

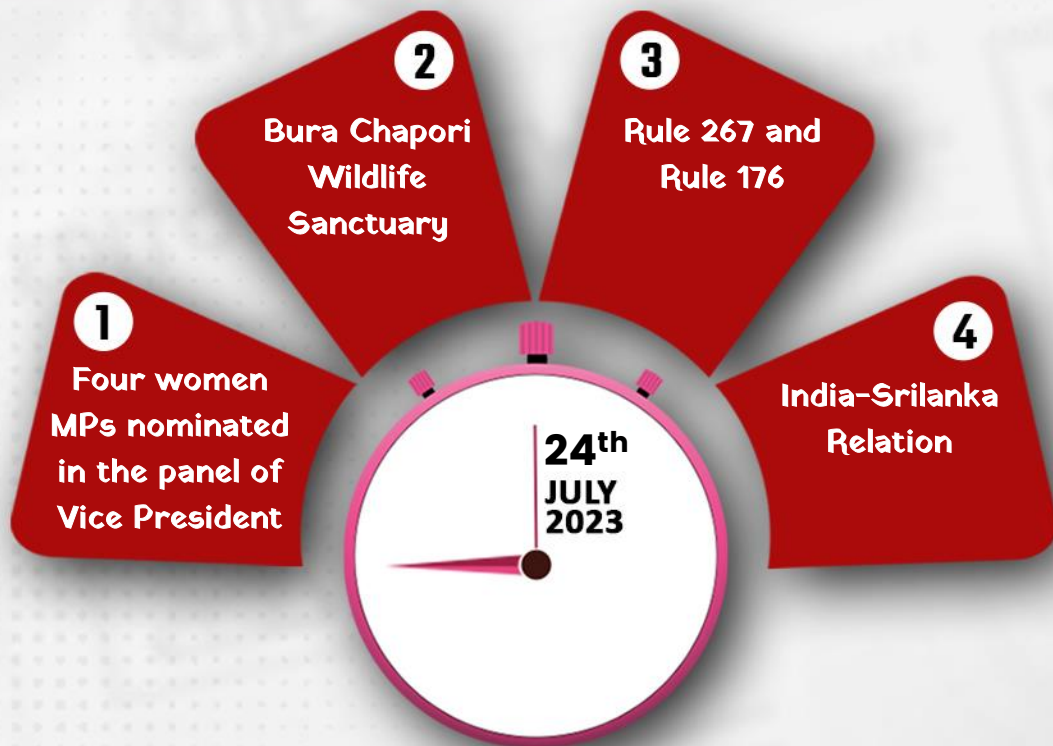


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# CURRENT AFFAIRS

**PRELIMS+MAINS QUICK REVISION**

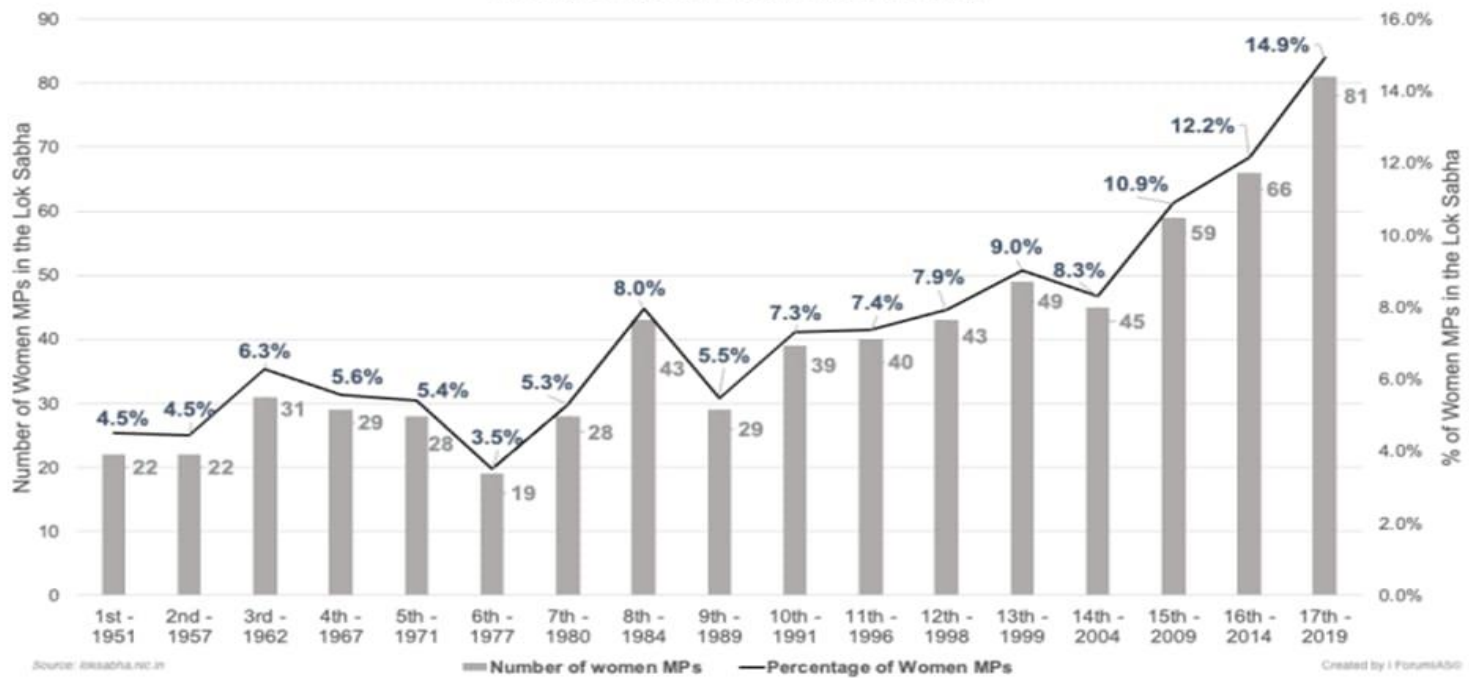


## Four women MPs nominated in the panel of Vice President

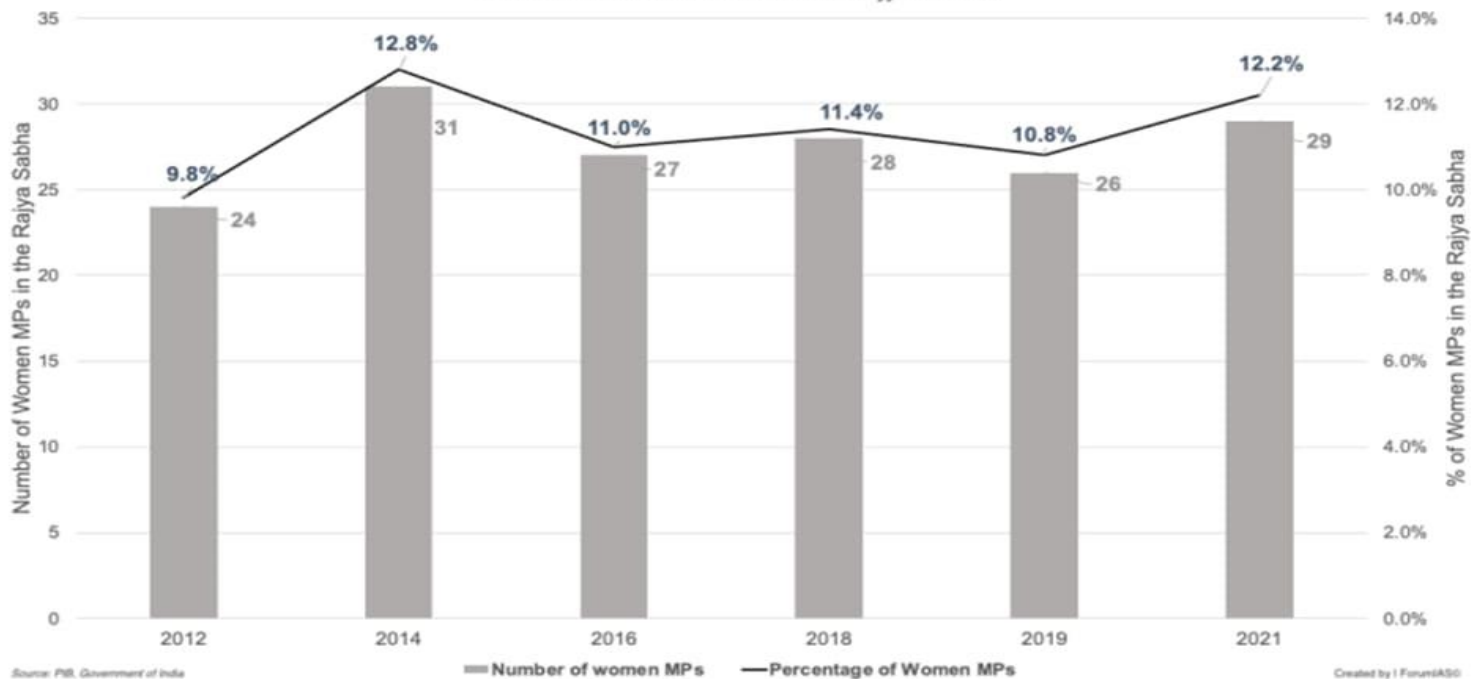
- **Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar** has reconstituted the Deputy Chairman panel with 50% women MPs.
- The eight-member panel will now have four women members, including Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MPs **PT Usha** and **S. Phangnon Konyak**, Nationalist Congress Party MP **Fauziya Khan** and **Biju Janata Dal** MP **Sulato Deo**.



