

CURRENTLY - FROM NEWS TO NOTES

DAILY CURRENT AFFIARS

The Hindu & The Indian express

Headline	Source
EC sets VP poll date: Sept 9	Indian Express Page 14 • Polity Electoral Process VP Election
Draft poll roll for Bihar is out, voters dip by 65 lakh	The Hindu Page 1 • Polity Electoral Roll SIR Process
Turkey, Italy, Libya discuss Mediterranean migration route	Indian Express Page 20 • IR Migration Crisis EU-Africa Relations
To invite financial bids for IDBI stake sale by Dec: DIPAM Secy	Indian Express Page 21 • Economy Strategic Disinvestment PSUs
What has been missed is India's digital sovereignty	The Hindu (Editorial) Page 6 • GS2/GS3 Data Sovereignty India-UK FTA

Mains Enrichment

Headline	Source	Syllabus
Project Tiger Roars Again: From 1,411 to 3,682 Tigers	The Better India	Use in Ethics, GS3, Essay (Conservation Ethics, Empathy, Biodiversity)
Prajwal Revanna Convicted of Rape; Sentencing Today	The Hindu Page 1	Use in GS2 (Criminalisation of Politics), GS4 (Public Ethics, Misconduct)



Days after exit of Dhankhar, EC sets V-P poll date: Sept 9

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE ELECTION Commission (EC) on Friday announced that the election for the post of Vice-President, which fell vacant with the sudden resignation of Jagdeep Dhankhar on July 21, would be held on September 9.

According to the schedule announced by the EC, the notification would be issued on August 7, starting the period for filing nominations. The last date for filing nominations is August 21. The polling and counting would be held on September 9.

"As per Rule 8 of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Rules, 1974, poll for the election will be taken in the Parliament House. The polling, if required, shall take place at Room No. F-101, Vasudha, First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi," the EC said in its press release. The EC had appointed Rajya Sabha Secretary General P.C. Mody as the Returning Officer for the election on July 25.

The electoral college for the election will comprise 782 members of Parliament -- 233 elected members of Rajya Sabha (five seats are currently vacant), 12 nominated members of Rajya Sabha and 542 elected members of Lok Sabha (one seat is vacant), the EC said.

Voting is held by secret ballot, using the system of proportional representation with a sin-

gle transferable vote. Each MP casts a vote by ranking candidates in order of preference. All votes carry equal value.

To be declared elected, a candidate must reach a required minimum number of votes -- called the quota. This is calculated by dividing the total number of valid votes by two and adding one (fractions, if any, are ignored). If no candidate crosses the quota in the first round, the one with the fewest first-preference votes is eliminated, and their votes are transferred to the remaining candidates based on second preferences. The process continues until one candidate crosses the quota.

Dhankhar's surprise resignation came just hours after he presided over the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha. He submitted his letter to resignation to President Droupadi Murmu, citing health reasons.

While the government and BJP have remained quiet over the episode, sources say the government was taken aback by his decision to accept an Opposition-backed impeachment motion against Justice Yashwant Varma even as the BJP was planning on bringing one in the Lok Sabha.

The Home Ministry notified his resignation on July 22 and Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on X: "Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar Ji has got many opportunities to serve our country in various capacities, including as the Vice President of India. Wishing him good health."

MCQs for Practice

Consider the following statements:

1. The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha are not the members of that House.
2. While the nominated members of the two Houses of the Parliament have no voting right in the presidential election, they have the right to vote in the election of the Vice President.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. (a) 1 only
2. (b) 2 only
3. (c) Both 1 and 2
4. (d) Neither 1 nor 2

[PYQ 2013]

Context :

- Vice-President's post fell vacant after Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned (July 21).
- Election Commission announced poll date: September 9, 2025

2nd AUG, 2025

- Notification: August 7 | Last Date for Nomination: August 21
- Poll Venue: Parliament House (Rule 8, VP Election Rules, 1974)
- Returning Officer: P.C. Mody, Rajya Sabha Secretary General

No Time Limit for V-P Election

- Unlike the President (Article 62(1)), No constitutional deadline exists for filling the Vice-President's vacancy

Nominated Rajya Sabha MPs included

House	Members Count	Included
Rajya Sabha	233 Elected + 12 Nominated	✓ Yes
Lok Sabha	542 Elected (1 vacant)	✓ Yes

