
Prelims Exam Topics

MANACHE SHLOK

Context

Composed in the 17th century by the Marathi saint-poet Samarth Ramdas Swami, the Manache Shlok (Verses addressed to the Mind) remains one of Maharashtra's most popular spiritual and psychological texts, traditionally recited for character building and mental discipline.

About Manche Shlok

- **Author & Era:** Composed by **Samarth Ramdas Swami**, a 17th-century saint-poet and contemporary of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.
- **Core Objective:** Functions as a manual for **Manonigraha** (mental control) and **Manolaya** (dissolving the ego), focusing on internal dialogue rather than external ritual.
- **Structural Precision:** Consists of **205 verses** written in the rhythmic **Bhujangaprayat meter**, designed for easy memorization and subconscious impact.
- **Thematic Roadmap:** Transitions logically from **Behavioral Ethics** (humility and truth) to **Psychological Cleansing** (overcoming the *Shadripus* or six enemies) and finally to **Advaita Philosophy**.
- **Modern Relevance:** Frequently compared to **Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)** for its systematic approach to identifying negative thought patterns and replacing them with constructive, ethical affirmations.

WARANGAL

Context

The article highlights that the "unsettling ease" with which Warangal floods today is due to the encroachment on these ancient nalas and the disruption of the historic drainage path that led toward the Musi Basin.

Historical Context

- Founded in 1163 CE, Warangal (historically Orugallu) during the **Kakatiya Dynasty** (12th–14th century), which shifted its capital from Hanumakonda to Orugallu under King **Ganapati Deva**.
- **Ekashila Nagaram:** The city was known as "Ekashila" (Single Stone) because the entire fort was centered around a massive granite hillock.
- **Concentric Fortification:** The city was a marvel of medieval military engineering, featuring three layers of defense: an inner stone wall, a middle mud wall, and an outer rampart.
- **The Kala Thoranams:** These iconic stone gateways, now the state emblem of Telangana, served as the ritualistic entrances to the **Swayambhuva Shiva Temple**.
- **Architectural Mastery:** The era produced the **Thousand Pillar Temple** (Hanumakonda) and the nearby **Ramappa Temple** (UNESCO World Heritage site), known for their "sandbox" foundations and intricate dolerite carvings.
- **The Reign of Rudrama Devi:** Warangal is famously associated with **Rani Rudrama Devi**, one of the few female monarchs in Indian history, who defended the kingdom against the Yadavas and the Cholas.

Hydrological Context

- While Warangal is not situated directly on the banks of a major perennial river, its survival and prosperity were built on a sophisticated relationship with the **Musi River** network and the broader **Krishna River Basin**.
- **The Musi Connection:** The city lies within the northern catchment area of the **Musi River**, a significant tributary of the **Krishna**. The local drainage channels and *nalas* (like the Bondivagu) eventually feed into the Musi river system.
- **The "Chain-of-Tanks" System:** The Kakatiyas were pioneers in landscape engineering. They constructed a series of interconnected man-made lakes—**Bhadrakali, Waddepally, and Gundam Cheruvu**—to harvest rainwater. These tanks acted as flood moderators for the Musi's smaller tributaries and provided a perennial water source for the semi-arid Deccan plateau.
- **The Moat System:** The **Warangal Fort** itself was surrounded by a functional moat, which served a dual purpose: defensive protection and a secondary reservoir for the city's population.

PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT (AMENDMENT) RULES, 2026

Context

Context: The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has reinforced the Plastic Waste Management Rules to transition from a "take-make-dispose" model to a Circular Economy.

