
Today's Prelims Topics

De Minimis Regulation

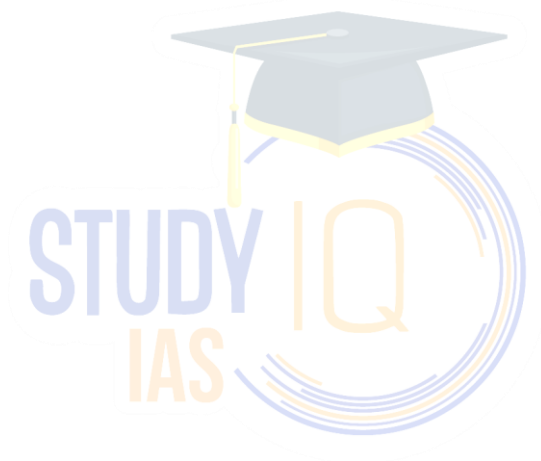
Context

The United States has eliminated the duty-free import exemption for low-value goods (known as the de minimis rule) with effect from August 29, 2025.

What is the De Minimis Regulation?

- It is a trade rule that allows **small-value imports to enter a country without paying customs duty.**
- Established under **Section 321 of the 1930 Tariff Act.**
- In the **1990s**, it was reframed as a **trade facilitation measure** to cut costs for small shipments.
- **How it Worked in the U.S.:**
 - Any imported item worth **up to \$800 per person per day** could enter **duty-free.**
 - This made it easier for consumers to buy cheap goods online from abroad.
- Imports under de minimis rose from **134 million in 2015 to 1.36 billion in 2024.**
 - Around **4 million parcels per day** were processed duty-free.

Source: [The Hindu](#)



State of Economy Report

Context

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently released its State of the Economy Report.

What is the State of the Economy Report?

- **Publisher:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **Nature:** It is an **in-house assessment**, not an official policy statement of the RBI.
- **Purpose:**
 - To provide a **comprehensive review of the Indian and global economy**.
 - To highlight **trends in inflation, growth, trade, financial markets, and credit conditions**.
 - To aid policymakers, researchers, and the public in understanding the evolving **macroeconomic situation**.

Key Highlights of Report

- **Inflation Outlook**
 - CPI-based inflation expected to remain **significantly below 4%** in 2025.
 - Likely to **dip further in Q2 FY25** due to muted food price pressures and favourable base effects.
 - Inflation may **inch up in Q4**, but full-year average will remain below the 4% target.
 - CPI inflation stood at **1.6% in July 2025**, down from **2.1% in June 2025**.
- **Food Prices**
 - **Cereals:** Prices showing an uptick.
 - **Pulses:** Mixed trend – *tur/arhar dal* prices fell, *gram dal* rose.
 - **Edible oils:** Mustard, sunflower, groundnut, soybean rose; palm oil steady.
 - **Vegetables:** Tomato prices rising; potato and onion stable.
- **Fuel Prices**
 - **Petrol & Diesel:** Retail prices unchanged in August.
 - **Kerosene:** Prices edged up.
 - **LPG:** Prices unchanged.
- **Growth Outlook**
 - **Favourable monsoon conditions** support kharif output.
 - Rising **real rural wages** could strengthen rural demand in the second half of FY25.
 - Risks remain from **India-US trade policy uncertainties**.
- **Industry & Services**
 - **PMI (Purchasing Managers' Index)** for July 2025 showed:
 - Higher input price expansion in both manufacturing and services.
 - Selling prices also rose for both sectors.
- **Credit Growth & Financing**
 - Bank credit growth improved in June 2025, led by **MSME lending**.
 - Overall flow of resources to the commercial sector increased.
 - Large corporates increasingly turned to **market instruments** (commercial papers, corporate bonds) for funding.

Source: [The Hindu Businessline](#)

Working of Bail system in India & US

Context

Recently, U.S. President Donald Trump signed an executive order targeting **cashless bail** in the United States, arguing that it leads to a rise in crime. This has revived debates on how **bail systems operate differently across countries**, including India.