➡ Total MPs voting: 782

⊘ MLAs NOT part of V-P election

⊘ Nominated Lok Sabha MPs excluded

⚖ Voting System – (Article 66(2))

- Proportional Representation (PR) by Single Transferable Vote (STV)
- Secret Ballot
- Votes carry equal value
- Candidate must cross quota (Valid Votes ÷ 2 + 1)



Call For More Info
8377072252



2nd Floor, 32-B, Pusa Road Opposite Metro Pillar No. 122 Block 11 Old Rajinder Nagar, Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi, 110005



understand.upsc



UnderStandUPSC.com



UnderStand UPSC



UnderStand UPSC



Draft poll roll for Bihar is out, voters dip by 65 lakh

EC publishes list after end of first phase of SIR; Patna draft roll has 3.95 lakh fewer voters than the list from January; many on the draft list may still be deprived of voting rights, says INDIA bloc

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
Amit Bhelari
NEW DELHI/PATNA

The number of voters in Bihar has dropped by 65 lakh, according to Bihar's draft electoral roll, which was published by the Election Commission on Friday after the completion of the first phase of its Special Intensive Revision exercise.

More than 7.24 crore electors in the State filled up enumeration forms and have been included in the draft roll, the EC said in a statement. There were 7.89 crore voters registered in the 2025 electoral list before the SIR exercise. The EC has said that most of these 65 lakh "missing" voters have died, registered in two locations, permanently migrated out of Bi-



Next steps: EC has asked voters whose names are not on the draft list to submit a Form 6 along with other required documents. ANI

har, or are untraceable.

Leaders of the Opposition INDIA bloc in the State said the EC failed to answer their queries about the names left out in the draft list.

According to data shared by the office of Bihar's Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Vinod Singh Gunjyal, the State capital

Patna has the highest number of 3.95 lakh voters not included in the list. There are over three lakh voters missing from the draft roll in each of the three districts of East Champaran, Madhubani and Gopalganj. Another 10 districts have seen a drop of two lakh voters each, while 13 districts saw a decline of over one

lakh voters in the draft roll.

Claims and objections

The EC appealed to all eligible voters to check their names in the draft list, which is available on its portal. If their names are not on the list, they have been asked to submit Form 6 along with the declaration form specified in the SIR instructions. First-time voters, who have completed 18 years on July 1 or are going to turn 18 by October 1, should also get their names added by submitting Form 6. Over the next month, the EC will invite claims and objections by voters on exclusions and inclusions in the list.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 8
MORE REPORTS
» PAGE 9

What is SIR (Special Intensive Revision)?

- Special Intensive Revision (SIR) is a targeted, door-to-door enumeration exercise carried out by the Election Commission (EC) to update the electoral roll.

It aims to:

- Remove ineligible names (death, migration, duplication)
- Include new voters (especially 18+)
- Ensure a clean, accurate, and inclusive voter list
- SIR is beyond the routine summary revision, often used in states with large migration, past inaccuracies, or poor turnout.

Summary:

- Draft electoral roll of Bihar (2025) shows a drop of 65 lakh voters after the first phase.
- Total voters before SIR: 7.89 crore
- Draft roll voters now: 7.24 crore

Missing voters include:

- Deceased
- Permanently migrated
- Untraceable individuals
- Patna alone has 3.95 lakh missing voters - highest among all districts.

EC's Instructions:

- Check names on EC portal
- Submit Form 6 if name missing
- First-time voters (18+ by Oct 1) must register
- EC to invite claims & objections next month

Relevant Constitutional Articles:

Article	Subject
Art. 324	EC's power to conduct & supervise elections
Art. 325	No exclusion from rolls based on religion, race, caste, sex
Art. 326	Universal adult suffrage (18+)
RPA Act, 1950	Electoral roll preparation & revision





Turkey, Italy, Libya discuss Mediterranean migration route and cooperation

REUTERS
ANKARA, AUGUST 1

THE MIGRATION route from Libya across the Mediterranean, used by thousands seeking a way to get to Europe, was a top issue at a meeting on Friday between the leaders of Turkey, Italy and Libya in Istanbul, Turkey's presidency said.

President Tayyip Erdogan met Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and Libyan Prime Minister Abdulhamid al-Dbeibah to discuss migration and other potential cooperation areas.

"Erdogan pointed to the importance of the cooperation between the three countries against the tests that the Mediterranean basin is facing, including irregular migration flows," the presidency said in a statement.

