



# SAFALTA CLASS<sup>TM</sup>

An Initiative by **अमरउजाला**

# **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

## **NEWS OF 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

**Date - 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

**Time - 8:30 am to 9:15 am**

**By Sujeet sir**



"Vibrate good energy  
into others soul;  
making them never  
forget the beauty  
of yours."

# Question No: 1

Which of the following is India's first aircraft carrier?

- ☒ a. INS Vikrant
- b. INS Viraat
- c. INS Shardul
- d. INS Vikramaditya



# Question No: 2

Indian government has signed \$500 million loan agreement with which bank to improve quality & safety of Mumbai's suburban railway system?

A. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

B. New Development Bank (NDB)

C. Asian Development Bank (ADB)

D. World Bank (WB)

→ नो = असि  
Chairman  
C. J. Singh

# Question No: 3

Which is 1st bank in India to use (satellite data) to access credit worthiness of farmers?

☒ A. ICICI Bank

☐ B. Indian Bank

☐ C. HDFC Bank

☐ D. State Bank of India

24/5/21

# Question No: 4

Name the company which has partnered with Goals101.ai to create targeted and (personalized offers) for customers.

- A. Chase
- B. Visa
- ☒ C. Mastercard
- D. Rupay

Art. Intell

# Question No: 5

Which company has partnered with NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) to support women entrepreneurs in India?

A. Mphasis

✓ B. Tech Mahindra

C. Tata Consultancy Services

D. HCL Technologies



# Question No: 6

Multi-Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) has launched India's first real-time bullion index named MCX iCOMDEX Bullion or Bulldex. Where is the HQ of MCX located?

- A. Kolkata
- B. Gurugram
- C. New Delhi
- D. Mumbai

MCX का मुख्यालय मुंबई में है।

# Question No: 7

G Satheesh Reddy has got 2-year extension as the chairman of which organization?

A. Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC)

✓ B. Defence Research and Development Organisation

(DRDO) — New Delhi

C. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

D. National Informatics Centre (NIC)

मोल्तो ए वल्ले मूले दिस्तान

# Question No: 8

Name the Indian who has bagged the first-ever gold for India in Mental Calculation World Championship.

- ☒ A. Neelakantha Bhanu Prakash
- B. Granth Thakkar
- C. Rhea Shah
- D. Priyanshi Somani

# Question No: 9

Bhim-I

Modhera sun temple is located in which state?

- A. Haryana
- B. Punjab
- C. Maharashtra
- ☒ D. Gujarat

मोडेर सन टेम्पल =  
महाराष्ट्र  
→ J & K



# Question No: 10

The students of which IIT has discovered '2020 QG', the closest known asteroid to fly by Earth?

A. IIT Delhi

B. IIT Madras

☒ C. IIT Bombay

D. IIT Guwahati

RR

# Messi at Barcelona

Matches  
**731**

Goals  
**634**

Assists  
**285**

**FIRST-TEAM DEBUT:**  
vs Espanyol, Oct. 16, 2004

**FIRST GOAL:**  
vs Albacete, May 1, 2005

**LATEST GOAL:**  
vs Napoli, Aug. 9, 2020

## HONOURS:

**10** La Liga titles  
(2004/05, 2005/06, 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2012/13, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2017/18, 2018/19)

**4** Champions League crowns  
(2005/06, 2008/09, 2010/11, 2014/15)

**6** Copa del Rey trophies  
(2008/09, 2011/12, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18)

**3** Club World Cup  
(2009/10, 2011/12, 2015/16)

**3** European Super Cup  
(2009/10, 2011/12, 2015/16)



COMPILED BY  
ANANTAAJIITH  
RA

✓ फुटबॉल =  
- Barcelona - Spain  
Cap.  
Madrid  
कैटालोनिया



# U.S. blacklists 24 Chinese firms amid South China Sea dispute

Visa restrictions on individuals for their role in building artificial islands

REUTERS  
WASHINGTON

The United States on Wednesday blacklisted 24 Chinese companies and targeted a number of individuals it said were part of construction and military actions related to disputed islands in the South China Sea.