What is Bail System?

- It is the legal process of **releasing an accused person from custody**, usually on the condition that they will appear in court for trial.
- Purpose:
 - To ensure the **presence of the accused during trial**.
 - To balance the **right to personal liberty** with the **interest of justice and public safety**.
- Bail may involve **monetary deposits, sureties, or personal undertakings** depending on the legal system.

Bail in India

- Governed by **Chapter 35 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023** (earlier CrPC, 1973).
- Types of Bail:**
 - Bond:** Accused signs a promise to appear in court.
 - Bail Bond:** A surety (family/friend/employer) guarantees the accused's presence, sometimes with payment.
 - Personal Recognizance (PR) Bond:** Release without monetary payment, only a written promise, usually when the accused cannot afford bail.
- Issue:** Many undertrial prisoners remain in jail despite bail being granted, because they cannot afford even small surety amounts (as low as ₹5,000).
- Reforms:**
 - The Supreme Court (2023) directed Legal Services Authorities to assist poor undertrials.
 - The Law Commission (268th Report, 2017) called monetary bail discriminatory and against constitutional ethos.

Bail in India vs. US

Aspect	India	United States
Governing Law	Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023	State-specific laws; guided by judicial precedents
Types of Bail	Bond, Bail Bond (with surety), PR Bond	Cash Bail, Cashless Bail (in some states), Surety Bond
Purpose	Ensure appearance of accused in trial; balance liberty with justice	Ensure accused does not abscond or tamper with witnesses
Monetary Element	Often requires a surety or bond; can be waived via PR bond	Strong reliance on cash bail deposits
Key Concern	Many undertrials remain jailed for inability to pay even small amounts	Cash bail keeps poor people in jail; rich can pay and be released
Reform Efforts	SC guidelines for undertrials; Law Commission suggests less monetary focus	Some states experimenting with cashless bail ; Trump order seeks to limit it

Source: [Indian Express](#)

Bioluminescence of Fireflies

Context

A study in Tamil Nadu's Anamalai Tiger Reserve showed how fireflies' bioluminescence reflects forest health and why natural darkness is vital for their survival.

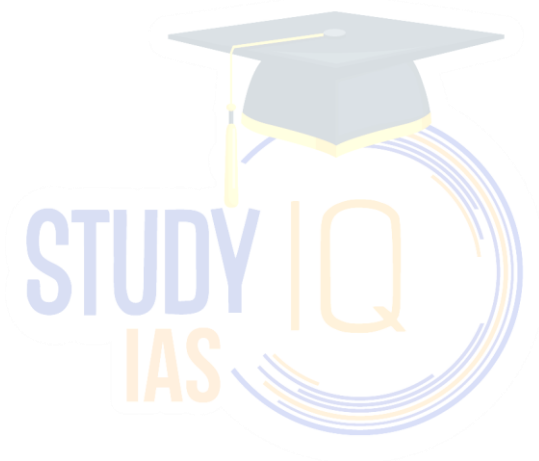
What is Bioluminescence?

- It is the ability of living organisms to produce and emit light through a chemical reaction.
- **In fireflies**, this process takes place in their **abdomen**.
- **How it Works in Fireflies:** The chemical reaction involves **Luciferin** (a light-emitting compound), **Luciferase** (an enzyme), **ATP (adenosine triphosphate)** (energy molecule), **Oxygen**.
 - When luciferin reacts with oxygen in the presence of luciferase and ATP, it produces **"cold light"** (very little heat, mostly visible light).
 - The light flashes are controlled by the firefly's nervous system and oxygen supply.

Why Fireflies Glow

- **Mating Signals:** Different species have unique flash patterns to attract mates.
- **Predator Deterrence:** The glow signals toxicity or bad taste to predators.
- **Communication:** Used for species recognition and coordination in groups.