He added that "long-term and sustainable solutions" were needed to stop such migration flows, and that a multilateral co-ordination was needed to achieve this, it said.

Major energy exporter Libya, long split between rival eastern and western factions, is one of the main jumping off points for migrants crossing the Mediterranean sea from northern Africa.

Rival regional powers such as Russia, Turkey, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates have also been drawn into its political divisions. Erdogan's office also said the three leaders agreed to meet to evaluate any decisions taken by their cooperation committees later.

Mediterranean Sea is a border of which of the following countries ?

1. Jordan
2. Iraq
3. Lebanon
4. Syria

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

[PYQ 2017]



Summary:

- Mediterranean migration route from Libya to Europe via sea was the key focus of a trilateral meeting in Istanbul.
- Attended by:
 - Turkey's President Erdogan
 - Italy's PM Giorgia Meloni
 - Libya's PM Abdulhamid al-Dbeibah

2nd AUG, 2025

- Aim: Multilateral cooperation to manage irregular migration flows and improve regional coordination.
- Libya is a major departure hub for migrants from North Africa trying to reach Europe.
- Leaders called for long-term, sustainable solutions to curb migrant movement.
- Political divisions in Libya—between eastern and western factions—have made it a hotspot.
- Regional rivals (Russia, Egypt, UAE) are also involved in Libya's politics, complicating peace



Call For More Info

8377072252



2nd Floor, 32-B, Pusa Road Opposite Metro Pillar No. 122 Block 11 Old Rajinder Nagar, Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi, 110005



understand.upsc



UnderStandUPSC.com



UnderStand UPSC



UnderStand UPSC



SUCCESSFUL BIDDER TO BE ANNOUNCED BY MARCH 2026

To invite financial bids for IDBI stake sale by Dec: DIPAM Secy

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 1

THE GOVERNMENT is working towards inviting financial bids for strategic stake sale in IDBI Bank by December with interested buyers having completed due diligence and data room norms, Arunish Chawla, Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), said on Friday. The successful bidder will be announced by March 2026, he added.

The long-pending stake sale process of IDBI Bank will be closely eyed as the government kickstarts the disinvestment process for the bank after being in the works for close to three years.

"Due diligence and data room protocols have been completed for all the interested parties. Also, formal consultations have been completed with qualified interested parties. We hope to invite financial bids in the third quarter of this financial year," Chawla said, adding that once the financial bids come in and a successful bidder is selected, it will be sent to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for final "fit and proper" clearance. The prospective buyer of IDBI

'UNDERTAKING WEEKLY CAPEX REVIEW OF PSUs'

New Delhi: The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) is undertaking weekly review of capital expenditure of all public sector undertakings (PSUs) and is working on strategies that can insulate them from geopolitical risks, Secretary Arunish Chawla said on Friday. He said public sector enterprises now account for almost

Bank has already been granted security clearance by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and cleared fit and proper evaluation by the RBI. Along with the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), the government had in October 2022, invited expression of interest (EOI) from investors for privatising IDBI Bank by selling a total of 60.72 per cent stake. This includes a 30.48 per cent stake of the Government of India and 30.24 per cent of LIC. In January 2023, it received multiple EOIs for IDBI Bank. On Friday, shares of IDBI Bank ended at Rs 90.17 on Friday, down 2.68 per cent from the previous close on the BSE.

15 per cent of the total market capitalisation and the government is confident they will continue with their capital expenditure. "We are doing capital review of all public sector undertakings on a weekly basis and we are working on strategies that can insulate our economy from geopolitical risks," Chawla told reporters. PTI

For the other major pending disinvestment proposal for LIC which also has been in the pipeline, Chawla said the government has appointed merchant bankers and legal advisors for minority stake sale in LIC, and other public sector financial institutions. "As far as LIC is concerned, we have completed the RFP (request for proposal) process. The process for appointment of merchant bankers and legal advisors has been completed," Chawla said.

Earlier this year, in February, DIPAM had invited bids from merchant bankers and legal firms to assist the government in

divesting its stake in public sector banks and listed financial institutions. As per the two RFPs (request for proposal) floated by DIPAM, the merchant bankers and legal advisors would be empanelled for a period of three years, which could be extended by one more year. "Individual transactions can happen any time over the next 3 years," Chawla said.

