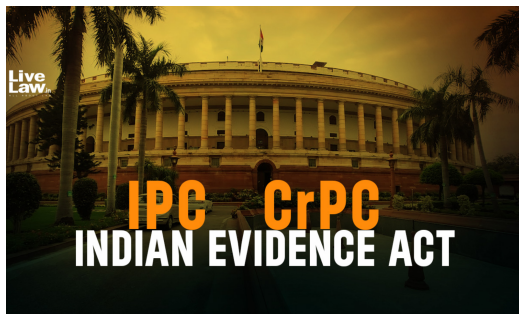




14 December 2023

National and International News

LS passes Bills to replace British-era criminal laws



Context

- The Lok Sabha passed three amended Bills that seek to repeal and replace criminal laws which date back to colonial times.
- This criminal law reform brings terrorism offences into a general crime law for the first time, drops the crime of sedition, and makes mob lynching punishable by death.

Key replacements

- The **Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita Bill (BNSS)** will replace the Indian Penal Code, 1860;
- the **Bharatiya Sakshya (Second) Bill (BSS)** will replace the Indian Evidence Act, 1872; and
- the **Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha (Second) Sanhita Bill (BNSSS)** will replace the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898.

Key points

- Indian Penal Code (IPC) is the **official criminal code of India** drafted in 1860 in the wake of the **first law commission established in 1834 under the Charter Act of 1833.**
- Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) **provides procedures for administering criminal law in India.** It was enacted in 1973 and became effective on 1 April 1974.
- The Indian Evidence Act, originally passed in India by the **Imperial Legislative Council in 1872**, during the British Raj, contains a set of rules and allied issues governing admissibility of evidence in the Indian courts of law.

Mohini Giri

Context

Former chair of the **National Commission for Women and Padma Bhushan awardee** Dr. V. Mohini Giri passed away

About

- She was an **iconic women’s rights activist**
- She founded the **Guild of Service in 1979**, which was dedicated to empowering women, underprivileged children and war widows.
- Dr. Giri was the **founder trustee of Women’s**



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Initiative for Peace in South Asia and trustee of various organisations.

Global Stocktake

- It refers to a proposed **five-year review of the impact of countries'** climate change actions.
- Under the Paris Agreement, every country must present a climate action plan in five-year cycles.
- The **first global stocktake was scheduled for 2023 under the Paris Agreement.**
- It will assess whether the net result of the climate actions being taken was consistent with the goal of keeping the increase in **global average temperature from pre-industrial times to within 2 degrees Celsius.**
- It will help the world determine whether it needs to do more — and how much more.
- It also recognises that money needs to be made available for **Loss and Damage and energy transition in developing countries.**

Green finance

- Green finance refers to the **financial arrangements** that are specific to the use for projects that are **environmentally sustainable or projects that adopt the aspects of climate change.**
- Environmentally sustainable projects include the production of energy from renewable sources like solar, wind, biogas, etc.; clean transportation that involves lower greenhouse gas emission; energy efficient projects like green building; waste management that includes recycling, efficient disposal and conversion to energy, etc.

Offshore patrol vessels

Context


The Defence Ministry signed a **₹1,614.89-crore contract with Mazagon Dockyard Shipbuilders**, Mumbai for procurement of six next-generation offshore patrol vessels for the Coast Guard.

Key points

- Of the six vessels being procured, four would replace the existing ageing vessels and the other




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	<p>two would augment the Coast Guard fleet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These <b>modern and high-tech ships</b> will play a critical role in enhancing surveillance, law enforcement, search and rescue, maritime pollution response, and other important capabilities</li> <li>• The vessels would be equipped with <b>multipurpose drones and AI capability</b>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Telecom Bill 2023</b></p>	<p><b>Context</b> The Lok Sabha passed the <b>Telecom Bill, 2023</b>, which will replace existing laws, including the <b>138-year-old Indian Telegraph Act</b>.</p> <p><b>Key points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bill seeks to <b>reform and simplify the regulatory and licensing regime</b> for telecommunications and remove bottlenecks in creating telecom infrastructure.</li> <li>• It also allows the <b>government to temporarily take control of telecom services</b> in the interest of national security and provide a non-auction route for the allocation of satellite spectrum.</li> <li>• The Telecom Bill, 2023 <b>provides a mechanism to exercise the right of way for laying telecom infrastructure</b> in public as well as private property.</li> </ul>
<p><b>90th National billiards and snooker championships</b></p> 	<p><b>Context</b> Karnataka's Natasha Chethan won the sub-junior girls' snooker title in the 90th National billiards and snooker championships in Chennai.</p>



Kerala Regional News

<p><b>Kerala most preferred state to work</b></p> 	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to the 'India Skills Report 2024', Kerala is the most preferred state to work for employable talent in the country, with Kochi being the top choice among Indian cities for female job aspirants.</li> <li>• The report was released by talent assessment firm Wheebox in partnership with organizations including Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).</li> <li>• Kerala thus pushed Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh to the second and third spots respectively to emerge on top in the category.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Kerala records 300 new COVID-19 cases and 3 deaths</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The state recorded 300 fresh COVID-19 cases, while three people succumbed to the disease in the last 24 hours, according to data on the Union Health Ministry website.</li> <li>• With this, the number of active cases in the state has risen to 2,341</li> </ul>
<p><b>Kerala to avail a fresh loan of Rs 1,100 crores</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Kerala government is preparing to borrow another Rs 1,100 crores.</li> <li>• This loan will be used for developmental projects.</li> <li>• The union government had earlier decided to exclude the KIIFB loans from Kerala's borrowing limit this year.</li> <li>• This had opened a window to the state to borrow a total of Rs 3,140 crores more.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Kerala ranks first in Gold Smuggling</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Union Finance Ministry has stated that Kerala has registered the highest number of gold smuggling cases.</li> <li>• Gold makes its way into the state on numerous occasions via airports and seaports, by evading taxes</li> <li>• As per the Revenue Intelligence report, a total of 3,173 gold smuggling cases have been registered in Kerala over the last four years.</li> </ul>



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- 2,291.51 kilograms of gold have been seized in the state during the time period.

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