Source: [Indian Express](#)



BioCARE (Biotechnology Career Advancement and Re-orientation) Programme

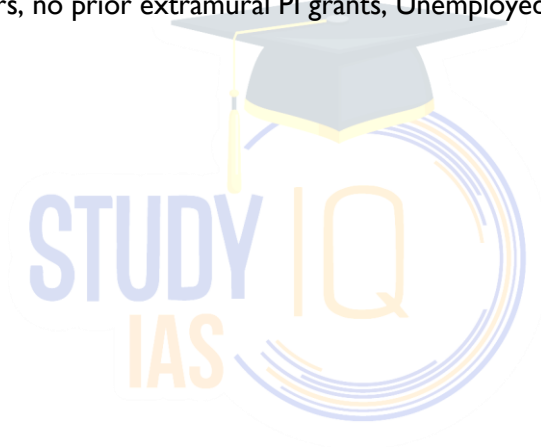
Context

Recently, **75 women selected for the BioCARE programme faced delays in sanction letters and salaries**, causing disruptions in their research work.

About the Programme

- **Purpose:** It is dedicated to **enhancing the participation of women researchers in biotechnology and allied areas**, offering crucial support to those without prior extramural research grants.
- **Initiative by:** Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under the Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India
- **Disciplines Covered:** Support spans across several areas, including:
 - Animal and Marine Biotechnology
 - Bioengineering and Biomaterials
 - Medical Biotechnology
 - Environmental Biotechnology & Bioenergy
 - Plant and Agricultural Biotechnology
- **Age Limit:** Candidates must be
 - Women <55 yrs, no prior extramural PI grants, Unemployed/temporary roles.

Source: [The Hindu](#)



BHARATI Initiative

Context

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has launched a new initiative called BHARATI during the “Food & Beverages Sector Stakeholders Meeting”.

What is the BHARATI Initiative?

- **Full Form:** Bharat's Hub for Agritech, Resilience, Advancement and Incubation for Export Enablement.
- **Objective:**
 - Incubate **100 agri-food and agri-tech startups annually**.
 - Drive **innovation, export readiness, and sustainability** in agriculture and food processing.
- **Focus Areas:** GI products, organic foods, superfoods, AYUSH products, blockchain traceability, AI-based quality checks, IoT cold chains, sustainable packaging.
- **Vision:** Achieve **\$50 billion agri-food exports by 2030**, strengthen India's global agri-trade.
- **Structure:**
 - A **3-month acceleration programme** for selected startups on product development, export readiness, compliance, and market access.
 - Collaborative support with state boards, agri-universities, IITs/NITs, and industry bodies.

About APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority)

- **Established:** 1986, under the **APEDA Act, 1985**
- **Nodal Ministry:** **Ministry of Commerce & Industry**, Government of India
- **Mandate & Functions:**
 - **Promotion & Development** of export of scheduled agricultural and processed food products.
 - **Scheduled Products** include: fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, dairy products, honey, jaggery, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, cereals, groundnuts, floriculture products etc.
 - **Export Facilitation:**
 - Financial assistance, market development, and quality improvement measures.
 - Infrastructure development (like pack houses, cold storage, integrated packhouses).
 - **Certification & Quality Assurance:**
 - Organic certification under **National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP)**.
 - GI tagging, traceability, and food safety protocols.
 - **Capacity Building:** Training exporters, farmers, and entrepreneurs.
 - **Global Market Access:** Organises buyer-seller meets, international fairs, and promotional campaigns.

Source: [PIB](#)

Coconut Development Board

Context

The **Coconut Development Board (CDB)** celebrated **World Coconut Day** at Angamaly, Kerala.

About Coconut Development Board (CDB)

- **Established:** 1981 under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- **Headquarters:** Kochi, Kerala.
- **Nature:** **Statutory body** under the **Coconut Development Board Act, 1979**.
- **Mandate:**
 - Integrated development of coconut cultivation and industry in India.
 - Support for production, processing, product diversification, marketing, and export promotion.
 - Promoting value addition in coconut products (oil, water, shell, husk, coir, activated carbon, etc.).
 - Implementing schemes like replanting, technology support, market promotion, and farmer skill training.