The government currently holds 96.5 per cent stake in LIC. It had sold 3.5 per cent through an initial public offering in May 2022 at a price band of Rs 902-949 a share that yielded around Rs 21,000 crore. The government needs to offload another 6.5 per cent stake in the public sector life insurer to meet the mandated 10 per cent public shareholding requirement by May 16, 2027.

Banks and financial institutions need to meet the minimum 25 per cent public shareholding norm as mandated by the market regulator Sebi. Five PSU banks are yet to meet the minimum public shareholding norm. The government has set August 1, 2026 as the deadline for such non-compliant entities to reduce government holding and meet public float norms.

- PSUs get time till May 2027

Pre-Bid Clearance

Clearance from Home Ministry (MHA) and others before allowing bids

- Ensures national security, eligibility of bidders
- Ex: MHA has cleared bidders for IDBI sale

Fit & Proper Approval (RBI)

RBI vets bidders acquiring 10%+ stake in a bank.

- Checks: Integrity, financial soundness, no defaults
- Mandatory before final sale in IDBI case

Key Points:

- Govt to invite financial bids by Dec 2025; buyer to be announced by March 2026.

- Stake for sale:
- LIC: 49.24%
- Govt: 30.48%
- Total: 60.72%
- Pre-bid steps done:
- Due diligence, Home Ministry clearance done
- Awaiting RBI's "fit and proper" nod

IDBI Bank - Snapshot History:

- 1964: Formed as DFI under RBI
- 1976: Became Govt-owned
- 2004: Converted to full-service bank
- 2008: Merged with United Western Bank
- 2019: LIC became majority stakeholder
- Now: In process of strategic disinvestment

Strategic Disinvestment

Govt sells majority stake + management control to a private entity.

- Aim: Efficiency, private capital, reduce fiscal burden
- Ex: Air India to Tata

Minimum Public Shareholding (MPS)

SEBI mandates 25% public holding in all listed companies.



Call For More Info
8377072252



2nd Floor, 32-B, Pusa Road Opposite Metro Pillar No. 122 Block 11 Old Rajinder Nagar, Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi, 110005



understand.upsc



UnderStandUPSC.com



UnderStand UPSC



UnderStand UPSC

Why is the Government of India disinvesting its equity in the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) ?

1. The Government intends to use the revenue earned from the disinvestment mainly to pay back the external debt.
2. The Government no longer intends to retain the management control of the CPSEs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

[PYQ 2011]



Call For More Info
8377072252



2nd Floor, 32-B, Pusa Road Opposite Metro Pillar No. 122 Block 11 Old Rajinder Nagar, Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi, 110005



understand.upsc



UnderStandUPSC.com



UnderStand UPSC



UnderStand UPSC



What has been missed is India's digital sovereignty

The India-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement (FTA), called the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), has been lauded by the Union Commerce and Industry Minister, Piyush Goyal, as the 'gold standard' for all India's trade deals. Mr. Goyal has asserted that no compromise was made in any sensitive sector. Evidently, the Minister seemed to be counting only agriculture and labour-intensive manufacturing as sensitive sectors – which they are. But remarkably, despite the wide coverage the FTA has received, the impact on India's other, highly sensitive digital sector, which permeates every sphere of national activity and holds the key to our future, has gone without official comment or media scrutiny.

We argue that the compromises made in the digital sector through the India-U.K. FTA have profound consequences for India's digital sovereignty – a term frequently invoked in high-level political discourse. India has completely flipped on several core positions that it has long maintained at global forums, including at the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Source code disclosure

The most surprising giveaway is on India's sovereign right to seek exclusive access to the source code for foreign digital goods or services, even for those deemed sensitive. This is very different from getting source code exposure for a specific investigation or remedy, which is allowed under the agreement. Regulators in different sectors often have strict disclosure rules, such as for food and medicine ingredients. Software now permeates nearly every product, including telecom, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and health applications, whereby it may be crucial for the regulators to be able to 'look under the hood' of software, for safety, security and general compliance requirements, and to enable urgent, real-time upgrades.

