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

HE ELECTION Commission (EC on Friday announced that the election for the post of Vice-President, which fell vacant with the sudden resignation of igdeep 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 ouse, New Delhi," the EC said in its press release. The EC had appointed Rajya Sabha Secretary eneral PC 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) 2 nominated members of Raiva abha and 542 elected member of Lok Sabha (one seat is vacant), the EC said.

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

lated by dividing the total nur

tion 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.

BIP have remained quiet over the episode, sources say the government was taken aback by his decision to accept an Opposition backed impeachment motion even as the BIP was planning of bringing one in the Lok Sabha.

his resignation on July 22 and Prime Minister Narendra Mod Dhankhar Ji has got many opportunities to serve our country is 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:

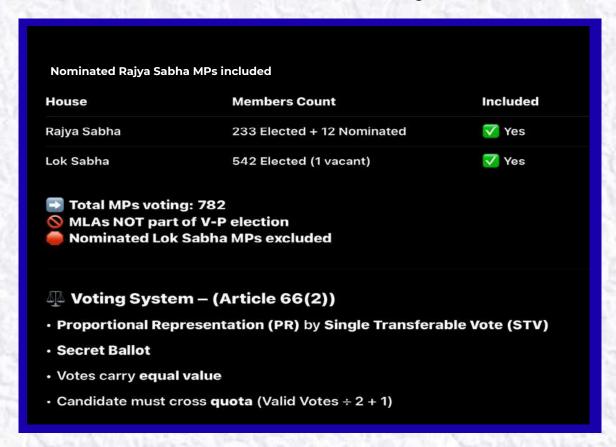
- Vice-President's post fell vacant after Jagdeep Dhankhar resigned (July 21).
- Election Commission announced poll date: September 9, 2025



- 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













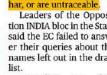


Draft poll roll for Bihar is out, voters dip by 65 lakh

Cpublishes 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

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 ore voters registered in e 2025 electoral list beore the SIR exercise. The



shared by the office of Bi-

And Relevant Constitutional Articles:

Next steps: EC has asked voters whose names are not on the draft

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

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.

The EC appealed to all eligible voters to check their names in the draft list, which is available on its

ed 18 years on July 1 or are

going to turn 18 by October

, should also get their

Subject
EC's power to conduct & supervise elections
No exclusion from rolls based on religion, race, caste, sex
Universal adult suffrage (18+)
Electoral roll preparation & revision

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

2nd AUG, 2025

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





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

UnderStandUPSC.com





Turkey, Italy, Libya discuss Mediterranean migration route and cooperation

REUTERS ANKARA, AUGUST 1

THE MIGRATION route from ibya across the Mediterranean ised by thousands seeking 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 beween the three countries against the tests that the Mediterranean basin is facing ncluding irregular migration lows," the presidency said in a

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

nd western factions, is one o he main jumping off points fo nigrants crossing the

Rival regional powers suc as Russia, Turkey, Egypt and the Jnited Arab Emirates have also een 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















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.

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

















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?

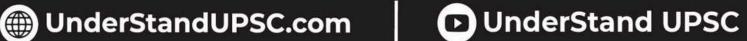
- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

[PYQ 2011]













What has been missed is India's digital sovereignty



We argue that the compromises made in the

1

Parminder Jeet Singh

compromises

Agreement will

ng maintained at global forums, including

in the digital the India-U.K. have profound rights in this regard, for all times to come, in a

Surrendering a critical national resource his is because data is not what it used to be

where heated competition for global mastery is raging, is but patterns derived from data, which is why data is deemed to be priceless. access to such data poses risks of eroding India's ompetitive advantage in using India's own data o create Indian Al products, and also serious

negotiators could be so naive or negligent in agreeing to the above concessions. Digital traconcessions are not like those on commodities

ems that the U.K. was able to extract all the bove concessions, the absolute opposite to what I dia has stood for till now, because, <mark>unlike</mark> wereignty. But it is perhaps an even more aportant issue in the mid to long term. We may e seeing a repeat of how India lost out on early ions, we may be giving up our digital

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 selfreliance

2nd AUG, 2025



Key Points:

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

all For More Info









MAINS ENRICHMENT

Two decades ago, we were just 1,411. Today, we are 3,682 strong! We're roaring again, because some humans refused to let us vanish.

Prajwal Revanna convicted of rape; sentencing today

The Hindu Bureau

A special court in Bengalu-ru on Friday convicted former Janata Dal (Secular) MP Prajwal Revanna of rape. The quantum of senrape. The quantum of sen-tence is likely to be an-nounced on Saturday. Prajwal is the grandson of former Prime Minister

D. Deve Gowda and son f former Karnataka Mini ler H.D. Revanna. The JD S) had suspended Prajwal, ts former Hassan MP, in the wake of several rape al-

came on the first of the four rape and sexual ha-rassment cases against Prajwal. The case pertains to the family's then domes-tic help who said Prajwal mobile. While the trial in



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