Other Similar Boards

Board	Headquarters	Established	Focus Crop
Coffee Board of India	Bengaluru, Karnataka	1942	Coffee
Tea Board of India	Kolkata, West Bengal	1953 (Tea Act)	Tea
Rubber Board	Kottayam, Kerala	1947	Rubber
Spices Board of India	Kochi, Kerala	1987 (by merger of Cardamom Board & Spices Export Promotion Council)	Spices (incl. cardamom, pepper, cinnamon, etc.)
Tobacco Board	Guntur, Andhra Pradesh	1976	Tobacco
Arecanut and Spices Development Board	Kozhikode, Kerala	1986	Arecanut & selected spices

Source: [PIB](#)

Sample Registration Survey (SRS) Statistical Report

Context

The SRS Statistical Report 2023 was recently released by the **Office of the Registrar General of India (RGI)** under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**.

Key Highlights

- **Crude Birth Rate (CBR)**
 - Declined from **19.1 (2022) to 18.4 (2023)** (per 1,000 population).
 - **Highest CBR:** Bihar (25.8).
 - **Lowest CBR:** Tamil Nadu (12).
- **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)**
 - Fell to **1.9 in 2023**, below the replacement level (2.1).
 - First dip in two years (TFR was 2.0 in 2021 & 2022).
 - **Highest TFR:** Bihar (2.8) among major States/UTs.
 - **Lowest TFR:** Delhi (1.2).
- **Regional Trends**
 - **Higher-than-replacement TFR:** Concentrated in northern/central states – Bihar (2.8), UP (2.6), MP (2.4), Rajasthan (2.3), Chhattisgarh (2.2).
 - **Lowest TFR States:** Delhi (1.2), West Bengal (1.3), Tamil Nadu (1.3), Maharashtra (1.4).
- **Elderly Population**
 - Share of people aged **60+ rose to 9.7%** (from 9% in 2022).
 - **Kerala** has the highest elderly proportion at 15%.
 - Lowest: Assam (7.6%), Delhi (7.7%), Jharkhand (7.6%).
- **Other Data Released in 2023**
 - Alongside SRS, the RGI also released **Civil Registration System (CRS)** and **Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD)** reports (for 2021 and 2022, though with delays).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

NIRF Rankings, 2025

Context

Union Minister of Education India Rankings 2025, which implements the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).

Key Highlights – India Rankings 2025

- **Overall Category**
 - IIT Madras retains 1st position for the 7th consecutive year (2019–2025).
 - Top 100 institutions include:
 - 24 State Public Universities
 - 22 Private Deemed Universities
 - 19 IITs & IISc
 - 9 Private Universities
 - 8 NITs
 - 7 Central Universities
 - 5 Medical Institutions (under MoHFW)
 - 4 IISERs
 - 1 College
 - Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI, MoA&FW).
- **Universities & Research Institutions**
 - IISc Bengaluru: Ranked 1st in Universities for 10th consecutive year (2016–2025).
 - IISc also tops Research Institutions category for 5th consecutive year (2021–2025).
- **Management**
 - IIM Ahmedabad ranked 1st for 6th consecutive year (2020–2025).
- **Medical & Dental**
 - AIIMS Delhi: 1st in Medical for 8th consecutive year (2018–2025). Also ranked 8th Overall.
 - AIIMS Delhi tops Dental for the first time, replacing Saveetha Institute (Chennai).
- **Pharmacy**
 - Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi: Tops for 2nd consecutive year.
- **Colleges**
 - Hindu College, Delhi: 1st for 2nd consecutive year, replacing Miranda House (which topped from 2017–2023).
 - 6 of top 10 colleges are from Delhi.
- **Architecture & Planning**
 - IIT Roorkee: 1st for 5th consecutive year (2021–2025).
- **Law**
 - National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru: 1st for 8th consecutive year (2018–2025).
- **Agriculture & Allied Sectors**
 - IARI, New Delhi: 1st for 3rd consecutive year (2023–2025).
- **State Public Universities**
 - Jadavpur University, Kolkata: Topped this category (introduced in 2024).
- **Open Universities**
 - IGNOU, New Delhi: 1st for 2nd consecutive year (2024–2025).
- **Skill Universities**
 - Symbiosis Skill & Professional University (SSPU), Pune: 1st for 2nd consecutive year (2024–2025).
- **Special Categories**
 - **Innovation:** IIT Madras ranked 1st.
 - **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** IIT Madras tops the category (introduced in 2025).

