

## Suspension of MPs

### ❖ Context

➤ Many MPs from both the houses of Parliament were recently suspended for disrupting proceedings.

### ❖ Powers of Presiding Officers W.R.T Regulating Procedures

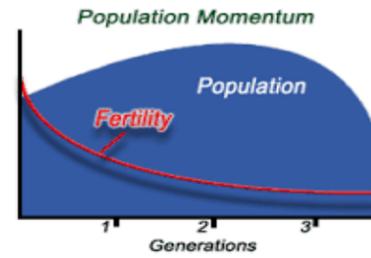
- **Presiding officers are the custodians of the Parliament** and their role is to be non-partial implementation of the rules.
- **Article 122** of the constitution says the presiding officers are not subject to the jurisdiction of any court in respect of exercise of their powers regarding regulating procedure or conduct of business, or maintaining order in Parliament.
- As per **rule 373** of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of LS, firstly, the Speaker can direct an MP to withdraw from the house for any disorderly conduct for the remainder of the day's sitting.

- As per **rule 374**, if the member who disregards the authority of the Chair or abuses the rules of the House by persistently and wilfully obstructing the business, ie. If the MP continues disrupting the house, the Speaker then can **name** the MP.
- The house then can move a motion to suspend the MP until the end of the session or five days whichever is less.
- As per **rule 374A**, in the event of grave disorder occasioned by a member, such Member shall, on being named by the Speaker, stand **automatically suspended** from the service of the House for five consecutive sittings or the remainder of the session, whichever is less.
- The **suspension can be terminated by the house by resolution.**
- The Chairman of the RS has the same powers as under rule 373 and 374, as described above, but not under rule 374A.

## Population Momentum

### ❖ Context

- The Minister of state of health and family welfare informed that India has achieved replacement level fertility, with 31 States and Union Territories reaching a **Total Fertility Rate** (an average number of children per woman) of 2.1 or less.

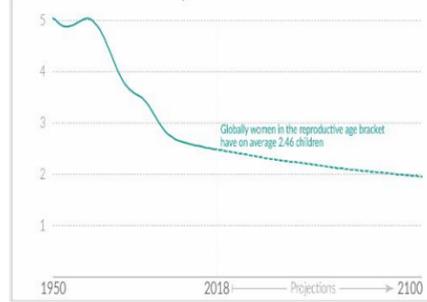


### ❖ Key Highlights

- However, as per **Family Planning vision 2030 document** released by the ministry, the country's population is expected to **continue to grow until mid-century (due to population momentum)**, then, the population growth will decline substantially.

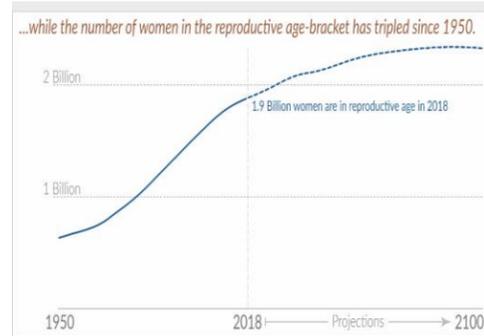
'Population momentum' keeps the number of global births high even after the number of children per woman has halved

The total fertility rate - the number of children per woman in the reproductive age bracket - has halved in the last 50 years...



- Population momentum is a consequence of the **demographic transition**. It is mainly the function of a **population's age structure**.
- It explains why a population will continue to grow even if the fertility rate declines.

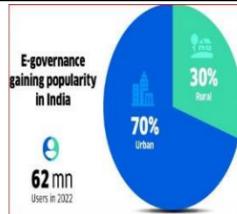
- It occurs because it is not only the number of children per woman that determines population growth, but also the **number of women in the reproductive age bracket**.
- **At times when an increasing share of women enter the reproductive age bracket the population can keep growing even if the fertility rate is falling.**
- Eventually, the population achieves equilibrium and population momentum comes to an end when
  - The fertility rate reaches the replacement rate.
  - The population size of women in the reproductive age bracket stabilises.



## Internet in India Report

### ❖ Context

➤ The IAMAI report titled 'Internet in India' stated that the global coronavirus pandemic has witnessed a record increase of 51% from 230 million in 2019 in India, in online transaction in the past two years.