The U.S. Commerce Department said the two dozen companies played a "role in helping the Chinese military construct and militarise the internationally condemned artificial islands in the South China Sea."

The State Department, in a separate statement, said it would impose visa restrictions on Chinese individuals "responsible for or complicit in the construction and militarisation of artificial islands in the South China Sea."



**Choppy waters:** A file photo of Chinese construction on Johnson South Reef in the disputed Spratly Islands. ■ NYT

The Chinese embassy in Washington did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

## Act of 'intimidation'

The United States accuses China of militarising the

China claims 90% of the potentially energy-rich South China Sea, but Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam also lay claim to parts of an area through which about \$3 trillion of trade passes each

year. Guang Data Communications and China Shipbuilding Group.

A message left with Shanghai Cable Offshore Engineering Co Ltd, an engineering company that specializes in the laying of submarine cables for Chinese utilities and telecom companies on the listing, was not immediately returned. Several other companies on the list could not immediately be reached or could not immediately be located.

The Commerce Department said it was adding the firms to its "entity list," which restricts sales of U.S. goods shipped to them and some more limited items made abroad with U.S. con-

Johnson South Reef

# COUNTRIES WITH CLAIMS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA





# SC hits out at Centre on loan moratorium scheme

Don't hide behind RBI... consider providing relief, says court

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday criticised the Union government for “hiding behind the Reserve Bank of India” without making its stand clear on the loan moratorium scheme introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The top court wanted to know whether the deferment of loan interest to prop up borrowers through their financial crisis during the national lockdown would lead to accrual of further interest once the freeze is lifted on August 31. The government is yet to file its affidavit.

The court noted that the issue had been pending indecisively for some months now and advised the government against adopting a blinkered vision, focusing only on matters of business of banks and not looking at the plight of the people financially dented by the “problems created by your lockdown”. It said the government was empowered to take an independent stand under the Disaster Management Act.

“The problem was created by your lockdown... It appears the Union of India is not taking an independent stance and is relying on the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)... This is not the time

 **Government of India has ample powers under Disaster Management Act. You should clarify two issues: whether interest can be charged and whether interest on interest can be levied**

 **The issue was created by your lockdown. Now you cannot look into business alone but plight of people should also be looked into**



to look after business only, consider providing relief,” a Bench, led by Justice Ashok Bhushan, addressed Solicitor General Tushar Mehta.

## Striking a balance

Mr. Mehta said the government was working in tandem with the central bank and it was unfair to say it did not have an independent view. The court gave the Centre time till September 1 to file a detailed affidavit, laying bare its stand.

The court has been trying to strike a balance between the interests of the banks and the borrowers.

“We are trying to balance. Whether there can be a system worked out... Our concern in these proceedings is only whether the interest that has been deferred will be added to charges payable later and whether there will be interest on the interest.”

the Bench maintained.

The debate was sparked by the RBI's response in court that it would be imprudent to go for a forced waiver of interest, risking the financial viability of the banks it was mandated to regulate and putting the interests of the depositors in jeopardy.

The court is hearing a petition filed by Gajendra Sharma challenging the charging of interest rate on loans even during the three-month moratorium period declared amid the COVID-19 pandemic and the national lockdown.

The central bank, in its affidavit, had said its regulatory package introduced amid the lockdown was “in its essence in the nature of a moratorium deferment and cannot be construed to be a waiver”.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

✓ Moratorium  
↳ Loan Rebate

# Won't compromise over rights at sea: Erdogan

Conflicting claims by Turkey, Greece

REUTERS  
ISTANBUL

Turkey is determined to do whatever is necessary to obtain its rights in the Black Sea, Aegean and Mediterranean, President Tayyip Erdogan said on Wednesday.

"We will not compromise over what belongs to us... We are determined to do whatever is necessary," Mr. Erdogan said, a day after Germany's Foreign Minister sought to ease tensions between Turkey and Greece in their dispute over control of eastern Mediterranean waters.

