

January - 26

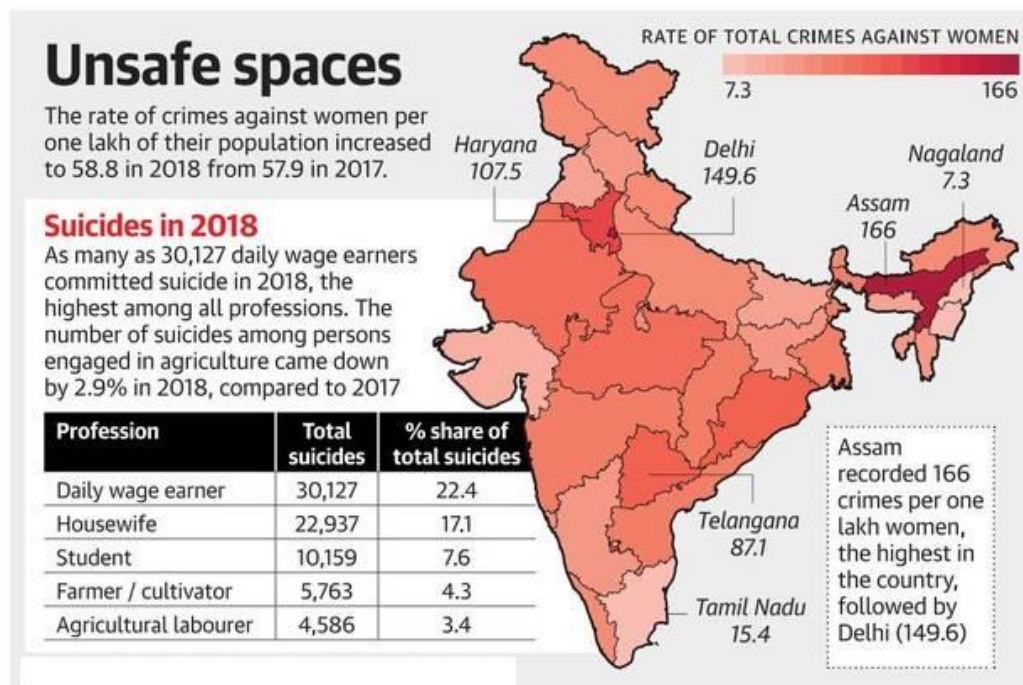
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs of Central Government has notified the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 on 10th January 2020.

NATIONAL

NCRB Data - Crime in India 2018

- ❖ Crime in India has increased by 1.3% in 2018 compared to 2017 with the registration of over 50 lakh cognisable crimes.
- ❖ But crime rate per lakh population was down to 383.5 in 2018 from 388.6 in 2017.
- ❖ In short, Crime rate has declined in India since 2016 but Actual number of crimes and crime against women up.
- ❖ A cognizable offence or case is defined as the one which an officer in-charge of a police station may investigate without the order of a magistrate and effect arrest without warrant.
- ❖ The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, is responsible for collecting and analysing crime data as defined by the Indian Penal Code and special and local laws in the country.





Suicides

- ❖ Overall, a total of 1,34,516 suicides were reported in the country in 2018, showing an increase of 3.6 per cent in comparison to 2017.
- ❖ The daily wage workers, those earning less than Rs 1 lakh per annum but educated up to the secondary level have the highest share in number of suicides in India in 2018.
- ❖ Majority of suicides were reported in Maharashtra (17,972) followed by Tamil Nadu (13,896), West Bengal (13,255), Madhya Pradesh (11,775) and Karnataka (11,561).
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh, the most populous state with 16.9 per cent share of the country's population, has reported comparatively lower percentage share of suicidal deaths, accounting for only 3.6 per cent of the total suicides in the country in 2018.
- ❖ Delhi, which is the most-populous UT, has reported the highest number of suicides (2,526) among UTs, followed by Puducherry (500).

Unemployment Suicides

- ❖ According to the NCRB data on accidental deaths and suicides, a total of 12,936 unemployed persons committed suicide in 2018.
- ❖ It accounts for 9.6 per cent of the total suicides i.e., 1,34,516 suicides.
- ❖ They were aged below 18 years to above 60 years.
- ❖ The number has surpassed the number of farmers who committed suicide in the same year.
- ❖ The NRCB data has revealed that one unemployed person committed suicide every hour during 2018.
- ❖ The highest number of suicides - 12.3 per cent - committed by unemployed persons were in Kerala, 12.2 per cent in Tamil Nadu, 9.7 per cent in Maharashtra, 8.5 per cent in Karnataka and 7 per cent in Uttar Pradesh.

Farm Suicides

- ❖ Suicides of persons engaged in the farming sector have come down for the third consecutive year.
- ❖ 5,763 farmers/cultivators and 4,586 agricultural labourers committed suicide in 2018.
- ❖ The suicide rate in the deeply stressed agrarian sector accounted for 7.7% of the total 134,516 suicides.
- ❖ Maharashtra accounted for the highest share in farm-related suicides at 34.7%, followed by Karnataka at 23.2%, Telangana 8.8%, Andhra Pradesh 6.4% and Madhya Pradesh at 6.3%.



- ❖ Maharashtra and Karnataka alone account for more than half of total suicides in the farming sector in the country.
- ❖ West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Goa and Union territories, including Delhi, reported zero suicides by farmers/cultivators and agricultural labourers.

Speaker's role

- ❖ Justice Nariman wrote this judgment along with Justices Aniruddha Bose and V. Ramasubramanian.
- ❖ This judgment came on an appeal filed by the Congress legislator Keisham Meghchandra Singh against the Manipur Assembly Speaker for the disqualification of Minister T. Shyamkumar.
- ❖ Shyamkumar, who after contesting in the Congress ticket, switched sides to favour the BJP Government led by N Biren Singh.
- ❖ The court asked the State Assembly Speaker to decide the disqualification petition in four weeks.

