall be used exclusively for peaceful purposes, and no national appropriation is allowed.
- (d) – 1, 2 and 3
- (c) – It is led by local communities with volunteer participation, supported by the state.