Giving up this right is a 180-degree turn from India's steadfast stand at the WTO and other forums. Even the United States, which first included source code related prohibitions in its FTAs and at the WTO, withdrew this formulation last year, recognising its domestic regulatory, law enforcement and security imperatives. In the U.S.-driven Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP),



Smita Parashoitam
is India's former Ambassador to Switzerland



Parminder Jeet Singh
is a Delhi-based digital society researcher

The compromises that India made in the digital sector through the India-U.K. Free Trade Agreement will have profound consequences for India's digital sovereignty

the 'source code disclosure' provision applied only to mass-market software such as Microsoft's operating systems – meaning not to niche and custom-made software. It specifically excluded software for critical infrastructure. In the U.K. FTA text, the prohibition applies to all software. Businesses are always free to enter, or avoid, transactions requiring disclosure of source code. What is sacrificed here are India's regulatory rights in this regard, for all times to come, in a sector that has just begun to take shape.

Surrendering a critical national resource Granting equal and non-discriminatory access for U.K. parties to **India's government data** – a term from the pre-digital era which then meant government transparency, and access to its statistics – constitutes another major giveaway. This is because data is not what it used to be. Today, it has acquired an entirely new avatar, being the digital era's most valuable resource. AI, where heated competition for global mastery is raging, is but patterns derived from data, which is why data is deemed to be priceless.

This concession is very significant, even though this provision is yet at a 'best endeavour' level, and non-binding. It is incomprehensible why India (where the intention to be an AI superpower is a staple of top-level political rhetoric), has conceded that national data held by the government is not a sovereign resource but an international free for all, facilitating foreign access to such data poses risks of eroding India's competitive advantage in using India's own data to create Indian AI products, and also serious security risks as national data can be weaponised.

The most contested issues in digital trade are the 'free flow of data' and 'data localisation'. While India seems to have largely stood its ground on these issues, its commitment to 'enter into consultations to extend appropriate equivalent disciplines' to the U.K. If India agrees to any concessions with another country, denotes a dangerous regress, and visible vulnerability, with regard to India's long-held positions on these key issues.

This matter links to the one above on India's data being an important national economic resource as well as the need to safeguard it from a security point of view. Again, last year, owing to similar considerations, the U.S., the original proponent of 'free flow of data' and 'prohibition

on data localisation', withdrew from these stances at the WTO.

It is difficult to understand how Indian negotiators could be so naïve or negligent in agreeing to the above concessions. Digital trade concessions are not like those on commodities, where benefits can be applied one day and removed on another.

Digital trade texts are essentially about rule making for a new global digital order. We either fully opt into western, Big Tech-oriented, digital architectures, or we maintain sufficient autonomy and sovereignty. This is because once the digital rules and systems are set, they are almost impossible to roll back. India's digital concessions are thus buttressing a set of rules for a global digital ecosystem from which India cannot extricate itself later. And India is doing all this in a reactive mode without a clear road map of its own.

It seems that the U.K. was able to extract all the above concessions, the absolute opposite to what India has stood for till now, because, unlike manufacturing and agriculture, there is no specific political 'constituency' for digital sovereignty. But it is perhaps an even more important issue in the mid to long term. We may be seeing a repeat of how India lost out on early industrialisation and had to suffer grievous colonial exploitation, causing a loss of wealth and independence. In making these digital concessions, we may be giving up our digital future, independence and prosperity.

India must act quickly

India needs to develop and negotiate towards a global digital architecture that protects and furthers its digital sovereignty. As a late starter in 'digital industrialisation', it should create the space required for India to become a digital superpower and not a digital colony.

For this, India needs to urgently formulate a full-fledged digital sovereignty and 'digital industrialisation' policy which should then inform and guide its trade negotiations. Our negotiators must be accompanied by digital sovereignty experts with access to the top political leadership, which has the core responsibility for safeguarding India's long-term digital interests. These interests are often not so visible, and, therefore, tend to get by-passed and not fought for.

- India agreed to:
 - No source code disclosure requirement from foreign digital goods & services.
 - Non-discriminatory access to Open Government Data for the UK.
- These steps reverse India's earlier WTO stance on digital trade protections.
- Risk of compromising:
 - National digital security
 - Sovereignty in digital governance
- India may become a "digital colony" due to foreign tech dependence.
- Urges for a national digital policy to:
 - Protect long-term interests
 - Involve public/stakeholder consultation
 - Balance openness with digital self-reliance

Term	Definition
Digital Sovereignty	The power of a nation to govern, regulate, and secure its digital infrastructure, platforms, and data without undue foreign influence. It ensures autonomy over digital decisions and cybersecurity.
Source Code Disclosure	A requirement for foreign software companies to share the original code (source code) of their programs with regulators, usually for security, safety, and compliance checks.
Open Government Data	Non-confidential, publicly accessible data generated by government departments, made available to improve transparency, accountability, and innovation.
Non-Discriminatory Access	A trade principle that ensures equal treatment to foreign and domestic firms in accessing markets, services, or data without bias.
Digital Colony	A metaphor describing a country that becomes overly dependent on foreign digital platforms and technologies, losing control over its own data and digital policies.
India–UK FTA (CETA)	The Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement under negotiation between India and the United Kingdom, which includes provisions on goods, services, investment, and digital trade.