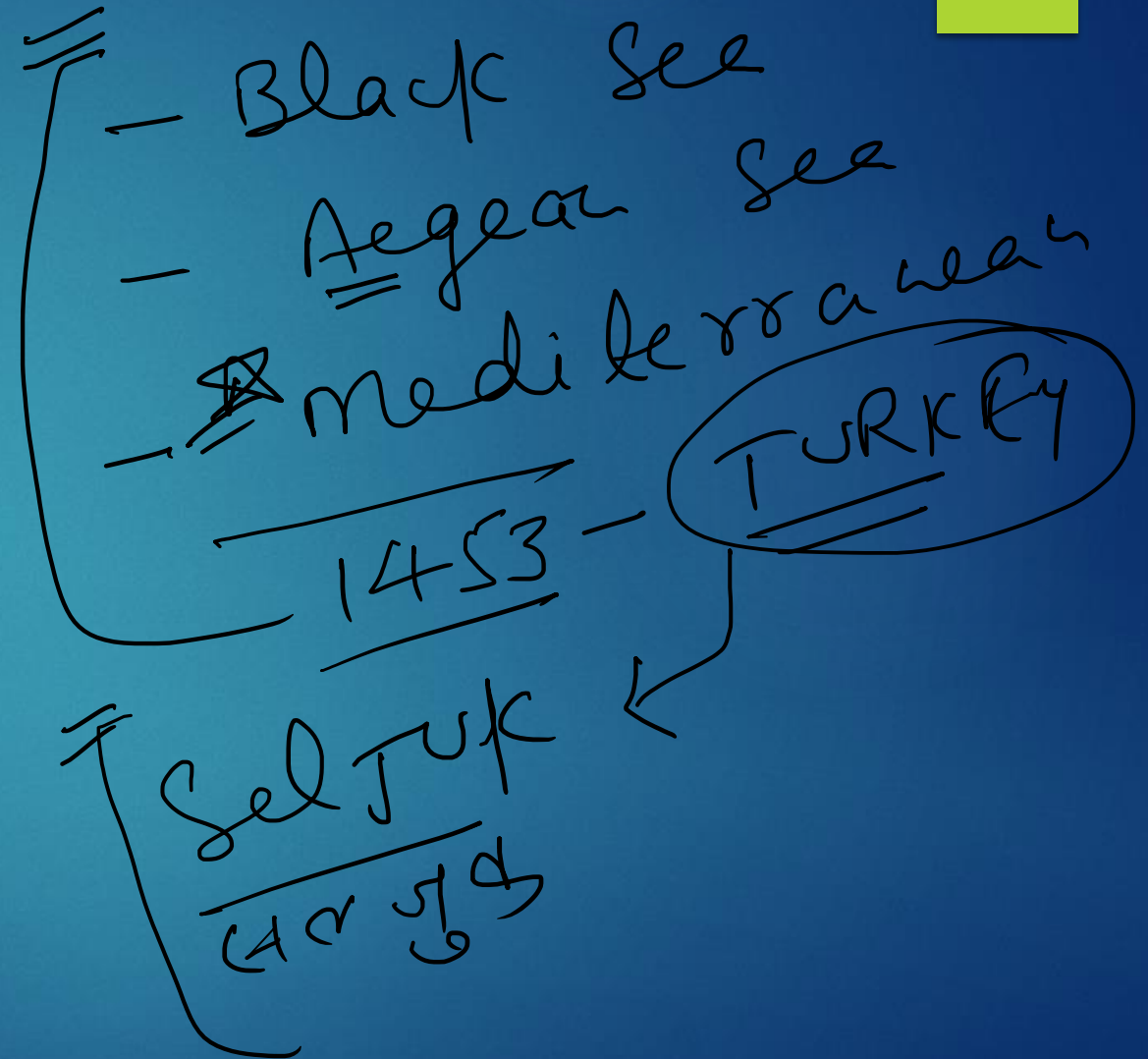
Speaking at an event commemorating the 11th century military victory by Seljuk Turks over the Byzantine empire at Malazgirt, Mr. Erdogan also called on An-

Tensions between Turkey and Greece escalated after Ankara sent a survey vessel to disputed eastern Mediterranean waters this month, a move Athens called illegal.