### Number of Women MPs in the Lok Sabha



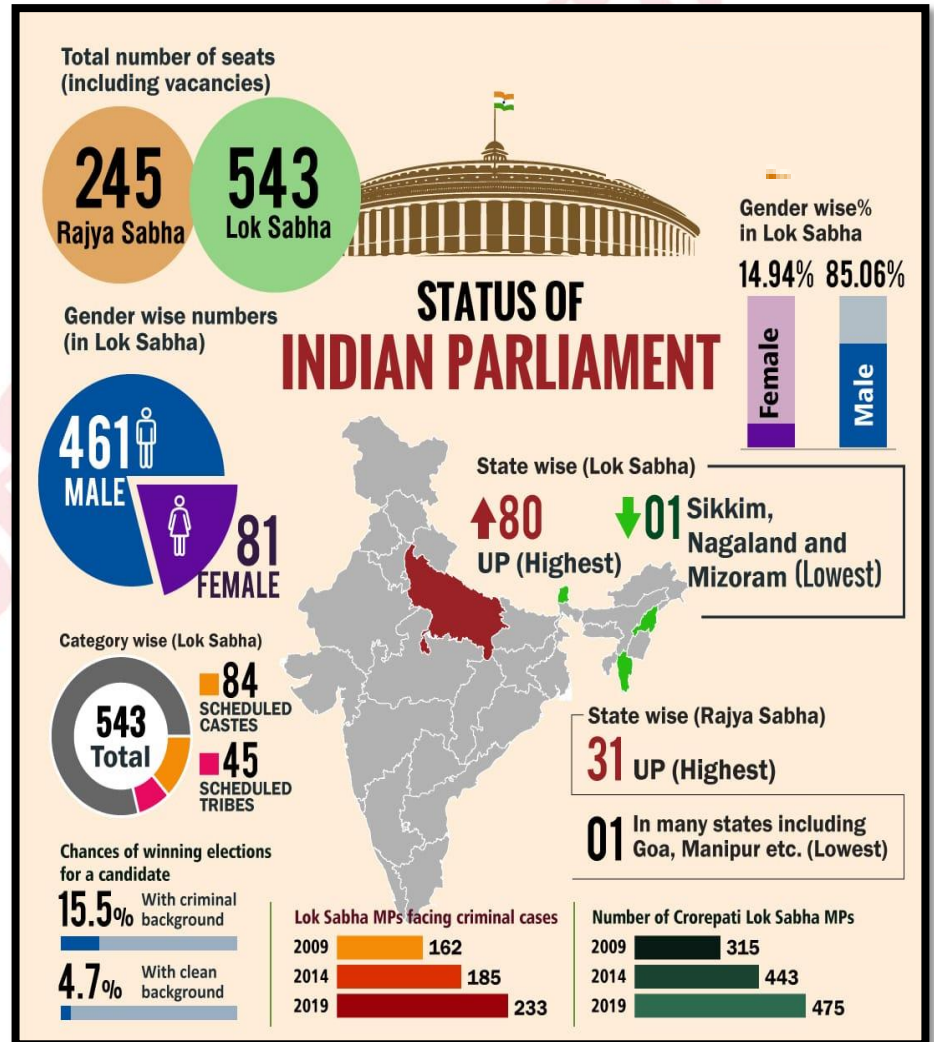
### Number of Women MPs in the Rajya Sabha