### ❖ Key Highlights

- Around 346 million Indians are engaged in online transactions including e-commerce, and digital payments, according to a report published by the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI).
- The data revealed that this number is greater than the total US population engaged in digital transactions which is estimated at 331 million.

- It said that the number of male internet users are more than female users in both rural and urban areas.
- **Social media, entertainment and communications** are the top three activities in which internet users are engaged across India.
- At present, there are a total of **692 million active internet users** in India, including **351 million from rural India and 341 from urban Indian**. The report estimates that there will be 900 million internet users in India by 2025.

### Face to Face Centres





❖ **Key Highlights**

- According to experts, the vessel has a capability to **snoop** on a coastal state. It is also potentially violating innocent passage requirements in territorial seas as per **UNCLOS**.
- India has long been worried about **dual-use facilities** of Chinese infrastructure projects spanning Myanmar to Eastern African states.
- In 2017, Colombo leased the southern port to a Chinese company, after Sri Lanka was unable to keep its loan repayment commitments, fanning fears over potential use of the port for military purposes.
- In 2014 also, India expressed its serious concerns when Sri Lanka allowed a Chinese nuclear-powered submarine **Changzheng 2** in Colombo.

**Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007**



❖ **Context**

- The Union Food and Public Distribution Ministry has suggested major amendments to the act.

❖ **Key Highlights**

- At present, registration with the Warehousing Development and Regulation Authority (WDRA) is optional. The amendment proposed will make the **registration mandatory**.
- The central government will have powers to exempt any class of warehouses from registration with the authority.
- The amendment may also do away the jail term as a punishment for the offences.
- The WDRA was established in **2010** to ensure scientific storage by prescribing infrastructural and procedural standards.
- **Captive warehouses** such as the FCI are excluded from the ambit of the act.
- The act wants to establish a system of **negotiable and non-negotiable warehouse receipt (NWR)**, which is now in electronic form.

**Universal Human Right to clean, Healthy Environment**



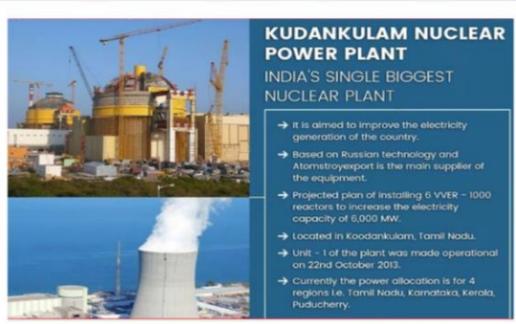
❖ **Context**

- The **UN General Assembly** declares access to a clean and healthy environment a universal human right.

❖ **Key Highlights**

- In October-21, the Human Rights Council had recognised this right and called for the UN General Assembly to do the same.
- The declaration adopted by over 160 UN member nations, including **India**, is not legally binding.
- Russia and Iran abstained from voting.

**Kudankulam Power Plant**



❖ **Context**

- Recently government said, there was no displacement involved at Kudankulam Power Plant in Tamil Nadu.

❖ **About Kudankulam Power Plant**

- **Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant** (or Kudankulam NPP or KKNPP) is the largest nuclear power station in India, situated in Kudankulam in the Tirunelveli district of the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu.
- KKNPP is scheduled to have six **VVER-1000 reactors** built in collaboration with Atomstroyexport, the Russian state company & Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), with an installed capacity of 6,000 MW of electricity.

**Kangaroo Court**

❖ **Context**

- Recently Chief Justice of India talked about Kangaroo Court.

❖ **What is a Kangaroo Court?**

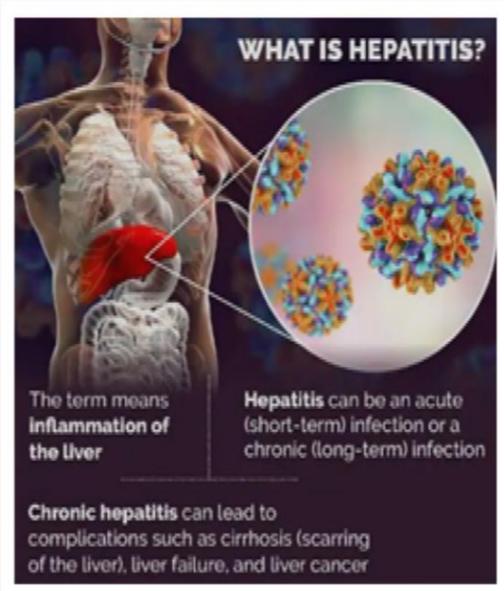
- It is an unofficial court held by a group of people in order to try someone regarded, especially without good evidence, as guilty of a crime or misdemeanour.