Source: [PIB](#)

News In Short

Malacca Strait

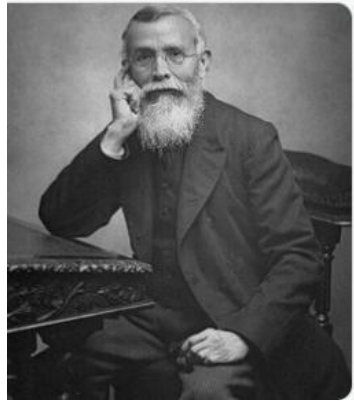


News? Singapore has supported India's plan to patrol the Malacca Straits.

About the Strait

- **Location:** Narrow stretch of water between the **Malay Peninsula (Malaysia)** and the **Indonesian island of Sumatra**.
- **Importance:**
 - One of the **world's busiest shipping lanes** – carries ~25% of global trade.
 - Major route for **oil and gas shipments** from the Middle East to China, Japan, and South Korea.

Dadabhai Naoroji (1825–1917)



News? This year marks the 200th Birth anniversary of Dadabhai Naoroji.

About Him

- Known as the **“Grand Old Man of India”**.
- One of the **founders of the Indian National Congress (INC)** (1885).
- **First Indian elected to the British Parliament** (1892, Liberal Party MP from Finsbury, London).
- Propagated the famous **“Drain of Wealth Theory”**, explaining how Britain was economically exploiting India.
- Authored **“Poverty and Un-British Rule in India”** (1901).
- Advocated **constitutional reforms, Indian representation in governance, and economic self-reliance**.
- Served as **INC President three times** (1886, 1893, 1906).
- His 1906 presidential address demanded **“Swaraj” (self-rule)**, giving early shape to India's independence movement.

Source: [Scroll.in](https://scroll.in)

Mains Topics

Theaterisation of the Indian Armed Forces

Context

The recently concluded **Tri-service seminar (Ran Samwad 2025)** at Army War College, Mhow, has reignited debate on theatre commands.

What is Theaterisation?

- **Theaterisation** is a major defence reform that seeks to integrate the **Army, Navy, and Air Force** under unified commands based on geography or adversaries.
- Instead of operating under separate, service-specific commands, all forces and assets in a particular “theatre” (region of operation) would be commanded by a single **theatre commander**, ensuring **joint planning, joint operations, and optimal use of resources**.
- Currently:
 - Army → **7 commands**
 - IAF → **7 commands**
 - Navy → **3 commands**
 - 2 tri-service commands already exist: **Andaman & Nicobar Command (ANC)** and **Strategic Forces Command (SFC)**.

Why is Theaterisation Needed?

- **Changing nature of Warfare:** Future wars will be **multi-domain**: land, sea, air, cyber, and space.
 - **Eg:** Conflicts may involve **drones, high-precision missiles, cyberattacks, space-based surveillance**, and simultaneous land battles → requiring seamless coordination.
- **Better Integration and Efficiency:** At present, the services often function in **silos**, leading to duplication of resources and slow response. Theaterisation ensures **pooling of resources and quick decision-making** under a unified command.
- **Learning from Past Lessons: Kargil War (1999)** revealed gaps in joint planning and coordination, leading to creation of **HQ IDS** but without a binding operational structure.
- **Optimal Use of Limited Assets:** India has a **scarcity of critical assets** (e.g., fighter jets, AWACS, drones). Dividing them across different commands weakens overall capacity; integration under theatre commands allows **centralised allocation**.
- **Strategic Ambitions:** As India aspires to be a **regional power** and host mega sporting/strategic events (like Commonwealth or Olympics), **credible defence integration** enhances deterrence and global image.