Turkey and Greece, NATO allies, disagree over claims to hydrocarbon resources in the area based on conflicting views on the extent of their continental shelves in waters dotted with mostly Greek islands.

"If there is anyone who wants to pay its price, they are welcome to confront us. If not then they should go away so we can handle our own business," Mr. Erdogan also said.

Germany has sought to mediate between Ankara and Athens. Greece and Turkey said they want dialogue







Constantinople

1453

Black Sea

1453

Caspian Sea

Istanbul

Ankara

Turkey

Greece

Athens

Agia

Cyprus

Lebanon

Damascus

Baghdad

Iraq

Tehran

Azerbaijan

Baku

Tbilisi

Georgia

Makhachkala

Krasnodar

Antalya

Adana

Izmir

Bursa

Bucharest

Sofia

Serbia

Tirana

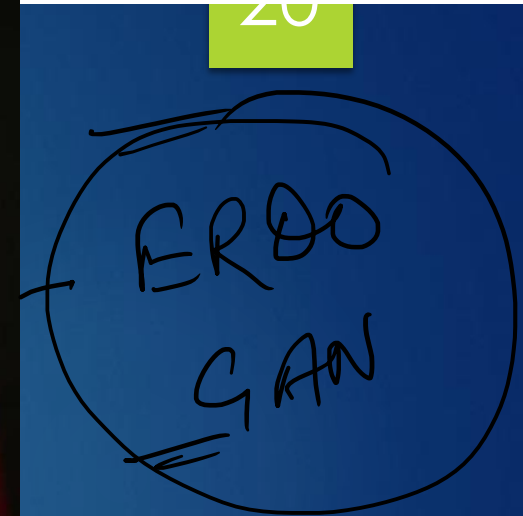
North Macedonia

Kosovo

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Belgrade

Romania



LIRA → Currency 



जिह  
↓  
**Katerina Sakellariopoulou** is the President of Greece. She was elected to succeed former President of Greece, Prokopis Pavlopoulos, by the Hellenic Parliament on 22 January 2020. Prior to her election as President of Greece, she served as President of the Council of State, the highest administrative court of



**Kyriakos Mitsotakis** is a Greek politician that is serving as Prime Minister of Greece since 8 July 2019. A member of New Democracy, he has been its president since 2016. Mitsotakis previously was Leader of the Opposition from 2016 to 2019 and Minister of Administrative Refo



↓ official Name



- Full name: Hellenic Republic
- Population: 10,775,642 (July 2015)
- Capital: Athens
- Largest City: Athens
- Official language: Greek

Currency  
€ EURO



# SC urged to set up 11-judge Bench on quota cap

The court was hearing a bunch of petitions challenging Maratha reservation law

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday was urged to set up an 11-judge Bench to reconsider its 50% cap on reservation.

The push for it came while the court was hearing a challenge to the Maratha reservation law.

A bunch of petitions contended that the law, which provides 12% to 13% quota for the community in Maharashtra, breached the 50% cap on reservation declared by a nine-judge Bench of the court in 1992.

Lawyer Mukul Rohatgi appeared for the respondent Maharashtra government and lawyer Kapil Sibal appeared for an applicant supporting the State government.

Appearing before a Bench led by Justice L. Nageswara Rao, the senior advocates

asked the court to refer the case to a numerically superior Bench of 11 judges.

This Bench should, rather than restricting itself to the Maratha law, set about reconsidering the 50% ceiling itself.

Mr. Sibal reasoned that 28 States had granted reservation exceeding 50% to their respective backward classes. He suggested that the court should hear all these States. "Eighty-five per cent in Maharashtra belong to backward classes, so is it in many States," he submitted.

The 50% limit in reservation declared by the nine judges on the Bench in the Indira Sawhney case was nearly 30 years old, he noted.

The lawyers submitted that the court should revisit the percentage of reservation, taking into consideration the recent developments

in the front, including the 10% quota for economically weaker sections introduced recently through the 103rd Constitutional Amendment.

## Amendments recalled

Mr. Sibal said the amendments made to Articles 15 and 16 of the Constitution entailed both "empowerment" and "employment" to the backward classes. Empowerment of backward classes was a different concept from mere employment.

