

NEWS TODAY

Informing accused the grounds of arrest is mandatory constitutional requirement: Supreme Court (SC)

In **Vihaan Kumar vs. State of Haryana case**, SC ruled that it was unlawful for police to arrest an accused person **without providing legal grounds** during arrest.

➤ However, ruling clarified that while arrest might be vitiated, the **investigation, chargesheet, and trial remain valid.**

Key Highlights of Judgement

- **Violation of Fundamental Rights:** Failure to inform the grounds of arrest violates fundamental rights of accused under **Articles 21 and 22(1)**.
 - ⊕ **Article 21:** No person can be deprived of his liberty except in accordance with **procedure established by law.**
 - ⊕ **Article 22(1):** A person arrested **must be informed of the reasons immediately** and has **right to consult and be defended by a legal practitioner** of his choice.
- **Section 50A of CrPC (Section 47 of BNSS):** Under this, court emphasized the importance of **informing accused person's friends, relatives, or nominated persons** about grounds of arrest.
- **Bail Implications:** Non-compliance with Article 22(1) can be grounds for granting bail, overriding statutory restrictions.
- **Clear Communication of Grounds** in a language the arrestee understands.
- **Burden of Proof:** Investigating Officer/Agency must prove compliance with Article 22(1) if challenged.

Related Judgements of Supreme Court

- **Pankaj Bansal Vs Union of India and others (2023):** Grounds of arrest must be supplied to accused in writing will also apply in cases registered under UAPA 1967.
- **Prabir Purkayastha v. State (NCT of Delhi) case (2024):** Communication of grounds of arrest or detention is sacrosanct and cannot be breached under any situation.

Prime Minister chairs WAVES advisory board meeting to position India as global entertainment hub

World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) is a global summit that **brings together world of entertainment, creativity and culture.**

➤ Prime Minister stated that creative economy will help to achieve India's \$5 trillion economy milestone.

About Creative Economy (also known as orange economy)

- UNCTAD defines creative industries as creation, production, and distribution cycles that leverage creativity and intellectual capital.
- It **encompass knowledge based activities** focusing on culture and heritage, including tangible and intangible creative products with economic value such as **advertising, architecture, arts, music and movie production etc.**

Significance of Creative Economy

- **Economic growth:** It accounts for **3% of global GDP** and generate **annual revenues of over \$2 trillion worldwide.**
 - ⊕ India's total exports of creative goods and services were nearly \$121 billion in 2019 (Exim Bank).
- **Employment:** Responsible for **employment of nearly 8% of India's working population** (Asian Development Bank).
- **Sustainable Development:** It promotes sustainable developmental goals (SDGs) such as SDG-5 (gender equality), SDG-8 (decent work and economic growth) etc.
- **Soft power:** It contributes to expanding soft power by fostering interconnectedness and transcending borders through music, dances etc.

Challenges in the Creative Economy



IPR Challenges

Digital reproduction and new models complicate copyright enforcement.



Definition Issues

Challenges in establishing unified definitions across regions.



Market Access Barriers

High logistics costs and limited marketplace availability hinder access.



Quantification Difficulties

Difficulty in measuring the economic impact of intangible cultural values.

Government to Explore Potash Mining in Punjab's Fazilka and Sri Muktsar Sahib Districts

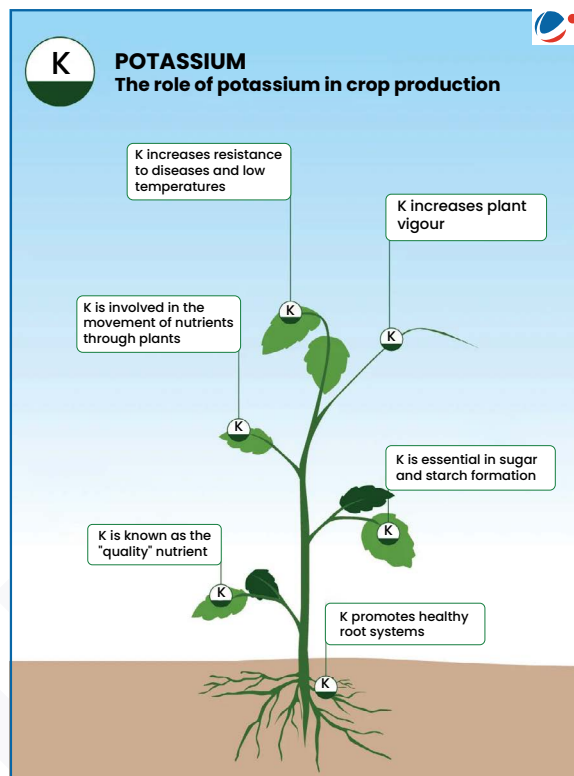
Geological Survey of India (GSI) surveys have also identified potash reserves in Rajasthan, highlighting potential to reduce India's import reliance.