Key features of the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2026

- **Mandatory Recycled Content:** For the first time, the rules mandate a specific percentage of recycled plastic in new packaging. For 2025-26, targets are set at **30% for Category I (Rigid)**, **10% for Category II (Flexible)**, and **5% for Category III (Multi-layered)**.
- **Compliance Flexibility (Carry-Forward):** Companies that fail to meet their 2025-26 recycling targets are permitted to carry forward the shortfall for up to **three subsequent years**, provided they fulfill at least **one-third** of the deficit annually.
- **Tradable EPR Certificates:** The rules formalize a market-based mechanism where companies exceeding their targets can sell **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) certificates** to those facing a shortfall, facilitating a flexible national compliance grid.
- **Phased Targets for Reuse:** Beyond recycling, the rules introduce mandatory **reuse obligations** for rigid plastic packaging, such as a 70% reuse target for large water carboys and 10% for smaller containers (0.9–4.9 liters) by 2025-26.
- **Centralized Digital Tracking:** All Producers, Importers, and Brand Owners (PIBOs) must register and file annual returns on a **centralized online portal** managed by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to ensure transparency in waste processing claims.
- **Environmental Compensation (EC):** A "Polluter Pays" regime is established where financial penalties are levied for non-compliance. These funds are earmarked for collection, shared out for recycling infrastructure, and end-of-life disposal projects.
- **Exemptions for Safety Standards:** The rules provide a critical exclusion where recycled content targets do not apply if they conflict with **food safety regulations** (FSSAI) or other specific healthcare quality standards.

- **Defined Plastic Categorization:** To streamline processing, plastic is strictly divided into four categories: **Category I (Rigid)**, **Category II (Flexible/Single Layer)**, **Category III (Multi-layered)**, and **Category IV (Compostable plastics)**, each with distinct trajectory benchmarks.

NDD BAN

Context

- The RBI has barred banks from non-deliverable derivative (NDD) contracts in the rupee, a segment often linked to speculative trading by large currency players.
- This move signals a push for greater control and transparency in the forex market, aiming to curb speculation and strengthen the onshore market.
- Following the directive, the rupee recovered sharply from below 95 to 93.10 per dollar, helped by reduced speculative pressure. The step is intended to stabilise the currency amid rising oil prices and capital outflows due to the West Asia conflict.

About NDD Market

- **Non-Deliverable Derivatives (NDDs)** are financial contracts used to hedge or speculate on currencies that are not freely convertible like the Indian rupee without any actual exchange of the underlying currency.
- Instead of physically delivering the currency at settlement, the difference between the agreed contract rate and the actual market rate is settled in a freely convertible currency, typically the US dollar.
- Basically, NDDs are offshore currency contracts that allow participants to bet on the rupee's future value without actual delivery of the currency.
- **NDDs are traded outside India in global financial hubs such as: Singapore; Hong Kong; London; Dubai.**
- These markets operate beyond the direct regulatory control of the RBI.
- NDD markets often act as a price discovery mechanism, shaping expectations about the rupee even before Indian markets open.

How NDDs Work

- **Cash-Settled Contracts** – In an NDD, two parties agree on a future exchange rate for the rupee, but the contract is settled in cash (usually US dollars) instead of exchanging the actual currency.
- **Reason for Their Existence** – Due to India's capital controls, foreign investors cannot freely trade the rupee. This led to the development of offshore NDD markets.

Who Uses the NDD Market

- Foreign investors and hedge funds
- Global banks
- Companies hedging currency risk
- They use NDDs to speculate on or hedge against rupee movements without accessing the domestic market.

Concerns and Criticism of NDD Market

- Offshore sentiment can diverge from domestic fundamentals
- Leads to distorted price signals and potential manipulation
- Contributes to higher volatility in the rupee.

Misuse of the NDD Market

- The NDD market, originally meant for hedging, was often misused by participants for speculative gains.
- Some traders would cancel and re-enter contracts to benefit from favourable currency movements, effectively turning a risk-management tool into a speculative instrument.
- During periods of global uncertainty, such as the West Asia conflict, large offshore traders took aggressive positions betting on rupee depreciation.
- These actions influenced the onshore market in India, increasing volatility and weakening the currency.

RBI's Crackdown on Loopholes

- The RBI's move aims to close regulatory arbitrage opportunities that allowed such practices.
- By restricting NDD-related activities, the central bank is tightening oversight and limiting misuse in offshore markets.
- Another key step is the restriction on transactions with related parties, addressing concerns over intra-group dealings that could hide actual risk exposure or shift profits across jurisdictions.
- Aligning rules with global accounting standards reflects RBI's effort to improve transparency and credibility.
- In the short term, these measures are likely to reduce speculative activity and stabilise the rupee, leading to lower volatility and improved investor confidence in India's forex market.