Indira Sawhney preceded these amendments.

"Article 15(4) and Article 16 (4) have not been interpreted in the context of Indira Sawhney [judgment]... There are still a large number of people who are still backward," he submitted.

The appeals have been filed by individuals from all walks of life and NGOs

against the High Court decision upholding the Maratha law. They argued that the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) Act was born under "political pressure" and in "full defiance" of the rule of law and equality.

"The Maharashtra government has made a mockery of the rule of law. It has also used its constitutional powers arbitrarily and purely for political gains", the petitions said. One of them argued, "The High Court erred in concluding that the mere fact that other OBCs would have to share their reservation quotas with the Marathas [if the Marathas were simply included in the existing OBC category] constitutes an exceptional circumstance warranting a breach of the 50 per cent ceiling limit set by Indira Sawhney".

HCT 61  
31/8/10  
50%  
944  
Indira Sawhney  
(1992) Case



# Israel strikes Hezbollah posts

It says shots were fired from militant positions in Lebanon

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
MANARA

Israel said on Wednesday it had launched air strikes against Hezbollah observation posts in Lebanon after shots were fired from across the border towards its troops the previous evening.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu blamed the shooting on Shiite militant group Hezbollah with which Israel fought a devastating month-long war in 2006, and pledged a "forceful" response to any further incidents.

"I advise Hezbollah not to test Israel's crushing strength," he wrote in Hebrew on Twitter.

"Hezbollah is once again endangering the state of Lebanon due to its aggression."

The border flare-up came hours after Lebanon rejected an Israeli call to reform the UN peacekeeping force which patrols the border



An Israeli artillery gun deployed near the border with Lebanon. ■ AP

ahead of a UN Security Council vote to renew its mandate.

The Israeli Army had said earlier that a "security incident" was unfolding near Manara, a kibbutz near the UN-demarcated border between the two countries, and urged residents to take shelter. "During operational activity in northern Israel last night, shots were fired from Lebanon toward (Israeli) troops," the military said on Twitter.

"We responded with fire, & our aircraft struck Hezbollah observation posts near the border. This is a severe event & we remain ready to combat any threat to our borders."

Lebanon's state-run National News Agency (NNA) reported Israeli gunfire and flares around the village of Mays al-Jabal, just across the border from Manara.

The Israeli Army said "troops deployed dozens of illumination rounds and smoke shells and responded with fire".

Afterwards "attack helicopters and aircraft struck Hezbollah observation posts". It reported no Israeli casualties.

Lebanon's top security body, the Supreme Defence Council, decided to file a complaint to the UN Security Council over the Israeli fire into Lebanon, NNA reported.

आतंकवादी समूह

लेबनान - इजरायल

शिया लड़ाके

Mediterranean Sea

Syria

Golan Heights

LEBANON

Beirut

Damascus

Tel Aviv

Benjamin Netanyahu  
Curreny C shaped

West Bank

W. Bank (disputed)

JORDAN

Amman

Jerusalem

Gaza Strip

ISRAEL

Dead Sea

EGYPT

SOUTH SINAI

Saudi Arab

Capital of Israel

Parliament

Knesset

## The Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration

भारत सरकार ने वर्ष 2006 में केंद्र एवं राज्य सरकारों के जिलों/संगठनों द्वारा किये गए असाधारण एवं अभिनव कार्यों को स्वीकार करने, उन्हें पहचानने और उन्हें पुरस्कृत करने के लिये 'लोक प्रशासन में उत्कृष्टता के लिये प्रधानमंत्री पुरस्कार' (The Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration) नाम की एक योजना शुरू की।



# Aspirational Dist. L117 (APP)

- ▶ प्राथमिकता वाले कार्यक्रमों, नवाचार एवं महत्वाकांक्षी जिलों में जिला कलेक्टरों के कार्य को पहचानने के लिये वर्ष 2014 में इस योजना का पुनर्गठन किया गया था।
- ▶ जिले के आर्थिक विकास की दिशा में जिला कलेक्टरों के कामकाज को पहचानने के लिये वर्ष 2020 में पुनः नये तरीके से योजना बनाई गई है