About Potash

- **Definition:** Potash is an impure combination of potassium carbonate & potassium (K) salts.
- **Principal ore:** Sylvinit.
- **Uses of Potash**
 - ⊕ **Agriculture:** Over 90% of potash is utilized as fertilizer, making it one of the three primary nutrients in agriculture, alongside nitrogen and phosphorus, collectively known as **N-P-K**.
 - ◆ The **ideal nutrient ratio** for optimal plant growth is **4:2:1 (N:P:K)**.
 - ⊕ **Purification of water:** Potash alum removes hardness of water & has anti-bacterial properties.
 - ⊕ **Other industrial Uses:** Manufacturing of Glass ceramics, Soaps and detergents, Explosives etc.
- **Common Types of Potash Fertilizers:** Sulphate of Potash (SOP) & Muriate of Potash (MOP).
- **Potash Derived from Molasses (PDM):** It is **100% indigenous fertilizer** under the **Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)** scheme.
 - ⊕ **NBS:** Provides fertilizer subsidies to farmers based on **actual nutrient content** (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium).
- **Potash classified as Critical Mineral:** Under "The Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment (MMDR) Act, 2023".

Economic Status of Potash in India

- **Deposits:** Rajasthan (89%), Madhya Pradesh (5%) and Uttar Pradesh (4%).
- **Import:** India meets 100% of its Potash requirement through imports (Indian Mineral yearbook 2022).



Food And Agriculture Organization (FAO) releases 'Leveraging Space Technology for Agricultural Development and Food Security' report

Report is released in collaboration with United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs.

Role of Space Technology in Agriculture

<p>Optical Earth observation satellites Used for assessing crop damage effectively.</p>	<p>Synthetic Aperture Radar Penetrates cloud cover and useful for monitoring pre or post-disaster situations</p>	<p>LIDAR Technology Aids in precision farming and soil erosion risk</p>	<p>GNSS Systems Provides precise positioning to enhance farming techniques to increase yields and reduce costs</p>	<p>Integration of Earth Observation and GNSS data Addresses food insecurity.</p>
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Challenges and Opportunities in various segments of Space sector for agriculture

Segments of Space Sector	Challenges	Opportunities
Upstream (focuses on space infrastructure development)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reliance on external support for satellite development • Stagnation in remote-sensing innovation. 	Capacity-building initiatives like Access to Space for All and BIRDS project for developing national capabilities in mission planning and satellite development, especially for missions focusing on agricultural applications.
Midstream (addresses data processing, storage and management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited access of Earth observation and GNSS data. • Overlapping platforms for data access led to data inconsistencies etc. 	Initiatives like ESA's Copernicus Open Access Hub and NASA's Earth Data reduce duplication and improve data-sharing efficiency.
Downstream (practical agricultural uses including monitoring crop and land conditions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Monitoring gaps like missing crop calendars, meteorological data, cropland maps etc. 	Collaboration for initiatives like GEOGLAM and ESA's World Cereal program to improve data sharing and standardization.

Home Minister Reaffirms Goal to Eradicate Left Wing Extremism (LWE) by March 31, 2026

The statement follows a major operation in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh, where security forces eliminated 31 **Left Wing Extremists** marking a significant step toward achieving this objective.

About Left Wing Extremism

- **Left-wing extremism (LWE)**, known as **Naxalism** in India, has its roots in **1967 Naxalbari** uprising in **West Bengal**.
- **Ideology of LWE:** Use of violence and armed insurrection as means to capture State power.
- **India's Red Corridor:** Comprises LWE affected states. E.g., Chhattisgarh (most affected), Jharkhand, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, and Kerala
 - ⊕ **Decline in affected districts:** From 126 in 2013 to just 38 in 2024.
 - ⊕ Sharp increase in extremists **arrested (17%), surrendered (1.5 times) and killed (5 times) in 2024.**

Measures to Tackle LWE

- **Policy Related Measure:** A Holistic "**National Policy and Action Plan to address LWE**" was approved in 2015 and the **operational Doctrine 'SAMADHAN'** was enunciated to tackle LWE in 2017.
- **Security Related Measures:**
 - ⊕ **Fortification of police stations under the Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS).**
 - ⊕ **Increased Security Spending:** Security expenditure in LWE-affected states nearly tripled, approximately ₹3,000 crore.
 - ⊕ **Offensive strategy:** Operation Green Hunt, Operation Octopus, Operation Double Bull, and Operation Chakrabandha.