→ **The Vice President** made this announcement in the Upper House on the first day of the monsoon session. This is the first time in the history of the Upper House that equal representation has been given to women members in the panel of **Vice Speakers**.

→ For the first time in the history of **Rajya Sabha**, women got equal representation on the panel, while the Women's Reservation Bill, which was first introduced in the year 1996, is still pending.

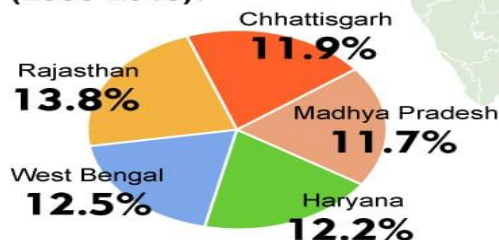


- **Mrs S. Phangnon Konyak** is the first woman elected as a Rajya Sabha member from Nagaland. The post of Rajya Sabha Speaker has gone entirely digital.
- **Article 118(1)** of the Constitution empowers each House of Parliament to make rules for regulating its procedure and the conduct of its business.

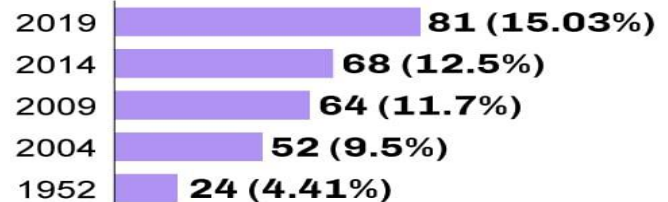
## Women in Indian Parliament

The global average for the share of women parliamentarians stood at **24.6%**

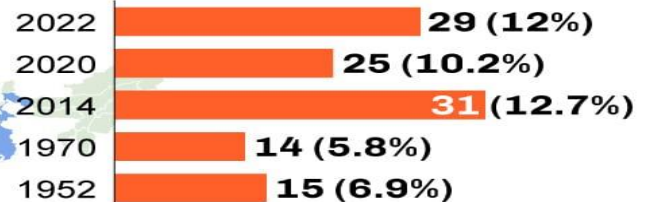
Average share of women MLAs in State legislatures (2008-2018):