पुनर्गठित योजना के तहत लोक प्रशासन में उत्कृष्टता के लिये प्रधानमंत्री पुरस्कार 31 अक्टूबर, 2020 को भारतीय प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा प्रदान किया जाएगा।

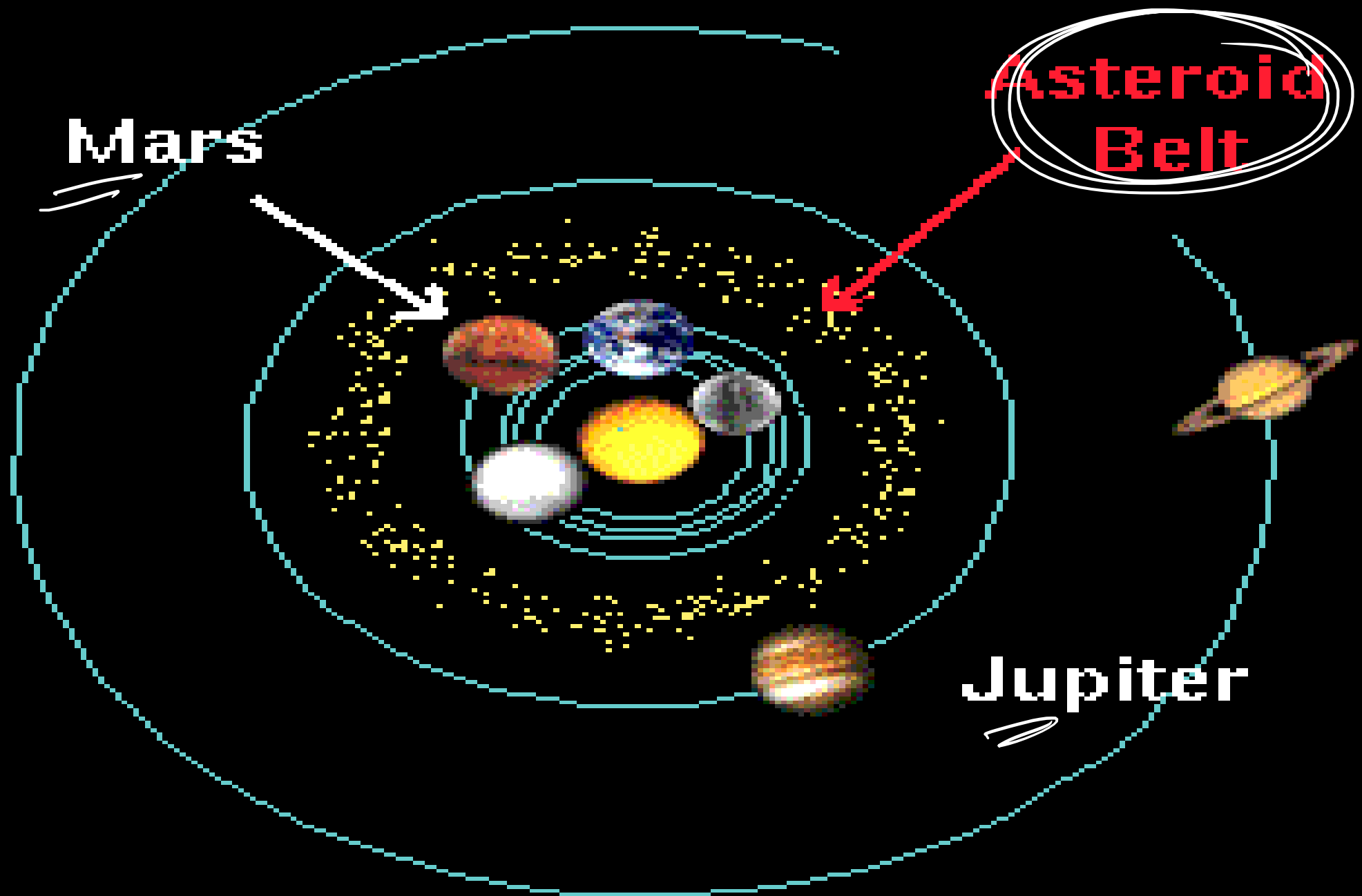
202004

## Asteroid 2018VP1

नासा (NASA) की 'जेट प्रोपल्शन लैबोरेटरी' (Jet Propulsion Laboratory) में सेंटर फॉर नियर ऑब्जेक्ट स्टडीज़ (Center for Near Objects Studies) के अनुसार, 2 नवंबर, 2020 को एक क्षुद्रग्रह **2018VP1** (Asteroid 2018VP1) पृथ्वी के पास से गुजरेगा।