Developmental Measures to Tackle LWE

- **Infrastructure:** In the last 10 years, over 14,000 km of road has been constructed.
- **Education:** 216 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) schools have been approved.
- **Aspirational District:** The Ministry of Home Affairs has been tasked with the monitoring of Aspirational districts programme in 35 LWE affected districts.
- **Rehabilitation for Surrendered Extremists:** Extremist who Surrender will receive legal assistance, employment opportunities, education and healthcare services.

India's pharmaceutical exports have potential to reach \$350 billion by 2047: Report

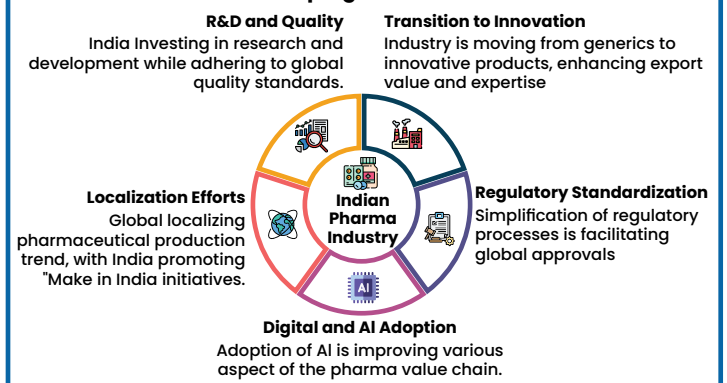
The report has been released in collaboration with the **Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA)**.

- **India's Status:** Ranks 3rd in volume and 14th in value globally. It's the top producer of generic drugs (20% of global demand) and supplies 60% of the world's vaccines.

Key Highlights of the Report

- **Key Mega trends** that have been observed in India's Pharmaceutical industry (Refer infographic).
- **Opportunities in Areas like:**
 - ⊕ **Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API):** China's API export dominance faces decline due to policies like the **US Biosecure Act**. India, with cost advantages, can capture 20-30% of China's lost market share.
 - ◆ **API:** Biologically active component in a drug that produces the intended therapeutic effect.
 - ⊕ **Biosimilars:** Indian pharma holds **less than 5%** (Global biosimilars market is estimated \$30 billion); but India is leveraging initiatives like the **National Biopharma Mission** & **Genome Valley expansion** (Telangana).
 - ◆ **Biosimilars** are medicines closely resembling biologic drugs, which are produced using living systems like yeast, bacteria, or animal cells, offering similar structure and function.
 - ⊕ **Vaccines:** India's focus on affordable vaccines limits high-income market penetration; therefore, aim is to increase global share from **1.5% to 8% by 2047** through innovation, brand building, etc.

Transformative Trends Shaping India's Pharmaceutical Future



Also In News



Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0

Union Government has sanctioned 338 Anganwadi Centres for upgradation under Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0.

About Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0

- **Ministry:** Ministry of Women and Child Development
- **Vision:** Integrated Nutrition Support Programme to **address challenges of malnutrition** in children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers.
- **Objectives:**
 - ⊕ Improve **nutritional and health status of children in age-group 0-6 years**
 - ⊕ **Reduce incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout.**
 - ⊕ Enhance capability of mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of child through nutrition and health education.



Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has hosted the **first-ever BIMSTEC Youth Summit in Gandhinagar, Gujarat**.

- Its goal is to strengthen youth collaboration across region and facilitating exchange of youth-led initiatives among BIMSTEC Member Countries.

About BIMSTEC (Secretariat: Dhaka, Bangladesh)

- **Genesis:** Established in 1997 with the signing of **Bangkok Declaration**.
- **Members:** Bangladesh, **India**, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Myanmar, Nepal, Bhutan.
- **Objective:** Promote rapid economic development, social progress, and ensure peace and stability across Bay of Bengal region.
- **7 focus area:** Trade; Environment and Climate Change; Security; Agriculture and Food Security; People-to-People Contact; Science, Technology, and Innovation; Connectivity.



PM YUVA (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) 2.0 Scheme

Recently, Union Minister for Education has launched 41 new books under PM YUVA 2.0 scheme.

