

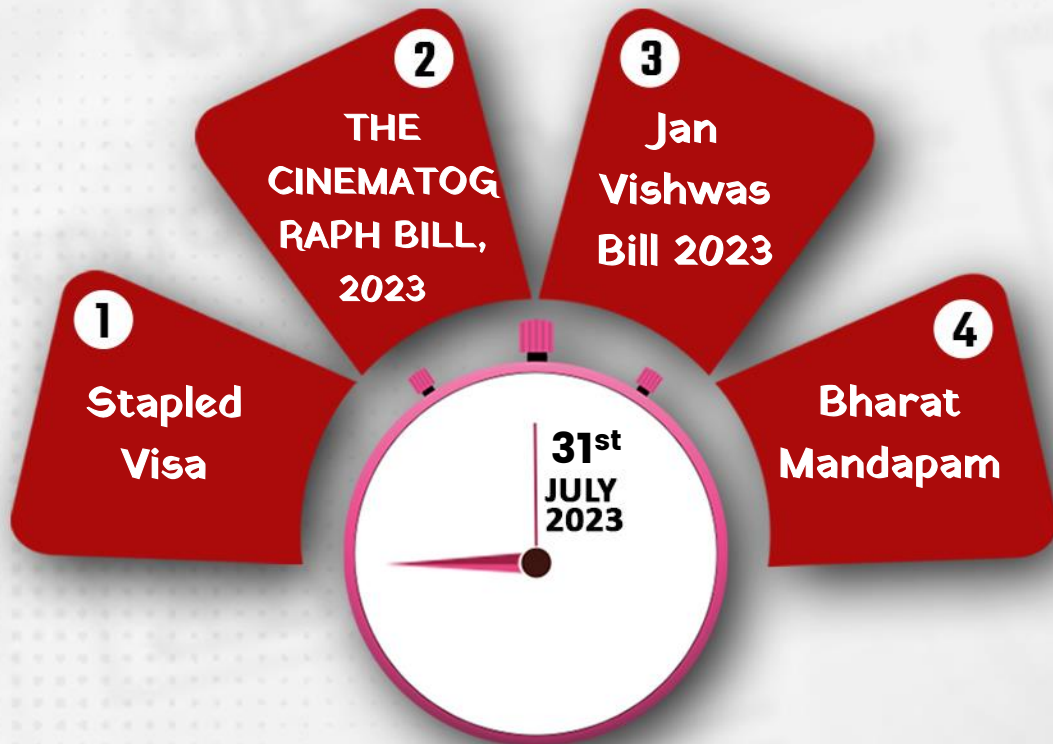


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CURRENT AFFAIRS

PRELIMS+MAINS QUICK REVISION



Stapled Visa

- ➔ Recently, **the official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, Arindam Bagchi** said that India has protested to China for issuing stapled visas to 3 players of the Wushu team going to participate in the World University Games.
- ➔ India refused to send its **wushu team to China** to participate in the World University Games in protest against the issuance of stapled visas.
- ➔ **India's 8-member Wushu team** also had 3 players from Arunachal Pradesh. The Chinese Foreign Ministry issued him a stapled visa, while the other five players were issued normal visas.
- ➔ **Stapled Visa:-**
 - Stapled Visa is issued by China. In this type of visa, the immigration officer does not stamp the passport, but staples a separate piece of paper or slip with the passport. For this reason, it is called stapled visa.
 - This differs from the regular visa which is affixed to the passport and stamped by the issuing authority.

- China does not consider those areas as part of India, for which it is issuing 'stapled' visas. Apart from Arunachal Pradesh, it includes Jammu and Kashmir.

→ **China's meaning behind issuing stapled visas: -**

- China does not recognize the legal status of the McMahon Line, the boundary between Tibet and British India, which was agreed upon in the 1914 Simla Convention between Great Britain, China and Tibet.



- China claims about 90,000 sq km of Arunachal Pradesh. It calls this region "Zangnan" in Chinese and repeatedly refers to South Tibet.
- The Chinese map shows Arunachal Pradesh as part of China.
- That is why it issues a list of Chinese names for places in Arunachal Pradesh and also takes steps like issuing 'stapled' visas.
- China considers Arunachal Pradesh as its part, but does not consider the people of Arunachal as its country, so it issues stapled visas to the people of this state.
- China believes that Arunachal Pradesh is Chinese territory and citizens of Arunachal Pradesh do not need a visa to visit China.
- Arunachal Pradesh is claimed by China as its part by calling it Southern Tibet. He says that the area of Arunachal is currently under the occupation of India, so stapled visa or stapled visa is issued for the people there.

→ Stapled Visa Issue Country:-

- Stapled visa is issued by many countries. Like - Cuba, Iran, Syria and North Korea.
- At the same time, China issues stapled visas to the people of two states of India, Arunachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.