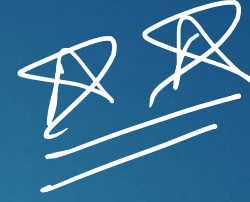




Mars

Asteroid  
Belt

Jupiter

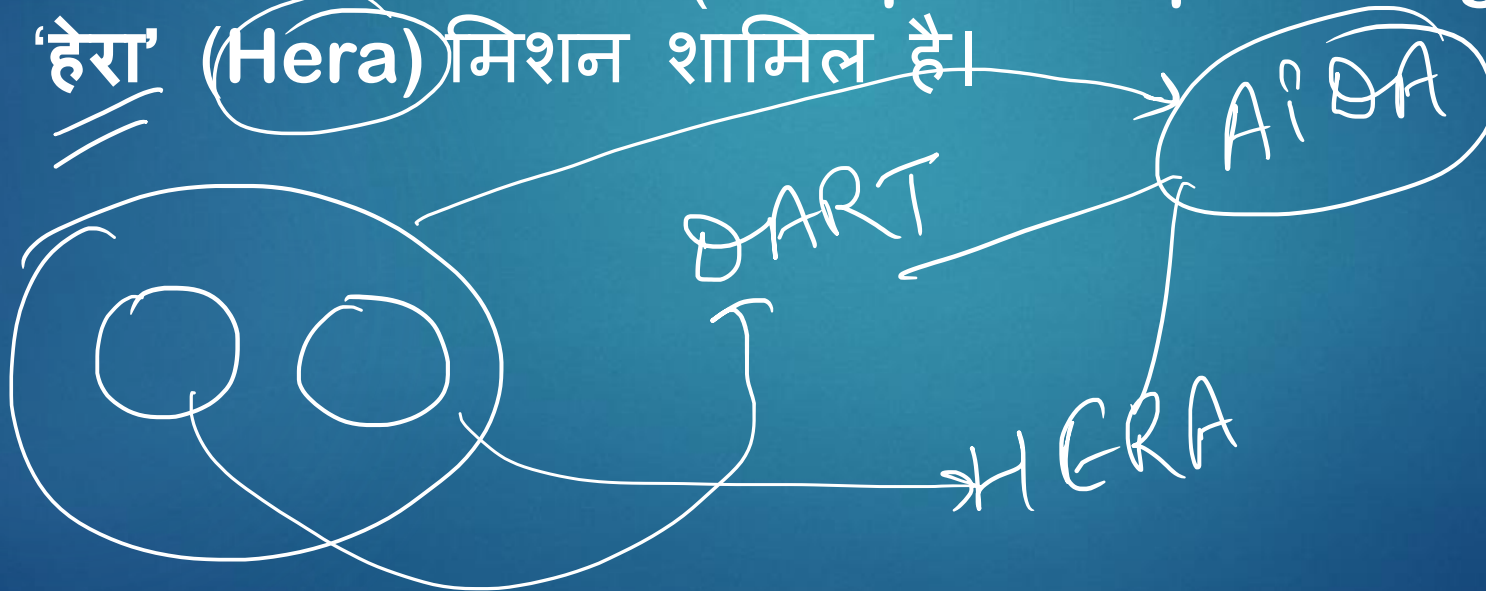


## ► चिक्सुलुब इम्पैक्टर (Chicxulub Impactor):

- यह एक क्षुद्रग्रह है, माना जाता है कि 66 मिलियन वर्ष पहले इस क्षुद्रग्रह के पृथ्वी से टकराने के कारण डायनासोर की प्रजातियाँ अचानक विलुप्त हो गई थी। इसका व्यास 10 किलोमीटर से अधिक था।