TELANGANA PASSED A PLATFORM-BASED GIG WORKERS BILL

Context

Telangana Legislative Assembly passed the Telangana Platform-Based Gig Workers (Registration, Social Security and Welfare) Bill, 2026.

Key Features

- **Welfare Board:** The bill establishes the Telangana Gig and Platform Workers Welfare Board to manage a dedicated welfare fund for registered workers.
- **Welfare Fee:** Aggregator platforms must contribute 1%-2% of transaction value to the welfare fund.
- **Worker ID:** Every registered gig worker receives a Unique Identification Number (UID) for seamless access to government schemes across different platforms.
- **Algorithmic Transparency:** Platforms must disclose how tasks are allocated and how worker ratings affect available work.
- **Termination:** Aggregators must give a written reason and a 7-day notice before terminating a worker, except in cases of immediate safety threats.
- **Grievance Redressal:** The bill establishes a two-tier dispute resolution mechanism
 - **Internal Dispute Resolution Committees (IDRCs)** are mandatory for platforms with over 100 workers.
 - The government will appoint Grievance Redressal Officers to resolve disputes within 30 days.

Regulatory Framework for India's Gig Workers

- Code on Social Security, 2020, is the primary national law that formally recognised “gig workers” and “platform workers” for the first time in India.
- Legal Definition: A gig worker is defined as an individual undertaking work outside the conventional employer-employee relationship.
- Aggregator Levy: The Code mandates that digital aggregators contribute 1%-2% of annual turnover to a Social Security Fund, capped at 5% of total worker payments.
- State Laws: Labour is a concurrent subject, enabling states to enact dedicated gig worker laws independently of central legislation.
- India's First: Rajasthan passed India's first dedicated gig worker law in 2023, establishing a Welfare Board and a transaction-based fee for a social security fund.

INDIA AND AZERBAIJAN RESET TIES

Context

- India and Azerbaijan held the **6th Foreign Office Consultations in Baku (2026)** to restore ties after tensions triggered by **Operation Sindoor criticism**.

Fallout in Relations after Operation Sindoor

- **Operation Sindoor criticism:** Azerbaijan criticised India's **strikes on Pakistan after the Pahalgam terror attack**, calling for restraint.
- **Azerbaijan–Pakistan Strategic Ties:** Azerbaijan maintains **close military and political partnership with Pakistan**, partly due to Islamabad's support in the **Nagorno-Karabakh conflict against Armenia**.
- **India–Armenia Defence Links:** Azerbaijan accused India of **supplying arms to Armenia**, which deepened diplomatic friction.
- **Multilateral Tensions:** Azerbaijan alleged India **blocked its membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)**.

Recent Reset in Ties

- **Foreign Office Consultations:** India and Azerbaijan resumed **high-level diplomatic dialogue after a gap since 2022**, agreeing to resolve differences through **open discussions**.
- **Energy Cooperation:** Azerbaijan resumed **crude oil exports to India (≈98% of Azerbaijan's exports to India)**; **ONGC Videsh holds stakes in oil and gas projects**.
- **Counter-Terrorism Dialogue:** Both sides discussed cooperation against **cross-border terrorism**, signalling easing tensions.
- **Humanitarian Cooperation:** Azerbaijan helped facilitate **evacuation of over 200 Indians from Iran**, contributing to improved diplomatic atmosphere.
- **Future Engagement:** Next round of **Foreign Office Consultations scheduled in New Delhi**, indicating continued engagement.

MHA REVISED CLASSIFICATION OF LWE AFFECTED DISTRICTS

Context

- The **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** revised the classification of **Left-Wing Extremism (LWE)** affected districts in 2026, reflecting the **sharp decline of the Red Corridor** (from ~200 districts in 2005 to only 2 core districts today).