- In a less literal sense, it is used to refer to proceedings or activities where a judgement is made in a manner that is unfair, biased, and lacks legitimacy.
- Key Issues:** Rising number of media trials are proving hurdles towards doing justice, and “kangaroo courts” run by the media are causing harm to the health of the democracy.

## World Hepatitis Day



### ❖ Context

- It is observed each year on 28 July to raise awareness of viral hepatitis, which causes inflammation of the liver that leads to severe disease and liver cancer.

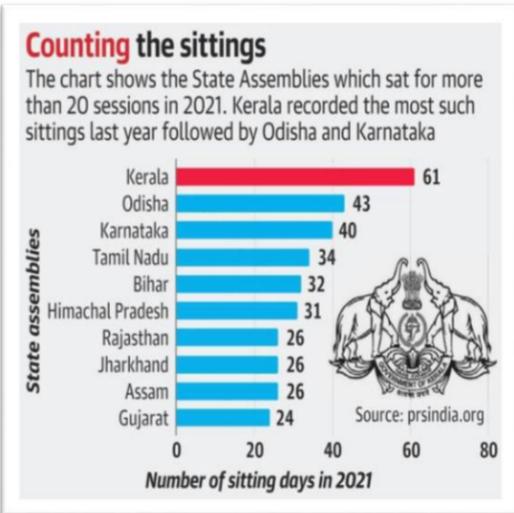
### ❖ Key Highlights

- Hepatitis is most commonly caused by the virus *hepatovirus A, B, C, D, and E*.
- In 2022 the theme is ‘I can wait’.



- WHO aims to achieve hepatitis elimination by 2030. To get there, WHO calls on countries to achieve specific targets:
  - Reduce new infections of hepatitis B and C by 90%;
  - Reduce hepatitis related deaths from liver cirrhosis and cancer by 65%;
  - Ensure that at least 90% of people with hepatitis B and C virus are diagnosed; and at least 80% of those eligible receive appropriate treatment.

## Kerala Assembly Holds 61 Sittings in 2021



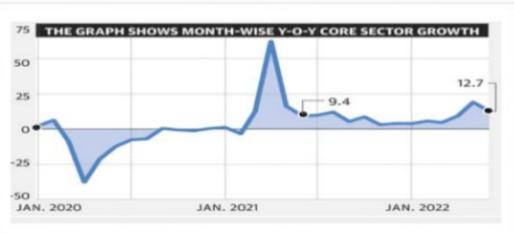
### ❖ Context

- Kerala secured first place in 2021, with its House sitting for 61 days, the highest for any State.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- Despite enjoying the record of having the highest number of sittings during 2021 for any State legislature, Kerala had promulgated **144 ordinances**, also the highest in the country last year.
- Ordinances** are promulgated by governments, which are required to take immediate action on any matter, during the intervening period of two sessions of the legislature.
- As for the ordinance route, which should be, according to the Supreme Court, used under exceptional circumstances, **21 out of 28** States promulgated ordinances last year i.e in 2021.
- The minimum rule:** States such as Manipur, Odisha, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh have laid down a minimum number of sitting days through the Rules of Procedure, varying from **40 days in Punjab** to 90 days in Uttar Pradesh.
- 44%** of the Bills adopted by 28 State Assemblies were passed within a day of their introduction.
- Of the subjects covered by the Bills passed in 2021, **education** accounted for 21% followed by **taxation** - 12%, **local government** - 10%, and **land and law and order** - 4% each.

## Core Sector Output Expands



### ❖ Context

- India’s eight core sectors’ output growth moderated to 12.7% in June from 18.1% in May, with all sectors except **crude oil** registering an uptick in production.

### ❖ Key Highlights

- Coal, Cement, Electricity and refinery products rose 15% or more, compared to June 2021 output levels, while natural gas (1.2%), steel (3.3%) and fertilisers (8.2%) grew at a milder pace. Crude oil output dropped 1.7% from a year ago.
- Eight Core Sectors:** coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertiliser, steel, cement and electricity.
- The eight core industries accounts for 40.27 per cent of the IIP.

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