## ► Asteroid Impact and Deflection Assessment- AIDA:

इस मिशन के अंतर्गत नासा के 'डबल एस्टेराइड रीडायरेक्शन टेस्ट' (Double Asteroid Redirection Test- DART) मिशन और यूरोपीय अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी (European Space Agency-ESA) का 'हेरा' (Hera) मिशन शामिल है।





# BY 2024, POLLUTION CUT BY 30%

## NATIONAL CLEAN AIR PROGRAMME (NCAP)

Cities to be covered: 102

**GOAL:** To meet annual average ambient air quality standards

**MID-TERM (5 YEARS) TARGET:**  
Reducing air pollution by 20-30% by 2024, taking 2017 as base year

**HOW:** Through city-specific air pollution abatement action plan

## BUILD CAPACITY BY SETTING UP:

- 1 National emission inventory
- 2 Air Information Centre for data analysis
- 3 Source apportionment studies
- 4 Guidelines for indoor air pollution
- 5 Rural monitoring stations

**INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AGENCIES:** World Bank, German development agency (GIZ), AFD (French funding agency), Swiss Development Corporation, Bloomberg Philanthropies

NGT

# National Clean Air Programme

National Clean Air Programme was launched on 10th January 2019 to tackle the increasing air pollution across the country.



## National Clean Air Programme

राष्ट्रीय हरित प्राधिकरण (National Green Tribunal) ने केंद्रीय पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय (MoEFCC) के राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छ वायु कार्यक्रम (National Clean Air Programme) पर दी गई रिपोर्ट को नकार दिया है जिसमें वर्ष 2024 तक वायु प्रदूषण में 20-30% कमी का प्रस्ताव दिया गया है।





**NATIONAL GREEN  
TRIBUNAL**

→ Statutory  
नैवैधिक संस्था

- राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण (National Green Tribunal - NGT) की स्थापना 18 अक्टूबर, 2010 को राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण अधिनियम (National Green Tribunal Act), 2010 के तहत की गई थी।



✓✓

→ ५५ १५



**Justice Adarsh  
Kumar Goel**



- NGT की स्थापना के साथ भारत एक विशेष पर्यावरण न्यायाधिकरण (Specialised Environmental Tribunal) स्थापित करने वाला दुनिया का तीसरा (और पहला विकासशील) देश बन गया।
- इससे पहले केवल 1 ऑस्ट्रेलिया और 2 न्यूज़ीलैंड में ही ऐसे किसी निकाय की स्थापना की गई थी।

- NGT का मुख्यालय दिल्ली में है, जबकि अन्य चार क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय भोपाल, पुणे, कोलकाता एवं चेन्नई में स्थित हैं।



- राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण अधिनियम के अनुसार, NGT के लिये यह अनिवार्य है कि उसके पास आने वाले पर्यावरण संबंधी मुद्दों का निपटारा 6 महीनों के भीतर हो जाए।



## NGT की संरचना

NGT में अध्यक्ष, न्यायिक सदस्य और विशेषज्ञ सदस्य शामिल होते हैं, जिनका कार्यकाल 5 वर्षों का होता है और किसी भी सदस्य को पुनः पद पर नियुक्त नहीं किया जा सकता।

अध्यक्ष की नियुक्ति भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश के परामर्श से केंद्र सरकार द्वारा की जाती है



NGT द्वारा दिये गए आदेश/निर्णय/अधिनिर्णय के विरुद्ध सर्वोच्च न्यायालय में 90 दिनों के भीतर अपील की जा सकती है।

NGT पर्यावरण से संबंधित 7 कानूनों के तहत नागरिक मामलों की सुनवाई कर सकता है:

1. जल (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1974
2. जल (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) उपकर अधिनियम, 1977

3. वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980

4. वायु (प्रदूषण निवारण और नियंत्रण) अधिनियम, 1981

5. पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986

6. पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986

~~7.~~ जैव-विविधता अधिनियम, 2002