→ Introduction of Stapled Visa:-

- China started referring to Arunachal Pradesh as South Tibet in 2005.
- It signalled its intention in late 2006 by denying a visa to an Indian government official serving in Arunachal Pradesh.
- After that, China started issuing 'stapled' visas to Arunachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.



THE CINEMATOGRAPH (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023

- ➔ The Bill aims to end piracy of films and bring the Cinematograph Act, 1952 in line with various judgments of the Supreme Court.
- ➔ The Act of 1952 provided for the establishment of the Central Board of Film Certification.
- ➔ It has a provision to certify films based on age group instead of their existing certification based on 'U', 'A' and 'UA'.
- ➔ The amendment provides for the inclusion of new classifications "UA-7+, UA-13+ and UA-16+".
- ➔ In the Act of 1952, the certification of films was classified into the following categories:
 - 'U': These films can be watched by people of all age groups.
 - 'UA': Movies in this category can be watched by children below the age of 12 years only under the guidance of their parents.
 - 'A': Only adults can watch movies in this category.

- 'S': Only a certain class of people can watch this category of films.
- ➔ The Bill provides for separate certification for television/other media categories.
- ➔ According to the Bill, now the validity of film certification will be for an indefinite period. At present, the validity of film certification is only for 10 years.
- ➔ The Bill prohibits the unauthorized recording or exhibition of films.



- **Section 6(1)** of the Act has been deleted in pursuance of the judgment given by the Supreme Court in **Union of India vs K.M. Shankarappa**. This section deals with the review by the Central Government of the decisions of the CBFC.
- However, if a complaint is received **under section 5B(1)**, the Central Government will have the power to review the decisions of the CBFC. This is in line with the reasonable restrictions imposed under Article 19 of the Constitution.



Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill 2023

- ➔ Lok Sabha recently approved the **'Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2023'**. In this, with the aim of promoting ease of doing business, it has been proposed to remove minor irregularities from the category of crime by amending 183 provisions of 42 Acts.
- ➔ The Bill was first introduced in the **Lok Sabha on 22 December 2022**. Thereafter, it was referred to a Joint Committee of Parliament.

Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2023



- ➔ Through the **Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2023**, a total of 183 provisions in 42 Central Acts administered by 19 Ministries/Departments are being proposed to be decriminalised.
- ➔ Some of the provisions proposed to do away with both imprisonment and/or fine.
- ➔ The Amendment Bill will contribute to the rationalization of criminal provisions and ensure that citizens, businesses and government departments work without the fear of being jailed for minor, technical or procedural lapses.
- ➔ The decriminalization of provisions affecting citizens and certain categories of government employees will help them lead a life without fear of imprisonment for minor violations.
- ➔ **Main provisions of the Bill:**
 - Decriminalization of 180 offences in 42 laws
 - complete abolition of imprisonment clauses
 - Removes all offences and penalties under the Indian Post Office Act, 1898

- Change in Grievance Redressal Mechanism
- Periodic Revision of Fines and Punishments

→ **Some of the key legislations included in the bill:**

- Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- Indian Forest Act, 1927
- Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937
- Information Technology Act, 2000
- Copyright Act, 1957
- Motor Vehicles Act, 1988
- Cinematograph Act, 1952
- Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006



Bharat Mandapam

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the new International Exhibition-cum-Convention Center (IECC) named '**Bharat Mandapam**' at the redeveloped Pragati Maidan complex in Delhi.
- The **G-20 coin** and **postage stamp** were also released at the grand opening ceremony.

भव्य, विराट, विहंगम
'भारत मंडपम' में क्या है खास



- ➔ This conference is being organized on the occasion of the third anniversary of the National Education Policy 2020. During the programme, the first instalment of funds was released under the **Pradhan Mantri PM SHRI Yojana**.
- ➔ The name **Bharat Mandapam** originated from the idea of '**Anubhava Mantapa**' which was advocated by the revered Indian historical figure, **Bhagwan Basaveshwara**.
- ➔ The concept refers to a pavilion for public gatherings, reflecting the inclusive nature of the complex, available for the experience and use of all.
- ➔ The International Exhibition-cum-Convention Center complex is India's largest MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions) destination and has state-of-the-art facilities including a convention centre, exhibition halls and an amphitheatre.
- ➔ The architectural design of the Convention Center incorporates elements of India's traditional art and culture, representing the country's rich heritage and modern achievements.

→ PM SHRI Scheme:-

- Under this scheme, students in a total of 14,500 schools across the country will be empowered with 21st-century skills.
- The scheme will provide high-quality education in an equitable, inclusive environment that takes care of the diverse backgrounds, multilingual needs and different educational abilities of children.
- These state-of-the-art schools will be the laboratory of the new education policy.
- It is a centrally sponsored scheme, with the cost of implementation being shared mostly in the ratio of 60:40 between the Central Government and the States/UTs.