Recommendations

- ❖ The Supreme Court has made some decisions on the position of Speaker as the adjudicating authority under the Anti-Defection Law (ADL).
- ❖ The Supreme Court asked the Parliament to amend the Constitution to strip Legislative Assembly Speakers of their exclusive power to decide whether legislators should be disqualified or not under the anti-defection law.
- ❖ Disqualification petitions under the Tenth Schedule should be adjudicated by a mechanism outside Parliament or the Legislative Assemblies.
- ❖ An independent tribunal ought to be appointed instead to determine the fate of an MP or an MLA who has switched sides for money and power, it said.
- ❖ The court suggested a permanent tribunal headed by a retired Supreme Court judge or a former High Court Chief Justice.
- ❖ It questioned why a Speaker, who is a member of a particular political party and an insider in the House, should be the “sole and final arbiter” in the disqualification of a political defector.
- ❖ The court said the Speakers should decide Tenth Schedule disqualifications within a “reasonable period”.
- ❖ The Supreme Court set three months as the outer limit for the Speaker to conclude disqualification proceedings against defectors.

Backdrop



- ❖ In a landmark judgment in Kihoto Hollohan (1992) the Supreme Court upheld the validity of the ADL.
- ❖ This verdict had also made the Speaker's order subject to judicial review on limited grounds.
- ❖ In that, the SC also made it clear that the court's jurisdiction would not come into play unless the Speaker passes an order.
- ❖ It left no room for intervention prior to adjudication.
- ❖ In 2016, there was another case named as S.A. Sampath Kumar vs. Kale Yadaiah case.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP)

- ❖ NITI Aayog announced that it will launch National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP) in 2021.
- ❖ The Platform aims to democratize the access of government data.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

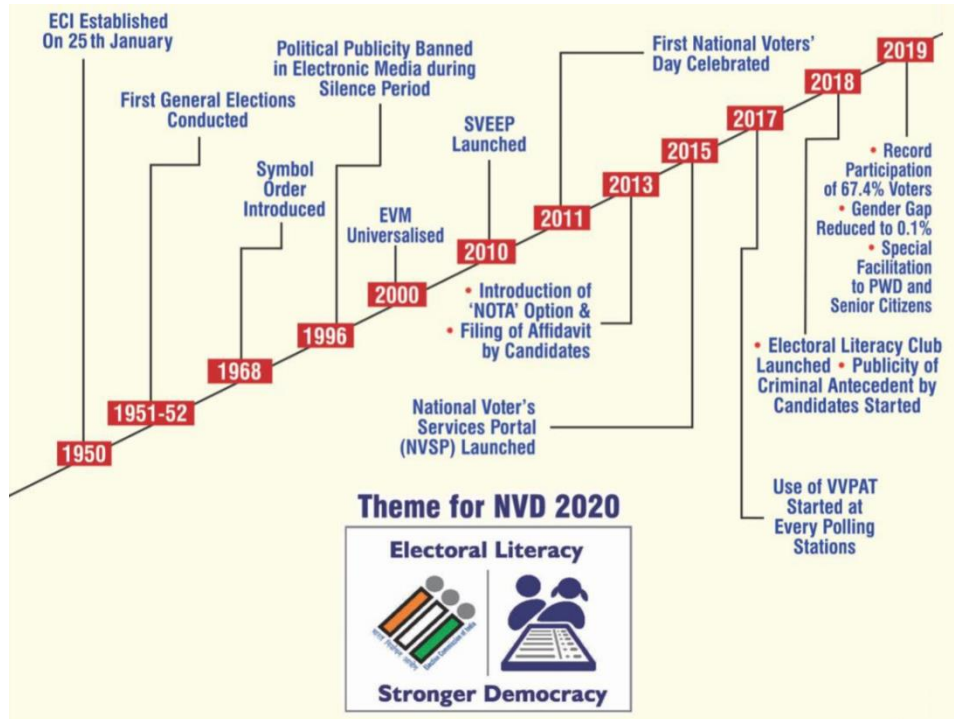
Prince Harry

- ❖ Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex is a member of the British royal family.
- ❖ He is the younger son of Charles, Prince of Wales, and Diana, Princess of Wales.
- ❖ He is sixth in the line of succession to the British throne.
- ❖ In January 2020, Prince Harry and his wife Meghan Markle announced their intention to step back as senior members of the royal family.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Voters Day – January 25

- ❖ It is celebrated every year to mark the foundation day of Election Commission of India (ECI) on 25 January 1950.
- ❖ It is a constitutional body deriving its authority from Article 324 of the Constitution and Representation of the People Acts.
- ❖ The purpose of celebrating National Voters' Day is to make the youth aware of voting.



- ❖ The day was started in 2011.
- ❖ The theme of National Voters Day 2020 is 'Electoral Literacy for a Stronger Democracy.'

National Tourism Day – January 25

- ❖ It was established by the Ministry of Tourism to raise awareness of the importance of tourism for the country's economy.





- ❖ Nearly close to 6 per cent of India's total GDP was from travel and tourism.
- ❖ India also participates in the celebration of the UN World Tourism Day (September 27).

50th Himachal Pradesh Statehood Day – January 25

- ❖ It was on this day in 1971 that Himachal Pradesh became the 18th state of India.
- ❖ It was established in 1948 as a Chief Commissioner's Province within the Union of India.
- ❖ Himachal Pradesh became a Union Territory on 1 November 1956.