### Lok Sabha (Total Member = 543)



### Rajya Sabha (Total Member = 245)



### Women in the Union Council of Ministers



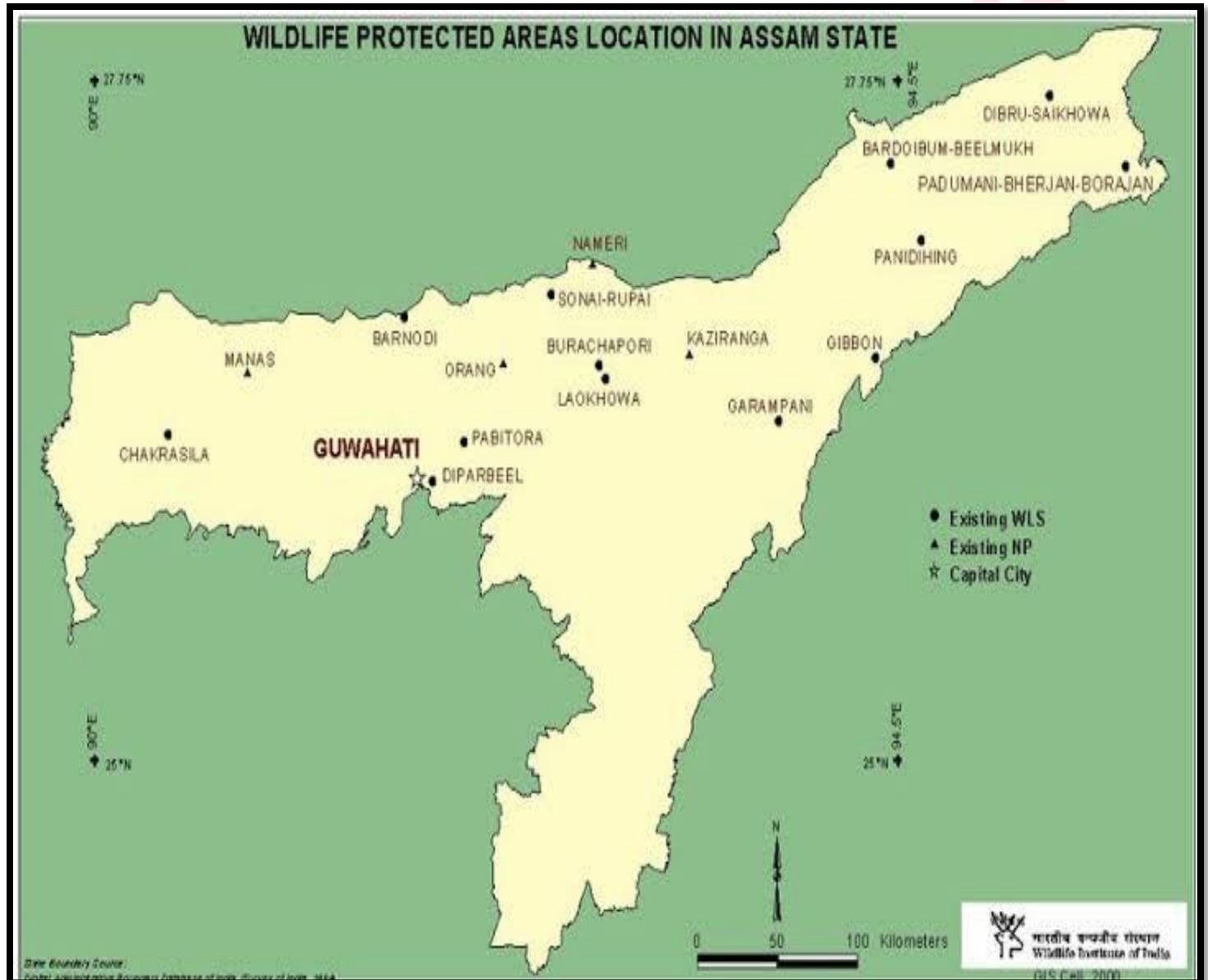
- The **Rajya Sabha** adopted rules in the year 1964 to regulate its procedure and conduct of its business.
- There has been a steady increase in the number of women members in the Lok Sabha in the recent past.
- The number of women MPs in the **Lok Sabha** has increased from 45 (8.3%) in 2004 (14th Lok Sabha) to 81 (14.9%) in 2019 (17th Lok Sabha).