Revised Classification of Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) Affected Districts (2026)

Category	Meaning / Nature of Maoist Activity	Districts
LWE Affected Districts (2)	Core Maoist strongholds with active insurgent presence and frequent violence	Bijapur (Chhattisgarh); West Singhbhum (Jharkhand)
District of Concern (1)	Areas with sporadic Maoist incidents but declining operational capacity	Kanker (Chhattisgarh)
Legacy & Thrust Districts (35)	Areas with historical Maoist presence but declining violence; focus on development and governance outreach	Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana

Policy Framework Guiding the Classification

- **National Policy and Action Plan (2015):** Integrated strategy combining **security operations, development programmes, governance reforms, and community outreach.**
- **Periodic Review Mechanism:** MHA regularly reassesses districts to **align security deployment and development funding with ground realities.**

Significance of the New Classification

- **Shrinking Red Corridor:** Maoist influence reduced from ~200 districts (2005) to 38 districts under monitoring today.
- **Targeted Governance:** Helps direct **security forces to core areas while shifting focus to development in stabilised regions.**
- **Towards “Naxal-Free India”:** Reflects **major decline in Maoist violence due to coordinated Centre–State strategy and security-development approach.**

INS ARIDAMAN

Context

India commissioned **INS Aridhaman (S4)**, the **third nuclear-powered ballistic missile**

About INS Aridhaman

- **Class:** Arihant-class **Nuclear Powered Ballistic Missile Submarine (SSBN)** (part of India’s nuclear deterrence force).
- **Programme:** Developed under the **Advanced Technology Vessel (ATV) Project** (India’s secret submarine programme).
- **Builder:** Constructed by **Ship Building Centre (Visakhapatnam)** with support from **DRDO, BARC and Indian Navy.**

- **Strategic Command:** Operates under **Strategic Forces Command (SFC)** responsible for nuclear deterrence.
- **Role:** Ensures **credible minimum deterrence and second-strike capability** through **stealth underwater nuclear platforms**.
- **Strengthening Nuclear Triad:** Enhances **India's sea-based nuclear deterrence** (India joined US, Russia, China, France with operational triad).

Comparison of Arihant-Class SSBNs

Submarine	Commissioned	Displacement	Missile Capacity	Missile Types	Key Capability
INS Arihant (S2)	2016	~6,000 tonnes	12 K-15 or 4 K-4	K-15 (750 km), K-4 (3,500 km)	India's first SSBN , operationalised nuclear triad
INS Arighaat (S3)	2024	~6,000 tonnes	12 K-15 or 4 K-4	K-15, K-4	Improved stealth and endurance
INS Aridhaman (S4)	2026	~7,000 tonnes	24 K-15 or 8 K-4	K-15, K-4, future K-5 (~5,000 km range)	Greater missile payload and longer deterrence range

- **Current Submarine Strength:** Aside from the SSBNs, the Indian Navy has 16 conventional submarines in service (six Kalvari-class attack submarines built with France, four Shishumar class subs, and seven Kilo (Sindhughosh) class subs)
 - In comparison, the US has 14 Ohio-class SSBNs and 53 fast-attack submarines. China has 12 nuclear submarines, of which six are nuclear-powered attack submarines.
- **Future Submarine Plans:** India plans to develop **nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSNs)** and expand its submarine fleet, including **Project-75I conventional submarines**.

 Indian Navy Nuclear Submarines 



Arihant Class
Nuclear-Powered Ballistic Missile Submarine (SSBN)



INS Chakra
Akula-II Class Nuclear-Powered Attack Submarine (SSN)
On lease from Russia



Future Attack Submarine
Nuclear-Powered Attack Submarine (SSN)
Provisional



S-5 Future Missile Submarine
Nuclear-Powered Ballistic Missile Submarine (SSBN)
Provisional

H I Sutton, 2020

CBSE NEW CURRICULUM (2026–2031)

Context

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has introduced a revised school curriculum aligned with the National Education Policy 2020, mandating a third language from Class 6 and expanding vocational, skill-based, and interdisciplinary learning. The reforms outline a roadmap leading up to 2031.