EVOLUTION OF THE IDEA IN INDIA

1947-1999	Services operated independently under their chiefs; no unified framework
POST-KARGIL WAR (1999)	Kargil Review Committee and Group of Ministers (2001) recommended greater jointness and integrated theatre commands
2019 (PM MODI'S INDEPENDENCE DAY SPEECH)	Announced creation of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) to ensure synergy Union Cabinet approved the CDS post and creation of the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) to promote jointness and restructure commands
DEC 2019	Gen Bipin Rawat (first CDS): proposed 4 theatre commands - Air Defence, Maritime, and two land commands (East & West)
AFTER GEN RAWAT'S DEATH (DEC 2021)	Successor Gen Anil Chauhan revived discussions; IAF concerns led to new proposals of adversary-specific theatre commands: NORTHERN/EASTERN THEATRE → CHINA WESTERN THEATRE → PAKISTAN MARITIME THEATRE → INDIAN OCEAN

Challenges in Implementing Theaterisation

- **Institutional Resistance:** Dismantling **70+ years of service-specific command structures** is difficult. Each service fears losing control over assets and operational autonomy.
- **IAF's Concerns:**

- **Scarce assets** (fighters, AWACS, tankers) risk being divided across multiple theatres.
- IAF insists air power is a **strategic, independent arm**, not merely supportive.
- Former IAF chiefs (R.K.S. Bhaduria, V.R. Chaudhary, and current ACM A.P. Singh) have stressed the need to avoid doctrinal dilution.
- **Doctrinal and Operational Issues:** Risk of **longer decision-making chains** if command structures are overly centralised. Lack of clarity on **lead service responsibility** for different theatres.
- **Political and Legal Complexities:** Final approval rests with the Government, which must balance **civil-military control, budget constraints, and inter-service disagreements**.
- **Transition and Training Costs:** Relocating HQs, restructuring chains of command, retraining personnel → heavy financial and organisational burden.

Government Steps So Far

- **Creation of CDS & DMA (2019):** institutional anchor for reforms.
- **Joint Logistics Nodes:** Set up at Mumbai, Guwahati, and Port Blair.
- **Cross-postings** among services to promote joint culture.
- **Joint procurement & training** initiatives under HQ IDS.
- **Two existing tri-service commands:** ANC (2001) and SFC (2003).
- **Proposals for Theatre Commands** under active deliberation; revised adversary-based structure being considered.
 - The government has **not yet approved the final theatre command structure**.

Way Forward

- **Phased Implementation:** Begin with one or two pilot theatre commands (e.g., Maritime, Northern border) → expand gradually.
- **Consensus Building:** Address IAF's concerns by ensuring **flexible allocation of air assets** across theatres. Create clear **doctrinal frameworks** to define roles.
- **Legislative and Policy Support:** Enact a **Defence Reforms Act** to give statutory backing to theatre commands and ensure continuity beyond political cycles.
- **Capacity Building:** Expand India's combat assets (fighters, UAVs, naval ships, cyber/space units) so resources are not stretched too thin.
- **Joint Training & Culture:** Establish **National Defence University** and joint academies for officers at all levels to inculcate a culture of jointness.
- **Technology Integration:** Focus on cyber, AI, space assets, and multi-domain operations; ensure theatre commands are **future-ready**.

Global Examples

- **United States:** Unified Combatant Commands (e.g., CENTCOM, AFRICOM, INDOPACOM) integrate all services in geographic zones.
- **China:** Reformed its PLA in **2016**, creating **five theatre commands** (Eastern, Southern, Western, Northern, Central).
- **Russia:** Has Joint Strategic Commands integrating Army, Navy, and Air Forces in regional theatres.
- **Lessons for India:** Theatre commands can work effectively but must be **tailored to national needs, resources, and geography**, not blindly copied.