## Bura Chapori Wildlife Sanctuary

- ➔ Recently, several people were injured in clashes between forest teams and illegal encroachers at **Bura Chapori Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- ➔ It is situated on the south bank of the Brahmaputra River in the **Sonitpur district of Assam**. It is a part of the **Laokhowa-Burachapori ecosystem**.
- ➔ It includes species of wet alluvial grasslands, riparian and semi-evergreen forests scattered by wetlands and river systems.
- ➔ It is home to the great Indian one-horned rhinoceros, tiger, leopard, wild buffalo, hog deer, wild boar and elephants.
- ➔ Due to the many wetlands, it is an ideal breeding ground for many species of migratory birds during the winter season.
- ➔ This meadow is also rich in a variety of medicinal herbs and plants.
- ➔ The area was declared a **reserve forest in 1974**, it became a sanctuary in 1995.

➔ This wildlife sanctuary is spread over an area of **about 44.06 square kilometres**. The sanctuary area receives heavy rainfall during monsoon.





## Rule 267 and Rule 176

- ➔ The government and the opposition are at loggerheads over the discussion on the situation **in Manipur**. On Thursday, the opposition demanded a discussion on this **under Rule 267**. On the other hand, the government is ready to discuss it but has cited **Rule 176**. After all, what are these two rules on which the government and the opposition are adamant.
- ➔ At the same time, the opposition insisted that the Prime Minister suspend all issues **under Rule 267** and take **suo motu** cognizance after discussion. On Tuesday, **Raghav Chadha** of the **Aam Aadmi Party** said in his written request that he gives notice under Rule 267 for July 21, 2023, to discuss the breakdown of law and order in the state of Manipur due to the failure of the government.
- ➔ The motion is for the suspension of all other businesses listed in the **Rajya Sabha**. After all, what is **Rule 267**, which has been demanded by the opposition to discuss the Manipur issue? On the other hand, what is Rule 176 under which the government is ready for a discussion of shorter duration?

## → What is Rule 267?

- Rule 267 gives special power to a Rajya Sabha member to suspend the pre-determined agenda of the House with the approval of the Chairman.

# मणिपुर पर संसद में हंगामा, क्या है रूल नंबर 267 और रूल 176?



- In fact, in Parliament, a member has many ways to raise issues and seek answers from the government. During the Question Hour, MPs can ask questions related to any issue. Under this, the concerned minister has to give an oral or written answer. Any MP can raise this issue during **Zero Hour**.
- **Every day 15 MPs** are allowed to raise issues of their choice during Zero Hour. An MP can also raise it during a special mention. The Speaker can allow up to 7 Special Mentions per day.
- MPs may try to bring the issue to the attention of the government during other discussions such as the debate on the President's speech.
- Any discussion **under Rule 267** assumes great importance in Parliament as all other business is put on hold for discussion on issues of national importance.
- If an issue is accepted under Rule 267, it shows that it is the most important national issue of the day.



- The Rajya Sabha Rulebook states, 'Any member can make a motion with the consent of the Chairman. He can move a motion that the agenda listed before the Council for that day be suspended.
- If the motion is passed, the rule under consideration is suspended for the time being. For this reason, the opposition is demanding a discussion on Manipur under Rule 267.

### → What is Rule 176?

- It is worth noting that the Center had said on Monday that it is ready to discuss the Manipur issue in the **Rajya Sabha**.
- Leader of the House **Piyush Goyal** had also said that the government has no objection to this. **Dhankhar** reiterated that there have been demands from various members for a short-duration discussion on Manipur issues **under Rule 176**. Members are keen to engage in discussion on Manipur issues. These discussions have three phases.



- One, every member of the House is entitled to give notice for short-duration discussion. They have considered those notices. But, as per the rule, he will have to consult the leader of the house for the date and time.
- **Rule 176** allows for a short-duration discussion on a particular issue not exceeding two and a half hours.
- According to this, any member desirous of starting a discussion on a matter of urgent public importance may give notice in writing to that effect.
- The condition is that the notice must be accompanied by reasons. The notice must be signed by at least two other members who support it.