Key Highlights of the New CBSE Curriculum

- **Compulsory third Language from Class 6:** From the 2026–27 academic session, students will mandatorily study a third language (R3) starting in Class 6, with at least two Indian languages required. The reform will be fully implemented by Class 10 Board Exams in 2031.
 - Students can choose from all 22 Scheduled Languages, enhancing flexibility and inclusivity. However, only one foreign language (including English) can be opted for in board exams.
- **Alignment with National Education Policy 2020:** The curriculum operationalises the three-language formula, promoting multilingualism and cultural integration.
 - It emphasises mother tongue/regional language-based learning, with study material developed in collaboration with National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)
- **Vocational, Art and Physical Education Made Mandatory:** From 2027–28, vocational education will become compulsory in Classes 9-10 with formal assessment. Art and physical education will also be mandatory, initially evaluated through internal assessments. The aim is to promote holistic development beyond academics.
- **Introduction of Emerging Subjects (AI & Computational Thinking):** Artificial Intelligence and computational thinking will be introduced as modules in Classes 9-10 and gradually made compulsory board subjects by 2029. These are already being introduced from Classes 3-8 to build early digital competencies.

- **Two-Level System for Mathematics and Science:** Students in Class 9 can opt for standard or advanced levels in Maths and Science. The advanced level includes additional content and a separate 25-mark exam, with performance reflected distinctly in mark sheets. This helps identify aptitude and subject strengths early.
- **Phased Implementation Timeline (2026–2031):** The reforms will be rolled out in stages:
 - **2026-27:** Third language begins in Class 6 and AI modules introduced
 - **2027-28:** Vocational education becomes compulsory
 - **2028 onwards:** Advanced-level exams introduced
 - **2029:** AI becomes a board subject
 - **2031:** Full implementation of the three-language formula in Class 10
- **Special Provisions and Flexibility:** International CBSE schools need to offer only one Indian language (instead of two).
 - Schools must provide at least one Indian language as a medium of instruction up to Class 12, reinforcing linguistic inclusivity.

RIGHT TO PROMOTION CONSIDERATION AS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT

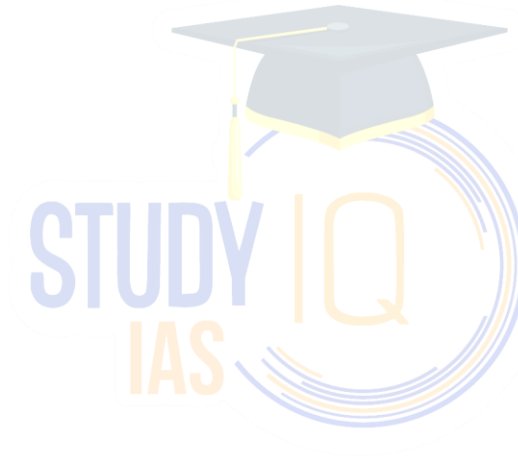
Context

A recent judgment by the Punjab and Haryana High Court has reiterated that government employees do not possess a guaranteed right to promotion, but they do have a fundamental right to be fairly considered for promotion if they satisfy the eligibility conditions.

Judicial Interpretation

- **Constitutional Basis and Expansion of Scope:** The right to be considered for promotion flows from Article 14 (equality before law) and Article 16(1) (equal opportunity in public employment).
 - Judicial interpretation has **expanded the scope of “employment”** to include not just entry into service but also career progression, thereby making fair consideration for promotion a constitutional mandate.
- **Distinction between Right to Consideration and Right to Promotion Courts:** It has been clearly differentiated between the two:
 - There is **no fundamental right to promotion.**
 - **Every eligible employee has a fundamental right to be considered for promotion** in accordance with applicable rules when vacancies arise.
- **Judicial Reinforcement of the Principle:** This doctrine has been consistently upheld by the judiciary.
 - In **Ajit Singh vs State of Punjab (1999)**, a Constitution Bench affirmed that employees falling within the zone of consideration possess a fundamental right to be evaluated for promotion.
- **Violation and enforceability of the Right:** Excluding an eligible employee from the promotion process constitutes a direct infringement of fundamental rights.
 - This right is individual and enforceable, allowing affected employees to seek judicial remedies.
- **Evolution through judicial practice:** Courts have refined the contours of this right over time.