Key Points:

- India–UK FTA (CETA) includes digital sector concessions with long-term implications





MAINS ENRICHMENT

1



2

Prajwal Revanna convicted of rape; sentencing today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A special court in Bengaluru on Friday convicted former Janata Dal (Secular) MP Prajwal Revanna of rape. The quantum of sentence is likely to be announced on Saturday.

Prajwal is the grandson of former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda and son of former Karnataka Minister H.D. Revanna. The JD (S) had suspended Prajwal, its former Hassan MP, in the wake of several rape allegations against him.

Friday's conviction came on the first of the four rape and sexual harassment cases against Prajwal. The case pertains to the family's then domestic help who said Prajwal raped her twice in 2021, and recorded the act on his mobile. While the trial in another rape case, involving a local politician, is on-



Prajwal Revanna

going, trials in two other cases are yet to begin.

Prajwal was present in the Special Court of Sessions for criminal cases against former and present MPs and MLAs when the verdict was read out by judge Santosh Gajanan Bhat. Notably, the trial in the present case was completed and the accused convicted in just over a year after the FIR was filed.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 8

1 Tiger Conservation Case Study

GS Paper 4 (Ethics)

- Theme: Environmental Ethics, Compassion
- Highlights: Duty, Empathy, Trusteeship, Article 51A(g)
- Use: Shows ethical commitment by humans to protect biodiversity.

GS Paper 3 (Environment)

- Theme: Wildlife Conservation, Biodiversity
- Use: Success of Project Tiger – rise from 1,411 (2006) to 3,682 (2024).
- Shows effective policy + community action.

Essay Paper

- Themes: Ethics & Environment, Conservation = Obligation
- Use: As an intro/story to show long-term impact of moral responsibility.

2 GS2 – Polity & Governance

- Criminalisation of politics
- Role of special courts for MPs/MLAs
- Judicial speed (verdict in 1 year)

GS4 – Ethics

- Breach of public trust
- Decline in integrity and ethical conduct of leaders
- Misuse of power

Essay

- Example under themes like "Justice & accountability", or "Power and Responsibility"



MCQs For Practice

Q1. With reference to the election of the Vice-President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The election is conducted by an electoral college consisting of only elected members of Parliament.
2. Voting is held using proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote.
3. All votes in the VP election carry equal value.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Q2. The deletion of over 65 lakh names from the electoral roll in Bihar is most appropriately associated with which of the following implications for electoral governance?

- A. It indicates the decline in voter registration due to demographic shifts.
- B. It reflects deliberate disenfranchisement of voters by the state.
- C. It highlights the importance of regular verification and data cleansing to maintain electoral integrity.
- D. It shows that digital systems have failed in managing electoral rolls.

Q3. Which of the following countries were part of the recent talks to manage the Mediterranean migration route?

- A. France, Turkey, Libya
- B. Italy, Turkey, Libya
- C. Greece, Italy, Tunisia
- D. Egypt, Libya, Malta

MCQs For Practice

Q4. Consider the following statements about Strategic Disinvestment in India:

1. It involves selling a minority stake to private investors without transfer of management control.
2. IDBI Bank's strategic disinvestment involves sale of both government and LIC's stake.
3. DIPAM oversees the disinvestment process in public sector undertakings.

Which of the statements are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Q5. In the context of India-UK FTA, what does the term digital sovereignty refer to?

- A. India's right to restrict foreign trade in physical goods
- B. India's control over its digital infrastructure, data, and policy decisions
- C. Equal digital access to citizens in rural areas
- D. UK's proposal to regulate Indian software firms

Mains Question of the Day

GS Paper 2 – International Relations & Digital Governance (150 words)

Q. What is digital sovereignty? Explain its importance for India in the context of recent trade agreements that involve commitments on data sharing and source code access.

1st August MCQs Answers

1. B 2. B 3. B 4. A 5. A