About PM YUVA 2.0 Scheme

- **Ministry:** Launched in 2022 by Ministry of Education as part of India@75 Project (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav).
- **About:** It is an Author Mentorship programme to train young and budding authors below 30 years of age.
- **Aim:** To promote reading, writing and book culture in country, and project India and Indian writings globally.
- **Significance:** To develop a stream of writers who can write on subjects to promote Indian heritage, culture and knowledge system.



Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY)

Central Advisory Committee meeting held for PM-AJAY.

About PM-AJAY

- **Ministry:** Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- **Type:** Centrally Sponsored Scheme
- **Launch year:** 2021-22
- **Objectives:**
 - ⊕ Reduce poverty of SC communities by generation of additional employment opportunities.
 - ⊕ Improve socio-economic developmental indicators in SC dominated villages.
 - ⊕ Increase literacy and encourage enrolment of SCs in schools and higher educational institutions.
- **Components:**
 - ⊕ Development of SC dominated villages into "Adarsh Gram".
 - ⊕ Grants-in-aid to State/Districts for Socio-Economic betterment of SCs.
 - ⊕ Construction/Repair of Educational Hostels for SC students.



Netzarim corridor

Israel agreed as part of the Israel-Hamas ceasefire agreement to remove its forces from the Netzarim corridor.

About the Netzarim corridor

- It is a 6-kilometre-long stretch that controls key access points between Gaza's north and south.
- The corridor stretches from the Israeli border in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west.
- The corridor splits the Gaza Strip down the middle, and is located just south of Gaza City.

Other Corridors: Philadelphi Corridor & Rafah Corridor.



Private Member's Bill

Recently, few private member bills were introduced in parliament.

About Private Member's Bill

- It is a legislative proposal that is initiated by an individual Member of Parliament (elected or nominated), who is not a Minister.
- Its drafting is the responsibility of member concerned.
- Its introduction in House requires one month's notice.
- It reflects stand of opposition party on public matter.
- In Lok Sabha, House allots last two-and-a-half hours of business every Friday.
- In Rajya Sabha, two-and-a-half hours every alternate Friday.
- Only 14 such bills have become law, with last one in 1970.



Morand-Ganjal Irrigation Project

The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has warned against the construction of the Morand-Ganjal Irrigation Project in Madhya Pradesh.

About Morand-Ganjal Irrigation Project: Involves building two dams on the Morand and Ganjal rivers to improve irrigation in Hoshangabad, Betul, Harda, and Khandwa districts of Madhya Pradesh.

Potential Impact:

- **Social:** It can displace 644 families, including 604 tribal families.
- **Environment:** Over seven lakh trees will be affected at full reservoir level.
- **Wildlife:** Could destroy a vital tiger corridor between Satpura and Melghat Tiger Reserves, endangering leopards, wolves, wild dogs, hyenas, etc.



Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)

RBI defers rollout of LCR norms by a year in big relief to banks.

About LCR

- The Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) is a key Basel III reform.
 - ⊕ **Basel Norms** are international banking regulations (developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision) focused on capital adequacy, risk management, and financial stability.
- **Objective:** Ensures banks maintain a sufficient stock of High-Quality Liquid Assets (HQLAs) to meet liquidity needs under a 30-day stress scenario.
- **Purpose:** To enhance the short-term resilience of banks' liquidity risk profiles.
- **LCR decrease money supply by** requiring banks to hold a larger proportion of highly liquid assets.

Place in News



Namibia (Capital: Windhoek)

Namibia's first President, Sam Nujoma, the Founding Father of the Namibian Nation, passes away at age 95

Political Features

- **Location:** southwestern coast of Africa.
- **Neighboring Countries:** Angola (north), Zambia (northeast), Botswana (east), and South Africa (southeast and south).
- Bordered by The Atlantic Ocean to the west.

Geographical Features

- **Landforms:** the coastal Namib desert, the Central Plateau, and the Kalahari Desert.
- **Major Rivers:** Zambezi, Mashi, Orange River etc.
 - ⊕ Zambezi river (drains into the Indian Atlantic). It cuts the Tropic of Capricorn twice in Africa.
- **Biodiversity:** Antelope, Cheetah, giraffes etc.
 - ⊕ **Cheetahs, imported from Namibia,** are being reintroduced in India under Project Cheetah.



AHMEDABAD



BENGALURU



BHOPAL



CHANDIGARH



DELHI



GUWAHATI



HYDERABAD



JAIPUR



JODHPUR



LUCKNOW



PRAYAGRAJ



PUNE



RANCHI