- In **Bihar State Electricity Board vs Dharamdeo Das (2024)**, the Supreme Court held that while the right to be considered is fundamental, there is no automatic entitlement to promotion from the exact date a vacancy arises, especially in cases of administrative delay.
- **Key High Court Interventions**
 - **Himachal Pradesh High Court (2025)**: Directed timely conduct of DPCs, particularly for employees nearing retirement, emphasising that delays cannot defeat fundamental rights.
 - **Manipur High Court (2022)**: Granted notional promotions to police officers whose promotions were delayed for years, recognising loss of career advancement.
 - **Delhi High Court (2024)**: Highlighted the necessity of regular DPC meetings, noting that delays adversely affect both employees and administrative efficiency.



Mains Exam Topics

MASS GATHERINGS AND THE ANATOMY OF STAMPEDES

Context

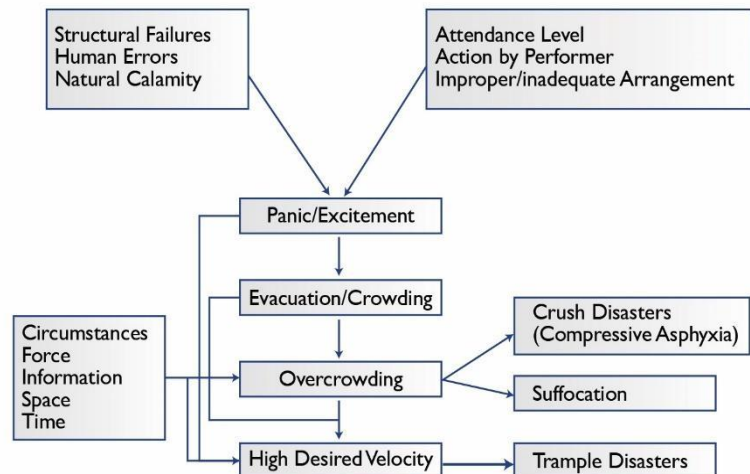
The recent tragedy at the Sheetla Mata Temple in Nalanda (March 2026) serves as a grim case study in the failure of crowd management.

Status of Stampedes in India

- **NCRB Data:** Between 2001 and 2015, India recorded **3,550 incidents**, resulting in **2,901 deaths**.
- **Religious Venues:** A 2013 study (IJDRR) highlights that **79% of stampedes** in India occur at religious gatherings and pilgrimages.
- **Historical Precedents:** Notable tragedies include the **2013 Ratangarh Temple** (115 deaths), the **2022 Vaishno Devi** incident (12 deaths), and the **2024 Hathras Satsang** (100+ deaths).

Causes of Stampedes in India

- **Overcrowding:** E.g., In 2022, 12 people died due to stampede at the famous Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Jammu and Kashmir, triggered by a heavy rush of devotees.
- **Poor coordination and crowd management:** Lack of coordination between event organizers and authorities, along with inadequate crowd management protocols, E.g., in 2024, over 100 people, died in a stampede at a 'satsang' (prayer meeting) organized by self-styled godman Bhole Baba (Narayan Saakar Hari) in Hatras
- **Panic and rushing behavior:** E.g., In 2017, panic after unfounded rumours of the foot overbridge collapsing resulted in a major stampede at Mumbai's Elphinstone Railway Station.
- **Fires:** E.g., In 2023, **8 people** sustained injuries in a stampede triggered by a fire at a slum in Delhi
- **Structural issues:** Collapse of temporary structures, steep stairs, narrow exits due to illegal constructions, or overcrowded spaces
- **Safety hazards:** Inappropriate use of firecrackers, faulty electrical wiring, or inadequate safety measures



NDMA Guidelines- "Framework for Preparation of Crowd Management Plan for Events/Venues of Mass Gathering"

- Event organizers should discourage general admissions for VIPs or restrict entry if it compromises safety.
- Install loudspeakers at crowded points for real-time announcements and crowd management.
- Maintain a 3–4-meter gap between every 5-6 shops to allow safe evacuation during emergencies.