# मणिपुर में हो रही हिंसा की क्या है सच्चाई?



- मणिपुर हिंसा में नगा, कुकी और मैतेई समुदाय शामिल
- मैतेई समुदाय ने दो दिनों में 1000 से अधिक हथियार लूटे
- मणिपुर हाई कोर्ट का मैतेई को एसटी में शामिल करने का आदेश जारी किया
- पहले से ही अनुसूचित जनजाति में शामिल नगा-कुकी हुए नाराज
- हिंदू मैतेई की आबादी 62 से घटकर 53 फीसदी हुई
- वहीं कुकी और नगा में अधिकांश इसाई

## India-Srilanka Relation

- **Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe's** visit to India was a testimony to India's close ties with the island nation. During this visit, both countries put forth their shared vision for connectivity, along with taking their cooperation to a new level at the level of economics and energy. In the event of Sri Lanka's economic crisis, India has come forward to provide help.
- This is **Wickremesinghe's** first visit to India after taking office after the economic crisis. India was instrumental in helping Sri Lanka overcome the crisis.
- The vision document aims to accelerate mutual cooperation in tourism, power, trade, higher education and skill development.
- The approach aims to strengthen maritime, air, energy and people-to-people connectivity between the two countries.

- ➔ The Sri Lankan government will fulfil the aspirations of Tamils, ensure a life of dignity and respect for the Tamil community, and resolve issues related to the livelihood of fishermen with a humanitarian approach.
- ➔ The Sri Lankan President appreciated India for the support it extended during the financial crisis last year and said, "India's growth will be beneficial for the neighbourhood and the Indian Ocean region."
- ➔ **The 'Vision Document' has five pillars:**
  1. Maritime connectivity
  2. Air link
  3. Energy and Power Connectivity
  4. Trade, Economic and Financial Connectivity
  5. People-to-people connectivity
- ➔ Framework for cooperation in the development of ports and logistics **in Colombo, Trincomalee** and **Kankesanthurai** with the objective of strengthening regional logistics and shipping for maritime connectivity.



- ➔ For sea connectivity, the ferry services between **Nagapattinam (India)** and **Kankesanthurai (Sri Lanka)** and from **Rameswaram to Talaimannar** were called for at the earliest.
- ➔ Apart from exploring connectivity between Chennai and **Trincomalee, Batticaloa** and other destinations in Sri Lanka, the **MoU on Trincomalee** aims to develop the port and its surrounding areas as a "regional hub for industry, energy, including renewable energy", the document states.



- ➔ For air connectivity, the expansion of flights between Chennai and Colombo was also mentioned.
- ➔ On energy and power connectivity, both sides plan to set up a high-capacity power grid interconnection to enable power trade between Sri Lanka and other regional countries, including the **BBIN (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal)** initiative. This not only has the potential to reduce the cost of electricity in Sri Lanka but will also help generate foreign exchange for Sri Lanka, the document said.
- ➔ The document also called for expediting the implementation of the agreement on the Sampur solar power project and LNG infrastructure and exploring cooperation in green hydrogen and green ammonia.
- ➔ The two countries will also work on a multi-product petroleum pipeline from South India to Sri Lanka, in addition to joint exploration and production of hydrocarbons in Sri Lanka's offshore basins to develop Sri Lanka's upstream petroleum sector.

- ➔ According to the document, the economic and technological cooperation agreement was signed with the objective of comprehensively increasing bilateral trade and investment in new and priority sectors.
- ➔ It was decided to designate the Indian Rupee as the currency for trade settlements between the two countries. A digital transaction agreement was signed **between Sri Lanka Pay and ECI International** to enable UPI-based digital payments to enhance trade and transactions between businesses and common people.



- ➔ Both sides also agreed to leverage India's digital public infrastructure as per the needs and priorities for the effective and efficient delivery of citizen-centric services to the people of **Sri Lanka**.
- ➔ For people-to-people connectivity, the two countries agreed to promote cooperation between educational institutions and plan to popularize ancient places of Buddhist, Hindu and other religious worship in **Sri Lanka** along with India's Buddhist circuit, the **Ramayana trail, for tourism**.
- ➔ Also to expand cooperation between research and academic institutions in areas of mutual interest such as agriculture, aquaculture, IT, business, finance and management, health and medicine, earth and marine sciences, space applications, as well as history, culture, languages, literature, religious studies and other humanities.