Regulation of Commercial Speech on Digital Platforms

Context

The Supreme Court in August 2025 directed the Union government to draft guidelines for regulating social media, in consultation with the National Broadcasters and Digital Association (NBDA). The matter arose from derogatory remarks made in a stand-up comedy skit about persons with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), leading to FIRs in Maharashtra and Assam

The Need for Regulation

- **Vulnerable groups targeted:** Humour or satire may perpetuate stereotypes against persons with disabilities, women, or minorities.
- **Amplified impact:** Digital platforms magnify offensive content, increasing its social harm compared to private speech.
- **Profit-driven speech:** Monetisation incentivises sensationalism and provocative content, often at the cost of sensitivity.
- **Public order concerns:** Derogatory or divisive content can spark unrest, as seen in multiple FIRs across states.
- **Accountability gap:** Platforms host speech but are not always transparent in moderating or removing harmful content.

Existing Regulatory Framework

- **Constitutional Provisions:**
 - **Article 19(1)(a)** guarantees freedom of speech.
 - **Article 19(2)** allows reasonable restrictions on specific grounds: sovereignty, public order, decency, morality, defamation, etc.
 - Dignity is not an independent ground but is indirectly protected through defamation and decency clauses.
- **Statutory Provisions:**
 - **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023:** Penalises defamation, hate speech, and incitement.
 - **IT Act, 2000:**
 - **Section 69A** permits blocking of online content in the interest of sovereignty, public order, etc.
 - **Blocking Rules, 2009** provide a mechanism, though opaque.
 - **Other laws:** Criminal defamation, obscenity laws, and FIR mechanisms are available.
- **Judicial Precedents**
 - *Sakal Papers v. Union of India* (1962) – Freedom of circulation is part of free speech.
 - *Tata Press v. MTNL* (1995) – Commercial advertisements protected as free speech.
 - *Subramanian Swamy v. Union of India* (2016) – Criminal defamation upheld to protect dignity.
 - *Imran Pratapgadhi case* (2025) – Court upheld that free speech includes offensive or disturbing views.

Challenges in Regulation

- **Vagueness of Standards:** Grounds like “dignity” are **undefined and subjective**, leading to arbitrary censorship.
- **Opacity in Enforcement:** Takedowns under Section 69A IT Act often occur **without notice** to content creators, violating natural justice.
- **Chilling Effect on Free Speech:** Over-regulation discourages **comedians, satirists, and artists**, undermining creativity and critique.
- **Judicial Overreach and Institutional Boundaries:** Court directing the executive to frame rules risks **blurring separation of powers** and gives such regulations added legitimacy.
- **Polyvocal Judiciary:** Divergent observations by different Benches create uncertainty; conflicting judgments reduce clarity in law.

- **Exclusionary Consultation:** Often, regulatory frameworks consult **industry lobbies** but exclude creators, civil society, and vulnerable groups directly impacted.

Way Forward

- **Strengthen Existing Mechanisms:** Improve **transparency in IT Act takedowns** - mandatory notice, opportunity to appeal, and publication of orders.
- **Avoid Overreach:** Keep restrictions within **Article 19(2)**; resist adding vague grounds like “dignity” as standalone limits.
- **Safeguard Creativity:** Protect the space for **satire, art, and comedy** that challenge social norms, while addressing targeted abuse.
- **Inclusive Consultation:** Include **creators, disability rights groups, civil society, and digital rights experts** alongside broadcasters.
- **Institutional Clarity:** Regulation must be **executive-led** with **parliamentary oversight**, not judicially mandated frameworks.
- **Review and Oversight Mechanisms:** Establish **independent review boards** to oversee takedowns, prevent abuse, and ensure proportionality.

Global Models

- **European Union: Digital Services Act (DSA, 2022)** mandates algorithmic transparency, accountability, and hefty fines (up to 6% of global turnover) for harmful content.
- **Australia: eSafety Commissioner** monitors online harms; platforms must act swiftly against abusive content.