- Authorities should create dedicated paths for pedestrians and separate routes for ponies/mules to avoid congestion.
- Event managers must develop, review, and coordinate disaster response plans with local authorities and police.
- Law enforcement should assess venues, ensure preparedness, and guide crowd and traffic movements.
- Involve NGOs and civil defence in traffic control, medical aid, sanitation, and resource mobilization.
- Set up first-aid rooms and emergency operation centers for post-disaster response.

Suggested Measures

- **Understanding crowd dynamics:** to predict crowd behavior in normal and unexpected situations, and to control and contain their negative impact in terms of crowd risk situations.
- **Use of Technology:**
 - **Thermal and LiDAR** sensors for real-time crowd density monitoring, using AI to predict surges and issue early warnings.
 - **RFID tags in tickets or wristbands** to track movement, detect congestion, and enable targeted alerts via display screens.
 - **Drones with high-resolution cameras and thermal imaging** for surveillance, anomaly detection, and projecting announcements.
 - **Intelligent lighting systems** that adjust brightness and color based on crowd density to guide movement and reduce panic.
 - **Bioluminescent materials in pathways** to glow brighter during emergencies, providing clear evacuation routes in low-light conditions.
- A **coordinated system** that integrates independent agencies into the crowd management planning and command structure.
- **Legislation:** The Supreme Court, in its ruling on the Uphaar Cinema tragedy, emphasized the necessity for a well-defined legal framework addressing the state's liability in cases of negligence.
- **Stricter Compliance:** To enhance compliance and safety, stringent penalties, including harsher punishments, license cancellations for violations related to construction and fire safety,
- **Learning from Best Practices:** e.g., Crowd Management During Hajj in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, Hold & release crowd-control method, Sabarimala, Kerala)

INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE (IBC) AMENDMENT BILL, 2026

Context

Parliament has passed the IBC (Amendment) Bill, 2026 to address structural delays, introduce out-of-court mechanisms, and align India's insolvency framework with global standards.

What is the IBC?

- Enacted in 2016 to provide a time-bound, creditor-driven framework for resolving insolvency of companies, partnerships, and individuals.
- **Objective:** either revive financially distressed firms through a resolution plan, or liquidate them in an orderly manner if revival is not feasible.

- **Oversight body:** National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT); regulatory body: Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI).
- Marked a major shift from earlier fragmented laws by enforcing strict timelines and making the process creditor-driven.

Issues in implementation

- Delays in admission of cases weakened the time-bound nature of the process.
- Backlog of cases in tribunals pushed resolution timelines beyond prescribed limits.
- Recovery rates for banks remained modest in many cases.

Performance of IBC so far (as of December 2025)

1,376

Companies successfully resolved

₹4.11 lakh cr

Total recovered by creditors

34%+

Recovery rate for financial creditors

These figures show that while the IBC has improved recovery and credit discipline, significant scope for enhancement remains.

Key amendments in the Bill

- **Faster admission of cases**
 - NCLT is now required to admit applications once a default is established.
 - Additional discretionary conditions that previously caused bottlenecks at admission stage have been removed.
- **Creditor-Initiated Insolvency Resolution Process (CIIRP)**
 - A major new out-of-court mechanism allowing specified financial creditors to initiate insolvency proceedings outside the traditional tribunal-driven process.
 - Requires consent of at least 51% of creditors to initiate proceedings.
 - Reduces dependency on NCLT and gives creditors a faster, consensus-driven alternative.
- **Group insolvency framework**
 - Addresses complexities arising from interconnected and group companies undergoing insolvency simultaneously.
 - Enables consolidated handling of related entities rather than separate, fragmented proceedings.
- **Cross-border insolvency framework**
 - Designed to handle insolvency cases involving companies with international operations or assets abroad.
 - Aligns India's framework with global best practices and international insolvency norms.
- **Conflict of interest safeguards**
 - Resolution professionals are now barred from acting as liquidators in the same case.
 - Strengthens integrity and independence at different stages of the insolvency process.

Way forward

- Sustained improvement will depend on strengthening institutional capacity, especially of tribunals.
- Reducing litigation and ensuring strict adherence to timelines will be critical.
- Further clarity in cross-border insolvency rules will be necessary for effective implementation.

Conclusion

A balanced approach prioritising resolution over liquidation will help preserve enterprise value and support economic growth.

